

# LINK

## LINKING former Wesleyan missionaries to each other and to Global Partners

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### Beginnings of Wesleyan Missionary Alumni Fellowship

In 2001, dreams of some missionary alumni began to focus on forming a fellowship to share experiences and challenge new recruits in the missionary task. Lifting up Jesus to all people requires dedicated servants to follow the call of God into all the world with the gospel of Jesus Christ. Who better to know about that task than servants who have been there and done that because the love of God for the world beats in their hearts and souls!

Sponsored by Global Partners, an eight member executive committee with a chairperson was appointed, and the WMAF name was selected. The first committee that met March 7, 2002, is pictured to the right: Mary Beth Fussner (liaison with GP), Dr. Med Bailie, Phil & Elsie Myers, Dr. Wayne and Virginia Wright, and Dr. Marion (chair) & Vergie Vreugdenhil. Area facilitators were appointed to plan and lead local events in 6 regions of the USA, Australia, and Central Canada.



Early goals were to keep alumni informed about the present and share challenges about the future in Wesleyan missions. A constitution was written and a database of addresses and service information for all alumni was established to make meaningful contacts. Updating the database requires many phone calls, letters, and

emails. A newsletter called the **LINK** has been published quarterly to do just that: *to link us together*. A printed copy is mailed and a digital issue goes via email to members and interested friends. The Barnabas Ministry seeks to link new missionaries to a retired missionary for mentoring and encouragement toward successfully completing a missions career. The liaison between WMAF and GP enables current information to flow both ways and helps us keep in focus our purpose and goals. A new feature begun in 2013, is to give a onetime \$500 travel grant to a missionary alumnus returning to his field of ministry. One gift is awarded each year. Several have availed of this help. Regional get-togethers each year enhance fellowship of alumni who want to share their stories from exciting and demanding field ministries. New ventures in ministry from GP always draw interest and prayer support.

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*WMAF exists to value and cherish alumni years of service; maximize the knowledge and experience of alumni to enhance the missionary cause; preserve friendships and to network for fellowship; and provide a committed and informed prayer support team for the ministries of Global Partners.*

## *Condolences. . . . Harriet A. Bruner*

Harriet Anne Bruner, 92, of Sioux City, Iowa, passed away December 21, 2016.

She was born January 19, 1924, in Oelwein, Iowa, to Norman and Greeta Buckman Bruner. In 1933, her family moved to Sumner. In 1941, Harriet graduated from Sumner High School and some years later received a BA degree from Upper Iowa University, Fayette, Iowa.

Harriet taught in several Iowa schools before going to Medellin, Colombia, in the late 60's to early 70's, under Wesleyan World Missions as a missionary teacher. In 1986, after 38 years of teaching, she retired.

She was converted to Christ in 1944, was a member of the New Hope Wesleyan Church of Sioux City for 22 years, and lately attending New Life Community Church nearer her home.

She is survived by two sisters, Norma Harkins and Jean Olsen; five nephews and nieces; eleven grandnieces and nephews; and four cousins. Harriet was preceded in death by her father and mother; her oldest niece, and her two brothers-in-law.



## *Dr. Storer W. Emmett*



Dr. Storer William Emmett died August 25, 2017. He was born September 9, 1932 in Crystal, Maine, a son of the late Stora and Elva Main Emmett. On September 1, 1956 in Old Town, Maine, he married Wilma Monroe, who survives.

Saved at a young age and called to medical missions, he completed a bachelor degree at the University of Maine and did further studies at the medical school in Johns Hopkins in 1954.

Storer and Wilma, along with their daughter, Bethany, began missionary service at a mission hospital in Southern Rhodesia in 1960 with Wesleyan World Missions. He was a medical officer for the government of Southern Rhodesia. In 1968, the family (now four children) went to Haiti for hospital ministry and travel across the country.

Returning to Houghton, New York, Storer spent 13 years as a family practitioner and was physician for Houghton College, and established the Houghton Medical and Dental team to serve the people of rural Haiti on short term mission trips.

From 1988-1991, Storer and Wilma, served at the Kamakwie Hospital in Sierra Leone, Africa. Their final mission was to Zambia near Victoria Falls. Storer directed the Wesleyan Medical Fellowship to encourage and increase awareness of medical missions. He and Wilma were awarded a trip to Myanmar where he had been instrumental in founding another medical clinic.

Surviving in addition to his wife Wilma, are their children: Bethany, Esther, Bill and Faith; nine grandchildren; two great-grandchildren; two nieces; one nephew; and cousins.

### ***Autobiography Published by Dr. Ivan M. Jackson***

***"From the Farm to the Hospital Via Northern Rhodesia"*** tells the remarkable story of Ivan Jackson who was the first Medical Doctor sent out by the former "Pilgrim Holiness Church." Ivan was born on a farm in Ontario, Canada and graduated from the University of Toronto in 1961, with an MD degree. After interning at Toronto East General Hospital, he went to Northern Rhodesia with his wife Carol and son Gordon. Ivan cared for people at Jembo Mission

Hospital, and made monthly trips to three other hospitals run by nurses in Zimba, Chababoma, and Siachetema. They returned to Canada in 1964 and Ivan did General Practice in Owen Sound, Ontario. After 35 years they moved to Perth, Ontario. and Ivan took over his son's Family Practice. Three years later he changed his practice to Biblical counseling and psychotherapy. He retired from practice in 2012 and he and Carol still live in Perth, Ontario.

The book is published by Lulu.com both in paperback and eBook. There are twelve beautiful pictures from Africa and other illustrations.

## **WMAF Executive Committee Meeting**

The Executive Committee met in Indianapolis, Indiana, on August 8 for the biannual reporting and planning session. Devotional thoughts were given by Rod Guptill about how St. Paul in many of his letters said he remembered the people there by name. He thanked God for them and their testimony for Jesus. Rod challenged us to consider how people remember us and our walk.

The 2015 meeting minutes and interim actions were reviewed and reports were given by the president, treasurer, *LINK* editor, and directory managers. Phil and Elsie Myers retire this meeting, having served since the beginning of WMAF in 2002.

Phil gave a report of their directory updating with interesting thoughts of their contacts with alumni by phone, letter, and in person. Marilyn Hunter also retires this meeting. Regional meetings have been one of the most productive ways to link the alumni together for information and fellowship. The Northeast Atlantic and Brooksville regions have been the most active, with the Houghton region holding their first ever gathering in 2016. Discussion prevailed to place more emphasis on regional gatherings in the future.

Changes and additions to the website were discussed that will allow us a greater measure of keeping our people informed. The GP Summit in Houghton, New York, in June 2016, provided a great way for many alumni to meet and fellowship with all the current missionaries serving under Global Partners that came for the Summit and General Conference. The display booth for WMAF brought many good contacts who stopped by to see the scrolling display of missionaries and photos from their times on the fields. We realized a slide show of deceased missionary alumni can be another interesting display next time. In this 15<sup>th</sup> year of the existence of WMAF, a task force was appointed to review our purpose and operation, and to explore ideas for greater effectiveness.

### **WMAF Website with new pages**

Here is the new [home page](#) for WMAF to better serve you, our reading audience.



***LINKing* our past to the present and future of world  
Missionary outreach through Global Partners**

Wesleyan Missionary Alumni Fellowship provides opportunities for former Wesleyan Missionaries to continue to relate to each other and the ongoing work of world evangelism through:

- Area fellowship meetings, sharing past and present joys
- Publication of *LINK*, a newsletter including information about each other and current ministry opportunities
- Maintaining a directory of all former Wesleyan missionaries

STRUCTURE

CONSTITUTION

LEADERSHIP

HISTORY

NEWSLETTER

IN MEMORIAM

*On the website,  
you can click on any of these  
buttons to see another page.  
History has personal & field  
stories & bio information.  
In Memoriam has obituaries  
with more personal info.*

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please send us your email address.  
See us on the web at:  
<http://globalpartnersonline.org/wmaf>

### ***Archives from the 20th Century***

He was born in South Africa and she in South Dakota and they met in Miltonvale, Kansas. From Miltonvale College (now OKU) to the Philippines and to Sierra Leone, Africa, this couple followed God's call to teach in the classroom, minister in the clinics, and do a little administration on the side. He earned a Doctoral Degree in missiology from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, and was Africa Area Director for GP several years. Holistic ministry in two people. Do you know their names?

Last issue, you saw John and Marge Connor, Tyler and Martha who gave over 40 years of service in Wesleyan missions and leadership. Only one person identified Tyler and Martha, but several of you recognized John and Marge.

