WESLEYAN MISSIONARY ALUMNI FELLOWSHIP

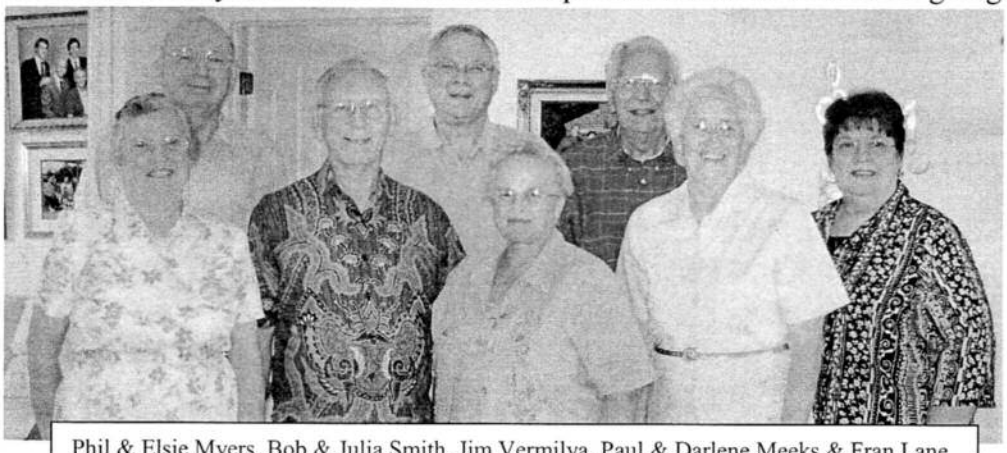
LINK

LINKING former Wesleyan missionaries to each other and to Global Partners/Wesleyan World Missions

Volume 7, Issue 2 Summer 2008

WMAF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETS IN BROOKSVILLE, FL

On May 31, 2008 the WMAF Executive Committee met for its annual meeting at the home of Paul and Darlene Meeks in Brooksville, FL. Due to various uncontrollable circumstances Dr. Med Bailie and Mrs. Irene Fancy were unable to attend. Reports were heard and the on-going activities of WMAF were discussed. Rev. Robert E. Smith was reappointed as chairman. Paul and Darlene Meeks, Phil and Elsie Myers, and Dr.. James Vermilya were also reappointed to the committee. Rev. Fran Lane serves as our liaison with Global Partners and as a vital member of our committee. Dr. James Vermilya was appointed to serve as the coordinator for the Barnabas Connection. Rev. Bob Smith was reappointed as LINK editor.



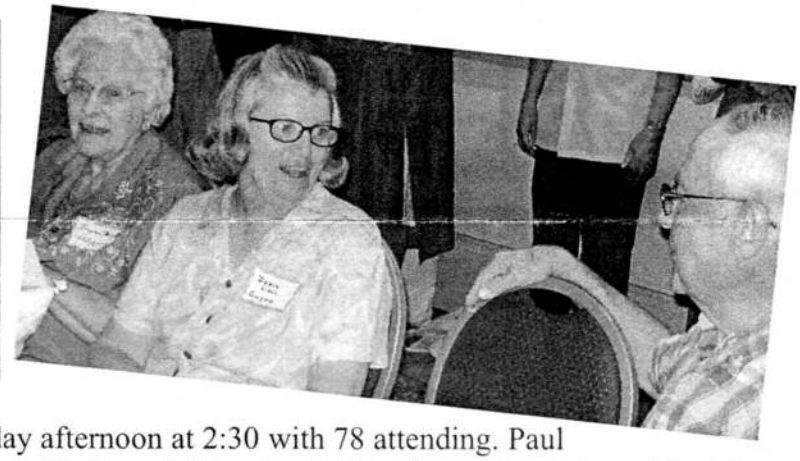
Phil & Elsie Myers, Bob & Julia Smith, Jim Vermilya, Paul & Darlene Meeks & Fran Lane

Regional Gathering Coordinators were appointed as follows: Western Area –Marion Vreugdenhil, Central Area –Marilyn Hunter, Northeast/Canada Area –Karl Gorman, North Central NY Area –Cindy and Kevin Austin, Southeast Area –Bob Broome, Florida Area –Paul and Darlene Meeks and Australia – Lindsay and Rosalee Cameron.

Regional Correspondents for the LINK: Western Area –Dennis and Connie Engle, Central Area – Jeanette Vermilya, Northeast/Canada Area –Marilee Peed/Doug Tatton, North Central NY Area –Wilma Emmett, Southeast Area –Lois Downey, Florida Area –Phil and Elsie Myers and Australia Area – Dorothy Hotchkin.

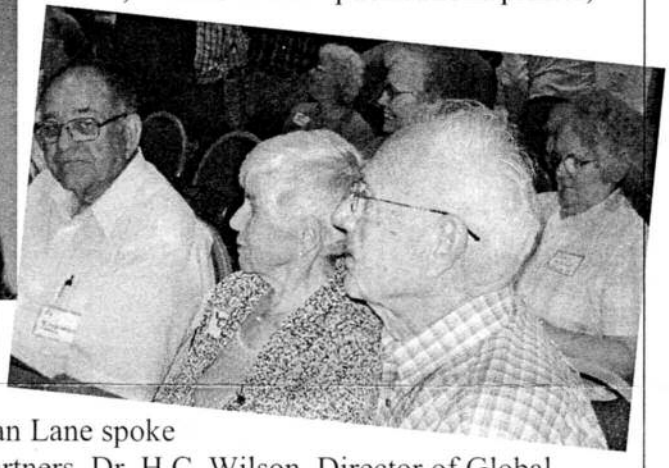
WMAF AT GENERAL CONFERENCE IN ORLANDO, FLORIDA

Shouts and laughter were heard throughout the halls and rooms at the Shingle Creek Resort and Conference Center where the General Conference was held. It was colleagues and friends meeting again, some after many years. What a thrill to see the smiles and their animated gestures as they recalled events that happened while they were missionaries or while they were visiting a mission field. These renewed friendships are priceless blessings in our lives.

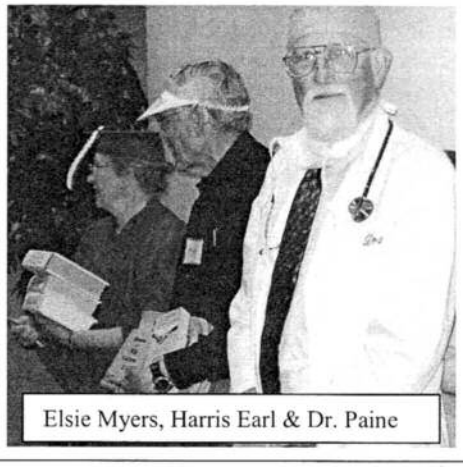


The WMAF meeting was held on Saturday afternoon at 2:30 with 78 attending. Paul Meeks started the meeting off with skit and song. Various duties of missionaries were portrayed by Dr. Charles Paine –medical ministries, Dr. Wayne Wright –leadership roles, Elsie Myers –teacher in mission schools, Julia Smith –secretary/bookkeeper, etc., Harris Earl –publications/printer, and Bob Smith –preacher/pastor.

Bob Smith
WMAF
Chairman



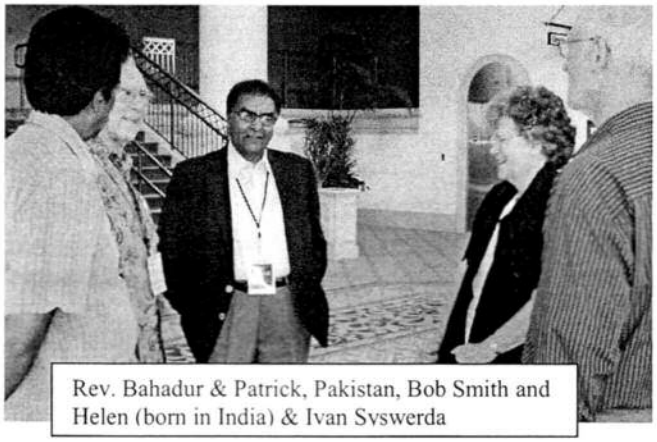
Rev. Fran Lane spoke concerning the relationship of WMAF to Global Partners. Dr. H.C. Wilson, Director of Global Partners presented the group with current happenings in the various mission fields of The Wesleyan Church. The event ended with a prayer for Dr. H.C. Wilson by Rev. Ermal Wilson, 1st General Secretary of the merged church. It was a privilege to have 4 of the 5 General Directors/Secretaries, since merger, present. One couple who attended eagerly stated that this meeting was worth their entire trip to Orlando! It was a fun and informative time for all. Wish you could have been there!



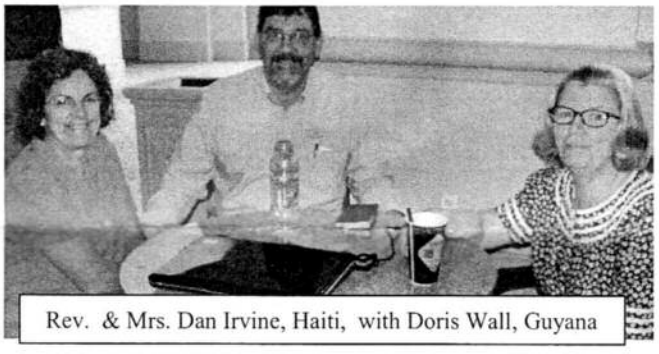
Elsie Myers, Harris Earl & Dr. Paine

Rev. Fran Lane

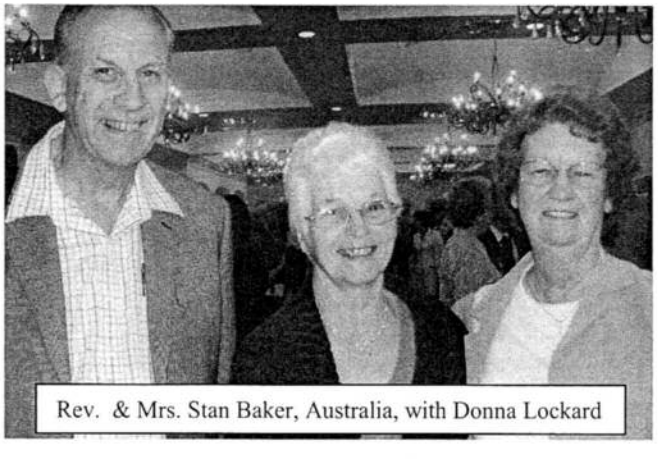
Paul Meeks read the various duties missionaries perform in the skit "Hats Off To Our Missionary Alumni." Angie Wiley played "We've A Story To Tell To The Nations" while designated missionary alumni marched around the room.



Rev. Bahadur & Patrick, Pakistan, Bob Smith and Helen (born in India) & Ivan Svswerda

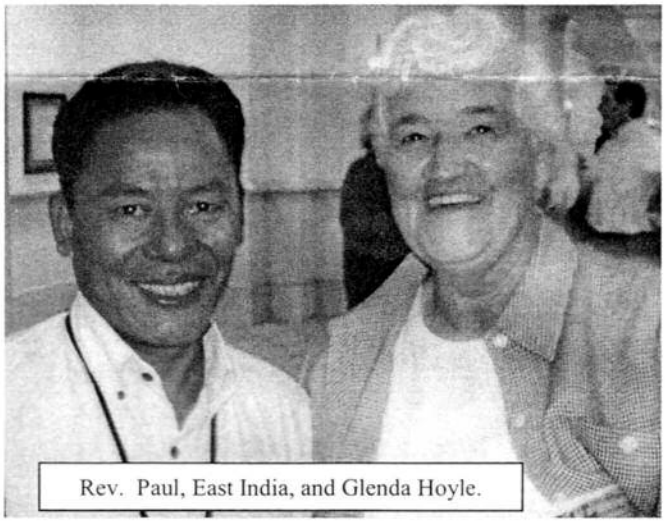


Rev. & Mrs. Dan Irvine, Haiti, with Doris Wall, Guyana



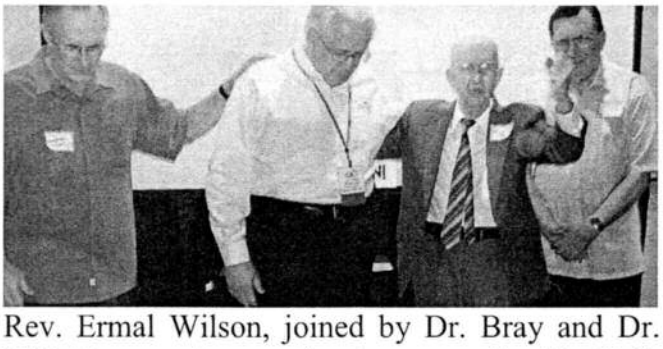
Rev. & Mrs. Stan Baker, Australia, with Donna Lockard

Grace Duda, Zambia, is joined by her family.



Rev. Paul, East India, and Glenda Hoyle.

Rev. & Mrs. Harris Earl, Colombia, join the meeting.



Rev. Ermal Wilson, joined by Dr. Bray and Dr. Wright, prayed a passionate prayer for Dr. H.C. Wilson as the current Director of Global Partners.

WESLEYANS AROUND THE WORLD
The International Wesleyan Church

When The Wesleyan Church has a family reunion, people come from all over –literally. Nearly 400,000 people from more than 80 countries comprise the fellowship know as The Wesleyan Church. Its head is the Lord Jesus Christ. Its message is scriptural holiness, and its purpose is to help fulfill the Great Commission in the spirit of the Great Commandment.

Directed by Wesley's guiding principle, "The world is my parish," Wesleyans have a rich heritage of expanding the borders of evangelism, discipleship, and compassion ministries. The church's mission is clearly stated: "To exalt Jesus Ch gelizing the lost, discipling the beli ping the church, and ministering to society.

Its traditions have deep roots that have grown in the soil of social justice and church planting. Its Spirit-anointed ministries have blossomed in the harvest fields of churches, preaching points, camp meetings, missions, hospitals, orphanages, Bible colleges and universities, and bookstores throughout the world. Recognizing the right of every person to proclaim the gospel and obeying the mandate to believe in and practice the inspired, inerrant, and infallible Word of God, its men and women of ministry have impacted lives across cultures for nearly 200 years.

The modern history of The Wesleyan Church began with the merger of The Wesleyan Methodist Church (1843) and the Pilgrim Holiness Church (1897) in 1968. The merged Church's resolve was to "Go into all the world and preach the gospel."

Growing national and regional ministries of The Wesleyan Church were encouraged to unite their efforts. The result was the birthing of self-sustaining, self governing Wesleyan entities who organized membership and appointed leadership in cooperation with The Wesleyan Church of North America.

The International Wesleyan Church is the product of The Wesleyan Church's global expansion. Formerly known as the Wesleyan World Fellowship, it is comprised of three legislative bodies, known as general conferences: North America, Caribbean, and Philippines. Each of the general conferences comprises its own general superintendents, board, regions or districts, local churches, missions, and ministry.

The first International Conference of the International Wesleyan Church was held in Orlando, FL, June 4-7, prior to the North American General Conference. There was a 40th birthday celebration of The Wesleyan Church, honoring ns around the world for their unified xalt the Lord Jesus Christ and His everlasting kingdom by "believing in our future and building on our past."

(note: This article was adapted, with permission, from the Summer 2008 issue of "Wesleyan Life.")

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THE BARNABAS CONNECTION

The Barnabas Connection is a program of WMAF which connects missionary alumni with newly appointed missionaries. Through this mentoring relationship advice and prayer support is extended to newly appointed missionaries. If you are interested in joining the program please contact Dr. Jim Vermilya, 313 Hall Court, Noblesville, IN 46060 or via E-mail at jv@wesleyan.org.

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NEWS AND REPORTS

Do you have any pictures or news to report. Please send any news, reports, or pictures to Bob Smith, 22254 Birch Memorial Drive, Brooksville, FL 34601-2784 or e-mail: bobsmith2004@earthlink.net.

THANKS FOR YOUR HELP!

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