

## FRATERN SER



#### A PUBLICATION OF THE ASSOCIATION OF SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST OPTOMETRIST (ASDAO)

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## Happy Thanksgiving Merry Christmas Happy New Year

Here is hoping that all of you have a great holiday season. All of these holidays come close together and we must all thank God for our health and for sending Jesus to this earth for our salvation. We all have many things to be thankful for at this time of the year. I hope that your next year will even be better for each one of you, and that you will have the desire to attend our convention in Auburn, California this year.

Duane E. Curtis, O.D. editor

# ASDAO Convention June 29-July 2, 2006 Auburn, California

Dr. Tom & Linda Sanders



This is a rough draft of the convention schedule which will start on Wednesday June 28 - July 2.

The convention will be held at the Holiday Inn, 120 Grass Valley Highway, Auburn, CA 95603. Phone 530-887-8787. The convention rates will be 2 Double 104/night, Queen 99.00, King 104.00 Rooms held for reservations until May 28, 2006.

Wednesday before the convention starts we are planing a white water trip on the American River. Everyone is welcomed to go or visit the gold town of Caloma. If planning to go on the white water trip I would recommend staying Tues night at our hotel.

Wednesday evening will be our first meeting, probably a buffet dinner and then our education meeting.

Thursday Business meeting, Explore Old Auburn and Go to Empire State Mine in Grass Valley. Thursday evening is our banquet and Auction

Friday will be exploration of Sacramento. Friday evening vespers at the Auburn church

Sabbath. morning church & Sabbath School at Auburn Church Sabbath Afternoon Biblical Gardens near Grass Valley Sabbath evening Vesper program and trip to Leatherby's Ice Cream Palor! (You can ask Bette Curtis about their Hot Fudge Sundaes.)

Linda and I are meeting at Dennis Hansen home on Nov. 20 to finalize most of our program. There is a RV camp very close to the church and we will have cost soon.

We hope that all of you will make plans to attend this years convention and make it one of the biggest and best conventions we have ever had. You won't want to miss the fellowship with other SDA O.D.'s and their families. We want you to bring your children as they will have a good time also.

More detailed plans will be coming up in the next Fraterneyeser, so start making your plans to attend this convention.

See you in Auburn, California in June.

Dr. Tom and Linda Sanders

1517 Circle Ro

#### **ASSISTANT DIRECTOR VISION AFFAIRS FOR GENERAL CONFERENCE OF** SDA

owell Meister,O.D.



Wednesday, Aug. 31, 2005, I met with Dr. John Eaton and his wife Marian to pick up information of the activities of the Assistant Director of Visual Affairs for the General Conference of S.D.A. He gave me two boxes of information with verbal instruc-

tions as well as suggestions. The best advice he gave me was that when I meet with Dr.

Handysides, that I ask what he would like me to do as Assistant Director of Visual Affairs. After a nice lunch with John and his wife, in their beautiful home, Dellene and I headed for home wondering what the future would hold.

An appointment was made for Sept. 23, 2005 @ 9:00am with Dr Handysides at his office in Silver Springs, MD – the General Conference Headquarters. We visited about 3 plus hours. I could tell from the start that he was all business. After a handshake and an invitation to sit, he began explaining who was in the Health Ministry Department, and what their jobs were and who is paid and who volunteers. My iob would be in an advisory position with no pay and a \$3000.00 travel budget. He began talking about what could be 1. Colporteurs could sell reading glasses to people so they could read the books they sell. 3. Registered Nurses could be trained to use a phoroptor to refract and treat some eye diseases. 3. Create franchises so that divisions would own property a nd

equipment. 4. A Eye Care Provider would operate the franchises for a commission. He would like me to travel in Africa to see the opportunities that are there and present a plan. He took me to Mrs. Verna Karst office - an R.N. and showed me where people going over seas get their immunizations. To my surprise I received 5 shots right there and then (Yellow Fever, Hepatitis A & B, Polio, Meningococcal and Typhoid pills). I was also handed an Emergency kit with Syringes and needles to take with me when I go. He suggests that I go to Africa with a group from the G.C. this spring. After that we had prayer. He walked me to the parking lot and pointed me to the right road to Baltimore Washington International

Airport. It was a race to the airport since I was running late. Lots of pleading prayers, and a few U-turns later I arrived at American Airlines ticket counter with 28 minutes to spare. I still had to go though long lines to security. I offered a prayer of thankfulness when I sat in my seat and had 3 minutes to spare before the plane locked its doors and was off.

This office of Assistant Director of Visual Affairs is not my office alone but that of each ASDAO member. Your direction will be vital to any success and your suggestions would be appreciated.

To make our organization viable we must be mission orientated. Setting up Vision Care centers would be a noble project Anyway to help people to "See" would be a service to Christ and our fellow man. To help achieve this I offer the following suggestions not in any order of importance Change our name to Association of S.D.A. Optometric Physicians. 1. In the World Field Optometrists do not have the level of expertise that we have. We may need to create a new category for the Mission Field. Dr. Handysides wants us to use local people in this area. 2. Encourage a special fund for monitory gifts for special projects (suggestion of \$500 to \$1,000 a year by each member of ASDAO). 4. To encourage our members to remember our association in their wills. 5. Set a price for a Clinic to be named after a major benefactor (what would that price be? \$50,000 - \$100,000).

I will present to you projects. I will encourage you to think BIG and see what

#### **Guam Clinic News**



Jim Christian, O.D. HI and Hafa adai....that's sorta **Guam Clinic** 

Hawaii....greetings from Guam (some think its a comment on the work week) You might like to view our website its guamsdaclinic.com.

We are home on leave and to do some CE in Portland....spoke at vespers today at my home church.... in Crescent City Ca....'twas nice and well received.. It sure would be nice to have



another optometrist and another ophthalmologist...I would love to do more of the outreach stuff like they did a few years back...matter of fact, we need more dentists and M.D.s as well...the greatest need is for more bodies...The church is alive and well out here in Guam

When we arrived back in January we caught the end of an effort with Kenneth Cox that netted 255 new members....it was awesome to see them baptized...the membership on island is about 1000 now....up from 700 when we arrived...and more coming.... Guam is 90% catholic...the Cox meetings really put them on their ear...we hope and are planning for an Adventist church in each village.....we have 7 now I think...We have joined a small company of believers that is growing into a church....we have 50+ each Sabbath.

The clinic is doing well but is suffering from declining numbers of docs. There are two optometrists, myself and Dr. Jeanette Story and one ophthalmologist Dr. Bob Wresch. They are both delightful and really good to work with. Like the rest the clinic we wish we had more docs....that seems to be the story even in small towns. They have in the past had two ophthalmologists and three ODs. Our medical staff is down too. We are busy and enjoy life here on Guam...if we had more help then we could do more outreach stuff to the other is-



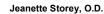
They would love to have a hospital here, but so far we are having trouble keeping the clinic at the same level. They keep having to reduce hours because of declining staff....pray for us....and Bob Wresch, M.D. remember part of the thirteenth Sabbath offering goes to repair

Guam Adventist Academy which lost three classrooms and their science facility in a typhoon three years ago...the classrooms have been replaced...and the school has \$500,000 in debt...and no science labs...or gym...or multi purpose facility. My wife is volunteer councelor there...they need more staff too...but can't afford what they have now....in order to attract more students they need a proper facility...yet the Lord is good...and somehow enrollment is up somewhat...we have 167 stu-

dents with 48 highschoolers...okay enough begging for now. We did have two optometrists in Saipan, but have not had one now for over 20 months other that sporadic help. Would love to see them get on or two OD's. They have a dental tech that also does

On Guam, we are doing quite well. The Guam clinic just

celebrated its 40th year here, and is highly. Jeanette and I see



about 14 patients daily each and do some therapeutics especially when Dr Wresch is unavailable. It really gets fun when you are IT....Jeanette was on vacation recently and I was IT several days a week when Dr Wresch was in surgery or off. They were teasing me that I had to be both ophthalmologist and optometrist...(the staff) and I told them that was okay as long as I didn't have to be the optician too....ha ha ha.

Right now what we need is a pachometer. We have six fully functional eye lanes



Dr. Urban Negre

#### SWAZI EYE SERVICES REPORT

We were back 4 days from our furlough and had opened our mails yesterday. We had a lovely time meeting our relatives and friends. And we are back to working again, at least refreshed and revived.

Regarding the special project that Swazi Eye Services would like to explore for the next 6 months are the following:

SHORT-TERM PROJECTS:

- 1) Establishment of the Voluntary Counseling and Testing (VCT) within the Eye Clinic premises. We will improvised a container van into an office. As you well know, this is a joint venture of the ASDAO and the Loma Linda School of Public Health. We hope that this would be operational by June.
- 2) The Eye Practice was chosen by a private hospital in Manzini, to be the Eye Care provider for all members of HMO ( Health Maintenance Organization.) It will in October, 2005.
- 3) Our Eye Practice is also involved with visiting companies, give free screening and provide the people in the companies Optometric care that they need. LONG-TERM PROJECT:
- 4) To build a Multi-purpose Hall within the Eye Clinic premises to educate the public about CELEBRATIONS, NEW START or Health Seminars.
- 5) Lastly, We are humbled by the recent recognition for the Swazi Eye Services to be awarded of Gold Medal for Excellence in Business Practice awarded last June 24, 2005. This recognition is given to only one institution per country per year by the Foundation of Excellence in Business Practice, Geneva, Switzerland. All we can say, we praise the Lord it.

Best regards, Urban and Cherry Negre

#### **New Orleans** First Church to rebuild

by Lois Stumpf, Ilstumpf@cox.net wife of Chuck Stumpf O.D.

Lucky me! I've been asked to head a campaign for monies around the country to help the New Orleans First Church re-build. Our church, the largest in the New Orleans metropolitan area but by no means a wealthy congregation, suffered heavy damage due to



high winds and flooding during Katrina. We have lost our newly-covered pews, our beautiful organ, our baby grand sanctuary piano, our health food store, all of our walls, computer equipment,

and part of the upstairs ceiling. To out great surwe have been told Risk Management does not insure us for flood damages. Early estimates are that we have sustained



\$250,000 in damages. Obviously, we are unable to meet in our church because mold is growing to the ceilings, the floors are mud-caked, and the building is simply not safe to be in, health wise.

Our congregation has been displaced. Most members are not living in the city, and those who are have big problems of their own. I found out last night that the matriarch of our church, Mary Paternostro, had water 5 feet above her downstairs ceiling. Obviously she has lost everything. At age 87, she finds herself homeless and without any belongings Chuck has just left here to go help clean out that household. I am heartbroken for this dear lady. Last night at a board meeting, it was very disheartening to learn that Chuck and I are among the few with a home intact.

In any case, we have no funding coming in from church members, the local conference savs it will do what it can but no immediate funding is being promised, and there is no one here, save for our pastor, to do the manual labor of tearing out walls, etc. The Adventist way is to do it all ourselves, but this is one time when we simply can't. While several groups have offered to come in to help, we have no housing for them and cannot provide meals at the current time. Our kitchen at the church was demolished.

Our church is undertaking a vigorous fund-raising campaign, starting with requesting grants from our local conference, the Southwest Union, and the General Conference. We are also going to ask churches across the country to help wherever they can, and this is where YOU come in.

I'm wondering if you would forward me your pastor's name and church address so I can send an official fundraising letter? We feel that if individual congregations could donate a little, it could add up to enough money to

rebuilding. And if you have any other suggestions, that would be appreciated, too. To our church members who are worshiping all over the country, perhaps your "new' church family would like to help us.

Just 3 months before the storm, we had a very successful Amazing Facts meeting here, and about 40 new members were baptized. Our church was really on a roll with enthusiastic new members, revived "old" members, and thriving small groups all over the city. God was thrilled, but Satan wasn't. Now, we can't find our new members, and we don't have a church home to offer them at the moment. This is a big concern to us, and I ask you to keep these folk in your prayers that they wouldn't become discouraged and slip away from the message they've so recently embraced

I appreciate your allowing me to prevail upon you to help our congregation. It's a bold move for us to take, but as the saying goes, 'Desperate times call for desperate

#### **ASDAO DUES**

#### July 1 thru June 30

#### each year

2001-2002 O.D. Dues 35.00 2001-2001 Auxiliary Dues 10.00 2001-2002 1st Year Grad 10.00 2001-2002 2nd Year Grad 10.00 Optometric Student

We need your support in both money and by being active in ASDAO to help continue carrying on Gods' work for optometry.

Send your dues to:

Eddye Benedict **ASDAO Treasurer** 5600 Horton Rd.

#### President's Column



Chuch Reeve, O.D.

What an exciting experience we all had at our 47<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention, which was combined with the 58th General Conference Session. It was a blessing to attend

church with 70,000 friends and to be given booth #15 among the I729 other There were long lines of patients waiting for their eye screening from all over the world. Many patients had serious findings and were given referrals. It was great to see God's church in action and to meet so many friends. The convention was such an enjoyable one with so many activities for everyone. Of course, we want to raise the selfless giving spirit of those who worked so hard to make this convention a smashing success-Dr. John Eaton, Dr. Bob Roberts and his excellent staff for their work at the booth; Dr. Lowell Meister and his wife Dellene for hosting the convention from such a distance; and also, for all of you who worked so hard behind the scenes.

Remember to tell your friends, especially those at the Adventist schools and conferences about our new website. Don't' forget to hand out those professional-looking brochures we have. Remember, each of you are a committee of one to explore the potential and opportunities for witnessing and promoting God's principals of health in our practices and to promote optometry as a profession. Look into other opportunities on local radio broadcasting and television. Also to participate with academies and other ministries involved in mission trips and our permanent missions we support. Let us know your ideas and success so that they can be put on our website and our Fraterneyeser. This association has done so much with so little. It's a tribute to Christ's spirit being poured out in all of you hard working members. A special thanks to each one of you!

Phil. 3:14. "I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

#### E-mail Address

Send me your e-mail address if not listed below, also any correction if what we have is not correct so we can publish it in our directory . It would be nice for

the ASDAO members to be able to contact each other.



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THERE MUST BE MORE THAN THESE. We have added a few since the last news letter. If yours is incorrect let me know.

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mudders@charter.net

wrlcurtis@rtconnect.net Duane Curtis O.D., bulletin editor

#### ASDAO AUXILIARY SCHOLARSHIP

The purpose of the ASDAO Auxiliary Scholarship is to recognize excellence in scholarship and encourage Seventh-day Adventist individuals with potential to complete their educational requirements in the field of Optometry.

Qualified Seventh-day Adventist students enrolled in an accredited school of optometry for at least one academic year are eligible to apply for the ASDAO Auxiliary Scholarship which is given through the Association of Seventh-day Adventist Optometrists. This scholarship is for \$1,000.

All documents must be received no later than JUNE 1. The recipient will be announced during the annual meeting of the Association of Seventh-day Adventist Optometrists held the end of June each year. The scholarship committee reserves the right to suspend the award if no candidates are judged to be outstanding in a given year.

#### **ADDRESS CHANGES**

One of the biggest jobs is trying to keep track of where all the SDA optometrists are. As you move or change addresses we loose track of you. Please let me know so that will continue to receive the Fraterneyeser.

Also if your e-mail address changes we need to know that.

If you have a new address or if you know any new SDA optometrists or recent graduates send me the address.

Duane Curtis, OD 1517 Circle Road Worland, WY 82401 wrlcurtis@rtconnect.net

### NEXT FRATERNEYESER DEADLINE

Information deadline for the next Fraterneyeser is February 1. Please send me your information by the deadline. Dr. Duane Curtis, Editor wrlcurtis@rtconnect.net

## CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING AVAILABLE ON WEB SITE

There is classified advertising available to any member that has something to sell or is looking for something to buy. There is no charge for this and you may find a member out there that is looking for what you have.

Send any advertising to our web site webmaster, Dr. Dennis Benedict, either using the web site or email him at dhbenedict@yahoo.com.

#### ASDAO Website

www.sdaoptometrists.or

g

If you haven't checked our the new web site, you should do so. There are a few things that will change from time

#### GENERAL CONFERENCE LOOKING FOR DOCTOR FOR SAIPAN

Dr. Allan Handysides is anxious to have a replacement Optometrist for Saipan. Dr. Ken Pierson DDS has written me an e-mail about the clinic. Dr. Pierson said, "the clinic is in excellent condition, the only negative is that the equipment has not been used for over a year and a half. It adjoins the Dental clinic, and the building and premises are very nice even to U.S. standards. The equipment is mostly all new. The eye department is fully equipped for a Optometrist, but I think could easily accommodate an Ophthalmologist with surgical privileges at the local government hospital. The entire clinic is owned and operated by the Guam Micronesian Mission which comes under the S.S.D. Someone to fill the vacancy would have to be called and go through the regular I.D.E. (Inter Division Employee) process. In other words they would be a church employee with associated salary and benefits. I would like to find a motivated person who would operate the eye department independently of the dental department. In other words be their own boss."

If this call touches a place in your heart, let me know and I will get you started on the process. All requests for information will be kept confidential.

God Bless,

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