Accepting the Challenge

Students in Norway enthusiastically share with the community, p. 12

Latest News From: Venezuela, Czech Republic, and More . . .
Top Ranking

Harbert Hills Academy Nursing Home received a top ranking by U.S. News & World Report. The nursing home was one of few nationwide to receive the coveted five-star rating, which placed it as one of the best in the state of Tennessee for 2011. Harbert Hills also just finished an addition that licenses its staff to care for 20 elderly needing day care services as well as to provide in-home care. The nursing home provides Harbert Hills Academy students with the opportunity to practice valuable caretaking skills and to become Certified Nursing Assistants.

The Quest for Well-being

Lifeline to Africa Inc. has been working hard to promote well-being through its health club in Hollywood, Florida. Events include community health club meetings twice a week, as well as monthly seminars and cooking classes. The ministry also visits local churches on Sabbath afternoons and conducts brief sessions with time for questions and answers.

Awareness & Prevention

In August, The Hope of Survivors will launch its inaugural Clergy Sexual Abuse Awareness & Prevention Month with several events. These include exhibiting a booth at the ASI Convention in Sacramento, California, participating in Prime 11 Cinemas Monday Night Sponsorship Program in Redding, California, and conducting a Hope & Healing Conference in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Finding the Pulse

Black Hills Health & Education Center and Little Light Studios are producing a 90-minute documentary highlighting God’s eight natural health remedies. PULSE will feature several patients who undergo treatment at Black Hills according to the ideal care that is proposed by experts featured in the documentary. The team hopes to have the finished product available for duplication and distribution prior to the end of December 2011. For more information, go to www.pulsefilm.org.

Ongoing Search

More than two years after the disappearance of Bob Norton, director of Adventist Medical Aviation in Venezuela, and six others, the investigation continues. Search teams have used satellite data to comb the jungle floor for clues to the whereabouts of the missing plane and passengers. An unmanned search drone is being designed to aid in the search. The U.S. and Venezuelan-based search teams continue to seek answers through cooperation with the far-reaching search and rescue community, and the activities are being recorded in a documentary called Beyond the Runway.

New B&B in Oklahoma

Oklahoma Academy officially opened The OASIS (Oklahoma Academy Students in Service) Bed and Breakfast during its 30-Year Celebration Weekend in April. The academy is excited about the prospects that the B&B will provide not only for guests, but also for students. Fall classes will include options for hospitality training and hotel management. The hands-on training in housekeeping, cooking, and customer relations will prepare students for a potential career in these areas. The academy asks for prayers as they use this unique opportunity to touch people’s lives in a meaningful way and to reach out to the community through Christian hospitality.

Studying the Plant-based Diet

Country Life Prague in Czech Republic is participating in a study organized by a Seventh-day Adventist doctor at the Institute for Clinical and Experimental Medicine, one of Prague’s major hospitals. The goal of the study is to show that a plant-based diet is beneficial for those dealing with diabetes. Also, in 2010, 268 guests attended Country Life’s NEWSTART® health weeks.
President's Perspective

Heavenly Gardener

“The generous soul will be made rich, And he who waters will also be watered himself” (Proverbs 11:25, NKJV).

Looking back over the past six years of visiting and counseling projects on six continents, I can truly testify to the truth of the promise in Proverbs 11:25.

My wife, Huguette, and I feel extremely rich in serving leaders and their co-workers. They have an outstanding spirit of generosity toward all those around them, including us. The majority of our travels are so uplifting that we hardly feel tired or even miss our own bed.

It seems as if an unseen Gardener is at work to water us as He continues to strengthen us to water others. Ours is certainly a full life, bursting with joy, purpose, and fulfillment.

We are privileged to have a part in the Lord’s special last-day work.

So far in six years as OCI president, Markus Jaudas has visited potential and established OCI ministries in 45 countries. These visits provide encouragement and support to the projects, while also giving Markus a front-row seat to the exciting work being done around the world.

Here are a few highlights from his recent trip to ministries in Europe and Africa:

Center for Health & Prevention, Bulgaria
I was inspired by how much the small team has accomplished in the four months since they began remodeling their new property.* They have a strong team spirit, a clear vision, and they are working very hard. While they would like to open the health center this summer, they are out of funds and definitely need the OCI world family to support them through prayer.

New Life Health Center, Ukraine
For two years the ministry has prayed for funds to remodel a building and construct staff housing. Just recently their faith has been rewarded with the needed funds! It is encouraging to see these answers to prayer in person and to see people who have been struggling through the valley now standing suddenly on top of a mountain.

Madison House, South Africa
God has provided a wonderful property, and the whole infrastructure is in place for running this ministry. Now they are looking for a good leader to run the health center and school.**

Riverside Farm Institute, Zambia
I was impressed with the reports given by Riverside’s group of about 100 Bible workers. One, with whom I had shared foot-washing nine years before, told me about the school he is starting. I was able to help him with funds for textbooks.

Mauritius
While visiting a new ministry in Mauritius, I met with the country’s Minister of Education. He invited me to share about the work of Advent Home Learning Center, because he is interested in starting a project for young men who aren’t doing well in society. He was very open to my presentation and to the concepts I shared.

*See OCI Reports Fall/Winter 2010.
**Read more about this ministry on p. 10.
Promoting His Healing

Interview by Hannah Kuntz

For 30 years Bev Krogdahl dreamed of starting Medical Missionary Training Institute (MMTI) in Australia. When the time came, she stepped forward in faith with absolutely no money. The Lord blessed, and the health center accepted its first guest in 2006. The ministry’s focus is teaching people how to get well and maintain wellness.

What were you doing before you started MMTI?

I ran my own veterinary practice specializing in alternative medicine for horses. Many people asked me for treatments for themselves and their families. I realized the need for a residential health education center to teach people preventive medicine and health promotion.

I had four children, and when they grew up I planned to convert our family home into a health center. In the meantime I became a Seventh-day Adventist, and I was completely overwhelmed that a church had a health center. In the meantime I became a Seventh-day Adventist, and I was completely overwhelmed that a church had a health center. In the meantime I became a Seventh-day Adventist, and I was completely overwhelmed that a church had a health center.

What are some of the greatest needs?

The Australian community suffers from typical Western health problems like cardiovascular disease, lifestyle-related cancer, diabetes, osteoporosis, and obesity. There is a huge need for health education. The indigenous population is in an even worse situation.

As part of our work, we have an outreach on Palm Island. The Queensland government gave us a grant to deliver health work on the island, which is home to about 3,500 indigenous people. The program, “Eat Well, Be Active,” lasted from June 2009 until the end of July 2010. We were invited into people’s homes to teach them how to prepare healthy meals and set up an exercise program.

The Palm Island community is in crisis, and there’s a high level of suicide, especially among young people. I attribute this to dysfunctional families; there’s a lot of alcohol and drug abuse and gambling.

Can you tell me a specific story about how God is working at the project?

Several years ago the first Palm Islander participated in a program at the health center. She had cancer, and when she went back home no one understood what she’d learned. Without anyone to support her, she went back to smoking and drinking and didn’t follow the program. She died about a year later.

The family recently had a tombstone opening,* and about 250 or 300 people came. They asked me to cut the ribbon to open the tombstone.

Normally an elder in the family is asked to do that. Afterward at the huge feast, they insisted that I sit at a table of the tribal elders and cultural groups, right next to the mayor of Palm Island. I felt the people were acknowledging their acceptance of our work.

I feel that God was also showing me the importance of having somebody live there permanently to teach the Advent message and to prepare the people for His coming.

Are there any new developments at the ministry?

We have a lot of things happening. We’ve been given a donation to create a course that is totally unique and specific to the Adventist health message. The Australian government will accredit it, which has many benefits, including students receiving money from the government to live on while they’re taking the course.

The course is designed to train people with the knowledge and skills to set up and run a health education center, to operate a health college, and to be able to put on programs for the public. I’m working alongside other Adventist health specialists.

Also, we run a health camp every year, which is extremely popular, and we must turn people away. We’re currently looking for land to expand these health camps.

Besides that, a motor home has been donated to establish permanent medical missionaries on Palm Island, with the goal of planting a church. I’m looking for a couple to live there.

What is the most rewarding aspect of your work?

Life could not be lived better than to be involved in ministry. Because of the challenges, there is a need for us to have a close relationship with God, and that’s the best. I can go to Him, ask for His forgiveness, praise Him, and tell Him how much I love Him. It’s an amazing way to live your life.

* A memorial service held by the family once they can afford to buy a tombstone.

OCI supporting ministries touch the lives of thousands around the world. While the goal is primarily to reach out into the community, often those who choose to serve at these ministries receive as great a blessing.

**Name:** Alfredo Ordonez  
**Ministry:** Harbert Hills Academy, USA  
**Position:** Teacher & Cook  
**Length of Service:** 10 Months

My wife and I learned about openings at Harbert Hills Academy in June 2010. We sent our résumés and interviewed for the positions. After much prayer, the Lord made things possible for us to become staff. My wife teaches science and helps with a math class as well. I teach English and Spanish and cook a few meals a week at the cafeteria.

The biggest blessing has been for us to be able to care for and spend more time with our children, Joaquín, 9 months, and Alejandro, 9. It’s worth its weight in gold to be able to dedicate ourselves wholeheartedly to one Master and our family.

**Name:** Kessy Betz  
**Ministry:** Living Valley Springs, Australia  
**Position:** Therapist  
**Length of Service:** 4 Years

Originally from Germany, I trained at the European Bible School and worked at Fredheim Health Center in Norway. During a visit to Australia in 2007, I was introduced to Living Valley Springs. Since then I have been privileged to work there giving massages, colonics, and various hydrotherapy treatments.

One of the many blessings of working at Living Valley Springs is the family atmosphere and the spiritual support of the team. But undoubtedly the greatest blessing is sharing with the guests what my relationship with Jesus means to me. I find it very rewarding to see people change—physically as well as spiritually—from when they arrive to the end of the program. It is wonderful to see the Holy Spirit move their hearts, as the loveliness of Jesus is demonstrated to them through the simple medical ministry.

**Name:** Wojtek Janiuk  
**Ministry:** Eastward Missionary College, Australia  
**Position:** Administrative Assistant  
**Length of Service:** 4 Years

Despite my cerebral palsy, I always wanted to be involved in a ministry directly linked to saving souls. In 2003 I met Rod Bailey, the director at Eastward Missionary College, and later attended mission-training classes that they held near my home. When the students started door-to-door work, I built a database of their contacts and progress. This work gave me the opportunity to be involved in soul winning—what a blessing!

In 2007 I became an administrative assistant at Eastward, and then a member of the Eastward Constituency. I have been involved in Eastward’s governance and training programs ever since, and I love every minute of it! You may think you have only one talent, but if you use that talent for the Lord, He will multiply it into many.

**Name:** Taylor Peters  
**Ministry:** Clark’s Bakery at Stone Cave, USA  
**Position:** Bread Bagger & Baker  
**Length of Service:** 1 Year

I work at Clark’s Bakery as a bread bagger and sweet treats baker. Before starting at the bakery, my diet had already been improved by its products. After working here for two semesters, the blessings have multiplied exponentially, and I have witnessed others benefit as well. I can’t convey how the owners and other employees have also influenced my life spiritually. I think God takes special time out of His day to watch His faithful servants run this quaint and beloved little family business.

If you are interested in serving at an OCI ministry, visit [www.outpostcenters.org/getinvolved/jobs](http://www.outpostcenters.org/getinvolved/jobs)
**Turned Upside-down**

Even visionaries are likely to lose their inspiration at the sight of peeling paint and dilapidated buildings. But Gordon and Margaret Roy were an exception; through God’s divine leading, the Roys’ plans fell through and their lives took on new meaning.

It began in 2006 when Gordon and Margaret decided to emigrate from South Africa to Canada. They sold their businesses and home in Johannesburg and were assured that their visa would be granted within six months. The process took much longer than expected. While waiting, the Roys ended up in Lindley, South Africa.

About this time Gordon and Margaret watched a series of DVDs that impressed them about Bible truths and the health message. They found the nearest Seventh-day Adventist church and began attending. A year later they received news that they would not be allowed into Canada.

Frustrated, Gordon cried out to God, wondering why He had allowed their lives to fall apart. But God had another plan. He impressed the Roys to purchase a neglected 100-year-old hotel and turn it into a lifestyle center.

Despite the deteriorated condition of the hotel and the work needed to make it presentable, Gordon and Margaret had a vision. They trusted God, even with the financial strains of renovation. The Lord assured them that if they did their part, He would do His. They named the lifestyle center Madison House.

With the arrival of Coenie and Esther Britz in March 2009, renovations began in earnest. Coenie, a builder by trade, served as project manager. Despite the limited budget, the team was able to renovate and furnish the main building in time to host the inaugural Lindley International Health Seminar in November 2009.

About 70 delegates attended the seminar. At the close of the meetings, Gordon and Margaret were baptized in the Madison swimming pool.

From the beginning, medical missionary training was an integral part of the Roys’ vision. Leading up to the health seminar, they held the first three-week training course. The following year, they arranged for LIGHT South Africa to run the training aspect of Madison, including one-month and six-month courses.

Agriculture and organic gardening are a highlight of all of the courses at Madison. The main building has beautiful rose and herb gardens, and all of the other houses on campus have vegetable gardens and fruit trees.

While the training aspect of the ministry is now flourishing, the lifestyle center faces numerous challenges. Gordon and Margaret don’t have experience running a lifestyle center, and although they have been able to host a number of guests with the help of volunteers, they can’t continue successfully without a permanent staff.

God had led the Roys to purchase the property and establish the ministry, assuring them that if they did the initial work, He would provide the people to operate the project.

Yet after four years without an income, and spending all of their personal savings on renovations and upkeep, the Roys realized it was time for Gordon to return to the workplace. They are currently praying for a dedicated team to direct the project and to help it flourish.

They need a married couple with prior lifestyle center experience to operate the project with the help of local volunteers.

It is the ministry’s sincere hope and prayer that soon Madison House will have a fully functioning lifestyle center where medical missionary students can complete their training firsthand by serving and interacting with guests.

Christ calls us to serve, and the students at Matteson Institute in Norway embrace that mission.

Situated amid the stunning scenery of southern Norway, The Granheim Foundation’s Matteson Institute of World Mission is a school dedicated to service. Students not only receive training in medical missionary work, but also get to know their neighbors and spread Christ’s love through community outreach. Whether it involves shoveling several feet of snow off a roof in Norway or working in tropical regions of Central and South America, these students have a burden for those seeking the Light.

Matteson has trained young people for 25 years, offering a practical one-year program that focuses on four key areas: the Bible, evangelism, organic gardening, and health. Matteson’s staff is committed to preparing young people to share the good news, while providing them with an opportunity for mission training and character development. Located in the countryside an hour outside of Oslo, the school accepts only 12 students at a time, allowing students and staff to form a close connection.

Six years ago Matteson collaborated with Gospel Ministries International to create a three-month mission internship at GMI projects in Guyana and Bolivia. Since then Matteson has expanded its internship options to include Norway and Honduras. The internship covers areas such as media ministry, medical aviation, education, orphan care, and evangelism.

Each year Matteson helps organize a three-week mini mission school called Impact Norway. Last summer 90 young people participated in door-to-door evangelism, health expos, and retirement home visits. Many members of the community showed interest in learning more about the Bible, so a number of Matteson students worked with the local pastor to follow up.

Plans are already under way for this summer’s Impact Norway. Two buses full of students and health workers will travel to Vesterålen, eight hours above the Arctic Circle, and minister to this community in the “Land of the Midnight Sun.” God has already paved the way: the local director of health told the team that his father had received an Adventist health magazine for 50 years! He is excited that the students are coming and has offered any support he can give.

While Matteson encourages community outreach, students also spend time working at the school. Through the agricultural program they learn to appreciate the need for thorough planning, careful planting, and consistent, gentle cultivation. Rewarded by their hard work, students are excited by the nutritious food they harvest from the garden, and are glad to be able to share it with others.

Students are each impacted in a different way during their time at Matteson. For Jamie Telfer, studying God’s word has been especially meaningful.

“These first few months at Matteson have been a life-changing experience mentally, physically, and definitely spiritually,” Jamie says. “I am extremely grateful for what God has done for me. He has opened my eyes to see the glorious truth of His Word.”

As snow melts and the seasons change, Norwegians will celebrate spring, reveling in the flowery finery and warmer temperatures. Yet despite the changes of nature, Matteson’s mission of service will remain constant: seeking to serve, and better equipping young people with the tools to reach out to their community, to their world.

To learn more about Matteson Institute, visit www.mattesonmissionschool.org.
Flat on My Back

by Brad Mills

I squirmed in the uncomfortable waiting room at the hospital for tropical diseases. I’d had a fever of around 103.6 since Sabbath, and it was now Tuesday. My symptoms pointed to one of several tropical illnesses. The diagnosis: dengue fever.

A recent dengue outbreak in Manaus, Brazil, resulted in more than 500 new cases every day. The disease, spread by infected mosquitoes, typically causes a high fever and excruciating body aches for a week.

However, I developed rare complications. My capillaries became inflamed, and my platelet count fell drastically. I began losing fluid internally, although I didn’t know it at the time. Then my blood pressure dropped dangerously. My wife, Lina, placed an IV and did fluid replacement for two days, which saved my life.

As the week of “allotted time” for dengue ended, I felt my energy returning. Yet I was still having severe abdominal pain, nausea, diarrhea, and a persistent fever. When I returned to the doctor for more tests, a CAT scan of my abdomen revealed that my liver and spleen were both enlarged. Something else was going on.

Eventually the infectious disease specialist put all of the pieces together and diagnosed me with typhoid fever. Unbelievable! I had battled both typhoid and dengue fever at the same time. After nearly two weeks of extreme discomfort, I began recovering with appropriate antibiotics.

We often ask “why.” Why, when I have so much to do for Him, did God allow me to be flat on my back for two weeks? But as suddenly as my questioning begins, it ends.

I picture the sad faces of the isolated river dwellers, and I remember the reason I am here. They suffer from fevers, pain, diarrhea, and worse, yet they don’t have medicine to cure them. There are no hospitals or doctors nearby. There are only the Amazon Lifesavers boats, bringing medical care to their villages, and, more importantly, bringing the message of Jesus and hope for a better future.

Brad Mills is program coordinator for Amazon Lifesavers Ministry. Learn more at www.amazonlifesavers.org.
OCI MISSION TRIP: BRAZIL
NOVEMBER 6 - 20, 2011

Hello from Brazil!
The Amazon River gives life to many remote communities that are thirsty for Christ. Amazon Lifesavers Ministry is reaching out to these villages, and YOU have the opportunity to help!

Join OCI on a mission trip to Brazil in November. We look forward to seeing you there!

the OCI team

OUTPOSTCENTERS.ORG/MISSIONTRIP

DATES: November 6 - 20, 2011
MISSION: Assist with construction and evangelism efforts alongside the staff at Amazon Lifesavers Ministry.

SKILLS & REQUIREMENTS: Adaptability and a willingness to work are the only skills necessary. A guardian must accompany those under 15.

COST: $300 + airfare + Brazilian visa

DEADLINE: August 12

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