

ADELAIDE JULY 1998

Dear Friends,

Last weekend, July 11-12, a special feature of our get-together in Adelaide to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the start of mission work by the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod in the Western Highlands of New Guinea was the phone hook-up with a similar meeting/reunion that was being held in St Louis by a large group of former co-workers and good friends. We want to say thank you to those who organised and arranged for this phone hook-up. It was such a thrill to hear familiar voices and for a number of us to speak directly to old friends.

For most of the people who were present in the audio-visual room at Immanuel College on Saturday morning when the phone hook-up took place, it was a first-time experience with this sort of technology and it seemed like some sort of magic. We were grateful that Betty and Dennis Feist were familiar with this procedure and could give us some direction. Thanks also to Ed Dicke for his part in all this.

We were fortunate too that Pat Matthews (Mattner) who works at Immanuel College was able to arrange for our meeting to be held there and we had the use of the facilities such as the audio-visual room, and the equipment to show videos and slides on a large screen.

About 50 people attended our meeting, and extra people came and went during the weekend. In case you're interested, we'll list most, maybe not all, the names of the people who attended.

Clair Altus, Paul and Edna Collyer, John Edwards (former kiap), Dennis and Betty Feist, Mark Feist and Nikki, Rev Harold Freund, Martin and Mary Freund, Dr Les Grope, Malcolm and Helen (Clarke) Harrington, Lou Heppner, Naomi Hoff, Dr Eric and Lottie Hoopmann, Don and Joy Jeffers, Ian and Enid Kleinig, John and Pat Matthews (Mattner), Charles and Ann McDonald, Clare Mellington (Friebel), Dr Ulf and Christel Metzner, Darryl and Helen Miegel and children, Marlene Mirtschin, Ron Nitschke, Ted Noack, Frank and Anne (Thiele) Rasenberger, Deane Russell, Nell Russell and daughters, Clive and Jan (Haby) Schubert, and Belinda, David Shrowder, Phil and Pauline Thiele, Vic and Helen (Jenke) Walter and son, Keith and Jean Nagel, Glen and Jill Oster.

At the start of our meeting on Saturday morning, Dr Ulf Metzner, the Director of the Board for Church Cooperation in World Mission of the Lutheran Church of Australia, gave an introductory talk and reported on the involvement in Asia of the LCA, the current situation in Evangelical Lutheran Church of Papua New Guinea, and some news of Gutnius Lutheran Church.

The activities included the showing of videos made from films that Don Jeffers took in Enga Province during the 60's featuring the culture and customs of the Enga people, and a range of mission work and projects. Don also showed many of his excellent

slides taken at different Hagen Shows, and in different areas of the Wabag Valley. On Saturday evening other people had the opportunity to show some of their favourite slides, and the closing devotion was conducted by Ian Kleinig, some of it in Pidgin.

On Sunday morning in the Immanuel College chapel Ian Kleinig preached the service of thanksgiving with the members of the local congregation taking part. There was also plenty of opportunity during meal breaks and during the "sessions" for fun and fellowship and reminiscences. There was a display of pictures, photos, maps and memorabilia, including a set of pictures loaned to the Kleinigs by Peter and Kayleen Geyer who had recently been on leave in Adelaide from the Kopiago area.

During the weekend the books, Collection of Memories and Assorted Essays of LCMS Missionaries, were made available to everyone at the meeting, since the Feists had arranged for a good number of copies to be photo-copied. The video-tapes made of the interviews with the Burces and the Dickes reached the Feists just a couple of days before our meeting and it was only on the Friday that they had the video-tapes converted to the PAL system. It was decided not to show these videos to the main gathering, for a variety of reasons, but they will be made available to interested people to view in their own homes, or in groups, and eventually they will be kept in the archives of the Mission Office in Adelaide.

*Sum of AUD 100 enclosed*  
It was decided before the end of our meeting that some money that had been collected for the purpose would be sent to the States when the Hintzes return there after their visit to PNG and Australia to give to the appropriate persons to help towards the expenses of postage of printed materials to Australia in the past few months.

*Dickes  
Hintzes  
AUD 100 / 2 = 50 = \$US 29 at .58¢ per dollar*

We had a great weekend, and we know it must have been the same for you.

With every good wish in Christ to you all,

On behalf of the Australian contingent of former workers in the NGLM,

Ian and Enid Kleinig