

# SOUTHERN DISTRICT ALLIANCE WOMEN MINISTRIES

## NEWSLETTER, SUMMER 2005



*"And we pray this in order that you may live a life worthy of the Lord, and may please him in every way; **bearing fruit in every good work**, growing in the knowledge of God," Col. 1:10*



As we finish up our year of HANDS ON, let's reflect on what we've been doing. Our growth goal for the year has been to promote hospitality within the body of Christ. Has anyone planned an extra meal just for the purpose of inviting someone for dinner? Has the focus at least made you more aware of our need for reaching out to each other? If any of you have had a noteworthy experience because of this project, please email or call me to let us know. It could be a great encouragement to someone else.

Because of the attention given to this subject this year, I've come to realize how lacking I am in this area. With the transition to the New Project coming up, I don't want us to lose the momentum of the old one. Let's keep our HANDS ON in love and good works.

*Marilyn Rurup*



### A HAND FOR CAROL FISH!



On April 22<sup>nd</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup> we enjoyed a wonderful RETREAT weekend with our district missionary, Carol Fish from Indonesia. For you who missed it, she was her usual amazing, casual, southern, gracious, and frequently hilarious self. Here are some comments she sent to us in a card about the retreat:

*"Dear Alliance Women,*

*Thank you for the privilege you gave me to deliver God's Word, as well as an opportunity for that Word to burn into my own heart. As far as connecting to people, that is the best women's retreat I have ever been to in America.*

*Thanks also for the gift of \$200 which couldn't have come at a better time, as we on May 14<sup>th</sup> break up housekeeping and get ready to return. Much love, Carol Fish"*

Besides fellowshiping with Carol and with each other, ladies from 16 different churches in our district sang, played and prayed together, and enjoyed delicious food, and varied Saturday afternoon activities for all ages and interests, from the ropes course to scrapbooking. Debby Howen even added a small tour of the kitchen this year. A GREAT BIG THANK YOU is due to Debby and her husband Bob who spent countless days and weeks even getting the camp ready for our retreat in the absence of a camp director. KUDOS TO YOU, BOB AND DEBBY!!! There is a practical example of Serving Hands in it's finest sense!! Check out our district AWM web site, at [www.sdaw.org](http://www.sdaw.org), and watch it for upcoming pictures of the event!


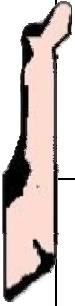
Our March Offering this year came to \$1151.32. This was sent to our MK Dorms at Dakar to go towards a new Van that they have need of. Here are a couple thank-you notes from the dorms:

*"Dear Marilyn, Thanks so much for praying ... We sure do appreciate that. Thank the Ladies for the gift of money for the van ... That is a great start... We will just keep saving. Thanks a lot!! Please continue to pray. WE love you all. Love, Shari Timberlake*








*"Thank you so much for your prayers. Thanks too for the offering towards our van. That will definitely help us get on the way to purchasing a more reliable vehicle to drive these kids around in. Hopefully that can happen before too long. We appreciate you and the ministry of you and all the ladies. Greetings to them all. Blessings, Judy and JP Schultz"*

## HANDS ON your TO DO list:



1. Prepare end of year Alliance Women Report to be turned in to your Area President just as soon as your June meeting is over. This report is on page 57, 58 of your yearbook. Please be sure to **include all that your women's groups are doing**. Fill out whatever applies to your church. So, even if you do not hold a monthly meeting of sorts, please let us know what the ladies of your church are doing. This includes Bibles Studies, etc. Thank you in advance!! We need 100% participation.

2. Encourage your whole church to participate in giving to our National Project, *Hands On*. Remember, we are raising funds to enable C&MA Workers to reach out to needy people by providing:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
|  Health Clinics                                    |  Medical Training Centers  |
|  Medical supplies                                  |  Community Health programs |
|  Rehabilitation Centers for drug and alcohol abuse |   |

Any funds received up until the end of July will go towards this project. You will be extending the work of YOUR HANDS through your financial gifts.







3. Encourage your ladies in the 4 objectives of AWM: Prayer, Missions, Outreach, and Fellowship.



## HANDS ON THE GREAT COMMISSION FUND

These statistics come from Mike Farho, from Cote d'Ivoire:

"Because of your gifts to the Great Commission Fund:

-  Every two minutes, someone prays to receive Christ through the worldwide outreach of Alliance ministries.
-  Every hour, three patients, many of them ravaged by AIDS, receive physical and spiritual care through C&MA medical work.
-  Every day, via 43 radio broadcasts, people who have had no gospel witness hear the good news.
-  Every week, nearly 3,000 new believers are baptized.
-  Every month, 253 churches and church groups join the worldwide Alliance family.
-  Every year, 9,635 students are trained and equipped for ministry through 125 overseas Alliance theological schools."

We can give to all the projects and short term trips and special funds, but ***unless our career missionaries are fully supported by giving to the GCF, all the other efforts are in vain***. This Fund is what pays our missionaries' rent and puts food on their tables. Let us not take our Hands OFF our support for this work that God has given us!!

### CHANGES IN TERMINOLOGY

As of Council, 2005, there are two big changes that you will be seeing. The first is, we no longer have "Presidents". We have District AWM Directors, Area Directors, and Local AWM Directors. The old "VP's" are now Assistant Directors. This has been done in order to correlate everything in the Alliance. Since the other ministries all have Directors, now we have them also. NOTE: All your local and area constitutions and bylaws will need to have these editorial changes made. No business meeting or voting is necessary for this.

Secondly, your "Yearbook" is now referred to as the Resource Guide. This is a better term to describe what our book actually is, and doesn't bring up the connotation of a high school annual.

# HANDS ON YOUR CALENDAR

Mark the dates:



SEPTEMBER						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

Our Annual District AWM Rally and Luncheon will be held during the annual Prayer Conference at North River C&MA in Chattanooga, TN on Tuesday, September 20<sup>th</sup>. Our speaker will be Mrs. Terry Hotalen Newman!! You will want to come and hear this dynamic speaker, and meet her new husband. Watch for upcoming flyers and registration sheets.

## AND, ANNOUNCING A VERY GREAT CHANGE FOR RETREAT NEXT YEAR:

Plan NOW to be free the weekend of April 28 - 30, 2006.  
We'll be taking a

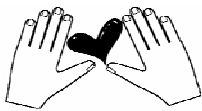
**ROAD TRIP!!!!**



APRIL						
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30						

We've been invited to join with the South Atlantic District for their Retreat at Ridgecrest, NC. There will be vans or buses leaving from each area, so **PLAN NOW to RESERVE YOUR SEAT ON YOUR BUS!!** You will be receiving information in plenty of time to make your reservations. Join with about 800 other Alliance Women from our neighboring district to Praise and Worship our Lord, and enjoy the tremendous Missionary Rally on Saturday Night, in the breathtaking setting of the Blue Ridge Mountains. **THIS IS ONE YOU WILL NOT WANT TO MISS!!!**

We have a **PROMO VIDEO** from the South Atlantic District with a special invitation to us, so if you are interested in receiving a copy of this to show at your church, please let us know.



## HANDS ON OUR MISSIONARIES

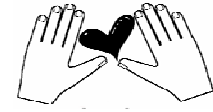
**TERRY HOTALEN, Gabon  
EXTRA, EXTRA, READ ALL ABOUT IT!!!**



Our own district Missionary, Terry Hotalen, will be getting married on August 20<sup>th</sup>, 2005, to Mr. Barry Newman, a Canadian Alliance Missionary to Niger. Here is an excerpt from her email to me of June 13, 2005:

*"...And I look forward to seeing everyone there and for Barry to meet y'all. I keep telling him what a great district I come from and he'll finally get to discover God's country! ...It's hard to believe that 2 weeks from now I'll be flying into Niamey. (Where he lives). We'll look at ministry possibilities there and then take a trip over to Mali for a couple of days and see what ministry there might look like for us. Pray for both of us, that self and the flesh would be dead in this decision and that we would hear the Spirit and be of one heart and mind. You look at these countries, as you know, and there's little that would naturally appeal to the flesh - it's the people that count. And God can open our eyes to see what He loves and desires to accomplish and we'll be off and running. Thanks for your love and prayer support. I am one very fortunate gal!!!"*

As her district, we want to give them a special wedding gift. We are preparing a card with a love gift from you. Please send any money for this beloved woman of God to our district Treasurer, Ruth Martin, marked "Terry's wedding", and it will be added to the amount of the check.



## MARY CROWGEY, Burkina Faso

Mary was home in New Orleans for an extended time this past winter to care for her aging mother. And then just days after arriving back in Burkina she received the news of her mother's passing. She returned for the funeral and to spend time with her sister, arriving back in late March to her work with the ACCEDDES program in Bobo Dioulasso. ACCEDDES, translated into English, stands for Christian Alliance for Economic and Social Development. It is the Burkina Arm of CAMA services. To quote a letter from CAMA missionary apprentices Shawn and Becky McCabe,

*"One would only have to open their eyes in countries like Burkina or Mali to see the definition of poverty. The hardest thing about poverty here is it's abundance, it is everywhere. ACCEDDES is a group that has made it their mission to help the neediest of the needy. Through several well organized programs this group has given people a chance; a chance to take control of their lives to have hope of a better day to come. By helping them with their physical needs a door is opened to sharing with them the hope they can have in our Lord Jesus Christ. "Project Life" is a program which educates youth about HIV/AIDS through the school system. Ellen and her daughter Ella are participants in this program. She has been widowed for three years after her husband passed away with AIDS. She herself carries the HIV virus and they are still waiting to determine if her child carries it as well. Project Life was able to give her a small loan to buy a supply of charcoal to sell for some income. She has paid back the first loan and was able to attain a larger second loan to further expand her business. In a society where those with AIDS are often shunned, ACCEDDES staff have walked alongside Ellen through this difficult time and shown her love. By their actions she has seen the love of Jesus."*

And here are some excerpts from Mary's email of May 19, 2005:

*I returned to Burkina in late March and spent the first week helping out with the books at Lycee Maranatha (High School) and visiting other associations to see what they are doing (for the blind, handicapped, etc.) since Robert (Sanou, the director of ACCEDDES) was out of town doing grain distribution in Djibo, a town WAY up north that was badly affected by last year's drought and locust invasion.*

*Since then I have been working on learning how to make a database for ACCEDDES, starting with our slightly complicated system of loans and repayments for plows and donkey carts that has been going since 1997 ... We finally got a REAL file cabinet in Robert's office so I've also been allowed to start filing several years of accumulated papers ...*

*Now we are starting to contact various organizations to see if some of them can finance the projects that we hope to continue ... Yesterday I was working on one for construction of a new school. ... Other projects on the drawing board to be repeated are literacy centers ... teaching groups about AIDS, and giving food help each month to AIDS widows...*

*We saw eight student pastors graduate from Maranatha Bible Institute this past Saturday afternoon. It was scorching hot with high humidity but there was great joy in the air as we heard how the Lord had helped them during times of food shortage, serious illnesses and other problems.*

*On Sunday the Djibasso district president stopped by to greet for my mother's death and stayed for a nice visit ... it does seem that there is revival in the Djibasso district. It's almost enough to make me homesick for there (until I remember the oven temperatures that are normal there in hot season!)*

*The RAC (Christian radio station) has seen several people come to the Lord through their broadcasts over the last few months which is a great encouragement to us all and especially to Elie Sanou who is the director.*

*I hope that this gives you all a little bit of an idea of what is happening here in Burkina and of subjects for prayer and praise. ... Thanks for writing. Mary*