

Family Faces 1988-2005

Just a few of those who have been part of our tribe. We don't have pictures of everyone but you know who you are.



### **2005 Renewal Gatherings**

#### CHICO, CALIFORNIA

Dates: June 5-11, 2005

Speakers: Dan Sneed & Jean Darnall...
'The prophetic call in a changing world'
With Peter & Donna Jordan &
JoEllyn Wright leading worship
Contact: Laurie Jordan
Email: laurie@ywamassociates.com

#### **RESTENAS, SWEDEN**

Dates: July 3-9, 2005

Speaker: lain Muir, Member of the Team3 Chairmanship of YWAM With hosts Peter & Donna Jordan Contact: Christine christine.terrasson@ywamrestenas.se

#### **GRIMERUD, NORWAY**

Dates: July 10-16, 2005

Speaker: Donna Jordan, 'Listening to God' With JoEllyn Wright leading worship Hosts: Peter and Donna Jordan Contact: Lidvard Email: lidvard@online.no

### LA BASSONNAZ, SWITZERLAND

Dates: July 23-30, 2005

Speakers: Jeff & Romkje Fountain, Jeff is Director of YWAM Europe Contact: Roy Email: seminars@uofn.ch

#### SINGAPORE/MALAYSIA

Dates: September 7-11, 2005

Speaker: David Demian, Watchmen for the Nations, Canada With Peter & Donna Jordan Contact: Wei-lin

Email: singaporeintouch@yahoo.com.sg

#### KONA, HAWAII

Dates: November 13-19, 2005

For more on this Gathering... Contact: Laurie Jordan Email: laurie@ywamassociates.com

#### Coming in 2006...

NEW ZEALAND Jan 8-14

**SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA Jan 15-21** 

David Demian, Watchmen for the Nations Contacts: NZ, Dianne - dingle@clear.net.nz AUS, Peter - westfolk@ozemail.com.au

## Time for Change A word from your Editor...

This *inTouch* is really two editions in one, 49 (The 'Missing' Edition) and 50. Last year we sensed the Lord saying that the Fiftieth Edition would be our final effort in the medium of print. Due to a personal health challenge in January, number 49 did not make it on time, thus this double-decker.

Every four months over the past 17 years, God has enabled us to publish. We never knew exactly how the cost of printing and postage would get covered, but it always did – through small and large gifts from you. This being our 'Last Hurrah!' in print, it will certainly be an even greater than usual test of our faith in God as Provider. Join us in praying that this aspect of the ministry 'closes clean' financially. And you might want to pray that if it is to continue in some form of print, that God will speak to others to pick up the vision, because we know that some who read *inTouch* have little or no access to the internet.

It's time for a change. And for us, a move. Donna and I and Laurie will be moving to Alberta, Canada later this year.

We expect to continue the ministry of YWAM Associates via email, the website and with *Renewal Gatherings* in various parts of the world. How this will look, we don't exactly know. What we do know is that we can't do it alone.

Several times throughout these pages, you will be asked to stay with us by letting us have your email address – the easiest way for us – and for you, is to go to our website and sign up on the front page to receive *eTouch*, go to www.ywamassociates.com. That way we will stay 'in touch.'

Across the bottom of each of these pages you will see 48 thumbnail covers of *in Touch*, the first one dated 'Winter 1988-89.' And in this final Number 50, I'm taking a bit of a nostalgic stroll through old editions of *in Touch* and pulling out some memories that kind of sum up what we're all about. Something old, something new.

Some interesting life issues have been covered during the past 17-year journey... encouragement; acknowledgement of the pain of some (and asking for forgiveness); thanking, blessing, healing, networking, gathering; the list is long and the journey was never dull.

Thank you for your faithful readership of our magazine. I hope I'll see you in the cyber world and at a Renewal Gathering – and that you'll keep reading.

By putting *inTouch* to bed, in no way do we want you to feel dropped like Mephibosheth (see Dan Sneed's article to the right), rejected or abandoned – especially if the medium of print is your only connection to us. You are still family and valuable to us and to all of YWAM. VA

## From The First Edition Winter 1988

This, the first edition of *inTouch* is dedicated to Ron & Karen Engel and their young son Daniel, aged 2. Early in 1987, this young family went to work as Mission Builders at the Pacific & Asia Christian University in Hawaii... One evening while walking home from YWAM's Friday night service, all three were struck by a weaving car in the hands of a drunk driver.

Little Daniel was knocked out of his stroller and only slightly bruised. Ron was crushed into the gravel alongside the road. He suffered broken legs and abrasions all over his body.

But it was Karen who took the brunt of the impact, and today is confined to a wheelchair, paralyzed from the waist down. It is not easy for them... would you pray for this little family, that God's grace would be their portion?

**UPDATE 2005:** Several years ago Karen gave birth to a daughter, Patrice!















2

# Ever Been Dropped?

by DAN SNEED

onathan's son Mephibosheth, was five years old when news came that his father, along with is grandfather King Saul, had been killed by the Philistines on Mount Gilboa. Fearing that the palace would be plundered by the ruthless Philistines and anyone in it destroyed, everyone scattered and ran for their lives.

In the midst of the panic and confusion, a tragic accident took place. Mephibosheth's nurse grabbed him and in her haste she tripped and dropped the little boy. In the fall, both of the boy's ankles were broken. In just a few short hours, his life was completely and irreversibly changed. He was carried across the Jordan River Valley to the safety of the small village of Lo-Debar where he grew up in obscurity, never to walk again.

With his royal identity suppressed, Mephibosheth was now fatherless and without anyone to help him discover all that he was capable of becoming.

Our world is full of Mephibosheths; those who have been dropped by the ones that should have protected them... family, friends, society, YWAM or the church. As a result, they are emotionally and spiritually crippled.

Often it's the difficult ones that require more of us than we want to give. There are those who ask the hard questions, or just don't fit into our molds; and then there are those who just fall between the cracks and are soon forgotten. Like Mephibosheth.

Recent reports show that two out of every five kids in America grow up without a father figure involved in their lives. It is believed by many that 'fatherless-ness' is the most destructive trend in this generation.

Also the lack of spiritual fathers has left the church filled with emotional and spiritual orphans with a deep sense of abandonment. Like many in today's world Mephibosheth lived in exile, alone, consumed with fear and embittered by the injustices of life; he lived out the meaning of his name: 'destroying shame'; or 'seething dishonor.'

Years later, King David *remembered* his covenant with his close friend Jonathan "...The LORD shall be between me and you, and between my descendants and your descendants forever." (1 Samuel 20:42)

Remembering his covenant, David *responded*, and actively went looking for his best friend's son. Shame and fear had kept Mephibosheth away – a cripple was not a welcome sight in the royal residence. Like many today, the thought of more rejection would have overwhelmed the cripple.

David *received* him; can you imagine the fear that Mephibosheth must have felt when summoned by the king, the very man who had taken his grandfather's throne; the man from whom he had been hiding all these years. What would the king do to him? Would he be judged guilty because he was King Saul's grandson?

David's first words to the frightened Mephibosheth were, "Don't be afraid, I want to show kindness to you." No judgment! To many, the church today is a place of judgment and self-righteousness. Broken people need our love and acceptance, not our judgment and rejection.

David then *restored* to Mephibosheth the wealth of his grandfather Saul! Perhaps most remarkably, a place was set for him at the king's table; he became as one of the king's own sons, a member of the royal family.

We need to remember what we the church, are all about! What we the church, are really intended to be!

Let's look for the Mephibosheths of our time, inviting them to the family table. It's time to *Remember...* to *Respond...* to *Receive...* and then to *Restore.* 



Dan Sneed has been – and still is – a family member of our Board of Directors since the very beginning of YWAM Associates International. His friendship, his counsel, his wisdom and his 'words in season' have been invaluable to us... and all these will con-

tinue as this ministry transitions electronically and relationally into its future.

## P.S. Carry a Little Honey from April 1990

This was Jacob's wise advice to his sons as they fearfully returned to Egypt to buy grain during the terrible famine. (Gen 43:11) It was a sad time for Jacob and he felt like everything was against him — he'd lost Joseph and Simeon and now he was fearful he would lose Benjamin too. He instructed his sons to "carry a little honey."

We too, should "carry a little honey." Our heavenly Father expects us to carry sweetness, to be second-mile Christians, to "carry a little honey" to others. Today, many are weighed down with the worries and cares and anxieties of life, and desperately need a "little honey."

Let's be honey-carrying Christians!

P.S. was Pastor Scratch, the beloved husband of Enid, and father of Darlene Cunningham. He went to be with Jesus on Sept 10, 1991, having faithfully written a regular column in the early days of inTouch. Enid continues in ministry as a card-carrying YWAMer.

















Here's a sampling of letters we received in response to our opening up 'a can of worms,' by giving space to those whose YWAM experience had been less than easy. Names witheld.

#### **NO LONGER PART OF MY LIFE**

"In one sense, YWAM is no longer part of my life. In another sense, it always will be. I have such mixed emotions as I reflect on my YWAM experience... In my day-today 'life after YWAM,' I don't have to face these troubling issues and emotions, that is, until InTouch arrives. Most of your issues lean toward the upbeat and positive things - as they should - however most of the YWAM people I know, share the feelings of ambiguity that I have. In your latest issue I was greatly relieved and encouraged to read other similar testimonies.

We don't always like to be honest with some of the painful or difficult ramifications of a mission experience. Thank you for being 'real' and 'in touch.'"

#### FLOWING OR BUMPING

"The other day I realized that the greatest mission force in the world today, just may well be what you have come to call 'YWAM

Associates.' This is a vast resource of 'ex' missionary types who flowed (or bumped) through the schools, and they are out doing it. Were YWAM to fold today, that force will remain in effect for some generations... and would continue to effect ineffable changes across the globe, sort of like a preservative."

#### **SUNNY LETTERS?**

"Are there any wounded out there? Oh yes, yes, yes! Is there no one else like me? The latest InTouch stirred my heart up - I always used to know what to expect - sunny letters from people who obviously had a great time in YWAM. I went to DTS where most of the leaders were younger in

the faith than me, and where the authority of these leaders was beyond question. Just because. Coming from a missionary family, I was exposed for the first time to the devastating effects of the 'you-shallfollow-me-because-I-am-a-leader' fallacy. But, of course, nothing is ever all black. I still remember the incredibly rich relationteaching was great, and the outreach was one of the most interesting and challenging experiences of my life. It's these positive things that I try to keep upper-

ships that formed in such a short time. The most. God's body has many damaged cells,

more than ten years, I learned many good things, and YWAM allowed me to be involved in ministry projects which were new for us in urban missions. I greatly, greatly appreciate YWAM's taking risks with me, and allowing me to do what I probabaly would not have been able to do in other mission agencies. But I guess my biggest frustration is not just at having a very bad experience with one leader (there is still pain and anger in me), but at the sense that regardless of what my wife, myself or others directly involved with the situation said, no one would listen to us... causing

> many others pain in the course of the next year and a half. These are my honest thoughts..."

from November 1997

#### **MY HEART GOES OUT TO...**

Those who yearn with all their hearts to be back in YWAM, but can't; Those who left, and wish they hadn't; Those who feel they were 'edged' out, and shouldn't have been; Those who never want to hear the name YWAM again; and Those who left in the will of God, and are finding it tough going out there... To all these – and more – you are not forgotten; there are those who care.

> and we ignore that damage at our own peril, for we are all part of the body. I thank God for all the things I learnt through my painful DTS - He truly does work all things together for good, to them that love Him and are called according to His purpose. Recognizing that some were hurt cannot harm YWAM - it can only make it stronger."

### **VERY ANGRY**

"I have struggled for a few days with writing this letter. When I read your editorial in the last InTouch, I found myself getting very angry. You said you were looking for pain... what, to put it bluntly, do you hope to do with my pain? I was with YWAM for

#### **SOME OTHERS**

"Enjoyed the last InTouch - Donna's passion for Jesus and Peter playing Attorney, offering up the Council of Reference as a sacrificial offering to all disgruntled former

YWAMers!" Mike Jones, England

"I just received InTouch #23... I almost cried when you thanked me. I guess I didn't feel appreciated. It has helped to heal the hurt and to feel there are more like me out there. Could I please have some back issues?"

Judy Eckberg Robertson, USA

"The YWAM experience was the best adventure I had in life. The lifestyle I was taught never ended when I left YWAM Salem... till now."

Rachel Hui-Hing, Singapore















#### I Went, I Returned, I Fell

#### from December 1989

When the test came, I was found wanting. I'd served with YWAM in another culture for several wonderfully hard years – some of those years as a leader. It was time to come home for a while, yet I really didn't know the 'where' and 'when' of my return to missions.

It was good to be home, yet somehow I didn't fit. I felt awkward in all situations – family, job, even church. I wasn't sure what was expected of me. So instead of talking to someone, I tried to live up to what I thought were people's expectations of me as a Christian, a YWAMer and a missionary.

I wanted so much to tell people, "Hey! I'm struggling; I feel like I don't belong; I don't know what's expected of me." But pride kept me from sharing what was really in my heart. After all, I knew the answers, had even counseled others. But just knowing the answers didn't help.

So, the test came. God was asking me to totally trust Him with a relationship; it seemed like he was asking me to lay it down and I found myself on very shaky ground. I clung to whatever comfort I could get, and in spite of all my knowledge of what to do, I made a definite, conscious choice. I fell in the sin of immorality.

There was a morning when I woke up and felt so empty and cold, inside and out. I sensed there were demons surrounding me, laughing at my devastation. I knew I had to run back to God for forgiveness.

But even after deeply repenting and making restitution – I knew how to do that – I still felt that God could not love me anymore. How could I have deliberately walked away from Him? I was forgiven, but could He ever trust me again? Would I ever regain my closeness to Him?

The hardest thing was to forgive myself. I had failed God as well as all those who had believed in me and supported me in missions.

Finally, in desperation, I confessed to my pastor and others that I trusted, and what I received from them was God's love for me. Then, and only then, was I able to look in the mirror and forgive myself.

Since then, I have drawn much closer to the Lord... His words are gentle now, and I can hide in the shelter of His wings. Those life principles which I learned in YWAM are just as true and applicable, wherever I am. But I must walk in the truth I know, and constantly be on guard. I still hurt, but I am healing. I don't understand everything, but my future is in His hands.

**UPDATE 2005:** Now married and a leader again in YWAM.

This is the Chinese character for 'Busy'; it is made up of two parts: 'heart' & 'death.'



Are you busy? What's the state of YOUR heart?

### - THE BEST OF -



Discipling is 90% encouragement.

God doesn't want to hurt our pride. He wants to kill it.

People need loving the most when they deserve it the least.

Discipleship starts before conversion. It's called friendship. (David Boyd)

Frogs have it easy. They eat what bugs them.

The worst thing you can do is to hide the worst thing you do.

The worker is more important than the work. (Jean Darnall)

If talk is cheap and silence is golden, some of us should hush up – and get rich!

When your life and ministry speak for themselves, you don't need to interrupt.

The rule in a monastery was <u>not</u>, "Do not speak," but, "Do not speak unless you can improve the silence."

It takes more grace than I can tell, to play the second fiddle well.

"Jesus loves me, this I hope" – favorite hymn of some Christians.

You'll find out if you have a servant heart when someone treats you like a servant. (Joe Ferrante)

Are you a human being, or a human doing?

Marriage is not about finding the right person. It's about being the right person.

Millions of people long for immortality – yet they don't know what to do with a rainy Saturday afternoon.

It should be more important what you leave IN your children than what you leave TO them.

Hearing is with the natural ear, but listening is with the heart. (Donna Jordan)

Vision is not enough to hold us together; but friendships will.

















Mark Lee has been our Art Director for more than half the life of inTouch (since Edition #21 in 1995). His is the creative gift that in great measure draws you into its pages. Mark's growing family and successful web development company Big Fresh Media, is demanding more and more of his time. He will continue to serve on our Board of Directors.

BIG FRESH media www.BigFresh.com

## Our Board of Directors 2005

John & Sandra DeVries
Vae & Julie Eli
Dwight Greiner
Tom Hallas
Mark & Jill Herringshaw
Peter Iliyn
Peter & Donna Jordan
Mark Lee
Dan Sneed



Board of Directors & Staff, May 2002



(After several years and schools in YWAM) we left to come home... and we both experienced grief and depression for some 6-12 months, as we settled back into life with two teenage boys. In that condition we were unable to be positive about what had happened to us during our time in YWAM.

It is only in the last 3-4 years, as we counsel as family therapists and teach various courses, that we are truly appreciative of the wonderful teaching, life experience and foundations which were placed into our lives. We find that so many Christians of many years standing have little or no understanding of the Father Heart of God, Relationships, Spiritual Warfare, Giving up Rights, Walking in the Opposite spirit, a Biblical Worldview... and others.

We stand in awe and amazement of God's wonderful gift to us both, and see it as an absolute privilege to have these foundations available to help disciple others that we meet. We now travel overseas to Korea, India and Uganda and are excited to be part of Missions once again.

- Rod & Anne Baines, Perth, Australia.

Hey guys! Here's a suggestion... This past weekend I was blessed to be with Georgia Penniman who I consider to be, if not one of the mothers of YWAM, at least a great aunt! I got to sit by her and talk with her about the YWAM of today. It so rekindled my passion for YWAM that it sent me home praying and interceding again for the organization that I once devoted every second of my life to. It was also *very* ministering to hear that Loren is calling for a return to the foundations of YWAM. You know many of the YWAM Associates that you serve are part of that foundation and I think that it would really be a healing thing to do a column or e-newsletter, etc, about the happenings in YWAM currently. I think it would rekindle a lot of the old passion, maybe some prayer and possibly some financial support from us 'foundational' folks who still have YWAM blood running in our veins. I would pray more if I knew what was going on in the world of YWAM and I think healing will flow from that. Keep up the great work!

- Robyn Redpath, Whitefish, Montana

Great suggestion Robyn! Here's something to look for right away — "How YWAM and U of N Kona survived its greatest Crisis" by Loren Cunningham. You'll find it at www.uofnkona.edu/Transformations

**from March 1998...** Read what one camper said this year: "It is as though these *Gatherings* water a seed within me that bursts into life whenever I come to them. I feel like I am back with my tribe. But it is more than that – giftings and ways of seeing and feeling things are affirmed and encouraged as we tell our stories and fellowship together.

I am convinced that YWAM is like a seed sown into us by God... these camps help to keep that seed watered, and I need to keep alive that which God has planted within me. I hope we continue to have these *Gatherings* in New Zealand."

- Bryan Pollard







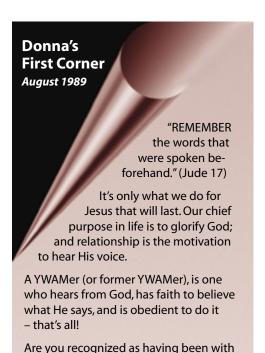








## DONNA'S CORNER PAGE



#### and here's her latest...

Jesus? (Acts 4:13)

## **Hurdles**

Before my mother went home to be with Jesus (she was one of my greatest supporters in friendship and prayer), she said to Peter, "Donna should be given more than a corner!" (This one will certainly make it! – Ed)

Eighteen years ago we believed that the Lord was saying for us to look for those who we had discipled in our YWAM schools. We visited friends in a small city in BC, Canada and asked them to call people they knew, who had been in YWAM, and tell them to call their friends and we would return in two weeks and have a BBQ. 60 people showed up – 40 of whom had been in YWAM and 20 that were interested.

We realized then, that when we're all together, we're like glowing coals on a fire; but when we separate, unless we have another 'hot coal' to come alongside, we start to lose that fire.

That's how YWAM Associates was conceived.

Early on, Peter wrote *Re-Entry* (with Geoff & Janet Benge) to help missionaries make the transition back home.

As this will be our last 'hard copy' of inTouch, I would like to share a bit of our journey, and what we have learned. Here are some of the hurdles we have jumped...

The first one we faced was helping people to believe truth. It was not about being – or not being – in YWAM; it was all about His Kingdom and being part of the 'Family' of God. Sometimes in our zeal, as a mission we made people 'feel' that if they weren't in YWAM, they were out of God's will. We asked forgiveness for this attitude and our focus became His presence and the cross.

The second hurdle was discovered when Peter was in Australia at a barbecue with about 70 associates. The Lord suddenly prompted him to pause in what he was saying, and simply thank the people for serving in the mission. A strange thing happened; many started to weep, realizing that they had never been thanked. It is easy for us to be so vision-minded that we forget to thank people for the time and gifts they have given. Gratitude is of great value to God – and to man.

The third hurdle was that not all those who left the mission, had been blessed. At all our Gatherings, one of the things we try to do is to bless (and thank) every single person who has served, regardless of the circumstances of their leaving. Who are we to judge if people are in God's will when they go?

The fourth hurdle was honoring the mothers and fathers of the mission, even those who are no longer physically active because of age or health problems. We honored Jim and Joy Dawson on behalf of the multiplied thousands of associates who have been touched by them over many years.

Now is the time to network those in the different spheres of influence, mostly done electronically. We are excited about how the younger generation will do this. Through these spheres, the nations will be discipled.

Renewal Gatherings will continue, bringing people together. There have been more than 130 week-long gatherings in 14 nations over the past 15 years.

Our website will grow, with links to other ministries where associates can be encouraged and serve. YWAM Associates has always been a ministry of encouragement, not a platform for recruiting or raising finances. Stay 'in touch' by subscribing to our email newsletter 'eTouch' at www.ywamassociates.com.

We want to see every single associate fulfill their life calling, whatever that means or takes. We have been reaching 24,000 homes with *inTouch*, three times a year; but there are over three million that need to be reached.

We thank the many who have served with us these past 17 years. We thank those who have given financially and we thank the intercessors. Over 100 of these committed ones have been praying – and will continue to pray – for the Associates ministry. We especially thank God for leading us and guiding us and meeting every need.

This is just the beginning.

We want to see His Kingdom come, His will be done, and every person finish the race well (2 Tim 4: 7-8). We really want to see the Mephibosheths who have been dropped and who thought they were forgotten, restored to the table and to the family (see Dan Sneed's article). It's all about 'family' – and He is our Father.

There's no retirement; just a new season of life.

I love you all,

Jones

Coke with attitude!



















## Where to from here?

Physically, we're moving to a city called Medicine Hat in Alberta, Canada. There is a significant and growing YWAM presence there and we are feeling the need of 'family' around us (a bonus: New Waves, a multicultural ministry of evangelism and discipleship, is led by our daughter Julie and her husband Vae; they have four of our grandchildren!)



Others too, have welcomed us to 'The Hat' – Medicine Hat's local name. We expect to be able to build Prayer Cabins on a beautiful ranch outside town... so it will become a place to spend quiet times with God. But we're going to need help.

In order that we may continue this ministry to the maximum number of associates, please sign up on our website, by giving us your email address. For this, you will receive regular communications of encouragement, comfort and exhortation (and maybe even a little humor!) Of the 24,000 who have been receiving this magazine called *inTouch*, only 4,000 are currently on our email list. We understand that some don't have – and may never have – access to a computer. Perhaps God will speak to someone about continuing this print ministry. We would like that.

Thank you for reading; thank you for writing to me and allowing me to publish your victories, your defeats, your pain (how can I forget the pain that some have suffered?)

Thank you to our faithful full- and part-time staff who have served with us over the past 17 years (how could I ever forget that Patrick & Inneke Elaschuk gave us their first year of marriage? Now they are veteran missionaries in the Philippines).

Thank you to the Sarah Laniers, the Floyd McClungs, the Dan Sneeds, the David Boyds, the Frank Naeas and all those others who have graced the first pages of inTouch with their encouraging words.

Thank you to those who have heard God, and supported this ministry financially with large gifts and small (how could I forget the guy in prison who monthly tithed \$5 to us from his meager earnings? Or how could I ever forget walking out of a businessman's office with a check for \$10,000 in my hand – and then being asked if that was enough?)

Thank you to the 'regulars' who have come out to help us 'Lick 'em & Stick 'em' every time we've mailed *inTouch* (and how could I ever forget the time they all went out on strike, picketing me for making them work too long hours with too little pay and not enough coffee breaks?)

And thank you God for enabling us, for providing for us, for guiding us and even for picking us up when we were down – and going downer.

It's been wonderful. Bless you and thank you!

Be seeing you...

















#43 - Mar 2003 #44 - Jul 2003

#45 - Nov 2003

#46 - Mar 2004

#47 - Jul 2004

#48 - Nov 2004

#49 - MIA