

the connector



2011

service sacrifice commitment

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“Walk softly and carry a big stick,” renowned words spoken by President Roosevelt at the beginning of World War II. Behind the big stick was a nation committed to service, sacrifice, and commitment to a free world, not one dominated by Nazi’s or Communist beliefs.

We find ourselves in the 21st century; sometimes called the post Christian world. Service, sacrifice, and commitment have been replaced with safety, security, and comfort. Carrying the cross, “pick up your cross, deny yourself daily and follow me” is an old fashioned term and seems out of sync. However, following Christ requires the same principles as a good soldier.

To be an effective soldier of the Cross today requires the same. “No man that warreth entangleth himself with the affairs of this life.” Having served in the military, I can testify that safety, security and comfort is not a priority but discipline, service, and a focused commitment to the cause, “esprit de cor” is what moves men to give their lives for a cause. To be a vital part of any offensive against any enemy requires no less! If safety, security and comfort is your mode of operation, you are not qualified to be a good soldier!

Our first order of business is the same as the early church. Take the good news, “the Gospel”, to the ends of the earth! Not one of the disciples died of old age in comfort. If we are going to make a difference, we must walk softly before Him and carry a big stick. The cross is the only requirement. Carry your cross and follow!

I believe the world is more ready for the gospel than at any other time in history and you and I have the opportunity to be a part. When I wake up each morning and thank Him for that, I ask him which way he is going today. I want to go with him! It’s never boring and it’s always an adventure.

When you walk with the Lord, you are never alone. God, the Holy Spirit, is living his life through you and you become salt and light to a dark world!

Men and Women of Action is a part of the Special Forces that God has raised up for this generation. Stay focused! Our goal hasn’t changed from the early church, yet we are more in number, better supported and chronologically closer to Joel’s prophecy which says, “that I (God) will pour out my spirit upon all flesh and nothing can stop us, not even the gates of hell.”

Racing toward the goal!

L. Hugh Carver
MWOA Director



the mwoa story continues...

This year, our theme is “What is Your MWOA Story?” Men and Women of Action continue to write the story and you, the volunteers, each play a specific role. What is your story? How can you share it with others? Remember.....you are constantly writing your story.

2010 was an exciting year for MWOA! Teams traveled around the world to places like Brazil, Bolivia, Czech Republic, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Nicaragua, Zambia, Panama, Guyana to name just a few. We built churches, clinics, parsonages, ministry centers, and schools and also helped with disaster relief and humanitarian relief.

On January 12, 2010 a devastating earthquake shook Haiti causing overwhelming destruction. The Church of God along with many other organizations responded with immediate help. Jim and Gina Hudson, long-time MWOA volunteers, were assigned by World Missions to coordinate all of the rebuilding projects in Haiti for the Church of God. What a tremendous responsibility and they have been working tirelessly ever since. MWOA began sending teams in April 2010 and are scheduled into 2011. We are making a difference and thanks to the discerning leadership of Jim and Gina, we know that much will be accomplished.

This was a “banner year” for stateside projects. MWOA conducted more projects in the USA than any year before. We

now have active State Coordinators in many states and we are seeing great progress. Whether you work locally, stateside or travel outside the USA, there is a place for you on a MWOA team. MWOA teams go wherever they are needed. It’s as simple as that!

Our goal is to always strive to be an example of true service by partnering with other organizations such as Amazon Missions, PFCAL, Operation Compassion, Red Cross, M.O.R.E Ministries, Salvation Army, Heart to Heart Missions, the Arabic Ministries, YWAM, The Caring Place, Bradley Cleveland Services and many others.

Since its beginning in 1983, the Men and Women of Action has built or remodeled over 1,149 churches, schools, orphanages and clinics. The paraphrased Bible (The Message) says in I John 3:18, “My dear children, let’s not just talk about love; let’s practice real love. This is the only way we’ll know we’re living truly, living in God’s reality.”

So as we reflect on 2010 and look ahead to 2011, we just want say thank you for being a part of the MWOA ministry. Thank you for all that you do. Thank you for your sacrifice of time, labor, and money.



Thank you for your prayers. Without your support, we couldn’t do what we know to do. But with God’s help...ALL things are possible.

Let’s share our vision, our hearts, our story, our skills, our money, and our dreams with each other. Let’s step out of our comfort zone and do a work for the Lord! Get involved in what God is doing TODAY.

Teddie Fletcher
MWOA Executive Assistant/Office
Manager

haiti:

REBUILDING AFTER THE EARTHQUAKE

As I begin this report, I have to look back over the past year when the earthquake hit Haiti and the feeling of helplessness that came down deep within me with the desire to be in the middle of what God was doing in my heart. Gina and I felt that we were drifting, no wind blowing, and we had these feelings of, “what are we doing for the Lord?”. We had been in the middle of Hurricane Katrina rebuilding with Bishop Bill Isaac in Louisiana for two years. After that, we went back into secular work. We felt adrift, running out of water, but water all around. “Water, water everywhere and not a drop to drink” (Mariner) but then the call came and the Lord spoke, “Call Gina and tell her it is going to be a NEW DAY.”

It is truly been a new day for us and we would like to say thanks for all the support that you have given to Gina and I and the continued support for Haiti and the rebuilding efforts. In the last nine months in Haiti, we have housed over 200 Men and Women of Action team members on the compound and in the mission house where we stay and have fed over 1,000 meals in our kitchen. The team members have been a blessing not only to us, but to the people of Haiti. For this we are so thankful for all that they have done.

Much has been done on the compound this past year; from assisting in the building of churches, rebuilding of

homes that were destroyed and returning the people to those homes, reorganizing the workshops, tools, and the assistance of relocating over 2,500 people into better living conditions.

With your financial support and prayer this past year, you have helped in the rebuilding of the following:

- Clean up of debris
- Reorganized the Church of God main office compound.
- Removed debris and rebuilt two homes that were destroyed by the earthquake. The families have now moved back in their homes.
- Reorganized the main workshops on the compound for all the tools.
- Built bath house/toilet for volunteer teams.
- Built dorms for the teams including bedding.
- Built multi-purpose building for feeding, meeting and future training of teams.
- Built a church (Roche Blanche) in the Croix-De-Bouquet area of Port-au-Prince. We are now having the trusses built and then the roof. We will have electricity installed and hope to have the church dedicated in the next few months.
- Began to assist churches with financial



JIM AND GINA HUDSON

assistance so they can begin the repair of their churches. This year, we will continue the process of reaching out further into the epic center area where the damage took its toll on the people.

- Built over 460 ft. of security wall and we are working on the final 596 feet.
- We assisted in the organization of a new work in the mountains near Caberet and participated in the first organization service. We drove as far as we could, then we hiked up into the mountains for approximately 40 minutes. This is where we will assist in erecting a new tent to be used when ministering and schooling of the local children.

Haiti has experienced a failed presidential election which as of January 2011 is still not resolved. Riots erupted, protesting occurred in the streets and people burned

whatever was in their way. There were shootings and several died. During this time, we had a team here on the grounds. Thank God we were able to get the team across the border into the Dominican Republic where they could catch a flight to the USA. By the time I made it back two days later, I was able to get home to Virginia for Christmas.

What is our focus in Haiti for 2011? Our focus is to move more out into the community. We are now visiting more churches and assisting them in the process of repairs. We are also helping rebuild other churches which were completely destroyed. Here are the projects planned for 2011:

- We have purchased more tents and within the next month, we plan to place them in areas where they are worshipping in makeshift tarp covers.
- We hope to hire local bosses for the work and to monitor the process of rebuilding.
- We are quickly working to complete

the 596 foot remaining security wall on the compound with full- time guards.

- We plan to dedicate the Roche Blanche Church, rebuild the Leogane I church and repair the Leogane II church.
- Repair damage and complete the Medical Clinic in Mariani, Port-au-Prince. (Women's Ministry Project)
- Repair damage and complete the orphanage in Duffally (Mirebalais) about 35 to 40 miles out of Port-au-Prince. (Women's Ministry Project)
- Build widow's home for minister widows in Mariani area.
- Continue visiting churches with Bishop Bourdeau, Overseer of Haiti, to assist the churches financially with their repairs and monitor the progress.

As you can see the need is great and your continued support in the rebuilding effort is so important. The rebuilding will not be accomplished in one, two or even three years. All we can do is continue the process and work with the Bishop to make prayerful decisions, pressing forward for

the Lord's purpose.

The other day, I was asked why I took on this responsibility. One of my friends back home said I was crazy for leaving my job and doing this. To me it's plain and clear. I am reminded of what the scripture said, "He saw Levi sitting doing his job as a tax collector. Jesus said to Levi "Follow me," Levi got up and followed him. (Mark 2:14) I wonder what his friends and family said about him giving up a good job, career and financial stability to follow Him. He was compelled in his heart to do this, no questions asked. Have you ever been there? If not, it's hard to explain but this is what Christ wants. Just follow Him. Whatever God calls you to do, just give it your best and you will not lose your reward.

Jim Hudson
MWOA



GOD

IN THE

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES



I arrived in Dubai with mixed emotions. Dr. Fred Garmon was waiting for me with some Christian brethren at a street side café just in front of our hotel. Dr. Garmon and I were there at the same time, yet invited for separate reasons. My purpose was to look at property recently donated to build a multipurpose building for the “Church of God.”

There are seven emirates in the UAE, which are Abu Dhabi, Ajman, Dubai, Fujairah, Ras al-Khaimah, Sharjah and Umm al-Quwain. Thus the name United Arab Emirates and each one of them is ruled by an emir. Each of these emirates has an area dedicated to other religions to have services and the Church of God has been given land to erect a building which can be used for worship services.

Dr. Ebbe George from India arranged his schedule to meet Dr. Garmon and myself and introduce us to some of the local pastors. Dr. Garmon and I were invited to speak to three congregations. Each congregation welcomed us with open arms and the fellowship was wonderful. These congregations were part of one complex in Dubai with a total of 165 congregations meeting back to back. The hall of the largest full gospel church we spoke at would only hold 1,300 and they turned away over 120 people because they could not get in.

Being in the service in Dubai was an awesome experience; open air, showing of the Jesus film, different groups moving from one service to another, changing chairs to mats as each group accommodates their style of worship, all smiling and enjoying fellowship.

For me this was an eye opening experience! For a country strictly disciplined with rules and regulations, a Muslim country, this was a life altering experience!

These experiences took place in Dubai. The newly donated land is about 1 ½ hours away in the fifth emirate. We have a new congregation of about 50 people plus. The property is ours and we can build at least a three story complex and rent sections to other groups if we so desire. It is located between the Orthodox Church and the Seventh Day Adventist; we are in the middle of the new complex. What an opportunity!

From a first impression, you might think this to be an Indian or Filipino subculture but being there gives you a sense of God's love for a people in need of Him. In Genesis 17:20, you read Hagar, a handmaiden servant girl, had a son by Abraham who was named Ishmael. God promised to make him a great nation even though he was not the promised son.

Just think about the possibilities as you consider 165 congregations in one emirate. The three we worshipped with averaged 850 per congregation. Multiply that by 165 and they represent 142,000 believers. Is God up to something?

In Mark Geppert's book “The Attack Lambs”, he points out that we are the modern ark, representing the power presence of God and that wherever we go as believers we take God with us! God has blessed these believers in their businesses and they are the ones who are permeating this Muslim society.

Tens of thousands of Indians, Filipinos and other believers have become salt and light to their fellow human beings. God is planting a seed that at some point will begin to reap the harvest. I don't want to be guilty of under estimating the power of God to perform his will. I want to be right in the middle of what he is doing.

The UAE is open to us! Why not spend our money and energy to grow His church where ever He goes? God is up to something and as a servant, I want to be close enough to hear what He says! Don't you?

L. Hugh Carver
Director MWOA



Gina's Story

Having been involved in missions for about 8 years, my desire was to broaden our reach around the world. How to do that was beyond anything I could know on my own but my heart yearned to go beyond the places we've gone and to reach more people with God's love.

In March of 2002, the Holy Spirit moved, impressing me to attend a conference in Virginia Beach, Virginia. This conference was directed toward working with troubled teenagers. I do not work with troubled teens, nor is any part of our ministry even associated with such an outreach. This was just an "out of the ordinary" impression from Holy Spirit, but it was such a strong urging, so I obeyed and my friend and I attended the conference. One morning during the conference as we were walking the hallway toward the meeting room, we were met by two women who stopped us and said, "God has given us a word for you." They took us aside into a room, and there they began to share with us what God had spoken to them. Mind you, we did not know these ladies, having only briefly met them one other time. Among other things, they said that the international part of our ministry was about to expand. They spoke of a connection that God was going to bring into our lives in order for this to happen. They added, "This will take place not many days from now."

Not even two weeks later, my pastor approached me and asked me to meet with him and his wife at the church office. I went, and there they told me that God had strongly impressed on them that we were to attend a conference in Nashville called the "Conference on Care". I had absolutely no desire to attend and I told him so. Trying to be as graceful as I could, I told him, "I really don't want to go because these church conferences are so boring!!!" He strongly insisted that it was God's will that I attend. Reluctantly, I accepted his invitation. He then gave me a schedule and told

me I had to sign up for at least one of the classes. I looked over the list thinking that these were topics to be discussed in these classes. I chose one that said "Men and Women of Action." I said, "That sounds like the only subject I would be interested in so I'll go to that class." I had no idea that Men and Women of Action was an organization, I just thought it was a class subject.

About 2 weeks after that, I found myself at this Conference on Care, finding my way to the one class I had chosen. I stepped into that room and didn't know anyone there. Teddie Fletcher went to the front and began to introduce Men and Women of Action, the organization. She played a video about the ministry and I was totally captivated. After the class, I introduced myself to Teddie and immediately we connected. She invited me to come to Cleveland, TN the next week so we could talk more about the work at MWOA. I also met Bob Pace that day and was blown away by his vision and by the operation of MWOA and PCL.

A week later, we traveled to Cleveland met again with Teddie and Bob and by the end of that year, we traveled to Bulgaria, our first trip with MWOA. It has been eight years since then and our connection with MWOA has been one of joy, opportunities, friendships, and inspiration! Through MWOA, God made a way where I couldn't see a way...He opened a door of opportunity that has led to many life-changing adventures! I love this organization!

By the way, at that conference in Virginia Beach, we met Paul and Faith Trollinger (They weren't married then). God just seemed to connect us and we sat for long periods of time, discussing missions and our desire to take Christ's love around the world. We met Paul and Faith again several years later...at the MWOA rally! Small world, BIG God!

Gina Gholston
Clarksville, TN





FROM AROUND

My MWOA Story

I had been doing medical mission trips to Honduras for several years when I heard about MWOA. While visiting Cleveland in 1993, I visited the MWOA office, talking to Evelyn Loveday who was the secretary at that time. The very next week, I had a phone call from Bob Pace inviting me to attend the rally being held in Sevierville on the last week of January. I will never forget Bob's response as I declined the invitation due to expected snow storms here in PA. He said, "I promise you, it will not snow

on the highway, only beside the road." I took his word, attended, and then began my love affair with MWOA.

Missions and MWOA is my heartbeat, and both families have become my family. No matter how far away we go, I know my family is there. I am appreciate to Bob, and now Hugh Carver looking after our well being. On 9/11 when I was stuck in Romania with fourteen people, Hugh called every day until we finally got out,

five days later. What comfort to have leaders such as these.

My wish is that every pastor and church would promote and become a part of the ministry of MWOA. MWOA has a great journey for me, and it's not finished yet!

Virginia Lilley
Reading, Pennsylvania

People for Care and Learning

People for Care and Learning (PCL) is a non-governmental organization charged with humanitarian ministries, dedicating its efforts to social action in support of its motto, "Inspiring Hope and Empowering Potential." Currently, PCL works primarily in South East Asia where they are involved in the resettlement of the poor, educational endeavors, model agriculture projects, orphanage operations, providing clean water and other humanitarian activities.

People for Care and Learning has enjoyed a fruitful partnership with MWOA since their inception. Most recently, Men and Women of Action in South Carolina, raised the funds to build 2 humanitarian boats on the Tonle Sap Lake in Cambodia. The Tonle Sap Lake is home to over 1 million refugees most of whom lack access to clean water, basic education and healthcare. These boats have become a centralized point of ministry on the lake providing for not only physical but also spiritual needs.

Thanks to their donors and collaborative partners, in 2010, PCL accomplished various initiatives including: Providing over 1300 families with life-saving water filters that will provide clean drinking water for an entire year. We have also dug 12 wells for rural villages.

Moving 50 Cambodian families who used to live and work in Phnom Penh's garbage dump into brand new homes that they can call their own.

Hosting over 300 young people at their 4th annual youth camp. For many of these young people it was their first time out of their village and their first time to hear the gospel. Many of the campers became Christians and returned home to share their new faith with their families.

Starting a large integrated farm that will help empower the poor to lift themselves out of poverty. This was a collaboration with Lee University.

Opening the Hope Orphanage that is now home to 11 young people who were abandoned when another orphanage closed its doors. These young people are all attending school and making plans for their future. They also continue to maintain their original children's home, which houses 25 children.

For more information on PCL and how to get involved please visit our website at www.peopleforcare.org



D THE WORLD

What Keeps Me Going



Growing up in a family of seven children with parents that struggled to make ends meet, I was very familiar with people helping us with different needs in the family. This help was sometimes beyond food and clothing.

Help was given in times of sickness, when the car needed to be fixed, and even when our house needed repairs. I always wondered why the people that were helping us would leave with a smile on their face. It caused me to want to help them and as I grew older, that desire continued to grow. I began to realize that

God has given me so much more than I deserve and it's time for me to give to others.

In 1991, my pastor invited me to go on a MWOA Project to San Pedro Sula, Honduras. I was so excited to experience a trip like this. When I returned from Honduras, I couldn't contain the emotion I felt from being a part of something so great. With tears in my eyes, I looked at wife and told her that the joy and fulfillment I felt from this project was too great to not experience again. Since that day, I've been given the opportunity to assist in many more projects, some as a team member and some as a project leader. This journey has been a blessing

and memories that I will always cherish.

What, you may ask, keeps my story with MWOA exciting and alive? Is it going on another project? Is it leading a trip? Is it seeing people's excitement when a project is completed? Is it the testimonies of souls saved and miracles taking place? The answer is yes to all of these questions but importantly, nothing can compare to the fulfillment I have when I seeing someone else get involved in Men and Women of Action. This is where their story begins and this is what keeps me going.

Tony Conner
Western North Carolina
MWOA State Coordinator

Ethiopia: 2011 YWEA Project

Young people throughout the USA and Canada will be raising funds to provide help for the many ministries in Ethiopia, especially to the children of Ethiopia. The population of Ethiopia is 88 million with 46% of the population 14 years or younger.

The work on the Martin Kielwein Memorial Project at the Bible School near Hawassa in southern Ethiopia was completed in 2010. Men from North Augusta, SC along with several German brothers tiled the floor and showers of the five guest rooms. Later, MWOA volunteers Ron Barker and Harry Dale of Cleveland, TN did the concreting of the large porch area in front of the rooms and dining hall. For this project, we had the unexpected assistance of a YWAM team from Norway and several Ethiopia

pastors who had just completed an intensive training course in the area. They helped National Overseer Hiruy Tsige and Regional Overseer Samuel Hirpo to erect a privacy fence along the highway frontage of the campus. It was a very busy and productive 4 weeks.

After completing the work at the Bible School, Ron Barker, Harry Dale and I participated in the dedication of a new well near Wolkite, a predominantly Muslim city some 100 miles southwest of Addis Ababa. For years, Brother Hiruy wanted to establish a church there among the Gurage people, one of the unreached people groups within Ethiopia. But the city refused to give the needed land. However, a lady responsible for water resources of one of the (counties) and a committed Christian "happened" to meet

Brother Hiruy. She offered to help secure free land for a kindergarten school and a church in exchange for a new water well on the campus of an elementary school in a rural area nearby. So we witnessed the dedication ceremony of the well, financed by congregations in New York and Texas. It was moving to hear the Muslim elders celebrate the first clean, fresh water source for their community. Before the well was dug, all the water had to be carried from a muddy creek an hour away – a burdensome daily task for the women and girls of the village.

Please continue to pray for Ethiopia and Brother and Sister Hiruy Tsige.

Heinrich Scherz
Anderson, SC
Associate Mission's Representative

Huntington, WV in 2010

Eleven years have come and gone since the first Appalachian Christmas project in Freeburn, Kentucky. In many ways, it seems like only yesterday that this project was introduced to the ladies of MWOA as a needy area for a Christmas Project. We never thought that it would become such a vital part of our lives. A love and respect for the people in Appalachia has grown in the hearts of all of us that have been involved in this wonderful experience.

In November 2010, we went to Huntington, WV to be with Pastor Darrell and Monica Buttram and work alongside them at their inner city church once again. We were there in 2005 and the need is still as great now as then; perhaps even more so.

The Christmas project to the Appalachian Mountain area has been unique and diverse, even though we do many of the same things each year. We give away food, coats, winter apparel, new clothing, blankets and Christmas gifts. It is always difficult to see people that are cold and hungry. We gave away over 400, mostly new, coats. This year the need for food seemed to be the neediest distribution we had ever seen. We gave away food for nearly 6 1/2 hours, praying continuously for God to stretch our inventory. Each person that came for food was given an opportunity to have someone pray with them for salvation and for their needs. One gentleman walked straight over to one of our prayer partners and declared "I want to get saved!" Bro. Ferguson immediately led him in the sinner's prayer and he was gloriously saved! This is what it is all about! Praise God! Each and every family who stood in line for food received a box of food. Even though we ran out of

turkeys and many staple items, they were very thankful for what they did receive and we were thankful to God for answering our prayers.

Having been on many mission trips and projects, our entire group of volunteers felt that this was one of the most rewarding ones. The community was blessed and ministered to. While there, we were able to provide many repairs and additions at the church and parsonage. Several men worked late into the night furring a wall as well as taking care of a black mold problem in the parsonage and the church. Pastor Buttram lost over 30 pounds during the last year and did not realize that the black mold in his own home was the cause of his sickness. Thank God for a diversely skilled group of people that came together for this project.

Our main goal when doing these projects is to always provide toys for the children. We experienced one of the happiest and most fun parties ever. Lola Moats and the gift wrapping crew were well prepared for the large crowd of children and their families. The church youth served hot wassail, hot cocoa, and cookies to everyone waiting in line. The temperature was in the upper 30's but no one minded the long, long wait. The smiles on all the faces were large and exciting to see. We had a new experience this year; Santa made a surprise visit and all the children got a chance to sit

on his lap, share their Christmas wishes, and confirm that they and been very good this year!

The 10th Avenue Church of God in Huntington received a lot of publicity for their church during this event. Newspaper reporters with cameramen came for interviews and two large articles with pictures were published in the newspaper. Three local television stations sent



numerous reporters and cameramen several times during the week and all three stations sent reporters back to cover the Christmas Party. They even stayed for the entire party. The TV stations showed numerous clips advertising all of the events during the week with larger news reports the night of the party. We are praying that the people of Huntington will take heed to what this church and dedicated pastor has to offer their local community. The Appalachian Christmas Team's prayers are with Pastor Buttram, the 10th Avenue Church and the Huntington community. May God bless them for a long time.

Jane Roberts
Mobile, Alabama



On the Road Again

In September 2010, Jim Seitz and I set out to look at four project requests. We drove from Mississippi to Arkansas to Kansas and the final stop in Woodward, Oklahoma. While in Woodward with Pastor Joann Kirkham something unusual happened. They needed a new roof but it seemed too high and too steep. Nevertheless, while I was explaining why we couldn't do it, my spirit was saying we will do it!

After returning home I spoke with Harry Dale, Keith Pritchett and several other professional roofers regarding the proposed projects. By the time of our leadership meeting, we had firmed up the roofing project in Woodward, OK and if everything went well, also Independence, KS. We continued looking at how to help the Rogers, AR project and decided the project in Mississippi would be put on hold until more funds could be raised.

The Hispanic Church of God in Rogers, AR was in need of a HVAC unit. I felt very strongly that we needed to help them acquire 2 five-ton HVAC units. Reverend Lowell Sartain, a district pastor in Arkansas, committed half of the money through the local church and Rev. Tim Hill (assistant overseer) committed the other half while Hammond HVAC purchased the units at cost for us. The need was met!

It was in October when the projects began. AJ Laliberte, a young roofer from Cleveland, was my travel partner on this

journey. We pulled out at 5:00 am on Saturday, October 9th, heading west and by 5:30 pm (central time), we had unloaded the HVAC units in Rogers, Arkansas. One down, two to go.

We arrived in Woodward, Oklahoma just as the Sunday evening service started and we had a wonderful service. On Monday, October 11th, we began the old roof tear off, two layers steep and high. What a chore! But we had a committed team consisting of Keith and Carol Pritchett, Charles and Sandra Pritchett and Stephen their son, Benny and Donna Young, Bobby Bettis, A.J. Laliberte and myself.

By 5:30 pm on Monday, the first day, five professional roofers and the rest of us completed the back and worst side. By 4:00 pm on Tuesday, the roof was complete. What an awesome job they did. The church folks all turned out; some cooked, some cleaned, others carried mortar off. What a wonderful sense of God's presence and we knew we were where we were supposed to be.

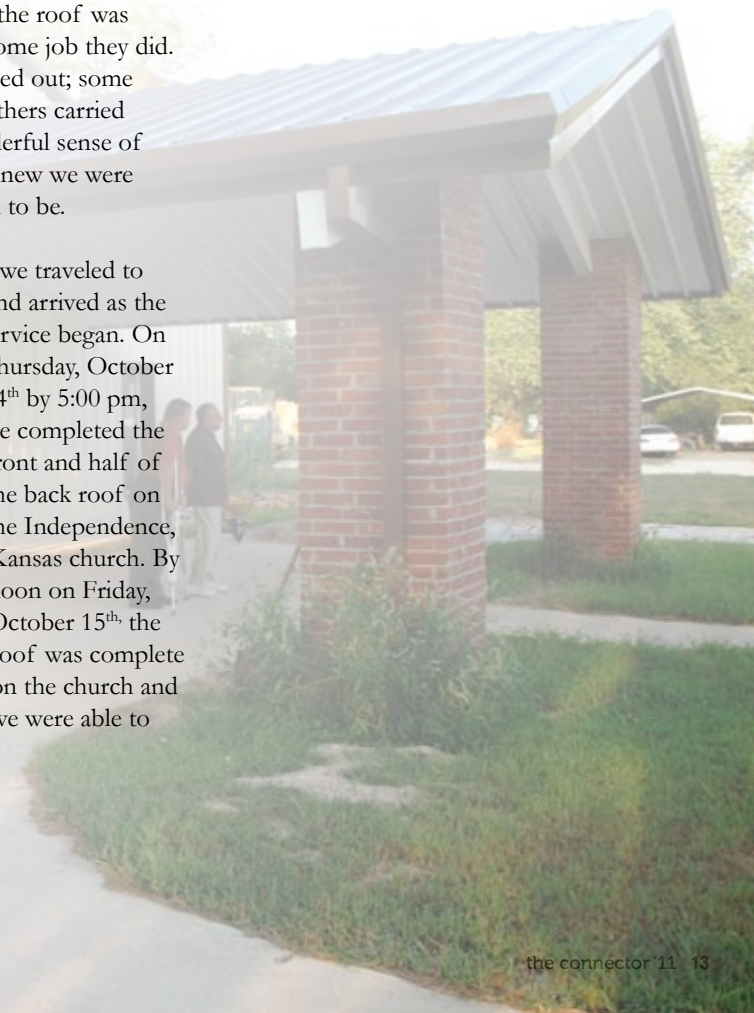
On Wednesday, the 13th, we traveled to Independence, Kansas and arrived as the service began. On Wednesday evening On Thursday, October 14th by 5:00 pm, we completed the front and half of the back roof on the Independence, Kansas church. By noon on Friday, October 15th, the roof was complete on the church and we were able to



head home by 8pm.

When you know that you have made a difference, something very satisfying settles in on you. This is what I was born again for..... to share his love and help other members of the family.

L. Hugh Carver
MWOA Director



Work Hard, Have Fun, Make Friends.

In the fall of 1998, my pastor, Fred Garmon, called his council together to discuss how we can bring missions into our church. He suggested we go on a missions trip with Men and Women of Action to Nicaragua where we would be given the opportunity to work on a medical clinic and build a small house nearby for the clinic director. For some reason, Pastor Garmon's gentle suggestions were usually followed so it was then that I signed up. When packing for the trip, I knew there had to be a few things from my previous work experience that would come in handy. I had an 1800 watt generator that was too small for my needs, so I took it apart and packed it in my luggage. There was an embargo on generators at the time so after arriving



at the airport and showing the Church of God official what I had, he was overjoyed. They had been praying for a generator for nine months so they would have the opportunity to show the Jesus film in remote areas.

Once in Nicaragua, we got our work lined out and began to experience the beginning of what MWOA means to me, "work hard, have fun, and make lifelong friends". The local people were more than helpful and brought joy to our team. The kids were the same as they are in America; they are God's joy for the world! The atmosphere and people surrounding us only bettered our trip. There were many humorous experiences that happened on this trip. We needed to pour concrete for a small house we were building and after much searching

we found a redi-mix truck. Unfortunately the driver didn't speak English, so after much hand-signaling we thought he knew where we wanted the concrete poured. But to our surprise, he began pouring the concrete directly into the small house. Needless to say, we ALL started shoveling concrete like mad, before it setup! One evening we took a number of kids to eat at McDonalds but noticed they weren't eating all of their food. When we asked why, they remarked they were taking it home to share the "happy meal" with their family. This touched our hearts and brought tears to our eyes. Since that trip, Men and Women of Action has become a major part of my life. I'm thankful to be able to travel to various places in the United States and continue my work with Emma's Kids in Zambia.

Herman Clegg
Oak Ridge, TN

Renovation in Wattsville, Alabama

After weathering the possible dissolution of their church, the Wattsville Church of God is toiling once more to keep their ministry alive through renovating the church's parsonage into a usable church building.

The Church of God Men and Women of Action arrived in Wattsville on September 16 and have been working on repairing the parsonage from its skeleton up.

While the Church of God International Offices gave them the go ahead to repair the parsonage and Men and Women of Action volunteered the labor, the COG stipulated that the congregation had to pay for all of the materials for the repair. Since then, checks have been flowing into the church's mailbox in support of their mission.

"We are so amazed ourselves. Several

people that sent money didn't even know what was going on." Interim Pastor Margaret Gaines said. "I got \$1,000 from Texas; a friend sent a check and said, "I



just feel like you need this for something. It's really amazing how God is sending us the workers and the money."

The former church, which arrived at its current location in 1946, has had previous termite infestation, as well as current

problems with mold, wood worms and leaks, which Gaines said would make it unsafe to worship in through the winter. By renovating the parsonage, the fifteen member congregation can continue their mission of reaching out to those in need in the Wattsville area.

"I'm hoping that we can get the message across that God doesn't just save, he renovates," Gaines said. "Like we're renovating that parsonage, He renovated lives."

Article in the St. Clair News-Aegis
11/14/2010
Amber Thompson

What Purpose Does God Have for You?

God has a purpose for each and every one of us. I found mine with Men and Women of Action. After retiring from the military, I started various businesses including Heating and Air Conditioning, Plumbing, and Electrical Services where I was educated in construction trades. I didn't know it at the time, but God was preparing me for Men and Women of Action.

It wasn't until I survived two heart attacks that my life really began. I became involved with a local church who strongly believes in missions. The pastor's first statement to me was, "The mission field starts just outside our doorways". With the skills I possessed and the influence of a visional pastor, we started our ministry by doing local projects for those who could not afford repairs. Our ministry did everything from cutting grass and changing light bulbs to repairing a porch and building a wheelchair ramp.

The most rewarding part of our ministry is the time we spend together once the project is completed. We are not only given the opportunity to share the love of God with others through the work we do, but also to share the story of Christ and how much he loves us with the people we are blessing.

After turning over my business to my son in 1999, I was left with too many tools and not enough space. My heart consistently

grew with a burden for Men and Women of Action projects but the lack of funding was a problem that couldn't be ignored. It wasn't long after, my pastor allowed this ministry to be one that the church strongly supported. Since then, every project has been blessed with the funds that are needed. Our group has expanded beyond stateside work now to completing projects around the world. Men and Women of Action is a growing ministry that brings great satisfaction to many people around the world. God knew long before that I would be a part of Men and Women of Action, and I am thankful I found my purpose.

Edward Hammond
Barnesville, Georgia



Hearts of Gold Awarded to Indiana MWOA

Following is a letter sent to Indiana state coordinator, Jake Crafton.

Jerry,

This message is notification that the Men and Women of Action will be awarded the 'Hearts of Gold' on February 12, 2011, 6:30 p.m. at Zion United Church of Christ, Poland, IN. A big congratulations and thanks.

This award is presented bi-annually to an organization that has contributed in a significant manner to the Poland Community. Past award recipients include the Poland Fire Department, Tri-County

Club, Poland Historical Chapel, Inc and Christian Care and Share of Southern Clay County.

We hope you and all the men and women and their families who assisted with the work at the Poland Chapel are available to attend the dinner and award program on the 12th. The work you did on the Chapel is greatly appreciated by the entire community and we are very happy to honor your generosity and gifts to help preserve this landmark for the community.

Please let me know the number of persons who will attend by February 1, 2011. Again, thank you so very much for

all you have done and know that it is an honor to be able to publicly acknowledge this wonderful gift.

Sincerely,
Joyce A. Smidley
Zion Prayer Walkers
Hearts of Gold Committee

“...truly i tell you
whatever you did
for **one** of the least of these
brothers and sisters of mine
you did for **me.**”



Men and Women of Action

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