



Lifeline

Keeping the Sunset family connected

SUNSET INTERNATIONAL BIBLE INSTITUTE • SUMMER 2010

AIM

Also in this issue: Extension School's Correspondent begins on page 14!



AIM Means Adventures In Missions... and Much More

There are so many things that recommend our AIM program to young adults, to their parents, to youth ministers, to elders, to missions committees, and to our brotherhood at large, that time and space would preclude a complete listing. Here are just a few things you need to know about AIM.

A is for **Adventures** In Missions and...

ACTION – Young people leading the way in doing something about the shortage of workers in the Lord’s harvest instead of just talking about it

ACTS – As in the Book of Acts, a model for the kind of expanding mission AIM has to help evangelize our world

ADVANCEMENT – For the cause of Christ as 50 to 60 young adults leave Sunset each year to serve in 12 different mission fields for up to 18 months

ACCOUNTABILITY – As AIMers willingly commit themselves to a strict regimen of service and godly discipline under the supervision of experienced long-term missionaries

I is for **Adventures In Missions** and...

INVOLVEMENT – As a young generation learns to rise up out of the pew to become involved in Kingdom business and in the eternal destiny of people at home and abroad

INNER STRENGTH – The life changing experience of AIM in study, prayer, and relationships which can stay with an AIMer for the rest of his or her life

IMPACT – The positive influence and effect that AIMers have on other young people on their mission fields and in their home congregation’s youth group following AIM

INTESTINAL FORTITUDE – In those courageous young people who have the “guts” to leave home for a difficult mission field to endure hardship for the cause of Christ

M is for **Adventures in Missions** and...

MOTIVATION – The heart and desire to do God’s will, serve Him, love His people, read and study His word, and “make it our AIM to please Him” everyday of one’s life

MESSAGE – The power-packed gospel of Jesus Christ which AIMers study and which they learn to share with lost souls who need desperately to be saved

MANNA – The promise of God’s provision to care for the needs of His precious young people today as they journey for Him, just as He did for the Israelites of old

MANDATE – The Great Commission of Jesus Christ, “go make disciples of all nations,” which serves as the marching orders for those who dare to join AIM

What Christian parent would not be proud to have a son or daughter give themselves to such values and vision? What eldership or missions committee would not be excited about helping to encourage one of their young people in such an endeavor? What brotherhood would not support a school which would provide such a program? Help us to keep **aiming to preach the gospel to the world.**



MAKE A LASTING IMPRESSION ON A LOST WORLD



How do we show our appreciation and respect for missionaries who have unselfishly given so much of themselves?

One way is to provide them a permanent place in our **Missions Memory Plaza**, located at the front of our new World Missions Center. Great missionaries in our brotherhood will be honored, having their names and mission fields engraved in capstones atop a decorative wall or in a special section of our brick walkway.

If you would like to contribute and honor a missionary who has given so much to the kingdom of God, please visit our website, www.sibi.cc/plaza, or contact the Advancement office at Sunset. The website contains an updated list of suggested missionaries, pictures, a downloadable video, and a contact form.

You may also call the **Advancement office** at 806-788-3259.



For more information visit
www.sibi.cc/plaza



Adventures in Missions:



Changing Lives: Ariel Campbell visiting Mexico

Why I Came Back to Be an AIM Assistant

My wife and I served with AIM as Assistants for five years (Assistants are AIM graduates who come back and volunteer their free time to mentor new students throughout the training process). During that time we have worked with 295 young people who inspired and challenged us in many different ways. Spending that much time with so many people in an unpaid position has often led to the question, "Why do you do it?" To us, it was a no-brainer. I became very close to my own AIM Assistants when I was an AIM student. It was an inspiration to see those who had recently returned from their mission fields serving God in such an influential way. They were a great help to me during the emotional time of leaving home and learning to work with people in a way that I never had before. They became very dear, lifelong friends to me. When I returned home from the field I wanted to work with the AIM program as an Assistant because I wanted to be to new AIM students what my Assistants were for me, and I wanted to share some of my own field experience to help those who were training to go.

When I say my Assistants became very dear, lifelong friends, I mean it. My wife and I are soon moving to Ukraine to join a church planting team that has three of our own original AIM Assistants on it. From mentor to teammate—God is good!

I was eighteen years old when I first stepped through the AIM classroom doors. Words cannot express the feelings I have inside as I process this next step in life. The AIM program has been a direct influence in my life for nine years. It is a program I said I would never attend and now I am wishing it was not time to leave. I found friends here; I found great teachers and wonderful mentors; I found my wife here; I found myself here.

Brandon Price
AIM Assistant

The AIM program is a ministry of the Sunset International Bible Institute overseen by the elders of the Sunset Church of Christ, Lubbock, Texas. AIM is a two-year missionary apprentice program dedicated to preparing, training, and sending college-age young people into fields white unto harvest. Throughout the program, AIM students learn and grow not only to be disciples themselves, but also to make disciples of Jesus wherever they go. They are biblically equipped to share their faith with others as they individually grow in their walk with the Lord for a lifetime of service and devotion. AIM students will have over 600 hours of Bible instruction during the eight month training period in Lubbock. On weekends the students work side by side with established, local congregations as an integral part of their hands-on training before being sent to various mission points for 14-22 months of field service. On the field they work alongside experienced missionaries to see and experience what full-time mission work is all about. Upon completion, students return to Lubbock for a very special homecoming reception and graduation ceremony. AIM students average 19 years of age and come from all across the United States and foreign countries. They are not "super Christians," rather they are young people who have a heart that says, "I am willing to walk by faith." Approximately 25% of all AIM students return to go into full-time ministry and over 90% go on to college after AIM.

Pat Sheaffer
Assistant Director



Crossing Barriers: Roy Angell visiting Mexico

AIMers atop a pyramid outside of Mexico City

Views From the Inside Out

AIM

AIMers Come From Everywhere to Go Anywhere

Four years ago I heard about the program called AIM that would teach youth about the Bible and how to become more like Jesus by serving in God's Kingdom. It seemed to be a really cool program, but I was too concerned about my future career. I always wanted to be a doctor and help people, but it is hard to be accepted into a medical school in Brazil. In 2007, I received great news that I had been accepted into medical school.

After having studied so many different subjects at school I wanted to learn more about things that really matter, things that have something to do with my real life, my spiritual life. That was when I thought about going to AIM, a program where I could learn more about God and His kingdom, and even more, a program designed for young people. I had never seen something like this. I decided to put medical school on hold and go to AIM.

Since the beginning, being a part of the AIM program was a challenge for me. Moving to the US was a hard thing. I was leaving my home, my country, my culture, my family, and my friends. I was entering into a whole different atmosphere, in a different culture, and having to speak and express myself in a different language.

I spent eight months in Lubbock and then a year in Mexico as a missionary apprentice. I changed and grew a lot during the whole program. Did I ever have hard times? Yes. Was I ever homesick? Of course. But I can say it was worth it. I made lifelong relationships, and I understood more about God, more about the church, and how important it is to be always open to serving God and loving people. I think every single young person should experience a program like AIM.

Diego dos Anjos
Joao Pessoa, Brazil

AIM Is Not For Sissies

Any AIM student or AIM parent will tell you, AIM is not for sissies! **Adventure** is one of the words we use to best describe the AIM experience. Other good descriptive terms include spiritual boot-camp, emotional roller coaster, stressful, exciting, amazing, and exhausting. For some, the most challenging phase of AIM is the academically and socially intensive eight months of Bible classes in Lubbock. For others, it is the enlightening 14-22 months on a mission field or the head-spinning cross-cultural reentry once they return. The AIM experience certainly has its ups, but just like everything else in life, it can also have its downs. In addition to the inherent stresses of interacting with sixty college-age young people, many bring with them deep unresolved emotional issues which slow them down and make the experience more difficult. The good news is that God can use imperfect people and He does not just care for the message but also for the messenger. This is why we provide mission care services in AIM.

As the Missionary Care Counselor I attempt to put into practice Eph. 4:12-13:

¹²to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up ¹³until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ.

With the help of the rest of our AIM staff team, we attempt to send, to maintain, and to bring back whole AIM students who will remain faithfully committed to serving God. Services we offer include individual personal growth interviews to identify their unique strengths and growth areas, professional counseling services to address personal issues, team conflict resolution, mission care field seminars and crisis care, video conferencing calls, reentry seminars, as well as career counseling. Over the years it has become increasingly clear there is an important role in caring for AIM students to help them be healthy and effective servants of God so the lost can be found and our Lord can be glorified.

Ben Walker, MS, LPC
AIM Missionary Care Counselor



Digging Deep: Nick Flesher

AIMers Impact the World

Having been an AIM student myself and both my wife and I having worked as AIM Assistants, we consider it an honor to partner with a new generation of young Christians who are dedicated to being like Jesus far away from the comforts of home in order to serve complete strangers. It is this kind of commitment that has, over the past 19 years, continually impressed Jeni and I about AIM students. We have requested several teams of AIM students, where we served in both Cuernavaca and Mexico City, because we know this type of dedication and commitment from young missionary apprentices is hard to find. We know the experiences these AIM students have on the mission field will forever impact the Kingdom and the cause of Christ. AIM students have impacted our lives and the lives of our children in ways I cannot fully describe in this short article. All of the effort that goes into recruiting, training, nurturing, counseling, mentoring, and mobilizing AIM students on the mission field has incredible rewards.

One of those rewards is getting to see the transformation within a community. Most people in Mexico think young foreigners are visitors just looking for a "good time," but when they meet a few of the AIM students they are drawn in by their humble, servant attitudes. Young people in Mexico get to see what it is like to live like a Christian in a time when they are making decisions for the rest of their lives. The opportunities and the doors that are opened by the AIMers can change the spirit of an entire neighborhood. Another one of those rewards is getting to see the transformation in the life of the local mission church. Having committed young Christians involved in a new church plant brings a freshness and a sense of hope to both young and old as they begin their new walk with Christ.

However, the biggest reward for us as missionaries and field coordinators is seeing the transformation of the AIM students themselves. We witness this change from the first day they get off the airplane until the time they finish their commitment. They learn another language, gather other young people to Christ, and grow in their dependence upon God. These are the reasons we spend quality time with the AIM students throughout the week in biblical mentoring sessions, going on cultural excursions, and walking with them as friends together on their mission with God.

Sean McClue, AIM Coordinator – Mexico City

AIM from Two Sides

Every school year I tell our AIM students how I am in awe of their faith. They come from all over the nation and all over the world to Lubbock, Texas. They are stretched and challenged in ways they could not have even imagined. They go all over the world to serve in any way they are needed. That takes faith!

Since my sister came to AIM in 1990, I have been amazed at the faith of AIM students. As one of their teachers for the last five years, I have witnessed time and time again lives changed in dramatic ways. I have seen faith that was already impressive continue to grow stronger and deeper. They have shared good news; they have encouraged faith in others; they have served widows, orphans, and neighbors; and they have taught me what it means to really live by faith.

My heart thrills to think of the next class coming to grow and to go as our daughter will be in this class. I am excited about how her life will change as she makes it her AIM to preach the Gospel.

Ray Young, AIM Instructor and Parent



Opening Hearts: Amanda Beam, and Dani Muñoz with a Senior AIMER, Ellen Kirk



Opening Eyes: Ashton Woods over Mexico City

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How AIM Changed Our Family

Our family has been involved and influenced by the AIM program since 1988 when AIM students began working with the local congregation we attended. Our oldest son, Josh, was a part of the 1998 class and served in Cuiaba, Brazil. One of the hardest things we had ever done was to send him so far away, and yet he was ready to serve after his training in Lubbock. He wanted to be a part of a new work and he literally helped build a church building with his team mates. He helped build up the youth group and his faith became his own.

In 2006 our oldest daughter, J'Lae, became a part of a team going to Leon, Mexico. She had a great experience and served for 22 months teaching children's classes, ladies' classes, and serving in numerous other ministries. After she returned, one of the families that J'Lae worked with named their new baby girl after J'Lae. God is so good.

In 2009 our daughter, Jenny, decided to become a part of this past AIM class. She is on a team going to Joao Pesso, Brazil. It is so exciting to see how God will use these young people to expand His kingdom, but also very hard to send our daughter so far away. We know, however, that God will take care of her and her team as they serve Him.

As a parent I would like to say AIM is one of the hardest and best ways for your children to mature and develop a faith that is their own. As young people come to study in Lubbock, the AIM staff challenges them to become committed to something bigger than themselves. To become a part of a group of outstanding young Christians who are committed to serving our Lord and sacrificing two to three years of their lives to further the kingdom is amazing. I do not know of any other program that helps mold tomorrow's Church into better servants, teachers, preachers, parents, and members than AIM.

It is hard to send your children to serve in a field so far away, and it is also hard when they come home as they readjust to "normal" life that will never be normal again. The benefits of seeing them grow and become such strong servants that God has used to show the world Jesus is so worth it. May God bless all the parents who are sending out their children.

Linda Merritt
Parent of Three AIMers



**FOR MORE INFORMATION
OR TO APPLY VISIT WWW.
AIMSUNSET.ORG OR CALL
1-800-658-9553**



Opening Hands: Jewell Melton cleaning after Hurricane Katrina in 2006



Opening Minds: Amanda Holler



Opening Awareness: Flag Presentation by the AIM class in Paducah, KY

SUNSET INTERNATIONAL 79TH GRADUATION



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Evan Hutchinson
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SIBINE



Glenn R. Campbell
Fall River, MA



Luther Cooper
In Memoriam

BACHELOR OF DEAF BIBLICAL STUDIES



Lewis J. Parry
Tulsa, OK

WOMEN'S ASSOCIATE OF BIBLICAL STUDIES



Alissa Shea Schumacher
Snyder, TX

SUNSET INTERNATIONAL BIBLE INSTITUTE COMMENCING CLASS

Graduation is one of two or three major events at Sunset during our school year. It is a great opportunity for our alumni and donors to see a sample of the "fruit of their partnership" and to connect again with our people and ministries.

This year the commencement address was given by Bobby Deason, '69, a former missionary, preacher, and author. Deason challenged the graduates to stay focused on Jesus and not get pulled away by schemes of the devil.

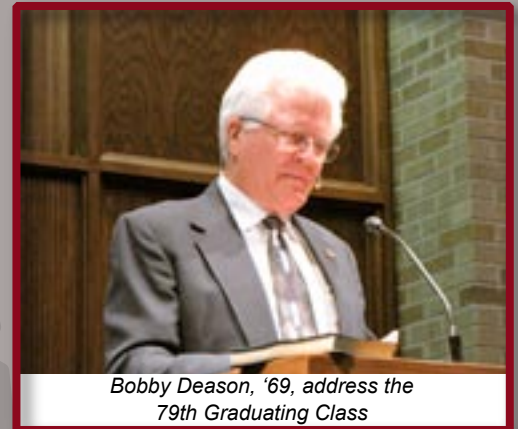
A total of 56 men and women have earned either the Bachelor of Biblical Studies Degree or the Associate of Biblical Studies Degree in residence here in Lubbock, or, in some cases, in our interactive video conference sites in Fall River, Massachusetts, and Puyallup, Washington. Some of these earned their degrees and certificates

through external studies, video satellite schools, and on-line courses. Some graduated from the School of Missions in December. In addition, 41 Sunset alumni, who hold certificates of graduation from previous years, have now completed the required leveling work to earn degrees in Biblical Studies. Some of these were present to receive their diplomas in person but most, scattered across the USA and around the world, will receive theirs in the mail. Beyond all of these, there are over 450 who are graduating this year from over 63 international partner schools.

Joining more than four thousand other graduates of various disciplines at Sunset, these go forth well-equipped for the great task of preaching the whole gospel to the whole world, wholly to please God.

Our prayers for strength, our hope for the future, and our dream for the evangelization of the world accompany these graduates as they begin a new phase of their ministry lives.

The commencement address is available for listening or download at www.sibi.cc/audio.



Bobby Deason, '69, address the 79th Graduating Class

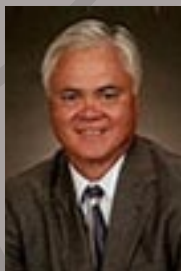


Truitt presented Helen Deason with a plaque in honor of her late husband, Larry Deason, '67, for his work in the Kingdom

EXTERNAL STUDIES DIVISION BACHELOR OF BIBLICAL STUDIES



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December 9, 2009 - June 30, 2010

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Robinson, Mary	Lois Patterson	Carlson, Dorothy	Mike & Neva Russell	Giles, Gene	Rusty & Sue Russwurm
Solomon, Don & JoAnn	Bob & Jan Crockett		Jack & Ricki Moss	Goodyear, Gwen	Dan Goodyear
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		Mullican, Jerry			

DEPARTURES

Armando Alaniz, '76, was born June 12, 1947, in Havana, Texas, to Tomasita G. and Miguel Alaniz and passed away April 9, 2010, in Pasadena. He attended and taught at Sunset School of Preaching in Lubbock, and also taught at Atlantic International Bible Institute in Haileah, Florida. Armando graduated from Ambridge in Montgomery, Alabama, Magna Cum Laude. Armando was still very active as a teacher in Sunset's Spanish-speaking Video Conference network that reaches all around the world.



Byrl Brockman, one of the first instructors at Latin American Bible School (the predecessor of Sunset School of Preaching) was born in Estancia, NM, to Clarence and Sue Brockman on April 11, 1922. He went home to be with his Heavenly Father on May 17, 2010.



As a boy, Byrl lived along the Texas/Mexico border and loved the Hispanic culture. Most of his ministry was with Spanish-speaking churches. In addition to serving churches in Texas, he was a missionary in the Panama Canal Zone on two occasions.

Byrl never tired of helping others, whether gathering and distributing clothing, working at the food bank, or doing whatever else needed to be done to make someone else's life easier. If he could use his fluent Spanish in the process, he enjoyed it even more. He and Virginia continued his love of helping others as they taught English as a Second Language (ESL) classes at the A&M Church of Christ and worked with Lincoln House of Hope. Byrl Brockman was an ordinary man who lived an extraordinary life by allowing God to work in him and through him in all of his life's endeavors.

Luther James Cooper of Hamden, CT, went home to be with the Lord April 3, 2010. Luther was to graduate from the Sunset through SIBINE in Fall River, MA, in May with a Bachelor of Biblical Studies Degree. Luther was born in Florence, SC, to the late Liston and Juanita (Cunningham) Cooper. He leaves to cherish his memory; wife, Dorothea Stewart-Cooper of Hamden; sons, Deion, Jabbar, Luther Cooper all of New Haven; stepson, David Stewart (Lisa) of West Haven; daughters, Latara M. Carney of VA, Tiffany Richard of New Haven, Catrina Hawley-Stewart of Hamden, Lawanda Higgins of Alabama; sister, Beatrice Cooper of New Haven; special niece, Kesha Cooper of New Haven; 21 grandchildren; 1 great grandchild and a host of other relatives and friends. He was predeceased by his stepdaughter, Candra Stewart.



Jabe Matthew Pratt, '70, passed away Tuesday, February 2nd, 2010, at his home in Abilene at the age of 95. Jabe was born on September 17th, 1914, to Jabe Ero Pratt and Virda Cooper Pratt in Arkadelphia, Arkansas. He attended ACU, LCU, and Sunset International Bible Institute. Jabe was a minister at many churches across the Northeast and the Western United States as well as many other areas of the country. After retiring from Portales, NM, Jabe and his wife Yvonne moved to Abilene where they were members of the 11th and Willis Church of Christ.



Lola Ritchey, '75, died on July 3, 2010, after a short illness. Lola celebrated her 93rd birthday with family and friends just a few days before becoming ill. She and Lewis were known for their work with WBS and were loyal supporters of the school of preaching. On the Wednesday before her birthday she was sitting at the table grading WBS lessons. Lola was not afraid of death and longed to be with Lewis and her Lord. The 5th row pew will be very lonely without her presence. The family requests donations be made to SIBI or WBS (Sunset Church of Christ) on her behalf.

Robert Joe Scoby, (RJ), '89, was healed on June 5, 2010, by his Lord and Master. He was born on May 22, 1929, in Amarillo, Texas. He served in the Navy and also worked as a Police Officer for the Amarillo Police Department before moving to Albuquerque where he met his wife of 53 years, Betty Jo. He worked for Mountain Bell Telephone Company as a PBX repairman. He retired in 1986 after 30 years of service. He then answered his second calling and traveled all over the United States ministering to small churches and spreading the Gospel. "Grandpa" loved the Lord, loved his family, loved to cook, loved to tell jokes, LOVED to fish, loved to golf. He loved life. He was a member at several churches of Christ, but called Netherwood Park his home church. He was preceded in death by his parents Duron and Alpha Pearl Scoby; sister Patricia Norris; brother Herbert Scoby; son-in-law Bob Gorsline; and his beloved wife Betty Jo. He is survived by his children Carmen Lassiter of Artesia, NM, Bob Scoby of Albuquerque, NM, Judy Street of Corrales, NM, Greg Scoby of Los Gatos, CA, Annette Martin Gorsline of Abilene, TX; 14 grandchildren, 11 great-grandchildren, his sons and daughters-in-laws and also his grandchildren in-laws.

Larry Warren, '06, completed his race on April 26th. Larry was a three year student studying both the Deaf Ministry and Congregational Ministry Tracks. Larry was a man who loved people and wanted them to know about the wonderful gift of salvation God has made available. Larry had been ministering in Antrim, New Hampshire. On May 8th, Larry's daughter, **Bekah Warren**, passed away from injuries from an automobile accident early in the morning.



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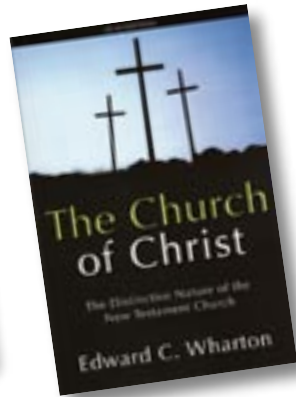
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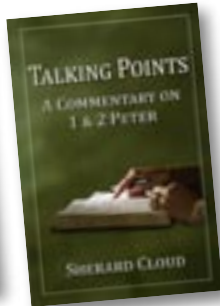
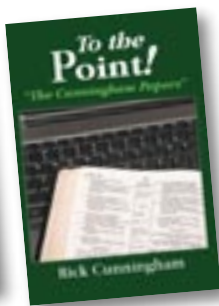
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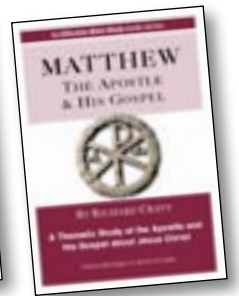
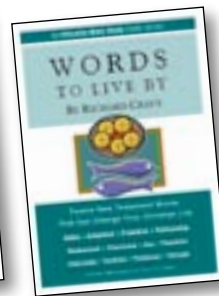
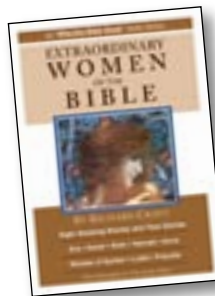


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