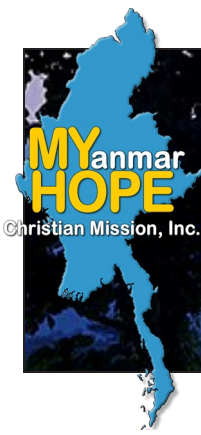


"You can give without loving, but you cannot love without giving"
- Amy Carmichael



MyHope Newsletter

Volume 7 Issue 3 - August 2013

Myanmar Hope Christian Mission, Inc. • 624 Garvey Lane • Chatham, Illinois • 62629-5086
<http://www.myanmarhope.org> • info@myanmarhope.org • (217) 415-9187

Greetings

Well, it's the Dog Days of August, but around here the weather has seemed more like late spring or early autumn. We are not complaining! We hope that you have been enjoying your summer activities, and that the weather in your part of the world has been as pleasant as it has been here.

The main construction on our new girls dorm and ministry headquarters is nearly complete! Thank you all for your many generous donations. You can see some pictures in this edition of the newsletter, but there are many more posted on our public Facebook page. Please go there and see how much progress has been accomplished! Point your browser to https://www.facebook.com/MyanmarHope/photos_albums and then scroll down to view the many albums with construction update photos.



With your continued help the new facility will soon be finished, and the girls and Palal's family will be able to move in. It is all so exciting to see the plans and dreams of many years coming to pass. What seemed impossible six years ago is almost a reality! It just goes to show what the blessings of God and the faithfulness of His people can accomplish!

Hope Boarding School Report

By Palal Khongsai

We are very pleased to share the progress of our students in their examinations. We are in the third year of our boarding school in Yangon. I hope many of you have known that our students are coming from remote areas and were selected from the poorest families in Northwest Myanmar.

In the first year of our boarding school (2010-2011), most of our students faced homesickness, cultural differences, lan-

In This Issue:

Hope Boarding School Update.....	1
Khongsai Family Update	3
Anne Teztlaff, Super Shopper	4
Myanmar Trip Update	5
New Building Update	6
????	8

guage problem, a new environment, health issues, and so on. The students all speak the Kuki language, and most did not speak the Burmese language at all, or at least not fluently. The government classes are all taught in Burmese, so this was a problem for our students.

In the second year of our boarding school (2011-2012), the students felt more comfortable with the new environment, could speak the Burmese language, and could understand their lessons. They were stronger and healthier, and they were confident to stand with their Burmese friends at the government schools.

In the third year of our boarding school (2012-2013), our students are physically stronger and healthier, even compared to the other students at the government high school. They could all speak Burmese very well, and do well in their studies. This year (2013-2014) they are all doing very well again.

All of the students are very hard workers. When they help at the government schools for cleaning the rooms, moving the furniture, desks, and chairs, the teachers learned how much they are strong, how they can work and are willing to volunteer.

Sometimes, the teachers ask our students to come to the government school on the weekend and work as volunteers. Our students do this whenever they can. Some of our students even help their teachers at their homes. All of this means that our students have good fellowship with their teachers and the teachers love them as they work and study hard.

All of the students are progressing well in their studies. In the government school the classes are divided as (S), (A), (B), (C), (D), (E), and so on in the each grade. The number of the students in each class room is between sixty and seventy students. The classes are divided into groups based upon the scores which the students received in the previous class.

I would like to share about five of our students who received high scores in their exams in the previous months, June and July. I hope you will enjoy reading about their progress and their class positions.

Mr. Thang Len Mang (High Marks)



Ma Mang

Mr. Thang Len Mang (Ma Mang) has been studying very hard even though he is still under treatment for leukemia. Last school year (2012-2013) he was in the B class. Since he did very well in his previous exams, he jumped over the A class and is allowed to sit in the S (Special) class, which is reserved for the most outstanding students.

There are sixty-seven students in his class (Grade 8-S). The results of his tests in June and July were very high. His marks in June were: Burmese—74, English—68, Math—100, Geography—62, History—84. He was in the 60th position. His marks in July were Burmese—72, English—72, Math—100, Geography—64, History—88. He is now in the 49th position. His total marks were 480 in June and 484 in July. He got full marks (100) in Math in both tests. He is in a great progress! Please continue to pray for his health and education.

[Editors Note: If Ma Mang had not been able to come to Yangon in 2010, he would most likely be dead by now. Yet, because of your prayers and financial support, he has been able to get regular treatments for his cancer, and is well on the way to full recovery!]

Miss Lhing Kho Nei (1st Position)



Lhing Nei

Miss Lhing Kho Nei (Lhing Nei) is also doing very well in her studies and examinations. She is our previous cooks' daughter. Her brother, Lam Kho Gin, went home with his parents when they returned to their village. She is growing physically and is academically successful in her studies.

There are sixty-eight students in her class room in Grade 8 (A) class. The results of her tests in

June and July are very high. Her marks in June were: Burmese—68, English—86, Math—82, General Science—92, Geography—68, History—88. Her marks in July were Burmese—76, English—80, Math—94, General Science—92, Geography—76, History—88.

Lhing Nei attained the 14th position among the sixty-eight students in her class in June. She studied hard and made great progress in her tests in July. She is in now in the 1st position! We are very proud of her success.

Miss Lhing Nei Lam (6th position)



Lhing Neo

Miss Lhing Nei Lam (Lhing Neo) is doing very well in her exams. She is in the Grade 9 in B class. She had tuberculosis when she arrived at HBS, but after taking treatments she is very healthy now.

There are sixty-eight students in her class room. In June she was in the 19th position, but in her July exams she jumped up to the 6th position. It is a great success for her!

Miss Lam Hoi Vah (8th Position)



Vah Si

Miss Lam Hoi Vah (Vah Si) is also doing very well, even though she is a new student who only arrived at HBS this year. She comes from a very remote, poor village where there are no Burmese speakers.

She felt a little home sick when she arrived in Yangon in March. However, now she is doing well with her friends at HBS and at her school.

Her teachers love her very much as she is very humble before them. She studies hard and is holding in a good position.

She is in Grade 7—D class. There are sixty-eight students in her class room. She is in the 8th position! Her teachers are very amazed as she only came to Yangon earlier this year and already she is in the 8th position. If she keeps up her scores, next year she may be able to jump to a higher class.

Miss Neng Khen Cin (3rd Position)

Miss Neng Khen Cin (Khen Cin) is in the Grade 8—A class.



Khen Cin

There are sixty-eight students in her class room. She was in the 3rd position in her test in June, but went down to 5th position in her test in July. It is still a very good position! We encouraged her to keep up her scores and soon she will attain a higher position again.

THANK YOU ALL

We would like to express our heartfelt thanks to all of you who have been praying faithfully and supporting our students at HBS.

We use your donations and supports for the school fees at their school, the teachers' private tuition classes' fees, school supplies, clothes, medical expenses, etc.

We especially would like to thanks to I.D.E.S. (www.ides.org) for their monthly financial aids for HBS. We use I.D.E.S. funds to purchase additional rice, food, bread, fruits, juice, milk, tea, meat, etc. Because of enough and nutritious food, our students are healthy and are able to make great progress in their studies.

We can surely say that without your help, these students would not be able to continue their education. From your support, we are able to help these poor young children who can't make their living by themselves yet. Their relatives can't help these young children who need a safety place, food, clothes, education and spiritual directions for their whole life. They get these things at HBS from your supports.

We would like to request you all to continue supporting our students at HBS who are eagerly studying and hoping for

their future bright! Our students are depending on you. God bless you all!

In His Service,

Palal and Kikim Khongsai

August 14, 2013



Miss Nei Boi and Miss La Lam looking up Scripture verses

Khongsai Family Update

Palal, Kikim, Solomon, and Cherry continue to do well, relatively speaking. The rainy season (June, July, and August) are the most difficult months of the year for health problems. The near constant rain coupled with extremely hot temperatures tends to make people very susceptible to sickness and disease.

We continue to praise God that everyone in Yangon has remained relatively healthy during this period. Even there is a aneurism lot of coughing, low-grade fevers, and other minor sicknesses among our family, nothing major like TB or Malaria,



All of the students of Hope Boarding School say "THANK YOU!!" to all who pray for them and to all who provide for them financially.

which is so common in this area. We really ask for your continued prayers for health and wholeness during the rainy season.

As of this writing, Kikim’s older sister, Mrs Vah Hoi (a widow), has been diagnosed with gall stones. She had been suffering pain in her abdomen for three or four years, but since she had no money to pay for doctors visits up in her village, she kept her suffering and pain to herself. In April, she accompanied some of our new girls to Yangon, and then stayed on to help out at the school and around the house.



Mrs. Vah Hoi

Kikim noticed her pain, and they sent her to the doctor to have it checked out. It was then that she admitted that she has been suffering for several years. The doctors said they could prescribe medicine to shrink the stones, but then they could move around and cause other problems.

An emergency request for donations went out for the \$1500.00 for the surgery. Praise God, the entire amount was given in a single day by twelve people who responded to the call with generous love.

MyHope Needs a Vehicle

We would like to remind everyone that Palal and Kikim do



Palal accompanying Vah Hoi into the operating room

all of their work for MyHope and Hope Boarding School in a very large city of over five million people without a vehicle! How they manage to do all this without even a car of their own,

and still keep their sanity, is a miracle. Anytime they need to go to the market, or downtown for paperwork or money exchange, or to take Solomon and Cherry to school, they must use a taxi. This is not only inconvenient and costly, it can also be dangerous. Not all of the taxi drivers are trustworthy.

Palal and Kikim and HBS really do need a passenger van, such as the one in the picture. Our current, major fundraising efforts are focused on the new building, but we haven’t forgotten the need for a vehicle for the ministry.

Would you please pray about this need with us? Perhaps



the Lord will lay the burden on the heart of someone to make a special donation to take care of this pressing need once and for all. Thank you!

Anne Teztlaff: Super Shopper

By MaryAnn Cherry

Have you ever wondered if you can use your unique, God-given talents and interests to help in ministry? Do you sometimes feel that the way you are made – what “makes you tick” – is not really something that can God can use to build His Kingdom? Well, let me share a story with you about an amazing woman who has used her “gift” of bargain shopping to bless Myanmar Hope Christian Mission.

Before we even met them, Anne and her husband Joe had already made several very generous financial donations to Myanmar Hope in 2011 and 2012. For example, they made a donation that enabled Mr. Pan Hu Ngai, a handicapped individual in northwest Myanmar, to start a motorcycle repair business. In August of last year they began a monthly sponsorship commitment for one of the boys at Hope Boarding School. We are very thankful for many generous donors like Joe and Anne!



Mrs. Anne Teztlaff

We learned that Anne is a person who does not like to be “out in front”—she prefers to work from behind the scenes. Then, before our trip to Myanmar last December, Anne sent us a message asking if there was anything else she could do to help.

Now, one thing I hate to do is shop. I hate it! Yes, I am a woman, and I hate to shop.

However, the first couple of times that we went to Myanmar, guess who had to do most of the shopping for the items to bring along? That’s right—me. So, immediately upon receiving Anne’s offer I sent her a list of items that we wanted to take to Myanmar, and asked her if she could do the shopping.

It turns out that Anne is someone you would call a “Super Shopper.” She considers it a challenge to stretch a dollar as far as possible, and she knows how to do it! For example, one of the things on our list was underwear. It may seem strange, but good quality underwear is really hard to find in Myanmar. The underwear available for purchase is not only of poor quality, it is also very expensive.

Anne got right to work and purchased approximately 250 pair of quality, name-brand underwear for less than \$50.00. Impressive! Then she also bought batteries, games, beef jerky, trail mix, and movie DVDs, among other things, all at bargain prices. She shopped online, used coupons and credit card bonuses, and who knows what other “secrets,” to purchases items at the absolute lowest possible cost. She is truly a blessing!

Who would have thought that the gift of “bargain shopping” could be such a blessing to the ministry of MyHope?

Thank you, Anne! You used what “makes you tick” to minister to the people of Myanmar. We love you!

Upcoming Trip to Myanmar

The travelers for our upcoming visit to Myanmar in December are already making plans and are getting very excited about the trip. This year, along with Chuck and MaryAnn Cherry, we are happy to report that Mr. Robin Pickett will return for his second visit. Accompanying him for their first ever visit to Myanmar will be his two daughters, Miss Annie Pickett and Mrs. Maggie Wyant.

In Loving Memory Mrs. Lynette Coelho

Mrs. Lynette Coelho, wife of Mr. Marco Coelho, went home to be with the Lord on Monday evening, July 8th, after suffering a massive brain aneurism on Sunday evening, July 7th.

Our deepest sympathy goes out to Marco and their children Bradley, Andrew, Alexander, Chance, Jeralyn, Mark, and their granddaughter Jordyn.

Marco very generously asked that all memorial gifts for Lynette be directed to MyHope. Over \$1000.00 was donated on her behalf, and those funds are being used to help our girls at Hope Boarding School.



God bless you, Marco. We share your grief as well as your hope for a blessed future where we will all be together in the Lord.

Mr. Robin Pickett

My name is Robin Pickett. My wife, Sue and I have three children: Maggie, Annie and Luke. Maggie is in her second year of pharmacy school. Annie is in her third year at Lincoln Christian University, and Luke is a Senior at Rochester High School.

In addition to her work as wife and mother, Sue is the office manager of our insurance agency. I have been in the insurance business for thirty-four years, and I specialize in insuring ministries. Our church home is Lakeside Christian Church in Springfield, Illinois.

We met Palal when he was living with Chuck and MaryAnn

Palal was on site every day that workers were there, overseeing the construction and ensuring that everything was done correctly and no corners were cut. As an example of how closely he was watching things, one day he noticed that one of the window frames seemed to be a little bit crooked. He called the foreman over and pointed it out.

“That window is not crooked,” said the foreman. “Yes, I can see it is not straight,” said Palal.

“I am an engineer, and I say it is straight.”

“If you are an engineer, then use your level and prove it is straight,” responded Palal.

The foreman went and got his level, and sure enough, the window was 1/8th of an inch off level. Palal made them tear the window frame out and put it back in correctly.

This sort of thing is not usually done in Myanmar, but Palal is bold enough and confident enough to assert his authority even though most tribal Christians are looked down upon by the Burmese.

The building shell was completed on August 13th. The staff and students held their first prayer meeting in the new building, even though there is not yet any electricity or plumbing, and none of the doors or windows are in yet. Each of the students went around and prayed for each door and window, and for those who would be donating funds to pay for them.



The completed shell of the new building

The Next Phase

So now that the shell is complete, the next phase of the construction is to put in plumbing and electricity, install windows and doors (both exterior and interior), install tile on the floors, paint the interior and exterior walls, and a few other miscellaneous items.

This phase needs to be completed as soon as possible, but for sure before the end of this year. Palal, Kikim, and all of the rest of those living in the rental house will need to move out of that house and into the new building by the end of December. That means there are four more months to raise the funds and complete the construction. It sounds impossible, but one year ago at this time it seemed impossible that we would be where we are now. With God all things are possible!

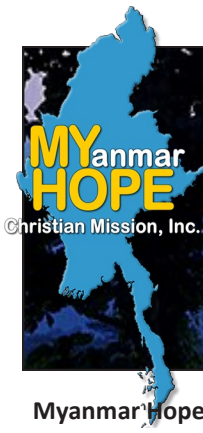
Palal has received estimates from the construction company to completely finish the building. We are still waiting on the price for a couple of the items, but we think the total will be around \$20,000.00.



HBS Students and staff holding the first prayer meeting in the new building



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**Bringing the eternal hope of Jesus Christ to the people of Myanmar in a holistic manner
by addressing their spiritual, physical, emotional and educational needs**

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Medical Care in Myanmar?

