



## NEWSLETTER # 4, April 2020



### 2020 PNG-KLS-SPLC Reunion

**October 8th to 11th 2020**

**Mt. Olivet Conference & Retreat Center, Farmington, Minnesota, U.S.A.**

**Greetings to all of our friends on the PNG/KLS/SPLC reunion mailing list. Please read this Newsletter to learn more about our 2020 Reunion. And please plan to join us!**

**Sign up to attend this Reunion! Here is the reservation process:**

Please do let us know you're coming! In early May, those of you who have said you plan to attend will receive an email with a brief reservation form where you will indicate your accommodation preferences. Lodging at Mount Olivet Conference and Retreat Center will be assigned on a first-come basis, so prompt reservation response is important. We'll have off-site rooms available at a motel 15 minutes from Mount Olivet, for those who prefer it, and for overflow when the onsite rooms fill. Motel rooms off-site are \$75 USD plus tax per night, double occupancy.

**Payment of reunion fees are due no later than August 31—this allows us to meet the Mount Olivet deadline for numbers attending.**

**Note about COVID-19:** We hope by reunion time (more than six months away, and your payment deadline over five months away), we'll be safe to gather for this reunion.

**Please reserve your spot now** so we can assign accommodations and plan for numbers. **If we have to postpone the reunion, we are able to and will do that by early August, based on our contract with Mount Olivet—with a full refund to you if you have paid for your reservation before August.**

**Choices for lodging at Mount Olivet for entire reunion** (three nights, all meals, snacks and reunion activities included) are:

- Motel room with bathroom for 2 or 3 (only 18 available), \$383.00 USD per person
- Dorm rooms (designated male or female)—4 dorms with 8 beds each, \$318.00 USD per person
- For youth under age 14, onsite lodging (motel or dorm) is \$180.00 USD

**Day Scholar rates in US dollars (with no on-site lodging—see off-site option above):**

- Cost with 3 meals and snacks, \$76 USD per person per day
- Cost with 2 meals and snacks, \$67 USD per person per day
- Cost with 1 meal and snack, \$45 USD per person per day
- Cost for youth under age 14: 3 meals and snacks—\$58 USD per day, 2 meals—\$46 USD per day

## **Highlighting two reunion sessions**

In the January 2020 Reunion Newsletter #3, we included a preview of the many opportunities reunion-goers will have to listen to speakers, share experiences and stories with each other, relax, reconnect, enjoy recreational activities, as well as enjoy displays and participate in services that include hymns in Tok Pisin. Note: You choose what you want to attend.

## **Skype discussion with Nalon Derr**

Friday, 7-8:00 PM: An update on PNG, from PNG

Nalon Derr completed his senior year at SPLC in 1966. He then attended the University of Papua New Guinea in Port Moresby, and in time became the Registrar of the University. He established a Stationery store in Madang and operated it for a few years. He later became the secretary for a local Madang politician. He was called out of retirement within the last couple of years for an appointed position on a task force that is seeking to make sure local Papua New Guineans are benefiting fairly from the natural resources of the country.

## **Presentation by Dr. George Weiblen, PhD, PNG research and celebration**

Saturday presentation, 10-11:30 AM: "A Celebration: 100 Years of the Good News in Papua New Guinea"

We briefly introduced George Weiblen in the April 2019 Reunion Newsletter as one of our 2020 speakers. George is a University of Minnesota Professor of Plant and Microbial Biology, and Science Director of the Bell Museum. Many of us heard him speak at the 2017 PNG/KLS/SPLC Reunion. He is returning this year to briefly update us on his fascinating research in PNG, centered on the interactions of flowering plants with insect pollinators and pests.

At this reunion George is excited to also share his participation at a unique event in November 2019: ELC-PNG's Celebration —100 Years Anniversary Bilong Kisim Tok, 1919 - 2019 — at Mis Village in Madang Province.

This was a surprise detour during George's travels in PNG in Fall 2019. An officer from Mis Village who was in a meeting at the Ministry for Environment learned that George was flying to Madang the next day. The man asked George if he would deliver a banner for an ELC PNG celebration in his village. George learned that "the village is famous in Lutheran circles and among cultural anthropologists because it is the place where the church confronted New Guinea's first cargo cult, known as 'Letub—the cult of secret wealth'." George will share the story of Letub, a violent conflict, and the successful intervention of missionaries to bring peace to the village.

**His description of entering the village will bring back memories for many of us who lived in Papua New Guinea:**

“On the walk we encounter livestock, a small river, laughing children, and simple homes built of forest materials. As we approach the festival grounds, we bump into youth groups rehearsing their "dramas" (pageants). Among them is a reenactment of Letub, Yali, the violence, and ultimately the holy spirit bringing peace and justice to the community. Missionaries are represented by clothed youths bearing bibles, sunglasses and hats; natives with painted faces and grass skirts.”



## **An Opportunity To Donate To The Reunion**

You can designate your donation to help with general reunion expenses, or to help fund our speakers. Note that these are not tax-deductible contributions. Reunion planners will ensure the funds are put to good use.

Please make checks payable in USD\$ to:

Gary Schoonover  
16407 Forest Boulevard N Hugo, Minnesota  
U.S.A. 55038

In the check Memo Line, please write: 'PNG/KLS/SPLC Reunion'.

Note: PayPal works well for international payment transactions, with the possibility of a small transaction fee. Email Gary at [gschoonover04@msn.com](mailto:gschoonover04@msn.com) to learn how to process a payment through PayPal. Western Union is also an option, but you should expect higher fees.

## **New Questions For You—PLEASE EMAIL US YOUR ANSWERS**

If you are a PNG, KLS or SPLC friend/wontok, and if you have not answered the questions we asked in the January 2020, please answer them today.

- Look back at the email that included this fourth newsletter, with the subject line **PNG-KLS-SPLC Reunion Newsletter #4**. It would be very helpful to receive your responses.
- And this time we have added a couple questions especially for spouses/partners of PNG-KLS-SPLC folks to answer, to help us with planning. Thank you!!

**On the following page is a current list of 55 people that have indicated they are planning to attend our reunion in 2020. We need to hear from you if your name is not on this list but you do plan to attend. Look for names you recognize, and plan to join them! Let's see if we can double our numbers!!**

**We appreciate any feedback about this newsletter and about the reunion plan.**

**We all look forward to seeing you in October!**

**Your Reunion Planning Team:**

**Fred Brandt, Mark Brandt, Sam Brandt, Dawn (Daechsel) McLean, Phil Davis, Paula (Schulz) Mitchell, Barb (Hueter) Reardon, Cynthia (Mansur) Schoonover, Gary Schoonover, Mark Singh-Hueter, Dianne Tuff, and Les Walck.**

**People planning to attend:**

(Amman) Barcal Busta, Beth	Frerichs, Marian	Radke, Theodore
Amman, Ivan	Goldhart Pukallus, Becky	Sandager-Schubert, Jane
(Blythe) Ireland, Jane	Pukallus, Athol	Schulz Mitchell, Paula
Brandt, Fred	Groat, John	Schulz, Jim
Brandt, Mark	(Hueter) Reardon, Barb	(Senff) Mayer, Tanya
Brandt, Samuel	Hueter, David	(Senff) Payne, Grace
(Brandt) Croft, Mary	Jacobsen, Hanne	(Sievert) Koch, Christine
(Daechsel) Smallwood, Donna	Jacobsen, Michael	Tuff, Dianne
Davis, Jonathan	Jamieson KenKnight, Becky	Tuff, Maggie
Davis, Loretta	Johnson, Murdoch	Uhlirz, Markus
Davis, Philip	Larson, Carla	Voss, Martin
Diczbalis, Yan	Larson, Scott	Wagner, Christoph
Diczbalis, Heather	(Mansur) Schoonover, Cynthia	Walck, Ken
(Edwards) Horntvedt, Kay	Schoonover, Gary	Walck, Leslie
Radke, Elinor	Mansur, Chris	Walck, Pam
Thomson, Malcolm	(Mansur) Zadow, Barbara	Walters, Eric
Frerichs, Angela	Radke, David	Walters, Jon
Frerichs, Catherine	Radke, Naomi	
Frerichs, Jonathan	Radke, Ruth	