



# Always A Missioner

February 1, 2010

## MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

Dear Returned Missioners,

Sam Stanton and I visited Boston from the 22nd to 24th of January. You will find more details on the report included below. However, I wanted to share with you a few aspects of the trip that were very energizing and that made a big impact during the course of the weekend. First, it is marvelous to see the great work of our Returned Missioners, as well as their commitment both in their parishes and in organizations working for justice. It was also great to share stories about how their experience with Maryknoll has influenced their lives. Second, it was inspirational to see how committed they are to reconnecting to Maryknoll Lay Missioners, and how they see themselves in the future of the organization. It really makes the words, "Once a missioner, always a missioner, once a Maryknoller, always a Maryknoller", come to life!

Besides the gathering hosted by Bob Short and Shirley Mendes ('77) on Saturday, Sam and I were hosted by Mary Sue Smiaroski, '85 and her husband, Esteban Cabello. It was great to touch base with these good friends of many years. On Saturday we had lunch with Betty Ann Donnelly '80 and Phil Pulaski '77 another great and energizing sharing. On Saturday night we were received by Simone Charpentier '89 and her husband Fernando Torres, who hosted a Sunday morning session with three Boston-area potential lay missioners. It was great to have Simone share her experiences with possible applicants. Thank you Simone! It was truly meaningful to share such an inquiry presentation with the participation of a Returned Missioner.

We were also able to visit and spend some time with the Yu-Phelps family, who has returned from Brazil due to the illness of their daughter Madeleine, who is hospitalized in the Children's Hospital. It was also possible to connect them with our Returned Missioners in Boston who have offered their support in a variety of ways. Let us all continue to offer our prayers for the healing of Madeleine.

Maryknoll Lay Missioners has faced a variety of challenges and changes in recent years. But the same spirit that has encouraged and supported missioners over the years and which is evident in our Returned Missioners continues to call forth new people to mission. Our lay mission organization will be all the better and more effective with the continued engagement of our Returned Missioners.

I look forward to similar gatherings in other parts of the country in the coming months and years!

In mission and Maryknoll,

Cecilia

**NEWS** 

[Always a Missioner, Spring '10 edition](#)

I'm in the process of developing and planning ideas and content for our Spring 2010 edition of the *Always a Missioner* printed newsletter. The newsletter keeps our Returned Missioners up to date on what is happening at Maryknoll Lay Missioners, and has very enriching stories of mission overseas as well as stories of people's

experiences and commitments here in the States. They are written by current and Returned Maryknoll Lay Missioners. Please send me articles about your life and work. They should be between 800 to 1200 words and preferably accompanied by one or two pictures. For the next issue, I will need the articles by March 12. Thanks for your cooperation and help in making *Always a Missioner* the best it can be!

#### Maryknoll Lay Missioner Liz Mach ('77) Speaking at Parishes in MN

In February, Liz Mach, Lay Missioner currently living and working in Tanzania, will be speaking at two Parishes: St. Kathryn, Ogilvie and St. Mary, Mora. This is an opportunity to reconnect with Liz and to hear her mission stories. Please share this information with your parish or other community in the area and friends interested in mission. Please contact [Ellen O'Connell](mailto:ellen@mkmlm.org) at [610-622-5012](tel:610-622-5012) or [occonnell@mkmlm.org](mailto:occonnell@mkmlm.org) for more details. Also

**Check out:**

[http://www.mklaymissioners.org/index.php?option=com\\_content&task=section&id=29&Itemid=50](http://www.mklaymissioners.org/index.php?option=com_content&task=section&id=29&Itemid=50) to see where we will be speaking in 2010 - we may be in your neighborhood.

#### President Obama's Letter of Recognition of Susan Nagele's 25 years mission service

Dr. Susan Nagele was the guest of honor at her hometown's parish celebration on Sunday, January 17. Hundreds of parishioners and well-wishers gathered at St. Patrick's in Urbana, Illinois to witness a ceremonial presentation of President Obama's Letter of Recognition of Susan's 25 years of mission service. MKLM Executive Director, Sam Stanton, presented the award to Susan during two different masses and then joined in the festivities at a reception in the parish hall.

"I am honored to represent Maryknoll Lay Missioners in presenting this important sign of recognition of Dr. Nagele's dedication and hard work over the years," said Stanton. "I'm also very grateful to have the opportunity to thank the parishioners of St. Patrick's for their support of laity in mission, and specifically for supporting their distinguished daughter, who has lived out her Catholic vocation in a most profound manner."



Dr. Nagele's first assignment with MKLM was to attend to the health needs of the poor in Tanzania. She has spent 12 years in the refugee camps of southern Sudan, and for the past several years, has served in a hospital in Kitale, Kenya. When she returns to East Africa in the coming months, she will begin a new ministry in the Kenyan coastal city of Mombasa, where she will be responsible for overseeing the Archdiocese's health programs.

#### Returned Missioners Gather in Boston

MKLM Returned Missioners gathered in Boston for dinner, prayer, and discussion on January 23, 2010. Returned Missioners Bob and Shirley Short ('78) hosted Phil Pulaski ('77) and Betty Anne Donnelly ('80), Mark and Kathy Morrison ('88), Brian and Meg McLaughlin ('03), Simone Charpentier ('89) and husband Fernando, and Steve Paone ('85). Sam Stanton, MKLM Executive Director, and Cecilia Espinoza, MKLM Returned Missioner Manager, also attended.



The gathering started with a prayer and reflection based on Archbishop Helder Camara's, "Setting Out on the Road." The question for reflection was "What has my Maryknoll experience signified in my life?" Sam gave a presentation on MKLM, during which participants offered suggestions for creating opportunities for MKLM and the future of laity in mission. Cecilia gave a brief overview of the many ways that RMs continue their support of and relationship with MKLM, including speaking at church dates, guiding immersion trips, supporting recruitment efforts, contributing monetarily, and providing lodging for donor visits.

Recruitment Event Held in Boston Area

Returned Missioner Simone Charpentier ('89) and her husband Fernando Torres, hosted a recruitment information session with three applicants from the Boston area on January 24, 2010. MKLM's Executive Director Sam Stanton and Returned Missioner Manager Cecilia Espinoza met with the applicants, gave a presentation, and answered questions.



**CLASS SHARING** ➡



Jean Walsh and Joe Regotti ('97 Mexico)

Jean (returned missioner) and Joe (current missioner) sent greetings and this beautiful picture of them, to share with you.

"Blessed is the season which engages the whole world in a conspiracy of love."  
*Hamilton Wright Mabie*



Kelly O'Brien ('00 Thailand)

On my end, I am particularly grateful for thresholds this Thanksgiving. I have begun the process of entering a Benedictine community and will be moving in this weekend. May your blessings be bountiful and your celebrations beautiful and may you walk in the Light through whatever thresholds lay before you.  
CONGRATULATIONS Kelly!



Dina Mac ('80Nicaragua)

Greetings from Bell Mountain in Chile!  
May you live each moment in joy, gratitude, good health, friendship and love, surrounded by those you hold dear. With much love, Dina and Quenchy



Roland Morin ('91 Guatemala)



CONGRATULATIONS to Roland and Laura Morin. They met through a mutual friend at work. They dated for two years. and got married on Valentine's Day one year ago on the shores of the Caribbean in Mexico in a traditional Mayan ceremony by a female shaman. Laura is a nurse and Roland's soulmate.

**SPECIAL EVENT** ➡

SCHOOL OF THE AMERICAS WATCH

**OSCAR ROMERO LEGACY DELEGATION** to EL SALVADOR, LAND OF MARTYRS

Accompanied by FATHER ROY BOURGEOIS

**MARCH 19-26, 2010**

March 24, 2010 marks the 30th anniversary of the assassination of Monseñor Oscar Romero, at the hands of School of Americas graduates. This tragic event was one of thousands of murders carried out by graduates of this U.S. Army training school. However, the life of this beloved bishop of El Salvador was not silenced. On the contrary, the words and life of "San Romero de las Américas" live on in thousands who work in small and large ways to build a more just and peaceful world.

Profoundly moved by the life of Monseñor Romero, Fr. Roy Bourgeois and others began a struggle to close the School of the Americas. What began as a handful of peace activists twenty years ago has blossomed into a massive grassroots movement of tens of thousands. The life and words of the bishop of this tiny country continue to inspire this movement. Please join Fr. Roy Bourgeois and Lisa Sullivan ('84 Venezuela), coordinator of SOA Watch's Partnership America Latina, in commemorating the anniversary of the martyrdom of Monseñor Romero El Salvador.

The Romero Legacy Delegation will also visit places where other martyrs from El Salvador, and from communities such as the Jesuits, Maryknoll and the Ursulines lost their lives in the struggle to create a better world. Delegates will also join Fr. Roy and Lisa in meeting with government officials of El Salvador to request that NO MORE soldiers from El Salvador be sent to study at the School of the Americas. The delegation fee of \$1,700 includes all meals, lodging, transportation, and materials within the country. It does not include travel to and from El Salvador. Proceeds from this delegation will go to the School of the Americas Watch ENCUENTRO, a June gathering that will connect activists from Latin American and the U.S. in laying the foundations of a North-South SOA WATCH movement.

For more information, contact Lisa Sullivan at [lsullivan@soaw.org](mailto:lsullivan@soaw.org)

**WOULD YOU LIKE TO SHARE YOUR STORY WITH OTHERS?**

**SEND A NOTE FOR OUR APRIL NEWSLETTER!**

**Cecilia Espinoza**, *Maryknoll Lay Missioner*

Relations Manager, Returned Missioners

P.O. Box 307

Maryknoll, NY 10545-0307

Phone: 914-762-6364 ext 207

Fax: 914-944-3576

[cespinoza@mklm.org](mailto:cespinoza@mklm.org)

<http://www.alwaysamissioner.org/>

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