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News Service of the Southern Baptist Convention

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July 14, 1987

87-105

## Campers Spread Gospel On The Campground

By Joe Westbury

ORLANDO, Fla. (BP)--Southern Baptist campers from 14 states explored ways to spread the gospel throughout the nation's campgrounds during a three-day meeting in Orlando, Fla.

The 272 campers, meeting for their annual Campers on Mission rally, pulled their rigs as far as 1,800 miles for the annual event, held this year at the Central Florida Fairgrounds.

Speaking from the book of Job, camper Bill Coffman and president of the Florida Baptist Convention told the opening night crowd they must wait on God for his direction in their lives rather than rushing ahead of his timetable.

"We so often want to tell God what we want to do," he said. "If we want to come to the place of sharing his love coast to coast as Campers on Mission, we need to do with our lives what Jesus wants us to do, not what we want to do. Our faith must be strong, regardless of life's trials, so others may know our God by our faithfulness."

Sam Schlegel of St. Augustine, Fla., national missionary for experimental ministries of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board, reported the campers now number 11,500 and account for the American Bible Society's largest Scripture outlet. With 300 Scripture selections annually mailed to each member, the 3.5 million pieces are the largest single order handled by the New York-based agency, he added.

During the meeting, campers attended workshops to explore ways of expanding their ministry.

Larry and Martha Jenkins, US-2 missionaries serving in Clearwater, Fla., gave guidelines for developing resort ministries. "The three goals of resort ministries are to evangelize; minister to physical, social and spiritual needs; and congregationalize -- involve people in regular worship at a local church," explained Jenkins, director of resort ministries for Pinellas Baptist Association.

Jenkins said the first step in ministry is identifying unmet needs in an individual's life: "If a man is hungry, we must feed him before we witness to him; if he is thirsty, we must give him water before introducing him to the living water. Only after such pressing needs have been met is an individual receptive to hearing the gospel message."

Bob and Elinor Roberts of Miami explained that nearly 90 percent of campground ministry consists of listening to another person's problems. Although crisis situations do occur which require skills developed through a chaplain certification program, the chaplaincy in most cases is a ministry of love and spiritual encouragement, he said.

Roberts urged campers to consider the program as an extension ministry of a Sunday school class. For example, a volunteer chaplain could offer worship services or conduct a Bible study at a campground near a local church, he said.

In an evening awards ceremony, Bill Lee, assistant director of the special mission ministries department of the Home Mission Board, presented the conference high attendance award to campers from Louisiana. The state was represented with 15 camping rigs and 36 people.

Texas received the state chapter of the year award for having the most active camping organization in the convention. Doil and Elva Hammons, members of First Baptist Church of La Feria, Texas, received the award for pulling their camping rig the greatest distance. The couple drove a total of 1,800 miles from Harlingen, Texas, to Orlando for the rally.

Texas Governor Will Not  
Lobby For State Lottery

By Ken Camp

DALLAS (BP)--Texas Gov. Bill Clements assured religious leaders in a July 7 meeting that he would not try to persuade state legislators to approve a lottery.

Clements discussed the lottery in a private meeting with Jimmy Draper, pastor of First Baptist Church of Euless; Ed Young, pastor of Second Baptist Church in Houston; Harold O'Chester, pastor of Allandale Baptist Church in Austin; Gary McNeil, legislative assistant with the Texas Baptist Christian Life Commission; and Richard Freeman, pastor of First United Methodist Church of Waco and member of the Methodist Bishops' Task Force Against Legalized Gambling.

Also present in the meeting was Richard Land of Criswell College in Dallas, special assistant to the governor on moral issues and church/state concerns.

Throughout both the regular and special sessions of the Texas Legislature, Clements has maintained a position of official neutrality on the lottery. However, during the regular session he met privately with several legislators, trying to persuade them to vote for the measure. He assured the ministers on July 7 he would not do so again.

"The governor said he would not go to the legislature to ask for a lottery, nor would he personally ask legislators to vote in favor of the lottery," said Draper.

However, Clements did say that if the legislature approved a statewide referendum on the lottery, he would allow Texans the opportunity to vote on the matter.

"I tried to point out to Gov. Clements that the business of the state is too important to run by referendum," said Draper. "Just because an issue is controversial, that doesn't mean it automatically must be taken to the voters. To do so calls into question our whole system of state government."

"The governor evidenced to us that publicly he would be neutral on the lottery issue and that privately -- if it comes to a general vote -- he would vote against it," said Young. "He told us he thinks it is a poor way to fund government, and he understands that it's regressive taxation."

"I felt it was a very positive meeting," said O'Chester. "The governor said under no circumstances would he lobby the House for a lottery, and that's final. I believe the governor is a strong man and a man of his word."

"We are very pleased that the governor will not use his office to promote a lottery. We are deeply grateful for the even-handed treatment of this issue both by House Speaker Gib Lewis and Gov. Clements," McNeil said.

He noted commitment among legislators opposed to a lottery -- the self-proclaimed "Untouchables" -- remains strong in spite of a new proposal by lottery proponents to designate lottery revenue for public education.

"State Rep. David Hudson of Tyler has rightly called the proposal 'legislative bribery,' but the Untouchables will not be corrupted," said McNeil.

"Supporters of the lottery may believe that by designating funds for public schools they are sweetening the pot, but in fact they are souring the stew," he continued. "Dedicated funds are an albatross around the neck of state government, and most legislators realize that."

Sunday School Leaders  
Called 'Associate Pastors'

By Frank Wm. White

GLORIETA, N.M. (BP)--Sunday school leaders are associate pastors, Gary Young has emphasized to workers at First Southern Baptist Church in Phoenix, Ariz., and in the past year they have been called on to fulfill that role as never before.

Young talked about the role of Sunday school workers during a Sunday School Leadership Conference at Glorieta (N.M.) Baptist Conference Center where he was preacher for the week.

As a member of the Southern Baptist Convention Executive Committee, Young was named in September 1986 to chair a special committee to study the convention's relationship to the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs. The report of the group was adopted last month by the Executive Committee and messengers to the SBC annual meeting in St. Louis.

Young said the committee assignment took at least one full day each week. The 10 committee meetings each required at least three days. As chairman, Young had additional meetings related to the assignment.

"I had to rely on Sunday school workers to carry on the hospital ministry and other care ministries. I never visited half my members who were in the hospital in the past year. But they were visited and cared for," Young said.

When I was named chairman of the study committee, I asked the Sunday school workers for very special help," he continued. "I told them I needed to rely on my 120 associate pastors."

Young said it was gratifying to see Sunday school workers follow through in meeting the needs of people. "They learned that the Sunday school really is the church organized to carry out the work of Christ," he said.

Other staff members encountered the caring ministry of the Sunday school. When the wife of the church's minister of music gave birth prematurely, the couple's adult Sunday school class stepped in to help the family, Young explained.

Now that Young is back full-time with the church, he said he has no intention of taking back the responsibilities Sunday school workers have assumed: "I wouldn't dare take that away from them. There are so many other things I can be doing."

Young declined a second four-year term on the Executive Committee because he said he believes the church needs his attention now more than the convention does. Also, he said the week at Glorieta led him to a new commitment to reaching the community.

He described the Sunday school conference as "an eye-opener for me. Our minister of education has promoted it. Now I'm going to make Glorieta training a priority."

Young used the time at Glorieta to meet with other staff members and Sunday school leaders who also were attending the conference to plan implementation of some ideas and discuss additional ideas they picked up in conference sessions.

As preacher for the Sunday school conference, Young relied on nine basics of Sunday school growth listed by Harry Piland, director of the Sunday School Board's Sunday school department, in an introduction to "Growing and Winning through the Sunday School."

Young told conferees that Jesus had a ministry of touching lives and changing people. "If we are doing his ministry, the agenda of our Sunday schools needs to be touching lives and changing people also," he insisted.

Missouri Pastor, Wife Turn  
Spare Room Into Share Room

By Brenda J. Sanders

URBANA, Mo. (BP)--On Tuesday morning a car pulls up outside the home of an Urbana, Mo., preschooler. The child runs to the car and climbs inside. He's on his way to Mission Friends.

What makes this scene unusual is that the driver of the car is 78-year-old Clifton Long, pastor of Urbana's First Baptist Church. He and his 67-year-old wife, Florence, sponsor the Mission Friends group in their home every week.

A love of children and desire to tell them about Christ prompted the couple to begin a ministry to area youngsters about two years ago. Mission Friends, an age-level program designed by the Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union for preschoolers, seemed the perfect vehicle to reach children in the small community.

The day they began the program, only one little boy came; the next week three children came; and attendance blossomed from there. Today, an average of 12 children attend the meetings each Tuesday.

The Longs use a spare bedroom in their home for the meetings, since their church does not have appropriate space for the children to gather indoors and is located on a main street where it is not safe for them to play outdoors. Mrs. Long directs the program and has transformed their spare bedroom into a "Mission Friends room."

Scripture verses, posters, pictures and an attendance chart adorn the walls.

The Mission Friends make take-home items each week on the Longs' dining room table. They play games in the yard and have Bible learning activities.

Pastor Long provides transportation for children who need a ride to and from the meetings. The couple's daughter, Enid, also helps conduct the meetings.

All of the Mission Friends are children of unchurched couples living in Urbana, Mrs. Long said. She and her husband hope to reach out to the parents through the children.

So far, the parents of one little Mission Friend have begun attending the Urbana church. The Longs hope the couple will soon join the congregation and that other parents will follow their lead.

The Mission Friends sometimes have show-and-tell assemblies at First Baptist Church where they inform the congregation about their activities. Mrs. Long said the children's parents often attend these special services.

"It's been amazing how quickly the children learn and how interested they are in the program," she said. "It takes a lot of time and effort, but I love these little guys so much, it's just been a wonderful experience and very worthwhile for me!"

Guy Von Luven, director of missions for Dallas County Baptist Association where Urbana is located, said he appreciates the efforts of the Longs. "They launched this group with a vision for missions and evangelism," he said. "They've worked extra hard on building up the Mission Friends, and I think they can serve as an example for others."

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Chicago Missionary Educates  
Ministers/Volunteers On AIDS

By Sherri Brown

Baptist Press  
7/14/87

CHICAGO (BP)--"It's not dying with AIDS that's the problem, it's living with it," says Carol Reese, Christian social minister at Cook County Hospital in Chicago.

By 1991, 270,000 cases of acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) will have been recorded in the United States alone, according to a committee of the Institute of Medicine--National Academy of Sciences. Of those, 179,000 will have died.

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Given those startling statistics, Reese believes Southern Baptists will not be able to escape contact with the disease. But she's doing her part to educate fellow Southern Baptists how to minister to AIDS patients and their families.

Reese, a home missionary, works within the 16-building, 365-acre Cook County Hospital complex. The 1,531-bed hospital, one of the largest in the country, each year admits 37,000 patients, handles 244,000 emergencies and treats 340,000 patients in 97 specialty clinics.

Of more than 500,000 patients each year, half list "Baptist" as their faith.

Reese's volunteer chaplaincy program enlists and trains Southern Baptists in Chicago to visit and minister to patients. Recently, volunteers have been confronted with AIDS-afflicted patients.

Because of questions, many resulting from fear of the contagious disease, Reese developed two AIDS education programs for Chicago Baptists: one for hospital volunteers, the other for pastors.

"AIDS is scary," admits Reese. "It's not like other diseases: if you get it, you die.

"But visiting in the hospitals can be safe, with precautions," explains Reese. "Education can allay fear and help ministers be more effective in their work."

Much of this education can and should take place in the church, she says. Twenty Chicago pastors participated in her AIDS workshop to begin to educate themselves and their congregations.

Because of "bad experiences with church people wagging fingers at AIDS victims," Cook County AIDS patients have been isolated to pastoral care people. "I've taken the initiative with nurses and been able to work with some of the patients, but it's slow gaining their trust," says Reese.

To her volunteers, Reese stresses, "If you can't deal with being in the presence of people who may be homosexuals, don't try."

If volunteers are comfortable with AIDS patients, "OK. If they never get comfortable, that's OK, too," she says.

But she will continue her work because "homosexuals with AIDS need God's grace and forgiveness just like everybody else. We still have to preach the same message Jesus preached: God's steadfast love and grace and mercy."

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Korean Buddhist Convert  
Now Praxis Student

By Elaine Herrin Onley

Baptist Press  
7/14/87

ATLANTA (BP)--The first member of a Korean family to convert from Buddhism to Christianity is among 14 students serving in the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board's Praxis program.

Lybia Pyon and her brother, Joon, form a brother-sister team and work in the Roswell, Ga., Baptist association in discipleship ministry among English-speaking Korean-Americans.

"I want my life to be spent in helping Korean-Americans to know that there is much more beyond becoming Christian," Lybia explained.

The long road from Korea to America at age 16 and to a calling in Christian discipleship has not been an easy one for the 27-year-old Korean.

Lybia is the product of a "stern and loyal" Buddhist family in New York. "My father was a hard man -- and I mean a very loyal Buddhist. He was almost like a monk -- even more. He got up at 4 o'clock every morning for prayer and meditation, and on week-ends he spent eight hours in prayer to Buddha."

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The man was often cruel to his wife, Lybia related. "In fact, the way he abused my mother and treated us and his violent temper was why I went to live in the dormitory at the University of Maryland, even though it was only 40 minutes from home."

It was while a student at Maryland that Lybia accepted Christ: "I was at a revival meeting, and I gave my heart to Jesus Christ. Because of how my father treated us, I had prayed and prayed to Buddha to make things better, and it did not help. I had seen Christians and how much peace they had. I wanted that peace, too.

"Because of my happiness and peace, I invited my siblings to go to the revival with me. They too, became Christian." Then, there remained her mother and father to pray for, that they might find Christ.

The task was not easy. The Pyons owned two thriving businesses and were deeply involved in their native Buddhist religion and culture. They had built and financed a Buddhist temple in Korea. The children would not tell them of their conversion to Christianity. "We knew our father's temper," Lybia said, "and we were afraid. So we just prayed."

On Sunday afternoons Lybia and her sisters and brother would tell their parents that they were going to a movie or a play; then they would go to church. One day they invited their mother to "go to a play" with them. When they drove up to the Baptist church, she was shocked. But she went in to revival meeting with them.

"When my mother saw the peaceful glow on faces of the people, and the happiness that we had, she said that she wanted the same thing, too," Lybia recalled. At that meeting Mrs. Pyon gave her heart to Christ. And the family returned home to tell the head of the household of their new-found faith.

The anger and fury released by Mr. Pyon was "beyond words to describe. He even threatened to buy a pistol and shoot us," Lybia said. In his anger he deserted the family and began drinking more heavily than ever before; he eventually lost his businesses, and the family was bankrupt.

During the months of her father's absence, Lybia "prayed as never before" for her father. Every day -- many times a day -- she and the rest of the family prayed. Buddha had never answered her prayers -- and she believed that the God of her new faith would hear and answer.

One morning the household was awakened at 2 a.m. by someone knocking at the door. Frightened, they opened the door -- to find their father standing there. "A picture of Jesus was on our wall," Lybia recounted. "He went by us and fell on his knees weeping beneath the picture. He told us what had happened, and what had brought him home -- and that moment he prayed aloud, 'Father, God, I come to you now. Forgive me, and save me.'"

Lybia's father said he was having his morning meditation and worshipping, and suddenly his visions began. He was often having visions related to Buddha, but this time he saw Jesus Christ. "He saw Jesus first on the cross -- dying; he was very frightened, and said, 'Why? I am worshipping Buddha -- I do not worship Jesus.' Then he saw Jesus in a second vision -- in a flower. He cried out to Buddha to save him -- to help him. Then, two days later he saw another vision of Jesus." It was at that point that he left the apartment and walked home -- to a Christian family that had never stopped praying for him.

Today Lybia -- a gregarious, very "Americanized" woman -- is an active part of an even larger family: Southern Baptists. There are many Korean-American families residing in the metro-Atlanta area who are being ministered to this summer by Lybia and her brother.

Following what she believes to be a call to ministry of discipleship, Lybia sees a strong need for follow-up. She sees so many of her youth who become Christian and have so many problems that they soon become bored -- and they need someone to help them. A juvenile psychology major at the university, Lybia wants to use her academic background to work with Korean-American youth who need what she has to offer.

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(BP) photo available upon request from the office of public relations at the Georgia Baptist Convention.

Elaine Herrin Onley is associate public relations director for the Georgia Baptist Convention.

Baptist Missionary Couple  
Leaving Mark On Paraguay

By Eric Miller

ASUNCION, Paraguay (BP)--Baptists have said goodbye to a legend in Paraguay.

He's missionary William Skinner, who with his wife, Frances, worked 36 years bringing both physical and spiritual health to the people of the South American country. In July the missionary physician and his wife packed up a careerful of memories and left for their final furlough before retiring in Nashville, Tenn.

In Paraguay, the couple touched the lives of people in ways that go beyond normal medical care: flood victims to whom they carried food, medicine and the gospel; a boy healed after a deadly snake bite; and children who stopped getting hookworm when Skinner insisted their mothers put shoes on their feet.

There's a generation that can read and write because the Skinners found a forgotten community that had no school and started one. There are doctors, lawyers and businessmen who accepted Christ while in Sunday school classes taught by Mrs. Skinner.

And there are members of five strong churches the Skinners started.

Starting those churches was challenging. The Skinners went to city officials in one Catholic stronghold to ask permission to conduct an open-air church service, but the officials refused.

When Skinner persisted, he was told his life would be in danger if he conducted the service. But he refused to give up and finally got permission. The service drew a good crowd and there were no disturbances.

While handing out tracts door-to-door and inviting people to church, the Skinners sometimes encountered residents who tore up the tracts in their presence.

Some of the churches they started met under mango trees through hard rains and oven-like heat until they could afford a building.

After one congregation got a church building, the tin roof nearly caved in as non-Christians hurled a volley of rocks and bricks at the building during a service. The Skinners and congregation sang hymns louder and louder to drown out the noise until it stopped.

Sometimes, they broke away from their church planting work to help in disaster relief. Skinner even went to Honduras to give medical attention to hurricane victims.

When flood waters isolated a community on a hill in southern Paraguay, the Skinners loaded a boat with food and supplies and went to help. After distributing the supplies, they treated the flood victims for parasites, infections and malnourishment. Then they conducted Bible studies and handed out tracts to many who hungered spiritually.

Returning home after the flood, the Skinners stopped by a secular radio station, as requested by a town official. Skinner was ushered into a studio and given a microphone. As he finished explaining the flood relief work, the announcer broke in: "Now, Dr. Skinner will give us a spiritual message for today." He seized the opportunity.

Staying on the mission field for 36 years was trying at times -- especially when the Paraguayan government stripped Skinner of his right to practice medicine shortly after arriving on the field. But he attended medical school classes in Spanish and proved his competency by passing more than 30 examinations.

It was trying for Mrs. Skinner, who had a tendency toward homesickness. "I never got used to being separated from family and friends," she said. This separation occasionally intensified, such as the time Skinner got a long-distance call at the hospital in Asuncion. When he returned home, he was crying. His father had died of a heart attack.

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They had to miss the funeral because boat travel was the only way home. They also missed Mrs. Skinner's mother's funeral, a brother's funeral, their children's college graduations and a son's wedding.

As they moved closer to retirement, Skinner dreamed of finding a rural area lacking medical services and Baptist work where he and his wife could start a medical clinic.

They had raised four children, started four churches, Skinner had served as mission chairman, Mrs. Skinner had taught a Bible study and led weekly prayer meetings in Asuncion and he had served as chief of medical staff and chief of pediatrics at Baptist Hospital in Asuncion for 32 years. Still, the basics of missions work called them.

They found Guayaybi -- a dusty village lacking cars, indoor bathrooms, electricity, telephones and mail delivery -- and started their clinic.

News of the clinic spread beyond the village. People began walking and riding in horse-drawn wagons for two hours -- passing secular doctors and herb healers -- to see Skinner at the clinic. They handled 6,500 patient visits in two years, giving away medicine, tracts, Bibles and eyeglasses.

Some patients told Skinner they felt he had performed a miracle in healing them. Others said "that just coming and talking to me, they have felt like they were well before they even started taking the medicines," he said.

When Skinner removed hardened wax from the ears of a woman who "couldn't hear a thing," she regained her hearing ability, Mrs. Skinner said. The expressions of other patients at the clinic said in unison, "He heals the deaf."

If a patient at the clinic had family problems or personal problems, Skinner took time to counsel the patient. Mrs. Skinner coached mothers on child rearing and nutrition.

Patients lingered at the clinic past dark on Thursdays for a church service. Skinner preached and Mrs. Skinner, playing a harpsichord, led the congregation in hymns. In May, this congregation, which originated from the clinic, organized into a church and broke ground to construct a church building.

The idea for a medical clinic came to Skinner as he used his Sundays off from the hospital to travel about in rural areas to treat the sick. He regularly visited the small village of Walter Insfran, about 70 miles from Asuncion. He drove as far as he could on a dirt road. Then he traveled the last six miles on foot or horseback.

A villager usually waited with a horse to help him finish the last six miles. One especially hot day other doctors advised Skinner to postpone the trip until a cooler day. "No one will meet you at the road," they said. "It's too hot today for a horse to walk that far."

Nevertheless, he went. No one was waiting for him at the end of the dirt road, but Skinner put his medical supplies on his shoulder and walked the six miles to the village.

The people were happy to see him and yet amazed that he had made the trip. He treated many sick people that day and then preached about God's love for them.

"I want to cry," said Victor Gimenez about the Skinners' retirement. "There is going to be a big empty space; there is going to be a big hole because the Skinners have given all of their life here."

Gimenez, 34, is pastor of a church the Skinners started. Skinner, who also is Gimenez's mentor, encouraged him to serve as pastor and worked with him, training him in pastoral duties and aiding him financially in seminary.

"There won't be another like Dr. Skinner who does lots of good things," says Rosalino Navarro, whom Skinner led to Christ at the clinic. "You can see in Dr. Skinner the love of God."

"Dr. Skinner is a legend here," Gimenez says.

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(BP) photos mailed to state Baptist newspapers by Richmond bureau of Baptist Press

Dream Comes True  
For Missionaries

By Eric Miller

GUAYAYBI, Paraguay (BP)--A reddish trail of dust followed the white car of Southern Baptist missionaries William and Frances Skinner as they arrived at their medical clinic.

Bill, a doctor, and Fran, his assistant, had dreamed of having a medical clinic in operation before they returned to the United States to retire in late 1987. They started the clinic two years ago in Guayaybi -- a South American village that lacks electricity, telephones, mail delivery, paved roads, cars and indoor bathrooms.

This time, horses grazed by a wooden wagon in the clinic's front yard as the Skinners carried a three-day supply of food into a frame house next door. The wagon provided transportation for six patients who rode two hours on bumpy, dusty roads to get to the clinic.

The Skinners ate a quick lunch as patients arrived on foot. Soon 28 adults and children filled up the benches in the shade outside the clinic. They could afford to buy only one shirt and pair of pants per year, and they were wearing their best to see the doctor.

Skinner saw patients on Thursday afternoon and Friday. He has seen as many as 150 during that time.

Looking through a screen window, Mrs. Skinner called the patients one by one. A mother held a baby while sitting beside Mrs. Skinner, whose hands hovered over a typewriter, typing another entry for the Skinners' files on 3,300 patients.

Two years earlier, the clinic opened in a one-room building beside a dirt road. Trucks carrying logs and cotton kicked up reddish dust that seeped into the clinic and caused the Skinners to cough.

One day that first year the temperature was 106 degrees Fahrenheit inside the clinic, but the Skinners -- drenched with sweat -- kept seeing patients and giving vaccinations. Whenever it rained, they had to sleep with plastic on the bed and umbrellas over their heads because the roof leaked in so many places.

Then in 1986 a Southern Baptist couple in the United States donated money to build a six-room brick clinic in Guayaybi, making the Skinners' dream more permanent. The new clinic has a check-in room, a laboratory, a bathroom, two examination rooms and a waiting room large enough for a small church service.

During one of their last visits to the clinic, Skinner sat at a small table in an examination room and checked a little boy with hookworms. The mother was surprised when he said this could be prevented if she would have the boy wear shoes. She was even more surprised when he warned that he wouldn't give them any more medicine if the boy got hookworms again because she had failed to put shoes on his feet.

The doctor smiled and handed her two tracts and free medicine inside a bag that says, "Baptist Center, Guayaybi. These medicines were donated by the Baptists for the love of Jesus."

Mrs. Skinner shared advice on child-rearing with young mothers in the check-in room while Southern Baptist missionary Pam Donaldson, a public health worker, weighed patients and checked their blood pressure. Donaldson, the Skinners' replacement, has been assigned to promote health at the clinic but not treat serious illnesses.

Later Mrs. Skinner opened a box of used eyeglasses donated by Southern Baptists, and patients tried out different pairs. A man settled for an old pair of women's glasses because the prescription was right for his vision.

These people borrowed Christian books through a portable library that the Skinners took to the clinic each week during their two years in Guayaybi. Some, for the first time, have built outdoor bathrooms, based on pamphlets from the Skinners. They've learned about health and Christ through films at the clinic and about vegetables they can grow and eat. The Skinners provided them with seeds.

Shortly after the clinic opened, a group of worshippers started attending Thursday night services led by the Skinners. Sunday school is in a barn, with attendance averaging 55. The group organized into a church in May, and with pledged labor and material, it is constructing a building.

On a recent Sunday morning, about 75 people gathered on a creek bank with the Skinners. A national pastor baptized three girls, a boy and a man. It was the fruit of the fifth church started by the Skinners during their 36 years on the mission field.

A church grew out of a medical clinic and a clinic grew out of a missionary doctor's dream. It has made all the difference in this dusty village.

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Stetson Grad Wins  
U.N. Peace Award

Baptist Press  
7/14/87

DELAND, Fla. (BP)--Darcy Haag, a May graduate of Stetson University, has been presented the United Nations Peace Medal "for work to promote international peace through understanding."

The peace medal was presented by the United Nations Association of the United States in June, based on Haag's work with Model U.N. programs while a student at Stetson, a Florida Baptist school. She became involved in the Secretaries' General Conference for Model United Nations at the U.N. building in New York.

Haag was selected as a "woman of promise" in the nation wide search for the top 100 women of the class of 1987, sponsored by Good Housekeeping magazine. The article appears in the July 1987 issue.

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