

Bayanihan Notes

A quarterly Newsletter of George and Wanda Holcombe
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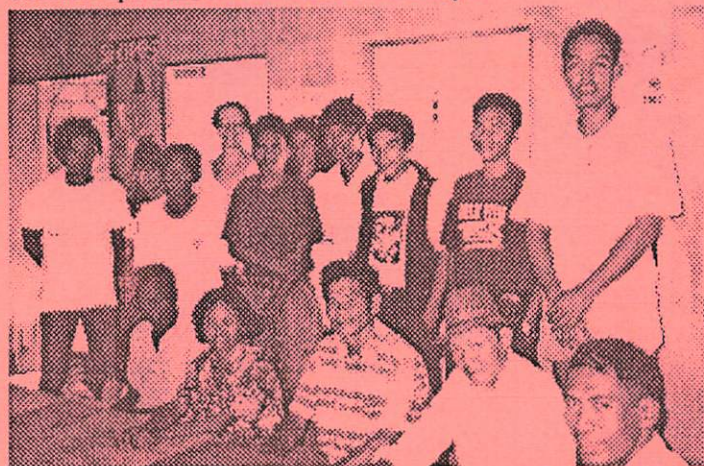
Some Good News From the Philippines

These first 3 months of '97 has been the Quarter of Things Coming to Pass. After a long time of planning the Consult Training with the Aetas people, it was held in January. We became the proud grandparents of Katherine Grace Czap and the Computers donated by Custer Road UMC for Wesleyan University all arrived in February. The grant from ICA Japan was successfully concluded then too, and the first graduation of Wesley Divinity School was held in March. We were honored to host a VIM (Volunteers in Mission) team from the San Francisco area, as well as guests from Europe and other parts of Asia.



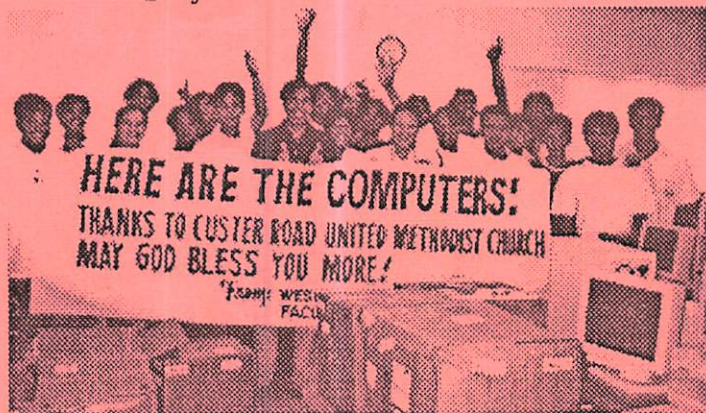
We're now gearing up for the commencement exercises at Wesleyan University, April 19, in which President Fidel Ramos will be the speaker. Wanda is busy following up with the village work, putting together a fresh batch of proposals for funding village projects. Besides preaching here and there and helping out at the University chapel, George is consulting with the computer committee at Wesleyan University to complete its upgrading of computers and hopefully the beginning of an Internet Connection for the University next semester (starts in June). He is also working with the faculty of Wesley Divinity School and some scholars scattered across the world via Email on a new curriculum for the seminary. All of these things have served to remind us of our Global connectiveness and interdependency and the transparency of the church's care for all. There are so many great stories to tell for which we do not have room, so these few photos and blurbs will have to do for now. *George and Wanda*

wanted to help Wesleyan University have more computers. When she started her impossible campaign Wesleyan had a ratio of over 60 'students to a computer, but that's not accurate because a third of the computers didn't work and half the others could not run today's software. She sparked The great Computer Giveaway, and she and her Sunday School class gathered up computers, printers and software and the money to transport them to the school for free from the generosity of church people in the Dallas area. Besides the gift, the students and faculty have been impacted that someone cares about them and their efforts to learn information technology. There's a different spirit around the school these days.



The Village People of Kalangitan and Wanda

These representatives from Kalangitan, a village outside Capas, Tarlac, brought a proposal for starting Banana and Papaya raising along with a water system to the District meeting of Tribal Minorities held in Sto. Juliano in March. The people are a mixture of Aeta and lowlanders, but all victims of resettlement caused by the eruption of Mt. Pinatubo. Following the consult process in January they have worked to implement a comprehensive plan for the development of their people. They want to stand on their own and are looking for loans to get started. The Methodist Commission on Resource Development is assisting them move forward. "Kalangitan" in Filipino means heaven.

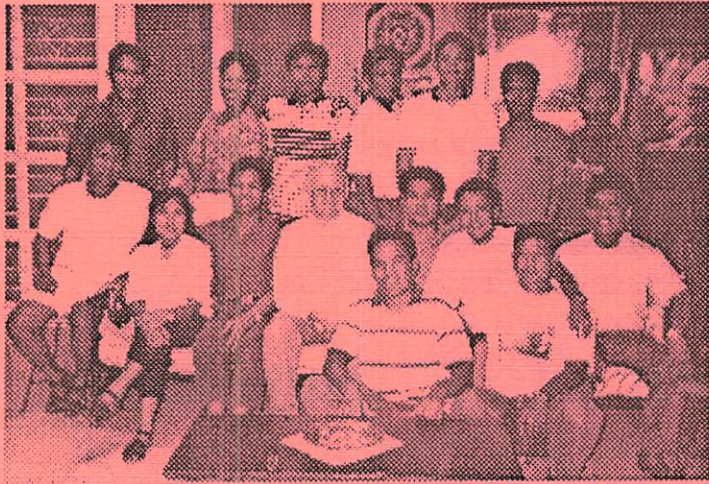


Here are the Computers

Wesleyan students celebrate the arrival of computers from the U.S. Lynda Geurrera, a lay person at Custer Road UMC in Plano, Texas,

Volunteers in Mission and Special Volunteers -

We have a number of particular tasks using computer, management, agricultural, medical and business expertise. Given notice we can develop a productive schedule for teams or individuals. Write us or Email us at the addresses listed on the front.



The Senior Class of Wesley Divinity School and George
 We had a fun evening hosting the graduating seniors of WDS one week before commencement. George had led them in their Credo writing class the last semester. In June they will be assigned to churches across the Philippines.



A Corporate Writing of Proposals

Some of the Aetas from Kalangitan and pastors and laity from across Luzon came together for a day of writing proposals for their village projects. MCRD is sharing methods of proposal writing and assisting them to get their proposal before the right agency or foundation. In this way they can truly become independent and develop their communities.



Linda Torrente Lectures on Swine Raising
 Ms. Torrente is a member of Sta. Maria, the first

Baragay to have a consult ('86). Recently she came and helped train Barangay people in Pampanga and Tarlac who are just beginning Swine raising projects. Sta. Maria has put up a very successful Swine project. This is a great example of village people helping village people.

Some Ways to Participate in this Mission

A. Advance Specials:

- 1. **Program Monies:** Advance Special: Training Facilitators in the Consult Process, Manila #011231-3RA
- 2. **MCRD Vehicle:** 012400-3HS for 4wheel drive vehicle.

B. Non-Methodists can send their donations to the Methodist Commission on Resource Development -Holcombe to the address on the front and designate how to be used.

A Salute to our Covenant Relation Churches -
 Congregations that contribute to our support, 1997

- Allen UMC, Allen, TX
- Arapaho UMC, Dallas, TX
- Broadmoor UMC of Shreveport, LA
- Button Memorial UMC, Little Elm, TX
- Custer Road UMC, Plano, TX
- Faith UMC, Plano, TX
- First UMC, Dallas, TX
- John Wesley UMC of Houston, TX
- Riverside UMC, Houston, TX
- Southeast Cooperative Parish, Dallas, TX
- University Temple UMC, Seattle, WA
- Vista Ridge UMC, Dallas, TX

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