

KAREN CHRISTIAN LEADER' S NEWSLETTER

Volume 1, Number 12. November 2009

Duane Binkley: dmbink@pobox.com, Aye Aye Thaw:

ayeayethaw@hotmail.com, Neil Sowards: neildianasowards@juno.com

First Anniversary: This month Duane, Neil and Aye Aye have now published 12 issues of this Karen Christian Leader's Newsletter. We feel it is time to vote on whether it is helpful and should be continued or is it a waste of time and our efforts should be used elsewhere. So, please let us know if you think it should be continued. If you don't think it should be continued, tell us that as well.

Update on Duane's Health: On Monday, November 16th, Duane had a surgery at the Cleveland Clinic. The operation lasted about seven hours. The doctor reported that it went well and Duane had no unforeseen complications during the procedure. The gall bladder was quite inflamed and full of gall stones, so it was removed. The area of concern in the pancreas that was constricting the bile duct was also examined. The "head" of the pancreas was removed and sent to be tested. So, on Sat. November 21st, Duane's doctor reported that the biopsy results were NEGATIVE for cancer. Praise God! We are so very grateful and relieved for this answer to prayer. Thanks so much for praying with us! We would appreciate your continued prayers for Duane as the recovery process will be long and difficult. The doctor did not say when Duane might be able to go home. In spite of all the tubes and pain, Duane has been getting out of bed and walking each day. He is trying to keep a positive attitude through it all. At the Thanksgiving Holiday, our family has a special reason to be very thankful this year--that Duane's biopsy results showed no evidence of cancer! We also hope that you all had a Happy Thanksgiving as you gathered with family and friends to reflect upon the many blessings that God has provided in your own lives over the past year. We appreciate so much your thoughts and prayers for Duane as well as the many cards and letters of well wishes and encouragement that we have been receiving from so many of you. It has given us peace and strength knowing that we are in God's loving hands and that we do not have to walk through the "valleys" alone.

Health Materials in Karen: Thanks to a grant from the National Network of Libraries of Medicine to a collaborative team from New York (**Edward G. Miner Library, University of Rochester and Rochester Committee on Refugee Resettlement**), [Healthy Roads Media](#) has been able to partner to create a number of [new materials in Karen](#). The materials are free, in multiple formats and can be downloaded. Karen-language materials currently available include documents related to diabetes, pain, calling 911, medical emergencies, the emergency room, and taking medication. Healthy Roads Media also has materials in 19 other languages.

Rothang Chhante is Liaison for Burmese Refugees of National Ministries. Her quarterly report and Thanksgiving letter is available from Florence Li at: Florence.Li@abc-usa.org

Children's Book: A book entitled Games Played in Mae La Refugee Camp is now ready for printing. It is written in both English and Karen and was illustrated in color by a 13 year old Karen boy from the camps. The author intended the book to help Karen's maintain their knowledge of the Karen language and to be proud of the games they developed in the camp. It is 29 pages long and has colored illustrations. If it is printed with a soft cover and staple binding, it can be sold for \$5.00 each. The author would like to know how many he should print. So we need to know how many copies each of you think your congregation would buy to get an idea of how many copies should be printed.

Karen-English Hymnal Project: Leland Bryant Ross at Freemont Baptist Church in Seattle, WA. is asking for help to publish a bi-lingual Karen-English Hymnal in celebration of the upcoming Judson Bicentennial anniversary of his arrival in Burma in 1813. So, the goal would be to have the Hymnal completed by 2013. If anyone is interested in learning more about this special project, you may contact Leland at: leland@freemontbaptistchurch.org

Feedback: If this newsletter is interesting and helpful to you, please let us know. Also send us any information to share with other Karen groups. Tell us what you would like to see in the next issues. Give us e-mails of leaders who might like to receive it--our list is very incomplete. This e-mailing is being sent to 288 leaders of Karens.

Past Issues of this newsletter are available on: karenkonnection.org