



# WORLD'S CHRISTIAN ENDEAVOR NEWS

November 2008

"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me" – Philippians 4:13.

Dear Members of the Worldwide Christian Endeavour Family,

It is very comforting to reflect on the verse of scripture above and recognize that after 127 years, there is still something of tremendous value in the "Principles of Christian Endeavour" as established by our Founder, the Rev. Dr. Francis Clark. That something of value is the consistent and continual sharing of stories, experiences and our being living examples of what the next generations can learn and benefit from. Such a privilege and responsibility should be proudly worn as a badge of honor as we share the reasons why our churches need Christian Endeavour. Therefore we are to teach our children the stories of God's love for us. And some day, they will thank God for these memories and perpetuate them "for Christ and the Church".

*Oswell M. "Sonny" Rankine, Vice-President for the Americas and the Caribbean*

## News from the WCEU

### Board Meeting

Sept. 18<sup>th</sup> - 21<sup>st</sup> the WCEU Board of Trustees, the Nominating Com., the Finance Com. and the Convention Program Committee met in Northern Ireland.

The board received reports from various areas of the world which gave a mixed picture about CE around the world. There were encouraging news and reports about stagnating unions.

It was agreed that the office of the WCEU's General Secretary will be moved to Kassel, Germany, next spring. However the World's Union continues to be an American Incorporation as in the past.

The plan to publish a book about Christian Endeavor basics from a worldwide perspective and written by authors from various cultures was accepted.

### CE Day 2009

February, 2<sup>nd</sup>, the day when the first CE society was founded, is observed by many Endeavourers as CE day. It is a day to thank God for the movement, to remember the blessings in the past but also to refocus on the goals of CE. In some places Endeavourers come together for a day of prayer. It is an ideal time to inform the Endeavourers about the WCEU. CE day could be the date to collect an offering for the work of the WCEU. We encourage the Unions to use the "Each one (CE-

member) give one (of your resp. currency)" idea for collecting a contribution to the WCEU.

### Board Elections 2010

The Chairman of the 2010 Nominating Committee, Harry Wedekind from The Netherlands, has sent Suggestion forms for the 2010-14 Board of Trustees to all Presidents and Secretaries of the National Unions. Being a teacher he could avail the service of 33 Secretary-trainees to do the mailing. Never ever WCEU had that much staff.

### World's Convention 2010

There is a proposal to have an exhibition of material and programs of the National Unions. Plan already now what you would like to contribute.

## News from National Unions Africa

### CE Leaders Meeting

CE Leaders from Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Niger, Nigeria, and The Gambia met in Accra, Ghana, from October 15<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup>. It was a time of encouraging fellowship with profound bible studies, reports from the Unions and lively discussions about the future of CE in West Africa. The meeting revealed the leaders enthusiasm for CE but also a need for better training. The WCEU was requested to produce a CE manual as a guideline for local leaders. The Senegalese

Endeavourers are ready to translate the manual into French. In the coming year a seminar for active and potential CE leaders on practical CE work is planned. To allow more people to attend it will be held twice, one in the Eastern and one in the Western region of West Africa.

### The Gambia and Senegal

A. Rudolph visited the CE Unions in these two West African states after the meeting in Ghana. In Senegal a group of interested pastors came together to hear about Christian Endeavor.

In Gambia he could meet the Executive board of the union and speak at a youth rally with well over 100 young Endeavorers.

## Americas and Caribbean

### Guyana

Sheila Yaw-Fraser, VP of the CE Union Guyana reported they had celebrated their 64th anniversary on September 28, 2008. It was a great afternoon.

### United States

Mid-Atlantic CE, formerly known as Pennsylvania.CE, announced its 2009 workcamps. ([info@theworkcamppeople.org](mailto:info@theworkcamppeople.org))

## Asia

### India

The prosecution by Hindu extremists is still threatening Christians in Orissa and some

other places in India. Your prayers and intercessions are still requested. Our Sisters and brothers are grateful for your support.

The National Association of Asian Indian Christians in the USA organized in front of the UN building in New York on October 11<sup>th</sup> an Interfaith Demonstration Rally to protest against the violation of human rights in India. Five CE boys from the South Tip of India (Kanyakumari Dist.) plan a bicycle tour to New Delhi (3000 kms in 30 days) to create awareness against militancy and for communal harmony.

Sept 28<sup>th</sup> the South India CE Union gathered in the Ramavarmapuram C.S.I. Church to celebrate 125 years CE in India.

#### Lebanon

CE (Chanitz) of the Armenian Evangelical Emmanuel Church, Beirut, reports about church and CE activities in their blog [emmanuelchanitz@yahoo.com](mailto:emmanuelchanitz@yahoo.com).

Many summer activities of their senior and junior CE are held in their 'Kchag camp', the beautiful CE-campsite in the mountains above Beirut. Many Endeavourers connect important spiritual experiences with this place.

#### Japan

The 2008 Convention of the Japanese CE Union (JCEU) (<http://www.jceu.agape.gr.jp/>)



was held from August 25<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> in Oshino village, at the foot of Mt. Fuji. Rev. Atsuo Jinnouchi, chairman of JCEU, spoke about "Christ—our only hope".

#### Korea

Trustee Ko Tong-un from Korea reported about the 83<sup>rd</sup> Summer leadership competition, held at

Hyundai Hotel, Kyoung-ju on 11 Aug. 2008. 427 participants were challenged and pledged to devote their life to God in order to become responsible future leaders of the Korean church and society. Speakers included Eui-soong Cheae, president of Dae-woo Company, who attributed his success in life to prayer and following the bible.

June 3<sup>rd</sup> 2008 Sang-bok Lee, President of KCEU, inaugurated an orphanage in Kang Tung, Myanmar. The building costs about \$ 50 000, a gift from the Korean CE and includes a hall for worship to serve the local mission church. Korean missionaries care since 2004 for children orphaned by the civil war and now by the cyclone.

#### Myanmar (Burma)



This is the pick-up bought last September for the use of the Karen Baptist CE Union in Myanmar; especially to help the villagers who suffered from the cyclone in May. Donors from the USA, Germany and Australia collected the funds for the car, which were transferred by the WCEU.

The letter of gratitude reads: *"We, now, have already bought and the kind of vehicle is TOYOTA HILUX (84 model) - and is pretty good in engine and bodily materials. It is, even though not a brand new, great and very fix to our context in this country. ... We are, now, start using it for the office works and the other social affairs. Please pass on our gratitude to our colleagues in*

*Christ who have shared their passion to us.*

*With great thanks, Yours sincere, Moo Ler, Director KBCDYW"*

#### Europe ([www.cceurope.eu](http://www.cceurope.eu))



#### Ireland

The WCEU Board of Trustees and the Finance

Committee met from Sept 17<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> in Northern Ireland in conjunction with the 94<sup>th</sup> Irish National Christian Endeavour Convention. The Convention speaker Rev. Dr. Paul Blackham spoke on the theme, "Work in Progress", based on Romans 12. Mrs. Carole Dillon was installed on the Saturday night as Irish CE President for the year 2008-2009.

The World's CE President, the Rev. Faataape Lavata'i brought greetings on behalf of the World's CE Union.

The Irish CE Union presented its new logo along with their new website: [www.ceireland.org](http://www.ceireland.org)

At an informal gathering of Irish CE Council members and Convention Committee on Sunday night the World's CE President was presented with a plaque from the City of Belfast by the Irish Union President Mrs Carole Dillon *Margaret Houston, PR officer Ir.CE Union*

#### Germany

„Zerrissen zwischen Himmel und Erde“- (Torn between Heaven and Earth) - was the theme for the Youth Congress 'Echt 2008' in Baunatal near Kassel (Sept. 26<sup>th</sup> - 28<sup>th</sup>). It dealt with the discrepancy in a Christian's life, being citizen of the kingdom of heaven but still walking the earthly soil. About 400 young adults heard a lot to think about – and to practice at home.

Participating were also 8 students from India. They are in a sponsorship program of the Social Missionary Service of the German Youth Federation for CE.

## CE people

\* WCEU Honorary President for life, Rev. **Jim Murdoch** (93) from Scotland celebrated with his wife Betty their 64<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on Sept. 22<sup>nd</sup> 2008.

\* Saw **Eh Keller**, Ass. Secretary of the Karen Baptist CE Union in Myanmar married Naw Eh Mwee Eh Poh on 8<sup>th</sup> November 2008.

\* **Virginia McCoy**, President of the Cayman Island CE Union passed away Sept. 14<sup>th</sup>, 2008.

## Who is ... ?

Here you will find brief information about the officers and trustees of the WCEU. You should know who is behind the names. In this issue:

### Oswell "Sonny" Rankine

WCEU Vice-President for the Americas and the Caribbean



Born in 1946 in East End, Grand Cayman, Cayman Islands, he became involved with CE through his family members who worshipped at the local Presbyterian Church where several members held positions within the Society.

He grew and matured in the equivalent of the Junior CE Society and held various positions prior to becoming more active in the young adult society in his late

teens. He has represented his Society and Union at local and international events and was elected WCEU Vice-President 1994.

An Educator by profession, he spent about thirty years in the Cayman Islands Civil Service. During this period, he served in the Choir, as Sunday School Teacher, was an Elder in his Church for two terms and Chairman of several Church committees; District Leader and eventually Chief Commissioner for the local Scout Association, and was actively involved in other community, social and political organizations.

## CE-Volunteers

England, Germany, India, Latvia, Lithuania, Mexico, Romania and USA are countries, where CE-volunteers can find a placement. The WCEU office will have a volunteer for 3 months next year (provided the visa is granted).

For all who are interested in the **WCEU International Exchange Program for Volunteers** write to: [thomas.kroeck@ec-jugend.de](mailto:thomas.kroeck@ec-jugend.de) .

A volunteer in these program is usually expected to pay for his travel and health insurance and will get free customary accommodation, food and maybe a pocket money from the hosting institution.

## Finances

We thank God who provided the necessary funds for our operations. After a "fat" surplus in 2007 we had to transfer this year some funds from our capital to keep up liquidity. Fortunately it was just before the value of the WCEU portfolio went down almost 50% because of the crashing stock markets. As we pursue the goal to cover current expenses with income through current donations we do thank all who contributed to our funds.

## Pray for ...

\* the matters you just read about

\* Christians in India, Middle East, Central Asia who suffer persecution

\* young Christians in Western countries not to get lost in the abundance of opportunities and material wealth

\* those who are leading national CE unions and the WCEU that they make sound decisions in obedience to our Lord

\* the political situation in countries like Zimbabwe

\* unity in Christ's church and among Endeavourers, humility and readiness to forgive each other

\* for the conventions and meetings mentioned below

\* and do not forget to praise God for all his blessings given also through Christian Endeavor.

## Next Board Meetings,

### Conventions . . .

Please notify your events to the WCEU if you want them to be listed here.

2008

Nov. - CE Convention on Renell Island, Solomon Islands

2009

Jan. 18<sup>th</sup>: Induction of the new Australian CE President Justin Gilfillan

April, 17<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup>: Meeting of the Executive Committee in Liberty Corner, NJ, USA

July, 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup>: English Union Conv. in Conway and Rhos-on-Sea

July 29<sup>th</sup> to Aug. 2<sup>nd</sup>: 8<sup>th</sup> National Fellowship, UNSEC, Mexico

July, 29<sup>th</sup> - Aug. 3<sup>rd</sup>: Convencion Nacional UNDEC, Arequipa, Peru

August 25<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup>: Convention of the Japanese CE Union in Higashi-Izu, Shizuoka Prefecture

Sept. 18<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup>: Irish CE Union Conv. in Belfast; Theme: "Building Foundations"

2010

July 11<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup>: World's CE Convention in Lancaster, PA, U.S.A.

PLEASE DISTRIBUTE TO ANYBODY WHO MIGHT BE INTERESTED, AS THE WCEU DOES NOT HAVE ACCESS TO ALL ENDEAVORERS

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