

*Lowell & Claudia Wertz
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July 2017

Dear Friends,

The afternoon sun blasts heat into our house as it makes its journey over Lake Tanganyika – setting about 7PM. From about 3 o'clock, the fierce tropical sun cooks the western side of our house, heating its blocks and turning the house into an oven. We tried painting the outside wall white, hoping to reflect the heat away. That didn't help.

With many visitors coming this summer, and our living room and dining room unusable until sunset, we decided we had to do something. We could not plant trees for shade because of our retaining wall. The roots would cause havoc.

We decided to put up a patio cover. Pipes were purchased, boards ordered, and truckloads of dried grass arrived. Welders went to work making brackets on the pipes to hold boards. Laborers dug holes and poured concrete to hold the pipes in place. Carpenters attached the boards and then they were painted brown. The grass was bundled into thirteen foot long bundles, each six inches in diameter. Finally the bundles were tied into place, leaving gaps, so some light would still get through. In three days it was done.

I designed this thing but wasn't sure it would work. It would cut the sunshine in half, but would it leave enough light through to keep the inside of the house from being dark? The trick was getting the balance right. Enough light but not too much heat. It also had to be practical and affordable using local materials. Surprisingly, it worked great and the house is cooler and still bright.

Balance in our lives is key. A doctor shared the story with me of a patient who was receiving an IV. When the medical people left the room, the family saw the slow 'drip drip' of the IV, and turned it to drip faster. If a little is good, more should be better. The patient died. The tightrope walker has balance ever on his mind. Just as unbalanced tires on a car cause the vehicle to be unsafe, the imbalances in our lives are potential dangerous.

Jesus calls us to balance in our personhood. It is said He was the most balanced person to ever live. We see that balance in His teachings, in the example He set with His life, and in His values. We need Jesus' balance in our life's circumstances, in our relationships, and before God. We get that balance from the Word of God and the will of God. Our Savior, our Prince of Peace wants to bring God's balance into our lives. The result is a stable, principled, and joy filled life.

Love,

Lowell + Claudia



Joy in the Harvest[®]



TWR SATELLITE TECHNOLOGY TRAINING

Radio JOY Hosts Satellite Event!

“The gospel is only good news if it gets there in time”

Carl F. H. Henry
1913-2003
Evangelical theologian,
founding editor of
Christianity Today

Radio JOY was asked by Trans World Radio (TWR), the largest Christian media organization in the world, to host a training event. We have been preparing for six months.

Two Canadian trainers took the lead, along with the TWR East

Africa representative. Radio JOY provided facilities and logistic support. We also procured satellite receiving systems for each delegate to receive as a gift from TWR. This included a four foot dish, receiver, and cable.

Twelve delegates, each representing an FM broadcast station, came from three African countries. Many traveled by bus for days to get to Kigoma.

The delegates received training on satellite technology and the specifics of TWR satellite service. Each delegate received practice setting up their earth receiving station so their radio station could access TWR programming.

The training event ended with a prayer and praise service led by Lowell. It was a great event! ☩

CHECKLIST

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Finances Doing Better!

We haven't had any red ink so far this year. God bless all of you making this work possible!



WORKERS FOR THE HARVEST

We were so pleased to have two Canadian guests come and run the satellite training seminar. Terry Rohrke and Kim Lockhart are now our new friends.

Terry is an engineer and has worked in the satellite industry for many years. He has a heart for seeing people come to know the Lord and has taught several



Kim Lockhart (left), Lowell (middle) and Terry Rohrke (right).

satellite training events all over the world for Trans World Radio (TWR). He has done this in five countries. He is also a pilot. Kim is a member of Terry's church. This is his first mission trip, but not his first trip to Africa. He is an avid hunter and fisherman and had been to Africa four times before.

They brought a hundred pounds of great gifts for children. ☩



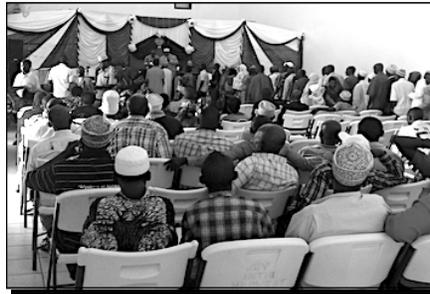
JOY News!

Cortisone

As time goes by, arthritis is becoming a fact of life. Claudia got three shots of cortisone in her big toe, one in her knee, and one in her shoulder. She was so impressed by the results that she got an appointment for me and I got a shot of cortisone in my back. That stuff is wonderful! We might be making cortisone runs to South Africa every once in a while.



Radio JOY Gives Radios to Government Officials



The push to get everyone listening to the area's only local (and Christian) radio station continues. We presented a solar powered fixed frequency radio to all of the lower level government officials in the area. Over two hundred government officials came. The District Commissioner of Kigoma handed out the radios.

Mom Wiesner

After twenty years of spending the winter months in Kigoma with us, at 89 years old, Mom is no longer strong enough to make the trip. Claudia spent last winter with Mom in Oregon IL. I missed having both of them in Kigoma for that time.



Mom Wiesner with great granddaughter Eva Harrison in Oregon IL



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

Who Won the Soccer Tournament?

Q. Who won the soccer tournament this year?
asked by Steve Moga

A. Every year JOY runs a local soccer tournament. The two main purposes are HIV/AIDS prevention and to memorialize Dr. David Livingstone — Kigoma's first missionary.

This year the organizing of the



First place prize.

tournament fell completely to Mr. Mwenge, as I was in America.

Imagine my surprise when I got off the airplane and learned they had waited to hold the championship game for my arrival! With only two hours of sleep the night before, I went to the game. All I can remember is some team won, and the first place prize was a cow. I think the score was 3 to 1.

The winner was (I checked) the Free Pentecostal Church of Tanzania Kagongo Football Club. ☩

"The people walking in darkness have seen a great light... they rejoice before you as people rejoice at the harvest." Isaiah 9:2,3