

I.C.P.C. AUXILIARY NEWSLETTER

SPRING 2014

APRIL 2014

Growing Better Together

Special Points of Interest:

- *President's Letter*
- *Auxiliary Activities - Columbia*
- *Auxiliary Song from Grapevine—Police Hymn*

ATS 2014

Columbia, South Carolina

July 14-18 — Columbia Marriott

Spouse Excursions

The host committee has worked very diligently to come up with some fun activities for the Auxiliary while we are in Columbia. Below is a list of the daily activities—away from the site.

Lake Murray Luncheon Cruise
(Tue, 11:00-3:30) \$20**

SC State Museum
(Wed, 9:30-11:00) \$5**

Kensington Mansion Tour
(Thu, 12:00-2:30) \$5**

****Pay at Auxiliary Registration table upon arrival.**

See <http://www.icpc2014ats.org/> for more information on Spouses Excursions

Youth Events (K-12 ONLY)

Along with the registration fee, there is a \$50 charge for each child participating in the activities.

This fee will be collected when you sign in at the Auxiliary table .

There is also information on the website. See <http://www.icpc2014ats.org/> for more information on Children's Program.



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Checklist for Columbia

Bring something for the Silent Auction

Determine to make at least one new friend

Be prepared to share what has been going on in your life for the last year

Pack your walking shoes

Bring along your sunglasses

Might want a swimsuit

Get some photos on your camera for memories

Africa Update

I am writing to you on Holy Saturday from Malawi, a land-locked country in southeast Africa, about the size of Pennsylvania with a population of 17 million people.

My husband Blair and I have been here since the beginning of January; we were here for a similar time frame in 2013. Blair is an Anglican priest, as well as a Police Chaplain, and he has been working with the Police Chaplains of the Malawi Police and also at a parish. I am working with financial cooperatives, assisting them with finance and risk management and implementation of new regulations. Here I am Mayi Abusa (pastor's wife), which certainly gets me much more respect than it does at home!

A week ago, we travelled with the chaplains to a number of remote police posts in the north of the country. Fuel is very expensive here and so the chaplains had not been able to visit them for years. We were able to make the visits possible and were blessed to be part of the gatherings.

As Anglican Christians, we spent Good Friday participating in the Way of the Cross liturgies. We left home at 6:30 am and returned at 4:30 pm, having walked several kilometers in the hot African sun, stopping to kneel in the dirt and rocks for each of the fourteen stations of the cross. There are no breaks for food or

PRESIDENT KAREN DIXON

water either - whew! Good Friday is an intensive day here in Malawi – they are definitely serious...no hour-long liturgies for them!

This year the walk held special significance because we have suffered the loss of two of Blair's siblings in the past two weeks. It is difficult to be so far away from family and friends at such a time, but it is a reminder that our earthly journey is finite. Also, here in the midst of crushing poverty and corruption, surrounded by people who frequently must go to bed hungry, we are constantly reminded that we are called to serve others, wherever and however we find them.

Feeding the hungry and clothing the naked is a real and active concept here in Malawi, where 85% of the population subsists without adequate food or shelter, less than 10% have access to electricity, and average life expectancy hovers around 50 years. Here it is very clear to us that the markers we use for "right" and "wrong" at home do not apply. Hunger to the point of starvation means that people must do what they can to survive...and so we keep that in mind when the people we encounter on the street lie to us or try to cheat us.

As the auxiliary, we exist to serve and support the member Chaplains of the ICPC. Our main focus is to ensure the families of the chaplains attending the ATS have

an opportunity to also attend the event, and enjoy a time of rest and renewal. We believe this helps to ensure the chaplains are able to focus on their seminars, content in the knowledge that their family is with them, enjoying and sharing the fellowship and excitement of the week.

Our planning coordinator and the host committee have been hard at work and have put together an exceptional program of activities. This year in South Carolina we will be treated to a wonderful and well-planned program of events for spouses of chaplains and also for children and youth. Care has been taken to ensure your children are well supervised and enjoy a wide variety of activities during the week. Blair and I have found that once our grandchildren attend an ATS, they want to return every year!

Please plan to attend the 2014 ATS in Columbia, South Carolina. There are details included in this newsletter and also on the website. If you have never attended before, you will certainly want to make a special effort to attend this one! As the auxiliary, we look forward to ensuring "new comers" feel welcome and we always enjoy reuniting with returning friends!! I know that we will all enjoy an amazing and blessed week.

Mulungu Akudalitseni (God bless you) from beautiful Malawi! See you in Columbia!!

Choir Songs

For our “serious” songs in Grapevine, a popular Praise Song “All of Creation” was presented, along with the Police Hymn. You can find “All of Creation” sung by the group Mercy Me at your local Christian Book Store. The words to Police Hymn are below.

The Choir sang the Police Hymn a cappella before the meal began. The beautiful harmony made it a very pleasing opening to our banquet.

Thank you again, to Brenda Pierce, for being the director of music and to the music committee for choosing such wonderful songs each year.

**O Lord of sirens and scout cars,
Of pre-cincts, crui-sers, stripes and
stars,
Of off-i-cers whose lives are cast
A-mong the hero-es un-sur-passed;
Give us the cour-age, strength, and
skill
To nob-ly act, our roles ful-fill.**

**O Thou in whom we find our peace,
En-gage our hearts so as po-lice
We may not yield to bit-ter-ness
As when ex-posed to dai-ly stress.
From vi-o-lence and hu-man greed,
Lord, save us, so that we may lead.**

**E-ter-nal Fa-ther, in whose hands,
We place our lives at Thy com-mand,
Whose voice of strength will calm our
fears,
“Be not a-fraid, for I am near.”
O Lord of Peace, be with us now.
In Thee we trust will be our vow.**

A-MEN

The words were put to the hymn
“Eternal Father Strong to Save” com-
posed by John B. Dykes (1823—1876),
by Chaplain Carol Park in 1979 for the
Detriot, Michigan Police Department.

Ever wonder what goes on behind the closed doors of the choir practice room? Well, let me tell you. A lot of laughing and sharing and just plain fun!

You do not need “Choir Training” in order to join in on all of that!

As a matter of fact, all you need is the desire to sing and share with the Chaplains for the banquet.

If you have not participated in years past—
Columbia will be the perfect time to Join Up!

The more the merrier — and the louder.

Please consider being an important part (bass, tenor, alto, soprano) this year!



Remember throughout the year

- Prayer Partners—keep in touch
- ICPC Executive Officers
- ICPC Staff
- Karen & Blair as they return home
- Your Chaplain spouse & Department
- Columbia Host Committee
- Mark your calendars—July 14-18—ATS

Auxiliary Officers

President—Karen Dixon
President Elect—Ronda Hendricks
Vice President—Judy McMurray
Secretary—Marlene Fiers
Treasurer—Manila Sanders

If you are old enough to remember Hollywood Squares—these should make you laugh....

- Q. Do female frogs croak?
A. Paul Lynde: If you hold their little heads under water long enough.
- Q. True or False, a pea can last as long as 5,000 years...
A. George Gobel: Boy, it sure seems that way sometimes.
- Q. If you were pregnant for two years, what would you give birth to?
A. Paul Lynde: Whatever it is, it would never be afraid of the dark..
- Q. Back in the old days, when Great Grandpa put horseradish on his head, what was he trying to do?
A. George Gobel: Get it in his mouth.

Encouragement from the Editor

This winter seemed to be one of the longest periods of white!! Our yard was covered in snow from December to April, with huge piles around town that seemed would last well into Summer. Of course they are all gone now, but they did seem eternal when we were experiencing the snows.

Just like the little annoyances we encounter. They seem to go on and on with no “good ride” in sight. I think because, just like the snow—we keep our focus on them. Instead of looking ahead to see the blessings to come, we narrow in on what is blocking our view. My encouragement with the blooms that are appearing and the leaves that are budding—look toward the encounters in your life that are a start of something new.
Blessings, Donna



Keoki Awai, Jean Amos, Manila Sanders at the 2013 ATS in Grapevine, TX

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