

Bill Ardill

From: Bill Ardill [bill.ardill@sim.org]
Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2009 8:36 PM
To: 'ardill-news@sim.org'
Subject: she was beautiful

Friday was a very special day. It was Dorothy's birthday but we were so busy we didn't get around to celebrating it with candles on cupcakes until Sunday evening. The major event was the Hillcrest Junior/Senior Banquet. It is sort of our equivalent to the Prom, but better. Every year the junior class hosts the senior class for a wonderful banquet. They decorate the chapel in a theme and have music and entertainment. The juniors did a great job and Marie and her classmates had a wonderful evening. She wore a lovely red dress she had bought when we were in California 2 ½ years ago and she was beautiful. Marie, Anna and our visitor friend Jean worked on Marie's hair until it looked terrific. Her boyfriend picked her up and they went to the pre-party, the party and the post-party sleepover at the SIM hostel. They stayed up all night and somehow that is fun for them! We are also thankful it did not rain so overall it was a great evening.

On Wednesday and Thursday I attended a strategy workshop for the ministry at Miango. It was originally built to provide a place for rest and recreation of SIM missionaries. Recently Miango Rest Home (MRH) has become mostly a conference center for church and mission groups to have their conferences. This has increased income but changes the dynamics of the center, the menus and atmosphere and so fewer and fewer missionary families are going to Miango for their vacations. This is of concerned o SIM so the workshop was organized to address some of these tensions and issues. It was a good meeting overall and we completed a lot including a mission statement, a vision statement, core values, SWOT analysis and an outline for developing the strategy. We plan to have one more meeting and hopefully can get the bulk of the strategic planning done.

On Thursday Peter Yu, a surgery resident from San Diego, and his girlfriend, Jean Kim, a surgical ICU nurse from San Diego, arrived for a 10 day visit. They are a delightful couple and we have been very encouraged by their visit. Peter has been a great help at the hospital and Jean has enjoyed seeing the medical work and other ministries. They have helped fill us in on news from the U.S. and California and the girls have appreciated hearing about the latest teen fashions and trends in the U.S. Some are not very attractive but at least the girls will be better informed. Peter has helped David with his pull-ups and fitness exercise for his physical education class at school. They will leave next Monday so although it is a very short trip, it has been a lot of fun having them come and visit us.

Yesterday David's class did their mile run for the President's Physical Fitness Awards Program. He ran very well and was 5th in his class. Being the shortest, he has to take several steps for every step of his taller classmates. Quite a number of the parents also showed up to cheer the children so it was fun to see the kids do their best in front of a cheering and sympathetic crowd.

An elderly woman came to the surgery clinic last week with a referral note that she was diagnosed with a large abdominal aortic aneurysm. After examining her I concurred and began the process of getting her ready for surgery. She was supposed to come in over the weekend to begin the preparation and did not show up until yesterday. If we can get everything in order we will do her surgery tomorrow. These are high risk cases in our environment and I would appreciate your prayers for her and the surgical team.

Friday is a national holiday – Workers' Day. We would like to show Peter and Jean some of the Gidan Bege ministry and a few more places around Jos. On Saturday we will try and get rid of a few things at a garage sale so I have less to pack in the attic!

Otherwise we are doing well and thanks for your prayers.

In Christ,
Bill Ardill

Please reply to <bill.ardill@sim.org>