

WORLD'S WOMAN'S CHRISTIAN TEMPERANCE UNION



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Southern California WCTU Board of Trustees with World Officers Joy Butler and Sarah Ward

(Front row - left to right): Lula May Jones, Alice Peterson, Colleen Wilson, Mary Clark, Diane Kerchner, and Sarah Ward
(Back row - left to right): Joy Butler, Paul Scott, Connie Bennett, Gayla McDowell, and Dwight Randall

WORLD OFFICERS & DEPARTMENT DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT

Miss Sarah F. Ward
220 Hill Avenue
Knightstown, IN 46148, USA
Tel: *(1) 765-345-2306
Email: sfward@embarqmail.com

ORGANIZATION SECRETARY

Mrs. Margaret Ostenstad
Rygjehaugvn. 13
4265 Haavik Terrasse
Karmoy, NORWAY
Tel: *(47) 52-84-29-93
Mobile: *(47) 47-39-94-02
Email: wwctu.most@c2i.net

TREASURER

Mrs. Dorothy Russell
P.O. Box 3140
Salem, OR 97302, USA
Tel/Fax: *(1) 503-589-1046
Fax: *(1) 503-370-7365
Email: russell0569@comcast.net

RECORDING SECRETARY

Mrs. Anne Bergen
11 The Corso, Parkdale 3194
Victoria, AUSTRALIA
Tel/Fax: *(61) 3-9580-1675
Email: annbergen@bigpond.com

1ST VICE PRESIDENT

Dr. Jung Joo Kim
330-502 Sung Puk Dong,
Sung Puk Ku
Seoul, KOREA 136-020
Tel: *(82) 2-741-4727
Fax: *(82) 2-762-5000
Email: kimjungjoo@gmail.com

2ND VICE PRESIDENT

Mrs. Brita Nilssen
Storasletto 46
5411 Stord, NORWAY
Tel: *(47) 5349-4910
Email: britanilssen@hotmail.com

3RD VICE PRESIDENT

Dr. Dora de Barrientos
6th Ave. 25-37
Zona 12 Guatemala City
GUATEMALA
Tel: *(502) 2442-0692
Email: dorajudithcolomadebarrientos@gmail.com

4TH VICE PRESIDENT

Mrs. Joy Butler
PM Bag Mbagathi 00503
Nairobi, KENYA
Tel: *(254) 20-660-3000 Ext. 1627
Email: butlerj@ecd.adventist.org

CHRISTIAN OUTREACH

Pastor Irja Eskelinen
Liisankatu 27 A 3, 00170
Helsinki, FINLAND
Email: irja.eskelinen@
suomenvalkonauhaliitto.fi

EDUCATION

Mrs. Dawn Giddings
47 Richardson Avenue, Glenelg North
South Australia 5045, AUSTRALIA
Tel: *(61) 88294-2767
Fax: *(61) 88376-9370
Email: dougdawn@adam.com.au

HOME PROTECTION

Mrs. Desiree Lanigan
66 Willison Street, Ayr, Ontario
CANADA N0B-1E0
Tel: *(91) 519-632-8648
Email: desiandpete@hotmail.com

SOCIAL SERVICE

Mrs. Hyun Sook Lee
c/o Mr. Kwang Soo CHOI
P.O. Box 153, Bulaksumur 55281A,
Yogyakarta, Central Java, INDONESIA
Email: lhsmisi@yahoo.com

CHILDREN

Mrs. Glenda Amos
4 Advance Drive, Woodrising,
New South Wales 2284 AUSTRALIA
Tel: *(61) 2-4023-0336
Mobile: *(61) 4-0413-6467
Email: kgames@dodo.com.au
Website: <http://members.dodo.com.au/~kgames>
Website for children: www.drug-freekids.com

YOUTH

Dr. Yetunde A. Odeyemi
PM Bag Mbagathi 00503
Nairobi, KENYA
Tel: *(254) 20-660-3625
Email: yetty.odeyemi@gmail.com

EDITOR

Miss Sarah F. Ward.
Same as President

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USA, Email: freeman@comteck.com.

*International Code

The President's Page . . .

Sarah F. Ward



Dear White Ribbon Sister,

In May the World Officers met in Los Angeles, California at the Headquarters of the Southern California WCTU thanks to the kindness of their Board of Trustees. Following our three-day meeting we presented the program for the Southern California Spring Rally and then visited two WCTU water fountains in the area. (See front cover picture)

Program Kit # 7, the last one that will be prepared before the next World Convention, has been mailed. I am grateful to the World Department Directors for their creativity and promotion of department work. It is important that each **local union** receive the material and then use it! The material is also available on our **website** (www.wwctu.org) under **Resources** and then **Program Kit 2012** thanks to Glenda Amos.

Please remember to promote our World Project - collect money to dig wells to provide clean, safe drinking water. Also the Frances Willard Scholarship Fund needs money so that we can offer assistance to younger women to attend the next World Convention.

The following WCTU organizations are sponsoring the Temperance Education Officer (TEO) in Africa: District of Toronto, Norway, and the following states (USA) California South, Indiana, Kansas, Maryland, New Hampshire, New Jersey, North Dakota, Pennsylvania, and Vermont. See the story on page 5.

The youth website - www.drug-freeyouth.org - is up and running. We are grateful for the help of Brendon Church, Bernard Nyaoke, Yetunde Odeyemi, and Joy Butler who together have worked to make it possible. New and up-to-date information is constantly needed to keep it vibrant and user-friendly. It is and can be a source of vital and important information to thousands around the world if we use it correctly.

Mary will give birth to a son, and you are to give Him the name Jesus, because He will save His people from their sins. Matthew 1:21



The World Officers join me in hoping that at this Christian season we experience again the wonder and awe of God's love in sending us a Savior.

**39th World WCTU Convention - May 3 - 8, 2013
Adelaide, South Australia**



4th Vice President Field Worker for Africa

Joy Butler

Christmas Time

Christmas is almost here again and it is the Christians special time to celebrate and remember the reason for the season - Jesus Christ and His amazing birth - the Son of God sent from Heaven to live among us, show us the way and then die a terrible death in place of us so we can have the promise of eternal life. We have so much to be grateful for at Christmas time and so much to share with our families as we re-tell them the Christmas story and spend time in worship. Then what a wonderful and privileged time we can have to eat, drink, and give gifts to each other. I hope that everyone reading this will have many good memories of such Christmases stored in their minds. I hope, too, that every member of the WCTU will be able to enjoy such a Christmas this year.

But, the truth of the matter is - thousands of people in our world today don't have happy Christmases. Many are lonely, forgotten, sick, hurt or their minds are blocked out from knowing what is going on. Many are in these categories because of alcohol. On the internet when I searched under the words - 'Christmas and Alcohol' - I was shocked and saddened to find scores of references to what one should do with alcohol at Christmas.

But in the middle of the horrifying advice and suggestions was an article by a young woman, a recovering alcoholic, entitled "The sobering truth about drinking at Christmas." She describes ugly incidences where people act shamefully. She ends her story by saying, "Come New Year's Day, I will be one of the few people in this country without a hangover or a body covered in bruises. Perhaps sobriety is not such a big price to pay after all."

The price for us as Christians is to speak up, to help people find a better way, to teach and to love our children unconditionally and totally. The price for us is to provide alternative healthful, attractive drinks at Christmas time. This is one of the guidelines we have as members of WCTU - to provide recipes for good drinks on all occasions. We cannot neglect the opportunities we all have to show the benefits and blessings that are available from God. So let's pull out and use those recipes that WCTU provides and use them to the glory of God and the benefit and blessing of our family and friends.

The Christmas message is one of goodwill, peace and joy. We have that message to share as members of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union. It is why we exist.

"Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace, goodwill toward men." Luke 2:14

WCTU in AFRICA

Joy Butler, Field Worker

Renee Mwamakamba in Kenya had a passion to do something more for God while being a full-time mother with her 2 small children. When invited to become the Temperance Education Officer she was thrilled that God had answered her prayers. She is educated, has good organizational skills, a sharp mind and excellent public speaking skills. She has been able to visit schools, universities, churches, and other groups to present the temperance message and those who hear her respond. The dream is for her to expand her ministry into Tanzania and Zimbabwe where she has family.

Pastor John Gichuri is a man with energy, passion, and commitment. Because of his ministry, the WCTU in Nairobi has been able to participate in his Alternative Rite of Passage programs where hundreds of children have now signed the pledge to abstain from alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs. He works closely with the WCTU and at every opportunity we speak at his rallies and ministries.

The latest is the exciting Dagoretti Women's No-Beer Project. At an evangelistic crusade, 20 women (who are widows and single mothers) who sold beer in tin shacks were converted and wanted to change their ways. We have been able to visit these precious, desperate women and tell them they are loved and we are mindful of their plight. They buy home-made beer from a boss-lady and then sell it in miserable shacks to men who often use and abuse them. Already we have assisted Florence to purchase hairdressing equipment and put her boy back in school. We are now collecting donations to help more women. Thus a new era begins for the Dagoretti women, with no beer.

Elsie Masuku in Zimbabwe is a woman of spirit and courage. She lectures at a university and is growing the WCTU in a powerful way. She uses all the materials sent to her and competitions for the children are a feature. The work of WCTU is vital at every university and her influence will be spread to many nations in Africa.

WCTU is helping to provide food for school children in at least two schools in slum areas of Nairobi. This provides wide open doors for us to speak about temperance. The continuing influence of this can never be underestimated.

The opportunities for the WCTU are truly enormous and requests for speaking and materials come all the time. I have not even spoken about South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, Sierra Leone, Nigeria and other nations where we have a presence. I am often overwhelmed when I think of how it can all be organized to be more effective. But then I hear stories and see evidences that encourage me – God is at work and the Holy Spirit can do the work if we just sow the seed wherever we can. We few WCTU workers in Africa know that “The **harvest** is indeed **plentiful**, but the **laborers** are **few**. Pray therefore to the Lord of the **harvest**, that he may send out **laborers** into his **harvest**.” Luke 10:2

(See photos on pages 11 and 12)



Organization Secretary

Margaret Ostenstad

Please E-mail me articles and jpg photos about your work to wwctu.most@c2i.net

Dear All,

It is nearing Christmas, a time that should be joyful when the birth of our Lord and Saviour is celebrated. But for many it is far from a happy time, especially for children living in drug-abused homes. I recently came across the following words on the Internet which may help someone else to be reminded of the love of Christ no matter what is going on.

"It's a surprising thing that people can show so much of God's light to us - sometimes things are dark and shadowed and we become accustomed to it, accustomed to coping, being 'strong', 'managing' - like getting used to seeing in the dark - and then we meet someone, or someone says something, and it's like a light switched on. We suddenly see in colour again. It reminds me of the two who met Jesus on the Emmaus road - they'd given up hope, absorbed in discussions around their grief, and didn't realize Jesus was with them . . . then suddenly . . . I pray today I'll recognize when Christ meets with me in other people. And if I realize in time, I'll thank them for being people who 'light up my life', who bring me, expected or unexpected, the light of Christ."

As I wish you all a blessed Christmas and New Year, I thank God for new workers for the temperance cause.



FINLAND WCTU

General Secretary, Pastor Irja Eskelinen, sent this photo.

On the left is their new secretary, Nina Hurtamo, and on the right is the Liisa home's new matron, Maria Mellberg. We wish them every success and God's blessing upon their work.



GERMANY

Marianne Haeuschen is the newly elected National President of the German WCTU.

EAST TIMOR

Mrs. Hyeon Og Kim, a missionary from Korea, continues to expand her work in East Timor. She writes that the spiritual inspiration she received at the last World Convention remains with her and she is looking forward to the next World Convention in Australia. Praise God!

NEW ZEALAND

1st World Vice President, Dr. Jung Joo Kim, is on a sabbatical in New Zealand where she is busy involving women from her home country in the temperance work. She has made contact with a Korean missionary couple who have established 14 churches in Sierra Leone and, after seeing the video of Jung Joo's mother, they want to also work in temperance. We wish Jung Joo well in all her efforts.



CHILDREN'S CAMP, NORWAY

Every country's greatest resource is their children and youth. A group of White Ribbon sisters in Norway have, for over 20 years, arranged a children's camp!

They use the time to give drug education as well as mentoring each young person with bedtime visits to each room. It is a wonderful project which I encourage every country to do. The results are long-time and well worth the effort.



Home Protection Dept. *Desiree Lanigan*

Protecting the Home

Home Protection is a big job. It carries a heavy responsibility for parents. We have always had to guard against the dangers coming in the door of our homes but now an even bigger job is guarding against the dangers coming in on-line, the Internet. Today's technology is an amazing resource for the home but it also presents many challenges for parents who want to protect their home and family from the dangers of pornography and gambling. Both pornography and gambling are easily accessible and actively promoted on-line so we need to actively guard against these dangers. This may seem like an over-whelming job but there is help.

You can invest in an internet filtering software and also take some steps on your own home computer to help safe-guard your home and family. Computer filtering settings and pop-up blocker settings should be turned on, on your computer. The computer should be located so that you know who is on-line and when. Set out clear rules about being on-line and make sure they are understood by all family members. Have family discussions about on-line safety. Listen to your children and keep an open ear to their questions and concerns. Be a good example. Parents have the power to make a difference in how their children respond to risky activities. Example is extremely important.

Even young children need to know the dangers about gambling. "Teaching Children about Gambling" brochure is included in the WCTU 2012 Kit. You may find this a helpful aid for discussion with your children, their teachers, and other parents.

I hope this has helped you realize that Home Protection is not only about the dangers of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs that enter the body but also about the dangers that enter the mind through pornography and gambling. These can be difficult and challenging circumstances but we can direct our hearts and minds to God's word.

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future." (Jeremiah 29:11) NIV. What a great promise! Let's claim it for our homes and ask the Lord for help in this great responsibility of Home Protection.



Social Service Dept.

Hyun Sook Lee

Visiting those who are ill

August 21 marked seven years since the WCTU Indonesia Yogyakarta branch was first established. As the years have gone by, God has reminded us how He established the WCTU Indonesia and formed the Yogyakarta branch and what His calling for us really is. It made us realize that it was not all about us and our celebration, but more on the needs of others.

We visit nursing homes, help poor children so that they can continue their education, and give love and courage to the children on the streets. We also educate young teenagers about the harms of alcohol, smoking, drugs, and AIDS. And this year we also took some time to visit our fellow members and their families who have been struggling against illness and diseases.

Among them was Sulis, who was a very active member in our WCTU Yogyakarta. She has a vision and passion for the Lord. But one day when she was outside, she suddenly collapsed because of high blood pressure. When we went to see her in the hospital, she could not speak and part of her body was paralyzed. Now two years have passed and she has finally recovered to almost full health. Even though she went through a long recovery period, she was very joyful when she was able to meet with our members. When we went to her house, she warmly embraced us and she had prepared so many delicious dishes for us. We were thankful because we were able to share our vision and re-affirm our calling through our many conversations.

Harsono is another important member of the WCTU Yogyakarta. But one day her healthy husband had a stroke and it became difficult for her to leave the house because she had to take care of him. We are still praying for her husband to be healed, but she is still unable to leave the house. But through our visit, we were able to pray for her, her husband, and her family. It is not easy for someone that is struggling with an illness for a long period of time or who has the care of a family member that is struggling with an illness. There are times when we become exhausted and disappointed. That is why our visits are a great comfort and encouragement. Listening to what they have to say and sharing with them is not a waste of time. We also comfort them by giving them fruit and dishes that we have prepared. We who went to visit them and those that welcomed us were all filled with God's love in our hearts.

We are all weak beings. Regardless if we are sick or healthy, we are all plates that can be easily broken. When we carefully and truthfully share God's love with one other, we are able to be joyful and give courage to those around us. "A new command I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another." (John 13:34-35)



Youth Director *Dr. Yetunde A. Odeyemi*

Fearfully and wonderfully made – Psalm 139: 14

There are many amazing things about the human body; the Psalmist aptly describes us as; ‘fearfully and wonderfully made’ (Psalm 139:14). The individual working of each part and even the systemic working of the organs that make up a human body is fascinating. While each of the organs works as an individual unit it also amazingly works for support. What ails one organ affects one or more parts of the body. But equally amazing is the constancy of the human life cycle and the fact that no one can live through any one aspect twice no matter how good or bad one is or will be. Only once can an individual be a baby, move on to childhood, adolescent, adulthood, and finally old age. So each stage is lived just once.

Adolescence seems the most crucial stage in the cycle. This stage falls directly in the middle of the cycle, but more than just being at the central position, it is the stage that determines a huge part of future performance. Many remarkable milestones mark this stage. It is the point of physical self-awareness, laying the foundation for future progress, and making contacts and friendships that are likely to last a lifetime.

It is very easy during adolescence to give little time to deep thoughts. It is easy to postpone many ideas and thoughts under the notion that ‘such ideas and decisions are for older folks or for a later time in life’. It can also be a time of incomplete schooling and poor marital choices all because of misdirected energy.

It can be the best part of life if used as the time to properly plan for success, acquire knowledge, be open-minded, develop mature thought patterns and decision-making, and acquire the discipline of non-procrastination. It can be the most rewarding stage of life if the attention of the adolescent is directed to the mind — its ability to think, plan and decide — as the most powerful tool possessed to set goals, plan, increase productivity, and take action to determine the course of life. To achieve this is the assurance that the highest possible returns can be derived for the mental, emotional, and physical energy invested in adolescence.

It is a stage of life worth investing in by those who are willing to mentor youth. Help youth increase their productivity and performance by directing them to exercise self-control, develop self-esteem, and gain self-respect. It can be both a frustrating and rewarding work.

Meet with us on our face book page **I’m Worth it** and visit our Youth web site: **drug-freeyouth.org**



Renee, Pastor John, and Joy



Brother and sister signing the pledge



Renee speaking to youth



Professor Elsie Masuku, Zimbabwe; Alice Rajuili, South Africa President; and Knollyne Gai, Kenya President



At the youth rally



Renee speaking to group



South Africa youth signing the pledge



Group with Beverley Ramage - South Africa