An interview with Del Anderson
by Marsha Johnson

At 100 years old, what do you consider your greatest insight?
I feel that my greatest insight is that I know that I don't know. This becomes more indelible; it's not anything I deserve; nothing that I earn. It's a gift from God for ALL of us. We are all learners and we are all teachers when we know that we don't know. We're all just teachers and learners, learners and teachers. However, the wisdom of God is within each one of us.

It's a sense that I have claimed that even though I of myself haven't anything to offer, truth and reality come forth in spite of me because I affirm this. I am growing in my faith in God which helps it become a reality.

What are your insights about our physical life?
It is different for every person because each of us is a unique expression of God. I feel that each of us is responsive differently and therefore no two of us have the same physical beingness. We're spiritual beings learning to be physical and to express physically. We have the power of choice whether we believe this or not. We have to choose to respond IN LOVE to life's challenges and even to persons' mistreatment of us. That's the best answer I can give at this time.

Do you feel there is a special "call" for your senior years?
Yes, I feel that each period of our lives is a different learning period and we respond to each learning experience in our own ways.

What are your thoughts/prayers as you wake up in the morning and as you go to bed at night?
Every night and every morning I have a definite focus and that is to tune in to God. I give myself, to the best of my ability, to God. In the morning I read Seed Thoughts for Daily Meditation.** This morning the theme of the reading was LOVE. I have a period of meditation, then go into the dining room with the sense that I'm just a lighthouse for God and my part is to really believe this and have a single-minded focus as much as I am able.

Is there a question that I haven't asked that you would like to answer?
There are so many ways to approach God. We think that one way is the only way. The ways are great. The people who present them are great souls. But they're not the only way. God is infinite. Limitless. I don't have any specific knowledge; I just have to listen.
Listen… listen… listen…

** For your free copy of "Seed Thoughts for Daily Meditation" please contact:

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This insight from Glenn Clark is one of Del Anderson's favorites:

GOD’S REALITY

Reality
in the eyes of the practical man
is made up of cold, hard facts.

And what are the cold,
hard facts of life?
As we look about us
we see quarrels, bickerings, unhappiness
unfaithfulness, treachery, covetousness,
materialism everywhere.

These are the facts of life.

But what are facts:
Fact comes from factum (Latin)
something we do or make
But reality is not what is made,
But what eternally is.

Love is. Quarrels are made.
Joy is. Unhappiness is made.
Truth is. Lies are made.
Loyalty is. Betrayals are made.
Life is. Sickness is made.

Jesus went through life
seeing no quarrels,
no unhappiness, no lies, no sickness.
He looked through earth-made fact
and saw eternal reality.

Looking through the lens
of divine understanding
He saw men and women whole.
Seeing them whole
He brought divine laws and forces
into operation,
and hard, ugly facts
were dissolved by Reality.

This was His method.
He bids us master it
promising that the works that He did
we shall do also.
MEET THE RONO FAMILY
by Marsha Johnson, SIA administrator

It is a joy to introduce you to Angelina and Laban Rono and their family, of Eldoret, Kenya. We met just a little over a year ago when Aileen Gillem (SIA volunteer), Dennis Johnson (SIA board president) and I had the privilege of attending the Camps Farthest Out International (CFOI) Camp in Nairobi, Kenya, and a five day training at Samuel Teimuge’s Ukweli Training and Development Center in Eldoret, Kenya. Angelina and Laban and two of their daughters, Ruth and Esther, were part of these events also.

At the CFOI camp, the vibrant Rono family brought great joy, depth of Spirit, and hospitality to the camp. During the training at Samuel’s the participants were invited to visit the nearby Children’s Center (for ninety-six orphans) where Angelina and Laban are the directors and where they and their family reside. It was beautiful and unforgettable to see the loving family life and spiritual nurturing provided for these beautiful children under the care of the Ronos and their staff. What a delight to share in worship with the children and hear their lively singing and spirited scripture study.

Angelina and Laban have five biological children: Virginia and Ruth are in university, John is hoping to attend university soon, and Esther and Emmanuel are in high school. They have four orphans under their family’s care as well. In sharing with the Ronos, it became clear to us that this is a family of deep faith with hearts of service and love. Also, we observed the Rono children interacting so lovingly with the children of the orphanage.

Angelina and Laban shared with us that it is indeed a challenge for them to pay the school fees for their children and they had a dream which is described below. We observed that the Rono children truly have the potential to be dynamic leaders in their communities and powerful witnesses to God’s unconditional love. We recommended this project to the Spirit in Action board and after prayerful discernment the board approved the funding for the fulfillment of this dream.

THE DREAM: to build a greenhouse to raise tomatoes during the off season when the demand will be high. “1/2 acre of tomatoes sold during that time can help us pay the school fees.” See the exciting progress in these photos:

The beds are ready and polythene covering started

The completed greenhouse

Laban tending the growing seedlings

Laban watering seedlings after transplanting

The Rono family has labored hard with the greenhouse project, overcoming many challenges with weather, increased building costs, failed seedlings, and an unseasonable September rain/hail storm which pulled off part of the roof and damaged some plants. They kept their hope through it all and now……

THE FIRST HARVEST IS UNDERWAY!! HALLELUJAH!!
SPIRIT IN ACTION is a network of committed people world-wide who are serving God by empowering others, especially those in developing countries. Spirit in Action is a 501(c)(3), tax-exempt, private operating foundation.

As you read about the following projects, please consider making a tax-deductible contribution. Your support is needed.

From fiscal year June 1, 2005 to May 31, 2006:
INCOMING contributions: $ 9,939
OUTGOING funding to projects: $ 23,086

These funded projects include:
- building of school classrooms, Kenya
- student scholarships, Philippines
- grants for small businesses in Kenya, Nigeria, Malawi, Philippines, India, Democratic Republic of Congo, Uganda
- agricultural planting, Nigeria
- promoting solar cooking, Kenya
- training in sustainable agriculture, Peru
- promoting planting of moringa trees, Ghana
- tsunami relief, Sri Lanka

At Spirit in Action's June, 2006 biannual board meeting, $12,344 in funding was approved for new projects including:
- grants for small businesses in Kenya, Nigeria, Malawi, Philippines, India, Democratic Republic of Congo, Uganda
- bread oven and calf for women’s empowerment program in El Salvador
- scholarships for CFOI youth camp, Peru
- training follow-up and monitoring, Kenya
- promoting and providing solar cookers, Philippines, Ghana, Mongolia, Kenya, Uganda, Democratic Republic of Congo
- completion of classroom building project
- student scholarships, Philippines
- youth training in leadership and sustainable agriculture, Kenya
- sustainable farming training for recovering alcoholics, Kenya

Current funding requests (pending)
- calves for women’s cooperative, El Salvador
- expansion of solar cooking outreach, Kenya
- increased funding for small businesses in Kenya, Nigeria, Malawi, Democratic Republic of Congo, Uganda, India, Philippines
- biointensive agricultural cooperatives in Benin and Kenya
- sustainability training for war orphans and widows, Democratic Republic of Congo

We are excited about these opportunities to serve those in need in developing countries. Which will you choose to support?

SPIRIT IN ACTION SMALL BUSINESS FUND

KENYA - from Sister Angela: “I have some good news. I was in Eldoret (Kenya) last week and I wanted to see for myself what was going on. So Sister Mary took me to meet a few women in nearby BOMA (slum). This was unexpected. I was so happy to meet them. It was evening and they were doing their businesses. I could not restrain a tear of joy. Seeing what they were doing and hearing how they felt about themselves, the difference this project (Small Business Fund) has made in their lives, the creativity involved and all. Oh Marsha, I was happy; very, very happy. Thank you and Spirit in Action so much for your help!” Lots of love, Sister Angela

BOMA group is growing and has empowered each person to have his or her own business. They’re working hard.

MUNYAKA group buys charcoal together then sells independently. “Most of the members of this group used to go without food before Spirit in Action came to their rescue, but now that is a thing of the past.”

KIJIJI ~ The four members of this group each branched off to run his/her own business: shoe mending, poultry keeping, wig salon, selling milk, maize and eggs.

NGOMONGO ~ This group is selling fruit and vegetables, and had difficulty at first but is now coming up and they have resolved to really work hard.
COOKING WITH THE SUN

Cooking with the sun seems like a miracle! It is such a wonder!

- place food in a black pot
- insert the pot into a high temperature plastic bag
- put the bag in a reflective solar box cooker
- set the box in the sun; rotate occasionally
- wait about four hours
- open the pan
- ENJOY A SUN COOKED MEAL!!

Spirit in Action has recently provided solar cookers to SIA correspondents in the Philippines, Ghana, Mongolia, Kenya, Uganda and the Democratic Republic of Congo. We are encouraging experimentation with this amazing, God-given energy source. Yes, habits are hard to change. But wood for cooking fuel is becoming more scarce and more expensive as well.

In Eldoret, Kenya, Camily Wedende continues to share in his community and area about solar cooking. He has requested a SIA grant to purchase materials so that neighbors in his community can gather at his center and build their own cookers for only $5. As they save from buying fuel, they can pay for materials over time. Your support for this and other projects is needed.

How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before beginning to improve the world.

Anne Frank (1929-1945)