

# Father of MWM Honoured!

Fun-filled celebration to show love & appreciation to Simon Peter!

From Abel Seaman; Loveville: "I THINK THEY OUGHT TO GIVE A LITTLE MORE CREDIT TO SIMON & celebrate the Show from when he first began it, not just how long they've been down there...I don't think those people have really given Simon enough credit, but I want to let them know how much I think about him...as far as I'm concerned without Simon there'd be no show!...cause men who really have the power & love & burden & faith & initiative & the smph & the voice & the talent besides are very difficult to find.

"I WANT THEM DOWN THERE TO KNOW HOW MUCH THEY OUGHT TO APPRECIATE HIM...I want you to celebrate it...the exact amount of time since he put the first Show on the air...& tell them to celebrate it...it's not just the first anniversary - Simon was the one that started & carried the ball for years before we ever gave him much help...Right?" ("Simon Peter Day": 4-7.)

AFTER RECEIVING THESE WORDS OF LOVING CORRECTION FROM OUR LOVING SHEPHERD we were compelled to rectify the situation of not showing full appreciation to the one who has made this Show possible. We prepared for Simon a wonderful dinner followed by songs, skits, poems. During the evening's activities all had their chance to show their love & thanks to Simon Peter, the founding father of MWM!

OUR PRECIOUS PROVISIONERS, DANIELLE & ROSE MIDEAST, provisioned 3 lambs for the occasion. All available helped prepare the taverna for a memorable evening as we surprised Simon with this tribute. While we were seated, different ones expressed their gratitude in different ways. Windy wrote



Abel Seaman presents his poem to Simon at the celebration.



Windy sings a song she wrote in love & appreciation to Simon!

a song called "Are You Willing" telling how Simon's willingness made a way.

AFTER DINNER ANGELO PREPARED A COMIC MWM VIDEO SHOW opening with Michael & Patience's song "Simon, One of God's Children" hilariously sung to the tune of Topaz's song "Keep Moving". Then came Maria's & Lydia's show of appreciation, a loving disrobing for all to see. Simon was not the only one who appreciated the dance, as you can see Angelo having a hard time regaining his composure during the interviewing of the "Love Dancers". There's no photo of the "CPO 220 girls" because they were "too busy filming the Love Video" so we had to settle for the "CPO 220 boys". Hosanna & Nathan from the Mail Ministry Home, singing to us the MWM address! After several more comic skits, Angelo's "live MWM video show" closed with the reading of the poem "A Tribute to Simon Peter" from a parchment made by our all-around helper Dicon Spencer.

THE NIGHT CONTINUED WITH MORE SONGS OF DEDICATION & LOVE TO SIMON, along with poems expressing gratitude to him. Whether long or short, all were said with sincerity & many a tear. We were all touched by Solo's humble & tearful presentation of his poetic work to Simon:

To Big Daddy of Radio Pioneer of our MWM Show We do love & need you too Our Big Daddy of Radio! We certainly can sing that song "I Can't Pay You Back, Lord", truly "everything that was left belonged to the faithful older brother who had stuck with the Family & the Father" & yet, "when we returned to our Shepherd's arms Simon too received us with open arms, unlike the older brother from history past, Simon loved us without jealousy's cruel blast..." (From a Tribute



"He just had to keep movin", to prepare the MWM Show," sing Michael & Patience in honour of dear Simon Peter!



Angelo interviews Maria & Lydia after their beautiful contribution to the celebration!

to Simon Peter) Truly Simon did not remain sulking outside the Father's house but joined arms with the Father & made merry & glad! "For that which was dead is alive again & that which is lost is found" (Lk. 15:33) TOWARDS THE END OF THE EVENING MICHAEL SANG HIS "BALLAD OF SIMON PETER" & you could see the tears well up in Simon as Michael sang of that painful past when "in '78 Simon moved to Dubai & alone in the desert he started to cry, trapped in a valley so so dry, 9

lonely months he spent fighting hard to keep the Show alive", & the smiles broke out when "one day Faithy phoned from out of the blue"! - Yet another testimony of the fruits of Simon's "schtickin'!"

JOAN OF ARC PREPARED HIM A HEALTHY BIRTHDAY CAKE to which Simon lit the candles of 5 years of MWM, with prayers for many more years & more souls to win to His Kingdom!

THEN MARIANNE READ SEVERAL NEW LETTERS, telling us of the "HMS MWM Dream"

in which Simon & Dad lead a boat to a brighter day across the sea, far from Grecian shore! Also read was "Appreciation" as Dad suggested.

THE CLIMAX OF THE EVENING CAME WITH THE READING OF "SIMON PETER'S PRAYER" & "THE SIMON PETER DAY" after which Simon got up & told the full history of MWM from the beginning which kept us all spell-bound into the wee hours of the night as we heard of "the unseen labour, the unrealised thought, the hours, days, weeks, months & years of planning, the blood, the sweat & the tears, the agony with the ecstasy" (31:20) to produce, as Dad described him, "a jewel, a genius & very precious to the Lord, an outstanding man of God with great spiritual depth & power as well as great faith & tremendous talent & initiative & vision!" ("St. Simon Peter Day":10.)

AFTER HIS TESTIMONY, MANY MORE GAVE THEIR PERSONAL WORDS OF THANKS to him via songs, poems or notes, & we are really thankful to be back in the Father's house at all, & we pray we can keep trying to pay back the Lord

with our songs & music & to present them to Simon to help him produce "The Greatest Show on Earth" & show him & Dad our appreciation by our willingness to obey today!



"Happy Birthday MWM!" Simon lights the 5 candles



Simon displays the birthday card that Jeremy made MWM's 5 years old. First aired on Dec. 25, 1976!



Simon & Marianna show everyone the cover of "The HMS MWM!"

## The MWM Story by Simon Peter!

As told during the Simon Peter Day Celebration at MWM!

DAD & MARIA HAVE ASKED ME TO GIVE THE FULL TESTIMONY in detail of the beginning of the Music With Meaning Show until the present & to specifically mention my trials & triumphs, support, how I made my first tapes, when did I first get on the radio, & how & when did World Services first start to help Music With Meaning in a financial way.

FOR ME MUSIC WITH MEANING BEGAN IN LONDON IN 1974 one night when Hosea summoned me & Elkanah & some of the different people & musicians involved in the Poorboy Club to his room & gave us a long talk about the tremendous possibilities of using radio as a medium thru which to witness. He had just been travelling in North Africa & told us that in these Third World countries there were stations that would gladly broadcast programs that didn't necessarily reach BBC's standard! In fact, he said, they would probably be tickled pink to broadcast anything that was given to them free.

SO HOSEA HAD THE IDEA OF MAKING A FAMILY MUSICAL RADIO PROGRAM to send to these North African stations. We didn't have very many recordings then, but we managed to put together a half-hour show using half Family songs & half system songs with Micah Teddy Bear singing a couple of songs live. I remember doing the MC part & it was something very different for me because I had never had any experience as an MC before, but only as an actor. So I wrote down my little bits that I was going to say.

I REMEMBER GETTING SUCH A RUSH OF INSPIRA-



SIMON PETER: Pioneer and host of "Music With Meaning". Photo by Jesse Child.

(From "New Nation News", Oct. '77.)

TION DOING THAT FIRST SHOW, thinking how we were witnessing to all those unreached people in those North African countries! But to my great disappointment nothing immediately seemed to transpire from it. But from that time on after Hosea's talk, I carried with me what I knew was an inspired vision & had a deep burden to see it fulfilled & brought to pass as a fantastic way to reach the multitudes of people in Third World countries.

AT THE END OF '74 THE LORD GAVE MY WIFE NAOMI & I A PROPHECY TO GO TO INDIA, a place where, ever since I had joined the Family, I felt a calling & leading to go. The Lord said something to the effect that we were going to "speak the words of David to the multitudes there". I wish I had written that prophecy down because it has indeed been so marvellously fulfilled!

THIS WAS THE TIME OF

"FLEE THE CITY" & I felt guilty about still being in the West after Dad's continual admonitions to move South & East. I wanted deeply to go out to the white harvest fields of the East from where we had heard so many exciting & thrilling stories from the pioneers there. So in January of 1975 my wife & I & Celeste who was then almost a year old left London & flew to Bombay, India.

TO SAY THE LEAST, IT WAS A VERY GREAT CULTURE SHOCK! I had travelled before in my life but only to Europe, Israel, Cyprus & places like that, but nowhere that far East. Stepping out of the plane was like coming out into the heat of a blast furnace or something. It was so hot! I remember standing on the airport tarmac at 7 a.m. in the morning watching the huge orange-red sun twice as big as I'd ever seen the sun before rising up over the horizon, & feeling like I'd stepped out onto another planet, truly a stranger in a new & very strange land!

THE TAXI RIDE FROM THE AIRPORT INTO BOMBAY WAS LIKE DRIVING THRU A 3-DIMENSIONAL MOVIE & seeing on every side things we'd seen before in travelogues & documentaries!—Squalor, terrible poverty, filthy shacks & shanties on both sides of the road for miles & miles as we rode into the city, seeing a hundred things a minute we'd never seen before, seeing people doing things we'd never seen before, smelling a hundred different smells that we'd never smelled before. It was really an incredible experience! You just feel like you're in a totally different world in which you initially have no bearings & nothing you can relate to!

I THINK THAT'S THE THING THAT REALLY FIRST STRIKES YOU ABOUT INDIA: Every- where, every road, every side