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the **CARIBBEAN**
Connection

THE WEST INDIES MISSION COUPLES' NEWSLETTER



Message from the Mission President

We are delighted to welcome the Laquembes, the Malmroses, and the Leavitts to the West Indies Mission. With the addition of these three fine couples, we now have a couple on every island or in every country in South America with the exception of French Guiana and Nevis. Miracles brought you here, miracles surround you and miracles await you as we join together in establishing the Church in this, one of the most beautiful areas of the mission. Now that we have a full complement of senior missionaries, our next anxiety is what happens when you leave. If any of you have friends preparing to serve missions who could replace you at the end of your service in this mission, please let us know and the same process that brought you here will be initiated. You represent the unsung heroes of the Church. You come here of your own free will and choosing. Lives are blessed because of your efforts; stakes will be created; and the Lord's kingdom will flourish. May the Lord bless each of you in your ministries.

With much love and appreciation,

President and Sister Robison



Elder Tait on the beach



Sister Tait visits a home.



Sister Wall at fashion show

Elder and Sister Malmrose

The Malmroses arrived in Guadaloupe on 10 April 2007 after flying most of the night. It is wonderful to finally have a couple serving in Guadaloupe, and we all welcome them with open arms—or at least at lot of love and support until we meet them in person.

Gerald Earl Malmrose was born and raised in Los Angeles and became active in the Church as a youth. He served a mission to France, Belgium, and Switzerland in 1961-63. He asked Lorna to marry him the day after he returned from his mission, and they were married six months later. They have lived in California, Idaho, Indiana, and Canada, and last in Sequim, Washington until coming to the West Indies Mission.



Lorna Kathleen Malmrose was born in Salt Lake but raised in Los Angeles, California. She met Elder Malmrose at UCLA Institute prior to his mission. They have two sons and two daughters. One son and one daughter served missions. One son and one daughter married non-members who joined the church, and they are now all sealed and active in the church. Of their 12 grandchildren, 8 are boys and 4, girls. Only one girl per family is permitted.

Education & Profession: Masters Degree in Engineering from UCLA. Specializes in Computers. Prior to retirement Manager, Production Director, etc.

Education & Profession: General Studies Degree from Indiana State University. Profession: Certified Medical Assistant

Church: Served as 1st counselor in mission presidency, Bishop counselor, ward and stake clerk and exec. sec, counselor in Stake Presidency, Bishop, teacher, etc.

Church: teacher, counselor in aux. presidencies, R.S. president, Stake R.S. Ed. Counselor, and temple ordinance worker.

Elder and Sister Leavitt

Fred and Laurel Leavitt arrived in the WI Mission on April 9 to serve in Grenada. They came from St. George, but only moved there a year ago. This is their first full-time mission, and they are excited and a bit in awe, as we all are at first. The Leavitts have four children, 19 grandchildren, and 2 great grandchildren with another on the way.

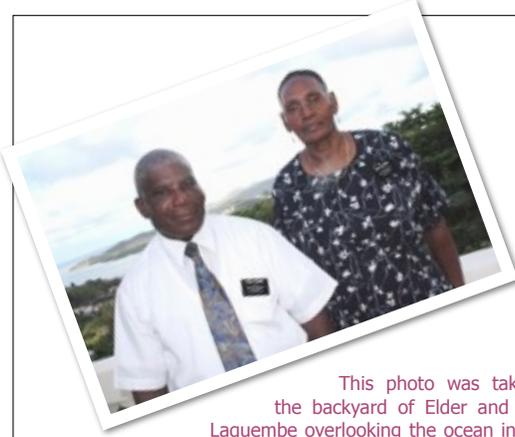
Since they lived for 44 years in Northridge, California, in the San Fernando Valley, it is to be expected that their family members would be spread out, some in California, in Utah, and they have a daughter in Missouri who is currently on assignment in Puerto Rico. Brother Leavitt was of LDS heritage and grew up in Las Vegas before attending BYU, where he majored in accounting. He was in the printing business in Santa Monica. Sister Leavitt grew up in Westwood near the Los Angeles Temple and remembers watching it being



built. She even played on the temple grounds as a child. She came from a part member family and was baptized at age 9. Later on, her father became active and her mother joined the Church. Sister Leavitt also graduated from BYU in education, psychology, and sociology. And that's where they met each other.

The Leavitts played a lot of tennis some years ago. They like to travel, and she likes to knit and read.

The Leavitts have served in many church callings. Brother Leavitt has served as a Bishop several times and in a stake presidency, has served as a clerk, and in a number of other callings. Sister Leavitt has served as President of Relief Society, of Young Women, and of Primary as well as in other callings. Her favorite is Relief Society. They served a Regional Employment mission in California and taught the Temple preparation class. The list goes on.



This photo was taken in the backyard of Elder and Sister Laquembe overlooking the ocean in Trinitie, Martinique. The Laquembes are the newest of the couple missionaries serving in the West Indies Mission. Both are native French speakers and will not be communicating by means of e-mail or fax, but rather by cell phone, landline and snail mail. Please give a big "bien venue" to the Laquembes, Malmroses, and Leavitts.

Elder and Sister Laquembe

Victorien and Valeri Laquembe were called in a most unusual way to serve in their home country and island of Martinique. President and Sister Robison went to them in person after receiving special permission from an Apostle to extend the call and set them apart--paper work to follow. This all came about on April 7, 2007. They will be serving in the new Trinitie Branch, which meets in the Laquembe home. They will also service the Martinique Branch.

The Laquembes just completed an 18 month mission six months ago in Haiti. While there, every missionary in the mission baptized one person per month. They bring this desire and enthusiasm to our mission.

Theirs is called a live at home mission and is very much endorsed in concept by the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles. They keep the same schedule as do all the couple missionaries and are under the same call to the ministry by a prophet of God as are the other couples.



Trinidad Districts' Sports Day - Apr. 7

3 baptisms in Arima - Apr 15

