

Revival That Sparked Like Wildfire

by By Brett Wilson, Regent University

UNIVERSITY LIBRARY DEDICATES ARCHIVES

Along with the revival that sparked and spread like fire around the world, the Charismatic movement in the history of the church has also led to countless scholars' books, speeches, articles and papers

On Thursday, Oct. 24, 2013, Regent University Library celebrated the dedication of archives holding the Rev. Dr. Dennis J. Bennett Papers and the William Standish Reed, M.D. Collection.

"This is a historic moment as we honor people who honor the Lord," said Dr. M.G. "Pat" Robertson, Regent's founder, chancellor and CEO. "Their heritage will live on longer than we will."

The archives feature works from the lives of two distinguished leaders of the 1960's Charismatic renewal movement. Dr. Sara Baron, dean of the University Library, explained that the responsibility for preserving, organizing and making the archives accessible rests on everyone at Regent. This is a task that she does not take lightly.

"These archival collections are one of a kind, and they tell a story about an organization, a movement or a person," said Baron. "They are not only unique to that entity but to the organization they are left with, and we are so blessed to have been chosen as the home of the archives of Rev. Bennett and Dr. Reed."

By Baron's estimation, the archives contain nearly 40,000 items from the Bennett collection. The Rev. Dennis J. Bennett Papers consists of items such as pamphlets, correspondence, audio-



Dean Sara Baron photographed Rita Bennett as she stands in front of the bookcase display housing a portion of Rev. Dennis Bennett's archives.

tapes and scrapbooks documenting Bennett's career—as well as copies of his well-known book, Nine O'clock in the Morning, translated into 15 different languages.

The William Standish Reed, M.D. Collection consists of 20,000 documented items. Along with recordings of Reed's appearance on CBN's 700 Club, the collection contains 9,000 audio and video recordings ranging from 1950 to 2007, spurring the Charismatic movement forward.

The archives, according to Dr. Amos Yong, dean of the School of Divinity, are also a crucial addition to the university's Pentecostal Research Collection.

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Rita's Report

It was exciting getting ready to attend the great events presented at the beautiful Regent University Campus. Four of my friends traveled with me: Crystal Linn, Patricia Zulauf, Heidi Lee, and Shirley Hanson and all stayed at the lovely Founder's Inn in rooms provided for us.

The first morning October 24th at 8:30 am we all were eager to be guests in the audience of the Christian Broadcasting Company's 700 Club Show taping. Terry Muessen and Pat Robertson were the main speakers on the show. There were other interesting interviews as well.

Following the Show, many of us in the audience chose to go on a tour of the studio Art Museum with its original Paintings. It's worth doing if you ever have a chance. The painting of the Lord's Supper was quite unique as it had Mary, Jesus mother, on the far left hand side of the picture. The idea was that she was there in the background helping with food and drink for the disciples and Jesus. This was an extra-biblical idea and yet was a creative thought and possibility.

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Revival Like Wildfire

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"Having the Bennett-Reed collections here will serve the next generation of researchers who will be documenting the significance of the charismatic renewal movement for posterity," said Yong.

Dr. Vinson Synan, Dean Emeritus of the School of Divinity, also addressed the faculty, staff and community-members present, explaining that without the contributions that Bennett and Reed made to the Charismatic movement, universities such as Regent might not have existed.

"The inspiration of the two men, along with the Holy Spirit, is responsible largely for the renewal of a generation of believers," said Synan.

Dr. Rita Bennett and Jo Ann "Coppi" Reed, the wives of the two Charismatic thinkers, were present for the archival dedication. Both shared insights about their husbands, unveiling the men behind their scholastic achievements. Reed recalls her husband singing "My God Can Do Anything" in a baritone voice. Both expressed their appreciation of the archival of their husbands' great works and memories.

"I'm so thrilled, and I'm so happy that I was the one to be able to donate these papers to this wonderful university," said Bennett. "This was the right thing to do, and I'm so honored to be here."



Isaiah was called to be a prophet. One day when he had a vision of God in His Glory and holiness, he was overwhelmed. He cried out: "Woe is me, for I am undone! Because I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts," (Isaiah 6:5 NKJV).

God's angels touched his lips with a live coal from God's altar. Then they let him know, "Your sin [is] purged," (Isaiah 6:7b).

When life stresses us, and especially if we have emotional wounds undealt with, words may flow out of our mouths that are anything but holy. We may wound our mate, children and others listening. Too much of this may cause others trauma. The problem can begin in one's childhood, or as a result from adult wounds.

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To discover more details on our three 2014 Emotionally Free Seminars, visit our website at **www.EmotionallyFree.org** and click on Seminars. I hope you'll join us!

Rita's Report [CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1]

After lunch I met with Pascal Andreasson from Sweden who flew over for the Archive Events, and to interview me. He is a Pentecostal leader and a professional photographer/videographer. We met originally when he contacted CRA for a photo of



Dennis for a new book written by Dr. Vincent Synan. The book is about the Pentecostal and Charismatic revivals that empowered the Church in many countries for over 100 years. The cover of the book is a collage of these great

leaders, and Dennis' picture is right in the middle of this historic scene. The title is "Den helige Andes arhundrade." Hopefully there will be an English translation.

"CLASH OF THE TITANS" DEBATE

The next day we were treated to a debate between two Republican and two Denocratic leaders. Republicans were: Newt

Gingrich, former Speaker of the House, and Jay Sekulow, well-known Christian lawyer. The Democrats were: David Axelrod and David Pelouffe both who campaigned to bring and keep Obama into the office of President. The subject was on exploring the boundaries of presidential power. Dana Pareno seen on "The Five" served as the debate moderator.

As you can imagine, there were some Titan Clashes between the two sides. Newt Gingrich received the most applause, and Jay Sekulow had the second best audience response.

Dean Sara Baron at the last minute was given gold tickets for two of us to have photos with these political heavyweights. There was a very long line but when I had my picture taken with Newt and Jay I asked Newt if he would autographmy copy of his book, *Rediscovering God in America*. I thanked him and gave him a copy of the bookmark for my latest book, *A New Look at the News*.

That event was followed by a lovely banquet dinner where the debaters gave reconciling statements. Regent University sets up these Titan Clashes annually so that we can learn to listen to the opposite side to our own opinion.

MIRACLE ON UNITED AIRLINES

What great adventures we had with God's people. On my return flight after working on a writing project, I finished and closed my book when my seatmate spoke and asked me about my shoulder bag with the word "Jerusalem" on it. I told him I had been there three times. He said he had been studying to increase his faith, and



found a book that inspired him called *Nine O'clock in the Morning.* I began to smile and said, "Yes I know that book well as it was written by my husband, Dennis Bennett!" What a miracle that was! I told

him about the Archives Event and that all who attended were given a copy of that very book. The man said, "I believe in signs and wonders." I agreed. And I realized that we had one right there on that United flight home to Seattle.

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Details will be announced at the conclusion of the EF Professionals Conference in February. We encourage our alumni to join us at Basic and bring a friend to receive life-changing healing. The Apostle Matthew quoted Jesus, "Come unto Me, all you that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." He's talking about rest for your souls – your mind, emotions and will. These are healings that will take place (Matthew 11:28 - 30 KJV-MOD).

Giving Glory to God by Rita Bennett

You've read about Rev. Dennis Bennett's Archives in this Emotionally Free® Newsletter. I want you to know how you have helped to make those archive deposits possible.

I have been a widow for 22 years in 2013. Fortunately Dennis and I bought on home in 1971. Because of you, I have been able to have a core staff to assist me, in my home, as I have been led to keep CRA going during these years. This has helped keep Dennis's books available and has assisted me in writing two books on Heaven, *To Heaven and Back*, and *Heaven Tours*, in addition to my latest book, *A New Look at the News*.

Regent University sent a librarian to go through Dennis's materials, and fortunately, I had been holding on to his papers and foreign book titles. As mentioned earlier, over 40,000 items have been sent thus far, and we will send more soon.

The finances in America have pressed small businesses, and our organization, hard these recent years. Only because of you, are Dennis's legacy, and the Inner Healing Ministry able to proceed. CRA's diligence to cut back expenses have helped, but we need your financial support to meet shortfalls in 2013. Please pray with us that God will provide mightly by Dec. 31st.

I could never write about the many thousands of people whose lives have been healed emotionally, physically, and spiritually, families restored, and marriages saved since CRA began in 1968. And the work continues to move forward. You have been, and are being, a great part of this. *God bless you!*

Thank you for partnering with us in ministry, and for remembering CRA with your tax-deductible donation in any amount. Please consider our "Who and What I Am In Christ" gift special which is a limited-time offer while supplies last!

RITA BENNETT MINISTRIES

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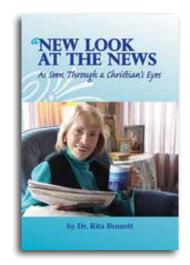
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