

# Siebring



# Flyer

**Oct - Dec 2005**

## An Overdue Report



**A Neighborhood Child**



**A Military Ambulance**

*It was the beginning of August and things were finally starting to come together for our family. We had moved into our own home in Kabul and were feeling settled. We had a yard where the kids and the dog could run and play. We were really starting to feel at home. Ray was working hard to help begin the first ever Aviation education program in the country. This was a dream come true for Ray, to serve in Afghanistan and to teach aviation. Life couldn't get much better. It was about this time that we discovered that my health problems were more than what could be handled in that part of the world. We would have to fly back to the states for me to receive the medical treatment needed.*

*As our family loaded the plane heading back to America, we felt torn inside. We weren't ready to leave our home in Afghanistan, we had really just started to get established and had seen some good fruit from our labors but, we knew we had to come back for this season. Our family chose to have my surgery in Colorado so Ray could continue to work with the YWAM base and so that we could continue to be a part of what was happening in Afghanistan.*

*My surgery was scheduled for October 5th. The doctors thought my surgery went well and that I would recover quickly. We soon discovered this to not be the case. After four surgeries and an entire month in the hospital due to complications, my body is finally recovering. I still have a hitchhiker from Afghanistan (A Bacterium) that is living inside of me that has been resistant to every type of anti-biotic. This bacterium has wreaked havoc on my immune system and has slowed down the healing process for my body.*

*The doctors have told me that it will be a very long time before I will be able to return to Afghanistan. Ray and I have prayed long and hard about what our next steps were to be. Ray and I still feel like our hearts are in Afghanistan and that we have not been released from this burden. That is where we belong. We also know that where ever God closes one door he opens another.*

*Until we can return to the field in a full time capacity, Ray has been offered the position of Leader of the Afghanistan Strategic Alliance at the YWAM Strategic frontiers base, here in Colorado. This job includes:*

- mobilizing teams and individuals to travel and do short term outreaches, prayer journeys, and vision trips to Afghanistan.
- Responsible to represent "Afghanistan" at all stateside venues such as itinerant speaking and mission conferences
- Responsible to maintain the home front communications as well as mobilization to meet the future YWAM needs in Afghanistan
- Ray would try to visit every YWAM program in Afghanistan yearly and help provide for their needs
- Ray would be the home front support for each of the front liners wishing so, and communications for each of the YWAM programs. This is but a small portion of the duties that Ray would be taking on in this new position. It is a great honor and a huge responsibility to take this position but, we feel that this is a great way to serve Afghanistan until our family is medically released to serve on the field again in a full time frontline capacity.

*Some of you have asked why we would want to go back to a country that almost cost me my life? My question back to you is, how much is a soul worth? If we reached even one Afghan it would be worth everything we have gone through and so much more. Just as any other YWAM Position, we live by faith. What that means is that the Leader of the Afghanistan Alliance is not a paid position and we will still be expected to raise our own financial support to live and for Ray to make these trips to Afghanistan several times a year.*

*We thank all of you that have continued to support our family and this ministry through your prayers and finances during these past months. We believe that with your help we will reach the Muslim world for Christ! Thank you so much for all this support. We couldn't do this without you! - Julie*



**Eating Anything**



**A Very Good Shot**



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## Updates From The Field...



### IN BRIEF:

- Parliamentary elections in Afghanistan were successful
- ECI partners with Pactec to serve new Ministry of Aviation with English program
- ECI Zaranj—kindergarten project coming on line for 2006. Parameter wall now complete. New building coming!
- All NGO's in Afghanistan were asked to re-register. ECI in final stages of govt. approval
- Afghan govt. introduces new tax schemes for property, income and visas
- Pactec providing flights and logistical support for the earthquake ravaged zones in Pakistan
- Afghanistan suffered only minor damages from the earthquake and the death toll estimates at 87, 000 for all the areas affected.

I read a quote recently that really stood out to me. "I cannot believe that the purpose of life is just to be happy. I think the purpose of life is to be useful, to be responsible, to be compassionate. It is, above all to matter, to count, to stand for something, to have made some difference that you lived at all." -Leo Rosten. I guess the reason this spoke to me so significantly is the season of life we find ourselves in.

It is true that we have been thrown a few curve balls but we are hopeful and excited to see how all of this will be turned for good as promised. We are excited at the prospects of serving the YWAM Strategic Frontiers base and making a difference in the whole 10/ 40 window. We have chosen as a family to continue this fight and to try and make a difference in Afghanistan no matter where we are living.



P.S. For those who are reading this newsletter electronically [click here](#) to send a response.

If you wish to support our family financially please make a check out to YWAM and mail it to YWAM Donor services. The mailing address is at the bottom of our newsletter on both sides. To make sure it reaches us please include a note stating it is for the Siebrings and include our donor number #340 in the memo section of your check.

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## Praise & Prayer

### Praise:

- Our family safely made it to the US and have settled into our temporary housing and receiving the medical care needed.
- Provision of a vehicle and housing for our family.
- We have been surrounded by great friends and family to help us walk through this trying time in our lives

### Prayer

- Complete recovery and healing of Julies body from these 4 surgeries
- Pray for provision and protection as Ray takes a short term trip back to Kabul.
- Our monthly support to come up to the needed levels
- Clear direction for the best way our family can serve missions now that we have medical restrictions

[Click here to send us a prayer request](#)

## What Good Comes From Suffering?

We all go through suffering from time to time. Some of us may go through physical suffering while others go through emotional suffering. No one wants to hurt but, if we have the right heart attitude our suffering can be a good thing.

Take the life of Paul for an example, Paul says "All that I know now is partial and incomplete, but then I will know everything completely, just as God knows me now." (1 Corinthians 13:12) In the meantime, in the middle of his suffering, Paul says "I know the one in whom I trust, and I am sure that he is able to guard what I have entrusted to him until the day of his return"(2Timothy 1:12)

I don't know why God allows us to go through such difficult suffering sometimes but, I know from these past months that my physical suffering drew me ever closer to Jesus. I would lay in my hospital bed too weak to move and so drugged that I couldn't see straight. As I lay there for hours on end unable to read or watch TV, I would just recite in my head every scripture I knew and would call out to God in prayer. Jesus was all I had to hold on to and I was totally dependant on him.

Next time you're in pain (whether physical or emotional) instead of asking, Why? I would encourage you to try asking God to draw you closer to Him during your difficult time. The presence of God can bring you new life.

*Ray + Julie Siebring,  
Elias, Gabriella + Josiah*



## Our Tentative Timeline...

Colorado Springs, CO	Present – Dec 5
Ray in Kabul, Afghanistan	Dec 5 – Dec 13
Colorado Springs, CO	Dec 13 – Dec 21
Biddeford, ME	Dec 28 – Jan 3
Denton, TX	Jan 13 – Jan 16
Colorado Springs, CO	Jan 16 – Mar 1

[Return To The Field](#)

[March](#)



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