

# =THE CROAKER=

THE VOICE OF AVEN†URA

Volume 32- Issue #5

May 2012

## President's Letter:

"For I know the plans I have for you", declares the Lord,  
"plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

**Jeremiah 29:11**

May 9, 2012

## GREETINGS AVENTURITES!!

Well Spring is slowly getting started and hopefully warmer weather will be here soon to stay! I hope each of you are getting ready to finish up with school and are looking forward to the summer months with whatever they bring, be it jobs, summer classes, mission trips, college preparations, or just some time to relax!!

Aventura continues on and **the Nominating Committee is currently on a mission to find NEW OFFICERS for the upcoming year.** Most of the Board Officers have come to the end of their terms, so we will be looking for a new President ☺, Vice President, Treasurer, Recording Secretary and Corresponding Secretary. Anyone from the community can be nominated, so if you would like to nominate someone or if you are interested in serving on the Board, please contact me or Amanda. New officers will be voted in at the June Reunion.

This month's reunion will be held on **May 26<sup>th</sup> at the First Congregational Church in Thomaston.** Our very own **Rachel LePine** will be hosting this month! Thank you to **Chad Fairclough** for leading last month's reunion. We also had a special treat with music provided by **Katie Sosnicki** on the ukulele!! Thank you Katie! We are always looking for Aventurites to step up and have some fun! If you would like to host, co-host or help out at a reunion with games, talks, refreshments, music or any activities just let us know! Ask some of your friends who've done it. It's not that hard and we'd love to help you! ☺

And if you haven't checked out our **NEW and IMPROVED website**, visit it soon!! You can check it out at **aventuract.com**. A BIG thank you goes out to **Art Richards** for working so creatively and tirelessly on getting the website up and running. Great Job!!

Remember to keep **Laura Roehl** and **Art Richards** in prayer as they continue to make preparations for the Fall Weekend. Pray about how you can support them, what you can do to help out, and most importantly about whom you may want to sponsor. Applications are available on the [website](http://aventuract.com) (aventuract.com) or contact Art Richards. Sponsorship forms should be carefully read and prayerfully thought about before asking a potential guest about the Weekend. Be sure THEY are ready to accept the invitation and that

YOU are ready to continue to support them before, during and well after the weekend!

Blessings to All!

*Donna D.*

Aventura President

P.S. From the Croaker-Lady: Please read the attached note from our sister Brittany codella regarding her missions trip to China!

## Upcoming Reunions and Other Dates:

Please give some thought to hosting a reunion at your church.

### May Reunion:

Saturday, May 26, 7:00PM,  
First Congregational Church,  
Thomaston, CT

For directions to the next reunion, please go here: <http://www.aventuract.com/Events/index.html>

## Stuff to Note:

- For anyone interested, **Dennis Redline** and **Rachel LePine** are looking for Aventurites who are willing to act as voice actors to play in an audio adaptation of Dennis' book! We also need instruments to record music. Call **203-573-1780** or **203-819-3652** if you'd like to know more. =)

## Prayer Requests:

pray@aventurct.com

Please feel free to send prayer requests to our 'prayistas' Barb Clavette (JEClavette.at.snet.net or 482-0172) and Sandy Miller (SanJeanM.at.AOL.com or 482-5601) and they will pass the appropriate ones along to the Croaker to be listed here. Be sure to let them know if you wish to remain anonymous or if you don't want the prayer published at all.

## Birthdays:

Kirsten Coy	May 01
Sarah Callahan	May 04
Sarah Walsh	May 04
Sarah Callahan	May 04
	May 15

Andrew Dziedzic

Dave Zwart May 15

Mike D'Amato May 25

Dan Shanahan May 25

## Web Stuff to Note:

Art Richards and Rachel LePine are currently redesigning the Aventura site. Let us know what you'd like to see on the new site by messaging us on FaceBook!

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/163216490364454/>

## Servants of Aventura:

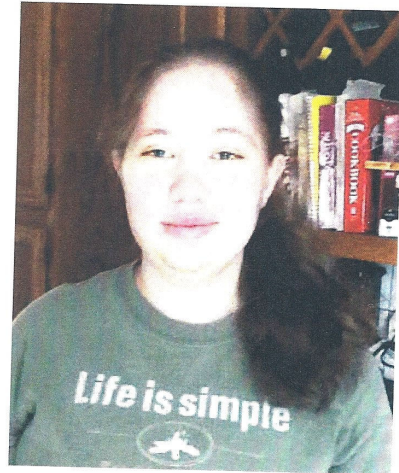
<http://www.aventuract.com/>

<u>Aventura Officers</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Phone</u>
President	<a href="#">email</a> Donna DeMarest	(203) 596-9922
Vice President	<a href="#">email</a> Matt Johnson	(203) 206-4935
Treasurer	<a href="#">email</a> Amanda Johnson	(860) 489-9606
Corresponding Secretary	<a href="#">email</a> Stephanie Griffin	
Recording Secretary	<a href="#">email</a> Brittany Petitti	
Publications	<a href="#">email</a> Rachel LePine	(203) 573-1780
Weekend	<a href="#">email</a> Sandy Miller and the Bumpy Lumps	
Information & Registration	<a href="#">email</a> Art Richards Jr.	860-307-4806
Reunions	<a href="#">email</a> Tori Clark	
Palanca	<a href="#">email</a>	
Prayista	<a href="#">email</a> Barb Clavette Sandy Miller	(860) 482-0172 (860) 482-5601

- For information on Aventura contact **Art Richards** at [info@aventuract.com](mailto:info@aventuract.com) or call **(860)-307-4806**.
- To put something into the *Croaker* email **Rachel LePine** at [croaker@aventuract.com](mailto:croaker@aventuract.com) or [mhbaggins@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mhbaggins@sbcglobal.net).
- Follow us on **Twitter** by clicking here - [@AventuraCT](#)
- For people who have been on an Aventura weekend, join the AventuraCT [Facebook](#) group.

Dear Family and Friends,

Some of you know that I have felt God calling me to Asia. I've been there once before, in the summer of 2009, and it was a time of great spiritual growth for me. It was a tremendous blessing to have all of your prayers supporting me there. I could literally feel your prayers at times, as God miraculously worked out details and melted away obstacles that arose in opposition to the work He desired to do there. I received an abundant amount of grace to handle situations and do things that I know I could not have done except through the Spirit, in answer to your prayers. Thank you for standing with me in that work.



Now I would like to ask you to do the same again. At the end of this semester, I will hopefully have an opportunity to serve in Asia again for 30 days, possibly more. I have recently been learning a lot about the power and importance of intercessory prayer, so I do not want to venture on such an undertaking without being backed by prayer support. I can't do this on my own; I need you to wrestle in prayer for me against the powers of darkness. Please prayerfully consider committing to pray for me on a regular basis for the next few months as I seek to follow God's leading in my life.

Unfortunately, because of the delicacy of political situations, I can't give details about where I am going or what I will be doing, but I will most likely be helping with English camps, college student/youth ministry, and in whatever other ways the local believers can find for me to help the local church. The local church said that they will not have anything useful for me to do until their school year is over at the end of June, so until then, I will be volunteering somewhere in Europe.

Here are some prayer requests (these are just bullet points; if you want more details, you can read the note appended to the main letter):

- Pray for me to be able to get a visa.
- Pray against discouragement and depression.
- Pray for me to learn the language and understand the culture.
- Pray for me to be a blessing to the people already working there, rather than a hindrance.
- Pray for the unity of the believers.
- Pray for protection and traveling mercies.
- Pray for me to have the guidance of the Holy Spirit.
- Pray for the government of the country.
- Pray for the protection, encouragement, and emboldening of the national believers.
- Pray that God will prepare the hearts of the unbelievers and draw them to Himself.
- Pray for me to have the necessary finances.

At this time it is hard to tell exactly how much this trip will cost, but from the figures I have right now, it looks like the Lord will need to provide at least \$2000 for me to make this trip. I ask you to prayerfully consider helping to support me financially. If you feel the Lord leading you to do so, please send any financial support to Calvary Chapel Southbury and mark it clearly "Brittany - Trip to Asia."

Thank you so much for everything, I love you guys! God bless you!  
Your sister in Christ,  
Brittany Codella

### **Notes on Prayer Points:**

- Pray for me to be able to get a visa. Pray for me and the people here to have wisdom and discernment to know how to properly fill out all the paperwork without jeopardizing the work that is already going on in Asia. Pray for me to find grace and favor in the eyes of the embassy here in Hungary and the government of the country.
- Pray against discouragement and depression. Many of the missionaries here have attested to the fact that one of the first ways the enemy attacks on the field is through discouragement and depression, and I want to be on guard against that, as I have been through depression before and probably have a propensity towards it.
- Pray for me to learn the language and understand the culture.
- Pray for me to be a blessing and a help to the people already working there, and that I will not get in their way or cause problems through my inexperience. Pray that I will keep a humble attitude and that I will be willing to learn from others. Pray against any critical spirit, and pray for the unity of the believers there.
- Pray for protection and traveling mercies, that I will be able to find my way through all the airports and make flights on time, and that there will not be any hold-ups or problems with security/customs. Pray that my luggage will make it to and from Asia with me and not get misplaced. Pray for me to make good decisions about what travel arrangements to make.
- Pray for the guidance of the Holy Spirit and for wisdom, that He will direct my steps and show me what to do. Pray that He would continue to show me what He wants me to do with my life. Pray that I will be a light and a witness and that I will have opportunity to share the gospel.
- Pray for the government of the country, that they will be favorably disposed towards the Christians and for God to guide their decisions, whether they are aware of His leading or not.
- Pray for the national believers, for protection, and boldness, and freedom from anxiety and fear. Pray that there will be able to be more openness in the church.
- Pray for the people I will come in contact with who are not believers, that God would stir their hearts and that they would be drawn to Him and find Him. Pray that I will be able to point people to Him, and not myself, and that He will get all the glory.
- Pray for me to have the necessary finances to go, and to live there when I get there. Pray for me to have wisdom in handling finances, and to be frugal.