

welcome doug

Doug Jackson, Art Browne's successor as executive director of Deseret International, was literally born to the job. The second son of Bill and Audrey Jackson, he was born in Algeria on November 12, 1963, during Bill and Audrey's first overseas medical trip, and as if that wasn't enough of an introduction to humanitarian service, he continued to accompany his parents on subsequent medical journeys to such places as Belize and Afghanistan. Doug grew up in Ojai, California, four houses away from his future wife, Sharon Clark—whose

father and mother are now in El Salvador providing dental care under Deseret International's sponsorship. He served as a missionary for his church in Ecuador and graduated in accounting from Brigham Young University. After working a while for Marriott Hotels, he returned to BYU for a master's degree and then went to work for Arthur Anderson in Dallas.



Two years ago he accepted a position as controller for Canyon Park Technology Center in Orem, Utah, and at that time moved with his family to Provo. He and Sharon were married while they were students and now have six children:

Joshua, sixteen; Nathan, fourteen; Carlie, ten; Matthew, seven; Rachel, four; and Makenzie, six months old. As executive director of Deseret International, Doug is the chief operating officer of the foundation. He keeps the books, handles all the funds, coordinates the programs, deals with

vendors and contributors, and is the liaison with all corporate contributors. It's a big job. Luckily he's inherited the Jackson energy level—so he still has a little time left over to ski, play tennis, coach junior league soccer, and work in his church's youth program!

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deseret international

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a note to our friends

It's nearing the end of the year, the traditional time to take stock, and as we look back at Deseret International's progress, we are amazed at the foundation's success. Six months ago Deseret sponsored its seventy-five-thousandth operation. The number of cases the foundation sponsors throughout the world has doubled over the last three years—last year totaling more than 16,000. The cost to the foundation of these procedures has been decreasing: two years ago an average operation cost 37.51 donated dollars; last year the average cost was \$25.11. (One might compare this with the \$250 cost per operation recently advertised in the national news magazines by The Smile Train, an organization that sponsors cleft surgeries in developing countries.)

We have been pleased with the growing capacity to ship equipment and supplies overseas. With our contacts in a number of countries around the world, we have been able to assist, in some cases adopt, other charitable organizations and make it easier for them to deliver their medical and other donations. When shipping a container to a foreign land, the difference in cost

between a twenty-foot box and a forty-foot box is usually less than \$500. Often our materials fill up a twenty footer, and for the few extra dollars we happy to offer a "piggy back" to another organization. A month ago, for example, we were able to use part of our shipment to San Salvador to include one thousand newborn kits from LDS—Charities to be distributed to new mothers, and our container of medical supplies sent to Nigeria was filled up with new English language school books donated by the Deyhle Foundation.



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Deseret International's growth seems inevitable. We continue, for example, to expand our seminars around the world that teach the local physicians new techniques and train them in new equipment which is left for their use. And we have outgrown our facilities in four countries—India, the Philippines, Indonesia, and Nigeria—and are looking forward to moving into our own clinics there. As we grow, however, we must never lose sight of the "bottom line"—



the individual lives that are changed by the foundation's efforts. Many charitable organizations are now taking on the "big issues"—world hunger, pandemic disease—and these are certainly noble undertakings. But Deseret's mission is to the individual—the blind, the lame, and the disfigured—to

help the blind see, the lame walk, and disfigured speak though simple, inexpensive procedures performed by local physicians supported by local agencies. In this respect, it is particularly gratifying that our goal of training local physicians to perform the actual surgeries has been met in almost every host country.

Another "bottom line," of course, is the cost. Dollars are certainly the yeast that make our numbers rise. We may have reduced the average cost, but a rising number of operations requires a greater amount of leavening. Deseret International has been greatly blessed with good and loyal friends who year after year have provided the funds that make the foundation's efforts possible.

We are deeply grateful. And as the season of thanksgiving and gift giving approaches, we pray that others will join with this band of devoted contributors to bless the lives of those that need our help.

Many Blessings, best wishes and Happy Holidays

many thanks lani

On June 19 Mabuhay Deseret was honored at a fund raising concert in Manila, sponsored by local businesses and Nu Skin Enterprises Philippines regional office. The star attraction was Lani Misalucha (pictured at the right), one of the Philippines most popular and talented singers, who performed with the Manila Philharmonic Orchestra—all of whom donated their services. Tickets sold for 1250, 2500, and 5000 pesos, and the advertisements for the concert stressed that 100 percent of the proceeds would pay for corrective surgeries through Mabuhay Deseret, that one 1250 peso ticket would cover half the cost of an operation for a needy patient. These ads further noted that each peso raised by the



concert would be matched two-to-one by an anonymous donor. The organizers reported that some of those attending the concert were so touched by the program that they volunteered to help with next year's event, and others made additional contributions at the conclusion of the concert. Almost \$30,000 was raised for Mabuhay Deseret. Once again, our friends at Nu Skin have been a blessing to Deseret International, and we are very grateful!



Deseret is particularly blessed by those special contributions that come from grateful hearts. A few weeks ago we received a donation from a woman named Sonia, sent in the name of her mother, Julita (she asks that their family name not be used). Eight years ago Sonia and Julita were living in a small province five hours outside of Manila. Julita, fifty-eight years old (pictured next to Sonia in the middle of the family group), had suffered for several years from cataracts that severely impaired her vision. Hearing about Mabuhay Deseret through her church, she and Sonia made the trip to Manila, where she received corrective eye surgery sponsored by the foundation. Sonia was particularly grateful for the restoration of her mother's sight, and during their stay in Manila she made a promise to herself that if she were ever able, she would pay back Mabuhay Deseret. In January 2000 Sonia moved to Houston, Texas. In the course of

becoming established in Houston she happened to come in contact with Deseret International, and remembering the promise she made to herself, she sent us a contribution with a note describing her association with the foundation. Sonia actually paid back much more than the cost of her mother's surgery: her contribution will underwrite about twenty operations like her mother's. We are touched by her generosity and very appreciative. Julita's experience is similar to that of Ampaho Isidro, a fifty-four-old woman from the Philippines (pictured below) who wrote to Mabuhay Deseret last July as follows: "In behalf of my co-patients, who all come from poor families with no permanent income, would like to thank you for the great help in bringing back our eyesight into normal vision.

With your great help I was able to see again. For me it was a miracle. One Sunday morning after attending the mass, our parish priest announced sage, that a free eye checkup the next day, Monday morning, April 21, 2003. I told my husband to take me to the place where all the people was forming there lines, waiting for the doctor to come. With the help of prayer I was able to join your good Foundation. May God always be at your side, and more blessings to come. Thank you again."



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It has been slightly more than a year now since Arthur D. Browne passed away during his eleventh years as executive director of Deseret International Foundation. But Art's legacy of service lives on through the programs he initiated as executive director. One of Art's early innovations, begun the year he joined the foundation, was the Monthly Automatic Debit contribution. Using the automatic debit, a contributor can have a fixed amount automatically taken out of his or her checking account each month and forwarded to the foundation. Deseret International has been greatly

blessed with loyal and generous friends who, in this way, have donated \$10 or \$20 a month, in some instances \$50 or \$100. And with an average operation costing about \$25, a monthly contribution of \$10 over ten months will underwrite four operations—giving four people the capacity to see, or walk, or speak. What a bargain! We invite our readers to join this devoted band of Monthly Automatic Debit contributors. Simply fill out the inside flap of the enclosed envelope, insert a voided check from your checking account, and drop the envelope in the mail. The rest is automatic!

it's automatic