

MAKING a DEEP IMPACT

NC Baptist Coed Missions

Meet the Missionaries: You're never too old for missions. Those who know J.E. and Betsy Skinner have experienced this first-hand. Not that the Skinners are "ancient" by any means. But it is fair to say that they both came to missions later in life. Since then, they have pursued missions in a way that seems to suggest they are making up for lost time! The past fifteen years have seen both of them involved in numerous overseas, national, and disaster relief efforts. Following Hurricane Floyd, JE spent nearly four years off and on at NC Baptist Men's mission center in Grifton. They also spent eighteen months managing the warehouse for NCBM in Gulfport, Mississippi after Hurricane Katrina.



Perhaps it's the vigor and enthusiasm with which they engage in missions that make JE and Betsy stand out. JE is not shy around a construction site, often working circles around folk half his age or younger. And Betsy's organizational skills are legendary. Give her a task and one can be sure that every "i" will be dotted and every "t" crossed. "Perhaps it's because we got started in missions later in our lives", says Betsy, "that we

are always encouraging people not to wait to get involved. There's so much to do, and so many blessings that come with serving."

In 2008, the Skinners experienced Deep Impact for the first time, helping out with projects in Grifton and Red Springs. Being around so many young people must have agreed with them. For the past two years they have assisted with Deep Impact every week of the summer. Understanding that the young people of our churches are indeed the future, JE says, "You never know who we may be influencing – even the next Billy Graham. We enjoy bridging the gap between our age and their age." Believing that the Lord is "recruiting an army of young people to reach the world" the Skinners plan to do all they can to encourage their involvement in missions.



Older in years, but young at heart, the Skinners plan to continue inspiring those who serve alongside them in missions for as long as the Lord allows. And North Carolina Baptists are the richer for it.

Story by Mark Abernathy