

NEWSLETTER

CSI

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The Christian Singles Info-exchange

A NATIONWIDE NON-PROFIT INFORMATION EXCHANGE SYSTEM FOR MARRIAGE-MINDED SINGLES

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FIRST INTERNATIONAL MATCH & WEDDING



Actually, we have had previous international matches, but those involved a person from another country living in, or visiting, the USA at the time when the Selection Notice was processed.

The marriage of Peter J. Hartman of Ashland, **Virginia**, and Carole A. Bagley, of Wolver Hampton, **England**, is truly a milestone for CSI because it is the first international selection that we are aware of, that has resulted in a successful engagement and marriage.

Although less than 1% of our members are from a country other than the USA, we have two other international selections, (*both involving gentlemen in the USA, and ladies in the Philippines*) that may result in marriages some time soon. Perhaps international CSI marriages will be common in the future.

As Peter and Carole's story will show, living in different countries adds complications to the friendship and to the relationship, (*continued*)

Peter & Carole Hartman, members 2300-01 and 3969-02 in February of 2004. They were married on August 20, 2004 in Ashland, Virginia.

however, although international relationships are more difficult, current government statistics on marriage show that international marriages have a HIGHER success rate, and, to the surprise of many, a much lower divorce rate than domestic marriages! So if you are looking for a lifelong partner and a successful happy marriage, don't overlook the international members of CSI.

The story of Peter and Carol begins on August 1, 2001, when Peter found our telephone number on the Internet and called to ask about membership. Like most people who join our group, Peter was looking for a partner who lived nearby.

After a year of membership at the FULL level, Peter was disappointed in the number of people that we had in our system, who met his requirements, and who lived nearby. He decided against renewing his membership, and requested a refund of his unused Selection Fees.

On August 13, 2002, we mailed a \$45 refund check to Peter, and reminded him that since we had not met our Guarantee-of-Three, that his next year of membership would be free-of-charge. Peter declined our offer, and chose not to update his profile.

However, unknown to Peter at that time, about 4000 miles away, Carole, in Wolver Hampton, England, had found out about CSI via an announcement sent to her by CFFI, Christian Friendship and Fellowship International, a CSI partner organization.

On June 10, 2002, CSI received a membership request from Carole and on the

same day sent Carole a "sample listing" of profiles of gentlemen in her age group. Peter's profile was among the ten profiles that Carole received on her sample list.

Carole's determination was impressive. She had no doubt in her mind that she was going to find and marry an American gentleman via our information system. There was no doubt in her mind whatsoever. But Carole had very high screening standards, and she certainly was not interested in profiles that did not meet her high standards.

Hi mark,
 Here is our official wedding invitation & we truly hope you can attend. We do fully understand if you can't, but want to thank you for your ministry. We know the Lord has greatly used you in bringing Carole & I together and we want you to know how happy we are, that we have found our soul-mate for life! only you, Carole, me & the Lord know the miracle of our meeting with me dropping out right before Carole joined. God Bless you
 Mark! Pete & Carole
 6-6-04

Since Carole had joined at the FULL membership level, she decided to make a selection directly from her "sample list". The first selection that she made was Member No: 2300-01, Peter Hartman. Her selection was processed on August 10, 2002, just a few days before Peter's information and Contact Information was scheduled to be taken out of our system.

When Peter received Carole's Selection Notice and Profile Print-Out, he was highly impressed, but at the same time, he was skeptical that a long-distance relationship would work for him. After all, Peter was looking for someone nearby.

CSI usually does not get involved in the relationship, once direct contact is made. However, in this case, both Peter and Carole had frequent contact with CSI, working out things that domestic matches do not have to worry about. Fortunately, all things did work out, and Peter and Carole's story ended up much like an old English fairy tale.