

NEWSLETTER PHILIPPINES

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A Question That Demands an Answer

by Glen Knight

She peered silently from behind the door, this child who for the very first time ever, listened to the simple songs about Jesus. Perhaps by reason of her shy disposition, she dared not join in with the singing, but her intensity upon hearing the melodies could be easily seen in her eyes. An occasional wrinkle of the forehead gave away the fact that she had not heard such in her young life. "Mommy, who is this in the songs?" came the eventual question, followed by her mother's sad answer, "I cannot say." —In the world of Islam, no one sings or even speaks of Jesus. Nothing is said of his love, nor of his power; nothing is said of his compassion for the sick and injured; nothing is said of the life he gave, neither of the joy he gives in promises made for time and eternity. The gospel of Jesus is unknown.



Is it possible to leave such questions unanswered? Can we in any sense disregard the fact that to large portions of our world's population, Christ is unknown and even feared? We content ourselves by dismissing things we believe aren't our responsibilities considering that someone else must take care for them...someone, somewhere should go...someone should do...whatever. The fact is that I am that...someone, and so are you.

What would you do to be able to go and answer that question for this child and her mom? To be sure, most who read this note will not be able. Their place is far away and isolated in a very big ocean. We will go and keep going for you. But here again, please realize that our going in no way dismisses your responsibility. Look around you. There are people equally ignorant of God's saving grace with questions that demand answers.

Please visit the new website:

www.remoteislandministriesph.com

"Can we in any sense disregard the fact that to large portions of our of our world's population, Christ is unknown and even feared?"



RIM Nativa coming astern to Mabila Pier, Balut Island, February 2011.

Photo: Glen Knight

Annual Bible Conference & Choir Concert

The PMBS-AIT Choir presented the beautiful musical entitled: **John 3:16, The Numbers of Hope** on Wednesday evening of our annual Bible Conference, February 23. Approximately 600 people were present for the evening concert and evangelistic service. The seminarians, staff and alumni making up the choir numbered 90 persons altogether.

Already Paula is searching for a new musical to be used during next year's conference. Many thanks go to all who helped make the concert a success!





A child from Balut Island listening to the Bible lesson. His shaved head is the treatment for head lice, so common among the kids in the villages.

Now is the time for us to begin collecting supplies for the next shipment, the first week of December 2011.



RIM co-missionary, Mike Maxwell...a good friend and faithful co-worker in the Philippines. Thanks for all you've done, Ptr. Mike!

A Place for the Med-supply...

Glen Knight

The photo at the right is of Dr. Sam Evans and his wife Sherri who are medical missionaries living adjacent to our seminary compound in Davao City. Thanks to the generous donation of medical supplies last November from our friends at St. Michaels Hospital, Texarkana, TX, USA and other of our ministry partners in the Texarkana area, we were able to share much needed surgical supplies with Dr. Sam and his staff. We also delivered a good supply of things to the tiny hospital in Port Maveas, Balut Island and promised to bring more a little later this year.

Now is the time for us to begin collecting supplies for the next shipment the first week of December 2011. That time will be upon us sooner than we imagine! Whether medical items, clothing and shoes,



hygiene kits, or Bibles, we are ready to begin receiving things now. Please contact me for delivery information or with questions you may have.

(903) 293-8589 or you can email us: glenandpaula@hotmail.com

Mike says good-bye to RIM...

It is with sad hearts we accepted lately, the resignation of Pastor Mike Maxwell as a co-worker with Remote Island Ministries. Mike has served faithfully and without hesitation on numerous voyages and with other work that is necessary to the overall accomplishment of RIM's goals. Having felt the need to once again devote full time to his ministry at Hillcrest Baptist Church, Acworth, GA USA, Mike tendered his resignation during March.

After four years of ministry with us, things won't be the same without him but we understand his heart and respect his decision.

Mike enjoyed the presence of his wife Angela and son Justin recently during our annual Bible conference. This was the very first time they had been able to join him in the Philippines. We truly hope that they will all come once again someday. God bless you, our dear friends!

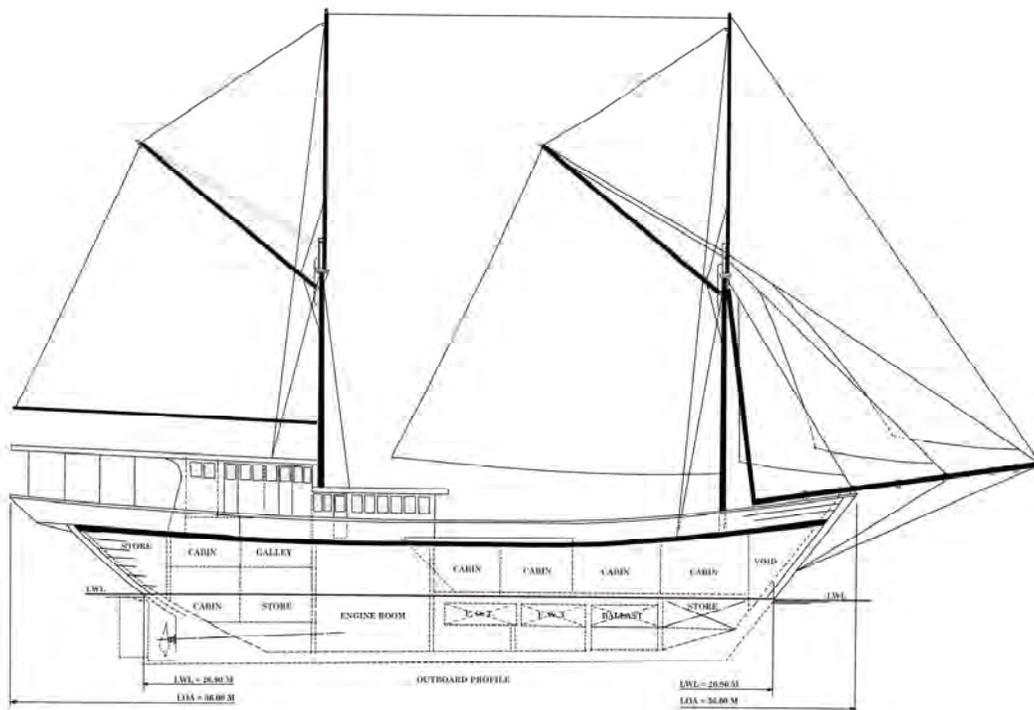


"...but how do you calculate the worth of a friend? It is not in a moment that friends are made but through time and with experience. It's a relationship forged in the press of joy and sorrow—fear and courage—and faith. It is that which spans time and in our cases, oceans. Some we leave behind and never see again, but friends, they remain." —G.K.

New Boat for Remote Island Ministries...MSV NATIVA II



A lone coconut tree stands sentinel overlooking the Pacific Ocean. This is the last island of the southeastern Philippines. The waters in the background are Indonesia.



As the challenge of preaching the gospel to islanders of the vast western Pacific Ocean has reached a new level, so has the need for a new and different type of mission vessel. Thus, we have designed and begun preparation for construction of the gaff-rigged motor sailor, pictured above. This schooner will be named **MSV Nativa II** and will be a world-capable ship of 164' by 33', accommodating up to 32 mission team members at any time. She will be used initially throughout the Philippines and Indonesia with future voyages planned for parts of the Indian Ocean. I have for a long time believed that ministry such as this is needed for the sake of people who never hear the gospel. Our work in Remote Island Ministries over the past five years has proven its viability. It is time now to raise the bar higher, to go farther and for longer periods

of time and to involve a greater network of people in this effort. The motor-sailor is without doubt, the best type of vessel for our purpose for the sake of saving fuel cost by harnessing the abundant wind power on the seas. Largely increased cargo capacity, sustainability of ministry for years to come, sea-keeping ability and unlimited range are but a few of the advantages we will gain with the new **Nativa**.

Already the Lord is bringing together a group of people who are interested to share their expertise in the development of this new boat. I plan to begin construction in August of this year. The projected cost to float the boat is estimated at \$232,000.00. Please join us in prayer for the Lord's supply and watch for updates soon.

—Glen Knight

Looking across the expanse of ocean to starboard, one could make out the distant blue shape of a low, flat land. "What is that island?" I asked the captain. "It is Isla de Palmas, sir...a part of Indonesia." was his reply. "How far is it?" I questioned. "It is three hours at our rate of speed." he said. "And how many liters of fuel would be required?" I asked. "Too many. We have only enough to make port in Davao tomorrow...sorry sir." was his reply. The distant island faded from view...and I stood watching.

—G. Knight, Memoirs



My friend Larry Hamilton and **Bittersweet** of Friday Harbor, WA, USA tied to one of our moorings in Davao City. Larry and his wife are nautical missionaries who make port occasionally in Davao.

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This "new" van was recently purchased in Davao City for use in the work, greatly enhancing our land mobility. It is four-wheel drive with a strong engine. Many thanks go to John and Lesa Hanks for help with this purchase!

...Reaching people on the edge!



Paula, Juli and the some of the ladies of our PMBS-AIT Choir pose for a photo prior to presentation of the concert during our annual Strength for the Laborers Conference at the seminary the last week of February, 2011.

Closing thoughts...

Glen Knight

When we moved our family to the Philippines in 1994 our children Matt and Jenny were teenagers. They grew into adulthood on the mission field, married and had children. In the meantime God brought another little one into our lives...Juliana. Our adult children and their families moved back home. Now, as a family of three, we are faced with entirely new phases of ministry that will no doubt, reach new horizons we had never imagined. The Lord will not fail in His leadership and we are determined to be faithful as we follow on.



Lately, we celebrated Juli's 11th birthday together with many of our Filipino family and friends. And what better place to celebrate than on the decks of RIM Nativa?

Thank you for your faithful assistance through 18 years of ministry in the southern Philippines. Pray for us as we carry on...God bless!

A stout boat, stout hearts and eyes that can really see...to these God will give wings.