

NEWSLETTER PHILIPPINES

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Seeing Beyond the Horizon

Glen Knight

Distant clouds floated on the horizon to the east of the Philippines toward the island nation of Palau. Standing on the shoreline gazing across the water at our missionary boat *Nativa*, with the village of *Langka* behind me and thoughts of how the Lord had placed so many people here and similarly, in thousands of other villages on islands far-flung and remote, what began to settle upon me almost defied possibility. We had traveled far and yet there remained the pressing need to go farther...much farther. Across these waters of the western Pacific ocean lay an endless chain of islands most of which are known to us only because America fought the Japanese here. But for more than half a century, those who live on these islands have faded from view and from our concern. Few people from the rest of the world come here and have no reason to do so. But to venture here is our task and the reasons are as numerable as the people living in the villages. If reaching people on distant shores seems impossible, that is just the kind of thing that challenges our faith.

As construction of the new sailing ship, *MSV/RIM Nativa II* reaches completion of it's hull during July and work continues into the second half of this year, the means whereby we shall reach unreachable people with the gospel is materializing before our eyes.



Many of you who read this have prayed and have contributed to the project through the past months. Please continue to help and pray that we reach our target of commissioning the ship on March 1, 2013. Much work remains to be done and funding is still a priority. Thank you for helping with this very special ministry to Oceanic Asia. God bless!

“Few people from the rest of the world come here and have no reason to do so. But to venture here is our task...”



Children peer from the window of the church in Malaybalay, Bukidnon where Carlo Panes is pastor, sponsored by Hyde Park Baptist Church, West Monroe, LA.

www.remoteislandministriesph.com

What all people need...

Have you considered the situation of life among people in isolated places of the world? One cannot imagine their lives to be that different from our own. Sure, we have the technology and what most would say is a superior society but comparatively, their lives mirror our own. Humanity generally speaking, is the same the world over. What is needed with any single man, woman or child, is needed among all and therefore with the love of Christ we reach out to our world. The village child in the photo to the right learns of Jesus through recited lessons from the Bible.





Happy children during a baptismal service near their home.



Kids play on a fallen coconut tree at the shoreline of Talikud Island, Gulf of Davao.



A B'laan boy of Balut Island shows a happy smile as the gospel has come to his home. Two churches have been planted here.

Classes begin again at PMBS-AIT

The month of June always signals our return to school in the Philippines and with that, classes have begun again at the Philippine Missionary Baptist Seminary of Davao City. We have begun this semester with a total of sixty students. Expectations are high for a great year in the school.

To those of you who contribute monthly to the operation of the seminary, we express our sincere appreciation. Without your help it would be impossible to carry on the training effort. The students and



staff are pictured in the photo above. To the left is a photo during the orientation on the first day of classes. Please continue helping us and pray for a successful year.

Work on our 2013 Strength for the Laborer's conference is underway already. The seminary choir is working on the music and plans are being drafted with the theme, "Into All The World." This will be a defining moment in the work of our school and in missionary activity for all who attend the conference. More information is coming.

Vacation Bible School at Bethany

Glen Knight

Year by year the mission team of Remote Island Ministries has ventured out to Bethany, Cape San Augustin to conduct Vacation Bible School. Under the leadership of Pastor Nelmar Sumatra the team returned in late May to a welcome among the children and their parents there. The attendance for the week averaged 100 daily. The photo at the right shows eager children working with the materials during one of the classes. Professions of faith were recorded among the older children and some of the adults. At this time, the church needs a pastor. Please pray with us for someone who will take up the mantle and carry on where the former pastor left off. This distant outpost of gospel ministry is worthy of support and continued development. One of the young men from



the village is now a second-year student at PMBS-AIT. I am hopeful that he will have the desire to return there for full-time work after completing his studies. Many thanks go to our ministry team for a job well done during the VBS at Bethany!

"I saw the man standing there, having climbed high upon a large rock. His shirt was bright blue and seemed almost iridescent in the late afternoon sun. What struck me so was his waving and beckoning to our vessel as we passed, almost like the man of Macedonia must have appeared in Paul's dream. We could not have known at the moment but this was the beginning of a new church." —gk

The Ship's Progress: July 2012

Glen Knight

Work on our new missionary sailing vessel, RIM Nativa II has continued on a steady schedule during the past few weeks. As of July 1, 2012 the hull is almost complete. The forward sections are plated as can be seen in the photos to the right and below. The shear-strake bumpers are installed as are also the two large fin keels at the radius of each bilge. Interestingly, these fins provide lateral stability and reduce the hull's parametric roll. Sandblasting and painting of the hull will follow during July.



The hull's deep keel is just about finished in all the forward section as can be seen in this photo of the starboard side. This keel is filled with concrete to give her added ballast. Once the work is completed in the after section of the ship, work will begin on the railing, the deck house and wheel house through July and August. Once back in the Philippines in mid-August, I will begin work on the masts, booms and spars, hoping to have that work accomplished by mid-October.



The main deck, forward is shown in the photo at the right. The front of the deck house will be about where the photographer is standing in this shot so that you can get a good idea of the length of the weather deck. Below the raised section at the forepeak is the forward dry cargo hold and the anchor chain locker. The rectangular hatch will be covered with a "dog-house" giving access to the lower accommodation hold. The main access to this area below deck will be through the deck house salon.



The final stage of work on the hull is pictured to the left. Plating of the stern step is nearing completion at this writing. The propulsion and steering components have been fabricated in the machine shop and once installed, additional framing can be done and plating finished. The target date of July 18th for finishing the hull is well within reach...PTL! Our Caterpillar engine is almost ready for installation now that the stern tube and propeller shafting are finished. (See the sidebar for more photos.)



"What is unique about this ship is not so much that she is a sailing ship. Neither is it that she is the first of her kind to be built in the Philippines in over one hundred years. Her true uniqueness lies in the fact that she's purpose-built for gospel ministry...one of a kind in all the world." —gk



Our beautiful new 34" diameter propeller has been delivered to the shipyard and is ready for installation soon! The cost of this unit was nearly \$2,800.00.



Propeller shafting, couplings, pedestal bearings and the new propeller are all shown in this photo inside the machine shop of SAFI Shipyard.

"Interestingly, these fin keels produce lateral stability and reduce the ship's parametric roll."



The main deck looking aft is pictured above. Soon the deck house and wheel house will begin to take shape. The bulwarks will be topped with railing, stem to stern.

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A fisherman of Talikud Island, Gulf of Davao helps our ministry team moving supplies and personnel to the shore with his small boat.

...Reaching people on the edge!



Children of the Bethany Missionary Baptist Church, Cape San Augustin, Philippines pose for a photo during the Vacation Bible School conducted there during the last week of May, 2012. Great job, RIM Team!

A Final word...

Glen Knight

During the month of June we enjoyed visiting among many churches in California and while on the west coast, attended the annual ABA messenger meeting. Contacts with very many people throughout the month helped to raise interest in Remote Island Ministries and the ship building project in particular. We thank all who hosted our visits and all who gave so much to help in the work.

July will be spent among churches in West Virginia, Pennsylvania, Georgia and Kentucky.

Paula, Juli and I will return to the Philippines on August 21. Please remember to pray for us as we work through the remainder of this year and watch for updates on what's happening...God bless!



"Come with me and I will take you on a journey you may never have imagined...an adventure unlike you have ever experienced or could have experienced except for setting out knowing neither the destination nor necessarily the manner of the going...but God knows. Such is a walk by faith." —gk