

# REMOTE ISLAND MINISTRIES—Philippines

Missionaries Glen, Paula & Juli Knight

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***“After all, if our families and our communities have good water, then our concern for others becomes a passive concern...”***



Paula is pictured here on an early-morning market shopping run. Bananas, pineapples, watermelon and fish were on the list. Yes, those bananas are the best in the world!

## Water for Life

Glen Knight

What do you think when I tell you that one of the greatest positive changes that can be made in any culture is the introduction of sanitary drinking water? You will probably agree with me that this is correct but at the same time wonder what if anything, you can do about it. And after all, if our families and our communities have good water, then our concern for others becomes a passive concern that seldom renders enough response to create change for those who don't have it. According to the World Health Organization, waterborne diseases and the lack of sanitary drinking water are the reasons for the majority of deaths world-wide, most of which are children under the age of five years. Statistics show that over half of the world's hospital beds are occupied at this very time by people thus infected! And what about those who are far beyond reach of medical facilities of any sort? In some villages infant mortality can be as high as 60% resulting from dehydration due to diarrhea caused by drinking contaminated water. Sadly, in many villages of the developing world, water is available—but it is unreachable by the people who need it. Whether because of traditional thinking or simply a lack of skill, money or both, producing water wells is not on the village's agendas.



We know this to be an absolute fact as it has been witnessed by our ministry teams over and over again. We hardly need to ask the village leaders of their water source. Typically it is always the same—contaminated.

Among the many tasks of Remote Island Ministries at any given time is to provide clean drinking water to the people in remote areas of the western Pacific region. To do this we must procure a well-drilling rig. Such a machine that is portable and simple to use can be acquired through Lone Star Drills of Livingston, TX at a cost of \$7,900.00 complete. As the new sailing ship, *Nativa II* is finished and pressed into service soon, we hope to purchase this machine and begin using it drilling water wells. Many doors are opened for the gospel, giving water for life!

[www.remoteislandministriesph.com](http://www.remoteislandministriesph.com)

## What makes the difference?

The child in the photograph to the right is six years old. She cannot remember a time when there was no church in her village neither when there were no people singing songs about Jesus or reading aloud from the Bible. She has grown to this point in her life being fully exposed to the gospel and seeing God's hand at work in her young life. In her village, Remote Island Ministries has worked...for six years. Can you imagine life lived without the Lord? Neither can this girl and yet there are literally hundreds of thousands of children in Oceanic Asia just like her who are doing exactly that. But look at her—a bright smile, a healthy body and a fresh bath from a well that love dug...what a difference! For the sake of others like her we will sail the world's oceans and seas for Christ. Please help us!



## Working at the Cape...

Glen Knight

A weekend spent recently at Bethany, Cape San Augustin was a great blessing both to those of us who went out there as well as to the folks in the village. Our purpose for going in part was to secure permission from the land owner to cut some coconut trees near the mission chapel. Coconuts from those trees had nearly demolished one side of the chapel roof. We got the go-ahead to cut the trees and dropped three of them, sliced them into lumber to be used by the church and then set about repairing the roof. Now addition-



*“We got the go-ahead to cut the trees and dropped three of them, sliced them into lumber to be used by the church and then set about repairing the roof.”*



Three of the beautiful children of Bethany. The one in the center is “Sandara” the youngest of four daughters of Eking, one of the faithful men in the church.

An exciting thing that has developed at Cape San Augustin is that a new work will soon be started in Impog and Lavigan. For several years now we have worked periodically with these people hoping to see a harvest from among them but up until now there seems to have been very little. After this last trip into the area word has come to us of fifteen people, mostly adults who have committed themselves to Christ and desire now to be baptized. Lumber, nails, sheet metal roofing and concrete are all necessary to putting up church buildings, but building churches is more difficult and time-consuming. Patience and plenty of Bible teaching, prayer and diligence are all necessary to getting this job done and it is so encouraging to see the eventual response of the people! Our pastor at Bethany is making a follow-up with the new believers so that soon we will be able to return to the area and witness the beginning of another church!



al work can be done finishing the front wall of the chapel with concrete blocks. The photo above shows our brother Rodino whose leg was cut off about three years ago. He’s now in good health as can be seen and has a tremendous testimony of God’s grace in saving both his life and his soul. At the left is a picture of the congregation (the whole village!) of Bethany Baptist Church. We now have a new pastor among the people, Brother Charles Tablo, (to my left) a 2011 graduate of our seminary in Davao City.



Above is a photograph of one of the trees we cut down at Bethany being sliced into good lumber. The two additional trees produced a lot of lumber as well and will be used to further develop the church building and parsonage there. The land owner in this area has agreed to deed this strip of land to the village of Bethany. Once this process is finished permanent houses can be built!

*“Pastor, what has happened with these people here? At one time I wanted to drive them into the sea. They were nothing but squatters, thieves and drunkards but now, look at them! It is obvious to me that something has happened...something good!” (From a conversation with Nitong Fernandez, the land owner at Cape San Augustin.) —G. Knight, Memoirs...*

## The Ship's Progress: November 2012

The months of November and December should bring us closer to completion of the work that must be done in the shipyard. As can be seen in the photo at the right, the deck structure is nearly complete. Within a short time from now sandblasting and primer painting the entire hull and superstructure will be done so that the vessel can be moved to the slipway for final fitting out. Looking carefully at the picture, the forward mast sections can be seen on the ground ahead of the ship.



This diesel generator produces 25,000 watts of power for our missionary ship. It is one of two generators to be installed. Aside from this we will have a hybrid system for our DC operations consisting of two Air-Breeze wind turbines and an array of Kyocera solar panels charging twelve to sixteen large batteries.



The deckhouse is a strong and functional addition to our hull. Through the past two months we have redesigned this part of the ship to produce better visibility from the bridge. The result is a superior design for our cargo schooner. The photo at the left was shot two weeks ago. At this time all the work has been finished on the hood that tops the roof of the superstructure. Pedestals for mounting the radar antenna, searchlights and various other pieces of electronic equipment have to be added above the bridge.

*“The deckhouse is a strong and functional addition to our hull...”*

The view of the starboard deck in the photo to the right shows completed work on the deck structure. The companionway “doghouse” in the foreground leads to the accommodation hold below decks. The vent and skylight immediately in front of the bridge is the deck access into the engine room below where the Caterpillar D334 main drive engine now sits along with two generators and various other pieces of equipment. The large windows of the bridge are seen in a close-up view here as well.



One of the best aspects of our deck structure redesign is easily seen in the picture to the left. It is the very large cargo space on the weather deck. The mast section in the photo is sitting in place but has not been plumbed as you can see the slight list to starboard. This section will be cut off at one meter above deck and serve as the foundation for an eighty-eight foot mast that will rise above it. The main mast will rise through the wheelhouse just aft of the pilot console. Watch for more photos!



This is one of two navy-type stockless anchors that have been secured as part of our ground tackle for *Nativa II*. These are to be mounted at the bow of the ship with 300 feet of 5/8" ship chain each. A third heavy kedge anchor will be mounted at the stern.

*As work continues on the missionary sailing ship, *Nativa II*, so does the need for your prayers and financial contributions. To date we have reached our initial goal for the ship's hull construction. Thanks to offerings given during the past two months, funding for equipment and materials for development of the superstructure have been provided. Labor costs and additional materials cost will have to be met in November to December.*

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We will climb these stairs soon to take the wheel of our missionary sailing ship. This is the starboard stair rising to the bridge of the ship, Nativia II.

*...Reaching people on the edge!*



The seminary choir of PMBS-AIT continues to prepare special music for the Bible conference coming up in February. With 90 voices strong, this choir produces some of the most beautiful music ever heard on Mindanao and for the glory of the Lord!

**A Final word...**

Glen Knight

Equipment needed on the MSV/RIM Nativia II has been procured and set in place for installation during November and December. Some of these items have not only come from surprising sources, but are themselves, surprising pieces of equipment. The anchor windlass pictured at the right is one such item. Manufactured by Tulsa Winch Company more than 70 years ago, this windlass originally pulled the ground tackle of a US Navy PT boat, deployed during WWII



in the Philippines. After being salvaged from the boat in later years, the windlass was secured in a warehouse in Manila until purchased in October 2012 for installation on our missionary sailing ship, Nativia II. We are sure that long ago the Lord moved in His divine wisdom to preserve this and so many other things that would come together to make what we see today is a cargo schooner to take the gospel to our world!

*“What would you do if you had a larger boat?” he asked. “I would sail farther and longer to reach more people for Christ.” was my reply. “That’s simple enough.” he said, and we prayed. In later years he gave me a model ship...a schooner which served to stimulate dreams of sailing the world...of reaching places unreachable except with such a vessel.*

*(From a conversation in the Philippines in 2000 with Dr. Paul Magness)*

*G. Knight, Memoirs of a Missionary*