

## SPECIAL REPORT: *Construction of MSV/RIM Nativa II*

# REMOTE ISLAND MINISTRIES

Glen, Paula & Juli Knight, Missionaries to Pacific Asia

January 2013

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Concept to Completion	1
<a href="#">Visit Our Website!</a>	1
A Ministry Philosophy	1
Ministry Platforms...	2
A Big Step Forward	3
Reaching people...	3
A Final Word: —Why We Sail	4

***“Consider the means whereby gospel preaching and building churches, schools, medical facilities and drilling water wells can be accomplished and what you may discover is the MSV/RIM Nativa II, a modern, steel motor-sailing cargo schooner.”***



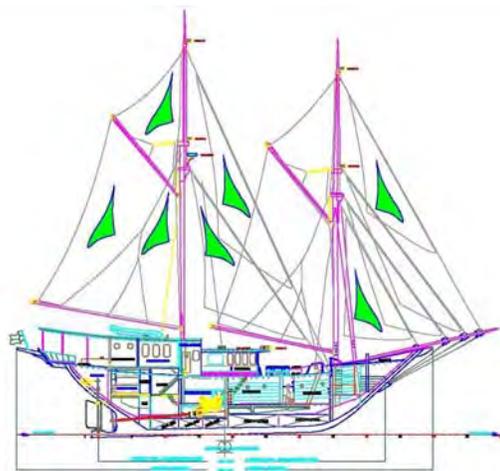
A meeting with Engineer Ronie Bontor, General Manager of SAFI Shipyard, General Santos City, Philippines in October 2011 began the planning work for constructing a modern, steel sailing ship, capable of reaching the world's most isolated people with the gospel of Jesus Christ...

The MSV/RIM Nativa II.

## Concept to Completion: One Year of Work Glen Knight

Imagine having the ability to reach un-reachable shores at will—with the gospel of Jesus Christ. Feature being able to deliver workers and supplies by vast quantities into regions deprived of even basic necessities. Consider the means whereby gospel preaching and building churches, schools, medical facilities and drilling water wells can all be accomplished and what you may discover is the MSV/RIM Nativa II, a modern, steel motor-sailing cargo schooner. This is our vision and the one-off construction of this noble vessel is nearing completion.

Our concept for such a ship began with a design typical of the Indonesian Phinisi, a gaff-rigged schooner as depicted in the drawing below. The design has evolved into the cargo



schooner shown in the photo above—a 105' LOD vessel of 280 tons displacement. The need for such a ship is predicated upon having ample cargo space as well as accommodations for up to forty-four persons, a suitable galley and ship's stores for weeks at sea, and the ability to sail on the wind.

Through the past seven years, Remote Island Ministries has carried on work in the southern Philippines among the isolated and remote villages of the Gulf of Davao and the northern Celebes Sea. Our desired expansion of the work and the need for greater capacity and economy are the challenges faced at this time. The sailing ship MSV/RIM Nativa II will meet those challenges and more. With missionary service in mind from design concepts through construction to the finished vessel, our aim is to provide such a ship as can be used in any ocean or sea throughout Pacific Asia and indeed, the world. Both for that service and for missionary training as well as logistical support, RIM Nativa II will set a new precedent.

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

## A Ministry Philosophy: What lies behind Remote Island Ministries?

Through almost two decades of work in the southern Philippines and countless numbers of ministry opportunities, the idea has been continually cultivated to aid the Philippines by training and equipping Filipinos religiously and practically. Multiplying effort by dividing responsibility is the most efficient means of accomplishing this purpose. Now we're moving forward with the same motive and yet expanding into the regions beyond to incorporate Pacific Asia as a target area for gospel ministry and practical humanitarian aid. REMOTE ISLAND MINISTRIES is poised for international expansion in months to come. —Glen Knight



# Ministry Platforms Past & Present



Photo: Glen Knight October 2012

Defying his seventy-plus years of age, this man climbs daily to the tops of 90' coconut trees, tending and harvesting the vital fruit.



One of our RIM teams roofing a new church building on Balut Island, northern Celebes Sea.



Photo: Glen Knight October 2012

A Manobo child's expression warms the heart and helps us understand that no cost is too great for her to learn about Jesus!

The banner reads, "REMOTE ISLAND MINISTRIES" with its Visayan language translation beneath it. The photo to the right was shot in 2007 on the very first voyage of what was then a very new, M/V RIM Nativa. The men featured in the picture were among the first to venture with us along the Davao Oriental coastline all the way to Cape San Augustin. From America are Mark Cancino (far left, kneeling), Chris Davis, (sitting, front row), our pastor Robert Harris, (behind Chris) and yours' truly, (back row, center). The photographer was Mike Maxwell who served briefly as a RIM missionary.



The maritime work of Remote Island Ministry began with construction of our first boat, the 60' long, "balangay" (native outrigger) we named M/B Tropicana in the photo to the left. This light craft served well in the sheltered waters of the northern Gulf of Davao. Capable of seating up to forty-two people and with extremely shallow draft, we used this boat to ferry supplies and personnel to Samal and Talikud Islands to conduct our earliest mission surveys, youth and evangelistic activities and Vacation Bible School. The learning curve for Remote Island Ministries was established with this boat.

After nearly three years, having begun to understand much about the native cultures around northern reaches of the Gulf of Davao and with a desire for a stronger, more seaworthy vessel that could make passage throughout the region, we laid the keel of the trawler yacht we would soon name, M/V RIM Nativa. At 65' LOA and 40 tons displacement, this much larger boat was under construction for a little over one year. On the full moon of March, 2006, she entered her service which has continued until the present. Nativa has a range of 500 nautical miles and can remain at sea for up to ten days.



The typical voyages of M/V RIM Nativa focus on evangelism and church planting, well-drilling, food distribution and humanitarian aid—giving clothing and shoes and delivering medicines and medical supplies to remote medical outposts. Our team members are made up of permanent RIM staff and volunteers from the Philippine Missionary Baptist Seminary. At least once per year, we host visitors from the United States who come for valuable short-term mission work.

The photo above is of our vessel laying at anchor in a sheltered inlet of Balut Island, Celebes Sea along the ocean boundary between the Philippines and Indonesia. That to the left is of Nativa in Nganan Bay off the Davao Oriental Peninsula, Gulf of Davao. The boat has been a vital part of our work as a coastal vessel serving the area south of Davao.

There is little that compares to guiding someone to Jesus Christ! Whether young or not so, to take that one by the hands as in the photo to the right, and help her understand as in this case, with simple pictures, glue, scissors and crayons, the wonderful love and grace of God, is an experience never forgotten. And to do this repeatedly over a lifetime is to bring many to the Lord. But few will commit to such work and many who would go, cannot for various reasons. Still many will give to help others go. Perhaps this is where you can help...



*Watching the horizon is never-ending for the mariner...whether by day or by night. The late afternoon sighting of its broad expanse denotes without fail the coming day's condition, be it calm or windblown, dry or drenched. More faithful than a barometer, the cloud formations looming distantly prognosticate of that which is to come and what course adjustments should be made accordingly. In a sense, this reminds us of the long view to life given us in God's Word. The casual observer will not see and thus cannot take heed. He is the carefully observant who will know and follow the prognostication thus given by the Master of all creation. —G. Knight*

## A Big Step Forward: The Sailing Ship RIM Nativa II

There are many factors that led to the construction of yet another vessel for use by Remote Island Ministries. Rising cost of fuel, the need to go farther for longer periods of time, additional cargo and accommodation space and blue-water ability are but a few. On January 18, 2012 we laid the keel of a new vessel to be 105' in length on deck and equipped with both an engine and large sails. The cargo-schooner, MSV/RIM Nativa II had begun to take shape in SAFI Shipyard, General Santos City, Philippines. With a missionary vision of Pacific Asia, we have faithfully continued the work.



One year on, we are nearing completion of our new missionary cargo-schooner. The photo above shows the work within the first two weeks of construction. At the left she is shown after the third week with her bow stem attached. This vessel is designed and built for off-shore passage making primarily under her large sails and with state-of-the-art navigation and communication systems, she will be capable of circumnavigating the earth with the gospel of Christ! Our work is aimed at Pacific Asia, including the Philippines, Malaysia, Indonesia, as far south as Darwin, Australia and westward to Singapore.



At the end of the first month of construction, most of the ship's bulkheads and mid-section rib frames had been set, giving her the distinctive shape of a sailing ship. The forward sections of the weather decks had also been laid as can be seen in the picture to the right. Through the weeks that followed, the remaining bulkheads were built and installed, all the rib framing was completed and the entire deck surfaces, stem to stern were laid. Side hull plating was installed and bulwarks were built above the deck sheer line. After six months of work the hull was completed.



The photo to the left shows the finished hull of the sailing ship. The bilge fins for lateral stability and the sheer bumpers are clearly seen here. Work began in late August, laying out and pre-fabricating the superstructure which included the bridge, the deckhouse, the mast steps and the large sailing masts. With the propeller shaft stern tube also in place, the jobs of manufacturing the propeller shaft and the custom-made propeller were begun in the machine shop. Aside from the engine and reduction gear, there are no ready-made parts on this vessel—all things are produced.



At this writing, the MSV/RIM Nativa is nearing completion in SAFI Shipyard. As can be seen in this picture, the deck structure is finished, the port-lights are installed, the lifeline stanchions are in place and both mast steps are ready for the huge sailing masts to be set by that crane in the background. The equipment for launching the ship is laying to port and starboard of the vessel, ready for use as stability tests are scheduled within days of this writing. When painted, she will show herself blue & white with light gray topsides and new white sails. Our gospel ship will sail soon!



Many people are a part of the ship project. Pictured together with Pastor Robert Harris (standing) and myself, reviewing the plans and making suggested adjustments to some of the working apparatus, is our friend and sailing expert, Thomas LeMaire of Newport, Rhode Island.



One of our RIM teams is going ashore on Sarangani Island, Celebes Sea in Nativa's skiff. In most places there is no pier so the boat is anchored off the reef and personnel are shuttled to and from the shoreline.



Men from the church on Balut Island are overjoyed to see the roof of their building supplied by Remote Island Ministries. Their volunteer labor together with that of our RIM team made quick work of applying the corrugated steel roof panels.

**Your help is needed!** Completing work on the ship and pressing her into service is our immediate task. Over the past eighteen months the Lord has provided generous funding for the vessel through the offerings of His people. To those of you who have given we say from the depths of our hearts...THANK YOU! If you can give again, please do and if you have considered a donation but haven't given yet, now is a good time. Please help us finish this ship and go to the work! Designate to **"Nativa II"** and send your offering to: Victory Baptist Church, 515 Sherwood Avenue, Sherwood, Arkansas 72120, Attn: David Penn.

**REMOTE ISLAND  
MINISTRIES  
PACIFIC ASIA**

A Ministry of  
Victory Baptist Church  
515 Sherwood Ave.  
Sherwood, AR 72120  
USA

Stateside Address:  
**REMOTE ISLAND MINISTRIES**  
Glen Knight  
3606 Connie Lane  
Texarkana, TX 75503  
USA

Cell Phone: 903-293-8589

Philippine Address:  
**REMOTE ISLAND  
MINISTRIES**  
Glen Knight  
PMBS Compound  
Circumferential Rd, Marfori Hts  
Davao City, 8000  
Philippines

**Contact me:**  
glenandpaula@hotmail.com  
or  
glenknight@facebook.com



Photo: Glen Knight October 2012

*...Reaching people on the edge!*



Photo: Glen Knight January 2009

People marginalized by location, ethnicity and social status may be disregarded and even unknown by governments of men such as this impoverished family, but the good news is that they are not unknown to God and neither are they forgotten. They truly are existing on the "edge." Remote Island Ministries is committed to reaching unreachable places and people living there.

**A Final Word: Why we sail**

Glen Knight

The woman at the right is 109 years old. She is of the Sarangani Manobo tribe of southeastern Mindanao, Philippines. The child to the left enjoying a fresh coconut is of the same tribe and village. She is only 13. Ninety-six years separate them in age but that is not the only difference. The elderly woman first heard the gospel when she was 102 years old. The girl has known of Jesus since she was 6. Most children in the west first begin to understand about the need for God's saving grace when they are about as old as this girl but can you imagine living 102 years, having never heard the name of Jesus? The stark reality is that many never hear of God's saving grace because too few meet them where they are with the gospel. Please help Remote Island Ministries' *Nativa II* set sail!



Photo: Glen Knight October 2012

*So, shall we drift where the wind blows? No, we shall navigate on the wind—and there's a big difference. It cannot be said that a ship at sea is merely adrift unless of course, she has lost all ability of momentum. Indeed, to sail—to navigate, is to use the force of wind to advantage with a destination in view either directly or in mind and a purpose at hand for the going. Inasmuch as the Lord God is the great Director of the winds and He alone understands them fully, we make our incessant appeal for His direction for our going out and coming again.*

*"Notes for the Journey"—gk*