

# NEWSLETTER PHILIPPINES

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***“I will say that the work is larger than what had been previously expected and meeting it under full sail is what I hope to do.”***



*Brooding rain clouds over RIM Nativa, August 14, 2014. Pakiputan Anchorage. Samal*

## ***Back home...and happy!***

*by Glen Knight*

*It is almost impossible to express the joy I feel at being back home in the islands and aboard our sailing ship again. I could hardly imagine the feeling of returning to the Philippines after being away for just over three months to settle necessary family business but at this point I can honestly say that the time is right to press on with the maritime work. The month of July ushered me into my sixth decade of life on planet earth and while the years have stacked up on me, by God's grace, I remain healthy and strong...and happy!*

*So, where from here? I will say that the work is larger than what had been previously expected and meeting it under full sail is what I hope to do! There is great confidence in the Lord's leadership and despite the difficulties of late, His grace remains sufficient. In fact, His provision is so absolutely abundant that I am amazed. I am thankful to tell you that there is nothing lacking and there are no doubts about moving forward.*

*Presently, all debt incurred during Paula's illness and subsequent passing, has been paid and nothing remains over. Thank you for your prayers that this might be cleared. I am completely free of all financial encumbrance.*



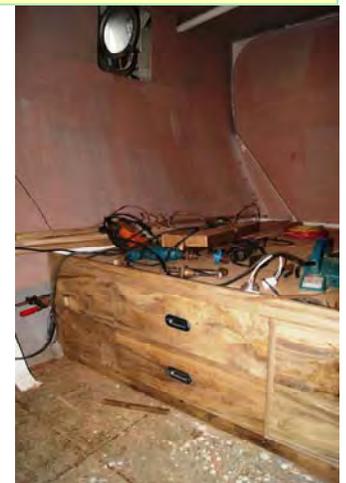
*The horizon is broad that stretches before Remote Island Ministries and now, I will captain the work, following the Master and Commander of the Asia Pacific seas and with your help, we will reach this part of our world for Christ!*

## ***The Making of a Home...***

*Glen Knight*

*We speak of a 'turn of events' as though our lives are hardly more than a game of chance with action and reaction and wishful outcomes. But faith teaches us differently. I will admit to you that when we first began construction of the missionary service vessel, RIM Nativa, I didn't consider it to be a full time home. But the Lord knew the plan from the beginning and now I can see it clearly. Through these months of August and September, we are finishing the interior of the ship to make her comfortable for living and for accommodating visiting co-workers with RIM. And I am making her my permanent home.*

*The photo at the right shows the lovely hardwood bed with drawers and a small cabinet in my room. Other beds throughout the ship are now of similar construction. The wood used is native molave. All interior floors are being overlaid with mahogany. All weather decks are being overlaid with heavy molave timbers. The photos and information in this newsletter document the work that is ongoing. I hope you enjoy reading...God bless!*



## Update on RIM Nativa's progress...



Thanks to Clifford and Lois Jordan of Central Baptist Church, Bastrop, LA, we have this nice band saw, shipped over last December. We're using it to cut hardwood trim!

Some of you who read this newsletter have already been with us onboard the sailing ship, working in short-term ministry. And if you have, you will be surprised to see the ship when you return! The following photos show work that is ongoing now. I hope to finish all these interior spaces within six weeks from this writing. The photo at the right shows the galley nearly finished with cabinet work being done and hardwood floors soon.



*“They are skilled in what they do and are committed to helping me get moved in and the work, underway.”*



Look at the happy faces in the photo above! These men are Nativa's crew and laborers I've hired to help complete the job finishing our ship's interiors. They are skilled in what they do and are committed to helping me get moved in and the work, underway. The men in the photo at the right are RIM Team Leader, Pastor Nelmar Sumatra and crewman Louie. They're installing one of the wall panels in the forward accommodation hold.

Both the forward and the aft holds where people sleep are being air conditioned at this time. That will create much greater comfort for those long days and nights aboard ship when the weather is really hot...like all the time! I am so thankful to be able to complete this work soon. October is voyaging time for RIM!



One of the men, a real craftsman with finishing, is applying the 'masilia' (body filler) that makes the walls so beautiful! After sanding this will be painted white.

*“Imagination is good, always. It serves as an escape when necessary but it is also the seed bed of dreams, for more things have been conjured and cobbled through imagination than what could be told in a lifetime and of those things, it is always amazing to me to discover reality that surfaces, sometimes slowly and painstakingly but at other times, so quickly as to startle and amaze! And imagination is not only of things that 'could be' but also of relationships that 'need be' for one should never face things that 'could be' alone. That was not Father's design.” —glen knight, 'Memoirs of a Missionary*

*...more progress photos...*



*In the forward accommodation hold, all temporary beds have been removed and now ceilings and walls have been installed complete with insulation to keep it quiet and cool. A better arrangement has been created for the permanent bed construction which includes a settee and table around the mast and a long table with benches in the center. A beautiful hardwood butterfly vent is being built over the cargo hatch.*

*RIM Nativa's bridge can be seen in the photo to the right. The console has been completely rebuilt now using Molave hardwood. New windows are being manufactured as of yesterday that will give our bridge control center not only a nice look but will facilitate greater comfort for the many long hours standing watch at the wheel. We have provided improved ventilation as well for this working area of the ship and a new, wide chart table and cabinets.*



*The photo above shows the area between Juli's room and mine, in the aft accommodation hold. Those pink colored walls will be sanded and painted white very soon now! A lovely red mahogany floor will be laid where you see the steel cabin sole. A hardwood door will be set in the opening.*



*The finishers in the photo to the left are working in Juli's room in the aft section of the ship. They are done at this writing and will be sanding and painting these walls and ceiling within days. You can see one of the lights in the room...a 3-watt LED which is what we have used to illuminate the entire vessel. All our interior spaces as well as deck and docking lights are LED which saves on power consumption and lets us use only wind and solar energy.*

*"All our interior spaces as well as deck and docking lights are LED which saves on power consumption and lets us use only wind and solar energy."*

*Seen from the bridge sun deck, the lower galley sun deck is covered with our awnings, helping to create a nice cool space inside the galley. The mizzen mast and booms are shown in this photo. We've removed all our sails and bagged them to prevent damage while laying at anchor and working on the ship. While the sails are off we will repaint the masts and booms, oil our blocks and replace some of the ropes. These are routine matters.*



*The time is coming very soon to welcome aboard RIM Nativa, Pastor Joseph Stacks, his wife Elizabeth and the team of workers from Cross Bearing Medical Ministries, Forest Grove Baptist Church, Taylor, Arkansas. They will be with us in October for a project on Balut Island in the northern Celebes Sea!*

*RIM Nativa from astern on a hot August afternoon at our anchorage. She's to undergo final painting by month's end.*

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RIM Nativa with her awnings spread and cool decks!

*...Reaching people on the edge!*



The sailing ship RIM Nativa lying at anchor, her awnings spread to cool the weather deck and galley sun deck, continues to undergo her final fitting out in all interior spaces. This work is behind schedule due to our family's loss earlier this year so now I am trying to catch up. Shown in this photo also in the background, is our motor trawler Nativa 1. I have chosen to keep this little boat as she still has a very important place to serve in our ministry. Photo taken on August 12, 2014.

**Closing thoughts...**

Glen Knight

July in Texas gave ample opportunity to close things out and part with hundreds of things from four decades of life divided between our stateside home and our mission home in the southern Philippines. There's a part of me that went with the stuff and I suppose that cannot be avoided. But the larger part has remained intact and moved on. August 1 found Juli and me having just arrived back in the Port of Davao the day before and eager to carry on the work.

But the work for me is changing. While some may have thought that I would resume former responsibilities with the seminary, the fact is that it is time to seriously develop the maritime work so it is to that that I have given myself. But first, it has been necessary to complete the ship in such a manner that she can be properly used as a ministry platform and a home. By the end of the year, that goal will be accomplished!



*"I have looked upon this horizon so often that it seems as an old friend...a companion, sometimes fickle and moody but still a friend and most of the time, bright and cheerful by day and ink-black with a million stars to illuminate it by night. From here one can clearly see Polaris to the north and the Southern Cross laying low beyond the Equator at the same time and perhaps to most, this seems insignificant, but to one who watches the skies, such a privileged latitude is nothing short of Divine gifting."*

—glen knight, *Memoirs of a Missionary*