

Newsletter Philippines

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Placing Bibles on Bohol Island

Glen Knight



The stretch of sea between Camiguin Island and Bohol was calm the day we sailed it bound for the village of Duero on the southeast shore of the Island. Dolphins played around the ship as we neared the coastline, seeming to welcome us as the mid-morning sun glistened on the water casting millions of diamond glints before our eyes in what surely was an idyllic view. But we had not come here to simply take in the beauty of God's creation. We had come to assist a local pastor, if ever so briefly and to meet the people of this village. The opportunity to give one hundred Bibles, one by one, soon presented itself and to preach a simple message of God's love were the highlights of our visit to Duero in the central region of Visayas. We were also able to share hygiene kits and clothing for the church where Pastor and Mrs. Baltazar Tumabini serve. It was good to make this contact and as with all others throughout the region, we will be able to monitor their needs and continue assisting their work of evangelism.

"Dolphins played around the ship as we neared the coastline, seeming to welcome us..."



The children quickly steal ones heart among all these islands. Pray for them as you can and thanks for helping us help them. The photo here is from the church in Ubay, Bohol Island, Ptr. Lucesio Booc.

Ship's Log: Sailing Visayas With God's Word

The Ship dropped anchor off Duero on the southern coast of Bohol Island. There we made contact with more than seventy students in an elementary school and numerous adults along the beach. All were given copies of God's Word and heard the message of salvation by faith in Jesus Christ. We will come again to this coast...to these people, for Jesus sake!



"So who can tell in this life what will be the impact of a Bible given to the hands of a child. It may not amount to a thing...but then again, it could change a life, a community, a nation...the world." —gk



RIM Nativa has sailed more than 1,200 miles from the home port. We will go on and on under God's leadership!

Remote Island Ministries needs your help with monthly offerings. We can sail as far as you help us go. Please consider assisting this unique missionary work with your love offerings. See Page 4 for our mailing address!



With her sails fully spread, RIM Nativa makes a beautiful sight. The ship is an able vessel for gospel ministry and for relief supply to the many islands of the Philippine seas. Please pray for us as we navigate another month and help us if you can!

The month in pictures...

The month of August began with our saying goodbye to Jon Penn, our summer worker who came in early June and remained through July. Jon was helpful with so many things including a lot of electrical and electronic work done on the ship during the first month of his stay and with helping us in the island ministry from the Port of Davao to Mati, to Bislig Bay and on to La Januza Island. He continued with us to Surigao, Camiguin, Bohol and Cebu where he left us on August 1 bound for home in Sherwood, Arkansas. Thanks so much Jon...God bless!



Along the way we have met so many people, young and not so young and all have stolen deeply into our hearts. In this survey portion of our voyaging, we're getting acquainted with the area and people in different places. We're seeing their lives as they are and assessing how we can best help them spiritually and physically. We have found warm welcomes and more people than can be imagined. It is our purpose to make contacts that will be useful in the future as we come again for evangelism and humanitarian aid. The photo at the left was shot by Juli at the elementary school, Duero, Bohol.



Another aspect of our voyaging at present is to meet our sister churches and their pastors on these scattered islands. We're finding so many who are carrying on despite the difficulties faced due to calamities and poverty. RIM is a missionary service organization. We serve to assist churches. When anything is given to Remote Island Ministries, it's passed on to others in need. We reach hundreds of people each week and are



able to accommodate 50 tons of cargo onboard the ship. Our need is for funds to purchase the supplies on a regular basis. We aren't importing containers any more because we're not in a permanent port. Funds for shipping can now be best used in purchasing the supplies we need locally. Even Bibles are available but they come at a price. And what we need are Illongo, Cebuano and Tagalog versions of the New Testament. I am shopping for these here now and will post information.

"In your explorations, have you come full circle? You see, to wander is only to wander and most of the time with no aim or purpose. But to seek is to find and in the finding, experiences gained will profit. Many have set out on a journey only to return unchanged. But few have set out seeking, whose return produces change not only within self but all along the way for the world around. As with the early navigators of these ocean seas, their seeking brought knowledge and produced change, sometimes for ill but mostly for good. And those whose discoveries we remember still bear upon our lives. Of how much greater benefit is it when our explorations are for the Lord and in coming full circle, the changes produced are an inspiration to generations that follow?"

—Memoirs of a Missionary, Glen Knight

Mission Survey: Central Visayas, Philippines

Giving Bibles always creates great excitement among the kids in the schools. Thanks to the Fish Ministry and Pastor W.A Dillard we have a few of the Precious Promises New Testaments in English and some Cebuano New Testaments that we were able to give to the children in this elementary school. Look carefully and you will see the boy holding his copy up for the photo. Also, with the help of Rose Lawn Baptist church and Pastor Rick McVeigh we have a some copies of the Bible, Old and New Testament in English. Thanks so much!



The ship is underway between Camiguin and Bohol Islands. The day was bright and beautiful but weather changes were soon to come. Still she sailed on faithfully. And we prayed.



By the end of October our supply of Bibles will be exhausted. We are praying to be able to purchase more of them soon but I have to shop the price and stock so as to buy them in bulk orders. I am considering printing a REMOTE ISLAND MINISTRIES BIBLE. We are making this a matter of prayer and I don't even know where to start but think it would be a great thing to do. I ask that you pray with us about it. We enjoyed the fellowship of our brethren in Danao City, Cebu Island, photo at left.

“By the end of October our supply of Bibles will be exhausted. We are praying to be able to purchase more of them soon...”

Sailing from one island to another and searching out the churches that we hear about along the way is exciting. When we arrive, it is usually not on a Sunday and often, we have so little time that we cannot stay more than a day or so. The people we find are always happy to see us and no matter the day or night, will convene a worship assembly and give us time to preach God's Word. At right is the church in Cawit, Ponson, Camotes Island. We will return to their village someday soon.



In most cases during this stage of our missionary work through Visayas, we leave about as suddenly as we arrived and the people remain to ponder their experiences. The children in the photo to the left followed us all the way through the village and later, down to the beach as we boarded our skiff and returned to the ship. They could still be seen standing, waving as we departed. I can see the possibility of returning for long term work in such places. We will pray for that.



Our engineer, Dado is busy here making a 50 meter long fishing net. It has already proven it's worth, catching several kilos of fish while at anchor. We eat what we catch and thank the Lord for it!

“The long black lines of storm clouds feeding the distant typhoon spread across the horizon beyond our vessel as we lay at anchor praying to remain safe. Rain marched by in sheets causing the water beneath to turn black in the distance until it bent its direction toward us and blinded our view all around. What could be heard above the pelting noise on our wheelhouse were the intrepid native fishermen shouting to their fellows of fish running! And I thought of gospel ministry and its difficulty and the sacrifice demanded to carry it forth. It's the fisherman's spirit that makes us weatherly. When Jesus spoke of being 'fishers of men' He surely knew the challenge and in obedience, we learn the same.” —gk

**REMOTE ISLAND
MINISTRIES**

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

Stateside Address:
REMOTE ISLAND MINISTRIES
Glen Knight, c/o Cheryl Clem
8101 Thames Ave.
Texarkana, TX 75503
USA

Field Address:
Glen Knight
PMBS Compound
Circumferential Road
Marfori Heights
Davao City 8000
Philippines
Phone: 011-63-82-224-5591
Cell: 011-63-939-372-7916

Email me:
glenknight.ph@outlook.com



The weather deck of RIM Nativa on our crossing of the Bohol Sea in early August, 2015.

...Reaching people on the edge!



The missionary ship RIM Nativa drops anchor off Ponson Island and the village of Cawit, 4 August, 2015 to make a call at the tiny church in that same village where our friend Pastor Bernie Quinones serves. This is one of the villages hard hit by typhoons.

Closing thoughts: New faces...new friends...warm hearts!

All along the way from one island to another and in each city, town and village, we have perhaps one of the most unique opportunities of anyone we know and that is to make new friends. It is difficult even after one month of voyaging to recall every place but the faces of the people and the warm hearts are things that cannot be forgotten. Time after time we have commented to one another here in our ship-board family that, "...this is a place where we will come again." And we pray to be able to do just that. During this time of surveying the Visayan Islands it isn't possible to linger long in any single place. We move quickly because we know there are so many places to visit in this phase of our work. But surely the Lord will give us the right time to return to see our new friends again. Juli poses with two of her new friends whom she met in the church in Ubay, on the north shore of Bohol Island. It amazes me how quickly she and all of us bond with the people. Such is the way of the Lord!



"I have often thought of our neighbors here in this unusual sort of 'neighborhood' and I say it is a neighborhood, this ocean, these seas, these bays where we move and anchor our floating home. And we have neighbors. They come in all ages but always from the same circumstances. Recently one such neighbor visited our ship, drifting slowly along side in his small boat and received from loving hands, gifts for himself and his family...clothing, medicines and hygiene supplies. With a grateful heart and expressions of thanks, he soon drifted away, looking back as he moved off in the distance to see us and our ship. It gives us joy to find such neighbors and to be neighborly toward them. A man once asked Jesus, "...And who is my neighbor?" The question seems odd, coming from one such as that man, but I suppose he had not known others in need. Perhaps he had just refused to see and no doubt, he didn't care. But to both see and to care is our calling...our desire and in it, God is pleased." —Memoirs of a Missionary, Glen Knight