

MISSION: MICRONESIA

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

| | |
|---|---|
| Ship's Log: Pulling the heart strings | 1 |
| Our friend, Earnest... | 1 |
| And the work continues | 2 |
| Day to day, more to... | 3 |
| Photo of the Month: "Micronesian Sunset" | 4 |
| Closing Thoughts... Coconuts adrift... | |

Ship's Log: Pulling on the heart strings...

Glen Knight

If I can pull your heart strings, I will do it. But I will not lie to you. I will show you things you may not wish to see and you will have opportunity of your own accord to look deeply or to turn away. You see, matters of the heart are the things that motivate us into action. Otherwise, it is only of the mind and typically, things of the mind are easily overwhelmed by selfish concerns. So to the heart I will go time and time again.

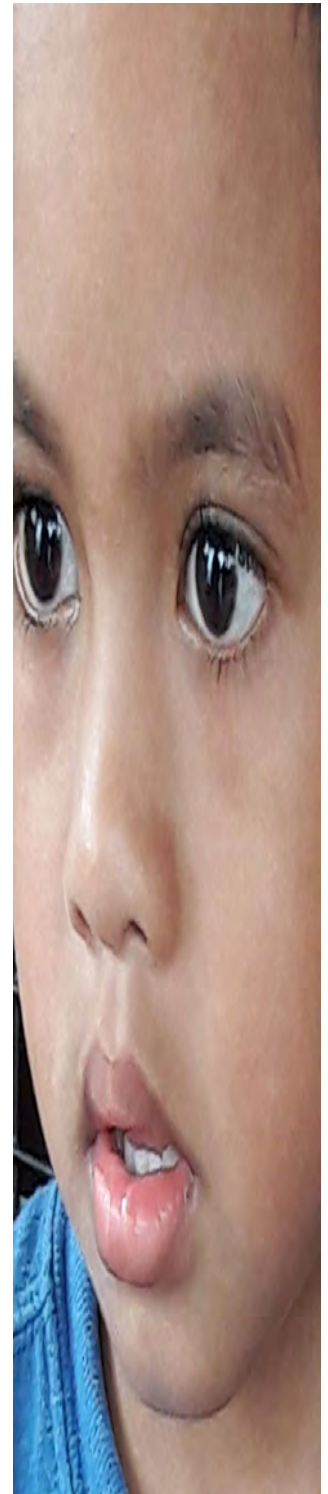
I know of children who suffer malnutrition, stricken with soft bones and bowed legs due to rickets. There are islands where malaria and dengue fever rage with little hope in sight for proper treatment and recovery. And to go there and remain long enough to make a difference puts one at risk of contracting the same while attempting to aid those already stricken. I can show you places where tuberculosis is still common. I can tell you of parasites and of typhoid and cholera. I can tell you of sepsis and gangrene from wounds left filthy and untreated. I can show you places where night blindness is typical. And I can tell you of people who are held hostage by their traditions and the ideas and superstitions of the shaman. There are places I go that are repeatedly devastated by earthquakes, tsunamis and typhoons. And what is important for you to know is that people just like you live there. They suffer there. They cry when their children are sick and mourn when they die. When a child is born into such circumstances as I have described for you, there is little happiness, for each holds potential of compounding poverty and sorrow. I know of mothers who refused to nurse their newborns, considering death to be more merciful than the misery that would soon be faced by the child. I watched a mother of three die with her little ones clinging to her emaciated body.

Now some will say, "It's just another missionary story. It's something to pull at our heart strings." And I suppose it is true. But I know what it is to be front and center of genuine human need and not for a short time...but for a lifetime. I just can't get over it. It doesn't bother me what others think. What does bother me is that far too many are like the priest and the Levite in Jesus' parable and not enough are like the Samaritan. The roads we travel are of different sorts these days but the wayside of each is still the same. There, even you may find someone in need...someone you can help. Someone, in real time, will pull at your heart strings.

I will show you things you may not wish to see. . .



Earnest is a friend of ours. He can be found most days along the streets of Koror. He is a jolly soul as you might well imagine!





Juli celebrated her 18th birthday on March 1 here in Koror, Palau. I am thankful for the young lady she has become.

“There are sixteen states in Palau. So far we have penetrated eight of the sixteen...in each place, we preach Christ!”



Justin, Juli and Chris are returning to the ship from a run into town. The small tender is our antique Duracraft.

And the work continues...

It’s nice to find surprises inside the boxes of relief goods that are shipped to us. It is very often that people write notes and lay them in the cartons...sometimes prayers...sometimes simple greetings and sometimes, photos. All of the things so lovingly packed and sealed, once opened bring smiles to our faces and blessings to the people who receive the gifts. This is one of the ways that you have a vital part in aiding the ministry here among the remote islanders. We have found through contact with the people that simple things make a great impact on many lives. Just to know that someone far away cares enough to give generously is a great encouragement. And sometimes, those things that are given, change lives.



Working inside the container storage unit is a weekly job. Sorting through items needed for delivery to different places is a hot and heavy task. The photo to the left is of our crew member, Christopher Thompson from California. He has recently joined the ship’s company as a missionary helper, aiding in the operation and maintenance of the ship and in the hard work of moving supplies around Malakal, Koror and Babeldaob Islands and onto the ship for delivery to places far away. Chris is also a specialist in aquaculture construction and management for production of small scale vegetable gardens. With the aid of Remote Island Ministries he has already set up a “garden” in Melekeok.

Our truck continues to get a good workout and provide adequate ability to move cargo about from the container storage to the ship or to various sites around the three islands of Palau that are connected by bridges and causeways. The photo to the right shows yet another load being prepared for the people of Ngaard on Babeldaob Island. The black and yellow boxes that are seen here contain supplies for the ship that were put together by our friends in Texas, Tim and Andy, who served with us on our voyage from the Philippines to Palau.



There are sixteen states in Palau. So far we have supplied relief services and several hundred Bibles to eight of the sixteen. As the work continues, we will penetrate the other eight within the weeks ahead. In each place, we preach Christ!

“Looking back, I can hardly imagine how time has passed and distances traveled have been lost as they multiplied into the thousands of miles yet I sense a great feeling of not being done yet, of not having finished a course laid out for me long before I had sense enough to attempt to chart any for myself. I know there remains work to be done for which The Lord has fitted me and mine. He has prepared us for what lies ahead in ways only He could have done. I cannot admit to being too old or too tired. It is God Who gives the strength that never wanes.”
—Memoirs of a Missionary, gk

...Day to day, more to be done!

The photo to the right shows the ship undergoing some much needed maintenance. Our crewman, Chris Thompson is a jack of all trades and a certified seaman. He is a Yacht Master and a Dive Master and here, he is a painter! I am grateful to have his assistance aboard RIM Nativa for as long as he can stay.

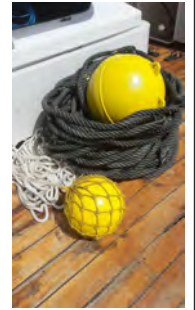


It became necessary for us to lay down a mooring for the ship near our home port of Koror. The pipes shown here are a part of the weights.



The man perched on the end of the bowsprit of RIM Nativa is a life-long friend of Justin's from South Africa, Timothy Van Niekerk. Tim arrived the third week of March to spend at least two months with us as a volunteer. Already he is learning his way around the ship and has shown himself adept at most any task. We have prayed for personnel to help us aboard the vessel and have waited patiently for the right people. It seems The Lord has brought two thus far, who are willing and able and who have no other ties that would prevent them from serving for extended periods of time. Together with Justin, Chris and Tim will man the vessel and carry on work this summer during our absence from the ship as we visit family in the States.

The ropes and mooring buoys here are what we used to mark the spot in our safe haven for tying off RIM Nativa.



Another water well was drilled in Ngatpang during February, this one reaching down to sixty feet in depth. It is producing a good amount of water at a steady rate and is now ready for an electric pump to be installed.



“Many times they remarked to me how they wish we could go with our drilling machine to their homeland and drill for water.”



The men who assisted me in drilling this well are all from Bangladesh. Many times they remarked to me how they wish we could go with our drilling machine to their homeland and drill for water. They gladly received copies of the Bible and listened intently as I shared the gospel message with them during our labors.

The work of drilling for water is really guesswork! Only about 30% of all holes drilled will yield water. This one is the second well we have bored here on Babeldaob Island. The first one yields water only when there is much rain. This one, however is deep enough to produce a steady flow of water even in dry seasons. There are presently three other locations that need to be surveyed for possible well drilling operations. Each of these places holds potential also for establishing the more permanent ministry of The Word. While we want people to have good water, The Water of Life is better!



The well is done with its four inch casing and the gravel packed around it down to sixty feet. It is now the responsibility of the people in the area to complete it with a cement skirt and wellhead and the pump of their choosing.

“I could see in their eyes, the longing for water that thirsty men have when they're dry to point of death. And their conversation, although I couldn't well understand it, tended toward home, family and familiar places where drought has exacted a toll on people who could do nothing but bury their dead.” —Memoirs, gk

REMOTE ISLAND MINISTRIES

A Ministry of
Victory Baptist Church
10000 Brockington 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:
Captain Charles Glenn Knight
Summer C.E. Knight
The Sailing Ship RIM Nativa
Malakal Harbor, Koror, PW

Email only:
glen@rimnativa.com

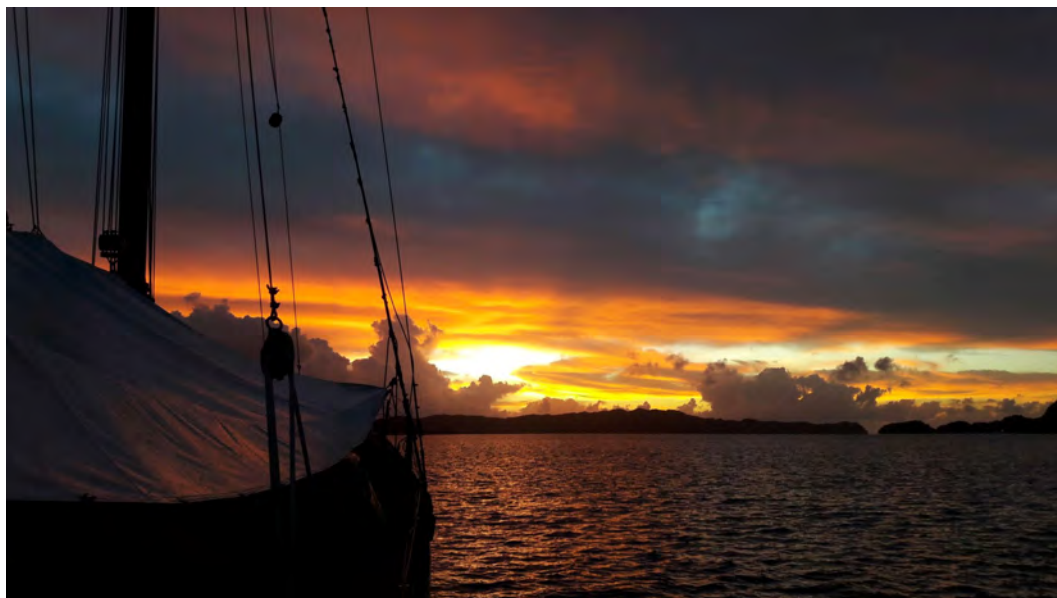
Cell: +680-776-6397

Email me:
glen@rimnativa.com



The eastern parts of Micronesia hold great potential for RIM Nativa's ministry as we set our courses soon for Yap.

...Reaching people on the edge!



Sunrise over Mirconesia from the decks of the missionary sailing ship, is a beautiful sight. Our desires are to reach out from our home port of Koror, Palau on a radius of about 500 nautical miles to the north, east and south to take the gospel to people who need to hear. Others...mostly the cults, have gone before us but the islands are destitute for the simple truth of God's Word. One island I have lately researched is hardly more than a dry spot in the middle of the ocean but there are people living there, completely isolated. Even the government boats only call twice each year. We can reach them and will, by God's grace.

Closing thoughts...coconuts adrift

Glen Knight

We watch coconuts that often drift past the ship. They seem to be haplessly on their way to no where. The fact is that they have a destination that is determined by the ocean currents. And sooner or later, they will wash up on a beach where they will take root and grow. That is in fact how these islands out here became covered with coconuts trees long before the world knew of the benefit of cultivating this useful nut. And it is extremely versatile. Its wood is long and straight, making good lumber. Its leaves are woven to make wall and roof panels for shelters. Its husk makes good fires for cooking and its nut can be used to make tools, charcoal and trinkets for jewelry. Its juice is water that will slake thirst and make medicinal oil. And its meat is nutritious. Every coconut bound for open sea has purpose. Are we not of much more benefit that a coconut?

"Like you, I have tried my best on so many occasions and like you, I have sometimes failed and sometimes, I've succeeded. Our desires, when they are of The Lord, and our work to achieve goals, when done with the right attitude and purpose, will succeed. Otherwise, failure is sure to come. And we know that. But I for one, will carry on and hopefully with greater wisdom and determination and desire to please Him." —gk

