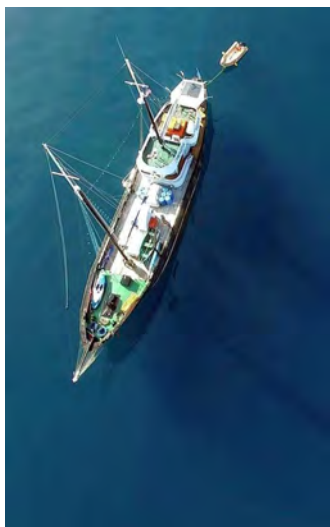


MISSION: MICRONESIA

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"We will be visiting stateside from June 4 until September 4"



An aerial view of the missionary ship RIM Nativa is provided via Justin's drone and flying skills.

SHIP'S LOG: Never-ending tasks...

Glen Knight

I know there are jobs that are hard that seem to never end and I know this through personal experience. I know as well that some jobs, as difficult as they may be are best done when done enthusiastically. I have never liked half-hearted effort. The difficulty of the task is never an excuse for doing less than the best possible. Otherwise, the effort will be counted as a loss. I grew up in a welding shop where much of the work was very difficult and all of it, dirty and tiring. From childhood I learned by watching my parents and older brother, all of whom were skilled in their various ways and who served to encourage me to develop my own set of skills. One thing that was instilled in me perhaps more than anything else was the sense of never giving up until the task is completed. Perhaps some of you understand the principle of "working to a stopping point" even when a job can't be done in the eight-hour work day. I have hardly ever known an eight-hour limit on work in a single day for the reason stated above. But that comes from having worked for myself for so long. I have known that sort of responsibility. And I know it still.

Looking ahead in this missionary service challenges me. It challenges all of us on RIM Nativa. The islands laying on our horizons are more numerous that what we have ever encountered and the cultures are vastly different. The Micronesian Islands to our east number over 600 with the three major groups centered upon Yap, Phonpei and Kosrae. Statistics indicate that poverty is high with a daily income average of \$1.90 per capita. The problems of overcrowded populations, water contamination and food and water scarcity are extant on all the islands. Add to these the circumstances of spiritual poverty, high birth rate, poor general health, drunkenness and low morality, and one can quickly understand the challenges we face. We will not shrink from the desires of our hearts which we believe we have from God. And therefore the time to sail from the islands of Palau to extend our reach into Yap and its outlying islands is near at hand.

We will be visiting stateside from June 4 until September 4. Upon returning to the ship, we will carry on enthusiastically. We aren't strangers to hard work. Our prayer is that you will help us. We simply must increase our monthly budget to pay for the substantially greater costs of working in Micronesia. The ship's additional crewmen and the costs of diesel fuel are more now than before. And we can't see our "stopping point."

Remote Island Ministries...on the road!



We are blessed by the beauty of the islands and such lovely children as this pretty Palauan girl. She and many others took part in our outreach in Melekeok lately.

“It’s nice to see children helping children when we arrive in their villages.”



Another lovely child who joined the outreach activities in Melekeok was happy to receive a couple of stuffed animal toys.

Traveling over the Compact Road on Babeldaob Island, our little cargo truck serves well to help deliver Bibles and relief goods to isolated villages. Here, we are backed up to the government pavilion in Melekeok where one of our outreaches recently took place.



Two of the many children who attended the Melekeok outreach are Thakisha and Malanges. They were eager to learn about Jesus and listened carefully as we shared some of the simple stories from the Bible. Our missionary monkey, Stanley also helped hold their attention as we spoke with them. Many more children soon arrived and were assisted by these first two kids. It’s nice to see children helping children when we arrive in their villages. Thakisha has an interest in sewing, despite being only ten years of age. Summer told her that she began sewing at the age of nine, which seemed to inspire this young Palauan girl! Summer gave her one of the nice sewing machines we have on hand and while the girl could hardly imagine such a gift, she received it with great enthusiasm. Cloth, thread, ribbon, pins and other necessary sewing supplies were also given. You can imagine how excited Thakisha was at Summer’s gifts. Thank you all for sending them!

Another sewing machine was given, together with an over locker, to these two ladies of Ngaraard village. They intend to sew new curtains for their church and begin sewing for the public to earn some extra money for their families. It is such a joy for me to see Summer working with these ladies, doing things that she also enjoys. True friends are being made here. God is blessing and we are so thankful!



“He said he would take my life. I asked him why he would do such? He said he had been hired to do it. I asked how much had been paid but he refused to tell me, saying only that it was enough for him to get the job done. I asked him why he had told me. He said he was afraid to harm the man of God. I replied that maybe what he had been paid would be very small in comparison to what he would receive if only he would hear my message—God’s message. He walked away and I prayed for his salvation. I never saw him again.”

—Glen Knight, Memoirs of a Missionary

Island life...the gospel way!

These are islands far-flung and isolated where people live and die in the course of each day. The beauty of the scenery and surrounding oceans often takes my breath away. Keeping an eye on the goal while striving to reach farther with the gospel is key to the success of Remote Island Ministries!



In sharing the Word of The Lord with the men I meet daily, I may find as here, guys who've come from many places. The man in the blue shirt is Filipino. He and I have much in common. The man in the dark shirt is from Bangladesh. Both are religious but neither knows the Way of Salvation. We told them of Jesus. Each prayed with me. I will follow up...

Government and civic offices are open to us now for ministry among the various staff members. Here, we shared copies of the Scripture with the staff in the Bureau of Immigration. Through our year-long tenure in Palau so far, we have made good friends among these men and women and count it a privilege to help them.



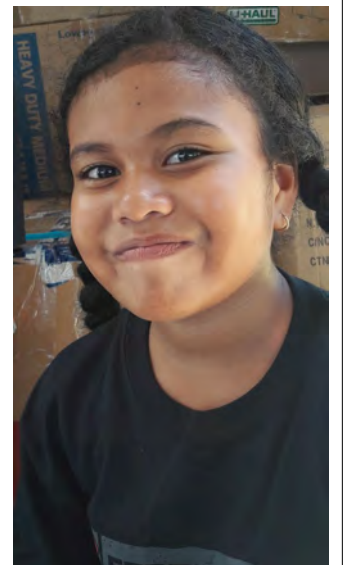
The Koror Fire Department was another place of ministry this past week. The Fire Chief shared with us some of the ways that we will be able to assist them in civic operations, especially as they relate to sea-bound situations. We have supplied their department with Bibles and will soon assist them with devotional and prayer activities.

I cannot express well enough the gratefulness in my heart for those who have given Bibles and sent them to us. Pastor Rick McVeigh and Rose Lawn Baptist Church, Tulsa, Oklahoma and Pastor W.A. Dillard of Francois Baptist Church, Malvern, Arkansas are among those who haven given so many through the years. Pastor Joel Meredith and all who support the shipping ministry of Calvary Baptist Church, Hamburg, Arkansas are commended for their help in making many shipments of Bibles and other supplies for Remote Island Ministries. We, here on the ground and the sea are able to carry on such a vast and far-reaching ministry because of the help so many continue to give. Thank you all so very much!



Opportunities to share Christ with people come readily at almost every stop. Here a man listens and looks upward as we speak of The Lord.

"We told them of Jesus. Each prayed with me. I will follow up..."



Thakisha was glad for our coming to her village. She and her cousin were first to arrive and last to leave. Both are bright and eager to know more!

"We wish sometimes to divide ourselves into two. One set could carry on those things that are necessary to be done in ministry while the other could be with family and old friends and watch the grandchildren grow. It cannot be, despite our longing. And this dilemma is not ours alone but all who serve as we."—Glen & Summer

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A young boy in the Philippines shows the typical manner of island children upon the arrival of a visiting boat. Dec 2017

...Reaching people on the edge!



The missionary sailing ship RIM NATIVA shows her lines in this special effects photo shot by Summer off Ngeruktabel Island. The vessel fits well among these islands, her design harking back more than 200 years to the time when ships of this size and style sailed here bringing trade goods, mail, teachers and missionaries to far-flung islands. Many things have changed. Many have not. And what hasn't changed is the simple fact of people needing Christ. That is why we are here.

Closing thoughts: Reaching Far...

Glen Knight

One hardly measures distance crossing oceans in terms of miles or kilometers on any voyage. It is measured instead by hours and days or sometimes, weeks that are expended from one point to another. Variables such as wind and current can speed or slow any journey and while sailing plans for a voyage are set, they are loose plans, at best. The mariner realizes his only option is to be patient. And that being the case, arrivals are usually celebrations! With respect to that, the greatest cause to celebrate that we can imagine is that upon arrival, we bring the message of hope and the comforts of compassion. But our ways are often trying. And they are expensive. The benefit however, is that we can accommodate much that will do great good in places where others cannot go and among people who are unreachable except that we...reach far.



"The sailing season will soon pass when ships can easily ply these waters without fear of being overtaken and endangered by horrific storms at sea. But when it passes, there is patient hope for another season when once again, we may cross broad oceans on the trade winds, bound for places far and people familiar and unfamiliar. We follow traditions, centuries old. And we bring good news of eternity." —RIM Nativa, GK