

# MISSION: MICRONESIA

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*"When missionaries make their reports, they likely won't tell everything about their journey."*



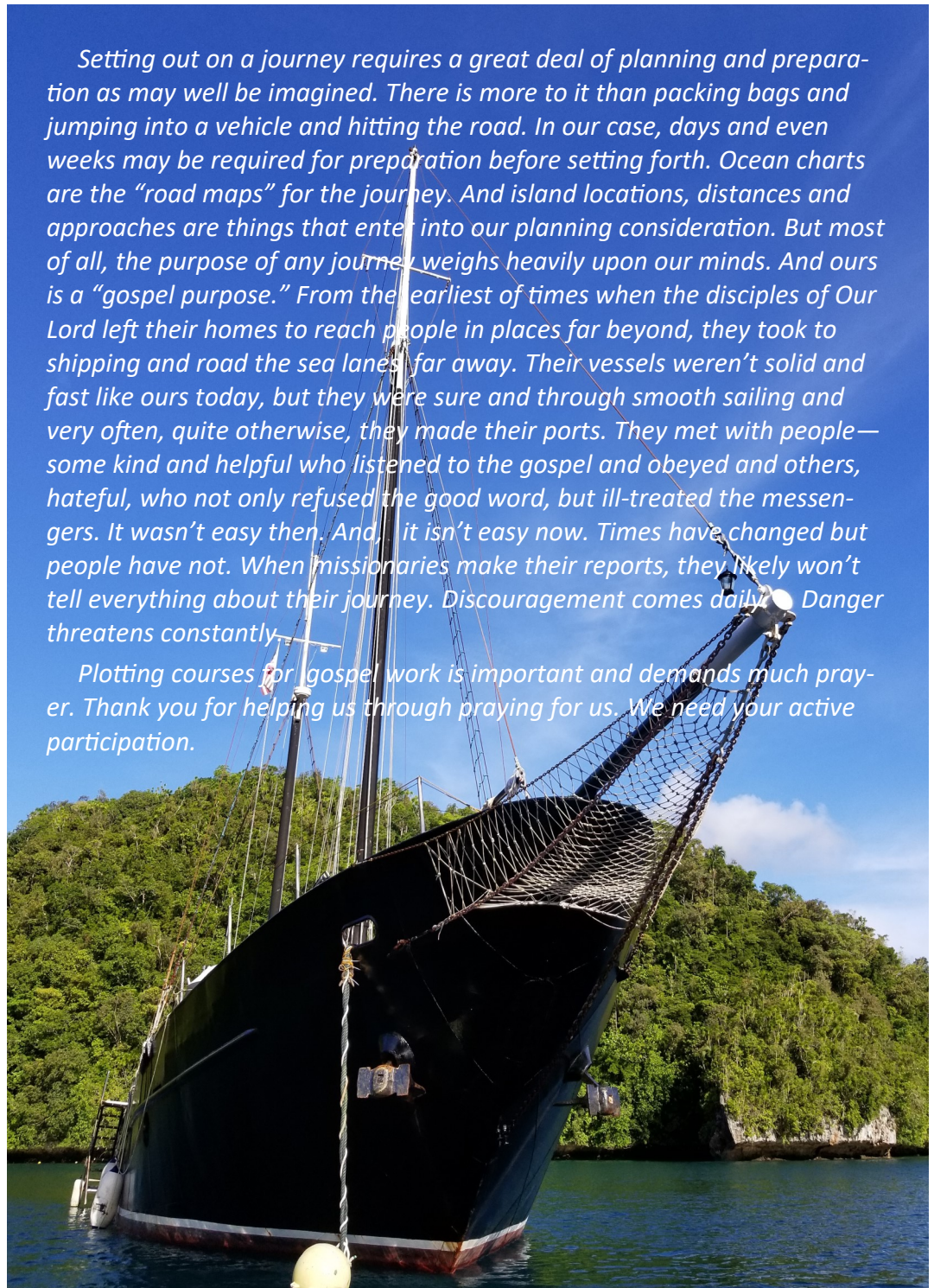
*Special moments come and some are never forgotten. The prayer of a child and her loving parent, looking on, is one such moment.*

## Ship's Log: "Plotting a Course"

Glen Knight

*Setting out on a journey requires a great deal of planning and preparation as may well be imagined. There is more to it than packing bags and jumping into a vehicle and hitting the road. In our case, days and even weeks may be required for preparation before setting forth. Ocean charts are the "road maps" for the journey. And island locations, distances and approaches are things that enter into our planning consideration. But most of all, the purpose of any journey weighs heavily upon our minds. And ours is a "gospel purpose." From the earliest of times when the disciples of Our Lord left their homes to reach people in places far beyond, they took to shipping and road the sea lanes far away. Their vessels weren't solid and fast like ours today, but they were sure and through smooth sailing and very often, quite otherwise, they made their ports. They met with people—some kind and helpful who listened to the gospel and obeyed and others, hateful, who not only refused the good word, but ill-treated the messengers. It wasn't easy then. And, it isn't easy now. Times have changed but people have not. When missionaries make their reports, they likely won't tell everything about their journey. Discouragement comes daily. Danger threatens constantly.*

*Plotting courses for gospel work is important and demands much prayer. Thank you for helping us through praying for us. We need your active participation.*





The photo above is of Brothers Doug Clements, Jerry Grimes and Mikey Whitehead, sitting on the tailgate of our Mobile Outreach truck. Inside are the plastic drums we had reserved as floatation for the new dock.

*"...what we had prayed and planned for a full year, came to pass."*



For a long time, we have needed a good crewman. Antonio "Tony" Cierva has come aboard to serve as our engine room specialist. He is a good man and we are so grateful for him and his skills. Welcome aboard!

## Ongoing work ...continued

With the arrival of the EAGLE ATVC, what we had prayed and planned for a full year, came to pass. The new boat arrived on January 22 from the factory in the Philippines and was almost immediately cleared with the Bureau of Customs and delivered to our unloading yard. From there, once it had been removed from the container, it was loaded onto a trailer and taken to the boatyard of Surangel & Sons where we went to work outfitting it with the new engine and all its controls. Many thanks go to the Surangel Yard and to our good friend Seaboy who arranged the use of their crane and space.



Brothers Joe Stacks and Mikey Whitehead of Forest Grove Baptist Church in Taylor, Arkansas came to help us with the important work of installing and breaking in the new Mercury outboard motor. The men are seen in the photo to the left in the boatyard as we were doing the work. With the motor installation finished, the boat was brought to the ship where work continued.

A good view of the EAGLE ATVC is shown here in the photo. She is a true cargo vessel with her rectangular deck and flat bow. The loading ramps aren't featured in this picture but the brackets for attaching them can be seen as well as the runners inside the bow. We have just now finished work on the new Auto Crane and are ready this week to practice loading and unloading the Honda ATV. I plan to also bring the modular trailer to the ship this week that was designed and built by our partner in ministry, Brother Jerry Hardman of Fordyce, Arkansas. We will find a beach soon!



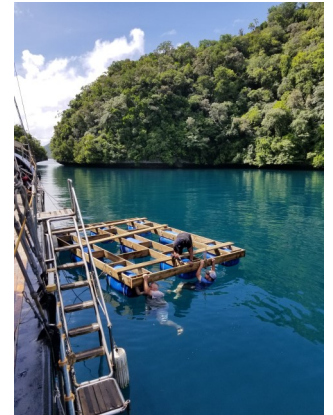
With the EAGLE loaded on her first day of service and the men who came, Mikey, Jerry and Joe, she made her way out to the ship with the drums to be used to float the new dock. Perhaps to some it may seem silly to make such a big deal out of these things, but friends, I have worked by the hardest for so many years that it leaves me ecstatic to know that some things are now easier.

**A SIMPLE WORD OF THANKS** seems so inadequate at this point but I want to say how much we appreciate the offerings so many of you have given to help make the new service boat a reality. The work that we will be able to do with this tool will be nothing short of phenomenal. We prayed for this boat and designed it for special use. The Lord answered that prayer through you who have given and have encouraged us. Thank you!

*"Day after day, I listen to hear the wind blowing. Today will be the same as yesterday on account of a low-latitude weather system that brings near gale force winds and rain squalls. There will be a change. There must be."—Memoirs of a Missionary*

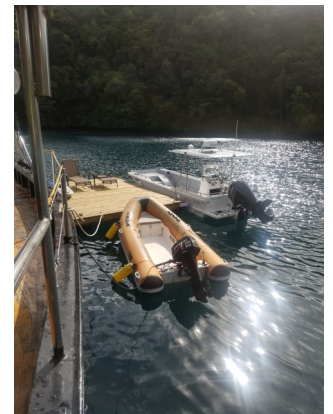
## Ongoing work...completed

As soon as we finished setting up the outboard motor and operating systems on the new EAGLE ATVC, we put her to work, hauling a heavy load of treated lumber from Koror to the ship's anchorage. We divided the load between two trips but are convinced the entire order could have been taken at one time. The EAGLE is very stable as well as agile and will prove her worth well in ministry. In the photo to the right, Brother Jerry Grimes and Mikey Whitehead are enjoying the short ride back to the ship in her anchorage. Great work, guys!



Once all the materials had arrived shipboard, we set to work building the three main frames and strapping the floatation drums into place. Brackets for bolting the framing together were made from galvanized angle iron. All of those brackets were bolted into place on the main frames with the drums before heaving them overboard. When I was a child, I built rafts on the bayous of south Arkansas exactly the same as this dock, so the system to me, was already well proven...much to my mom's disapproval!

When the main frames of the dock were overboard, we bolted the banding timbers around to space the floatation sections properly, (photo above in the sidebar) and then finished the dock by bolting on the deck planking. Once this work was finished, we rested with the feeling of having accomplished an important aspect of the mission work and our shipboard life. One cannot question the merit of having a floating dock in the anchorage when considering the ease of loading and unloading the ship. When we sail out from the cove, the dock remains behind, tied to the mooring line. Many thanks go to the men who helped with this work!



The photos above show the framework of the floating dock under construction and the dock completed with the boats tied along side. This dock has already been worth its cost in making our work on and off the ship much safer and easier.



Brad Bonnette has been with us several times, bringing his technical skills as a tremendous aid to our ship's systems. This time, he helped us add three new solar panels and two new wind turbine chargers. Additionally, he and Marlon Joseph, both of Heritage Baptist Church, Missouri City, TX, completed the wiring of our new Power Tech 20kw generator which was purchased last year when Summer, Juli and I visited the states. We had already installed the unit and all the solar panels so as to make wiring and setting breaker boxes and switches much easier and faster for our volunteers. The photo to the left shows Justin consulting with Brad on the wiring diagram for the new solar/wind charging systems.

The photo below is our good friend, Marlon Joseph from Houston, TX who accompanied Brad Bonnette. It was Marlon's first visit to RIM Nativa and the skills he brought to bear were such a blessing!



*"It takes more than strength or skill or stamina to get most jobs done. And although imagination and engineering are key factors, without which the effort certainly fails, the real need and what cannot be lacking, is HEART." —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 little island girl, Mella continues to bless our hearts, together with her grandfather, Francis. Please pray for this child and her family. We have begun plans to reach out to their extended family soon.

*...Reaching people on the edge!*



*The Mobile Outreach vehicle of Remote Island Ministries, Palau.*

### Closing thoughts... Family aboard!

Glen Knight

*My mom, Betty and step-dad, Bill are presently visiting with us and having a first-hand experience of ship-life. Several years ago they visited our family when we were stationed in the Philippines and it gives us great joy that they have come again, now to Palau. Back home on the family farm in Tennessee, it's a cold and wet February. Here, the weather is giving them a good respite from winter!*



*"Time passes and it's quick in doing so. We have turned the pages of the years so much faster than what could have been imagined but I guess the optimist in me insists that the best is yet to come! With that said, it's hoist the main and trim her proper! We have oceans to cross, reaching for horizons yet to gain and souls who await our arrival!"*  
—Memoirs of a Missionary, G. Knight