

## MISSION: MICRONESIA

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*"The coming year will bring changes..."*



*In home port, the missionary ship RIM Nativa lies at her mooring in the shelter of our cove off Malakal Island. As the typhoon season draws near its end, we're making ready to sail.*

### *Ship's Log: Year's end...Pressing Onward*

*—Glen Knight*

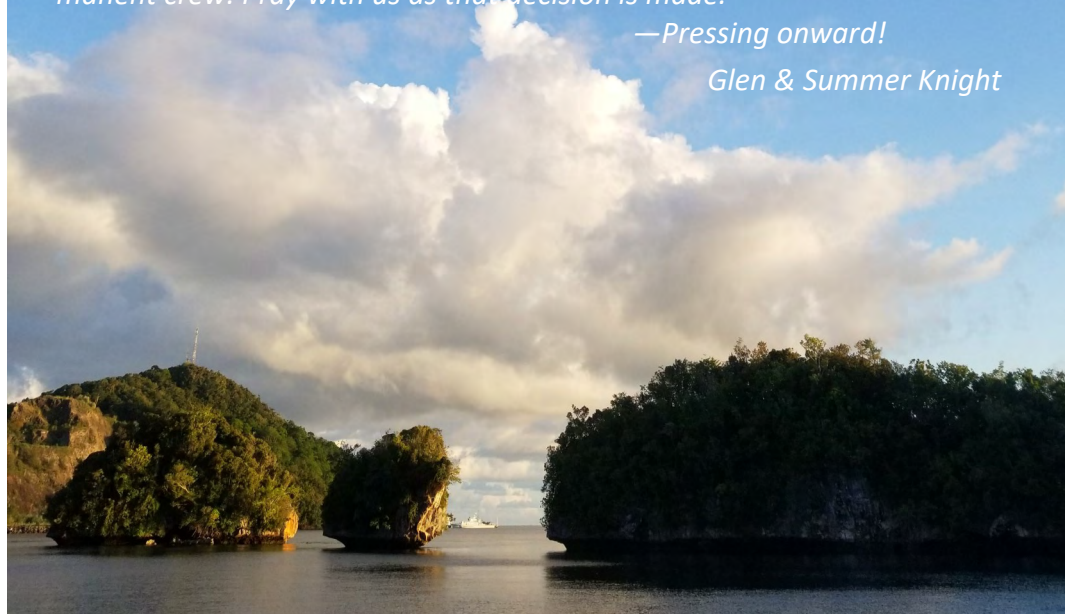
*The year has come and gone with nearly unbelievable swiftness. It is as though the pages have turned too quickly but looking back, we see so very much that has come and gone through 2019. The coming of the new year holds great promise as well as opportunity for our family and Remote Island Ministries.*

*Briefly reflecting, we have sailed the ship nearly 5,000 nautical miles in western Micronesia and the Philippines. Work accomplished has included service projects and gospel ministry among the southwest islands of Palau and around different locations in Koror and on Babeldaob island. We have made two trips to the Philippines in the past three months, one of those for dry docking the ship in Cebu, central Visayas for eleven days and the other for a few days, working in Manila. We're grateful for the occasional help of volunteers from the US Mainland and for the visit of my parents from Tennessee early in the year. This year was the first year to host student interns for the summer months and much was learned through that experience. Altogether, it has been a great year of missionary service!*

*The coming year will bring changes as Justin and Natsuki will be leaving the ship for Japan where they intend to take up careers of their own. That will leave Summer, Juli and me on the ship. While we have had temporary crew off and on in 2019, it will now be necessary to put on permanent crew. Pray with us as that decision is made.*

*—Pressing onward!*

*Glen & Summer Knight*





A young girl stands barefoot along the street, enjoying her ice cream on a hot afternoon in Manila. One cannot imagine the number of children there are in this city who live hard lives in poverty.

*“Most of these children were brought to church by their parents who also were in attendance.”*



One of the precious children of God's Grace MBC, Pasig City, Manila, enjoying a favorite snack during Sunday School.

## RIM Mosquito Nets for 2020

There is a growing problem of dengue fever infection among the islands where we are working now. This sickness is mosquito-born and can be prevented in large measure by sleeping under netting designed to ward off the insects. We are in the process of buying several hundred nets like the one in the photo to the right. This net is manufactured in Thailand and is sanctioned by the International Red Cross. We need your help purchasing these.



The cost per net is \$6.75. Its size is large enough to accommodate an average family of four. The nets are treated to repel the mosquitos. This is the proven method of preventing dengue fever as well as malaria.

During the first half of our 2020 sailing season, we intend to load the ship with as many of these nets as possible. Each net will be printed with the logo of Remote Island Ministries and will have a sheet inside with a special message from me along with instructions for use. Additionally, we will insert a Bible in every net we place among the people. Please help us with this project as soon as you can. (See Page 4 of this newsletter for mailing addresses.) Thanks so very much!

## Manila visit in December...

We were glad on December 1st to visit with Pastor Jay Almonte and his sweet wife, Mahal of God's Grace MBC in Manila. We've been able to enjoy their fellowship on several occasions through the last few years and to see the growth of the church and the joy of the people is a great blessing to us. Added to the blessing this time is the news that they are expecting their second child within a few months! Their son, King, is now 12 years old. Both Jay and Mahal are former students of ours at PMBS, Davao City. They are doing a great job!



It is always our joy to see the churches growing in God's grace. Looking back through the years, I can see the fruit of labor from among those who are faithful to the calling of God. What is really good is that most all these children were brought to church by their parents who also are in attendance!



*“Look to your horizons and beyond. See—if you can, the weather that is coming and mark its path. Adjust your course and your sails accordingly and make your preparations early and as best possible for on the sea, it is you, your ship and your God.”*

—From “An Ocean Crossing”, Memoirs of a Missionary, Glen Knight



## Day to day work with the ship...



In the edge of a late November typhoon, the sailing ship RIM Nativa is found outside her mooring and laying at anchor with the EAGLE ATVC trailing astern. The wind direction sometimes makes it expedient to move the ship to a different location other than the cove and to give her more room for greater scope on the ground tackle. Such was the case in this photo.

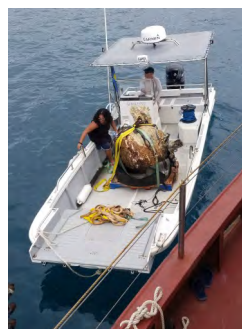
Our ability to serve people in need took on a new dimension lately as we were called upon by the Norwegian People's Aid Foundation to assist in plucking unexploded aerial bombs, torpedoes and sea mines from the sea floor in Palau's Southern Lagoon. The photo to the right shows our deck crane extended and the lifting process underway to retrieve a 500 pound aerial bomb from WWII. This piece of ordnance had laid underwater since it was dropped by a United States dive bomber in 1944. It was still intact and was extremely dangerous as are many more throughout the area. The removal of such dangers is tedious work.



Once the experts had cradled the bomb on the seabed and covered the fuse ends with plastic buckets—lest we bump it in process, we carefully lifted it from a depth of approximately 45' and placed it on a raft. It was then towed on a long line to the detonation spot and was disposed. Our hats are off to the men of NPA as well as to others who work with similar demining companies in Micronesia to remove the lethal leftovers from a war of long ago.

I had never imagined when our missionary work began out here in 1994, that this would also be the sort of work we would be called upon to engage. RIM is pleased to serve in making life safer among the islands.

Having specialized tools will invariably raise opportunities to serve and being in the right place at the right time is our privilege. The photo on the right shows Juli and Justin in the EAGLE ATVC just after we had lifted a 1,500 pound Japanese sea mine from the sea for the Norwegian People's Aid Foundation. This was a Hertz Horn Type 93 and still had some of its pins intact. We carefully lifted and transported it to the detonation site. We would never attempt doing this kind of work without the expertise of the engineers who work with the demining organizations.



...Preaching the Word of The Lord at God's Grace MBC on December 1, 2019. It is a blessing to visit the churches to see how they're doing.

*"Having specialized tools will invariably raise opportunities to serve..."*



...Another 500 pound aerial bomb lifted from the sea and laid on an air cushion pad in the EAGLE ATVC for transport to the detonation site.

*"The machinery of war and the cost expended to destroy lives as well as the lives lost in war's execution, hardly make sense. And I see it every day in relics left behind, rusting beneath the waves or jungle undergrowth of these islands. It was long ago that these were abandoned here. Now, they only serve the memory. But I cannot see them as outmoded methods of death to compare with modern methods. War itself is the outmoded factor. But still, it is the thing to which politics and greed run to impose their will upon the world. People need The Lord."* —Memoirs of a Missionary, Glen Knight

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Palau flag on RIM Nativa

*...Reaching people on the edge!*



While in dry docks recently at Colorado Shipyard, Cebu City, Philippines, our long time Davao City friend, John Asoque visited the ship together with his pastor and one of the young men of the church in Danao, near Cebu. John is standing to my left.

### Closing thoughts... What lies beyond...

*Sailing across oceans is always a challenging and fascinating experience. There are many things that enter one's mind in the course of days at sea but one thing that is always prominent among them is the question of what lies beyond the point of view. With no land in sight, we usually calculate the approximate date and time that expected landfall will be made. But life at sea slows down and to disregard the moment and all it holds in anticipation of arrival on land again, is a mistake.*

*The truth that only The Almighty knows our futures is enough for those whose faith is in Him. What lies beyond where we are at any moment is in His hands. What so often seems uncertain to us is not so to Him, at all. We do well to relax and enjoy the ride. —HAPPY NEW YEAR, everyone!*

*"It's 600 nautical miles. That translates into at least five days at sea or more if winds and waves aren't favorable. It further translates into approximately \$3,400.00 worth of fuel and that's just for the one-way voyage. The turn-around will equal that. Is it worth the time and the cost of travel? I will ask you this—What would you give or what would you do for those you love? All and anything, is your likely answer. So, I give my answer as well to your question of worth—YES. It is wholly and ever a matter of love, that we go, regardless of demand in the process."*

*—Memoirs of a Missionary, Glen Knight*

