Remote Island Ministries

Nov/Dec 2022

MISSION: WESTERN PACIFIC!

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"They only do what their created instinct demands."



Happy Eighth Anniversary to my sweetheart, Summer, December 5, 2022!

Ship's Log: Many High Flyers...

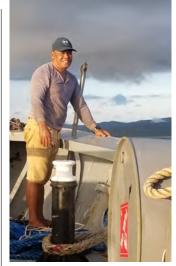
—Glen Knight

They fly with such grace and ease, making good use of the thermal updrafts of this tropical region. Birds, great and small and of many descriptions can be seen on any day. Some fly even on the severe storms, seeming to defy the elements that create such fear in the hearts of man and beast. But these are known to dare the wind and rain and seem to take pleasure in doing it. God has made them so. They only do what their created instinct demands. And so, they fly. We have seen them, sometimes hundreds of miles away in open ocean, far from sight of any land. Once, the tiniest of them all, the intrepid Swallow, spotted our ship and landed to rest her weary wings. She remained with us for two days and then just as suddenly as she came to us, she left us, making her way onward. Once, a very large Albatross circled our ship for a full day, plucking from our wake, what flying fish got up on wing, which is in fact, a pair of large wing-like fins. Overnight, the huge bird landed on our bowsprit to rest and there it remained, even allowing us to approach within feet so that we and it could look into curious eyes at the same time. And then, it was gone. Amazing!

The scripture says in Psalms 107 that mariners see the wonders of God in the deep and it is so. Among those many strange and inspiring sights, will always be the seabirds. We often watch the great Sea Eagles and the high-flying Frigate Birds and to do so, in a way, gives us great confidence to sail the high seas. We know that God, Who has equipped these beautiful animals for their mission in life, has done the same for us. Why, therefore would we doubt or be afraid? And why would we hesitate to go?

The new year will find us returning to central Indonesia to carry on work we surveyed in early 2022. One new crewman will join the ship in February and possibly another. Please, help us pray for those men who are needed. We need seamen to complete our crew.

Thank you for your help in 2022 and through all the years previous. God bless you all...Happy New Year 2023! —Glen & Summer



We marked the one-year anniversary of the death of our crewman, Tony Cierva in December. It's still a sad remembrance for us and for his widow, Onie. Tony was a good man and served well for three years aboard Nativa. Rest in peace, dear friend.

"Welcome home! is often said in so many ways out here in these islands."



We will soon ship another load of Bibles out from our storage here in Koror, this one going to the Solomon Islands. Bro. Doug Clements is coordinating the contact and shipping address for us from Honiara in January. The shipment will be made as soon as we have necessary information.

Ministry Scenes from November & December

During December, it was a joy to help Harvest Oaks Baptist Church in Allen, Texas as they ordained my son, Matthew Knight to the gospel ministry. The photo at the right was taken during the Sunday afternoon activity. Many years ago, I helped Southside Baptist Church in Star City, Arkansas to ordain my father, Roland Knight as a deacon. These are special memories I hold dear. I pray for Matt's ministry with Harvest Oaks Baptist and Senior Pastor, Jay Gibson as they forge ahead, taking the gospel to their community and beyond through missionary activities.





"Welcome home!" is often said in so many ways out here in these islands. The photo here is of our two Indonesian brothers, Dimon and Ridel who are commercial fishermen on one of the boats working out of the Port of Koror. Dimon is holding a 22 pound piece of fresh yellow-fin tuna which they caught. We're set to cook that fish immediately in our welcome home party among our mission fellowship here. Part of it will be used to make sashimi and the other will be cut into tuna steaks and grilled on the Blackstone...oh yes!

The ship feels good when she's full of diesel fuel and fresh water! Thanks to our good friend Mason Whipps and with the assistance of some of the men of our mission fellowship, we were able to bunker both fuel and water into NATIVA'S big tanks. We will remain here in KB Marina for a short period of time inasmuch as the Caterpillar main engine needs some critical attention. It's better to be here while we disable the CAT. The photo at the right shows one of Mason's tugboats alongside our NATIVA to pump in a load of fuel. The men you see on the decks of the two boats are our brethren, Fasco and Stive in the yellow shirts and Dimon in the red. Samson is at the tug's wheel and Ridel is pumping the fuel.



"He sent word from some port far away where I'm fairly certain he found himself destitute and endangered. He didn't know the local language and he had barely enough money to hop a flight out and return to his island home. His purpose in the writing was to ask if he could once again join the crew of the missionary ship. This man had served well before and had reluctantly moved on. His desire now was to come back and to labor once again among us." —Building God's Missionary Crew

Stateside Visit 2022: A short two months...



Returning home is always a special privilege to overseas missionaries and this year was the time to do so. We celebrated Thanksgiving and Christmas for the first time in nine years with our stateside children, pictured above. Many thanks go to those of you who prayed for us along the journey. We will miss our family and friends now...



One of the things we've wanted to do for a long time is to follow the northern route of the Trail of Tears from our Tennessee home to it's end at Tahlequah, Oklahoma. We are related to the Bushyhead Clan who were among the many thousands of other Cherokees who were forced along that death march in the winter of 1838-39. Stopping in Cape Girardeau, MO at the State Park, we visited the memorial of Nancy Hildebrand, one of our ancestors. Pictured to the left are my mother and step-father, Betty and Bill Stofel of Lobelville, Tennessee. They are standing in front of the Cherokee National Capitol, built in 1867 which now houses a beautiful museum of the Cherokee Nation.

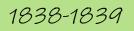
It worked out that we were able to visit with our dear friend, Dr. Hugo Mallozi while we were in Tennessee. He was on his way back to Mexico from Kentucky and passed through our area en route. Remote Island Ministries was able to donate a nice portable ultrasound unit to Dr. Hugo for use in the medical campaigns of Macedonian Missionary Services. Catching up with him was such a pleasure, even though it was for such a brief time. We continue praying for our fellow missionary and ask you all to do the same. We hope one day to labor together again.



"The wind whipped up, cold and gusting across the hills and on beyond the river. The day was gray. Trees were barren, their leaves covering the ground as a soft carpet. Raining. Thunder to the west. I tried to feature what it must have been like for the people. Their march was littered with the remains of shattered lives and the shallow graves of those who fell along the way. And here now, what sadness."



Our two friends in Guam, Landon and Brandon Aydlett both serve with the National Weather Service for the western Pacific area. We rely heavily upon their counsel and very accurate information!





Signs marking The Trail of Tears can be seen in many parts of the southeastern states. It's history that needs remembering.

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 Location: Captain Charles Glenn Knight Summer C.E. Knight The Sailing Ship RIM NATIVA Western Pacific Ocean Email only: glen@rimnativa.com



Huddy and Mila watching the big sails hauling up last vear in Indonesia.

...Reaching people on the edge!



"Thanksgiving on the Family Farm"

Closing thoughts: Another New Year!

—Glen Knight

Closing out yet another year, seems to be something that comes around all too quickly these days. And yet, here as I write this note, we have already entered into 2023. Resolutions? I have only to confirm commitment to this ministry, pushing deeper into the region that we may bless the people with God's Word and the salvation message of the gospel. Undoubtedly, there will be many new places to reach on the broad horizon that is before us. There will be people in those places who need Jesus. Working in this new year will be more challenging than ever so we're preparing as best we can to meet it. We thank each of you for your prayers and words of encouragement and financial support, without which, we cannot carry on. God bless you all in 2023!



The time has come and I pray to have the determination necessary to push through with it in short order. I will finish writing my memoirs that cover the years 1982-2022 during the first half of the new year, 2023. This doesn't signal the end so don't put me on the shelf yet! I'm giving thought to letting Bogard Press publish the work. More to come soon!