

Pacific Mission Aviation's  
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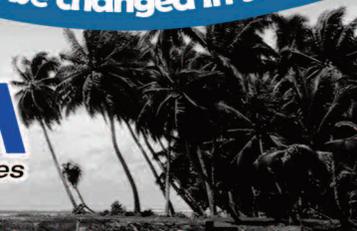
# ISLAND ECHOES

Serving Jesus Christ in the Islands of Micronesia and the Philippines



Change Lives - and be changed in turn!

 **PMA**  
Bringing Hope, Changing Lives



## Issue

3-2013 (September)

## On our Cover

Bahay Kalinga Orphanage  
in Mindoro, Philippines

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business office is located in  
Guam and a field office in  
Pohnpei.

# Summary of Ministry Needs

## Personnel Needs:

Missionary Pastors for PMF Churches  
Missionaries to Island People  
Administrative and Ministry Assistants  
Youth Workers for Island Churches  
Boat Captain for Medical Ship Sea Haven  
Boat Mechanic for Sea Haven  
Pilots/Mechanics for Micronesia/Philippines

## Infrastructure Needs:

### Construction of Patnanungan Island Learning Center:

Patnanungan is the island center for education in the Polillo Islands. With Elementary and High school available on island, a need for a head start education was realized, hence the Learning Center ministry commenced as an outreach of our PMF church. We have graduated 288 students since we started in 2003. Here the children learn not only the basics of reading, writing and arithmetic, but also the Word of God. We desire to impact these young lives for eternity. With the growing needs of the Learning Center, the present building needed to be expanded. The German embassy in the Philippines has provided seed money – now we need to raise an additional \$17,500. By faith, we have started the construction and we are now 50% complete.

### Engine Overhaul for Queenaire N46MA:

About every six years our engines come due for overhaul. This is always a challenge financially. We completed the engine for N44MA and now undergoing overhaul for N46MA costing \$55,000 each.



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# Letter from the President

by Nob Kalau



PMA President Nob Kalau

*“The Lord is faithful to all His promises and loving toward all He has made.” Psalm 145:13*

This has been the PMA experience since the day of its founding until now. We thank Him that we can continue to taste and see that He is good as we walk by faith daily in His strength, grace and wisdom.

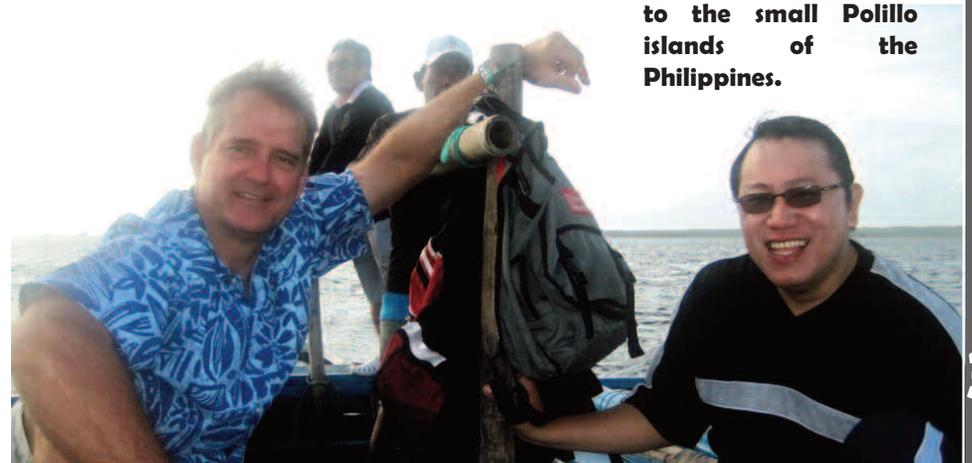
In this issue, our founder and my father, Edmund Kalau, will share with you the beginnings of PMA and the step of faith he and my mother Elizabeth took as they trusted the Lord. Two short term volunteers will be sharing their experience in the islands and how this has impacted their lives.

We will learn from the Wuthrichs about the joys of being part of the Bahay Kalinga Orphanage in Mindoro, Philippines, the experience of a PMF Pohnpei couple heading up a youth retreat in Pohnpei and getting to know one of our workers in the Philippines up close and personal.

Through all their stories – we see the faithfulness of our Lord as He keeps His promises, answers prayers and uses ordinary people to be a blessing. We are thankful to you dear partners, your prayers and financial support enable us to continue to share God’s Word and His love to all we serve.

Until every island may hear,  
Nob Kalau

**Traveling six hours on  
an outrigger canoe  
to the small Polillo  
islands of the  
Philippines.**



# Change Lives - and be changed in turn!

by Hans-Joachim and Miriam Wuthrich,  
Bahay Kalinga Orphanage, Philippines

We left Switzerland with our three small children when our youngest daughter was only 4 months old. As a family we lived and served with PMA for more than 2 years in the Bahay Kalinga (BK) Orphanage in Naujan, in Oriental Mindoro, Philippines.

We had the opportunity to serve 21 children who were in BK for temporary shelter and 5 children that were entrusted to us to facilitate their adoption. We had different experiences with each child. One of the children, JL, a very active boy, like most boys, liked to run and play. He loved to play with Legos and listen to stories. He came to BK after birth. His mother was a single mom without a regular job. Before JL could go back to his mom he had to undergo a cleft palate operation. His mother joined us at the hospital, but JL didn't accept her as his mother. To bring him through the checkups and after the operation, he only allowed BK staff to get close to him.



**Joachim's highlight was caring for the children.**

We wanted JL to bond with his mother again. Since he needed extra care, we asked his mom to come stay at BK to care for him. The first two weeks, however, JL wouldn't accept his mother. She wanted to show her appreciation for the care we gave JL by helping in the kitchen and with the laundry. She also attended our weekly devotions and very good and deep conversations would take place. After two weeks it was great to see that through God's grace, JL and his mother got closer to one another. We were so happy when one day we found them giggling on the sofa! When they went home together after a month, they had become a strong team – confident with one another's love! What an opportunity to give this family the chance and time to find each other.

By Hans-Joachim

As a fulltime mother, I spent most of my time in and around the house. Before we left Naujan, I stood at the door of our bedroom, and then the tears came. I realized what this home had meant to me and now I had to say goodbye. It had been a place of security and great joy to me. PMA had built this beautiful yellow house with a big and wonderful garden that bears mangos, papayas, bananas, guavas and pineapples. On the same compound, just beside our house is PMA's eye clinic. Doctor John Escote serves here every month. Many people come for free eye check-ups and cataract surgery!

We had to say good-bye to all the people waiting outside the house that have grown close to us. Sweet memories of many children who have been a part of our family floods my mind. Many hungry tummies were filled, injuries were taken care of, stories were told, and there was singing, playing, celebration and sharing life together. Our youngest daughter is now 2 ½, only speaks Tagalog, loves rice and the Filipino friends that have been so good to her. We thank God for this opportunity to change lives and to be changed ourselves.

By Miriam

**Joah, Naomi, Hajo, Miriam and Rebecca have had the opportunity to live and serve in the Bahay Kalinga Orphanage and with that came the blessing of growth and the knowledge of impacting young lives for eternity.**



# Jesus, My Savior and Hope! “SWAG” Youth Retreat

by Haser & Athena Hainrick, PMF Pohnpei

“SWAG” - Saved With Amazing Grace - Youth retreat 2013 was held on Black Coral, a small island on the barrier reef, about a mile off the coastline of the tropical island of Pohnpei.

Xner Luther (medical practitioner) and Dayn Iehsi (Univ. of Illinois, engineering student) accepted our invitation to serve as guest speakers to the 21 youth, eager to learn and enjoy the fun in the middle of the Pacific Ocean. A few parents came along as counselors to share God’s Word and encourage the teens to talk about the challenges they face each day. Our cooks were creative to prepare delicious meals over open fire and kept us energized with local foods like fermented bread fruit, cooked banana and raw sashimi tuna.

Four main sessions were held during the three-day event. All the speakers spoke on the main theme for the retreat which was “Jesus, My Savior and My Lord”. I spoke on the subject of “Leadership” – learning from the life of Joseph. Xner’s emphasis was on “Diseases, Sex and Drugs” and how teens can courageously say “No!” to temptations and pressures. Dayn shared his personal testimony growing up at PMF and how this has helped shape his life as a university student in the U.S. We also talked about the surrounding environment and the youths’ role as community members, to protect, conserve and obey the laws to preserve our fragile ecosystem. What an excellent venue it was to discuss and educate the teens on Black Coral Island, one of Pohnpei State’s designated sanctuaries... with protection laws for our ocean environment.

Kiyoshi, professor of Agriculture at the College of Micronesia, spoke on the subject of the “tree of life” and the numerous ways in which the coconut tree can be used to sustain the livelihood of the island people. With the dry season of El Niño, bringing severe drought and water shortages in the Micronesian region, islanders from some of our neighboring islands are basically surviving on drinking coconuts to stay hydrated.



Praying together was a high point during the retreat.



The “SWAG” youth making memories with this group picture.

About six months ago, at our Friday evening youth meeting, the youth were asked to identify their number one problem in life that they wanted to bring to Jesus for help. After writing it out on paper and sealing it in an envelope, they agreed to continually pray over what they had written, and then revisit the envelopes a few months later. At the retreat, the youth members brought their envelope of secrets to Jesus and burned them during the bonfire service. It was a moment of reflection and forgiveness and of thanking God for answering prayer, for helping them to overcome their fears and worries, by renewing the closeness of their walk with their Lord and Savior.

What a joy it is for my wife, Athena, and I to be the lay leaders for our youth and to share the importance of walking with Christ each day. We are eager to see PMF’s mission statement “To Know Christ and Making Him Known” become a reality in the lives of the youth around our island of Pohnpei and in Micronesia. The good news remains that our God loves teenagers! We are just so grateful that He has also taught us to learn to love them more and more as we continue to spend our lives growing with them in this wonderful journey and adventure of relationship.



Burning their sealed envelopes during the bonfire service, signified the youth’s trusting Jesus for all their needs and desires.

# Leaving a Part of our Hearts in Yap

by Steven & Rebekka Christen, PMA Volunteers

It is almost midnight and our Boeing 737-700 starts approaching the island of Yap. Out of our little window we can recognize some lights appearing in the dark of the ocean. Our three children, Gioia Laura (5), Lia Joyce (3) and Lenya Grace (3 months) are sleeping and it is not easy to wake them up at midnight. The warmth of the island welcomes us as we step out of the airplane. It is a special feeling to be back "home" in Yap after 12 years and this time with my family! (Rebekka served with PMA 12 years ago as a teacher, for one year). Petrus, our PMF pastor and Christoph, a young Swiss volunteer, welcome us at the airport. A lovely prepared apartment by Heidi and Christoph is waiting for us and will be our home for the next 2 ½ months.

This was our first impression and the start of an experience filled with blessings and events as we served with PMA in Micronesia.

Now we are back in Switzerland. Yes, time went too fast!

Part of our heart got lost on Yap and our desire is to be able to return there one day.

Working in the hangar and helping to rebuild the Islander aircraft was some of the work Steven really liked to do. It makes a difference if you work on aircraft that are mainly flown to serve leisure time activities (Steven works for a helicopter company here in Switzerland) or to work on aircraft that will be used to serve people in need! There may also be commercial flights to support the medical and other emergency flights, and PMA is here, ready to help!

The aviation part was just one of Steven's activities! We were really blessed being involved in the different programs of the PMF church. Picking up people for church meetings, being part of the ladies bible study and teaching the piano to some church members. There is always something to do: cleaning and maintaining the yard around the house, changing diapers, doing laundry, cooking and taking care of our children... life was never boring. The highlight of our

visit was Steven's following the Lord in water baptism with Pastor Nob Kalau here on Yap. This was a wonderful experience and a great celebration for us. We are so thankful that God opened up this opportunity. A long-time desire came true!

Our children really liked the island life as well, and enjoyed having friends of their age with the kids from our outer island pastor living just next door and also with the Collins' children. We got some really bad mosquito bites and Lia Joyce needed antibiotics, but God took wonderful care of us! It was very touching to see how the church prayed for Lia Joyce and God answered!

Of course we also had time to enjoy the beauty of Yap and its nature and were able to meet again with some old friends. Amos took us also on a wonderful snorkeling trip! But what we miss most is not the wonderful beaches, the refreshing ocean breeze or the fascinating underwater world... it is dear friends, our sisters and brothers across the ocean!

**The Christen family enjoyed their stay in Yap. For Rebekkah, it was like coming home and a great joy to introduce her family to Yap and her people - which always had a special place in her heart.**



# My Palau Experience

by Micha Kloft, PMA Volunteer

After completing my apprenticeship in Germany, I had a period of 5 months before I would start college. I wanted to spend this time in missions, serving the Lord. So I applied with PMA and they brought me to this wonderful place called Palau. God wanted me to come here and so did PMA.

It has been 5 months since I have arrived in Palau. I noticed the difference between Germany and Palau as soon as I took my first step out of the plane. It was 7 p.m. and 32° C (89° F). I was a bit shocked at first.

Now, almost to the end of my time here, I can say I had a great time. Spending time with Jesus and having a wonderful experience with Him and my brothers and sisters in Christ.

I helped in the PMF building, fondly called “Kalau Gym”. I shared an apartment with youth pastor Marty and we both worked together most of the time. Every day we had different tasks such as maintenance and repair of the building etc. A big assignment, for example, was repairing the 50 ft. high tin roof of the gym.

I had the wonderful opportunity to help in the youth ministry. I learned a lot about leading young people. I introduced new German games to them and had a great time planning activities. We had a youth camp off campus in Melekeok and had a great time. My prayer is that the youth may continue to grow even more spiritually in Christ.

We had a lot of work and almost every day we either had Bible study, ministry or fellowship. There were times where it got stressful, but God gave me new strength daily. During church services I had the opportunity to meet the church members and I was and still am very thankful for their hospitality. During midweek prayer meetings, everybody could share praises and prayer requests. It was good to see and hear what God has done in the lives of others. I also joined the young adults group every Sunday evening. We had a great time discussing God’s Word. We used the “Purpose Driven Life” book and I was also given the opportunity to prepare our lesson for one Bible study. And, as our Pastor Marty sometimes jokes around saying, “It’s not good to just talk the whole time, food is also important. So let’s eat.”



**Pastor Marty and Micha served together. There were many challenging assignments and projects, the Lord gave Micha the strength to press on and not give up.**



**Micha excitedly anticipates his first airplane ride with PMA Pilot Shan Esson to Angaur, an outer-island of Palau.**

I thank Pastor Marty, Pastor Bambit and Family, Shan and Karen, and all the very friendly church members and youth for this wonderful time in Palau. I found great new friends and I hope I’ll see them again – here on earth or in heaven. God has provided for all my needs and it was an amazing experience in the beautiful island world of Palau.

**Micha’s standing on a rock reminds him that his Rock is Jesus - the Faithful One who does not change.**



Through the young adults group, I also learned a lot about the Palauan and Filipino culture and food.

We traveled to many wonderful places in Palau. My favorite experience was the Rock Island Tour, and especially swimming in the Jelly Fish Lake, a salt water lake swarming with jellyfish. It was awesome to see this paradise on earth. When I took my first step out to see this place, I started giving praise to God, the wonderful Creator!

# All Things are Possible with God

*Editor's note: As Pastor Edmund Kalau celebrated his 85<sup>th</sup> birthday and 57 years of service in the islands, I asked him to share with us how it was during the inception of PMA. Here is his story:*

As a young, passionate missionary in the 1950's to the island of Yap and its outer islands, I often traveled with the small Trust Territory copra (coconut) boats, in order to visit the islands under my jurisdiction. Medical emergency patients were often transported on these runs, but because of the many days needed to travel over the open ocean, some of the patients died before reaching the hospital at Yap Island.

As a former pilot in WWII, I was so frustrated with the lack of proper emergency care that I prayed and asked God to provide an airplane. My next step was to share my burden with the German mission organization that we had come to the islands with. To my disappointment, they were not eager to use the airplane on the mission field. So I continued to take the matter to God in prayer and slowly raised the funds to purchase an Evangel plane with the help of our faithful friends and supporters.

For matters unknown to my wife and I, during our next visit to Germany, we were summoned by our mission board and its committee. They informed us that, if we kept the Evangel plane, we would have to leave the mission organization. Outside the conference room, we were given half an hour to make a decision. We loved our mission organization. They provided financial support, medical benefits and schooling for our children. Now after 20 years of serving in Palau and Yap, we were being asked to give up our God inspired plans of the aircraft. If we decided to keep it, we knew that we would be on our own.

I asked my wife Elizabeth the difficult question. After all, her grandfather was the founder of the mission and her father the Greek professor of the mission's seminary. What did she think and feel about it? Without hesitation she looked at me and said, "I am with you whatever you decide." This confirmed in my heart and mind to keep the aircraft.

Dismissed we were! It meant that we had to find new supporters and prayer partners who believed in what the Lord had called us to do. The Lord responded favorably. With our experience of 20 years as missionaries in Micronesia, armed with the knowledge of customs and culture and now with the aircraft, we were ready. The Evangel first landed in Yap on July 18, 1974.

God was faithful to enable us to establish PMA on American soil. In 1975, with caring and faithful board members, PMA was incorporated in Guam.

The word spread quickly through all of Micronesia how PMA was helping the people in Yap. We were also invited to serve in Pohnpei and other islands. Our faithful God provided aircraft not only for Pohnpei, to fly to its outer-islands of Mokil, Pingelap, and Sapuwafik, but also to the island of Kosrae. From the coral rocks, we built runways in shallow lagoons for the aircraft to land.

This was just the beginning. We continued to witness the same blessing for the work of all of our PMA missionaries... *WHERE GOD GIVES THE VISION, HE ALSO GIVES PROVISION!* As I look back to the event where we had to decide to keep the aircraft, I can see God's hand and know that with God all things are possible! To Him be the glory and honor forever!

**On behalf of the PMA Executive Board, members Jeff Jones and Greg Miller present Pastor Kalau with a "Service Appreciation Award" in recognition of his founding Pacific Mission Aviation and 57 years of faithful service to the people of Micronesia, Guam and the Philippines, awarded on his 85<sup>th</sup> birthday.**



# My Life Testimony

by Brother Godofredo A. Reyes,  
Pastor PMF Church, Calutcot, Polillo, Philippines

I was born to parents who embraced religion because of tradition. As a teenager, a pastor's wife opened my eyes to the truth. She became my Christian mother. Through her, God's Word was opened to me and I realized that I was a sinner and needed Jesus Christ in my life. I repented of my sins and received Him as my Savior and Lord.

I was a changed man. In God's time, I met and married the woman He chose for me for life. Susan and I were blessed with five children: Lionel, Chiradee, Kevin, Aaron, and Asher. The church planting ministry of PMA came to Katakian and the pastors assigned to us were Pastor Arman Fermin and Pastor Jorie Bonggoyan. Both of them taught me the Scriptures and gave me the opportunity to help in the ministry. I followed the Lord in water baptism in 1995.

In 1996, my family left Katakian and transferred to Manila for a job and in 1997 I was transferred to Cebu City with my family. By God's grace, we continued to be strong in our faith and looked for a church near our place.

After twelve years living in Cebu City, my contract was over and we returned to Katakian. I resumed my duties in the church – helping in the ministry, which was still led by Pastor Jorie and he also baptized my five children. After four years of training, in April 2012, I began serving PMF Calutcot church. The ministry presented challenges as we had to cross the ocean by boat to go to Calutcot and many times the weather condition was bad. We also had no church building to hold our worship service on Sundays except under the shade of the trees, beside the sea. But this did not discourage us because we were certain that God was with us and would never abandon us. It was in November 2012 that I was able to find a house at Calutcot for my family. The beginnings were hard for us because we felt lonely having had to leave our home church. With God's help, we have adjusted to the place. We have accepted that it is God's will that led us here, to serve Him and win more souls for His glory.

I am so grateful that I was given the opportunity by PMA to be trained at SEATS (South East Asian Theological School). I am also thankful for the people who allowed themselves to be used by God, who paved the way to my being here at Calutcot: PMA and partners, who pray and provide moral and financial support. My training at SEATS has given me more knowledge and wisdom, to enable me to preach with wisdom and discernment from the Bible. Thank God for the guidance of the Holy Spirit. I would also like to thank our head pastor, Pastor Jorie, who inspires me and for all the things that I have learned from him good things and right attitudes that come from the teaching and example of Jesus Christ: submission to authority, obedience, humility, patience, forbearance and to wait upon the Lord's will.

Praise God for His goodness, His everlasting love and His faithfulness!

**Brother Godofredo (Freddie) and his family praise God for the opportunity to be part of PMF and serve the Lord in worship ministry, Sunday school, children and youth activities.**





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