

Pacific Mission Aviation's
Quarterly Magazine

Issue #2 - 2019

ISLAND ECHOES

Serving Jesus Christ in the Islands of Micronesia and the Philippines



Proclaiming His Praises



 **PMA**
Bringing Hope, Changing Lives



ISLAND ECHOES

is a publication of
Pacific Mission Aviation
(PMA).

Issue

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On our Cover

Happy faces of children
reached by VBS Philippines

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is incorporated as a non-profit
Christian mission organization
by the Government of Guam,
Territory of the United States.
All donations are tax-
deductible under section
501(c)(3). PMA is governed by
a Board of Trustees. Our
business office is located in
Guam and a field office in
Pohnpei.

Summary of Ministry Needs

Personnel Needs:

Missionaries
Administrative Assistant for Guam
Youth Workers for island churches
Boat Captain for medical ship M/V Sea Haven
Boat Mechanic for medical ship M/V Sea Haven
Missionary Pilots/Mechanics for Micronesia/Philippines
Computer personnel for radio, media and print ministry
Short-term Technician for Heidelberg GTO 52: for
repair, maintenance and calibration at Good News Press.
Please contact PMA Headquarters for job descriptions.

Infrastructure Needs:

Hangar for Palau: We thank God we are close to
completing the hangar construction. We still need to raise
\$200,000.

Outer-island airstrip in the Philippines: The Lord has
provided land for an airstrip centrally located for easy
access to all our island stations. We still need to raise
\$50,000 to complete the project.

*“And God is able to bless you abundantly,
so that in all things at all times,
having all that you need,
you will abound in every good work.”*

2 Corinthians 9:8



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**PMA President
Nob Kalau**

Dear Friends,

God means for missions to be a joyful work. It is
spreading a passion for the kingdom of God in all things
so that people may experience an abundant life and God
be glorified.

John 4:36 says, *“Already he who reaps is receiving wages
(rewards) and is gathering fruit for life eternal; that he
who sows and he who reaps may rejoice together.”*

God means for our missionaries to be glad in their work,
whether they are sowing or whether they are reaping,
whether they are leading or following, whether they are
preaching or working behind the scenes.

But what if the sowing is not followed immediately by reaping? What if it takes time
for the harvest to mature? What if it even takes a lifetime? Then how will the one who
sows be able to rejoice with the one who reaps? The answer to the waiting process,
is faith. Strong and supportive faith in future amazing grace. The grace that continues
to be long-suffering, gently and patiently calling the “whosoever believes in Him”,
not to perish but to have eternal life. *“Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand
firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord,
because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.”* 1 Corinthians 15:58

Faith must lift up its eyes into the future, see the coming harvest and be joyful. God
means this work to be a joyful work. But it is not an easy work. Or a safe work. With
long seasons of sowing there can be an immense battle with discouragement – to
keep on believing that the investment of a life in sowing is worth the sacrifices. And
with high seasons of harvesting there is an immense battle with opposition – family
strife, sickness, demonic manifestations, persecution, team disagreements – all of that
to both those who sow and those who reap. So whether our missionaries are sowing
or reaping, the challenges are big.

Please pray for the sowing and reaping of those who serve with PMA. As you will read
in this issue, our pastors and staff in the Philippines came together for a yearly
conference. They serve in isolated and physically challenging parts of the Philippines
where discouragement can be a constant battle. Pray for our orphanage as you read
about the sowing of Christ’s love into the abandoned, precious little ones’ lives. Be
excited about the discipleship group of teens who followed the Lord in baptism and
the children’s programs sowing the truth of God’s Word into the hearts of children.
Pray that the Word of God will fall on rich fertile soil as we provide Bibles to the
people we serve!

Thank you for sowing your support via prayer and giving. You are a part of sowing
and reaping in the islands of the Pacific and we are thankful for it!

Proclaiming His Praises in the Islands

by Melinda R. Espinosa, CFO/Administrator

“Let them give glory to the LORD and proclaim His praise in the islands.”
Isaiah 42:12

The annual visit to the islands was upon us again! We greatly anticipate our visit to our island stations in the Philippines especially as we (stationed in Guam and Pohnpei) will be able to spend time with our mission staff.

Nob Kalau, Dr. John Escote, Geneziel and I, left Manila at midnight. It took us two hours in traffic, until we left the road going to the Port of Real, Quezon to catch a boat to Patnanungan. We had not anticipated a religious procession to take place in the early morning hours as people walked to Antipolo on a pilgrimage. We arrived in Real at 5:30 AM and by 9 AM were on our way to our base at Patnanungan Bayan.

Upon arrival, we rested a bit and trekked to where our airstrip was located in order to assess the property and what was needed to be done to clear the area and fence it in. Fred, PMA Chief Mechanic, had visited the site earlier in order to provide us with an estimate on how much it would cost to fence off this 50,000 sq. ft. property.

Before our visit, our stations scheduled Vacation Bible School (VBS) so that the staff could focus on our annual conference. The theme for this year was “Shield Squad – Secure in God’s Protection” with Psalm 46:1 as the theme verse. The children learned to trust the Lord in everyday life experiences and during life’s adversities – He is our refuge and strength! Our team in Patnanungan, headed by Teacher Mercy, conducted VBS in the PMF churches in Kilogan (3 days), Patnanungan (5 days) and Guinaygayan (3 days). She was ably assisted by Deleta and Amor from PMF Patnanungan and Amor and Jenny from PMF Guinaygayan. Mercy was encouraged by their love, patience and perseverance, as well as the supportive presence of Bro. Hardy in Kilogan, Bro. Bryan in Patnanungan and Pastor Marty in Guinaygayan. These VBSs were well attended by a total of 167 children. PMF Jomalig and Apad, likewise completed their 5 day VBS headed by Pastor Jun and wife Baby, capably helped by Roly, Marie and Jersil. Apad had an average of 60 children in attendance, while Jomalig had 50. For PMF Amaga a 5-day VBS was conducted by Pastor Jose and wife Gemma with 53 children in attendance. By the time we arrived, only PMF Catmon and Calutcot remained to conduct a VBS. This would be scheduled after we departed.

Our visiting team wanted to experience what our pastors and staff experience when they travel to our stations to conduct worship services and visitation. So for the first day, we visited 4 Stations of PMA – Kilogan, Catmon, Guinaygayan and SM Village. We were 8 on motorcycles (2 on each motorcycle.) We drove over very rough terrain, stony ground, over exposed roots of trees, into jungles, got rained on, then dried by

the heat of the sun, up and down steep, bumpy, hardened clay, dusty mountain trails and over dry sea shores! We started at 6 AM and returned to base at 5 PM. Very tired, body aching, but rejoicing in being able to visit our staff, congregations, and have special times with them. We were served fresh coconuts in Catmon and a great sea food lunch which included lobsters in Guinaygayan.

The second day, we visited Amaga and Calutcot using our small boat “Evangel”. The island was very dry. As in our first day, the sun’s heat was overwhelming, but it was great to visit with Pastor Jun Tayangona and his family. They have experienced a severe drought and have to fetch water from the mountain which is a kilometer away from their home. Pastor Jose looked at the situation positively – he was building muscle and getting healthy in the process. We looked around the premises for an area where a well could be dug. He informed us that after digging 12 feet (manually), one strikes rocks, and still no water. We noticed though that the plants and trees were alive and green, so there must be water underneath, we just need heavy equipment to dig deeper. Please pray for God’s provision for this. The family prepared a seafood lunch for us with a special seaweed called “Latu” which was enjoyed by everyone!

The third day, we set sail for Jomalig. When we arrived – we went with motorcycles to visit PMF Apad. It took us about an hour and 45 minutes over very dusty, uneven, curvy roads with the heat of the sun unmercifully beating down on us. We saw the property that we had just purchased which included a small house that we are using for a house church. According to Pastor Jun Mandreza, this is now too small for the fast growing church. We pray for the Lord to provide for a church building. We returned to Jomalig and enjoyed conversations and fellowship over a sumptuous lunch prepared by sister Baby (wife of pastor Jun) and sister Merlyn, a church member .

Philippines PMA/PMF staff look forward to the annual get-together to where each one can fellowship, laugh, learn, pray and share with one another. A great time of bonding!



Every evening, PMF pastors and mission staff met together for a teaching series by Nob Kalau – “Disciple Making” – Dr. John translated. We learned a lot, asked questions, and discussed what we learned. Each one understood what we need to do in order to win the island to the Lord – and that is to make disciples, the Lord’s way. We pray that He will give each one the courage and perseverance to grow our church – by loving all people, building one another in grace and truth, and discipling the faithful to be fishers of men who will be able to teach others also.

Every night, we met one-on-one with our staff and those who serve with us. Sometimes our meetings went beyond midnight, and we had to be up before 5 in the morning. However, I am very thankful for these remarkable times with each one as they shared their joys, what the Lord is accomplishing in their lives and in the church, their burdens and difficulties. These moments are what we came for – to know our team in a deeper way and to somehow share in whatever they are going through. Before I left for these islands, I prayed for the Lord to enable us to listen and hear what He wants us to hear, to see what He wants us to see and know the heartbeat of our mission staff. Our time with them is never enough, but I praise God for each of them as they endeavor to serve Him with all their heart, soul and mind.

After leaving for Manila, the following day, we went by land to Naujan, Mindoro (using a ferry boat from Port of Batangas to Calapan). Our time was short but very fruitful at Bahay Kalinga Orphanage. We spent time in encouragement, dialogue and answering questions. We also met our new social worker, Karen, who is settling in very well. I got to hold baby Angela whose story is on the next page. One may harshly judge her mother – but we cannot fully know and understand where she was coming from and what she was going through. We pray for her as well that she will find peace and forgiveness in the Lord.

A fast-paced, short visit, yet the Lord allowed us to see His goodness and faithfulness in the lives of our mission staff and PMA. To Him be the glory, now and forever!



A joy to visit Bahay Kalinga and spend special times with BK staff and children. Always a blessing to hear stories of the children!

Angel in a Blue Bag

by Jeny Flores-Gutierrez, Bahay Kalinga Orphanage Center



At 5:30 AM on March 21, a Filipina homeowner opened her front door and saw a blue plastic bag hanging on her gate. She was startled and apprehensive because this bag was moving. Without looking inside, she quickly took the bag to the house of the local councilman who was her neighbor. She was afraid of opening the bag without a witness, and that it may have a snake or something that would hurt her. Upon opening the bag, both

the lady and the councilor were surprised to find a newborn baby, still with her umbilical cord, alive and kicking! They immediately reported the finding to the police who came to pick up the baby, brought her to the rural health clinic, called Bahay Kalinga, who informed the local Department of Social Services.

She was observed for 12 days at the rural health clinic to make sure that she did not have any infection, as well as given the needed vaccinations for her age. She was then transferred to Bahay Kalinga for temporary care. Since we do not know who her parents are, she is considered a foundling. Bahay Kalinga now has the responsibility of making sure that the news of finding the baby is announced via radio and newspaper. In the event that no one claims her within the next three months, Bahay Kalinga will process her documents so that she can be available for adoption.

So many people came to visit and to find out if they could adopt Baby Angela (not her real name), however, they found that it is not that simple. Interested parents have to go through the Department of Social Services and undergo the agency’s process of adopting a baby.

At Bahay Kalinga, we thank God for this angel the Lord sent to us in a blue bag. While with us, we will care for her and love her as our own, raising her in a way so that one day when she is united with her family (biological or adoptive) she will know that she is loved.

Thank you for praying for Baby Angela and for Bahay Kalinga. Thank you for supporting us. You really do make a difference in the lives of the children we serve. God bless you!



Fruit that Lasts

by Mercy Sulad, Head Teacher, PMA Academy

To God be the glory! The 16th Moving Up and Recognition of PMA Academy was done on March 27th. At the end of this school year, 30 students completed their journey. Thank God for parents who continually trust us and allow their children to be under our care. Thank God for my team workers as it takes a lot of patience, love, sacrifice and the strength from our Lord. His presence in times of weariness while still persevering in helping our students learn the 3 R's: (Reading wRiting and aRithmetic), God's Word and training them in good manners and behavior. The parents are the ones promoting our school because of the experience their children have had with us. Our graduates move on to academic excellence with this good learning foundation. Thank God for the presence of our pastors, Bryan, Jose, Narciso and Marty during the recognition day. They supported us in prayer for the programs we have had throughout the year; for Teacher Fretzel who helped me in preparing the certificates, ribbons and program numbers to make our recognition day memorable; for Bro. Jonathan who did all the physical arrangement from the start to the end of the program.

We will be missing the children, but in our hearts there is fullness of joy because we have ministered to each family of each child. We have endeavored to train them in the way of the Lord Jesus Christ and we believe that He who began a good work in them will complete it until the day of Christ Jesus! He is the one who planted the soil and is faithful to make it grow and be fruitful.

I thank God also for our guest speaker, who just passed his licensure as a Criminology graduate -Matt Angara. He was one of our first pupils from 2003 when the PMA Academy started on island. Praise God for the fruit and for fruit that lasts, not only academically but more so in the hearts and souls of the children as they recognize Jesus as the author of their lives.

We look forward to the next group of students for the next school year. New faces, new adventures and challenges. We know the Lord will give us victory, as we begin anew. He is a conqueror who keeps us steadfast and immovable. Thanks to all our prayer partners who faithfully stand by our side!

Graduating students from PMA Academy present a special number to the delight of their parents and guests! We pray that they will continue to grow and glow for our Lord as they continue in their quest for higher learning.



Bibles for the Islands!

by Amos Collins, Director of Flight Operations

Thanks to a generous donor, we have ordered and received most of the Bibles we needed for outreach in Yap. The giant print Bibles are a big hit as most of the older people have poor eyesight. The children received a few illustrated Children's Bibles to get acquainted with the Bible in a child-like language. One of our church members is headed back to her home island on the ship and her island people understand the Chuukese language, so we are sending some Bibles in the Chuukese language with her.

You will be pleased to hear a story from our outreach today. For many years we have not had an outreach to the islands that we fly to because we didn't have the staff or the means to be consistent. PMA as a mission is deliberate about being faithful if we start something. We don't want to do a once-a-summer outreach without any follow-up. So for a year-and-a-half now, our pastor has faithfully boarded the flight to the outer island of Ulithi once a week on Friday, and the pilot waits on the ground while he does a devotional and discipleship with the new believers. This outreach was heard about from people on the next island of Fais and the chief invited our pastor to come do something similar on his island. Most of these islands are following the Roman religion and do not get fed too much from the Scriptures. In Fais, Pastor Petrus was surprised to see the eagerness of a small group to dig into the Word and learn more about salvation and how to live like Christ. But it's not just the small group that hears the message, but anyone who comes to the terminal for the flight. After we unload the plane, we have prayer, and some singing, and then Pastor Petrus shares a word from the Bible. And about 50 people are there to hear it every week. So that is really cool.

Today in Ulithi, Pastor Petrus shared with me that our group had invited a new lady to the meeting. And as Petrus shared the gospel message of salvation, she was frantically copying down the Bible verses that he was referencing. When asked if she had ever heard these things before, she replied, "No! We never go this deep in our church." She said she was copying down the references so that she could go home later and really study those verses. So then Pastor Petrus took the opportunity to share the salvation message and asked her if she wanted to accept Christ as her Lord and Savior.

She agreed, and then prayed to accept the Lord into her heart. What a great encouragement to pastor Petrus and to our team when we heard this news. Praise the Lord for a new believer!

Please pray for the island people as we bring the Word to them that they may know Him, grow in His Word and make Him known to their family, friends and island community.

Amos Collins shares the Bible with adults and illustrated Bibles for the children. We pray that God's Living Word would be read and obeyed!



Through it All – Learning to Trust in Jesus

by Monena Borrromeo,
PMA Palau Aviation– Finance & Administrative Assistant

I was born in a Christian home in the Philippines, grew up in Sunday School and accepted Jesus Christ at a very young age. During my childhood, I remember memorizing Scriptures, being at church and getting along with fellow believers. I consider this as a great privilege, an advantage, I thought, that I had over other people. It may sound so selfish and very boastful when people hear this. I continued to do the same things to enhance my spiritual life until I felt this was not what God wanted me to do.

April 2005, I attended a Christian Camp Retreat. I heard God speak to me. He told me to fully surrender my life to Him. He broke all the routine and usual practices that I had. He introduced Himself as a God who can work in a very personal way, a God who is willing to listen and respond. (Jer. 33:3).

As I had a deeper meaning and purpose in life, I felt contentment and joy. I was so excited to serve but did not know where to start and what ministry I should be involved in. God is a gracious Father, He led me to the Praise Team and Kids Ministry in our local church.

It was a joy serving Him in these areas. I realized that as long as God sees the desire in our heart, He will help, lead and direct us to where He wants us to serve. Little did I know that this was just part of God's bigger plan to prepare me for a broader scale of service. He opened the door for me to serve with PMA as a missionary in Palau. He continued to mold my character through the lives of the people I am surrounded with. I saw the difference between working in the corporate world and with fellow believers. How a simple act of kindness can reflect a shining light to others without trying to impress them. This just comes out naturally in one's life as He lives in us. People can see that it is God at work in the lives of each one serving with PMA and that kindness is just a by-product of God's overflowing love.

My time in Palau has taught me how to trust God fully in all circumstances. (Proverbs 3:5) In times of distress, sorrow, home-sickness and pain, experiencing His abiding presence gives me joy. Right now, I am still a work in progress. I am thankful that I can continue serving Him through the aviation ministry of PMA, and be involved in the PMF church here in children's ministry, young adults and the praise and worship team. I praise Him because He is worthy to be praised. My hope and trust is in Him alone.

Isaiah 40:31 *“but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.”*

Monena (Monet) Borrromeo has found her calling in serving with PMA Palau Aviation and the Palau PMF Church. She thanks God for leading and guiding her in making the right choices for His glory!



New Disciples Thanks to Faithful Grandmothers and Mother

by Sabine Musselwhite, PMA Missionary, Pohnpei

“I have been given all authority in heaven and on earth. Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you.” Matthew 28: 18-20

Our Lord left us with this command and PMA has been able to send out many missionaries to the island nations of Micronesia and the Philippines. It is so encouraging for us, to watch young Christians be baptized and have the privilege to teach them to do all the things Christ has taught us.

This Resurrection Sunday, 9 young Christians followed the Lord in water baptism. It was a wonderful day, complete with the resurrection celebration in the morning and the baptism at the beautiful Pacific Ocean in Pohnpei. I invited the young ladies who were baptized for a discipleship class and they eagerly accepted. It is always a privilege to learn how someone finds Christ and accepts Jesus’ gift of salvation. Some of the new disciples wanted to share their testimony with you.

Milain shares: “I am 16 years old. Since my parents were not married, I was raised by my grandparents. They taught me about the Christian faith. My Grandma is a teacher in a Christian pre-school and brought me to the kids’ Bible studies. How I enjoyed that! In fourth grade, Jesus Christ became really important in my life especially when I was taught that I could accept Him into my life in order to have a relationship with Him. One day I thought I heard God whisper into my ear: “You are ready!” I felt so touched that I told my grandma and she led me in the prayer to accept Jesus into my life. I was nine-years-old then and it was on a Thursday, I still remember! Earlier this year in youth meeting at PMF we talked about baptism. I asked God that if He thought I was ready... to please give me a sign. All of a sudden, my heartrate increased, and I got goosebumps all over. That was my sign. I was ready to obey the Lord in water baptism and there in the water I confirmed that I love Jesus as my Lord and Savior and want to follow him every day of my life. Then I went down into the water. Oh happy day!”

Justleen shares: “As my grandma was a Sunday School teacher, the stories of Jesus were a part of my life growing up. I believed in Jesus and His saving grace. I married my husband and God gave us 6 beautiful children. My faith grew despite the struggles of marriage and raising my children without much help from my husband. One evening I felt so lonely. Looking through the window I saw the moon shining very brightly.

The window bars formed a cross on the moonlight – a thought hit me and all of a sudden I felt assured that God was always there with me. I felt welcome and safe at the PMF Church and wanted to be baptized. I waited for my daughters to join me in this decision and for my husband to give us his consent. Easter Sunday became such a special day for me because I, along with our two daughters, followed the Lord into the water. I am praying that my husband will decide to be baptized as well. I am really glad that I can join the discipleship class and study together with my daughters Alliyah and Abigail.”

Alliyah shares: “I am 16. Jesus was in our family for as long as I can remember. My mom taught me about the Bible and when I faced hard times growing up or felt alone and overwhelmed, I knew I could go to Jesus in prayer. I wanted to be baptized because I want to be closer to God and learn more and more about Jesus. The discipleship class will help me understand the Biblical truths and what I can do to follow Jesus and honor Him.”

Abigail shares: “I am 14. In 7th grade my school’s Pastor encouraged me with Phil 4:13, “*I can do all things through him who strengthens me.*” The passage in Ephesians 2:8-9 impressed me and I wanted to be saved and receive this gift from God. And I did. When I heard about baptism in PMF youth group, the question inside me kept coming up “are you ready for this?” I was really tired of the sin in my life and wanted to learn more and more about Jesus and follow him. So my next big step was baptism. Now I want to learn more about following Jesus in the discipleship class.”

From Sabine: As a PMA missionary, I would like to encourage all families to teach their children about God and His Word. Just like Timothy in the Bible who was taught by his grandmother Lois and his mother Eunice (2 Timothy 1:5), these young ladies learned about the Faith in the one living God and Creator of the Universe by growing up in a home led by their faithful grandmothers and mother. What a privilege we have to teach our children that God has given us to raise!





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