

Pacific Mission Aviation's  
Quarterly Magazine

Issue #3 - 2023

# ISLAND ECHOES

Serving Jesus Christ in the Islands of Micronesia and the Philippines



It Takes a Team!

 **PMA**  
Bringing Hope, Changing Lives



# ISLAND ECHOES

is a publication of Pacific Mission Aviation (PMA).

## Issue

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## On our Cover

Team Yap working together in harmony in serving the Lord.

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Pacific Mission Aviation (PMA) 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

Come join us in  
“Bringing Hope and Changing Lives”

- Missionary Pastors/Missionaries/Youth Workers for PMF island churches in Micronesia
- Mechanic for Medical/Relief vessel Sea Haven, Micronesia
- Missionary Pilots/Mechanics for Micronesia/Philippines
- Media Production Personnel (graphic design/videographer), manage media platforms: Guam, Micronesia
- Accountant for Yap flight office
- Technical Missionaries: Agriculture, Water Projects, Livelihood Programs, Philippines. Construction, maintenance and repair/ construction projects Micronesia.

Please contact PMA Headquarters at [guamhq@pmapacific.org](mailto:guamhq@pmapacific.org) for job descriptions.

## Infrastructure Needs

**Bahay Kalinga Orphanage, Philippines.** We thank God for the near completion of this project. We are now completing the renovatoin of the main building.

**PMF Church Patnanungan.** Building of new typhoonproof church, construction of clinic with guest rooms. Repair/painting of multipurpose training center.

**PMF Yap multipurpose center**  
Church & training facility.

**PMF Palau multipurpose center/church**  
Church & training facility.

**PMF Pohnpei multipurpose center**  
Church & training facility.

Dear Friends,

A few weeks ago we woke up to the horrific news that Israel was at war with Hamas. Unthinkable barbaric atrocities toward Jewish elderly, women, children, and even babies were unleashed in Israel. Purely demonic. Every day, the news became worse with casualties on both sides. And Israel, that tiny nation being the focal point in the middle east, the focal point of the world, the focal point of God's timetable, is once again the center of attention.

The Bible tells us that in the end times Israel would be scattered and regathered. This has happened, and this really was the sign that set the prophetic clock ticking. On May 14, 1948, Israel became a nation. But after Israel was regathered, the Lord said she would come under attack. Specifically in Ezekiel 37 and 38, the Bible speaks of the regathering of Israel, and then it speaks of a large force from her north attacking her. Unfortunately, this is still to come, as if this attack was not bad enough.

Jerusalem, this tiny little city, in this tiny sliver of land, will play a key role in the events of the last days. It's the focal point of end time events. It's amazing when you think about it, because in Zechariah 12:3,4 God says, *"I will make Jerusalem like an intoxicating drink that makes the nearby nations stagger when they send their armies to besiege Jerusalem and Judah. On that day I will make Jerusalem an immovable rock. All the nations will gather against it to try to move it, but they will only hurt themselves."*

But let's remember the lessons of the past, God's plans will never be thwarted and He will intervene in His perfect time. He raised up Moses to deliver the Jews from Pharaoh and Egypt. He raised up Queen Esther to use her influence to save her fellow Jews from the plot to destroy them. God will be true to His promises for His chosen people, the Jews. He has already provided their deliverer, Jesus Christ.

As Christians, we should be looking for the soon return of Jesus Christ. Jesus said, *"Now when these things begin to happen, look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near"*. Luke 21:28

The Bible tells us to pray for the peace of Jerusalem Psalm 122:6. We should pray that this horrific terrorism stops, and that the hostages are set free. That God places His hand and hedge of protection over the nation of Israel during this unprecedented war. Above all we can pray for the salvation of Israelis and Arabs.

The Lord is coming soon. Pray that our PMA missionaries and coworkers would be dedicated and passionate to share the Gospel, disciple the faithful, and be sensitive to every opportunity to tell of our amazing hope and message of salvation. *"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life."* John 3:16

Nob Kalau  
President

# The Faithful One Guards Our Steps

by Melinda R. Espinosa, CFO/Administrator

*“For He guards the course of the just and protects the way of His faithful ones.”*  
Proverbs 2:8

It was our last day of visiting the PMA stations in the Polillo islands. We were late in going back to our base located in Patnanungan. Stuck at the PMF church in Calutcot with Pastor Ed and wife Beth, we waited for the high tide. But because of the delay, the Lord allowed me the time to speak to the brother of Pastor Ed, Pastor Erwin, who wanted to serve in the islands as well. God’s delays are truly not His denials!

The night was dark as we traveled via our banca (a small two outrigger canoe) “Evangel”, with our boat captain Bayani at the helm. The stars were all out displaying the splendor of God. The weather was good and our solar lights kept us aware of our surroundings. After 2½ hours of travel, nearing the Patnanungan port, suddenly a great swell overcame us – rocking our small banca – and if the boat next to us had not have turned their lights on we would have hit them. The gusts were very rough, it rained slightly and there was thunder and lighting. What’s more, the port did not have any lights on, contributing to the darkness of the night. Pastor Marty reminded us of the time the Lord was traveling with His disciples on a boat crossing a lake when He and His disciples experienced a great squall and the disciples feared for their lives. They awoke Jesus who was asleep and the Lord rebuked the wind and the waves and the lake was calm again. As we prayed, captain Bayani made the decision to bring our banca closer to the shore and we all jumped out and arrived safely at the base, albeit soaking wet, with muddied feet! Thanks be to God!

My visit to our Philippine mission stations was scheduled for middle of September to early October. We were anticipating rainy weather as it is that season in the Philippines. This would involve 5 hours of land travel first to Port Real, then a 4-hour boat ride to Patnanungan. Our team consisted of Pastor Marty Lumigis – OIC Philippines, Stephen and Monet Newton, missionaries newly transferred to the Philippines, after having served in Palau. Steve and Monet were given the assignment to revive our aviation ministry which was paused in 2009 after our last Missionary Pilot, Malcolm Cleope and family went back to the States after serving for 9 years. Our plan was to visit all our island stations, and meet all our pastors/workers, as well as the PMF church congregations. It would be an introduction to the Newtons of our work in the islands as well as meeting our Philippine team. This visit would allow them to experience how difficult and challenging it is for us and visiting volunteers (especially medical/dental teams) to travel to and from the islands – how time consuming it was as well. Each visit to the island of ministry involved 2 hours of banca ride, an hour or so on motorcycle and walking at least 45 minutes.

At the end of the trip, we had a meeting with all our pastors, their wives and workers and each one shared their praises and prayer requests. We had a great time of worship singing and praying together as a group.



Pastor Marty and I met with each one as they shared their heart to us, ending each session with prayer. This was the highlight of my trip, to listen and hear the joys and heartaches as each one faithfully serves the Lord in these remote islands. We pray that the Lord would continue to empower, encourage and give them daily strength, wisdom, passion, and vision in the ministry that they have been called to.



*Captain Bayani at the helm of our banca “Evangel”.  
Thanking God for safe voyage.*

Then followed a trip to Naujan, Mindoro, where we had a good visit with our Bahay Kalinga staff and the children. The children presented us with a Poem about “Mother”, their memorized Bible verse, Psalm 127:3 “*Children are a gift of the Lord. The fruit of the womb is His reward,*” and a dance interpretation of the song “Give Thanks”. It was also good to see the improvements that were done to all the orphanage buildings, thanks to the leadership of Fred Ranada. Though our visit was a short one, it was a blessed one with Pastor Marty and I meeting with our staff, encouraging and praying for each one.

In Manila, I was able to meet with our HQ team, our external auditors and medical volunteers that would not join in the October outreach but promised future involvement. I am so thankful for the fruitful meetings with each one. I praise God for answers to prayers for good weather, safe voyage over land and sea, and most of all a blessed and productive trip! Indeed, the Lord guards our course and protects us in all our ways! Praise God!

*PMA/PMF Pastors and their wives and mission staff  
had a blessed time of worship, praise giving, and praying together.*



# Healing as Jesus Heals

Medical/Dental Outreach, Philippines

*“And the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick,  
and the Lord will raise him up.*

*And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven.”*

James 5:15

## **Pastor Marty J. Lumigis, Head Pastor/OIC**

A medical/dental mission was brought to the Polillo Islands, that was not planned but the Lord allowed to happen! We had difficulties gathering the volunteer doctors since most of them are not available if the medical mission lasts for 4 to 5 days. Purchasing medicine and antibiotics was a challenge due to restrictions, but praise be to God all of these hindrances disappeared. On October 5-10, 2023, a group of dentists, nurses and volunteers availed themselves to help in the mission. The whole team had a great joy and excitement to serve the people in the islands. With their 4-day-stay in the island we were able to serve two barangays (districts) wherein we also have PMF churches. There were 106 dental extractions in Busdak and 92 in Calutcot, and 91 medical check-ups in Busdak and 118 in Calutcot. Medicines were given to the patients and also vitamins for the children. But most importantly, our Pastors prayed with them and shared God’s Word with the patients. As I looked at the medical team and our Pastors, I remembered what the Lord Jesus was doing during His earthly ministry...healing! And the healing that Jesus offered was not only for the physical needs of man but most importantly for their spiritual needs. Jesus gave physical healing like making the blind to see and the lepers were healed of their crippling leprosy. But above all He offered forgiveness, hope and salvation to every person He ministered to. As I reflected on Jesus’ healing ministry, His example showed us how to do medical/dental outreaches by not only taking care of people’s physical needs but also their spiritual health, giving them the hope and forgiveness in Jesus Christ.

## **Lydia Nolte, Volunteer nurse from Germany**

The Filipinos were really open and kind to me, a German. I saw how each one of the medical/dental team members had a strong commitment and passion to help and invest their time in serving the Lord. Even though they themselves have limited resources of time and money, their hearts were into serving. The medicines and vitamins purchased by PMA were more than sufficient and we had many leftovers for another outreach. For me, it was a different challenge and a new impression. I saw how amazing it was that we could give so much help and joy with such a simple means as giving medical and dental care. It was shocking to me that many people don’t have consistent access to medical care. For many industrialized countries, this is taken for granted and people seem to complain a lot if their expectations are not met. Anyone who is satisfied with little and still has so much joy in life can consider themselves blessed.

**Dr. Hannah Arancillo**

It was the year 2001 when my parents served as pastor and dorm parents at PMA Patnanungan... at that time I was 7 years old. One of the ministries of PMA is to serve their community by providing free medical, dental and optical services. As a young child, I was inspired by the PMA medical team as they tirelessly served the community to ensure that everyone received the proper care they needed. Witnessing the impact of these free services made me realize the importance of accessible healthcare for all. It inspired me to pursue a career in a helping profession where we can make difference in the life of others through healthcare. 22 years later it's wonderful that I am able to go back to the place where I first aspired to become a dentist. But this time not as a patient but as a dentist who is now serving the community. I thank PMA for their dedication and hard work in serving the community. I look forward to contributing to more medical and dental missions in the future.

**Dr. Rowena Corpus**

We would like to thank PMA for giving us the opportunity to be of service to our fellowman. It is such a wonderful experience being a part of the PMA Medical/Dental Mission Pollilio Team. It's our own little way to give back the blessings Almighty God has been granting us. We salute all the people who made this endeavor fruitful and successful and we are very happy to be a part of the PMA family. We wish to be part of future missions. To the PMA management and staff who gave us fulfillment in our lives, thank you, more blessings to your cause.

*The Medical/Dental Team with our Pastors: Bryan, Eleazer, Mario and wife Nemia and far right – Pastor Marty.*

*What a blessing this group has been to the people of Busdak and Calutcot – ministering to the total person: Body, Soul and Spirit!*



# Orphan Joel Finds His Happy Ending

by Ann Caspe, Social Worker Bahay Kalinga Children's Home

*"But I will protect the orphans who remain among you."* Jeremiah 49:11a

At two in the morning, Mrs. Garcia was awakened from her sleep with what sounded like a baby crying. She followed the cry to her backyard and found a naked, newly born, baby boy still attached to his umbilical cord lying on the grass! She immediately took the baby inside her home, cleaned him up, wrapped him in a warm blanket, and fed him a bottle of milk. As soon as government offices were open, she called the local Department of Social Welfare as well as the Philippines National Police.

Mrs. Garcia lives on a small island which is 197 km away from Mindoro and would take 3 ½ hours travel by ferry boat.

Baby Joel was found July 2, 2022, and on the 18th of the same month, the local Social Welfare Office called us at Bahay Kalinga (BK) for the referral of the child for protection and for further case management. Joel was approximately 21 days old when he was admitted at BK. He is a lovely child with thick black-smooth hair, fair skin, rosy cheeks and adorable double dimples.

Fast forward to 2023 - Joel can now stand and walk on his own, without support. He can climb up on his crib and get down without assistance from a caregiver. When he needs something, Joel knows how to draw attention. He dances when he hears music. He waves goodbye when the caregiver leaves the Center and smiles and giggles to the incoming caregiver.





Baby Joel is showing all the normal signs of development for a healthy one-year-old baby boy.

PMA-Bahay Kalinga secured all the documents needed to process his adoption and was finally issued a “Certificate Declaring a Child Legally Available for Adoption (CDCLAA). His case was then presented during the 5th Regional Matching Conference and was successfully matched to Prospective Adoptive Parents who are from an island north east of Mindoro. The matching process was done privately.

It was a happy occasion when Joel’s parents arrived at BK. Joel immediately took to his new parents! We thank God for answering our prayers that yet another child from BK found a loving home!

*“Our” children happily receive some “goodies” donated by generous people to Bahay Kalinga. We thank God for His provision – we have never lacked any good thing!*



## Sister Prayed it... Brother Made It!

by Sylvia Kalau, PMA Missionary, Pohnpei

Mary, a widowed elementary school teacher, has attended our PMF church in Pohnpei for 20 years. During that time, she has been praying for all of her family members to receive Christ. As a praise to God, her 4 children are all believers and she brings her nieces and nephews to church regularly. Many of these have received Christ and are faithfully attending Youth Group.

Mary lives in a compound surrounded by the families she is praying for. They are a daily reminder to her that she wants to see all of them in eternity. Each Saturday, she joins the PMF Ladies Prayer Warriors who meet at 7 am and pray through the requests given to them throughout the week. These are a very dedicated group of ladies who have experienced God's answers in amazing ways.



*With great joy, Gonnally and four other believers followed the Lord in water baptism. Pastor Nob was blessed to baptize them all.*

One of those praises happened for Mary this summer when her oldest brother Gonnally, the head of the clan, suffered a left sided stroke and had to go off island for medical treatment. Mary prayed. The ladies prayed faithfully. Upon Gonnally's return, Mary convinced him to come to church. He came. A few weeks later, He received Christ and then he came to Pastor Nob with an urgency, "I want to be baptized, I want to be baptized right away." What a joy for Nob to have Gonnally as part of the baptism class and explain the things of God to him. With great joy he, along with 4 others, was baptized on Sept. 3.

It was exciting to watch 50-year-old Gonnally grow. He is truly a new creation in Christ. He learned to depend on God as his own health was failing. On Sept. 19, two weeks after his baptism, Gonnally had to be rushed to the hospital. He had suffered an aneurysm. He died within the hour. Nob hurried to the hospital to comfort the family. The PMF church sprang into action helping with all the arrangements. Mary's youngest brother, WaWa, shared how he was overwhelmed by the love poured out to them by the PMF family. "And they aren't even our blood family" he said. PMF was invited to provide the evangelistic funeral services at the morgue, at the church and burial at the home, as well as the 10-day-post funeral service. "Praying Mary" is energized, "The Lord is coming soon and there are more relatives who need salvation!" And Gonnally? He made it: *"Absent from the body, is to be present with the Lord."* 2 Corinthians 5:8



# It Takes a Team

by Amos Collins

*“From Him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.”*

Ephesians 4:16

Monday and Friday mornings are pretty routine at PMA Yap. 7:30 AM checking in for the flight to Ulithi or Fais. Passengers bring their bags and relatives bring cargo to send on the flight for their families in the islands. Charlotte Hudson has been with PMA for 7 years and runs “point” in the whole process. She has her laptop next to the scale and is weighing passengers, their bags, collecting the payment and sorting the cargo into carts. One cart for passengers and one for cargo. Sometimes in the busy season, Charlotte has 4 flights in the day and is running 4 manifests at the same time with different planes and different destinations. When one flight is full, she rolls over into the next.

On these busy flight days, Juliana Adgil, who has been with PMA for 5 years, is at Charlotte’s side assisting her with answering the phone, collecting the airport departure fees, helping to label the cargo, or sort the bags. Juliana also helps the people in the outer islands do their shopping on Yap and is busy packing the items she purchased into boxes to send to their owners. This is a small service that we provide when we have time, since there are people in the islands who cannot come to Yap to shop for their needs. Juliana receives a shopping list or sometimes a bank withdrawal slip on the previous flight with some money and then she will go shop or do the outer islander’s banking. If people in the islands need cash, they often send down their ATM card or bank info for us to withdraw cash for them and send it back out. This is a trust that we are careful not to lose.

Grace Adgil is Charlotte and Juliana’s immediate supervisor and has been with PMA for 20 years. Grace has the most experience with PMA office matters and is responsible for most of the bookings, flight scheduling, finances, and invoices. Grace is such an asset to our team and contributes immensely to decisions that need to be made as new things develop. Grace believes in the mission of PMA and is a team player. Whenever I travel off island, I am confident that Grace has the knowledge and wisdom to make the right decisions in my absence.

In the hangar, we have Tommy Gorong who has been with PMA for 24 years. He is reliable and dependable. Tommy is always ready and willing to come in early, stay late or even work on the weekends if necessary. Tommy knows where everything is and how everything should work. He is not a certified mechanic, but he has some specialty jobs like fueling and wheels & brakes that he has mastered. And if he is given a new task that he is not sure about, you can guarantee, that he will take it seriously and perform the task carefully. Tommy is a steady rock that is good for our team.

Grace's husband, David, has worked for PMA in the hangar for 10 years. Dave learned how to tow the aircraft, which is an art form with such limited space in the hangar. Our planes are parked within 1-2 inches of each other. Dave also has construction experience which is handy, especially as we always have building improvements or maintenance to do. Dave is the oldest on our crew and is well respected by everyone.

JR is our youngest in the hangar and early on he expressed an interest in getting certified as a mechanic. So, he is now in his third year as an apprentice A&P mechanic. Little by little we give him more responsibility and train him in all areas of maintenance to prepare him for his exams and career. With experience he will become a good mechanic and will continue to grow as an asset to our team.

Besides myself, our Yap Operation has two other missionary pilots. Paul Ciaramitaro joined our team in May 2023, and is committed to helping us for 1 year. Paul is a Moody Aviation Graduate and an A&P mechanic. Paul came to us from Dynamic Aviation and has a lot of experience flying the King Air. We are glad to have him with us, if only for a short time, as he has greatly reduced my workload by taking on most of the flights.

Our newest pilot, Jonathan Paulsen came to us from Germany and is committed for 3 years. Jonathan has been helping our Palau operation since July 2023 but will be moving here to Yap this month to begin his training in the Queen Air. Jonathan is also an A&P mechanic and will be a big help in the hangar when he is not flying.

Our flight operation in Yap has three planes and flies between 30 to 80 hours a month depending on the season. The demand has been slowly increasing and I am so thankful for a team that is here to do the work faithfully and with unity. We have a very good working relationship and it is a joy to come to work each day and serve alongside such an amazing group of men and women. Praise the Lord!

*Our Yap team: L-R: Juliana, Charlotte, Grace, David, Tommy, JR, Amos, Paul and Jonathan. It takes a team to effectively serve the people. And we thank God for each of them!*



# Arrivals and Field Trips

by Brock Welge, Palau Station Manager

*“In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.”*

Matthew 5:16

At the end of July, our newest mission pilot/mechanic, Jonathan Paulsen, arrived in Palau. Jonathan, is serving in Palau for a few months to get acclimated to island life, the warmer climate, local culture, and accomplish basic island flight training in our Cessna 206. We praise God that He has placed a call on Jonathan to come out to the islands and serve our Lord Jesus with us for the next three years. From the start, Jonathan has been a great help around the hangar, working with us on many projects, like installing a new air compressor, assisting with the BN-21 Islander aircraft’s 100 hour/annual inspection, in addition to flying and leading Bible studies in Anguar. This has freed up Melody, Jun and me to focus on getting all the maintenance complete on the Cessna 206 that we will be sending to PMA Philippines. We will miss Jonathan in Palau as he is transitioning to the Yap base in November for Queen Air flight training where he will continue serving.

It brings me great joy to share that this August, PMA Palau hosted high school students from Palau High School. Their teacher Dr. Yan Chi, who is also an archeologist, reached out and asked if we would be willing to host her sophomore history students on a field trip to the PMA Hangar. We were really excited about the opportunity as Dr. Chi is also a Christian and mentioned it would be great to share about why PMA was started, what we do, and why we are here serving in the aviation ministry.

There were two classes of students, so one came out in the morning and the second in the afternoon. I had an opportunity to share how our founder had a heart to bring mission aircraft to these islands, to help people’s physical needs, while bringing the Hope of the Gospel of Jesus Christ to meet their spiritual needs. This heart is the same heart we at PMA Palau have, and it is the reason we have left our previous jobs and careers to serve in this ministry: To share the good news of salvation in Jesus to all that can hear. After the short history lesson, we took the kids on a hangar tour to show them all that goes into maintaining and operating mission aircraft in the islands. It was great to share all that we do with these kids. Please join us in praying for more opportunities to engage the youth of Palau.





*The joy of serving together with a greater purpose is shown as Jonathan, missionary pilot and Rolly, missionary mechanic high five each other!*

*Brock on right seat, training Jonathan as they fly the C-206 over the beautiful rock islands of Palau.*





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