

# ISLAND ECHOES

*Serving Christ in the Islands of Micronesia and the Philippines*



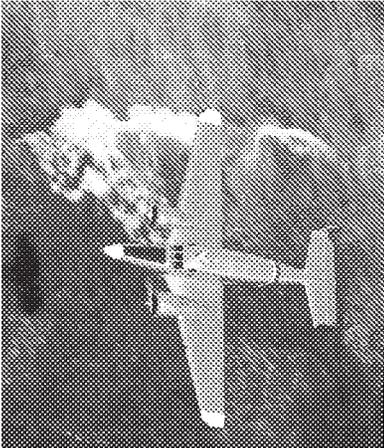
***Pacific Missionary Aviation***

## GOODBYE TO THE "OLD-TIMER"

By Edmund J. Kalau

We all liked the "Old-Timer" Beech E18S. It was sad to say goodbye to a classic airplane, that had inspired pilots and passengers alike to trust in its reliable performance. Well, it's gone. The Beech 18, along with another plane of our fleet, the Cessna 337, went to a buyer in the Philippines.

There are several reasons for phasing out these aircraft, which are using 100/130 high-octane aviation fuel. The fuel supplied to Micronesia comes mostly from Singapore and other Southeast Asian countries thousands of miles away. The landed cost has been rising from year to year. We are now paying well over \$5.00 per gallon.



ON THE COVER: "Old-Timer" Beech E18S

PMA wants to keep its commitment to provide free medical services including free medical evacuations for the widely scattered outer-islands of Yap State. On these small islands only a few islanders earn money by working for the government. As providers for their extended family, none of them are financially capable to pay for medical evacuations by air or ship. For most of them the hospital is hundreds of miles away.

However, due to the rising cost of fuel and insurance these free services have become a financial burden to PMA. On the average our aircraft are using from 25-40 gallons per hour. We have no intention of discontinuing these very needed free services unless we are forced to by financial restraints.

Furthermore, in our old vintage aircraft, problems of metal fatigue surfaced. Special treatment and x-raying of critical parts are mandatory

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requirements by the FAA for safety reasons. The main spar of our Beech 18 had to be x-rayed every 1500 hours for certification of the aircraft. The x-ray equipment with the technician had to be flown in from Hawaii. Adding this to the ever-increasing cost of fuel, maintenance and insurance made a big dent in our budget. We have survived nearly 30 years of such economic restraint, by the grace of God. The only answer to the problem is to change some of our aviation fuel operated aircraft into airplanes equipped with turbin engines. These engines use regular jet fuel, which is much cheaper and available at the pump in the four island state airports in Micronesia.

The market for good used turbo-prop aircraft in U.S. and Europe are being researched for a suitable aircraft for which we have partial funds, through the sale of the Beech 18 and Cessna 337. These aircraft would also fly faster which would save time in critical emergency evacuations.

It is our desire and prayer to buy such an aircraft as God provides the remaining \$250,000 for the purchase. We would like to ask you, our faithful prayer partners and supporters, to join us in prayer to meet this challenge in order to experience again, that with God all things are possible when we unitedly approach His throne. We trust that this challenge will touch your heart and that our faith in Him will be rewarded.

*Note from the Editor: As of July 1, Mobil no longer provides avgas in our region. This means that PMA will have to import directly for our avgas needs, and therefore would mean higher costs. More than ever, there is an urgent need to replace our avgas operated aircraft into aircraft equipped with turbin engines. We desire to continue to serve the islands, so please pray with us that God will provide the funds to purchase this type of aircraft.*

## GOODBYE PLANES

By Esther Reichert

This morning we stood on the edge of the runway and watched the Beech 18 and Skymaster take off from the Yap runway for the last time and head for the Philippines. Peter has logged 8,000 hours in the B 18 in the last 25 years. Twenty five years ago, he also asked me to marry him under the B18 with a dozen roses he had hidden away in the nose of the aircraft. Heidi, our eldest, took her first airplane ride in it at a few weeks old. Many experiences and memories are entwined with this plane. Hundreds of people's lives were enriched through medevacs, sea searches and air drops. Thousands of people were taken to their destinations and millions of pounds of cargo and mail delivered. The B18 also gave Peter his share of scares and always kept him on his toes while operating it. We will miss the sound of the radial engines but not all the maintenance that went with it! The Lord has been good to us in allowing this piece of equipment to serve as a means of showing His love to the people of these islands. We thank Him for His protecting hand throughout the years.



Peter and Esther with the B18 in 1982

## MAN PLANS, GOD'S WILL PREVAILS

### The Arizona Team Experience

By Cindy Johnson

*"Many are the plans in a man's heart,  
but it is the Lord's purpose that prevails." Proverbs 19:21*

We had a name. The Arizona Team. After months of planning, the time was here. Blanche, Merle, Marty, Tom, Cindy, Monty all traveling from Arizona to Guam to build a generator room for the PMA house. Or so we thought. . .



**The Arizona Team L-R: Marty Mortensen, Merle Cressy, Rick and Cindy Johnson, Monty Worthington, Tom Rivers, Blanche Tribby**

Our trip began April 10th, in our garage, packing 12 large bags with lots of items for PMA. Craft supplies, books, clothing, portable CD player, printer, food, and much more. We each claimed 2 suitcases at the airport April 11th and were on our way to Hawaii. Barbara Pace and Christel Reichert met us there. Wow, what a wonderful introduction to PMA!

Our stop in Pohnpei was delayed due to mechanical difficulties with the plane, but nothing could dampen our spirits. The excitement of the airport welcome is permanently etched in my memory. All the bags and people made quite a sight piling into "the bus" but I actually think we could have piled in more!! Come with us next time!

Our "dorm room" was beautifully set up in the Sunday school room and what a welcome sight those beds were. The next morning we were melodically awakened by Alex Kalau's roosters and treated to a wonderful breakfast from Sylvia's culinary talents. What

a treat. Touring the island, cleaning, eating and visiting filled the day. And then the best part: the Easter musical. What a wonderful, wonderful, experience. The artistic, musical, and performing talent was given with utmost care and desire for the best. Typical PMA fashion: "whatever you do in word or deed do all for the glory of God". Seeing this musical and experiencing all the

love and excellence so apparent in its preparation was truly inspiring. Every life was touched and the message of salvation was so clearly given.

Early Thursday morning we enjoyed another wonderful breakfast then toured the Sea Haven with Nob. What care is given to each detail of the ship and how much love is poured into all of it's travels. The Good News Press was our next stop, then the Youth Center. Boyet (Youth Pastor) is very musically gifted and is so quick to share his talents with the youth. What an opportunity for music and art to draw young people.

Melinda Espinosa, Ed and Elizabeth Kalau met us in Guam and we even got all

the bags (10 at this point) and all of us in 2 cars! We ate at Shirley's, a Guam staple. How gracious are Ed and Elizabeth. So interested in you as a person and so thankful for whatever happens. We set up our "dorm rooms" at the PMA Haus and were anticipating the day.

Melinda and Amor had everything sparkling clean and neat. How wonderful to be with Melinda for 10 days!! She always impacts me with her life. How privileged to be able to call her my friend.

Because of a terrible typhoon hitting Yap, Monty and Merle made plans to leave Saturday afternoon to help Peter and Esther Reichert

with repairs. A government house on Tiyan was given to PMA as a Klub Haus for outreach to children, teens and youth. It only needed cleaning up, replacing doors, windows and repairs. We called it the Extreme Makeover!! Then the generator house needed to be constructed out of block. We came for 1 project and God gave us 3. Isn't He good!

We cleaned the Klub Haus house Monday thru Thursday. Typhoon damage had caused a lot of dirt to come into the house. Hasako, Mino, Anser, Thompson and Amor helped. The fun part was painting. Bright yellow on one side of the duplex and apple green on the other. How much fun for the kids.

Worshipping together with the PMF church was wonderful. The PMA Haus is transformed into an inviting, beautiful place for worship. Each person's hunger for fellowship and God's Word are seen on their faces as they come through the door. Amor, a Bible school intern from the Philippines, uses her

artistic talents to fill the walls of the Sunday school room and church, her music blesses everyone, and her joyful service and thoughtful ways are a great encouragement. She has learned much and given much.

We spent several evenings eating with Ed and Elizabeth, listening to his wonderful, amazing stories. We were thoroughly embarrassed when each of our heads began to drop forward. The hard work and humidity were taking their toll. With wit and humor, Elizabeth blamed his stories, but we knew God touched each of our lives with a deeper understanding of the power He breathes into a life that is totally



**The Arizona Team Before Project: Extreme Makeover (PMF Klub Haus)**

surrendered to Him. Thank you Ed and Elizabeth.

Our team definitely was introduced to PMA up close and personal. Their love for Micronesia, hard work, gracious spirits, joyful countenance in any job, dedication to sharing the gospel, integrity, flexibility, willingness to do any job needed, learning, focus in ministry, purpose driven lives, study of Scripture, and humility reminds me why I am so privileged to share in their ministry even for 2 weeks.

Thank you PMA!

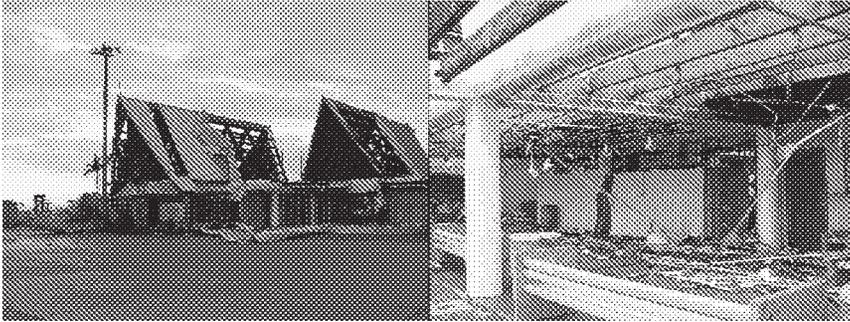
## TYPHOON SUDAL HITS YAP!

By Peter and Esther Reichert

On Good Friday Typhoon Sudal devastated our island. Most people were not prepared for Sudal because many typhoons head in our direction but turn north before reaching us. This is what everyone expected would happen. By Thursday morning the winds were already so strong that Peter canceled our Ulithi flight and we began boarding up the windows on our house and tightening the cables that run across our roof. We brought anything that might fly away into the house or hangar and readied our kerosene lanterns and stove. The hangar and aircraft were secured. Before going to bed on Thursday evening we took one last look at the weather on the internet and could see that

deafening. We could hear our roof trying to lift off and rain was pouring in through the windows, despite the boards covering them. The cable cut into the tin and one of the trusses broke on our roof. At some point the ceiling on our porch blew away and some of our ceiling panels were separating. Despite daylight on Friday morning, it was dark inside as the outside was a boiling cauldron of wind and rain. Through the glass pane on our door, we could see trees falling over and flying debris including roofing tins. We kept constant vigil on the hangar door, about 100 yards away, praying it would hold.

For at least 8 hours the winds blew from



Damage to Yap International Airport

Typhoon Sudal was still tracking straight for Yap.

At two in the morning the power went off and it was really blowing. The wind was getting so violent it was too noisy to sleep. We realized the typhoon was hitting us but without power were unable to check its progress or any details on the internet. The only lead we had to the storm's progress was the direction of the wind which told us that it was passing to the south of Yap.

We later learned that we were in the eye wall (where the winds are strongest) of Typhoon Sudal for at least 12 hours with winds reaching 180 mph. Our house was vibrating from the gusts and the torrential rain on the tin roof was

the north, directly against our 6 ton hangar door which is 60 feet long and 20 feet high. Time seemed to just crawl and the storm did not let up. We spent the time watching and praying and at one point the three of us sang "God is so good".

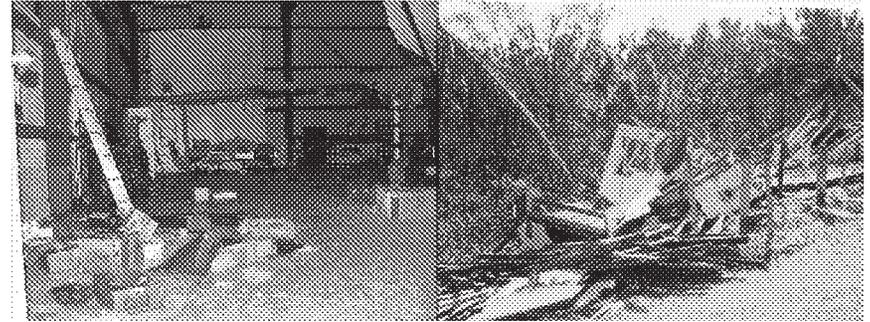
Suddenly we saw our hangar door start to buckle and knew the locks had come undone. The force of the wind created a bow in the center of the door bending it 5 feet from its normal shape. Peter braved the winds and crawled up the steps to try to resecure the door. While in the building he checked our office which is part of the hangar. He found water pouring down from the ceiling onto all the office equipment. Carpeting and furniture were soaked.

Nikki and I joined Peter and the three of us moved the computers, fax/phone, copier, files, status board, desk drawers out of the office into a container attached to the hangar. The hangar floor was flooded and strewn with insulation and cardboard boxes. The noise of the wind and rain were overwhelming.

By Friday evening people were starting to crawl out of their places of safety. We were all in shock at the devastation all around us. Our old guesthouse next door lay in shambles with tin and wood strewn in the trees behind it. The hangar door was bent and had jumped its tracks, jamming it. Rain gutters and down spouts were blown away. Some of the roofing tins flew away and most were loosened. The shortwave radio antenna was down. One of our planes

built 40 years ago and which we attend, was destroyed. Large parts of villages were washed away on the Eastern shore. All across Yap the vegetation and gardens were destroyed, uprooting large old trees and flooding taro patches. Ninety-eight percent of structures, mostly homes, were damaged. Most of the traditional men's houses had blown over with their foundations of coral lying in heaps. We could go on and on about the damage but the miraculous thing is that there were no casualties. Most people were in good spirits and the most common comment heard was "We are alive."

President Bush declared Yap a disaster area and help from outside started to arrive. We had a total of 18 FEMA relief flights come in the following 2 weeks bringing such things as water,



Inside the PMA Hangar after the typhoon.

Guest House totaled by Typhoon Sudal

sustained damage to the nose and leading edge from being hit by the hangar door. When we saw the damage to the hangar and our house and surrounding area we thought things were bad, but when we started seeing what had happened to other parts of the island, we realized that God had surely protected us.

The coastal areas had been flooded by enormous waves which washed away homes, cars, and displaced containers, barges and ships. The roads were strewn with boats that had come off their moorings. The first floors of most of the homes, businesses and hotels along the ocean were completely washed out by the sea. Entire contents of stores were strewn across roadsides. The Yap Evangelical Church, which my Dad

tents, generators, tarps to cover buildings and other necessities. These were US Air Force and Coast Guard C-130's. Our runway had never been so busy.

Now began the tremendous job of cleaning up and rebuilding. The sounds of chainsaws and hammers could be heard across the island. We all went to work, men women and children. Life was down to the basics: where to get water and how to preserve and cook our food without electricity. For a week after the typhoon we had blue, cloudless skies without a drop of rain and very hot days. Our source of water became the old B52 fuel tank, a water catchment attached to the hangar. Good exercise carrying those buckets of water to the house.

(Continued on page 11)

## FROM FEAR TO FAITH

By Pastor John Arancillo

His friends know Mr. Florentine Almadrones as "Mang Tino." He is fifty years old and has ten children. He lives in a remote mountainous part of Patnanungan, approximately 10 kilometers away from our mission station.

The means of getting to church would be to



**Dr. Escote screening patient**

walk by foot for four hours and ride the Carabao inside the forest when it gets muddy. Then you travel by sea in a canoe and walk for another hour.

Mang Tino's life, before knowing Christ, was miserable and full of fear, though he was a loving husband and responsible father. He was a lover of wine and would drink all day long. The habit became irresistible, and he exchanged a life of work for a life of drinking.

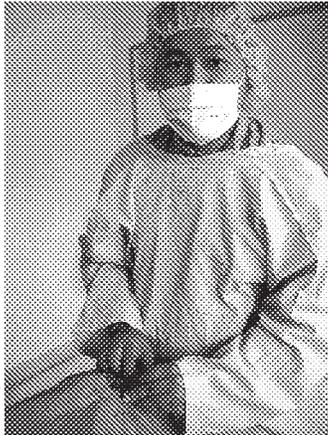
One day he woke up with blurred sight. He realized that he was partially blind. This forced his wife to take over the responsibilities for the family and become the breadwinner. It was not easy for this woman to cultivate the rice field, plant vegetables, harvest, and sell them at the market. Nevertheless, she took the challenge and sustained the hard labor year round, in order to put food on the table and send the children to school.

It was in April of 2003 that they came to us at the church. They courageously introduced them-

selves and boldly asked for help. My wife Virgie responded by asking, "What kind of help can we extend?" Mang Tino's wife said, "My husband has been blind for one year and we're badly affected. Our life is getting miserable and hopeless. We heard that you from the church are helping poor people like us. Please help us."

That very moment my heart was grieved. I was willing to help, but I'm not a doctor. I turned to Mang Tino who was seated beside me and curiously looked into his eyes. I asked him if he believed in miracles and he said yes. I explained to him about the power of prayer with faith in God that healed people in the past and still heals people today and tomorrow.

Mang began to come to worship services to find out more about this faith. In May, the FMS Medical and Dental team arrived on the island. Dr. John Escote checked Mang Tino's eyes and diagnosed him with cataracts. The doctor explained that there was a big possibility that Mang Tino could gain back most of his sight through an eye operation. Mang Tino's wife cried and I knew they were tears of joy!



**Dr. Escote preparing for eye surgery**

The eye operation was scheduled and the couple asked for prayer that God would provide for their financial needs. They would need transportation, food, and medicine.

In August, Mang Tino came to us smiling with his lips praising God. He told us what God had done. It

was a joy to see these people come back to God after He met their needs. Dr. John was able to complete the operation, the finances were pro-

vided, and Mang Tino's life would never be the same. It was from fear to faith and it was from hopelessness to hope. Mang Tino realized that living apart from God had been the miserable part of his life.

Please pray for Mang Tino and his wife. Pray that they would grow in their spiritual life. Also include their children who are living near us that they too would come to know the Lord in His time.

Oh yes... Mang Tino and his wife are now faithfully traveling ten kilometers by foot, climbing those mountains, and crossing the sea just to get to Sunday service on time!



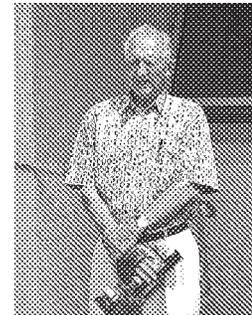
**The Arancillo family: Pastor John, Virgie and children Israel and Hannah.**

*Pastor John and Virgie serve in the PMF church in Patnanungan, Polilio islands, Philippines. They also serve as Youth Dorm parents.*

## DEDICATION OF PMF KLUB HAUS By Melinda R. Espinosa

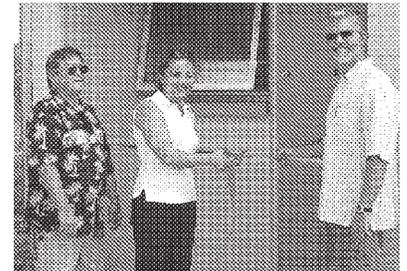
On May 22, 2004 the PMF Klub Haus was dedicated to the island's children, teens and young people. GovGuam's Department of Public Works was a great support to this project.

The PMF Klub Haus will be serving children, teens and young people with programs such as: values formation, arts and crafts, and providing them with positive activities for character development with the goal for them to be socially responsible, good citizens of their community, and to be productive in



**Dedication prayer by Pastor Ed Kalau**

serving others. It is our desire that every person who comes to the Klub Haus may know our Lord Jesus Christ and have a personal relationship with Him. Our goal? That they may "grow in wisdom, and stature and in favor with God and man" (Luke 2:52).



**Ribbon cutting: Mr. Jaime Martinez of DPW, Mrs. Laverne Pretrick and Mr. Jeffrey Jones**



**Special performance by Mino & young teens**

## THE OFFERING

By Sylvia Kalau

Abraham offered his only son Isaac to God in total obedience, because God was teaching him, as well as us, that a sacrificial offering is absolutely necessary for mankind. 2000 years ago Jesus Christ fulfilled God's requirement by coming to our earth to be the sacrifice for our sins once and for all.

This was the theme of our Easter drama/musical entitled, "The Offering". Written to contrast and compare the sacrifice of Abraham, to the offering of the Christ, then to the modern day man living in the islands, needing to come to a decision about the question in his own life... "What will I do with this Jesus Christ?"

The story took place in a cafe with a Christian dialoguing with his friend about the meaning of the movie, "The Passion".



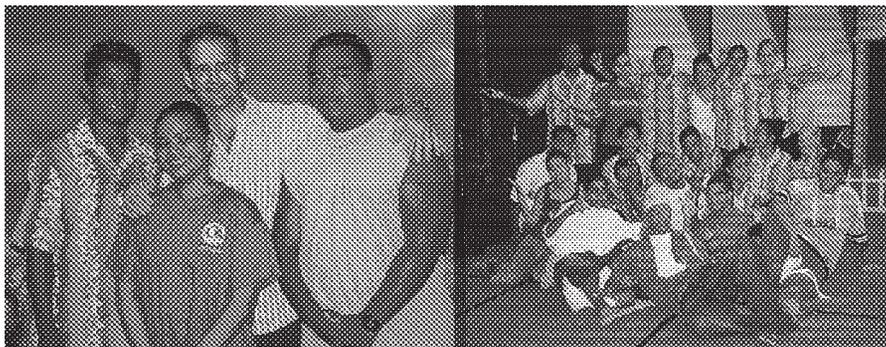
The Offering



85-member choir

Through the witness of his friends, and many answered questions, the young man offers himself to God as a living offering. With 10 musical numbers from our 85 member choir interspersed with video clips of the movie "The Passion", the Easter story came alive in a 2 hour production of song, dance, video and drama. Our only regret is that our auditorium can hold only 300 people. We repeated the drama 5 times to accommodate the crowds and still had to turn away people. The demand for more performances was indeed overwhelming.

When young and old give themselves to the powerful Gospel message presented in a creative way, lives are touched, decisions are made, the church is strengthened, and the Gospel is passed on in a way that really sticks to the heart and mind. Our Easter was wrapped up in celebration and deliberation of that amazing offering 2000 years ago. And that is definitely something to sing about!



Cast with writer/director, Nob Kalau

Cast in action

## PACIFIC MISSIONARY AVIATION HOW FUNDS WERE USED IN 2003

### Program Expenses

|                            |            |
|----------------------------|------------|
| Aviation                   | 35%        |
| Church Growth & Evangelism | 19%        |
| Good News Press            | 10%        |
| Studio                     | 6%         |
| Sea Haven                  | 11%        |
| FMS-Philippines            | 13%        |
|                            | <u>94%</u> |

### Support Activities

|                |           |
|----------------|-----------|
| Administration | 5%        |
| Fund Raising   | 1%        |
|                | <u>6%</u> |

### Total

100%

We are very thankful to God for His continued faithfulness in providing for all our needs in 2003. We thank Him especially for our faithful Partners and Prayer Warriors who have stood with us all through the years so we can continue to serve in the Islands of Micronesia and the Philippines. We give God all the glory for what He has done in our midst!

*Typhoon Sudal Hits Yap (Continued from page 7)*

Peter installed our old diesel generator which powered a deepfreeze and refrigerator which the Malimais and us shared. Right away we also connected the dehumidifiers in the tool and parts rooms to prevent rust. Everything was saturated with salt from the ocean spray carried by the wind.

Praise the Lord for the new generator that arrived from Guam. Power and water were restored to the hangar after one week. With the restoration of power came the phone connection. This was when Peter was able to unjam and open the hangar door and resume flights. We were also finally able to get out our truck which we had parked in the hangar for the typhoon.

After 3 weeks we got power and phone connection at our house. That was a day of rejoicing! A week after the typhoon Monty and Merle, PMA supporters from Arizona, came for a week and helped with numerous repairs on our house and office. We were so thankful for their help and all the food they brought from Guam. The following week my brother Nob, and my cousin Michael from Germany, arrived for their long planned visit. We had hoped to show Michael the beauty of Yap but what he saw was devastation. Michael sure enjoyed those dip showers from the drum standing outside the hangar though. And even as we continued to clean up and make repairs, we also made plans for the future of PMA's ministry here on Yap.

And so life continues, the vegetation around us has burst out with new green leaves and life is returning to normal. In the typhoon we saw God's awesome display of power and his protection. We pray that people will realize the importance of focusing on eternal matters rather than material things. Thanks to all of you who prayed for us and showed your concern.

*For more pictures of the damage caused by Typhoon Sudal, please visit the PMA website at [www.pmafms.org](http://www.pmafms.org).*