

Pacific Mission Aviation's  
Quarterly Magazine

Issue 1-2016  
March

# ISLAND ECHOES

Serving Jesus Christ in the Islands of Micronesia and the Philippines



The Steadfast Love of the Lord

 **PMA**  
Bringing Hope, Changing Lives

## ISLAND ECHOES

is a publication of  
Pacific Mission Aviation  
(PMA).

### Issue

1-2016 (March)

### On our Cover

Aviation and medical ship ministries continue to meet the needs of the people we serve.

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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

### Personnel Needs:

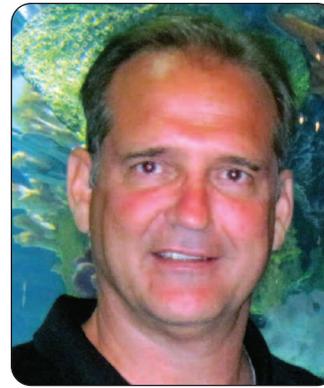
Missionary pastors  
Administrative and ministry assistants  
Youth workers for island churches  
Boat captain for medical ship M/V Sea Haven  
Boat mechanic for medical ship M/V Sea Haven  
Missionary pilots/mechanics for Micronesia/Philippines  
Computer personnel for radio, media and print ministry  
Short term: Canon copier technician needed for maintenance and repair at Good News Press

### Infrastructure Needs:

**Hangar for Palau:** Please continue to pray for God's provision for the property where the hangar will be built. Pray for the approval of a lease agreement and the provision for hangar materials of \$300,000.

*"Fear the Lord, you his holy people,  
for those who fear him lack nothing.  
The lions may grow weak and hungry,  
but those who seek the Lord lack no good thing."*

*Psalm 34:9-10*



**PMA President Nob Kalau**

Dear Mission Friends,

In missions we work in third world countries where resources and supplies are not readily available, healthcare is limited, government is unpredictable, and finances are tight. Yet when we can't depend on worldly conveniences we have the invitation to pour out our needs before a loving, all-wise Father who can see the big picture in a complete way, and is working on behalf of His children to bring about the results that are for our good and the furtherance of the Gospel. But what if God answers differently than what we think or hope for? What if I have prayed and haven't experienced an answer? How does God answer

our prayers anyway? The good news is that indeed, God does answer prayer. But He answers in four different ways.

"I can't hear you." Sometimes the Lord can't hear us when we pray. And it's not because we need to talk louder or because He is busy. Sometimes God can't hear us when we pray because according to Psalm 66:18, there is sin in our life.

"No." Sometimes the Lord says "No" when we pray. And while this can be a very difficult answer to receive, it's still an answer... regardless if we understand His decision at the moment or not. God can see what we can't see. We need to trust Him in the "No".

"Yes." There is true power in prayer. And when we pray according to His will, He may indeed say "Yes." "Yes, I'll forgive. Yes, I'll heal. Yes, I'll step in to help. Yes, I will provide."

"Wait." Sometimes the toughest answer to receive from God is "Wait." When this happens, we need to remind ourselves that God can certainly handle our situation. He is not limited by time or circumstance. He is more concerned that we patiently trust and depend on Him through the process of waiting.

We at PMA continue to learn these principles of prayer on a daily basis. Whether God answers yes, no, wait, or I can't hear you, we continue to believe that the power in missions lies in the power of prayer. The Island Echo is a quarterly reminder to ask you, our faithful partners to pray with us. Pray for the missionaries that you will read about in this issue and the others who are trusting in God for answers to prayer. Pray for the funds we need to keep serving and pray most importantly that people would come to know Jesus as Lord and Savior.

Nob Kalau,  
President/CEO



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# The Steadfast Love of the Lord Never Ceases

A Year-End Report  
by Melinda R. Espinosa, CFO/Administrator

Lamentations 3:22-23, says: *“The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; His mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness!”* We thank God for His continued blessing, as we celebrate 41 years of serving God and the people of Micronesia and the Philippines! His steadfast love has sustained us and we are humbled by His never-failing mercy and grace. Here are the highlights for the year:

## Philippines

Bahay Kalinga Orphanage. We completed Phase I, II and III of the Bahay Kalinga Complex and were able to transfer out of our old location before our extended lease expired. Now, everything is in one property – the BK orphanage, the clinic, and operating room. At the end of the fiscal year, we had served 197 children. We continue to advocate in the outlying villages for qualified children, with the end goal of finding permanent loving homes for them. Praise God, we were once again duly accredited on June 9, 2015, which is good for three years, and received a score of 100% during the assessment. Our clinic and operating facilities have made our presence known on the island, especially Dr. John’s skill in providing cataract surgery to all who need them. This has expanded our reach and allowed everyone including the local government to know that we are there to also help the community through our healthcare program.



The Healtika (Healthy Options and Pharmacy) for both Jomalig and Patnanungan are a great help to the people on the islands. Medicines needed are readily available. The people need not go to the big island for their medication which would mean 2-5 hours on a banca depending on the condition of the waves. Plus medication and health supplements are given to them at affordable prices. Through this ministry, we are able to touch lives not only through their physical well-being but also meet their spiritual needs as we build good relationships in the community.

The Amaga Parsonage project was completed during the year. Meanwhile, the church roof had to be repaired several times after every typhoon. The church people are working on building a better roof of sturdier material.



**We are so thankful for many who have come to the Lord through the ministry of PMF churches in the islands. Here are some who followed the Lord in water baptism on the island of Jomalig with our pastor Jun Mandreza.**

Hospital once a month, twice a month at Bahay Kalinga, and once a month at Patnanungan, where Dr. John leads a Bible Study Fellowship/Discipleship with all our pastors and church workers/leaders. He also visits other mission stations in the Polillo Islands. The medical team served 4,875 patients. Dr. John has performed 282 cataract surgeries, 13 major surgeries, and 83 minor surgeries. They also dispensed 2,270 eyeglasses.

Our PMA Academy (Learning Center) continues to gain the support of the island communities as 365 children have graduated from the time we started the ministry. It is with great joy to hear from parents that their children are moving on to the next level of elementary education, garnering good grades and becoming honor students. The parents thank us for the quality educational foundation the children received while with us, and especially, their knowledge of Jesus Christ and His Word.



**Our children who study at PMA Academy are taught to be aware and helpful of those who serve the community. Here they are with the Philippine National Police when they visited them at their post.**

Our PMF Churches continue to have a great influence on the islands as the believers live for Him and manifest His love. Our pastors have been given the privilege to teach “values training” in public schools and government offices. As we share values from the Word of God, it is our prayer that lives may be transformed and many would live and witness for Him on the islands. We have open doors for ministry, our greatest challenge, however, as we expand, grow, and plant churches in other areas of Polillo, is the need for more workers in the field. Would you please pray with us for the Lord of the harvest to provide?

## Guam, Micronesia & Palau

We are so thankful for the Lord's protection over our flight operations in Yap and Palau. We continue to be part of nation building, providing reliable, safe, and consistent transportation to and from the outer-islands of Yap and Palau. What a great joy it is for PMA to be available for medical evacuation, transport of food, supplies, medicines, patients and their attendants, and be



**Our Aircraft in Yap, flown by Amos Collins continues to fly relief supplies to the outer-islands of Ulithi. We thank God for our partners who have enabled us to meet the needs of the islands at such a time as this.**

there in their sorrow as we transport their family member to their last resting place, as well as provide sea search and rescue operations. Our user charges for passenger, cargo and charter, enable us to provide these services for free and at most, cost only.

In March of 2015, the outer-islands of Ulithi, Yap, were devastated by typhoon Maysak. PMA aircraft was the first to be on the scene, bringing water, food and other necessities – assuring the people, they were not alone, bringing them hope that more help would be coming, and more importantly, providing the first assessment of the damage done by the typhoon. At the end of the fiscal year, we were able to fly relief supplies of 85,455 lbs., of which 50,525 were flown free by PMA. Total relief hours flown were 114.7 hours (74 flights) from April to June. The task is not over yet. PMA continues to support the outer-islands until they can be self-sufficient in water and food, and ruined buildings and homes are re-constructed and repaired.

Meanwhile, M/V Sea Haven was tasked to bring relief supplies, and school furniture and supplies to the outer-islands of Chuuk that received much damage from Typhoon Maysak. The Sea Haven Crew prepared for the trip and would be battling rough waves and turbulent waters, affected by typhoons in Guam and Saipan. They would be traveling 1,100 nautical miles, stopping at four islands to drop off an equivalent of five 20 ft. containers. What a great peace our crew had knowing that they would be in God's loving care. Earlier in the fiscal period, the Sea Haven went on a three-week tour to the outer-islands of Chuuk.

They travelled 600 nautical miles, held clinics in Oneap, Lukinuch, Satawan and Ta islands. 186 patients were seen, and Dr. John and team performed on board 10 cataract surgeries, one Pyterigium excision and dispensed 139 eye glasses.

Our PMF churches, the heart of everything we do, have been pressing forward; loving all people, building the body of

Christ and discipling the faithful – through Bible studies, youth and children activities, and outreaches to the outer-islands. We said goodbye to Pastor Bambit and his family in Palau who have served with us for 20 years. As we wait for his replacement, we are thankful to God for our PMA missionaries and especially the PMF elders, church leaders and congregation who are actively doing their part in continuing the work and ministry of PMF in Palau.

The Cross Radio in Pohnpei has faithfully broadcasted the word of God over the airwaves. Through all the power outages and power surges, we are thankful He has protected our equipment. Solar radio, fixed tuned to our station has proven to be a great source of inspiration, and teaching, often times the “pastor/teacher” of many church leaders.

We thank God for the ministry of Good News Press. The user charges from operation is being used to support all our indigenous workers in Pohnpei as they serve in various fields, as well as support the ministries there. GNP also helps the local church in printing teaching materials. This year, we were able to print tracts in the local language, and distributed them so that people would be aware of the cults that have come into the islands – subtly using the name of Jesus Christ to deceive them with their false teachings.

Yes, the steadfast love of the Lord never ceases. We have experienced His goodness once again! Bless the Lord indeed, for all He has done in and through so many people who continue to partner with us, support and pray! Thank you PMA Boards: Guam, Germany, Switzerland and Canada. You are a great encouragement to all of us who serve! Thank you Lord for all our PMA mission staff/workers in Guam, Micronesia, Palau and the Philippines – their commitment, perseverance and endurance are a blessing to the people they serve.

*Note: Financial statements shall be provided and mailed separately to partners, donors and supporters.*



**The Medical Ship Sea Haven assisted the outer-islands of Chuuk in relief efforts as they recover from the devastating effects of Typhoon Maysak.**

# Impressions

by Dr. John Escote, Medical Director, PMA Philippines

How wonderful our God is! After more than 25 years of serving with PMA, I am still amazed by the works He is doing and completing in my life and that of my co-workers in PMA Philippines.



**Our Philippine medical team: Geneziel and Dr. John pose with a patient with successful cataract surgery.**

I thank God that He always provides for the here and now and in the best setting to show His excellent goodness and perfection. I can personally attest that by the lessons currently impressed upon my heart as God allows me to navigate and lead in the different ministries here in the mission field.

The first is, *“God is always in control.”* I can always rejoice in whatever the circumstance because He whom I trust my life with, is sovereign. I am certain that He is working mightily in the midst His people, forming us into what He wants us to be.

The next is a saying I read: *“God does not call the qualified, He qualifies the called.”* We are a witness to this in the very lives of our island workers. Who qualifies? God alone! He uses ordinary people to show His extraordinary ways and I am really blessed by this.

And lastly said by D. L. Moody: *“If this world is going to be reached, I am convinced that it must be done with men and women of average talent.”* Again, I see my co-laborers in the islands whom God uses in amazing ways. Average people in the eyes of the world, but I see them as excellent people whose hearts are passionate for the purposes of God’s kingdom. I pray that as I venture with them more in the days to come, I can share my life exceedingly well with them.

I know there are so many more lessons to be learned. I am expectant and excited because these really help me a lot in my understanding of how I ought to value our people and love them. It was also D. L. Moody who said this: *“If you can make a man believe you love him, then you have won him.”*

Give thanks to the Lord, *“for He is good, for His steadfast love endures forever.”*  
Psalm 136:1



**Dr. John in Action - performing a cataract surgery at Bahay Kalinga Complex Operating Room.**

# Blessed to Be a Blessing

by CJ Misajon, Missionary, PMA Palau

Rice! Rice! Abundant rice! This was the scene last December! For the past few years, the PMF Church in Palau has been receiving donations from several generous donors and local companies. This time it was not a small donation! One hundred 20-pound sacks of rice were donated! That's a lot of rice! After loading up the goods from the donor's warehouse, the rice was then stored at the PMA Multi-Purpose Center.



**Palau Aviation Team: Markus, Stephan and CJ fill up the aircraft C-206 with donated rice.**

The church's Food Pantry Ministry spearheaded the plans for the distribution of the rice. Church members in need were given first. 54 sacks of rice were then given to every needy family as well as to the elementary school on the island of Angaur, a southern island of Palau. Our aviation ministry provides regular transportation to this outlying island and this was our opportunity to reach out to the needy individual members of the community.

From the PMA Multi-Purpose Center, we loaded the bags into our truck and drove to the airport where the aviation team loaded these onto our aircraft. All went well with the rice-drop to Angaur, and the people were truly blessed by these timely Christmas gifts! It was the love of Christ received in a tangible way. A member of the local newspaper flew with us that day and published an article about what PMA was doing. It was a great blessing!

Indeed, the spirit of giving was in the air! Many families in our island community were blessed. Small and simple gestures of giving can grow into great and deep-rooted relationships.

God's provision and abundant blessing was demonstrated! All glory and praise be to His name!

**People from Angaur happily unload the donated rice, thankful for these blessings.**



# God is Doing Great Things!

by Alex Hans, Missionary Volunteer, PMA Yap

Growing up I had always heard incredible stories of PMA through my grandparents, who had moved to Guam in the 80's to help with PMA. What always amazed me, about PMA, is how hard they worked to make their vision for the islands become a reality. So last year, after I graduated from high school, I knew the LORD had a great plan for me.

I arrived in Yap at the end of September, the weather was humid, and PMA was in full swing. Simon Hämmerling, one of the pilots, had just arrived and was dedicatedly doing his training flights every day. They were also still making a multitude of flights out to the island of Ulithi. With them, they carried relief supplies that were of great need to the people, who only last year, had been struck by a detrimental typhoon. It was a busy flight schedule all throughout Christmas.

I loved being able to assist with the work being done on the aircraft. There was always something that needed to be fixed or replaced. One of the projects I got the opportunity to work on, was redoing the interior on the Cessna 206 which PMA recently acquired. It appeared as if it had not been fixed since 1965, the year it was made. Everything needed to be reupholstered and repainted. In the end, it looked great and flew even better.

Out of the four months spent flying in the islands, and meeting the people, my favorite part, by far, was visiting Ulithi. I arrived Friday morning and stayed until Monday evening. It was such a great experience to see the people of the Outer Islands conducting their day-to-day lives, as well as, seeing how PMA was able to bless them, and help them with their needs. Working with PMA was such a unique, inspiring experience. I was able to meet so many amazing people, and was blessed by the many experiences I had on the islands. God is definitely doing great things through PMA.



**Alex Hans flying right seat and enjoying his time in Yap especially at the outer-island of Ulithi.**

**Alex thanks God for the time he spent in Yap, learning, growing and having an active part in missions.**

# A God with a Global Purpose – for My Life, Too!

by Sabine Musselwhite, Missionary, PMA Pohnpei

I accepted Jesus as my Lord and Savior in my twenties as a young mother of three beautiful little girls, making a comfortable home with my husband in Southern Germany. Even though my husband was not interested in spiritual things, he encouraged us to go to church and find out about the things of God. We found a good church in our hometown and my children and I enjoyed the Biblical teaching and fellowship. Years went by and life at home grew increasingly difficult until one day my husband informed me that he was going to leave us for good. I was devastated – my life’s dream of having a family and raising my daughters in the security of a stable home had shattered and vanished.

Our church was very supportive to help us through the crisis and God gave me a good job right before the divorce went through. Still, it was difficult to be a single mom with all that responsibility on my shoulders.

Through all my struggles, I adhered to the knowledge that God was with me in every situation. I clung to the powerful Word of God that was able to transform my heart. He was a reliable and present Father at our side!

After my daughters had gone off to college I had the opportunity to visit a missionary on Pohnpei from my home church in Germany. I had known her and her family for a long time and received a generous leave of absence from my job. I had always thought my office skills would not really be of value in the mission field. All the female missionaries I knew until then were in the medical profession. What a surprise to me that Nob & Sylvia at the PMA Pohnpei field office were very glad to have somebody help out with reorganizing the file cabinets and updating some of the computer equipment! They could use my skills after all!

In the course of three months I got to know the church, the doctrine, the warm and friendly Micronesian sisters and brothers, the leadership and philosophy of PMA. I knew this was the place I wished to serve my Lord.

I returned to Germany with a happy heart knowing that the Lord and I had gone some more steps ahead in his plans for my life. I contacted PMA Germany and was able to contribute to their ministry in Germany. Over the next 9 years I had the privilege to go back to Micronesia several times and visit the various PMA mission stations. Two years ago I knew for sure that the Lord had called me into missions.

My daughters had finished their education, were settled and I was ready to be available. All my family supported the idea and my mother even encouraged me to sell my house and find a small place in their town. I did not, however, know how to go about selling my house. Again God went ahead of me and sent two families who both wanted to buy my house! So it only took one week to settle the deal with a handshake. Wonderful timing!

Now, I have the privilege to make Pohnpei my home, Micronesians my friends and help out with my office and teachings skills which the Lord had educated me in for many years.

I would like to encourage every struggling sister in Christ to fix your eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith (Hebrews 12:2). Paul writes in Romans 5:3 „*We know that suffering produces perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope.*” Hope in the Lord who is always in control and has the best plan and purpose for your life and mine.

**Sabine finds great joy in knowing God’s vision for her and to be able to follow His direction by His grace, wisdom and strength.**



## The Klassens in Palau

We have experienced an exciting year filled with challenges, discoveries, adventures and changes. Through all these, Palau and its people have become dear to our hearts. We realized this especially when we spent time in the Philippines for medical and R&R, we missed Palau, our new home. A little distance can truly help gain a fresh perspective on things and our time away from ministry was very beneficial for us to reflect about this past year.

One feeling dominates: Thankfulness! We are so grateful towards God and you, who support us faithfully. God is working with us, although a lot of times we feel like He's especially working on us rather than through us. Nevertheless we're very blessed to be part of His work here on earth.

At the aviation ministry, our team experiences a constant increase of requests. As soon as seas are rough, and travel by boat is impossible, the reliable service of our aviation ministry is what the Palauans depend on. The growing number of Chinese tourists have allowed us not only to serve them, but be partners with the Chinese church to reach them via gospel tract distribution.

Markus, Stephan and CJ complement each other with their strengths and function as an efficient team. Last year, Jenica joined our team. She's a member of our PMF church and contributes with her office skills and her knowledge of the Chinese language. We are very happy for this addition to our team.

Talking about additions. Our beautiful son Airo joined us on January 23. We are very thankful for a complication free delivery. It was a very positive experience to give birth here on Palau and to receive the support of the people of this island during pregnancy and delivery. We are once again very thankful and blessed!

There have been changes at the PMF church too. Saying goodbye to Pastor Bambit and his family after twenty years of service, left a big gap. Markus took over the responsibility of the church building's maintenance and started to get involved at the Palauan Bible Study. Prisca filled up another gap by taking over a Sunday school class and the church finances. We look forward to the arrival of our new Pastor and his family and pray that they will be able to raise their support soon.

We are very excited and motivated for our second year of service with PMA on the island of Palau! Your support helped a lot to carry us through. Especially in the difficult times it's such a blessing to know that you are standing alongside us with your prayers, your time and your finances. Thank you so much for your friendship and partnership! Be richly blessed with love, faith and hope.

**The Klassens: Markus, Prisca, Tahi and latest addition: Airo, are truly thankful for God's direction, goodness and faithfulness as they serve in Palau, their island home. God has indeed added spiritual growth and faith to their lives, and they give glory to God for this!**





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