DECEMBER 2001

NEWSLETTER

### FOR THE FRIENDS OF ADVENTIST WORLD AVIATION

# ALASKA: REACHING FRONTIER PEOPLE GROUPS

by Jim Kincaid

A laska, more than any other U.S. state, can be identified as an unreached territory. Among the 225 indigenous villages, only 13 have received more than a passing encounter with the message of salvation. It has been a challenging task to reach the various people of more than seven different indigenous language groups.

The Alaska Conference of SDA has established presence among three indigenous Peckie groups in five villages. Of these only three have regular or volunteer staff on site. These villages are far apart and inaccessible except by air. The conference receives many requests from groups in various parts of the U. S. to reach out to these villages.

Adventist World Aviation and the Alaska Conference have entered into a formal agreement to help improve the quality of life for these forgotten people. Medical, education and development personnel are needed to reach out to these far-flung villages.

Currently, a 1976 Cessna 206, a six place



The Delta Junction Youth group with their aircraft

aircraft, is being rebuilt to meet the needs of the Alaskan native population. The structural work on the airframe has been completed and the wings and control surfaces are still in process. Before completion, the run-out engine will need to be overhauled or exchanged, a new prop, governor, and radios obtained. It is our goal to complete the Cessna 206 early this coming year so that it will be ready to service groups from the lower 48 states coming to assist the villagers during the warmer months.

The Delta Junction youth group has adopted the village of Shungnak. Shungnak, a village of about 300, is located on the beautiful Kobuk River of northwestern Alaska. It is located on the site of an ancient fishing place. We have had a small cabin and a little chapel on this site for close to 30 years. For the last ten years it has lain in an advancing state of disrepair. However for the last two years the Delta Junction group has made a huge difference there and has established relationships in the village among the many children and youth.

You too can help reach the 225 native villages in Alaska. Consider the following ways you may be able to assist.

- Adopt a native village in Alaska.
- Serve as a volunteer teacher, doctor, nurse, Bible worker, pastor.

• Donate an aircraft, ham radio gear.

• Provide financial assistance to complete the Cessna 206— \$65,000 needed.

• Become a prayer partner to help reach the unreached in Alaska. "And the Good News about the Kingdom will be preached throughout the whole world" including these 225 native villages. Will you partner with God to reach out to these unreached people groups within our borders?



Amerindians in Arau, Guyana

# The Man Without A Shirt

#### by Marcio Costa

A few months ago while visiting Brazil, I was invited to preach to a group of believers. They gathered in a small place away from the village where I was based. Being near the jungle, the humidity was high and very soon it started to rain.

Somebody came with a vehicle to pick me up and take me to the place of meeting. After almost an hour of driving on a path full of holes and ditches we got to the "church". It was a rustic room about 200 feet square. The walls were wet from the rain. The people were sitting on rough wood benches. The floor was also uneven and unfinished. Cloth curtains hung to separate the sanctuary and the small prayer room. There was nothing refined about this church. Everything was rugged and simple and dripping wet.

About twenty people, dressed as well as they could be, were gathered inside. Many of them couldn't afford a pair of shoes. Their faces showed the signs of hard work and extreme poverty. But I could also see in their eyes the peace and hope that Jesus alone brings.

When the time came I started to preach about Jesus and His promises. Everyone listened with rapt attention. After about twenty minutes I began to wrap up my talk.

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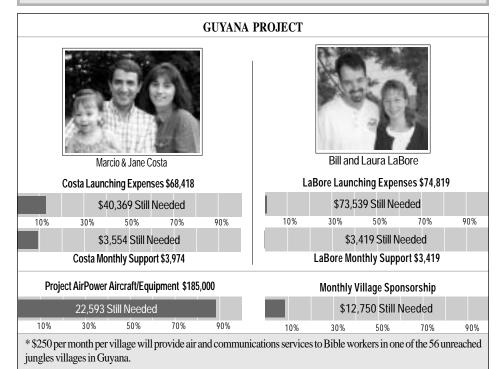
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#### IN HONOR OF

Darrell and Candee Kuhn's 25<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary The Adventists' Spirit Reed Merkel Clifton and Cynthia Brooks Ian McDonald Tammy Patrick

#### AWA family welcomes Giovani.

She arrived on 10 November 20001. Along with her parents, Marcio and Jane Costa we praise God for the new addition to the AWA family. Yes, she will be going to Guyana with her parents and sister Stephanie.



It appeared that they were glad, but they wanted something more. The believers became restless. I thought something was wrong with the message. Then a man without a shirt stood up and said: "Please brother, tell us about those who haven't heard the message yet. Where are they? How many are there? Is anybody doing something for them?"

A tremendous feeling of genuine sorrow filled the air. That little church, a small group of helpless people in the middle of nowhere, was deeply moved for those still in darkness. They knew there were people out there who lived as they had before they met Jesus.

How foolish I felt, trying to feed them spiritually when they were really concerned about those in darkness—still spiritually dead. Who, better than they, could understand what is to be in Satan's clutches!

I shared with them all I knew about the unreached people in the jungle and about Adventist World Aviation's project including the people involved and the people groups we are targeting. As I was talking I mentioned the funding needs. Suddenly I realized the awkward situation: I had shoes on my feet and even a tie around my neck. There I stood before them sharing the needs of our ministry, and they were barely dressed.

When I was about to leave the place, the man without a shirt came to me again, still looking troubled. He stretched out his hand and gave me all he had. In their context, it was a fortune—the equivalent of \$4 US.

It was still raining when we left the place, so much rain that we couldn't see the road. The road was covered with water. My eyes were filled with tears. I was still wondering about that man without a shirt. What could he have done with that money? Maybe buy half-a-dozen shirts, or maybe two or three pairs of shoes. But then I praised God because I realized where his heart is and what treasure he truly has.

It dawned on me then: "For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." Luke 12:34.

Thank You for your continued partnership with God's mission through Adventist World Aviation!

FLIGHTLOG

# The Divine Mechanic

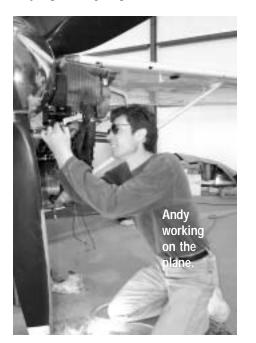
by Clifton Brooks

I t was getting late. I glanced at my watch— 3 p.m., Friday afternoon. Andy Klein and I had been working on the airplane all day trying to complete final maintenance checks that would finish the annual inspection of our Cessna 182.

We were working against a deadline. The plane had to be in Holland, Michigan before sundown. There was going to be a dedication service for it at the Lake Union ASI convention (see July 2001 Flight Log). A few last details had to be completed before the plane could be flown.

In addition to other new equipment, we had installed a new compass. The last thing we had left to do was make certain that it was functioning correctly. The engine had to be running for this check to be done. We rolled the airplane out of the hangar and got it into position. Andy was in the cockpit at the controls. My job was outside the plane, verifying the compass headings.

Andy tried to start the engine. Yya, yya, yya, yya...yya, yya...yya... The engine turned over slower and slower but wouldn't start. The battery was dead. We tried again, nothing. We were pushing our time. We had to get the engine started: time did not allow for jump-starting the plane.



Andy popped the cabin window open. I walked over and suggested that we pray about the situation. Andy offered a prayer, "God, this is your airplane. You know where FLIGHTLOG we need to be tonight. Please start the engine if it is your will."

Andy and I looked at each other hesitantly as I stepped back out of the



Clifton and Cynthia Brooks

way. Andy called, "Clear!" and turned the key. The engine didn't even hesitate. It caught immediately and came to life. Andy and I looked at each other again, both of us knew the Divine Mechanic had just touched the plane.

I flew the plane to Holland that night in time to have it ready for the Sabbath afternoon dedication service.

We have since repaired the problem that was causing our battery to die (replaced the voltage regulator for you mechanics out there). But there remain many other maintenance items that need to be completed before we go to the Philippines. God has already demonstrated that this is His aircraft; His hand is on it. He will use it to spread the Gospel message throughout the Philippine islands, this we firmly believe.

Prior to leaving for the Philippines, a few maintenance items remain to be completed. Please pray with us for financial supporters who will partner with us in Flying On God's Mission.

Audio Panel/Installation - \$2,200 Turn Coordinator/Installation - \$210 VOR Receiver/CDI/Installation - \$925 Fuel Steps/Handles/Installation - \$672 Door Modification/Installation - \$912 Control Cables/Installation - \$1,500 Oversize Tires/Installation - \$500 Prop Balancing/Abrasion Guards - \$1,065



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#### **Mission Statement:**

Adventist World Aviation exists to provide aviation and communications logistical support to those serving the physical, mental and spiritual needs of the forgotten peoples of the earth.

#### **Adventist World Aviation**

is a missionarry-sending agency. Funded by private contributions, AWA enables missionarries to reach the unreached around the world.

Brooks Launching Expenses \$65,560					Brooks Monthly Support \$3,959				
	\$1,522	Still Neede	d				\$2,447	7 Still Nee	eded
10%	30%	50%	70%	90%	10%	30%	50%	70%	90%
Aircraft/Equipment Launching Budget \$283,766					Monthly People Group Sponsorship*				
\$118,503 Still Needed					\$22,440 Still Needed				
10%	30%	50%	70%	90%	10%	30%	50%	70%	90%

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

**C** ince the intentional aviation disasters of September 11, a question haunts me: "Where is the commitment of God's people to His cause? A cause so compelling that we would give everything-even our lives to advance?"

Unbelievably dark and sinister as the acts were, one cannot help but be impressed by the years of planning, unswerving determination, attention to detail and selfsacrifice exhibited by the perpetrators.

If the enemy can instill in his followers such allegiance, can we find among God's people, those dedicated to a cause infinitely more righteous and ultimately triumphant?

to do.

Ask the family in Guyana how they feel about the AWA missionary who handed them a Bible donated by a young Pathfinder. Ask the Palawano boy in the Philippines how good it felt to be cared for as his

The modest pages of Flight Log contain stories of such people. Ordinary people, obediently committed to a task, are featured here. They don't think of themselves as heroes. They simply do what God asks them who had the opportunity to work on a real missionary airplane with an AWA mechanic. Ask them how it felt to be part of the first youth sponsored mission aviation project in history. Lives forever changed will tell you who the heroes are. Participation is not limited to those who

bleeding foot was cleaned and bandaged

by an AWA missionary. Talk with Pathfinders

put their hands on an AWA project however. There are those who sacrifice financially. Our hearts are touched when children give their rolls of pennies to help others less fortunate than they.

One of the most gripping stories of selflessness is that of The Man Without A Shirt (cover story). His concern for other tribal peoples beyond his remote village challenges

me. He gave everything he had!

Have I?

As you read,

may God grant you

His passion for the

Don Starlin, President

lost!

# Wings for Humanity

Volunteers Pudge Forrester of Falling Waters, WV and Tom Williams, an Authorized Inspector from Gambrills, MD accompanied AWA President, Don Starlin to Guyana to prepare the Pathfinder plane for operations.

As this goes to press, Project AirPower pilot, Marcio Costa and Pudge Forrester are flying the plane back to the USA for scheduled appearances in the coming months at official Pathfinder functions around the country.

AWA, the Guyana Conference of SDA and church members in Geogetown are finalizing construction plans for the Wings for Humanity Volunteer Center. The proposed facility will provide a base of operations for AWA and facilitate short-term mission groups for medical, dental, health, construction and evangelism ministries. Funds for demolition of an existing building and site preparation have already been donated. Further financial partners are welcome.

Conference officials and members alike are excited about the opportunity to partner with AWA and the world church to take the gospel to all Guyana. Contact AWA for more information on how to become involved.

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

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