

FLIGHT LOG

November 2002

NEWSLETTER

Vol. 8 No. 3

FOR THE FRIENDS OF ADVENTIST WORLD AVIATION

AWA'S PHILIPPINES PROJECT LAUNCHED

by Clifton Brooks

We arrived in Manila on August 27 about 10:30p.m. Friends from Philippine Frontier Missions (PFM) received us at the airport and took us to our new home. Celeste comfortably rested in her portable playpen while Cyndi and I covered an old mattress with a few blankets and crashed for the night.

Our first morning in the Philippines, Cyndi and I sat with Celeste, reading our worship thought. We were encouraged through our reading to dream big dreams with God, to visualize and blueprint our goals for the future. Where will AWA's Philippines Project be in five years, or in ten? What goals does God have for us? The future seemed blurry when I tried to visualize it.

Our rented house is located near the Adventist University of the Philippines (AUP). If you cross the narrow street outside our front gate you will find a teeny, tiny store called the "ALMEGA Multi Purpose Coop." (I think it's supposed to be "co-op".) The sign in front says: "Cigarettes we are not selling," and the doors are locked from sundown Friday to sundown Saturday. Next door to the "Coop" is the "Six-Days Store," another small vendor of produce and canned goods, and next to that store is the SDA Church. Just up the street a few steps is a small hardware store on the bottom floor of a huge four-story building. The hardware store is operated by Adventists and owned by a Korean Adventist businessman who wants to use the top floors of his building to start an English language school as a witnessing outreach. It seems we are surrounded by Adventists and everyone knows the Three

Angel's Messages.

As I write, my ear catches a faint sound above din of Jeeps, motorcycles, construction work, loudspeakers blaring political campaigns and radios, surrounding us. Like a still, small voice, I can pick it out of the noise. It is a faint whine, but I would know that sound anywhere. Lycoming...O-360.



I set my computer down and run out the door, letting it slam behind me. It is only the second time I have heard that sound in the two and a half weeks that we've been here. It is a small airplane all right—low-wing, a Cherokee 180 maybe. Occasionally, we hear a jet or two high overhead, but the sound of a small airplane is very unusual. I watch as the plane crosses the small patch of sky visible beyond the outstretched branches. For me all other noise ceased—all I could hear was the sound of that plane.

In those few seconds, I thought: If only I could levitate a few thousand feet, move northeast fifty miles and return to earth, the scene would be entirely different. I would be in the Sierra Madre mountain range with

thick jungles surrounding. I might alight in a village never before seen by the outside world, untouched by the Gospel and unfamiliar with the Third Angel's Message.

My vision for mission became clear again as I watched that small plane. There are missionaries serving in those rugged mountains, struggling to survive in the difficult conditions in which the natives

exist; missionaries who need the support of the world church family; missionaries whose lives and ministries can be enhanced by the simple extravagance of radio communication with their home base; missionaries whose health and well being can only be strengthened by the routine delivery of food and medicine.

Missionaries serving the unreached people groups of the Philippines need the prayers of the church family around the world. They need the moral support of their brothers in Christ abroad. But

at some point the prayers and encouragements must walk the walk, real feet must touch real trails, and the visions and dreams must become reality. The missionaries here need real physical help. They need malaria medicine. They need the Bibles and literacy materials that they will use in instructing the people. They need their stipend delivered. They need... Together we can...

God called us here through AWA to be a part of His plan for reaching the Philippines with the Gospel message: To physically support frontier missionaries serving throughout the islands. Our prayer this morning is that God will use us today as His hands and feet in this place where sandals meet the muddy trail.

Continued on page 2



MEMORIALS

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IN MEMORY OF

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ELDON VORIES
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GEORGE PARKER
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JACQUELINE WOOD
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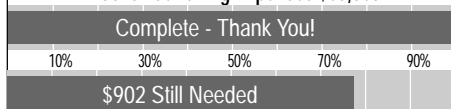
IN HONOR OF

BELINDA KENT
RON AND ARLENE GRAHAM
JESUS CHRIST
JESUS CHRIST
ROSITA DAGTAY
MR. & MRS. RAKHERAM AND MR. & MRS. MYAING

PHILIPPINES PROJECT



Clifton and Cynthia Brooks
Brooks Launching Expenses \$65,560

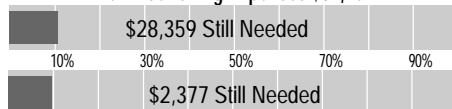


Brooks Monthly Support \$3,959

Missionaries



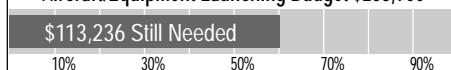
Andy Klein
Klein Launching Expenses \$31,761



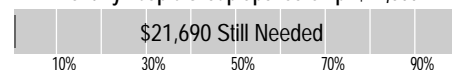
Klein Monthly Support \$2,620

Airplane/Operating

Aircraft/Equipment Launching Budget \$283,766



Monthly People Group Sponsorship* \$22,500



* \$750 per month per village will provide air and communications services to frontier missionaries in one of 30 unreached people groups in the Philippines.



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Mission Statement

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

Adventist World Aviation

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

Editors note:

Since submitting his article Clifton has met with missionaries and staff from Adventist Frontier Missions and Philippine Frontier Missions. Clif is busy building relationships, meeting church speaking

appointments, setting up communications and banking arrangements for AWA-Philippines.

The aircraft assigned to the Philippines project will be shipped as soon as funding

is available to finish aircraft preparation and acquire the tools and spare parts necessary to make the plane viable on site.

Sharing the Burden

Andy Klein

The spring and summer have been a blur. I can hardly believe it is fall now.

It started with the work on the Alaska project Cessna 182 and continued with its delivery. Then I spent a little more time with Clif and the Philippines project; now he and his family are over there! Praise God, for his blessings *never* cease.

As God has kept us moving forward, the devil has definitely put in some overtime around the world. As I started writing this and thinking that I'd rather be asleep, the parallel between the world and myself kind of got my attention. How many of us would rather be asleep/ignorant of the problems around this tattered globe, comfortable in our "feathered beds" as our "house" (the world) burns. September 11, 2001 showed us all how fragile our economy and freedoms really are. This does not release us from our duty to those less capable or fortunate. God's people in the Western World have the capacity to launch and support an aircraft and mission pilots in the Philippines. Few others have the funds, capability, and ease of providing the resources to carry on this type of mission for God.

I recently spoke to an indigenous lay worker about the role of the mission plane and how it enhanced his work (reaching an unreached mountain tribe). The job went from a crushing load to one that lifted his spirits and had him dreaming of new goals. This drove home the issues of frontline morale and capability. We are in a war. The Devil is a defeated, but oh so capable foe, especially for those who don't yet know they can be a part of Christ's victorious family. As a Christian family, the burden will be light for all as we share the work of reaching every nation, kindred, tongue and people.

AWA needs your help. The Philippines project stands at the top of the foothills and needs a healthy push, to speed the climb up the mountains ahead as it were. We've had a wake up call. Now, we need to get going while the going is still possible. With God's blessing and help in speeding us along toward our goal *we will do our part* preparing for His soon return

FLIGHT LOG

Please Pray with AWA for:

1. Senior pilot needed for the Guyana project
2. Mission pilots to reach the unreached villages in Alaska
3. Funding and project manager to build the Wings for Humanity volunteer center
4. Partners for God's mission needed to complete payment for the Cessna 182 at work in Alaska and funds needed to complete refurbishing of the Cessna 206 in Palmer, Alaska.
5. Clifton, Cynthia and Celeste Brooks, AWA missionary family in the Philippines.
6. Funding needed to complete modifications, disassembly, crating and shipping for the Philippines aircraft. Missionary pilot Clifton is eagerly waiting for the arrival of the mission aircraft.

"We are not to wait for souls to come to us; we must seek them out where they are. When the word has been preached in the pulpit, the work has just begun. There are multitudes who will never be reached by the gospel unless it is carried to them." (E. G. White, *Christ's Object Lessons* p. 229).



Andy Klein, John Payne, and Clifton Brooks ferrying mission plane to Alaska in May, 2002.

NOVEMBER 2002

How can it be?

by Marcio Costa

Whenever I fly over the vastness of the Amazon jungle, an inevitable thought comes to my mind. At 4,000 feet things look very small, yet human life can be perceived in the wild surroundings. Every now and then a clear spot in the jungle or a hut near the river can be seen. Once in a while, one can spot a small canoe. But nothing declares the existence of human beings in the jungle better than smoke. The smoke means that they ARE there, and probably preparing their food. Often I wonder how many people live in those jungle villages. They have not been counted. But every time I see the smoke in the jungle, the same thought comes to my mind and it is very hard to ignore that. Let me explain.

Have you ever flown over a city? If you could imagine yourself looking out the window, how important are those little dots to you? Some are very scattered, aren't they? But if we could see through an ultra super magnifying glass we would realize that those little dots are persons. They are alive—full of emotions, feelings and spiritual needs just like us. God calls them by their names.

As a missionary, I think about their needs:

maybe someone is dying without knowing Jesus, maybe a child is sick with malaria, maybe they are hungry. Watching their predicament closely makes me feel inadequate for the task God assigned to us: to go and reach them, all of them, for the

Kingdom. This is beyond human power. So I just turn my thoughts to God. It always amazes me the same God who sees them (us) all from above as little dots is very near waiting for the opportunity to enter the lives of those whom I don't even see, but I know are there. God knows them one by one and also calls them by name.

When we approach our destination in the jungle and start the descent, the little dots become more real, now they start to have forms, shapes and sounds. As we land and meet with the people, We find that they have



GUYANA PROJECT



Marcio & Jane Costa

Costa Launching Expenses \$68,418

\$25,585 Still Needed

10% 30% 50% 70% 90%

\$3,499 Still Needed

Costa Monthly Support \$3,974



Bill and Laura LaBore

LaBore Launching Expenses \$74,819

\$64,306 Still Needed

10% 30% 50% 70% 90%

\$3,277 Still Needed

LaBore Monthly Support \$3,419

Project AirPower Aircraft/Equipment \$185,000

20,585 Still Needed

10% 30% 50% 70% 90%

Monthly Village Sponsorship*

\$12,750 Still Needed

10% 30% 50% 70% 90%

* \$250 per month per village will provide air and communications services to Bible workers in one of the 56 unreached jungles villages in Guyana.

faces and names. They look very much like me: in need of God's grace. Then I have a better understanding of the love, grace and care God has for his children.

The suffering and the struggles these people experience in the jungle villages cannot be explained by words. The spirits control their lives. Only a knowledge of God can combat that and give them hope. My calling is to assure them of God's love and share about the glorious future God is preparing for them.

As I continue my flight training to return to Guyana, please remember my family and me in your prayers. We have no greater joy than to share the love of God with these animistic tribes dotting the jungle villages.

The question that preoccupies my mind is: How can it be? How can it be that these Amerindians in the jungle villages of Guyana continue in their animistic ways? How can I help to share the salvation story with those people?



KNIT FOR A PURPOSE

by Bill & Laura LaBore

We heard no thunder. There was no lightning. No hand wrote across the walls of our little basement apartment. Yet, in small urgings of the heart...the kind you can only sense when the T.V. and stereo are off...the kind that come after spending quality time with the King of the Universe, came our calling to go to Guyana. But, this is not where it all began.

Many people ask us "Why go to Guyana? There's work to be done here too!" This is true. There IS a HUGE need here in the United States to reach people for Jesus. But, for us, "here" is not where God has been leading us to go. Both of us are involved in ministry here in our workplace, our church visits and in our interaction with people every day. However, for both of us, this is not God's intention. Over the last several years, it has become clear to both of us that God has a different plan for which He has been preparing us our entire lives.

For Laura, it probably began when her missionary parents took her to Bolivia where there had been no Seventh-day Adventist influence before. She was only two years old at the time, and the impressions of mission life made lasting impact on her.

For Bill, the thoughts of doing full-time mission service didn't enter his mind until he was much older when he went on a Maranatha church building trip to Mexico.

However, God was implanting within him seeds of adventure, hard work, and kindness to help others. Even before he had developed a relationship with God, Bill went through the motions, while living in a Catholic home, a belief in God was instilled in him. It wasn't until he studied the Bible and understood the meaning of serving a living, loving God that he began to feel his need to reach out to others and show them the same.

There are many other experiences and circumstances that have confirmed our calling as missionaries that are too numerous to mention here. Bottom line is that we believe God has been guiding us to the point where we feel comfortable relocating and ministering within a third world country like Guyana.

You see, the Bible teaches that God knit each one of us in the womb. Neither one of us have ever tried knitting, but we do know that when one starts out on a knitting project, there is a plan. Whether that plan involves creating a sweater, a blanket or even booties for a new baby, there is a design that must be followed. Laura's grandma, a crocheting expert, used to tell her how you have to plan in advance to buy all the yarn for a given item so that all the yarn has the same lot number stamped on it. If not, a different batch of the "same color" might not be exactly the same *shade* of that color. When the Bible says God knitted each one of us in the womb (see Psalm 139:13 NIV), I doubt if He just said, "let's just start putting bone and flesh upon each other and see what we come up with". He PLANNED it in advance. He had a PURPOSE for creating us. Just as the knitter plans for their creation, so God has a unique plan for each one of us.

What is His plan for your life in fulfilling the gospel commission? Have you asked Him? If not, don't you think it's about time you found out? Ask Him, and then be prepared to listen AND to do what He asks. It may be in another country, or maybe right where you are located. Maybe it's reaching the youth, or working in the inner-city mission field. Maybe it's helping a homeless person on the street, or a co-worker. Maybe it's financially supporting others who are on the "front lines", or maybe it's spending time everyday on your knees for people that God has impressed you to pray for. There are a million ways that God can use you. Ask Him what He has knitted you for and he will reveal it to you.

Time is short.

Recent world events are God's warning signs that the door of mercy won't always be open and that he has precious souls worldwide that still haven't had the opportunity to know Him. Soon we'll all get a chance to understand more fully the great controversy we are in, and there is not one of us who will not regret a chance not taken, or a word from God not taken seriously. Let's take advantage of the opportunities God has given us so that when we get to heaven and meet Jesus face to face, we can hear the words "Well done, good and faithful servant."



Laura LaBore received her associate degree in aviation maintenance technology in the Spring of 2002. She is also a certified Airframe and Power-Plant mechanic by the FAA.



AWA SUPPORTERS CONDUCT VBS IN ALASKA

by Fran Hansen

Twelve Pathfinder missionaries from the Iowa-Missouri Conference conducted Vacation Bible School (VBS) in Togiak, Alaska in early June. The group left Kansas City on a long flight to Anchorage. After a short night's rest in Anchorage, the group was transported in three different aircraft to Togiak. Most of the 900 people in this fishing village are Yup'ik Eskimos, one of the eleven main people groups in Alaska. Although a number of Adventists live in this coastal village, few

sessions. The children loved singing. One little boy said that was his favorite part. Some children apparently sang for their parents. Many of them shared the stories from VBS with their parents and others.

With the sun setting at 12:30 a.m. and rising at 3:30 a.m., most of the villagers including the children go to bed very late and sleep through the morning hours. This resulted in poor attendance at the morning VBS sessions. Many more, however, attended the afternoon session.

Although the Pathfinder group's efforts focused on the children, their congenial gestures and Christian witness paved the way for several adults to join them for the Sabbath worship. A young man who attended VBS when he was a little boy, came to church on Sabbath.

There are many more people groups who are waiting to hear the Gospel. Pathfinder clubs from Iowa-Missouri Conference will continue to partner with Adventist World Aviation to reach the unreached in Alaska. In fact, plans are well under way to build a larger church in Togiak.

As there are no roads in most parts of Alaska, aviation is a necessity. Adventist World Aviation has placed a Cessna 182A in Alaska and a Cessna 206, currently being refurbished will be pressed into service shortly. Mission aircraft will facilitate sharing the Gospel with isolated villages like Togiak.

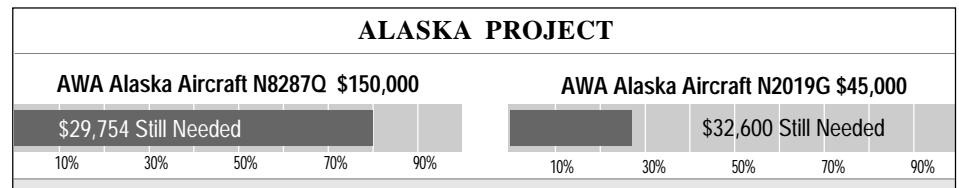
If God is calling you to be a part of His mission in Alaska, please consider the following opportunities available through AWA:

- Full-time missionary pilot/A&P
- Full-time Bible workers
- Short-term mission trips
- Monthly support to reach unreached villages in Alaska
- Prayer partner for AWA's mission in Alaska
- Airplane Fund



Iowa-Missouri Pathfinders on a mission trip to Togiak, Alaska.

of them have attended church in recent years. "That was one of the reasons Togiak was targeted for VBS," said Elder Jim Kincaid, AWA Project Manager, Alaska. The Pathfinder group was told to expect about 10 children for VBS. Although the VBS started with a few children, by the last meeting, over 92 different children had attended the VBS





Iowa-Missouri Pathfinder leaders, l to r: Dan and Melissa Spilger, Joan Idekar, and Mike and Fran Hansen, coordinated the mission trip.

I am grateful to God for the mission trip to Togiak. My perspective on mission is greatly enriched and my commitment to God's Kingdom strengthened as a result of interacting with God's children in Togiak.

Fran Hansen along with her husband Mike lives in Springfield, Missouri. They both serve as Pathfinder Area Coordinators and led the mission trip to Togiak, Alaska.

YOU MAY SEND CONTRIBUTION ELECTRONICALLY

AWA now accepts donations via Mastercard, Visa and automatic checking withdrawal. Call or E-mail your information including:

**Name, Address, Phone number
Mastercharge or Visa Number
Expiration date**

If using your checking account, please provide:

Bank routing number, Account number

Rest assured that your information will remain confidential.

Around the World in 60 seconds

Guyana: Marcio Costa, Bill and Laura LaBore along with Don Starlin and Melchizedek Ponniah were guests at the Mid-America Union Pathfinder Camporee. Nearly 130 Pathfinders and their leaders were given rides in the Project AirPower aircraft bearing the Pathfinder logo on the doors. The hay field at Camp Arrowhead, Lexington NY, is somewhat reminiscent of the jungle airstrips in Guyana. Earlier, at the end of May, the Guyana missionary team along with Don Starlin, were guests at the Greater New York Conference Camporee, Camp Berkshire NY.

Thanks to all the Pathfinder clubs that support this missionary airplane. If your Pathfinder Club wishes to support your mission aircraft, please contact AWA. About \$25,000 is still needed for repairs and modifications done on the aircraft.

Philippines: Clifton Brooks is preparing for the arrival of the mission aircraft in the Philippines. Hundreds of tribes in the jungle and mountain villages will hear the Gospel for the first time because of the mission plane. Please join AWA is family in praying for \$115,000 needed to complete the remaining modifications, buy spare parts and tools, disassemble the plane, crating and shipping, customs and duty at the receiving end. AWA personnel are seeking partners for God's mission in the Philippines.

Alaska: Skylane N2019G is flying on God's mission in Wrangell and Petersburg Church Districts in southeast Alaska, reports Pastor pilot Lonnie Wibberding. Pastor Wibberding writes, "Before we had the plane we were using the Alaska Ferry System to travel between the two towns. The trip took three hours one way (and 30 minutes in line waiting). There are only a couple of ferries a week, and sometimes the ferry would leave at 2a.m. You may imagine the frustration it caused to wake two sleeping little boys and take them on the ferry in the middle of the night. Now with N2019G, I can make the trip in 25 minutes, saving 6 hours per round trip. . . I'm able to make more trips, save time each week, and bring my family with me everytime."

With the extra time he now has available, Pastor Wibberding plans to expand his ministry to the unreached Native American villages north of Petersburg. Additional aircraft are needed to reach many more unreached native villages in Alaska.



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Cowl flaps open, mixture rich, prop high rpm, throttle open, master on, CLEAR PROP, starter engage, one, two, three blades turn past the windshield and the 280 hp Continental O-520 roars to life. Three buckled in Pathfinders clap in excitement. They pummel me with dozens of questions as we taxi for takeoff.

This summer, though hectic, has been rewarding. God's people in the form of Pathfinders, staff and church members from Michigan to New York to Nebraska experienced what their

missionary airplane looks, feels and smells like - both on the ground and in the air.

Pathfinders by the dozens cluster around the plane to have their picture taken. At an event, a man points to a wing and tells onlookers how he and his Pathfinders helped AWA mechanics install that very wing at the 1999 Discover the Power Pathfinder Camporee in Oshkosh, WI. Others chime in sharing what their club did. At another site, upon hearing a thump towards the tail, I turn to see two boys with their arms

wrapped around the fuselage hugging the plane.

My eyes mist over. These are future missionary pilots, mechanics and avionics specialists. Some day God will use their love for aviation to take the liberating story of Jesus to tribes that still ask, "When are you coming?"

What will you do to encourage and support those who commit their lives to missions?

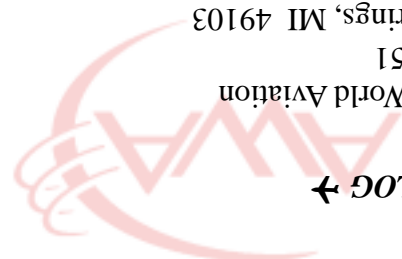
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