

# FLIGHT LOG

First Quarter 2003

NEWSLETTER

Vol. 9 No. 1

FOR THE FRIENDS OF ADVENTIST WORLD AVIATION

## PATIENCE IS A VIRTUE...

*by Laura LaBore*

**B**ill and I are impatient people. Like most Americans, we are used to instant gratification and achieving goals not long after we have set them. My experience as a missionary has been typically short-term/ volunteer work where one signs up, pays for a plane ticket and goes. However, AWA's Project Airpower is a long-term frontier missionary project. A tremendous amount of preparation must take place before we launch.

Everything has to be planned and implemented from scratch including construction of our base, missionary housing and volunteer recruitment. Bill and I are looking for 100 committed prayer supporters. We need financial supporters to launch us and keep us there. We are preparing ourselves to live in another country for an extended period of time. There is no AWA staff waiting for us to come and "help them out." We are the staff, sustained solely by the prayers and financial support of the Body of Christ in North America and we need your involvement to make it succeed.



Bill, Laura, and Danielle LaBore.

Almost invariably when Bill and I speak at churches, we are asked, "When will you be leaving?". Occasionally, there is a hint of disappointment in their response when we explain that our anticipated launch date is approximately 12 months from now. In the scope of waiting, it seems like a long time...but in the view of ALL that needs to be done we feel this timeframe is minimal.

Sometimes this can be overwhelming so we have divided the project into smaller time

goals. The first step is to build a Volunteer Center in Georgetown, Guyana. Next, using the Volunteer Center as our base, we will begin establishing our flight program as we plan for the construction of our missionary housing in the interior. Once the housing is built, we will relocate to the interior to live and conduct our operations. The Volunteer Center will continue to be used as a place to accommodate and train volunteers before reaching their destination in the interior. It will also be used as temporary housing for visiting pastors and church leaders.

We believe God is preparing us to be effective in frontier missions. Though the challenges we face often seem daunting, what a blessing it is to experience God first-hand as He reaches the unreached through human agents.

Will you join Him as His agent by partnering with us to fulfill His mission?



## MEMORIALS

### DONOR

VIRGINIA EAKLEY  
RITA SMITH  
S. DOUGLAS WATERHOUSE  
J. GODFREY  
OREN NELSON  
CHARLENE STARLIN  
HARRY AND JOANNA SCHULTZ

LEDA SMITH  
MINERVA STRAMAN  
VICKIE FROEMMING  
BRUCE AND MONIQUE WILKERSON  
BARBARA VORIES  
JOHN ZOLLBRECHT  
FLORENCE SQUIRE  
MR. AND MRS. STEVE TACHENKO  
HERALD HABENICHT  
LUELLA MARCOE  
BERNICE CHAPMAN-STEWART  
EUNICE BURG  
ALBERT PARKER  
BECKY THOMPSON  
MRS. D. WHEELER  
ERLING AND JEANETTE SNORRASON  
MARCEIL MOORE  
ELIZABETH SCHOUN  
SHIRLEY HALL  
GARY KIND  
VIRGINIA DENLER  
JAMES AND BETH SHALLENBERGER  
VAN DOLSON  
MARCIANO SANTIAGO  
DON KRASSIN  
RUTH HUSTED  
YVONNE PALMER  
RICHARD WUTTKE  
MR. AND MRS. STEVEN VITRANO  
DOUGLAS AND ROSEMARY WATERHOUSE  
PAMELA LITTLE  
DAN GUEVARA  
FRANCIS RUDDLE  
ROYCE GRAHAM  
CHRIS AND EUNICE HUDSON  
LINDA HAYNES MARLOWE  
A. LOPEZ  
ANN C. S. KERR  
FRED AND MERCEDES DYER  
FONDA CHAFFEE  
MR. AND MRS. EARL WITZEL

### IN MEMORY OF

ANNABEL SEVISON  
JEFF TACHENKO  
JAMES NASH, KENNETH STRAND  
JAMES STARLIN  
JAMES STARLIN  
JAMES STARLIN  
JAMES, LARRY, AND DENNIS STARLIN, INEZ PETERS,  
HARRY FRASER  
TERRY McLAUGHLIN  
RUSSELL STRAMAN  
MARGARET BRAATEN  
ELMER FLEMMER  
ELDON VORIES  
DOROTHY ZOLLBRECHT  
WALTER SQUIRE  
JEFF TACHENKO  
EDWARD LUGENBEAL  
MR. & MRS. M. MARCOE  
LORETTA CHAPMAN  
LYLE BURG  
GEORGE PARKER  
SNOWBALL, COCOA, AND SQUIGGLES  
EMILY SMITH  
MARGARET WALL DAVIS  
ENNIS MOORE  
BEN SCHOUN SR.  
CLEVELAND GORDON  
IRENE LUCHT  
MABEL RICHARDS, KENNETH DENNLER  
BOB WALTZ  
JACQUELINE WOOD  
ELEANOR SANTIAGO  
JEFF TACHENKO  
DONNA HICKS  
LAVERN SCHLENKER  
JOYCE WUTTKE  
JAMES STARLIN  
RICHARD HAMMILL  
DON WOODWARD  
PASGUAL GUEVARA  
PANSY RUDDLE  
LES ANDERSON  
CONNIE HUDSON  
MARIE HAYNES  
OSEAS IMPERIO  
LORINE OWENS  
O. J. MILLS  
VERDA TRICKETT  
HELEN YEATTS



First Quarter 2003

### FLIGHT LOG ✈

is published by  
**Adventist World Aviation**  
and sent free of charge to  
interested subscribers.  
Send all inquiries or  
change of address notices to:

**Adventist World Aviation**  
P. O. Box 251  
Berrien Springs, MI 49103-0251  
Phone: (269) 473-0135  
Fax: (269) 471-4049  
E-mail: awa@andrews.edu  
www.adventistworldaviation.org

**President**  
Donald B. Starlin

**Newsletter Layout and Design**  
Margie Mitchell, Clifton Brooks

**Board of Directors**  
William Davidson, Chair  
Edwin Vance, Donald Starlin  
Bill Tucker, Bruce Wickwire

**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.

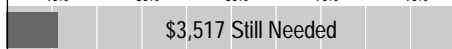
**Adventist World Aviation**  
is a missionary-sending agency.  
Funded by private contributions,  
AWA enables missionaries to  
reach the unreached  
around the world.

## GUYANA PROJECT



Marcio & Jane Costa

**Costa Launching Expenses \$68,418**



**Costa Monthly Support \$3,974**

**Project AirPower Aircraft/Equipment \$185,000**



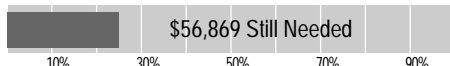
\* \$250 per month per village will provide air and communications services to Bible workers in one of the 56 unreached jungles villages in Guyana.

### Missionaries



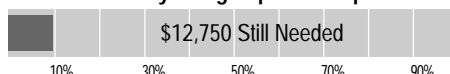
Bill and Laura LaBore

**LaBore Launching Expenses \$74,819**



**LaBore Monthly Support \$3,419**

**Monthly Village Sponsorship\***



### DONOR

### IN HONOR OF

LEDA SMITH	SALVATION
JESSE AND ANNE LUCIO	DAN BROOKS
BRUCE AND MONIQUE WILKERSON	ROSITA DAGTAY,
BRUCE AND MONIQUE WILKERSON	RAMEL OVIATT,
BRUCE AND MONIQUE WILKERSON	BRUCE WILKERSON
NATHAN AND JANEL TASKER	JESUS CHRIST
JOHN DENISON	THE GREAT I AM
STEVE HESLER	JESUS CHRIST
KEVIN AND VICKIE FROEMMING	CELESTE BROOKS'
	FIRST BIRTHDAY

# INTERVIEWED

## AWA Missionaries

Bill & Laura LaBore Interviewed on

### Loma Linda Broadcasting Network!

In December, Bill and Laura were interviewed by Leigh Aveling, Producer and Program Host, during **LLBN's Faith at Work** broadcast. **LLBN** has agreed to air **AWA** features from time to time. We are thankful for their role in fulfilling the gospel commission. As of January 4, **LLBN** is available throughout North, Central, and South America via digital satellite twenty-four hours a day!

**LLBN** is a nonprofit community service organization founded in 1997 committed to broadcasting programs on health, happiness, wholeness, and the Word of God. **LLBN's** programming includes church and vesper services, guest interviews, family counseling, community events, concerts, medical

and dental health features, spiritual inspiration, children's programs and more. The station provides a wholesome *alternative* to the mainstream television industry.

The network is operated by volunteers and supported by viewer donations. It is the vision of **LLBN** to share the good news of God's love and healing ministry with every household throughout the land via the gift of technology given to serve mankind. For more information you may call **1-866-LLBN TV 1** Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. local time or log onto their website: [www.llbn.tv](http://www.llbn.tv).

The Digital Satellite Dish coordinates are as follows:

AMC4

Transponder: 16N

Frequency: 12,020

Polarity: Horizontal

Symbol Rate: 02034

F.E.C.: 2/3



Left to right:

**Ganim Hanna**, President and CEO

**Carolyn Thompson**, Program Producer and Outreach Coordinator

**Bill and Laura LaBore**, and **Leah**

**Aveling**, Producer and Program Host.





# blisters for bato

by Clifton Brooks

Sweat ran down my face and dripped off my chin as I swiped at it with my wet hanky. The blisters on my heels had popped and now I was really starting to feel them. I was tired and ready for another break. My relentless guide wasn't even breathing hard.

Cameron and I were on the trail to Bato. I needed to locate its exact position with my Global Positioning System (GPS), observe the lay of the land, and determine the needs of the missionaries serving there.

How nice it was to be out of the city's pollution and back in the lush, verdant hills where the only litter discarded is banana leaf "plates" and rice hulls. Crystal-clear spring water rushes down the mountainsides and through the valleys. What a change from the filthy, slow-moving rivers that flow into Manila Bay!

While thanking God for the beauty, I prayed for strength and endurance. "The trail to Bato isn't really that hard, I'm just out of shape," I thought. "I need to do this more often."

Bato lies just northeast of Manila's suburbs — only 55 miles (as the crow flies) from PFM's (Philippines Frontier Mission's) home base, but it takes a full day to reach. You first climb aboard a jeepney to

Balibago—about half an hour. Then the bus to Manila takes about an hour. The train ride through Manila is about half an hour. The second bus leaves northern Manila and goes to Angat in Bulacan province—about a two-hour ride. The last jeepney takes one to the end of the road—nearly an hour. Finally comes the hiking I am so fond of—three hours average.

Dumagat baby

Dumagat Mother and her children



## PHILIPPINES PROJECT



Clifton and Cynthia Brooks

Brooks Launching Expenses \$65,560

Complete - Thank You!

10% 30% 50% 70% 90%

\$700 Still Needed

Brooks Monthly Support \$3,959

### Missionaries



Andy Klein

Klein Launching Expenses \$31,761

\$22,298 Still Needed

10% 30% 50% 70% 90%

\$1,975 Still Needed

Klein Monthly Support \$2,620

### Airplane/Operating

Aircraft/Equipment Launching Budget \$283,766

\$96,384 Still Needed

10% 30% 50% 70% 90%

Monthly People Group Sponsorship\* \$22,500

\$21,750 Still Needed

10% 30% 50% 70% 90%

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

We left the house at 5:30 a.m. hanging onto the back of a jeepney in the rain for much of our ride to Balibago. Throughout the day between rides, we waited here and we stood around there. The last jeepney that would take us to the end of the road was not yet loaded when we arrived. We waited an hour or so for enough people to show up to satisfy the driver. The jeep was so full of baggage and people that we could not have fallen out if we wanted to. Finally, we reached the end of the road where our feet set the pace for the rest of the trip.

Cameron has worked with the Dumagat people group of Bato for five years. He has made the trip in and out innumerable times. "One time," Cameron said, "I was in Manila getting some supplies. It was a Friday morning. There was heavy rain due to a typhoon. I felt I needed to return to Bato because the new converts would be waiting for Sabbath services with no one to lead out. I decided



to climb the trail despite the typhoon and heavy rain. I found my horse waiting for me near the trailhead. I put the supplies in plastic bags and secured them so that they would not get wet. Then I saddled my horse and loaded him with the supplies.

"After three hours of wind and rain we came to the river only to find it flooded. I put my pack on the horse and held the lead rope in my hand. 'If the current is very strong, at least I will have the rope to hold onto,' I thought and started across.

"Suddenly a log came down the river at me and I let go of the rope. The river's strong current pushed me downstream towards a whirlpool. I know how to swim, but I knew I couldn't float fully clothed.

"The whirlpool began to suck me down and I felt I was nearing death. I prayed, 'Lord, I'm willing to die, but for the sake of the Dumagats and this work, if you will, SAVE ME!'

"I swallowed a lot of water, but suddenly I stopped moving. My jacket caught on some roots and I climbed up the bank until I reached a safe place.

"With tears of joy I praised God, thanking Him for saving my life. I remembered Isaiah 43:2 which says, 'When thou pass through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee...'"

Some of the missionaries make the trek once a week or more and yet they choose to live in these isolated areas without the comforts of our modern world — just to share the news of salvation with another soul.

There are seven hills on the trail to Bato. By the third one I was already beginning to question what I was doing there. I wiped at

the sweat again with my rag and gasped for air. Just then, Cameron started singing, "On A Hill Far Away..." The words echoed in my mind... "Stood an old rugged cross..." The anthem seemed to swell inside me as if a hundred angels were singing with Cameron to answer my question about being there.

Each blister is a result of the burden for the Gospel message that must go to the entire world, throughout isolated mountains and across flooded rivers. God's mission through AWA is to provide air transportation and communication infrastructure for missionaries like Cameron. Our help eases the work and eases those blisters.

Even without the plane, we are already doing this. Jeff and Evelyn Green and their family volunteered six months in the Philippines. Jeff procured and set up seven HF (long-range) radios in various mission stations, forming a small communications network for the missionaries. Although only a token number of the many radios needed by missionaries here, we praise God for this missionary lifeline. For the first time, they

have contact with the outside world.

With our airplane, we could deliver goods and supplies to Cameron and many other missionaries throughout the Philippines, reducing the need to hike in and out of their projects so often. The radio communication network, along with the service of the aircraft, will allow the missionaries to remain in their villages for a greater period of time, increasing their effectiveness as God's messengers. It will also open up opportunities to place frontier missionaries among people groups currently inaccessible without air support.

This is a strategic opportunity. Of the 160 or so people groups identified in the Philippines, only about 60 have a Bible believing church established. Of these, approximately 30 have SDA representation. Roughly 100 people groups remain unreached. Pray for us as we seek financial backers to deliver the aircraft and then support its ministry in the Philippines.

We reached the village of Bato that evening, crossing the same stream that



The Dumagats

Cameron almost drowned in. The sun was just slipping behind the mountains. It was the end of a very full and tiring day of travel.

The next morning I was privileged to see the church building where the thirty or more new Dumagat believers meet. What a monument to the dedication of the frontier missionaries. "That's what it's all about," I thought. And then it was time to hike back out again...



Clif with the Dumagats



# Challenges Along the Way

I began flight training at Upper Columbia Academy and finished my private pilot license at Walla Walla College. Having received lectures from a good cross section of pilots in the industry in "Intro to Aviation" class, I wanted to know about a career in Missionary Aviation. The response wasn't encouraging. The need for air and communications support for frontier work however is tremendous and it will take the concentrated efforts of all of us to accomplish. This includes you, your friends, family and even acquaintances attracted because of your infectious interest!

I met AWA in 1996 at the ASI convention in Albuquerque, New Mexico. My conversation with Don restarted the interest and made it seem, goodness sakes, even possible! In 1998 I became an Airframe and Powerplant student in Berrien Springs, Michigan. Classes started at 7:00 a.m. and went to 4:00 p.m. After school we AWA candidates would hike over to the FBO and work on an airplane for a couple of hours, or till midnight depending on the job and the urgency of the work. Project Airpower required a lot of midnight oil to meet the Oshkosh deadline.

The big challenge was doing all this, maintaining the grades and paying the bills. It is a bit daunting: you visit the financial aid office to explore your options and they hand you a list of banks to visit. Kind of like being thrown to the lions. I determined not to go deeper in debt and God came through. When I thought there was no way I could make it financially a check would arrive – just enough to make ends meet. My family's support was key and God's directing supreme.

It is now four years since I began this journey with AWA. I'm working on the Philippines Project Cessna 182. Along the way I've

worked on the twin Navion, the Project Airpower Cessna 182, and the Alaska Cessna 182 besides the outside work that helped pay the bills. Preparing an old airplane for work in demanding environments takes time. We never thought it would take so long but progress is made only as fast as funds become available to do the jobs. Is it too long? Given the variety of work done and the working conditions, not really I suppose, but we all wish it could happen faster! So what does all this take? Heaping loads of patience, mountains of stick toittiveness, and the encouragement of good friends. Believe me, just ask Don, Clif, Marcio, Laura or their significant others!

Right now we need to finish preparations and deliver the aircraft to the Philippines along with the necessary funding to shelter and maintain it there. We also need your prayers that God will guide and protect not only us, but also those we will be working with. We need your interest, support and encouragement because you are our family. We often pray that God will bless us so we can be a blessing. This is my prayer for you today.



Pathfinder working on the AirPower plane.



# A Difficult Mystery

Why does God attract people who don't know Him to accomplish His work? There are examples in the Bible we don't understand. Why did God choose Judah instead of Joseph to carry the messianic lineage? This and other questions are hard to analyze from our human perspective. Only faith helps us to fully accept God's ways of doing things.

I would like to illustrate the above with a story that happened to me in the mission field.

Before entering the jungle, I needed a good meal, a shower, and a place to rest and buy some things for the trip. A pastor from the local church suggested a lady from his congregation who was well regarded. I'll call her Susan. I felt welcome in her house. There was Christian music, Christian literature and she was glad to host a missionary in her home.

As I was exhausted from travelling, I decided to rest that afternoon. The next day I planned to collect information and prepare myself to enter the jungle.

A lot of people showed up at her house that evening: friends, relatives and neighbors. Susan told me about her sister and brother in law. (Let's call them Lisa and Tom). They were not Christians and had been involved in drugs.

I was surprised when Tom volunteered to take the day off to drive me around. He knew a lot of people and we spent a very productive day together. I gathered all the information I needed and bought the supplies for the journey. He talked about things that went wrong in his life, plans for the future and other personal issues. He admitted he wasn't satisfied with his life.

Early the next day I left for the deep jungle.

(Continued on next page)

## ALASKA PROJECT

AWA Alaska Aircraft N8287Q \$150,000

\$16,663 Still Needed

10% 30% 50% 70% 90%

AWA Alaska Aircraft N2019G \$45,000

\$29,749 Still Needed

10% 30% 50% 70% 90%






# Around the World in 60 seconds

Ten days later I returned and again stayed at Susan's house. When I expressed a need to collect some aviation information Lisa (Tom's wife) volunteered to drive me around. Like her husband, Lisa shared her situation, problems, dreams and things that went wrong in her life. She too expressed a desire to change.

Before leaving, I invited Tom, Lisa, Susan and her mother to join me in prayer. For a long time I kept Susan and her relatives in my prayers.

A year later I was back in the field and heard the news that Tom and Lisa were baptized! They left their old habits and started a new life. Lisa had even started a long distance Theology course.

I was saddened to learn that Susan had an affair with a married man and was pregnant. I'm not sure how she is doing in her walk with the Lord.

Again, I don't understand how God sometimes attracts people who don't know Him and then accomplishes His work through them but, "Because I know that You can do everything, and no purpose of Yours can be withheld from You." (Job 42:2), I have the faith to trust that His way is perfect and always better than mine. 

## YOU MAY SEND CONTRIBUTIONS ELECTRONICALLY

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

Name, Address, Phone number  
Mastercard 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.

**Alaska:** Project manager Jim Kincaid reports that work is progressing on the Cessna 206 (N8287Q) with test flights to take place soon. Items on the "to do" list include exhaust system, spinner, radio installation and painting. Given the working environment, paint will have to wait until spring however. "Things are looking up!" Jim writes.

Wrangell/Petersburg pastor/pilot Lonnie Wibberding is working on his instrument rating. AWA's 182A had its 1958 panel upgraded recently for standard IFR ops. The plane has proved a tremendous asset to the ministry in southeast Alaska.


Iowa/Missouri Pathfinders are preparing to conduct Vacation Bible School in the native villages of Togiak and Bethel this summer. They are collecting stuffed animals and other supplies to take with them. Anyone wishing to donate items or contribute to the cost of shipping VBS supplies may contact AWA for further information.

**Guyana:** A special advisory committee formed by the Guayana Conference gave approval to proceed with the conceptual plans submitted for AWA's proposed volunteer center. Working drawings and structural engineering are in process.

The Wings for Humanity Volunteer center will not only serve as aviation ministry headquarters, but also facilitate as a missionary training base. Guyana is unique in that it is the only English speaking country in South America where a major segment of the population practices Hinduism. Muslims, Bhudists and animists are well represented making Guyana an excellent missionary training environment.

**Philippines:** Good news from the Philippines! Clifton Brooks called in to report that two weeks of full-time work paid off - he finally got a temporary pilot license! The experience was the stuff novels are made of. Endless beaucracy - photos, lines, signatures, forms, stamps, security clearances, X-rays, EKG, EEG, fees and more fees.

Difficulties and temporary nature notwithstanding, the important thing is that he is back in the air and quite happy about it. He flew a Cessna 150 to Clark Air Base and a couple of days later to the northern end of Luzon learning the terrain, weather and air traffic control system. Once he meets the flight requirements for time logged in country he will apply for a permanent license.

Please keep the Brooks family in your prayers. Cyndi's grandma Parker died the last week of January. Clif and Cyndi are very close to their grandparents so this is a terribly difficult time for them. 



## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

# THE GREATEST CHALLENGE

"What does AWA really need?" is a question posed to me from time to time.

There is a common challenge experienced by every missionary organization. The greatest need is for qualified, committed, spirit-led workers. This is not a new problem. Jesus asked us to pray for them on at least two occasions some two thousand years ago.

*"The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field."* Matt 9:37,38; Luke 10:2. Then, just to make sure we understand what we

are getting ourselves into, Luke records what, for many, is both a command and a grizzly epitaph, *"Go! I am sending you out like lambs among wolves."* Luke 10:3

A century ago another writer profiled the caliber of people we should ask God for. *"The greatest want of the world is the want of men - men who will not be bought or sold, men who in their inmost souls are true and honest, men who do not fear to call sin by its right name, men whose conscience is as true to duty as the needle to the pole, men who will stand for right though the heavens fall."* White, Education p. 57

Many assume there is a waiting list of professional pilots willing to commit their lives, leave their jobs and homes and move their families out of their social support system to be a bush pilot in a foreign unstable dangerous country. Not just for a five or six-year term, but until the job is done.

Where AWA is concerned, over the past

eight years, the number of professional pilots willing to make this kind of commitment has been 0.

God is slowly preparing a new generation of well-trained pilot/mechanic lambs to be sent among the wolves. These recruits are deliberately building an aviation support infrastructure that will allow cross-cultural missionaries to reach beyond the barriers of geography and politics. They are featured in this newsletter: training for what could arguably be called the most difficult job on earth. Get to know them. Pray for them. Support them. They have answered the call of the Lord of the harvest. Will you?

Sincerely,  
Don Starlin  
President



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Berrien Springs, MI 49103  
P.O. Box 251  
Adventist World Aviation

FLIGHT LOG ➔



NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE PAID  
BERRIEN SPRINGS, MI  
PERMIT NO. 10