



HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might; for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom in the grave, whither thou goest.

—Ecclesiastes 9:10

Since departing in September, we have spent the fall and now winter at the head office in Wilson, NC.

Being here at the office has been a blessing, but it does come with a change of pace, and the time spent away from the AWAC office and family in Kelowna has not been easy.

WHY ARE WE NOT IN CANADA?

Well, we accepted the call from AWA for Ray to be President and me as an administrative assistant/office

manager.

Ideally, it would be great if we could maintain it all from Canada but with important daily phone calls, in-person meetings, calls from each of the projects, and plane repair needs, it is just not possible.

WHO WORKS IN THE OFFICE IN KELOWNA, BC?

Me! Via my laptop here, where I go, it goes so I can do the data entry, make calls, and answer emails from just about anywhere. The modern world of computers and online banking is a blessing.

I have an assistant in Kelowna who picks up the mail and helps me do the banking.

HOW LONG WILL WE BE IN THE USA?

As long as we are needed. We have applied for our working visa through an immigration lawyer and



while we wait for it, we are not able to come and go to Canada or the projects we manage until our visa is approved.

As soon as we are approved, we will head back to Canada to spend cherished time with family. Check on the AWAC hangars and head up to Northern Ontario, which thankfully has a great team that maintains the plane and outreach. It will be time to check on each project, then hit the road for summer promotions of AWA. Similar to what we have been doing for the last few years

All while balancing the team and ongoing daily work maintaining the head office.

SO WHERE WERE WE STAYING?

For three months, we stayed in an RV toy hauler generously offered to us as long as we needed it. Parked on an acreage next to a quiet pond with power, we enjoyed the solitude after work. We made meals on a propane stove. But we had to haul water in a large black barrel from the property owner’s house at least twice a week. I guess you could say we were missionaries in the USA.

Canada will always be home, but we embrace each moment, starting with a blank canvas of like-minded people called to serve just like us.

As we fly into the New Year 2024, having spent US

Thanksgiving and the Holiday Season here with the staff, we reflect on the time dearly missed with family in Canada.

When we get lonely and miss our family, we remind ourselves and them to look up at the same heavens at night, gaze at the stars and moon, and say a little prayer for each other.

Home is where the heart is!

Ray and Julie Young

For more on the story, read our article in the 2024 Q-1 coming soon in January.



**Your AWA Mission Family
at AWA Canada:
Ray and Julie Young**