

*Every time I think of you, I give thanks to my God. Whenever I pray, I make my requests for all of you with joy, for you have been my partners in spreading the Good News about Christ from the time you first heard it until now. And I am certain that God, who began the good work within you, will continue his work until it is finally finished on the day when Christ Jesus returns.*  
 (Paul's Thanksgiving prayer — Phil. 1:3-6, NLT)



# Winter ~~JAARS~~ Report

SNOW!



February 2009

## Thankful for another year to serve the Lord



### From half way around the world

In our October letter, we shared with you about the dedication of a Pilatus Porter turbo-prop PC-6 and a bit about its mission. This airplane was sent to the field shortly after the dedication ceremony at the JAARS Center.

The pictures above give a thumbnail sketch of events that took place after the PC-6 was dismantled, crated and shipped to the overseas field location. Clockwise from upper left are: removal from the shipping container, reassembly in the hangar, field dedication ceremony with ribbon cutting, and a group picture of the field team holding a banner thanking the couple who donated the aircraft. We joyfully praise the Lord for this new tool to speed Bible translation for the waiting language groups.

### Spotlight on Africa



Today all the information technology, IT, departments gathered to pray for a team that will be heading out to Guinea-Bissau in West Africa next week to install solar power, fiber optic, and communication equipment enabling computer networking which includes internet access via the VSAT satellite system.

The Evangelical Church of Guinea-Bissau, in partnership with SIL and other organizations, currently has translation

programs in seven languages. At the current rate we are entering new languages, the number is expected to be fourteen by the end of next year. This advance has brought into existence



the Lendem Bible Translation Center where Bill (Leon's boss) and Galen will set up the new technology.

### Philippine Branch news

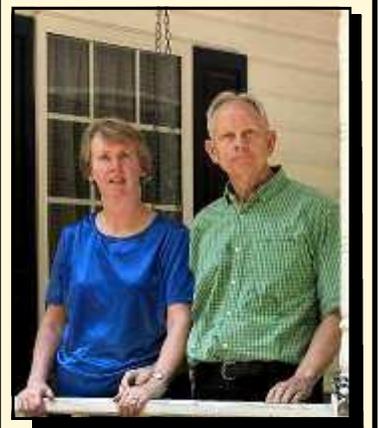
We knew this was coming someday, but now it is here. The news is the closing of the Nasuli Center on



### Spring fed pool at the Nasuli Center

Mindanao, Philippines. This is where, in the late 70s, Leon and Lola first served and from where Sally and Kathy worked to translate the Koronadal Blaan Scriptures. The New Testament was dedicated in 1996. Now, in just a few short months, the Nasuli Center will close forever and everything will have to be moved elsewhere. Much planning is required.

How does this closure affect us? Until this month we had 3,500 New Testaments left in the Nasuli Book Depository. (The original printing was for 10,000, so you can see that Rev. Cuma Saya has been doing a great work of distribution.) These remaining books must be removed from Nasuli and sent to Cuma and Lydia's home, where there is a room prepared for just this purpose. In fact as we



### Praise 'n Prayer

- Praise for the safe arrival assembly and dedication of the PC-6. May God use this fine aircraft to advance the work of bringing His Word to waiting hearts. Praise too for the emergency work that can be done with this type of plane.
- Pray for the men heading to Africa to install and test equipment that will speed the work of Bible translation. The Lendem facility will give national translators and international consultants a useful place to keep at the task.
- Pray for Branch members still living at Nasuli. They will have a hard adjustment after the many years working there. Pray too for the few remaining projects that still use Nasuli. May they find new places from which to work that will support success.
- Be in prayer that God will touch many hearts to be part of funding the remaining \$2,800 charge on the 3,500 Koronadal Blaan New Testaments.
- Pray that our home will always be a place of blessing for all the Lord brings our way. May we be a blessing.

write this letter, the New Testaments have been trucked to Cuma's place in General Santos City. This was through the kindness of another translation team who are moving there permanently.

New Testament storage room



Outside of Cuma's house. See his motorcycle used to deliver New Testaments.



You might think that all is well, since the NTs have been shipped. Well, yes and no. Yes, in that they are now where they need to be for Pastor Cuma to continue his distribution work. No, in that we owe the Branch \$2,800 in subsidy fees that are still outstanding. The Branch accountant has kindly agreed to delay placing this charge against the Koronadal Blaan Project Account, for a short time. At present, the project account will not stand such a large charge placed against it, without going into the red. We are thankful for this delay, but also feel the responsibility to let our partners know of this serious need.

**How can you help?** If the Lord has placed this on your heart, then there are some things you can do. Pray God will lay this need on more hearts. You can also make a financial gift by sending your check, made out to Wycliffe Bible Translators, to the WBT address below. Please do not write on the check memo line, but rather include a separate note—yellow sticky, etc. On this note write, "For the Koronadal Blaan Project Account, SIL Philippines Accounting Dept." This will ensure that the funds arrive in the Philippines and are placed into the correct project account. When enough funding arrives, we will give the Accounting Dept. the okay to place the charge.

Please remember to pray regularly for Rev. Saya and his faithful work in distributing the New Testaments to Koronadal Blaan speakers. Pray too that the Blaans will read this precious gift of God's Word in their own language—that they will see Jesus.

### News on the home front

Since our last letter in December, we have seen the Lord's blessing in our personal lives just as in our work. Largely this was visits from family and friends.



We also opened our home for meals and fellowship with folks visiting JAARS.

Right after Christmas, Sally's brother, his wife, and a friend came down from New Hampshire to spend



two weeks with us. At the same time as their visit, more of Sally's family, who were traveling in the area, came by for a day.



During our family's visit, we took half a day to see the Billy Graham Library in Charlotte. We can't wait for our next visitors so we can go again.



We are experiencing what it's like to live year around in Waxhaw, North Carolina. One surprising event happened on the U.S. Presidential Inauguration day, January 20th. We woke up around 3 in the morning when our security lights tripped on. We looked out and saw a delightful sight. It was snowing! Leon took pictures in



the morning at home and at the JAARS Center. Good thing for by mid afternoon, most of the 2 inches we got had melted off.

### Dear family and friends,

Serving with the JAARS family here in Waxhaw, we are amazed as we see the many things God is doing. Seeing first hand how the Lord uses technology to give His message, the good news of Jesus Christ, to isolated groups long without the Gospel in their heart language. For His purposes, God is using satellites, boats, radios, fiber optics, 4WD vehicles, computers, aircraft, and many more than we can name here.

Assigned to JAARS, we are also privileged to rub shoulders with many of the older generation living here. Many are still working—even in their 80s. These folks are from that pioneering generation who joined Uncle Cam in the beginning—folks who made the first sacrifices and paved the way for us to follow. They saw down the corridor of time and planned for success. And now Wycliffe Bible Translators enjoys worldwide respect due to contributions made for the indigenous peoples around the globe.

Thank you for your love and partnership with us. We see the hand of the Lord in your faithful stand which encourages us greatly. Because of you, we are able to keep following His call on our lives. Our prayer for you is that God will supply your every need. *(Phil. 1:3)*

With joy,

*Leon Sally*

See the color version of our letter by going to:  
[www.trinitynh.org/mis-winter.htm](http://www.trinitynh.org/mis-winter.htm)

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[www.Wycliffe.org](http://www.Wycliffe.org)

[www.JAARS.org](http://www.JAARS.org) (recent makeover)

### Send support for our ministry to:

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**Please make checks to WBT and add a note: "For the ministry of Leon & Sally Winter." Thank you.**