

Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen..
Ephesians 3:20-21 (NIV)



Winter **JAARS** Report

October - 2011



Remembering this summer's visit with the Blaans



On July 12th twenty-five Blaan pastors from various church groups gathered for training for the use of the new Proclaimer, the audio New Testament. There was excitement as many of the participants were the voices in the dramatized Scripture. We enjoyed asking people what role they had read. Two sitting together were the voices of Jesus and God. Of course the fellowship with these people is always good as they share a common faith and a common vision to reach their fellow Blaans for Christ.

The training seminar was in the national language, Tagalog, so it was good that Sally was present to answer questions of those who do not understand Tagalog well. By mid afternoon these Christian workers had each received a player and were learning to work the control buttons.

Later, as we walked out of the church, we found three pastors sitting together, contentedly listening to chapter after chapter. Traditionally the Blaans are an oral people, so the audio Scriptures are

very effective. One of these happy pastors is pictured at the top holding his Proclaimer player.

Using a Proclaimer in Church

We worshiped both Sundays at churches up in the mountains. It was fun to see many friends from way back in the late 1970s. We held Scripture reading contests at both churches, one for adults and one for



Sally teaches the Bible lesson [above] after the people listened [left] to the New

Testament passage—clearly heard from Proclaimer's strong speaker.

children. The students at Metrolina Christian Academy where Sally teaches collected t-shirts, and we

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Praise 'n Prayer

- Praise for our safe travel to, from, and within the Philippines.
- Praise for the successful seminar on using the new audio player and how to use it for Bible studies.
- Praise that Kathy has decided to become the OT translation consultant.
- Praise for the newly created Wycliffe page featuring our ministry. See the link on page 2.
- Ask God to raise up a Blaan OT translation team who can learn translation principles and work well together. Also pray for their training.
- On **Sept. 22**, we lost a pilot in Papua—**Paul Westlund**. Pray for his wife and children.

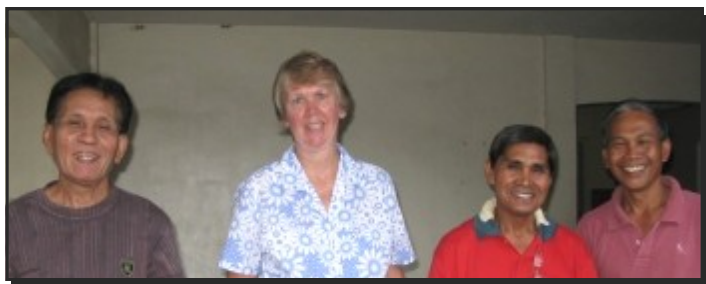
had them printed with the Blaans words for “God’s Word, Alive and Powerful”. We took 175 t-shirts to the Philippines, to be used as prizes for Scripture reading contests. Here are some proud readers!



The Blaans have now had the New Testament in their language for 15 years. There are literally hundreds of churches among the Blaans, and growth and maturity is evident. The first Blaan foreign missionary is soon to go and serve in Malaysia. Edgar is pictured at right. Clearly the Blaan church is maturing. The time has come when the Blaans really need and want the Old Testament in their language. It’s a huge task. Consider that the New Testament took from 1977 until 1996. When Kathy and Sally were working to translate the NT and prepare the Blaans to read it, there were very few educated Blaans. Today many of them finish high school and get a Bible college education.



While we were there this summer, we talked about the Blaans doing the work of translation for themselves and there was clear interest. Before we left



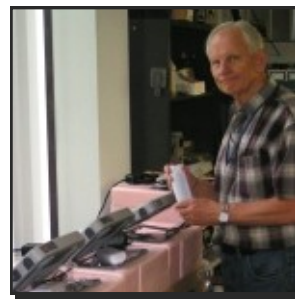
the country, two pastors had stepped forward stating their interest in being on the translation committee. Kathy has agreed to be their consultant, with the help of the internet so she can work remotely.

Next there will be a period of training. The Blaans know their language better than anyone, but they need training in how to accurately translate. Please pray about the timing for this. When training has taken place, a team of Blaans will be ready to begin work on the Old Testament translation. Please pray that God will raise up a full team of Blaans with teachable spirits and a vision for the project.

It seems the Blaans are not alone in their desire to have the OT. There are four other groups in the southern Philippines who have also expressed a desire for training and help with the task.

Meanwhile at JAARS

Leon and the team he serves with receive and set up satellite terminals. These are providing the Internet in remote places where mother tongue translators are working to have God’s Word in their heart language. Via the Internet, these mother tongue translators work with the help of their consultants located anywhere in the world. All this is very exciting. There are many testimonies of how this is impacting souls for Christ.



See our **NEW Wycliffe partnership info webpage**
Click or type the following link
www.wycliffe.org/Partnership.aspx?mid=D5B0F6

Last month we wrote of walking in the land of Israel and what a joy that was. This month we rejoice to bring you great news of what God is doing in “Blaan Country”. We hope you’re blessed as much as we are.

In His service,

Leon Sally

Please find our current letter and more by going to our website: www.leonwinter.com

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