I. Report of GO work in Palawan Adventist Mission
   by Fred L. Webb, February 17-20
   I arrived in Puerto Princesa about 11 am February 17 and was met by our GO workers with a tarpaulin printed with a welcome to me. We went to the Palawan Adventist Mission office where lunch was prepared. I was happy for that because I had a very light breakfast at 5 am and was quite hungry.
   After lunch, I was escorted to my guest room in the mission house which is about 2 blocks from the office. A nap was welcome as I had risen at 3 am.
   At 2 pm, I met with the GO workers in the meeting room where I reported to them on my activities in the Philippines and they reported to me their activities here in Palawan. Here is a summary from each worker.

   Leonard Pehid is currently assigned in El Nido. He is a new worker that has not yet submitted his information so he is not yet on our GO list. This information should be available within a week. He is currently conducting 2 small group meetings on Cagboli Island. He is preparing seven souls for baptism. There is a church established in Calamintay Island with two families as members. The thatched roof of their church blew off in 2013 when Typhoon Yolanda blew through. They are searching for funds to replace the roof with galvanized iron sheets. On Sabbath afternoons, Leonard does visitations and is preparing some for baptism. He has found a barangay Sibaltan where there are a number of backslidden Adventists. He is working to reclaim them.

   Eleazar Tomano works in Tabud, Saraza, Brookes Point. He is working on finishing the church there. There are five families who are baptized who he is nurturing and training. Most of these area native Palawanos. The mission has purchased 600 square meters of property where the church is located.

   Eleazar tells me that the church is now officially organized and is a part of the sisterhood of churches.

   Bernadette Magbanua is working with her husband in Dumarao. They currently have a temporary house of worship which will eventually become a lamb shelter. The mission has purchased 2,600 square meters of property on which they are developing a church complex. Bernadette is actively working with the youth and children and involving them in the beautification and cleaning of the property. She recently took one of the ladies in the church to a women's ministries conference. The lady was greatly impressed.

   Andy Magbanua is, of course, working in Dumarao also. They had been meeting in a place that was borrowed but was used for business as well as other meetings. The mission has purchased the new property which is 40 meters by 65 meters (approximately 125 feet by 200 feet) making 2,600 square meters. (25,000 sq ft or a little more than a half acre). Andy hopes to build a permanent church this year.
There are now 16 families making up 45 baptized members. There are also 15 children coming to regular services. They are continuing house to house visitation and worship nightly in various homes. They are giving Bible studies and visiting families that live in the mountains. Andy has been invited to participate in the barangay and is the chaplain of a government program with 150 people. He is nurturing the members using VOP and Amazing Facts correspondence lessons.

George Pioray has been active in working with the native people in Passi, Sofronia Espanola. He has been successful in winning the youth and children by playing basketball with them. They have been very helpful in building on the church. During this past year, he has put woven bamboo on for walls with windows with a grid of small tree stems. George has been giving gifts of used clothing donated by friends at the Adventist Medical Center-Palawan to the people. He is also given some medicines that he uses to treat children with big tummies caused by parasites. He sometimes uses his motorcycle to transport children to a medical clinic. He finds the native people difficult to work with but he is trying to make friends with them.

Mar Leano continues to work in Santa Lourdes. The mission has also purchased a piece of property for a church in that area. Mar is attempting to raise funds for the construction of a church. Mar has done quite a bit with medical missionary activities and has a relative large group who are currently taking Bible Studies as a result. He also visits homes going house to house praying with the people and seeking to meet the needs that are felt.

Wednesday morning, we left Puerto Princesa about 7 am and arrived in Passi about 10 am. There I found the church building had been improved since last year. George Pioray had added woven bamboo walls with windows with lattice in them. Plans are to add a concrete floor this year. A group of about 15 assembled and I gave them a brief inspirational talk. After prayer with the believers, we were on our way again.

We arrived in Tubod, Sarasa, Brookes Point, about 12:30 pm. This is where Eleazar Tomana works. A number of the believers gathered together and joined us for lunch. This church also now has woven bamboo walls. It is far from finished, however. It is the plan to continue until complete.

Thursday morning, we left about the same time and drove the opposite direction and arrived in Dumarao where the Magbanua couple are working. What a surprise! Last year, they had shown me a piece of ground that they were purchasing. It looked like it had great potential but was overgrown with brush and grass with no usable buildings on it. There was one concrete floor with half of one concrete block wall but nothing else. This year, the brush was all cut down, a woven wire fence was built around the perimeter, there is a lamb shelter where they are now holding their Sabbath services for all the believers, and a small nipa hut for the Magbanuas to live in. Andy tells me that he has about 70 believers but not all are yet baptized. He works with the barangay captain very closely and is frequently invited to barangay activities to offer prayer and participate. Bernadette has trained the children to sing songs and hymns. When we were singing, I looked around and the children were singing lustily and knew all the words.

They put on a good program and I spoke on their responsibilities to spread the gospel and not be detracted by those who would discourage them.

This was followed by a great meal. While we were there, the mission legal department were there with a geodetic engineer surveying the property in order to process the legal title to the land. This is a good and necessary step to ensure the ownership of the land.

Leaving Dumarao, we returned to the Puerto Princesa vicinity to Santa Lourdes where Mar Leano is working. The mission has also purchased 600 square meters there and a church is under construction. An Adventist lady who is a dentist was impressed that she should build a church somewhere.

When she learned of the need in Santa Lourdes, she promised to provide all the materials necessary to see the church through to completion. As we visited, a crew was working pouring the concrete footings and preparing the steel reinforcement. Since the concrete is all mixed by hand, the work goes slow but it is being done. Labor in the Philippines is quite inexpensive so it is cheaper to do it this way than to call in the ready-mix trucks. This church should hold about 70 persons comfortably. Currently they have about 30 in attendance regularly. Several neighbors have declared that when the church is complete, they will attend there. Some of the laborers are church members, some are interests, and some are just day laborers but all are working harmoniously together to complete this tribute to God.

Returning to the mission office, my work here in Palawan is completed. Tomorrow I transfer to South-Central Luzon Conference.

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

II. PAMAS Mission News From The Philippines
Dwayne & Wendy Harris <wrguptill@gmail.com> April 19:

The last month has been busy. I flew off the time required for a check ride and soon after was able to take the check ride to reinstate my helicopter license here. We left the day after and flew up to our airbase in northern Luzon where I was able to do some more maintenance. I repainted the rotor blades and applied some approved rotor blade tape that will reduce further need for maintenance and painting. After reinstalling the blades we tracked and balanced the helicopter and fixed an oil leak. Everything seems to be working and flying very smoothly now.

We hosted a Family Bible Camp over the Easter week at the Adventist church next to our airbase and it seemed to be a huge blessing to all that attended. We were reminded that "Healthy families make healthy churches." We were thankful for the additions to our missionary team that God had orchestrated in advance to make this and other ongoing programs a success.

We saw how even though we were unable to have many meetings to plan together, with a big prayer focus before and during the event it made it even more powerful.

The following Monday I flew the speakers down to Iloilo to put on another Family Bible Camp down there. I continued on to Palawan and left the Twin Comanche at our airbase there and flew commercially back to north Luzon. I then turned around and flew the helicopter back down to Manila the same day with Wendy. That night we picked up Daniel Lui, the new helicopter pilot that has come to join us. We have been processing our visa renewals and Daniel's license conversion this last week.

We will fly the helicopter to Palawan tomorrow where we can start using it where we left off three years ago (when our other helicopter was grounded.) We already have scheduled flights waiting for us for medical mission teams going into the mountains and to the remote islands of southern Palawan. We expect the med-evac flights to also pick up right away, as we continue to get texts and stories of patients in desperate need of transport. We praise God for this great and unique opportunity we have to serve "the least of these" and to speed the work of the missionaries in these areas. . .

Daniel Lui, helicopter/airplane pilot and mechanic from N. California will operate the new helicopter in Palawan.

We can't tell you enough how we value and appreciate your prayers and support so much! Thank you for being a part of this ministry.

~~~~~~~~~~~~

III. Mission Story -- China

from the Office of Adventist Mission

This Quarter a part of the 13th Sabbath Offering is going to China to help provide more places of worship.

"The Witness of a House Church

"Zhang Wei (not the real name) was no ordinary citizen. He had served faithfully in the Chinese army, and as a well-respected individual he served as mayor of his village.

"There came a time, however, when Zhang Wei decided to move to a large city where he could earn more money in construction.

"One day as he was walking along a city street, something caught his attention--he heard singing coming from the ground level of a large apartment building. Drawing closer, he looked through the open window and saw people singing and praying together.

"Soon someone stepped outside the apartment and invited Zhang Wei to come in. Claiming to be Buddhist, Zhang Wei was somewhat reticent to step inside, but as he was curious to learn more, he finally decided to enter this Seventh-day Adventist house church.

"He noticed that many of the people held Bibles, and he wanted to learn more about this unusual book. Happily the Adventists shared with Zhang Wei some of their most treasured Bible truths and prayed with him.

"Zhang Wei often returned to the Adventist house church. One day, the subject of healthy living came up, including diet.

"Explaining the biblical laws of clean and unclean meats, the members told Zhang Wei that pigs were unclean and that often the animals were infested with worms.

"Not believing them, Zhang Wei decided to conduct a little experiment. Many people worked at the same construction site, and the company cook would sometimes purchase an entire pig to feed the crew.
"Curious to see how unclean the pig was, when no one was looking Zhang Wei quickly took a knife and sliced the animal open—and found the swine’s flesh crawling with worms from head to hoof. Shocked and disgusted, he never ate pig again.

"Before long Zhang Wei accepted all the Bible truths and was baptized into the Seventh-day Adventist Church. After his baptism, however, the pastor encouraged Zhang Wei to return to his home village and let his light shine for Jesus. Zhang Wei returned to his village where he began an Adventist house church with just one person—himself! But he started sharing the things he had learned from the Bible with others, and soon the church grew.

"Today the county where Zhang Wei lives has six Adventist churches, and three neighboring counties each have churches due to the prayer and powerful witness of Zhang Wei.

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

IV. History of Adventism in China Center in HKAC

from Andrews University's Winter FOCUS magazine:

"A first-of-its-kind conference reflecting on Adventism in China and Asia was held at Hong Kong Adventist College at the end of October, 2014.

Lawrence Onsager, dean of libraries [at Andrews] had the opportunity to attend this conference which was jointly sponsored by Adventism in China (AIC) and the Association of Seventh-day Adventist Historians (ASDAH).

The conference was held in the HKAC library.

"The purpose of this conference was to renew the interest in studying the history of Adventism in China—the early days and currently as well," stated Onsager when discussing the topic of the paper he presented, 'On Fire for China, the Story of Erik Pilquist, Pioneer Adventist Missionary to China.'

"Onsager's paper is a preliminary study on the influence that Erik Pilquist had on the early training of the initial group of Adventist inland China missionaries and their methods for bringing the Gospel to the non-Christians Chinese.

"HKAC has made a request for the Center of Adventist Research to share historical resources between our center and theirs." claimed Onsager. 'That of course is not an official thing at this point, just a request. This will be quite easy from our part because our Center of Adventist Research is working to develop an Adventist digital library.'

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

V. Jesus For Asia National Bible Workers

from JFA's NOW magazine

Jesus for Asia started 9 years ago by hiring a few national workers in India. Now there are over 250 in India, the Philippines, Thailand with requests for new Bible workers coming in every day. Although they face many difficult challenges as they take the message from door to door, they have some enormous advantages in sharing the Gospel:

** They don't have to buy an airplane ticket.
** They already know the language and are intimately familiar with the culture.
** They are able to mingle without being easily noticed.
** They are used to living in local conditions.
** In the eyes of the locals, national Bible workers do not represent a foreign country or a foreign religion.
** They can be sent out at a fraction of the cost of a Western missionary.

~~~~~~~~~~~~~~

To remove your name from the mailing list of this newsletter, simply reply to this e-mail and put "REMOVE" in the Subject line.