



Arop Lagoon Tribune

Seminole, Florida

December, 2002

Praise

- A very faithful support team!
- The translation project continues while we are on furlough.
- Good progress on Luke 1 in September workshop.
- A great place to live in Florida—our own house!

Prayer

- That local translation committees will be formed in all 11 languages and take their critical role in the translation process seriously
- That the translators would be diligent in testing Jonah and Ruth in their villages
- That the Lord would use Jonah and Ruth to change people's lives
- That we can solve Emil's ongoing computer problems
- For the next translation workshop—January 13-31.
- More prayer requests inside!

Christmas Story begun

So what? So something got started. Why's that worthy of a headline?

Because the translators started it themselves, that's why! In September, Arop translators Emil and Peter held a translation workshop all by themselves for the first time. While they were in Arop working their way through Luke 1 with the new translators, we were here in Florida busy moving into our house in Florida and getting our kids established in school.

We have been trying to train and empower our Papua New Guinea partners in the translation project so that they are not dependent on our being there all the time.

We are thrilled to see our investment in them really paying off while we are on the other side of the world.

By next Christmas, we hope to have the complete Christmas Story ready to distribute, at least in draft form, in all the villages of all eleven

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languages. *Pray with us that we will see that happen.*

We did have a major computer glitch during that time. The translators



could send but not receive email. So I was unable to check their translations during their workshop. Now I'm in the middle of a very busy time and have barely started checking their translations of Luke 1. *Please pray that I can get them all checked before their next workshop, beginning January 13.*

Will Jessica be reading the Christmas Story in her own language next Christmas?

Passing on their skills



Bottleneck: Lame Duck Typing Pool. At one of our translation workshops, I edited Clement's Pou language translation while Peter did the same for Kenny and Matthew from Sissano. Emil, Peter, Linus and I literally spent days doing this. Translators had to wait in line to get their changes made on the computers. Sometimes they waited all day.

We knew this bottleneck would eventually cripple the team's progress, so we had to do something. In July and November, the Arop team held two workshops in which they began

teaching the new translators to do their own typing on computers. This should help the Arop team and me to be able to concentrate on translation and translation training.

They say a missionary's job is to work himself out of a job. It's especially exciting for us to see the Arop translators doing the same thing.

Of course I don't have a picture of the workshops where they did this, because I'm not there to take them. Maybe that's a skill I should be passing on. Hmmm . . .

What are the Nystroms up to?

- Settling the kids into an American school.
- Settling ourselves into our new home here.
- Visiting and speaking in churches, Sunday School classes, and schools, and doing the preparation for that.
- Helping the translators in PNG by checking their translations via email.
- Working on presentations I gave to a Wycliffe computing conference in November.
- Working on various paper work and other monthly and quarterly things we have to do regardless of where we are.
- Brianna was in the marching band at her high school, which came in 2nd in their division for all of Florida.
- Eric played basketball on a church league team and is now playing on his middle school team.
- Eric is being treated for a painful displaced disc in his back and is improving.
- Bonnie has been trying to concentrate on helping the kids with homework, getting them where they need to be, etc.
- Bonnie is also tutoring Brianna and some other students in Geometry.
- I have been getting in shape by riding a few mornings a week with a local cycling club.
- We have attended at least two Christian music concerts.

More projects we intend to work on before returning to PNG in July:

- Plan a building project for after we return to PNG. The translation center needs to be expanded to accommodate all the new translators.
- Set up new computers for the translation team.
- Speak in many more churches after the first of the year.
- Help write a new book for Wycliffe, part of which is to be about our experimental multi-language translation project.

Partnership Opportunities

What we do

We have three main ways that we communicate with our partners:

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| <i>Arop Lagoon Tribune</i> | Printed newsletter published three to four times a year and goes to anybody who asks for it. |
| <i>Nystrom Prayer Update</i> | Email newsletter published when we have an urgent prayer need, or when we feel guilty about not communicating, whichever comes first. |
| <i>Nystrom Field Notes</i> | A second, shorter printed newsletter that goes to our financial partners between editions of the <i>Arop Lagoon Tribune</i> . |

What you can do

Enclosed with this newsletter is our latest prayer card with our family photo. Attached to it is a response card you can use to let us know how you would like to partner with us. Use it to let us know if you want us to keep you up to date on our prayer needs, ask us to send you our newsletters, and/or to let us know that you intend to invest in our ministry financially.

You can also use the card to tell us you want us to remove you from our mailing list.

We have available a list of equipment that we would like to purchase before we return to PNG. If you'd like a copy of that list, just let us know.

If you know of a church or group that would like to hear us share about our ministry, please do contact us.

Wycliffe Bible Translators
12352 Imperial Drive
Seminole FL 33772-3925
ADDRESS SERVICE
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Arop Lagoon Tribune

Newsletter of John and Bonnie Nystrom and the
Aitape West Translation Team

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US POSTAGE
PAID
ST PETE FL 33730
PERMIT NO 2170

The Christmas story in 11 languages—next year!



Finally! New family photo card inside

Contacting us

E-mail Updates

Send us your email address if you'd like to receive up-to-date prayer requests every few weeks.

Mailing Address on furlough:

John and
Bonnie Nystrom
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E-mail address for the Arop translators:
SILArop@online.net.pg.

(Plain text only—no pictures please.)



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Travel Schedule:

December 19-27: Chicago area.

December 28-Jan. 5: In Montana skiing and speaking

January 5: Back in Florida.

Mid-June: Head back to Papua New Guinea