



Nystrom Prayer Update

Ukarumpa, PNG

November 1, 2007

When we're not translating, we're investing

We have been at our Ukarumpa center since August while Emil and Peter have been doing their New Testament Greek and Exegesis courses here. You may wonder **what in the world we do when we're at our Ukarumpa center** and not in Arop village. This time we've been investing our time in translations that other people are doing. Besides working on the Arop translation, I

- finished setting up a new translation data management system for the whole Aitape West Translation Project
- set up a new Language Data Backup Service for translators working in 180+ languages to use at Ukarumpa, and helped several teams to begin to use it
- taught a workshop on how to use Subversion revision control software in translation. This went very well—thanks for praying! In the process, I created a [web site](#) to help translators who want to use Subversion
- corresponded with people in the Philippines, Africa, Indonesia, Dallas, and Canada about planning and implementing strategies for doing translation in more than one language
- worked on designing a major upgrade to our translation team's solar power system
- fixed one of our translation team's computers and tried to fix two of our other computers that have apparently 'retired'
- met with our remote translation consultant while he was here in PNG and set up his computer to access our team's translation files while he's in Oregon.

While all this was going on, Bonnie was keeping our family going, chairing a strategy committee for our whole organization here, helping with Eric's youth group, managing the translation team's finances and putting up with me.

- **Praise the Lord for so many opportunities** to serve other translators (see page 2 for details).
- **Praise the Lord that Emil and Peter** did well in their Greek course and are also doing well in their Exegesis course.
- **Praise the Lord that the mission trip Eric planned** to a village near here went very well. It was a great experience for Eric.
- **Pray that we get everything done** before we leave for Arop village on 7 November for another translation workshop. The days seem short and the to-do list seems long!



Investing where it counts. Arop translator Pastor Peter Marokiki shakes hands with our training coordinator, Joe McCarthy, as Peter received his certificate for completing the Beginning New Testament Greek course. The course was taught by our partner Ben Pehrson, who is in the background.

INVESTING OUR TIME WHERE IT WILL GROW, MULTIPLY, AND LAST

Twenty years ago, during our first few months in PNG, I was asked to teach a one-week "Beginning MS-DOS" class for new computer users. One of those students was Emma Bibilo. Since that course, **Emma has done the computer typesetting of well over 100 New Testaments.** I guess that was worth it!

Steven Topoqogo and his father Mumure lead a team of four men revising the translation of the New Testament in their Guhu-Samane language.

This week Steven told me he needed a network to facilitate making sure everybody had the latest versions of all their translation files, to help him check on the other translators' progress, and also to help build a foundation for the future: **They plan to expand their translation project to include at least three more related languages.**

It only took me an hour or so to set up the network for him. My grandmother would say "Easy when you know how!"

Steven isn't just a translator, he and his father Mumure are also leaders in the Papua New Guinea Bible Translation Association (BTA). Steven is soon to become the Principal of the Translators Training Course which BTA runs here at Ukarumpa.

Sören and Britten Årsjö are working on two languages in PNG. They completed the Ama NT in 1990 and later began work on Konai, a completely different language in a different part of the country. They are currently working on a revision of Ama as they work on Konai.

After the Subversion workshop, I was spent a few hours

helping Sören re-organize their translation and linguistic files in order to

- make it easier for Sören and Britten to work together on their translations and for them to organize all the files they have for the many other translation teams they help with translation and linguistic consulting
- make sure they have a running record of all the changes they make to both translations
- make sure they have multiple backups of their translation materials in multiple locations

The details are on the web [here](#).

It was a privilege to help the Årsjös, just as it was to help the Guhu-Samane team and Emma Bibilo. Each of these people are involved in helping many others with many more translations. **The small time investments I put into helping them will continue to bear fruit in many languages and many lives for years, decades, perhaps generations to come. And that fruit will last for eternity.**

Thank you for helping make it possible for us to not only be involved in the translations the Aitape West team is doing, but all these others as well. It's a pleasure to have you on the team.

Your partner in this adventure for over 20 years now,

John Nystrom (for Bonnie and all of us)

STAYING CONNECTED

Our web site: www.thenystroms.org.

Mailing Addresses

US: 12352 Imperial Dr
Seminole FL 33772
PNG: SIL Box 365
Ukarumpa EHP 444
Papua New Guinea

Contributions

Checks can go to the Wycliffe address at right, with a note saying it's for John & Bonnie Nystrom in PNG.

Email:

John_Nystrom@sil.org
Bonnie_Nystrom@sil.org
Eric@TheNystroms.org
Brianna@TheNystroms.org



Partners in Bible Translation

Wycliffe Bible Translators
PO Box 628200
Orlando FL 32862-8200
1-800-WYCLIFFE
www.wycliffe.org