



The Upper Plains Post

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Serving the Lord through Wycliffe Bible Translators

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DFW to HNL (Our Hawaii Trip)

In May, we had a great trip to Hawaii visiting our friends and supporting churches. It re-energizes us to share what the Lord has been doing through Bible translation. Our schedule filled up quickly and we ran out of time to visit everyone. We are grateful for the opportunity to visit supporters on Maui, as it had been 9 years since we last saw them. We were able to give a copy of the *Ethnologue* (the catalog of all languages spoken in the world) to each church we visited to thank them for their support. When people have a copy of the *Ethnologue* in their hands and flip through the pages, they quickly see its importance for missions. We thank you for your support which allows Ray to work on the *Ethnologue* project.



Amanda enjoying the instruments at the Honolulu Symphony Fair.

SCCR to SfAA (Ray's Paper to be Published)

After Ray had presented his paper on the Agta Demographic Database at the Society for Cross Cultural Research's annual meeting back in February, he took what he learned at the meeting, and started editing and adding a section to his paper. The first anthropology journal he submitted his article to for review turned it down as not appropriate for its focus. But the editor did recommend two other journals for which it might be appropriate. Ray then submitted his manuscript to the Society for Applied Anthropology's *Practicing Anthropology* journal, and it has been accepted! The editors requested some revisions, which Ray has done.

The editors asked for a revision to address the stunning infant mortality rate (IMR) of the Agta, as their readers would be interested in what is being done to help the Agta. Ray emailed Tom Headland, requesting 'bullet points' addressing the IMR. Tom replied with a 3 page answer! Ray boiled it down to the following paragraph:

The Agta Demographic Database documents the historical and current living situation of the Agta, supporting the articles and books previously written about their plight. This detailed documentation helps to prove that they are members of an indigenous people, which give them specific rights under the Philippine government's 1997 Indigenous Peoples' Right Act. When the database was published online, it was reviewed in *SCIENCE* (Vol. 318, 30 Nov 2007, p.1357). This caught the attention of the Manila Times, Survival International, and the National Commission for Indigenous Peoples in the Philippines. Among the results of this publicity are that the Agta have access to free medical treatment at the area hospital, and a specialist from Survival International will travel to the Philippines in 2010 to investigate their situation.

The database started as a hobby for Tom & Janet Headland when they lived and worked with the Agta. We rejoice that it has become an important work that is helping to improve the Agtas' lives.

ILC to GIAL (More than the Worship Center)

We haven't mentioned the status of the construction of the new Worship Center building, here on the International Linguistics Center, in a year! Top level discussions were going on between SIL (which owns the ILC property in Dallas, where we work) and GIAL (the linguistics training school that rents several buildings on the ILC campus). GIAL has been seeing the future need for many more translators, linguis-



tics consultants, and cross-cultural workers, realizing that they will need to dramatically expand to help meet that need. So, they approached SIL about buying a portion of the ILC campus to create a permanent home for GIAL – a portion of which could include the existing Dining Hall, where the worship center expansion construction was happening.

Just as the construction forms and rebar were being put down for the foundation of the new worship center, all construction came to a halt. With the possibility of GIAL taking over the Dining Hall, they may want to redesign the worship center expansion to better suit their needs. Or, they may want to completely repurpose the building. It's better to halt construction before pouring the cement than trying to change the building design after the concrete is in place!

The SIL and GIAL boards came to an agreement; GIAL will buy the entire ILC campus! A transition team is now working on how the transfer will take place, as well as a short and long term Master Plan for the campus. While Ray is disappointed that a new Worship Center has been delayed, he agrees with the decision for the long term direction for the campus.

HFS to CCAI (Adoption Agency Change)

Just a few days after we returned home from Hawaii, our adoption agency, Harrah's Family Services posted a message to their Yahoo discussion group that they would be closing their doors in a little more than one week. With the wait times dragging out for years, a number of smaller adoption agencies have been folding. Without enough new clients, Harrah's no longer had the resources to stay open.

HFS had an agreement to transfer our files to Chinese Children Adoption International, one of the largest China adoption agencies. It has been a shock to the more than 100 "ex-Harrah's" families for the sudden change and the unplanned additional agency fee for CCAI to take over. Fortunately, we are happy that CCAI is our new agency. If we had a choice of which agency to transfer to (which we didn't), CCAI would have been our pick. The service and communication that we've received from CCAI have already been outstanding.

ABC's to BOB to ㄟ ㄩˊ ㄨˊ (Amanda's Corner)

On our trip, Amanda got to learn and do a number of things specific to Hawaii. She enjoyed learning about volcanoes at the Bishop Museum, the history of the Hawaiian monarchs at the Iolani Palace, and many sea creatures at the Maui Ocean Center. She even got to try several musical instruments at the Honolulu Symphony Fair! Of course, she loved going to the beach when our schedule, and the weather, permitted.

Amanda has been doing well in "Mama's School", and especially likes being read to during story time. She's sounding out written words, but we've struggled finding good starter books that work for us to help her read on her own. Costco comes to the rescue by releasing the BOB books series in new collection bundles!

On the Mandarin Chinese (ㄟ ㄩˊ ㄨˊ) side, Amanda flip flops between saying that she "hates" going to her Chinese school and asking what the Chinese words are for various items.

With His Love,
Ray, Judy, and Amanda

Praise the Lord!

- For His faithfulness!
- The 16th edition of the Ethnologue is published and available. (www.ethnologue.com)
- For safe travel and good fellowship with our supporters in Hawaii!
- Ray's paper will be published in Practicing Anthropology.



Please join us in praying...

- For additional prayer & financial supporters to join our team.
- For a method that works for us to improve our communication with you.
- For Ray's work on the Editor Interface for the Ethnologue.
- For continued peace from God concerning the adoption of Abigail. We continue to wait, trusting his timing is best.

For financial involvement:
Enclose a note with your check stating it is for the ministry of Ray & Judith Uehara and mail it to:

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