



Flying Lessons

Gene and Jen Arnold

with Mission Aviation Fellowship
at Moody Aviation

Haiti

The tragic earthquake in Haiti last month has been heavy on our minds. We praise God for his touches of grace in the midst of the horror. While buildings were damaged, none of the children in the orphanages Jen visited last summer were harmed. The director, Dr. Bernard, leaped for his life from the second story of a collapsing government office, and was later able to secure a school bus and move all the kids to safety. Bureaucratic red tape has been cut, and children already in the process of adoption were expedited through. We've enjoyed seeing several show up in our church family here in Spokane.

As for MAF, at least one of their national workers lost his life in the earthquake, and there was some damage to buildings. The wives and children of US-based staff were evacuated quickly, and there has been a steady flow of qualified volunteers from within MAF ranks to carry on the work. Thankfully, none of the MAF airplanes in Haiti were damaged, and have been hard at work. A brand new Kodiak was quickly directed to Haiti, and arrived full of supplies. MAF has been working with Operation Blessing, an organization experienced in bringing critical help to areas of great tragedy.

MAF was also quick in setting up communications for the responding relief organizations. Using a portable, inflatable satellite dish MAF set up broadband internet and telephone service for aid workers.

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Religion that God our Father accepts as pure and faultless is this: to look after orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself from being polluted by the world.

James 1:27 (NIV)

Immediately [Jesus] spoke to them and said, "Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid."

Mark 6:50b (NIV)

Contact us!

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Kodiak Tour

For our friends in Arizona who have yet to see a Kodiak, your opportunity is coming. MAF will have one at the Scottsdale airport near Phoenix on March 6 and at the UIM hangar at Ryan Field near Tucson on the 7th. There will be a drawing for free rides. Take a look at <http://www.maf.org/kodiaktour> for more information.

Loose Ends

Last time we wrote you I (Gene) had flown a newly donated Cessna T210 from Florida as far as Missoula, Montana. In January I was able to go get it and bring it home. As a special treat, one of our recent graduates flew me over to Missoula in a 206 to get it. Paul had been my student when he was first learning to fly, and it was a thrill to see him at the other end of the process as polished commercial pilot.

Traveling Mercies

This past week Jen had an unusual adventure. A year and a half ago a little boy was born to a family in our church with an aneurism in his brain. He has had multiple corrective surgeries and been shuttled back and forth between specialists in Spokane and Seattle. Most recently the doctors in Seattle intended to release him to hospice in Spokane, but medical insurance wouldn't cover ambulance transport for the 300 mile return trip. Jen volunteered to go with the family as their travel nurse, and by God's grace, the boy's condition actually improved a few days before they traveled. As they started the trip, they were encouraged by Mark 6:50 (see sidebar). The trip turned out to be uneventful, and the boy actually went home with his family. While his condition is still serious, we thank God that Jen was able to be an encouragement along the way.

What's Up?

This spring I am working on a some special projects. I'm working with a student who was unable to complete his private pilot training with his class last summer, in order to allow him to finish before he enrolls this summer as a maintenance specialist student. I will also work some recent graduates seeking their flight instructor (CFI) and instrument flight instructor (CFII) certificates.

Thanks,

Thanks again for your prayers and participation in our ministry with MAF at Moody.

*Gene, Jen,
Nate and Andrew
Arnold*



A girl with crushed feet being loaded into an MAF 207 in Haiti



The inflatable satellite dish pictured on an earlier test setup in Ecuador



Operation Blessing setting up a water filtration system in a muddy stream