



ON COURSE

News from Gene, Jen, Nate and Andrew Arnold

serving with Mission Aviation Fellowship

at Moody Aviation

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"Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God."

Hebrews 12: 1-2 (NIV)

Staying on course—it's a pretty important concept if you want to reach the goal. In our ministry with MAF, training missionary pilots at Moody Aviation, we spend a lot of time thinking about staying on course. When we're off course, we feel that gnawing cold lump in our gut telling us we are lost. But when we're on course, we have confidence that we will arrive at our destination. And keeping on course requires keeping our eyes fixed where they should be—on our goal, Jesus Christ.

Course Guides

This spring I am working with pilots wanting to become instrument flight instructors (CFII's), those who teach others to fly in the clouds and rain, to find their course when there is nothing to see. One of these pilots is Jason, a former missionary kid from east Africa, and a graduate of Moody's first flight class in Spokane. He has been serving as an intern flight instructor with us at Moody, and needed to add this skill so he can train our instrument students next spring. Eventually, he and his wife, Anna, hope to serve in Africa.



Jay is another CFII student. He is not a graduate of Moody, but grew up here in Spokane in a family passionately involved in aviation. (For aviation history buffs, his family is the one that restored the Boeing 40 biplane a few years ago.) Jay and his wife plan to candidate with MAF this fall after their first child is born. But in the meantime, he wanted to build some skills and also provide some instructional help to Moody after earning that certification.



Course Correction

This spring I have also worked with Tim, a student pilot who got out of sequence with his flight class last fall. Tim shows a lot of aptitude for mechanical things, and is enrolling in our maintenance specialist course this summer. Even though he is emphasizing maintenance, Tim was wanting to keep working on his flight skills this spring. Sadly, we ran out of time on the calendar before Tim was able to earn his pilot's license, but we still had a lot of fun and some good training together.



Finishing the Course

At the end of May, we held our Commissioning and Commencement Services for our graduating class. These young men have spent the last five years studying the Bible and missions, and earning their

The graduates and their wives in prayer at the Commissioning Service



airplane mechanic and commercial pilot licenses. The class verse, Hebrews 12:1-2 (quoted on the first page), speaks of the perseverance they have shown in fixing their eyes on Jesus and running the race. They are just about ready to join a mission (several are interested in MAF) and start heading overseas. This summer, though, many of them are choosing to continue in an elective class at Moody for a few weeks and become flight instructors themselves. I'll get to work with them one last time while they finish this up.

Family Course

Last summer Jen took a short-term mission trip to an orphanage in Haiti with a group from our church. Their purpose was to build bunk beds for the teenagers who were outgrowing their child-sized beds. That week Jen spent a lot of time hanging out with the teenage girls, getting to know them, and loving them. She left Haiti satisfied that these kids were well-cared for and loved in their orphanage home. Then the earthquake struck in January. Suddenly, these kids who were already growing up in a desperately poor country were faced with a future literally in ruins. God began to speak to Jen, and the short story is that we have started the process of adopting two girls from Haiti. Carmelle is 15 (and already taller than Jen) and Néhémie is 13. They are not sisters, but grew up in the orphanage together. We are learning that the process of international adoption is long, complicated, and expensive, but we look forward to when we can bring our daughters home. We appreciate your prayers as we keep moving down this path.

Thanks

Thanks again for running the course with us.

Gene Jen Nate Andrew (Carmelle and Néhémie)



Néhémie

Carmelle