



News from **Gene and Jen Arnold**
serving with **Mission Aviation Fellowship**
at **Moody Aviation**

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So Much That You Cannot Contain It

There's nothing better in the world than a tree-ripened peach eaten seconds after it's been picked. Sweet juice explodes into the mouth, and, despite best efforts to contain it, dribbles down the chin. It's amazing. Now, I (Gene) grew up in Indonesia, eating the best the tropics had to offer; and, as good as papayas, mangoes and soursops can be, nothing stands up to a fresh peach.

God has blessed us with a peach tree in the backyard. It's old and tired, and sometimes suffers peach leaf curl, but the peaches are sooo good. Last year it didn't produce any peaches and I was afraid we'd lost the tree. In hope, I pruned and fertilized, and this summer it produced. I mean, it really produced. Despite my attempts to prop up the branches, several broke under the weight of the fruit. We filled big tubs with fruit and gave it to friends and neighbors. We put up a good quantity for the winter. We were blessed. We were blessed to overflowing. Everyone around us was blessed by that tree.

I think that's the way God intends it to be with blessing. First, that it will be too much. Didn't He challenge His people in Malachi: "'Test me in this,' says the Lord Almighty, 'and see if I will not throw open the floodgates of heaven and pour out so much blessing that there will not be room enough to store it?'" (NIV) And, second, that its purpose is to bless others. To Abram, He said: "I will bless you . . . and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you." (Gen. 12:2,4 NIV) He doesn't give us blessings to lavish them on ourselves. He blesses us so that others will be blessed.

I looked at my life and saw that this is true. I love teaching. I am blessed to be able to do something that I love, and, in the process, I have had part in the training of more than seventy mission-minded students. Some of

those students have gone out—to Papua, Kalimantan, Haiti, the Congo, Alaska, Central Asia and Kenya—to bless the peoples of the earth.

Also, the Lord has given me a wife with a compassionate heart, and a home with an extra bedroom, and now He has given us two adopted daughters who fill our hearts and our home. And, who knows what He will choose to do through these young women when they launch out into the world? In so many ways my heart is so full of blessing it can't contain it.

So, how has God blessed you? Where is it overflowing? We'd love to hear from you about it.

Yes! The Girls!

On September 6, the girls had a successful visa interview at the US Embassy in Port au Prince. We weren't there, but our agent from the orphanage accompanied them. A week later, the girls were issued their travel authorizations by the Haitian government, and the first week of October Jen and I went to pick them up.

Of course, everything in their world has changed now. They are excited, overwhelmed, delighted and confused all at once, and we've had some great laughs along the way. We'd appreciate your prayers for the girls and the rest of us as we all try to make sense of our new lives together. By the way, with everything else in their lives changing, they decided to take new names as well: Carmel would like to be called Rose, and Néhémie would like to be called Rachelle.

As for the boys, they have been back in school for several weeks now, and are still going strong. We're amazed and delighted at their strength and enthusiasm after last spring's extended illnesses. Thanks again for praying for them through the long difficult months of last winter and spring.

Advanced Cross-Country

The end of September we took our students on their Advanced Cross-Country trip. These eleven amazing days built on everything they have done so far and stretched them far further than they thought they could go. We packed ourselves into our little four- and six-seat airplanes and set out to explore the western US. Forest fires burning in the mountains of the Inland Northwest produced so much smoke that we had to vary our plan significantly. As it turned out, though, developing this kind of flexibility was good training too. Even so, we got into some pretty amazing mountain airstrips that looked a whole lot like mission strips overseas. Then, after a rest in Salt Lake City we headed off to mix it up with the heavy traffic around Las Vegas, Los Angeles, San Francisco and Portland. We dealt with busy airspace, fast-talking controllers and lots of rules. As to the kind of flying we did, it was almost the opposite of the first half of the trip. But, both types of flying are needed in the modern mission world, and we're making sure our students are prepared.

The Overflow

Our ministry support with MAF continues to run short of recommended levels by about \$1700 per month. We are deeply grateful for you, our faithful supporters in this ministry of training mission pilots. Without your partnership we couldn't do this. I'm sure you've noticed, costs are rising about 3% every year. Would you consider an increase in your giving to MAF to help cover this rise? We know some of you are unable to give on a monthly basis. Would you be able to make a special gift, perhaps on a yearly basis? The overflow of God's blessing in your lives reaches through us and through our graduates to the peoples at the ends of the earth. Thank you!

From the Family

From the whole family, together at last. Thanks again for your steadfast prayer, support and partnership in the Gospel,

Rose Jen Gene
Andrew Rachelle Nate



*“May God be gracious to us
and bless us
and make his face
shine upon us,
that your ways may be
known on earth,
your salvation among all
nations.*

*May the peoples praise you,
O God;
may all the peoples
praise you.*

*May the nations be glad
and sing for joy,
for you rule
the peoples justly
and guide the nations
of the earth.*

*May the peoples praise you,
O God;
may all the peoples
praise you.*

*Then the land will yield
its harvest,
and God, our God,
will bless us.*

*God will bless us,
and all the ends
of the earth
will fear him.”*

Psalm 67 NIV

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