

Gene and Jen Arnold

serving with Mission Aviation Fellowship at Moody Aviation

March 2017

The Teacher Gets Schooled

In 11 years teaching at Moody has gotten comfortable, but there comes a time when every old dog needs a new trick. Moody exists to train missionary aviators for service with missions like MAF. So when it was suggested I attend Instructor Pilot Seminar (IPS) at MAF headquarters in February, it seemed like a great fit.



*Old dog
learning
new tricks
in the
mountains
of Idaho*

On MAF's overseas programs, it's critical everyone keeps the standards supporting safe and efficient operation, and MAF's instructor pilots are the boots on the ground to see that happen. The IPS serves to keep them polished to standard. And with pilots going straight from Moody to MAF, it's vital that Moody set those same standards early and well. So the polish I received these two weeks should show back up at MAF's door in the new recruits arriving from Moody in coming years. (And it's a lot of fun!)

The other fun was time with friends from all over the world. In this IPS class were a couple names who are legendary within MAF, a former classmate of mine, and another I'd helped train a few years back. On the whole, they were a bunch of fairly ordinary people doing extraordinary things in amazing places, by the grace of God. It was a delight to spend two weeks with them.

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him who brings good news, who publishes peace, who brings good news of happiness, who publishes salvation who says to Zion, "Your God reigns."

The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

Isaiah 52:7, 10 ESV

Praise God with us!

- For the safety MAF has enjoyed in its pursuit of high standards
- God has supplied the money for Moody to get new, state-of-the-art flight training devices (simulators).

Pray with us:

- For students finishing their certifications this spring.
- For wisdom as Moody reorganizes its 5-year mission aviation training program towards a more efficient flow for our students

God on the Move

Among the IPS participants was MAF's Chief Pilot from Papua, Indonesia. Having grown up in Papua myself, I was thrilled to hear the Chief Pilot share of God building His Church there. He told of his pastor, a man born into a stone-age tribe in the mountains. Growing up, this pastor came to love the Lord and purposed to serve Him. Leaving his village he attended Bible school and seminary before returning to Wamena, the principal city of the mountains. Now he lovingly pastors a church there, holding faithfully to the Word. The story would be unremarkable except when you think that this man's grandfather was among the very first generation from those mountains to ever hear the Word of God. Now the church is mature enough to sustain itself and to send its own missionaries. God is building His kingdom!

The Chief Pilot also shared about the 30-40 requests sitting on his desk for new airstrips like this one in Tibul. The people are eager to have MAF come serve them. Some are only hoping for the benefits that come with access to the outside world, while others are asking for missionaries to come live among them and give them the word of God. In Wamena, the church is maturing, while elsewhere there are new beginnings. Thanks for your partnership, allowing MAF to serve both the mature church and the new.



Rejoicing in Christ,

Gene *Jen*

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