

**Your gifts to
Project Hannah
doubled through
matching grant!**



**Marli Spieker
Project Hannah Founder
with Gracia**

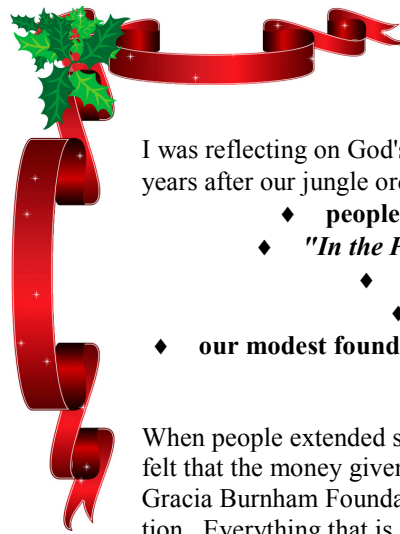
Earlier this week, we sent off a \$20,000.00 matching gift to Project Hannah's Women of Hope. We were so excited when TWR supporters stepped up to donate \$20,000 so we could send in our "match". God has provided **AGAIN** for another year of broadcasting into the Philippines and Indonesia. These radio programs are a lifeline to countless women around the world. I love our involvement with them!

I am also working on writing a forward for Marli Spieker's book, *"When Hope Wins"*. Marli is the founder of Project Hannah and I've grown to admire her and her heart for women in need. I can't wait until her manuscript goes to print. Guess I should get busy so I'm not the hold up, huh?

The Martin & Gracia Burnham Foundation

In Support of: **Missionary Aviation** **Tribal Missions** **The Persecuted Church** **Muslim Ministries**

December 2009



Reflections on God's Goodness!

I was reflecting on God's goodness the other day. Who would have imagined, 7 1/2 years after our jungle ordeal, that:

- ◆ people would still be interested in hearing my story
- ◆ *"In the Presence of My Enemies"* would continue to sell
 - ◆ I would be living in a beautiful home
 - ◆ my kids would be doing so well
- ◆ our modest foundation would have been able to give some 400,000 dollars to missions projects to date.

When people extended such huge generosity to me upon my return to the States, I felt that the money given to me should be put to good use and started the Martin and Gracia Burnham Foundation. No one is paid a salary to oversee the foundation. Everything that is given, goes to missions projects right away. No Burnhams benefit from the foundation. The Foundation Board are men & women who knew Martin and his heart.

I like to think of the Foundation as "Small, but Mighty" and it has been awesome to see God take your generous gifts and do amazing things with them! None of this would happen without you and I am grateful that you trust us with your giving.

The latest exciting thing that we have been able to do is to fund projects inside a maximum security prison in the Philippines where some 23 Abu Sayyaf members are being held. We have printed literature into their dialects, we have helped them with "needs" that they have, and we have tried to show the love of Christ to these guys who will spend the rest of their lives in jail. We have asked many of you to pray and want to report that awesome things are happening there. Three former members of the Abu Sayyaf have become believers in Jesus!! We are thrilled that God is at work in these guys' lives. And we ask you to keep praying, okay?

So - as long as the gifts keep coming in, we will keep giving to projects that God lays on our hearts in the areas of:

Missionary Aviation
Tribal Missions
The Persecuted Church
Muslim Ministries

We give in honor of Martin's memory and to the Glory of God.

May God Bless You and Give You a Joyous Holiday!

Gracia

Oshkosh — Aviation's Family Reunion

Thank you so much for praying for us while we were at Oshkosh AirVenture! It was a family affair while we were there. Jeff and Zach stood by the Super Cub that Martin used to fly and talked to folks at the air show. The Fly4Life tent was awesome! I spent my time signing books in the Wearhouse (a big store by the main tower). My 10 events went well -- and I thank you for praying about that. I took one break during the week to treat myself and walk through the IAMA (International Association of Missionary Aviation) tent where 32 organizations had displays. I didn't make it even halfway through the tent before I had to leave with this huge lump in my throat. How I miss the missionary aviation ministry that we had!! I shed a few tears on the way back to the Wearhouse. It was so exciting to be around airplanes and pilots again - and meet up with old friends and make some new ones. A once-in-a-lifetime experience, for sure!



Over 400 missionary aviators were there at Oshkosh manning the displays



Contingency Training for Pilots —

Preparedness for the “what ifs” of missionary life. . .

During the time Martin & I were in the jungle we recalled the brief “contingency training” class we had and wished like everything we had paid better attention to what had been said! That’s why I am especially grateful that the Foundation has been able to assist a number of pilots to attend a top-notch training course at Ft. Sherman Academy. **YOUR** gifts made this possible! Here are some “thank you” notes from those pilots:

Just finished a life changing experience here at Fort Sherman... Thank you for making it possible!! NTM pilot, Mexico

We have been in Bolivia for 33 years, 20 of them in leadership. I want to thank the Foundation for the financial gift so that I could take this course. The course was very good and I trust I can pass things on to fellow missionaries that will be a help to them.

I would like to offer my sincere thanks to you for offering to pay for my Fort Sherman training. Previous to this training, I would have seen it as important, but would have likely declined due to

costs. Having been through the training now, I realize it's importance. Whether or not I am held captive, I will now be able to understand and help care for those in such situations. The Lord has used this training tremendously.

Thanks so much for contributing to the cost of this course for us. Thanks, also, for sharing your experiences with us through the Fort Sherman curriculum. I know myself and the other NTMA guys really appreciated the course and the hands on experience that we received.

I just completed the training here at Fort Sherman. I am extremely grateful for the funds your foundation sent to help us out. You guys are a huge blessing to us and I wanted to make sure you know how thankful we are.

I would like to thank you for your generosity in making the hostage survival training possible for me personally, but also for the benefit of the field of Paraguay. I will be assuming the responsibility of contingency coordinator for the field and believe I am now much better equipped.

Is Anyone Out There Really Still Interested?

Okay, so sometimes as I travel and speak, I almost get to the point where I say, "Do I really want to keep doing this? Is anyone out there really still interested?" I had one of those times just this month when I spoke in Wisconsin.

I was going to speak at Lake Country Bible Church. For now, they meet in a school building. And I found out that there was a Green Bay Packers game scheduled for the same evening. If you know anything about Packers fans, you know how seriously they take football, right? My thoughts were, "No one is even going to come and hear me speak. They will all be home watching the Packers!"

I had good help for this particular event. My daughter, Mindy, and her fiancé, Andy, live in the area so they went with me to help me carry boxes of books and set up. And people did start showing up before the event started. Suddenly, a guy came up to me, all dressed up in his Marine dress blues. He introduced himself and said, "I was there when you were rescued." Wow! I really couldn't believe it.



Mindy & Andy

Sergeant Doug Hewison told me stories ...that I had never heard before.

I remember after being airlifted out of the jungle in a helicopter, that I was shocked to see all of the military guys there at the base. I don't know what I expected, but I wasn't expecting to be so well cared for! Sergeant Doug Hewison told me stories while we stood and talked that I had never heard before. Stories of what was happening on his end the day of my rescue. He is the one who ended up caring for Martin's body when it was flown out!! He told me how our situation had really opened his eyes to "missions" in general. It was just so nice to visit with him. You should have heard the gasp in the

crowd that evening when I introduced him and told everyone that "he was there when I was rescued." Very special.



What an honor to meet someone who was a part of our Rescue Team!

Meeting Sergeant Doug wasn't the only neat thing that happened that night. I had some truly great conversations with those folks from Lake Country. The multimedia guys were awesome when we encountered some glitches that night. And I left the event with my heart just full of joy. I sang all the way back to the guest room where I was staying. I remember thinking, "What if we had let a Packers game decide whether there was an event tonight?"

I am truly over my wondering, "Is anyone out there really still interested?" ... for a while anyway! :0)

A Blast from the Past!

I seem to be talking a lot about travelling in this letter. Maybe it's because I do it so much!

Maybe you have heard this joke?

Question to little boy: "Where does your grandma live?" Little boy: "At the airport. Whenever we want her, we just go out there and get her."

Anyway, I am the most happy when I get to see people from the past who are very dear to me. I have had some visits lately that have just meant an awful lot. One was from Dr. Scott and Cindy Nelsen who passed through Kansas during their travels. Scott and Cindy were so helpful to our ministry when we flew in the Philippines. Scott would answer our medical questions on the phone so we would know how to care for patients until we could get them out to the hospital. Martin loved Scott!

Another awesome visit was in Maryland a few weeks ago. At one point, we had

14 of us who had lived and worked together in the Philippines, standing in a circle before our meal singing "Great is Thy Faithfulness." Maybe there was a dry eye in that circle, but I sure didn't see one. Only God could have gotten that group of dear friends and former co-workers together. I will never forget our years in the Philippines - and I will never stop loving the Grossman family and the Elliott family. I look back and think of all the good life lessons we learned from each of them!! Thank you Lord for special times that encourage our hearts."



Saturday brunch at the Grossmans

Family Update

Jeff and Sarah (on right) are expecting my first grandchild in March of 2010. Pretty exciting for me!! This will be the first grandchild on both sides of the family so this will be one spoiled baby! I won't get to spoil him or her too much, though, as Jeff and Sarah are headed for Botswana, Africa in July to fly with a ministry called Flying Mission Services. I am saving my pennies so I can go visit. My daughter, **Mindy**, is getting married Dec. 13th to **Andy Hedvall, (on**



On the occasion of Zach's graduation from Rose Hill High School

left) a NTM MK (missionary kid) from South America. We have known Andy and his family for several years and we are so excited to have him in our family!! His family is flying in from Bolivia to be at the wedding. We are so pleased about this whole thing. God is good! **Zachary** is singing his way through his first year at Butler Community College here in Kansas. He is in several groups and I love going to watch him perform! We are thankful for the provision of the scholarship. God is taking good care of that boy ...

Question to little boy:

"Where does your grandma live?"

Little boy: "At the airport. Whenever we want her, we just go out there and get her."

If you wish to have your name removed from our mailing list, you may use the enclosed envelope to do so.

Thanks!

For Donations
The Martin & Gracia
Burnham Foundation
706 N. Lindenwood Dr.
Suite 100
Olathe KS 66062
(913) 310-0279

Visit Us on the Web
www.graciaburnham.org