

NEWSLETTER # 4
March 1986
Bora Bora Island, French Polynesia

Dear Friends,

We arrived in Papeete on the 23rd of February, 1986, just in time to meet Loren's mother Virginia and sister Anne, who had flown here from Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, U.S.A., to meet us.

Some of you may not have heard the sad news that Loren's father was drowned in an accident when his snowmobile went through the ice near his home on Coeur d'Alene Lake. Loren was notified of the accident by ham radio and was able to call home from the island of Hiva Oa in the Marquesas. His mom and sister's arrival in Papeete to join us was a special time of sharing and comforting one another since Fred's death.

They had brought us a tape of the memorial service which we listened to together. It was wonderful to hear the service on tape! What a beautiful tribute the town of Coeur d'Alene gave to Loren's father and family.

Loren's mom and sister stayed a week and we sailed to Moorea and back with them. Meanwhile our crew member Lisa Zick, who helped us ready our sailboat back in Portland and sailed with us these last two months, moved off our boat and plans to journey a different direction from here. She is presently staying with a Tuamoten family back on the island of Ahe. We are very grateful to Lisa, her family, and church friends, for the help and support they have given us.

Several of you have written and asked about the three brothers from England we met back in Ahe. There is quite a story unfolding. They had been wondering what God had for them to do. So they joined in prayer together and asked Him. That night God spoke to Don, the captain, in a dream about starting an orphanage for starving homeless children from the streets of Calcutta, India. He saw some deserted islands offshore near India as the place to go to do this.

Then another sailboat arrived in Ahe with a couple and a baby onboard, who have the same desire to help in India and have already had some experience there with soup kitchens... He is from France and she is American. They decided to join forces and the Whitley's left their old gaff-rig channel Ketch behind in Ahe with Ron the Scottish ham operator. The 56' sloop "Om Kar" sailed to Papeete with quite a story onboard and the customs officials were in a flurry of activity for awhile! Things worked out though, and now the Frenchman and family have flown ahead to prepare things at the other end. The Whitley brothers plan to sail on to India after a stop at the Gilbert Islands.

We were delighted to have them be our neighbors again in Arue' Bay, Tahiti. We fellowshipped, encouraged each other, and sang songs together again, rejoicing in God's goodness. They need your prayers as they don't have a church back home to pray for them.

I want to mention one of the miracles God did for us. There was a hurricane close to Tahiti early around February. We were sailing for the Tuamotoes and on February 7th the wind and rain was very strong with waves splashing over us. We decided to try the ham radio for extra prayer. We made contact with a ham in California and we asked for a phone patch to Danny and Sue Sawyer's house, Lisa's pastor. The

connection was so clear, We all talked a little bit and they promised to pray for us and for the storm to abate! That night the storm raged on. In the morning, as we turned toward the island, the weather abated and as we approached the pass leading into Ahe's safe harbor the seas had been stilled for our entry. Thank you Lord! "They will pass through the sea of trouble: the surging sea will be subdued..." Zech. 10:11

Here is just a brief description of Papeete for you. It has some of the same problems as our big cities in America except that they just had their FIRST bank robbery! The outer islands all have daily air service and also ferry and ship service. The language spoken everywhere is French. We found a church that offered a service in three languages so we could finally understand the sermon! We fellowshiped there and found some valuable teaching materials in French that we had been looking for. We also were refreshed by some "Youth With A Mission" kids here on an outreach, and a Finnish pastor and wife who took us into their home. He read "Sound the Trumpet in Zion" by David Wilkerson and wanted another copy to send to his pastor in Finland who is a translator and will see about translating the book into Finnish.

The Protestant churches here need revival too. Please pray for Tahiti also along the lines of Isaiah 58:6,7; "No, the kind of fast I want is that you stop oppressing those who work for you and treat them fairly and give them what they earn. I want you to share your food with the hungry and bring right into your own homes those who are helpless, poor and destitute, clothe those who are cold and don't hide from relatives who need your help" (L.B.)

We have been quite healthy. We are thankful to my parents who type, copy, and mail out these newsletters from Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. Thanks also to those who hand delivered some needed items! We need prayer for our house to sell so we can be debt free. We are thankful to Sophie, our married daughter and her husband Wayne for house sitting and keeping the house fixed up for us. Brenda our older daughter is a great help to us here in more ways than one: She needs to return to her fireman's job the first part of July.

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WE LOVE MAIL!

Sincerely in Christ,~
Loren, Georgia & Brenda Murphy