

The Oliver Family Newsletter

John & Paula Oliver - Missionaries with New Tribes Mission
Serving at NTM Headquarters in Sanford, Florida
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NTM International

Over the years New Tribes Mission has grown into quite an international organization, with missionaries being sent out from the U.S., Canada, England, Australia, Brazil, and a number of other countries. Just as our missionary staff at NTM US Headquarters provides various support services to our U.S. missionaries around the world, so do our other headquarters locations in the various sending countries.

For several years we have discussed the possibility of using our NTM Accounting & Administrative (NTMAA) system to help our co-workers in Canada also. NTM Canada has been using a DOS-based accounting system for many years and is ready to upgrade. They have neither the interest nor manpower to develop a new system and, since our NTMAA system has been designed specifically for NTM headquarters, it has potential to meet their needs quite well.

Last year we met several days with the NTM Canada treasurer and discussed the similarities and differences in our accounting systems and procedures. Then, in June of this year, we (two of my fellow programmers and I) spent ten days at NTM Canada in Durham, Ontario. We were able to meet their staff, get a much better understanding of their existing system and procedures, introduce them to our NTMAA system, and install our NTM Personnel system.



Now we have the challenge of making a number of enhancements to our NTMAA system to prepare it for installation at NTM Canada. Among these will be the addition of a Ministry Expense subsystem (which will be used to process ministry expense claims submitted by Canadian missionaries) and some major payroll enhancements (to meet their specific needs, especially with regard to Canadian government requirements).

As we have continued to enhance our NTMAA system over the years, it has become more versatile and so we are able to use it at more NTM locations. Last year we installed our NTM Personnel system at our NTM Australia headquarters, and now they too are also interested in using our NTMAA system to meet their accounting needs. It's exciting to see our years of design and programming yielding benefits not only at our US headquarters, but also at NTM stateside branches, other NTM headquarters, and various NTM field locations around the world.

Senegal – Here We Come!

We have installed our NTMAA system (which now supports multiple currencies) in Mexico and Bolivia, and one of my co-workers will be installing it in Thailand next month. I'm planning to head to Senegal (West Africa) in January for three weeks to install the NTMAA system for the field bookkeepers (in Dakar and Kedougou) and for the Dakar store and supply buyer.

As I've been enhancing the system for use in Senegal (where the supply buyer will be using our purchasing/inventory/sales module), I've been learning more about the supply buying ministry. Missions is a team effort and the supply buyer, in conjunction with the pilot, serves our tribal missionaries by procuring supplies (food, toiletries, household, automobile parts, or miscellaneous items) in the local stores and market (around Dakar, in this case) and then shipping the items (via plane) to our missionaries in their remote tribal locations.

Family Matters

- ◆ Nicholas (who turned 13 on October 1 – our first teenager) has been wearing braces for 18 months now. In August he had oral surgery to expose one of his upper cuspids that was not coming down. He's looking forward to hopefully getting his braces off next year some time.
- ◆ Joy and Hannah have been enjoying AWANA at a local church and are also having fun at a weekly gymnastics class.
- ◆ Paula has been doing very well on her diet & exercise program and has lost quite a bit of weight. We would appreciate your prayers for her finger (which has a paronychia infection) and her heels (which have plantar fasciitis and heel spurs).



We recently had some prayer cards printed and have enclosed one for you. We appreciate your prayers on our behalf. Please let us know how we can be praying for you as well; you can write us or email us at JPOLiver@WithAWeb.com.

Thanks for your love, prayers, encouragement, and support. We appreciate you!

Your missionaries, John, Paula, Nicholas, Joy, and Hannah Oliver ☺

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