

Pohnpei Update

October 31, 2013

Dear Friends,

It is hard to believe that I have already been back in Pohnpei for almost two months. This is the same amount of time I spent here on my last trip. It has been a busy but productive time. Due to the fact that I will be staying here for an extended period of time, I had to take care of some issues that I did not have to deal with on my previous trips. The first was a Pohnpei drivers license. The state of Pohnpei allows US citizens to drive for up to 60 days on their US drivers license. Since I will be staying past that 60 day mark, I needed to get my license which requires going to the police station and filling out paper work. After I completed the form, they told me I needed to go to the state government building to pay the \$6 fee and to bring a picture of myself when I returned. So after paying the fee at the state building, I headed across town to the local library. After they took my picture, they proceeded to print it out on your standard inkjet printer and cut it down to size. When I returned to the police station, they glued this picture to the front of a paper card they had printed on their inkjet printer, and that is my official Pohnpeian license.

The next thing I needed to accomplish was getting some new health insurance that would cover me while in Micronesia. The best option was the local MiCare Insurance; however I would first need a Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) social security card. I figured this would be some huge hassle, but it turned out that I was wrong. Ten minutes after visiting the social security office and showing them my passport, I had my social security card, which once again was printed on an ink jet printer. After taking care of the FSM social security number, I was able to sign up for my new health insurance.

Besides taking care of these issues, I have been busy with the radio ministry. For three weeks congress was in session, and I tried to attend their sessions each day so I could use the information I learned in my local news report. I was also privileged to be at congress when they passed a resolution that recognized Dave Arthurs for his many years of service to the island of Pohnpei and the FSM. Several of the congressman, also made some very kind remarks about Dave after they passed the resolution.

On October 2nd Ruth Ann Arthurs returned to the states. She will be spending 6 weeks in the states in order to hold a memorial service for Dave as well as take care of some legal matters regarding his death. Until she returns on November 12th, the radio station is completely my responsibility.

There have been several challenges since I've been here. One day the hard drive, which holds all the music and programs, in the computer quit working. Fortunately we could use a back up hard drive that contained most of the music and programs. This still left me with a large amount of work restoring some of the lost programs to the new hard drive. The next day, a battery back up system, which keeps the computer running during our frequent power outages, also bit the dust causing the computer to shut off several times. Fortunately I was able to figure out an alternate solution to this problem as well.

During this month, I was also appointed an associate missionary of World Wide New Testament Baptist Missions. They will be handling all my finances and providing help from their wonderful staff.

Thank you all so much for your prayers, and please continue to remember to pray for Pohnpei.

Nathan