

Rick & Becky Martin

Your Missionaries in
Iloilo City, Philippines since 1976

Dear Friends,

Here is part 2 of our January-February 2024 prayer letter.

RADIO UPDATE

Gene Sharp came back to the Philippines this past October and the Lord did something amazing. Bro. Sharp was hoping to get one new station on the air during the month of October when he was here. The week before he returned to the US there were none. He went back to Antique where we have the tower etc. and was able to get it on the air on Tuesday. The station is only test broadcasting with music with no live broadcasting yet. We were all very excited about it. It should reach about 45% of that province.

On Monday, Oct.23 he went to General Santos, a large city, and was able to get permission to start broadcasting on the following Thursday. Pastor Curato, who has a station in Davao, was a businessman who owns a lot of towers and had three available in General Santos. He let us use the best one for free. He has a transmitter room there and so we didn't have to pay anything for that as well. He is knowledgeable in communications. He was able to make it where he can broadcast into General Santos City right now from his place in Davao. He is operating two stations from that one studio. Right now, he is only playing music while he is test broadcasting. We only had to pay for the transmitter.

The coverage we think is about 1,500,000 people but Bro. Sharp will study it some more. When our staff and Pastor Curato went to the National Telecommunications Commission (NTC) director in General Santos everything went well. The director and pastor Curato just happened to be business partners years ago.

A week earlier, Bro. Curato went to Dumaguete where Bro. Randy DeMoville, a very good missionary, started a church. He is from my sending church, the First Baptist Church, Hammond, Indiana. Bro. DeMoville also has a Bible College. Brother Curato built a tower at his own expense that cost about \$5600. He got the tower up and Bro. Sharp finished putting in the equipment. Somehow Anabel, our staff, talked to the new Regional Director there and he let Bro. DeMoville start broadcasting. The station went on the air right after that. The coverage is about 250,000 people.

So, by God's grace, 3 stations were started in one week plus we saved a ton of money on the stations in General Santos and Dumaguete.

ANCHOR RADIO LAUNCHING SERVICE

Several years ago, we planned to have a special service in promoting the radio station here in Iloilo City. We waited for several years and the NTC finally said for us to go ahead and have the Anchor Radio Launching

Mailing Address:
PO Box 88
5000 Iloilo City
Philippines

Mission Board Address:
BIMI
PO Box 9
Harrison, TN 37341

January-February 2024 (part 2)

martinsiloilo@gmail.com

which included having a special day and ways to advertise the radio station in our city. We invited many of our friends from the city to come. Below are some of the groups we invited.

Leaders of 4 Veterans groups. There were about 20 veterans.



The ones in white shirts are some candidates who were running for election that month.



The group standing are volunteer fire fighters. One of the leaders is a member of our church. There are two volunteer groups in our city and combined they have more fire trucks than the Bureau of Fire Protection has.



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Below left- NC Belloga, IBC member, was recognized, as she was the one that asked me to pray about having a radio station. I told her I wasn't interested but promised to pray anyway and the Lord changed my mind.



Above right- Anabel, IBC staff member, convinced our congressmen to author a bill in Congress allowing us to start radio stations.



Gene Sharp was here, and he spoke about the importance of Christian radio.

We had a short video of the proposed station in Marawi City (a mostly Muslim city - the heart & soul of Islam in the Philippines - and yet ISIS (Muslim terrorists) destroyed the city in 2017.



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Gilbert Porras, our station manager, gave the plan of salvation and over 34 people got saved.



This is another group of candidates for election - they raised their hands during the invitation indicating they wanted to accept Jesus as their Savior.



Police officers, representing different police districts also came. The ones in black shirts sitting down are regular firefighters.



Winning them to Christ.

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This lady is a LT Colonel in the Philippine Army and in charge of public relations for the 3rd Infantry Division.



Below are some of the items we used to advertise our station. The biggest one below is a magnet with the programming on the front of it. We made 1000 of them.



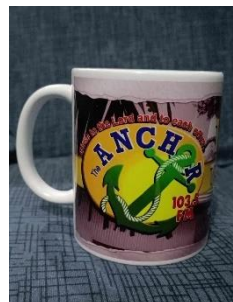
The smaller one on the upper right is a credit card size magnet. They can scan the front of it and get more information. We made 1500 of them at .27 cents per magnet. The bottom right is a sticker; we made 3000 of them.

TIME:	PROGRAM:
2:00 AM	Tagalog Bible Reading
3:00 AM	Creation Moment
3:45 AM	Answers in Genesis
6:00 AM	Light For Your Pathway
6:30 AM	Tinagay Sang Kabuhi
7:00 AM	Morning Light (LIVE)
9:10 AM	Bible Tract Echoes
9:30 AM	Reformers Unanimous
10:15 AM	Answers in Genesis
10:30 AM	Dramatic Bible Reading
11:00 AM	Daily in the Word
12:00 NN	All About Music (LIVE)
12:30 PM	Dramatic Bible Reading
2:00 PM	Faith for the Family
3:00 PM	Revelation Time
4:00 PM	Grace to Grow
5:15 PM	Bible Tract Echoes
5:30 PM	Unshackled
6:00 PM	Evening Reflection (LIVE)
8:30 PM	Daily in the Word
9:00 PM	Night of Favorites (LIVE)
11:30 PM	Unshackled



We made "Anchor Radio" shirts for about 15 of our children to wear while greeting our visitors.

We made about 127 coffee mugs for some of the guests, and we gave out 20 portable radios to disabled people.



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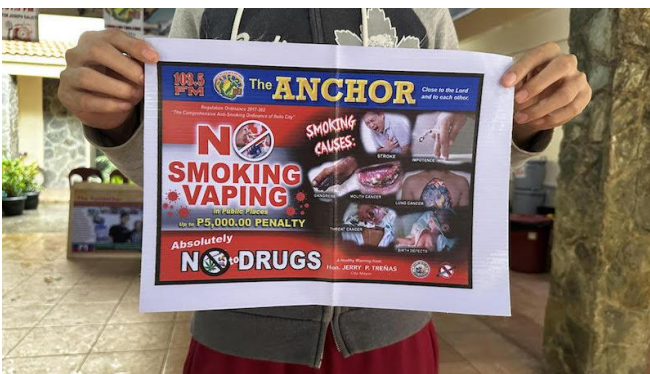
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We made 415 polo shirts for our students and radio staff. The students wear these on Monday all day when they go soul winning. It is a good way to advertise the radio station.



We bought 50 of these large anti-smoking tarps for the city. You can see "The Anchor" ad at the top. They put these at schools and public plazas.

We also made 1000 of these small anti-smoking tarps with "The Anchor" on them for about .46 cents each. All businesses are required to post these, and government workers go to the businesses and put these up for us. They don't charge anything to post them. The business owners are usually happy to have a free one, so they don't have to make one.



There are now 12 radio stations (6 started last year), that are broadcasting now. We could never thank you enough for all you have done for this. I never dreamed the Lord would do this but am so thankful to Him and those of you who prayed and gave for this important ministry.

God bless,

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