

Berita dari Borneo

"News from Borneo" The Holstens...serving with MAF in Indonesia

Hello, from the Holstens! November 2009

It has been a crazy past few months for us over here in Kalimantan, with lots of visitors, lots of smoke, and lots of challenges. But lots of joy, too, as we continue to serve the Lord in this remote place and seek to make an impact for His Kingdom.

Back in July our whole family was able to take an overnight trip into the interior village of Mahak Baru. Also joining us on this trip was Carson Cobb, a friend from Natalie's home church in Savannah, who came to visit us for a few weeks. While Natalie, Carson, and the kids hung out in the village, David flew seven loads of young people from Mahak Baru to the nearby village of Long Ampung, for a youth conference there. We later heard that 30 young people made decisions for Christ at the conference. This news was such an encouragement to us.

We had a great time fellowshiping with the believers in Mahak Baru, swimming in the river, sharing in the church service, and playing with the village kids. This village is known for its sweet pineapples, and we ate as much of them as we could!

In August we welcomed a new family, Tripp and Heather Flythe and their two young kids, to our program. Tripp is a pilot-mechanic and has begun his initial checkout in the Cessna 206. We also welcomed our teacher for this school year, Lynne Bontrager. Lynne, who teaches Carter (6th grade), Grace (4th grade), and another MAF child, has experience teaching in mission schools in Spain, and Papua, Indonesia. We are excited to have her as part of our team!



Natalie with some new friends from Mahak Baru



Our MAF team welcomes a new family to Tarakan

For several weeks in September and October the island of Borneo was covered in a thick layer of smoke from the annual fires farmers set to clear their land. Most years the smoke doesn't affect us too much in Tarakan, but this year it was bad enough to close the airport several days and interrupt our flying operations. Our three MAF families based in Central Kalimantan had to evacuate for several weeks, with two of those families coming to Tarakan.

We have been enjoying a change in seasons - from "dry" season, which means a good weekly rainstorm, to "wet" season, when we get rain almost daily. The arrival of the rain means the end of the smoke, for which we are very thankful.

Recently we were informed by the local airport authorities that there will be a new runway built next year, right through our current hangar and office facilities. Right now David is working with the local officials to secure a good spot for our new facility. Will you please pray that our flying operations will be minimally affected during all this, and that the Lord will provide the funding for this project, in His time?

Our thanks go out to you who continue to faithfully partner with us in this ministry.

Serving Him together,

The Holstens

the Holstens

Please visit our web page at www.maffamily.org/holsten for photos and updates.

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David recently had the opportunity to fly this group of Christian businessmen from Jakarta to an interior village for a mission trip. In addition to nightly youth outreach, they also brought along a professor who taught classes on farming and animal husbandry.



Carter and Grace model their Ancient Egyptian hats, with our new MAF teacher, Lynne

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