

Working So They Can Hear

Hi everyone. We hope that you are staying healthy and safe during this very unusual time. It is amazing to see how much life has changed due to something we cannot even see without the aid of a microscope. We are staying healthy here on Guam, but we do not take that for granted. It has taken awhile to get used to working on transmitters and computers while wearing a mask. Mike and others often meet with KTWR staff via online connections instead of making the conference room more crowded. These measures appear to have been successful in keeping the staff healthy, so far.

Having Jeremy Weaver join the engineering team at KTWR has been a great blessing. His experience in Alaska actually has served him well with the antenna work, the generator project, and even with what to expect when shopping in a remote area. In the photo at the lower left, we are replacing the power amplifier tube in TX7. That transmitter now runs much better. Mike has been training Jeremy in transmitter maintenance and operation, so this task was a great training opportunity.

One thing that has been taking a good bit of time is the area of power generation. We have been working on repairing our oldest solar array. Who knew that there would be so much maintenance required for something that has no moving parts! An even bigger power-related task has been replacing KTWR's back-up generator along with its associated equipment. Documentation is being prepared ahead of procuring the system.

The biggest task on which the KTWR staff has worked lately is tower repair. Even though we do not yet have a dedicated person in charge of antenna maintenance, we are able to replace many of the worn parts. Once every few years, we even need to replace guy wires that hold up the towers. The center photo below shows an example of that.

Because of the full-featured Digital Radio Mondial (DRM) programs and improved radio propagation, Eli has been quite busy working on reception data. The DRM broadcasts are only ~2% of KTWR's total transmissions, but they account for over 1/3 of all of the responses. Some listeners get so excited about receiving reception confirmation correspondence from the broadcast monitoring team, they often post the confirmation (QSL cards) on social media. This helps build TWR's audience even more.

Here are some responses to the Japanese DRM broadcasts:

“Please continue the wonderful broadcast.”

“Thank you very much for your DRM broadcasting to Japan. I explained to all the Japanese short-wave listeners about your DRM transmission. I will continue to listen to your DRM transmission from now on.”



Jeremy and Mike replacing a tube



Replacing worn guy wire



Listening to a biblical broadcast



Mission to the World PCA, Inc.
1600 North Brown Road
Lawrenceville, GA 30043

Mike & Elizabeth Sabin
Serving the Asia/Pacific Region

Mike and Eli at the statue of the
Lone Sailor at Adelup in Agana,
Guam



A Strong Tower For Asia

Back in March, we mentioned that the antenna towers at KTWR might need to be replaced. It has been determined that this is not necessary yet. They do need significant repairs to enable them to handle the next typhoon. The tower legs were found to be strong, however, many of the smaller parts (such as braces, fasteners, and ladders) must be replaced as soon as possible.

Another area that needs work is our antenna switch matrix. We built this a few years ago to give us more flexibility with our broadcasts. The matrix lets us connect any transmitter with any antenna. It has been a great help. However, it has suffered from intense exposure to sun and salt. We need to add environmental protection to it to keep it working reliably.

So what are we doing about this? It is called the Guam Tower Restoration Project. TWR plans to replace 110 ladders, 2500 braces, and many guy wires on all ten antenna towers, and add protection to the antenna switches.

Fundraising has already started to enable us to take on this huge endeavor. Please prayerfully consider helping TWR with the funding. The link to this project's donation webpage is www.twr.org/strong-tower.

As Proverbs 18:10 states, "The name of the Lord is a strong tower; the righteous man runs into it and is safe." KTWR needs its towers to remain strong to keep proclaiming His name to the Asia/Pacific Region.

Praise & Prayer

- Praise the Lord that no one on KTWR's staff has contracted COVID-19. Staff health has been good.
- Please pray that KTWR's disaster recovery programs beamed to China will be helpful for those suffering so much during the widespread flooding there.
- Your prayers for the Guam Tower Restoration Project would be appreciated.
- We thank God for faithful ministry partners like you, especially during these challenging times.