



Upcoming 2018 Programs and Events

Stories from the End of 2017

Featured Story

National and International Updates

WHAT'S IN STORE FOR 2018 SUMMER

APRIL 2018

UPCOMING 2018 PROGRAMS AND EVENTS



Peace King Cup Fishing Tournament

The annual tournament celebrating our True Parents' Holy Wedding Anniversary will be held in Bayonne, NJ from May 5-11, 2018. Bring family and guests to experience fishing for striped bass in the New York Harbor. There will be prizes from 1st -5th place, with 1st place receiving a trophy and \$3000 cash prize!

REGISTER HERE!



National Ocean Challenge Program 2018

The National Ocean Challenge Program 2018 is now open for applications! Come to Kodiak Island, Alaska for 21 days to experience the awesomeness of God's creation and inherit the tradition our True Parents established. There will also be a 40-day Captain-in-Training program for young adults 18+ with some maritime experience and a desire to expand their boating skills.

21-Day Program: July 8-28, 2018

40-Day CIT Program: July 1-Aug. 9, 2018

Registration deadline is May 1

REGISTER HERE!

VIEW FLYER



HAVE A STORY TO TELL FROM THE OCEANIC REALM? LET US KNOW!

Submit stories and photos to: naria.mcgee12@gmail.com



LA Surf Challenge

Surf Challenge 2018 will be held around the beginning of August this year in southern California. Further details are still developing, so if you are interested or would like to help with the program please contact Jack Ashworth at jyashworth@aol.com or 1-310-963-1730



Maine Ocean Challenge 2018

Headed up by the one and only Captain Greg Odlin, Maine will be hosting their own local Ocean Challenge on the Atlantic coast from Aug. 26th-Sept. 2nd. There will be fishing for Striped Bass and bottom fish (Haddock, Cod, Pollock), and possibly giant Bluefin tuna. Besides fishing, participants will be camping on islands and have opportunities to go sailing, kayaking, snorkeling and scuba diving for the hardy.

For more details and to sign up, contact Greg Odlin at godlin2000@hotmail.com or 207-730-2225



Seattle Ocean Activities

The Seattle Ocean Church is excited to announce the launch of their local Ocean Challenge activities! With the arrival of a 24ft Good Go boat, a team of dedicated ocean lovers are working with the local church community and have compiled a plan and vision to educate and engage youth in various water activities in the Seattle, Washington area. To get involved or for more details, please send emails to: seattleoceanchallenge@gmail.com

LAUNCH DETAILS



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STORIES FROM THE END OF 2017

2017 Uruguay Fishing Condition Story

In the last newsletter you heard about the annual Uruguay fishing condition happening in November/December in the South American country of Uruguay. Read the story of the young adults, representing multiple countries, who fished for black drum off the beach as our True Parents did.

[READ STORY](#)

What's Been Happening in LA?

LA Family Church's Ocean Day

Contributed by Carol Takhar

Our first annual Ocean Day Sunday Service on September 24, 2017 at Mother's Beach in Marina Del Rey started with words and testimonies centered on True Father's love for the ocean by Reverend Yang. Many activities were available including sailing, whale watching, kayaking, surfing and just spending time on the ocean. 5 teams enjoyed a volleyball competition and many children participated in a sand castle contest. Mother's Beach is a surf free sheltered beach which was perfect for families with young children! Jack Ashworth and Dan Hallal offered rides all day on their boats. Sunday school brought 4 three person Kayaks for all to enjoy!

Participants were able to experience the power and beauty of the creation and thus build a closer bond with our Heavenly Parent!

[PHOTOS](#)



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Catalina Trip with College Students

Contributed by Mark Moore

[READ STORY](#)

[PHOTOS](#)

FEATURED STORY

2nd Generation Captain and Crew Commercial Fishing

Inspiring and perhaps unprecedented, in the summer and fall of 2017 a crew of four 2nd generation Unificationists captained and crewed a 44ft long commercial fishing vessel in the waters of Kodiak, Alaska. This is the story of their experience, what to expect for others who have an interest in the industry and what a day of work out on the ocean might look like.

[READ STORY](#)



NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL UPDATES

Las Vegas Boat Launch

This March after months of research, preparing and mechanical repair the boat designated for Ocean Church activities in Las Vegas has touched water and gone on its first test run on Lake Mead. Thanks to the Oberg couple, who invested personal time and finances to get the boat running, we hope to see many boating and fishing activities for youth and families out on the lake.



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National Ocean Church Leaders Summit, Las Vegas

From March 17-18, 2018 a small scale summit was held for the National Ocean Church team and elders to discuss about the future direction of Ocean Church, its structural details and how to align its goals with True Mother's Vision 2020 goals and priorities. The team agreed that Ocean Church should take on the name "Ocean Tribe" which more accurately represents the goals and activities the team hopes to accomplish in their communities. True Mother's 3 main priorities right now are National Restoration, Tribal Messiahship and Youth Education so the team collaborated to organize Ocean Providence, Ocean Tribe and Ocean Challenge to focus on these priorities. More updates will follow.



Generation Peace Academy in Puerto Leda, Paraguay

Every year the GPA youth go on an overseas trip to do witnessing and service work in other countries. This year, members at Leda were happy to have one team come to Paraguay again. The youths' goal was to "Inherit the Unconditional Heart of a Missionary" as they learned about what projects the Japanese National Messiahs are doing in one of the most rural regions of a developing country.

[READ STORY](#)



Visit to Acuamundo/Hobby World Marine, Paraguay

Across the Paraguay River from Asuncion is the Acuamundo Boat Factory where Unificationists are building Good Go Boats. This project was started around 13 years ago and is not well known to many. Read the story of our brief trip and visit.

[READ STORY](#)



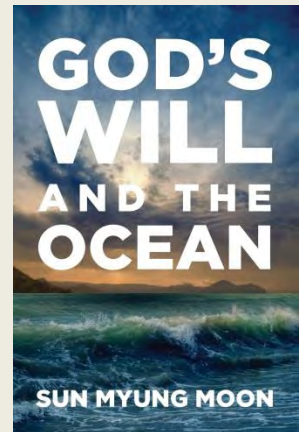
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God's Will and the Ocean Reprint Now Available

God's Will and the Ocean is a compilation of speeches by True Father about Ocean Church and Ocean Providence up until the 1990's. It has recently been reprinted with a new cover design and is now available on HSA Books. For large orders of 10 or more books a discount code can be given. For more information contact Branch Gaarder at gaarderbranch@gmail.com.



ORDER BOOK

Help Leda Build a Ferry Boat

Leda is in an extremely pristine, but extremely rural part of Paraguay where plane or boat is the fastest means of travel. Because of this, those who wish to come and go are at the mercy of the local ferry that comes by perhaps once a week or the military plane that can't even land in Leda if the runway is muddy from rain. Therefore, Leda is pursuing to have a ferry built to their specificity to ferry guests and necessities to their location from the capital city, Asuncion, along with providing additional transportation to the local people of the Chaco Region. The estimated cost for the ferry is \$500,000 USD.

Members from Japan have already given great support for the development of the Leda Settlement in Paraguay and now this is the United States' opportunity to also contribute!



English Flyer

Japanese Flyer

DONATE

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NATIONAL OCEAN CHALLENGE PROGRAM



NOCP 2018

Registration for the 2018 National Ocean Challenge Program is now open for all individuals ages 16-25 years of age with or without prior fishing experience. Please read this entire page to familiarize yourself with all the requirements and policies.

[Apply Now - NOCP 21-Day 2018](#)

[Apply Now - CIT 40-Day 2018](#)

Program Cost:

The true cost for one person to attend 21 days is \$3000. Thanks to our sponsors we are able to reduce the cost for participants to as follows:

July 8-28, 2018 21-day Program **\$1200**

July 1-Aug. 9, 2018 40-day CIT Program **\$1500**

2018 CIT (Captain-in-Training) Application

Requirements:

- Must have attended NOCP previously or have boating/captaining experience
- Must already have taken the USCG Boating Safely course or equivalent
- Must already have CPR/First Aid certification
- Must be willing to get involved with and support an Ocean Tribe/Challenge chapter after the program in your community/nation.

Application Deadline is May 1st

Scholarships:

Limited, additional scholarships are available to those who need more financial support. Select the scholarship option when filling out the application form. For 21-day applicants the scholarship available is **\$400**. For CIT applicants the scholarship is **\$500**.

International applicants must also contact us directly at nocpkodiak@gmail.com about international scholarships details.

Additional Financial Support and Suggestions

To help cover costs for the program and airfare these are some suggestions for ways to personally generate financial support:

- Create a Go Fund Me campaign
- Ask local business owners if they can support your trip [Print Flyer](#)
- Ask your local Pastor and church community for support

Registration Checklist:

1. Application Submitted
2. Deposit Paid
3. Turn in the following forms to nocpkodiak@gmail.com:
 - Medical Liability Form & Signed Code of Conduct Form [PDF FILE](#)
 - Recent photo of yourself

Fishing License Types and Costs:

- Regular 21-day participant will need a 14-day fishing license and king salmon stamp** (\$130 total)
- Captain-in-Training 40-day participant will need an annual fishing license and king salmon stamp** (\$245 total)

**Note: Fishing licenses and stamps will be purchased by participants after their arrival in Kodiak.

Deposit

A Deposit of \$250 must be made in order to hold your place as soon as you receive confirmation on your acceptance into the program.

Payment:

Payments can be paid online through the donation button on the Ocean Challenge website or can be sent as a check or money order to:

Kodiak Ocean Church
 PO Box 8876
 Kodiak, AK 99615

Full Payment Deadline: the program payment balance is due by **June 1st**.

Refund Policy

If you make a deposit and cancel coming to the program before **May 1st** your \$250 deposit will be fully returned. If you cancel after May 1st your deposit will be forfeited.

In the event you are unable to attend the program after making your full payment, the tuition fee you paid, excluding the \$250 deposit, will be returned.

FAQs

- What if I want to stay before or after the program for a few days? Arriving and staying in Kodiak outside the program dates is OK. It is the participant's personal responsibility to take care of their own food and accommodation costs outside of the program dates. If the participant plans to stay at the Church building it is \$20 per night for lodging.
- What if I'm outside the age of acceptable applicants for NOCP?
 If you are a few years older you are still welcome to apply. If you are younger than 16 you will need to submit a reference of either your local pastor or leader that knows you well and can vouch for your level of maturity.
- What does the program cost include?
 The program cost covers boating, fishing, staff, food, accommodation and class expenses. **NOT INCLUDED** are fishing license/stamp, airfare and rain gear.
- Who do I send my flight information to?

Please send all flight itineraries to nocpkodiak@gmail.com

- What should I bring? <attach packing list link>
Click the following link for the packing list
- What kind of weather should I expect during the program?
Kodiak Island is warm in the summer months with average temperatures in the 60s degrees Fahrenheit during the day with occasional rain and drizzle. When on the ocean the temperatures are 10-20 degrees colder than on land. Make sure to pack warm and waterproof clothing.
- Are there rain gear and rain boots available to use in Kodiak?
There are some rain gear and boots available for rent from the program, but there are limited amounts and sizes so it's first come first serve upon arrival. You can purchase rain gear locally from stores if needed.
- Can friends outside of the Unification Church community attend with me?
Any youth and young adult are welcome as long as they agree to follow the code of conduct and are comfortable and aware of our movement's teachings and traditions. Within the program we talk about True Parents and Divine Principle content.
- Will I be able to take fish home with me?
We try our best to make sure participants can take a 25lb box of professionally frozen fish home with them. How successful the fishing is during the program will determine how much fish each participant can take home. International participants may not be able to check fish boxes as luggage due to long flights.
- Why is the cost for 2018 more than the usual 21-day programs in the past?
NOCP's goal is to become a sustainable program. In the past the costs and expenses were lower and most of the staff were volunteers, paying their own travel expenses. NOCP staff fundraised to reduce the cost to participants tremendously. The true cost for a 21-day program is approximately \$3000 for one participant, not including the boat maintenance and repairs.

Stories from Past Participants

Testimonies



2018 NATIONAL OCEAN CHALLENGE PROGRAM



The National Ocean Challenge Program 2018 is now open for applications! Come to Kodiak Island, Alaska, known as “the Emerald Isle,” to experience the awesomeness of God’s creation and inherit the tradition our True Parents established.

For 21 days, participants will learn maritime skills and boating safety, hear testimonies and the history of Ocean Providence, go hiking, river and ocean fishing, challenge their mental and physical limits, and deepen their understanding of True Parents’ life.

Participants will take home a box of fresh Alaskan fish, along with memories and experiences with their brothers and sisters.

The 21-day program is for youth and young adults ages 16-25 with no prior maritime or fishing experience needed.

There also will be a separate 40-day Captain-in-Training program for young adults 18+ with some maritime experience and a desire to expand their boating skills.

Registration deadline is May 1st and the full program fee is due by June 1st. Space and scholarships are limited so **Sign Up Now** at OCEANCHALLENGE.ORG.

21-Day Program
July 8-28, 2018

40-Day CIT Program
July 1-Aug. 9, 2018

Seattle Ocean Challenge Program



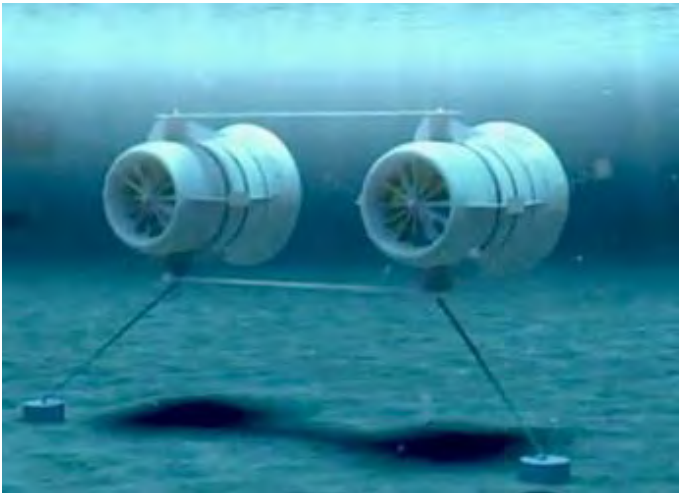
Seattle Ocean Challenge is now being established based on the hard work of the National Ocean Challenge Program (NOCP) and the arrival of a TF-240 24 foot Good Go on loan from Kodiak. Senior members of the Seattle community are guiding the program development to adhere to the highest standards of safety and recognize the maritime traditions of youth entering into the time honored practice of following the sea.



The Seattle Ocean Challenge Program wishes to provide our youth with the traditional forms of gaining experience on the water thru using existing programs available here in Seattle to anyone, including rowing and sailing.



Seattle has a tremendous culture of being on the water that enable youth to become skilled in all manner of boats with training available starting at age 7. We seek to tap into many available programs to allow our youth to become confident in their skills and grow into competent mariners that will continue their association with the sea for all of their lives.



Ocean Engineering- Enabling our youth to visit ongoing developments to encourage them to advance themselves and other youth to encounter the vast abundance and opportunity the sea provides, and become part of the future.

Maritime Managers- Enabling our youth to continue their education all the way thru college to graduate and become seagoing Captains on increasingly larger vessels, becoming superb Ocean Industry leaders with strong families.



Old Salts looking forward to provide Seattle families time on the water with True Parents lineage of strong safety, fun and inspiration far into the future.

22nd Black Drum Fishing Condition 2017

During the spring and winter of 1996, True Father led the Ocean Challenge Program in Uruguay boarding GoodGo boats which he sent from the US. Afterwards, he had the inspiration to establish a devotional condition which started in December of 1996, called the “Black Drum (Corvina Negra) Fishing Condition”.

At first, no one understood the purpose of this activity, but as time went on Father taught us that the 33 fishing poles represented the 33 countries of the Americas, and served as an internal condition for the unification of the North, Center, and South. Furthermore, the use of two fish hooks on each pole represented the masculine and feminine.

In the initial years, the condition occurred during the entire months of December and January under the strict leadership of True Father. After his passing, it was assumed that the condition would not continue. However, the National Leader of Uruguay, Rev. Kazuhiro Tsusaka, felt that it should not be stopped.

This year we celebrated the 22nd Black Drum Fishing Condition, which was completed for the past 21 years in a row. Participants from all over the world gathered in support. There was one North American, two UPA students, four Japanese missionaries of Uruguay and four Japanese missionaries of Argentina, two GPA Argentina participants, and five young Uruguayan community members, who received special training to lead this condition in the future.

Captain Antonio Palma, a member of the original team of the Black Drum Fishing Condition came from Brazil, and was the main instructor once again this year, for which we are very grateful.

The opening ceremony took place on Thursday, November 30th, which included testimonies and training.



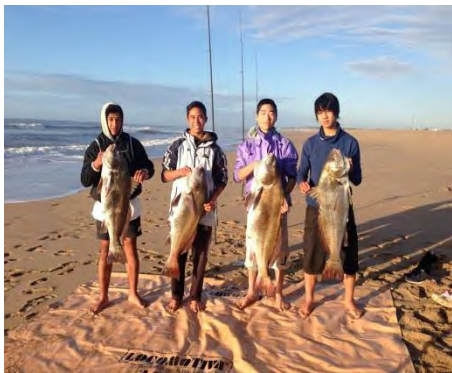
Friday, December 1st was very intense, filled with training, preparation, and the relocation to Punta del Este and the José Ignacio beach. Preparing the gear and setting up camp was very nostalgic.



The first couple of days went by without much result, but were very internal and educational.



A very special environment was set on the fourth day with testimonies of the experiences with True Parents, and by request of a missionary sister, Captain Antonio prepared a nighttime fishing occasion at the mouth of the lake, catching four black drums and becoming the hero of the moment.



One was caught each day on the following days, which kept the expectations very high, but it was on the ninth day where something very special happened. One of the GPA Argentina members, 2nd generation

Pedro Giuliano who was born in Venezuela from an Argentinian father and Paraguayan-Canadian mother, turned 21 years old (same as the condition) and was able to catch a large black drum weighing 21 kg (46 lbs). We see this as a gift from God to him, and was shared with everyone.



On Sunday the 10th we packed up and returned to Montevideo, where we prepared the gear for the next year. We offered all of the efforts and sacrifices made for this condition by our brothers and sisters, as well as the nine black drums that were caught. We hope this condition advances the peace and unification of the Americas, and helps the participants to commit to becoming the children God wants us to be, as well as establish themselves as blessed central families.

God bless you.



Catalina Trip with College Students

On the morning of December 11, 2017, 6 students of Cal Poly Pomona and Mr. Jack Ashworth, drove a boat out to Catalina Island for a 3-day excursion. Mark Jung Moore and Akira McFarlane, who are both members of the Cal Poly Pomona C.A.R.P. chapter wanted to celebrate the end of an arduous Fall quarter of engineering school. Along with 4 other engineering students, and with the help of Mr. Jack Ashworth, we were able to enjoy the beginning of our Christmas Break in the scenic island that is inhabited by bald eagles, bison and teeming with exotic fish.

From Mark: As my friends and I would lay on the beach with no obligations to worry about, and as we fished and gazed out onto the gentle Californian waters, the words of True Father came to my mind. It is important to experience peace, as True Father did as he rested contently on his father's back while being carried home. I think it is important for all of us to take the opportunity and go enjoy God's Creation.

Note: Sorry I didn't include so many photos of the people in the group.

Submitted by Mark Moore



2nd Generation Captain and Crew Commercial Fishing



On the island of Kodiak off the coast of mainland Alaska is a Unification Church community with many families; including several young 2nd generation couples with children. One of the young Unificationists living there has worked as a commercial fisherman for many years and resides on Kodiak with his wife and three young children. Growing up in a family of commercial fishermen, he too pursued work in the commercial fishing industry and recently bought his own 44ft commercial fishing boat. Out of respect for his request his and the boat's name will not be mentioned.

This last 2017 summer, this young man as the captain, along with 3 other young Unificationists: Jordi , James and Kohki, were all part of a 4 man crew for the 44ft purse seining fishing vessel working as the skiff man and deckhands. All the young men were born into the Unification Church movement and this is perhaps the first time in history to have an all 2nd generation crew working on a commercial fishing boat together.



2nd generation captain with his wife and children

Some of the crew members shared about their experience on the boat and what it was like working on a commercial fishing vessel.

Kohki from Colorado wrote about his experience recounting one of the days out fishing.

Written in Feb. 2018



‘It had been a beautiful, sunny day with a slight breeze of fresh sea air blown off the gorgeous landscape of Kodiak, Alaska. Taking in a deep breath to appreciate what most people may never experience, I continue to plunge off the boat, which is exactly how it sounds. Imagine an oversized toilet bowl plunger made of aluminum, being thrust into the sea. To any onlookers who may not know what salmon fishing is, this may look ridiculous, and well sometimes it sure felt like it, but when you see a school of fish swim into the net because of your efforts, you realize it may just be worth it. The things we do for fish.

‘My fellow crewmate, James, is jamming out to some music beside me. He

hands me an earbud and we jam together as I continue plunging to the beat of the music, pumping ourselves up for this next load of fish. The captain yells “purse up”; it’s time to reel in. We head to the stern (back of the boat for you land lubbers) which is a precarious walk. I’d slipped off on this before and let me tell you, it’s no fun to work when soaked to the...

“Snap!” I turn to the back of the boat to find the tow line of the net floating away. I turn to James and yell, “Net overboard!” He looks back with eyes full of the joy of a good song and a good day. He responds with,

“Yeah this song is awesome right!”.

“No! Net Overboard,”

“Man, this is my jam!”

“No!” and I point towards the net floating behind the boat. It was a jaw dropping moment as he looked back to me in disbelief. We took a moment bent over in laughter and tears at such a drastic misunderstanding as the captain makes a U-turn to grab the end of the net and temporarily shackle it to the boat.

‘Now tied back to the boat, it’s back to business, just like any other set we’d done. Had we done 30 or 500 sets? I’d lost count, but by now we had a routine down, and we’d gotten better and faster at it.

‘With salmon fishing, the net is pulled out perpendicular to land to catch the fish swimming the shoreline. One end is connected to our boat, and the other connected to the skiff which is a smaller boat. After a few minutes, the captain circles up the net and we take the skiff’s end. Once secured, a special line on the net called the purse line is pulled to close off loose ends, trapping all the fish. A fisherman would say the net was so many fathoms long, but translated it was about a quarter mile. A big hydraulic wheel called the block pulls in all this extra length.

‘Now it’s our job; laying down the net as it gets reeled in, making sure no line tangles since it would be released once again. Like a wet noodle dripping wet over our heads, we guided the net back and forth, laying it out nicely, well as nicely as we could. It was moments like this, where everything seems to be going smoothly, where disaster could strike the unsuspecting victim.

‘It only takes a moment, but it’s those moments which are important. One moment and you have fish onboard, one moment and they could spill back into the ocean. One moment you’re safe and another you could fall overboard. I started out with both footwear, but in a moment, one remained. One boot makes all the difference.

‘As we laid out the net a line wrapped around my foot. I thought to myself, “Well this isn’t good.” In attempts to keep work flowing, I try to work my boot out of this situation. I knew that this was one of those moments which could go terribly wrong. I try yelling this to James, but over the roaring of the engine and pace of work, its meaning was lost to the chaos.

‘Tugging, pulling, while more lines are stacked upon it, this could potentially be a life-threatening situation, or at least another opportunity to fall overboard. But at last, the boot is pulled free, but at a cost, its foot is no longer in it.

‘Worried that my boot here would be trapped under this pile of net, I kick it over toward our Captain. It sails in the air in a swift and graceful arc, then lands up right, right in front of him like it was meant to happen. Those words I was trying to say then made sense to James, the look on our faces were priceless.

‘We finish that set, which was the last set of the day. The sun was setting in that beautiful purple and orange glow. It was the best of feelings to rest from a hard day of work. The captain tells us “Good work today guys.... Except that last set.” Each day out here in Alaska had a story of its own such as this one. I thought to myself,” Just another day in the life of a fisherman.” Each day an adventure.’



Jordi from Maine



James from Virginia

Naria Gaarder, who works with Ocean Church, had the opportunity to interview Jordi and James about their experience and work. Jordi is a seasoned commercial fisherman and this was James' first year of commercial fishing:

Q. What kind of work do you do and for how long at sea?

Jordi: Purse seining, where you have a big boat and a little boat and a curtain of a net between them. You find a school of fish, circle the fish and then you have a big bag of fish.

James: It depends on your captain and the kind of fish you are going for. On the boat it's not a democracy, whatever the captain says, goes. Even when you are onshore and in town you have to have the mindset that you are still on the job because the captain might need you back at the boat. In our experience we were fishing around a week or two at a time. I was a "cork man". I stacked the corks.

Q. How do you sleep and eat?

Jordi: I'm on the skiff, the small boat. Every 30-40 minutes of free time the 3 guys on the main boat make me a plate of food so when we finish a set and I go back to the boat and give them the net and they give me the plate. It depends on your crew because sometimes it's just cold sandwiches all the time and I'm on the skiff in the freezing cold all day.

James: There are two bunks in the bow called the "fore peak". We were probably all grimy and salty, but didn't really care since we were so tired from a 15 hour shift. It's rough getting used to it at first. The captain would cut the engine, but the generator is still running and is very loud.

So eating: breakfast is a free for all and you eat whatever you feel like. We try to prepare some coffee, lunch is also a free for all, usually it's cereal or oatmeal, and throughout the day you just snack. For dinner we rotate on cooking dinner for everyone. Pretty much dinner was the

one meal we prepare for each other, but hey, it's up to you if you want to make breakfast for others. It's different on each boat, generally you try to prepare food for the captain and skiff man.

Q. What's the most difficult thing while on the boat?

Jordi: Trying not to be bored.

James: The most difficult thing for me was expectations and morale. Maybe that's something I need to work on for myself. With morale, I guess it's internal and trying to keep yourself positive and motivated because if you get low it starts to snowball and affects your mood and your work. Also other people's moods can affect your morale, especially in such tight quarters for extended periods of time.

Knowing where to be was difficult while working. Definitely ask many questions.

Q. Do you experience God or anything spiritual while at sea/working?

Jordi: Not really, but there's really cool mountains to look at.

James: Yeah. When I was there fishing, I felt like, to be honest, it's a hit or miss. Some days you don't feel anything and push through your mental struggles. But with the beauty and nature of where you're at you are reminded of God, like the time I hugged a shark. We had a salmon shark on deck that was 6-7' long and I asked Kohki, "Hey, do you want to hug the shark?"

There was also this time I asked the captain if he ever christened the boat. He said nope, and then I asked did you holy salt it? And he said no, so I told him I would holy salt the boat the next time we were back at the harbor. I messaged my mom about making holy salt and she sent me some. When we got back to town I got her package and then two days later we started heading out again. I said a small prayer and started throwing the salt everywhere on the boat, in the wheel house, in the galley, on my crewmates and the captain...just kidding. And that last two weeks we literally doubled the amount of fish we caught for almost the entire season. I don't know, I'm just saying...that was God to me.

Q. Why are you working as a commercial fisherman and would you do it again?

Jordi: You can work 4 months a year and make enough money for the rest of the year to do what you want. I've done this for 15 years and will keep continuing. I started on a tuna boat. You can work really hard for a couple months and take the rest of the year off, which is nice.

James: I worked there for the experience and the adventure. I did Ocean Challenge and didn't feel it was challenging enough. I grew up watching deadliest catch and always wanted to try doing it as a kid. And yeah, I think I would do it again. Definitely if you're a college student it's a sweet summer job.

Q. What do you do during break?

Jordi: It depends on how much time we have off. On land we go hiking, hunting, beach combing, have bonfires. On the boat we do whatever we want for break. One crew member would carve or whittle, another would write in a journal. I would look for animals on the mountain with binoculars then take the skiff to shore since it's close by and go hunt. In some areas the fishing

might close for a period and if it's supposed to open soon, like 12 hours, then we just wait in the area until it opens. If it's just a couple hours wait we might play cards.

James: *Laughs* What break? No, just kidding. Ultimately the captain was trying to get us to understand that anytime you are not doing your main responsibility there are a million and half things to do on the boat. The ideal fisherman is always busy. I would read work out, write and try to play guitar. You do have certain breaks when you are traveling from one fishing spot to another. These boats are pretty slow so if we have to go up the coast we would have a pretty good downtime. The captain doesn't get to have that luxury since they have to steer the boat. They might not have to do as much physical labor as the deckhands, but they probably get the least amount of sleep. When you're underway they don't take naps.

Q. Do you ever get seasick?

Jordi: I do get seasick, but not on the boat I was on.

James: So yeah, on the Stella [another commercial fishing boat], the first trip I thought I was going to die. After an hour I started to get the feeling and was like, "Uh oh, I know what this is". I made the mistake of not eating on the first day, and felt sooo sick. I took Dramamine, but didn't pre-dose enough. I was fine by the third trip, even though on the trip back the swells were really high. Then we had a week break and were on land. When I went back to work I lost my sea legs. I was fine by the time I started working on this boat.

Q. What is it like working with an all 2nd gen crew?

Jordi: Nice, everyone's well behaved. It's like a relief; you don't have to worry about people being an idiot. You can tell when people are listening and doing their best instead of not really trying. Those guys really wanted to learn and learn how to do things properly and stuff.

James: Really cool and providential. Spiritual juices were flowing. It's the first time in history and I'm really proud to be a part of that.

Q. What are things to expect if you want to work on a boat?

Jordi: Long hours, hard work. You gotta focus 100% of the time and pay as much attention as you can.

James: It's not a democracy; you have to have the mentality that you're always on duty even when in town. Our captain has one of the highest standards as a captain, but there are some that are really laid back so there's a wide spectrum.

Other than to expect to work long hours, always ask questions. If you're unsure, say something. The two simple ways to get hired are 1. You know somebody, 2. Just walking the dock. If you talk to a captain they might need someone to work, but before you commit ask about this captain around town and from other captains and find out what kind of reputation they have.

Come ready and willing to learn.

Practice your knots like your life depends on it.









Compiled by Naria Gaarder

Generation Peace Academy at Puerto Leda, March 2018



From March 1st to March 9th the Generation Peace Academy came to Puerto Leda in Paraguay to learn about its history and inherit the unchanging heart of a missionary. Project Leda started around the year 1999. After a 40-day workshop with True Parents in Olimpo, Paraguay, the Japanese National Messiahs were told to go to Leda, an immense area of land that True Parents purchased that is larger than New York City in the Chaco Region of Paraguay. The area Leda is in is extremely rural and under developed with little to no means of transportation. The missionaries were told to create an example of an ideal community with sustainable food development. They started with a barren land with a few dilapidated buildings and created a magnificent facility.



Arriving in 3 aluminum motor boats, the 17 GPA members and GPA mom, Rossio Olson, along with their Leda guide, Mr. Sano, stepped onto the shore after a 3-4 hour ride up the Paraguay River through the rain. After walking down the muddy roads to the dormitories the group were shown to their rooms with bunk beds and air conditioning (brothers in one room and sisters in another), and the showers. The air and climate in Paraguay is very hot and humid since it is summer time for them in March, with December-February being the hottest times of the year. The buildings that are the dormitories, lecture hall, showers, and dining hall are all beautiful, white walled buildings with tile roofs and surrounded by many trees and flowering shrubs.



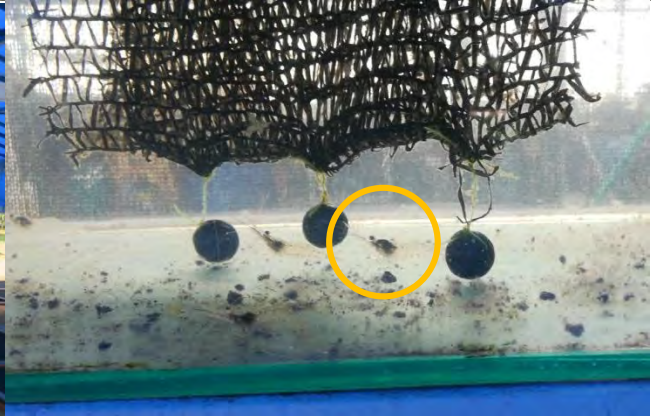
At Leda there are around a dozen Japanese National Messiahs working and maintaining the facility and its projects. All are over the age of 70 and are always keen on finding younger generations interested in helping and even living at Leda. While the GPA group was visiting there were three Japanese 2nd generation who are there for 3 months, one American 2nd generation from Virginia, and a 1st generation brother from North Carolina who was visiting Leda for the third time. There are also Paraguayan church members who come to help with projects and local natives who are hired to help with the many different jobs.



One of Leda's main goals is to become the main place where sustainable food resources are developed for the world. Through years of trial and error they have cultivated the land to raise taro potatoes, fish farms for raising pacu fish, raising cattle, pigs, and even beekeeping. The most recent project they are researching is raising large shrimp using the salt water naturally found underground.

Also, the assortment of wildlife and vegetation at Leda is immense, unique and exciting to observe.







The first full day was spent receiving an overview of the purpose of Leda and getting a tour of True Parents' house and most parts of the facility from the back of a pickup truck. The Japanese elders had prepared a full week schedule for the young GPA youth to try and test out several different activities. Day two was pacu netting and palm tree cutting. In the morning everyone trekked to one of the nearby fish ponds, were given life vests to wear, and were instructed to grab sections of a large net. Climbing down into the water the net was dragged through to the other end where the large, plate sized fish were collected then later gutted by the youth. In the afternoon there was palm tree cutting using an axe. The Japanese National Messiahs explained that before they could build anything they had to cut down the trees so everyone was challenged to cut down one tree each to experience what it was like pioneering the land. Our demonstrator made it look so easy...





Day 3: Travel to “Pig Land”. Far off in another part of the Leda property is the area where they raise free range pigs. Due to the rains the roads were muddy or flooded so we all took the small boats halfway there then walked the rest of the way, including wading through thigh deep water. At Pig Land there were all sorts of pigs of various colors and sizes, including tiny little piglets. We all had a chance to feed them corn kernels as they hungrily gathered around. One of the 2nd generation helpers working there captured a couple piglets for the GPA members to hold. Some of the brothers and sisters also attempted to capture a piglet of their own with Francis, the GPA group’s leader, who was able to capture a hefty young pig much bigger than a piglet.

After a walk back through flooded roads, a boat ride and taking showers, we all had the opportunity to ride horses. After each person had a turn, many jumped on again with more confidence and were even taking the horses for a run.





Day 4 and 5: Early in the morning we gathered into the small boats again and cruised up the river to the village of Esperensa to do a service project and spend the night. The village is one of several that the Leda group helps to support in the Chaco region through service projects, providing jobs at Leda and constructing school buildings in the villages. In Esperensa the houses and buildings are mostly made of wood so Leda built them a concrete school building many years ago next to the two story wooden school building they had. There is no running water and very little electricity in the village. When we arrived at the shore we were greeted by an entourage of excited children in their school uniforms. Going to their school they welcomed us with a song and we also sang them a song and taught them "You are my Sunshine". After introductions we were shown which classrooms we would be sleeping in then began cleaning and sanding the 2-story school building in preparations to paint it. This took all day and part of the next morning. We also got to experience playing with the village children, bathing in the river and using mosquito nets for sleeping. For our final farewell the GPA group performed dances, music and sang songs for the children and teachers.







During the last couple days the GPA group transplanted, harvested and washed taro potato roots and went fishing on the Paraguay River. They also learned part of the process for raising baby pacu fish as they sorted them by size from the fish farm ponds. On the day of departure the GPA group boarded the Aquidaban Ferry that comes by once a week to ferry passengers and goods to a town a day's travel south on the river where the group will then take a bus back to Asuncion. Traveling by ferry is another adventure in itself. Before leaving, the GPA youth gave a letter of gratitude to the Japanese elders, each expressing how grateful they were for the care they received and the amazing foundation that was created. The youth shared that they are truly inspired to inherit the elders' same faithful and unchanging heart to Heavenly Parent and True Parents because of their example and dedication at Leda.





A Visit to the Acuamundo Boat Factory, Paraguay, March 2018

Written by Naria Gaarder

Taking a rickety, wooden ferry boat across the Paraguay River from Asuncion, the capital city of Paraguay, our group of three arrived after the 20 minute boat ride at the dock of the Acuamundo boat making property. With Mr. Kitanaka in the lead with a bouquet of flowers, followed by Bhae-Jin Peemoeller from Virginia and myself, we walked down the dirt road to the metal building just ahead, noting the marshy land and trees in standing water.



Acuamundo, aka Hobby World and Kaiyo Heiwa, is a boat making company for Good Go boats and was started by Tateo Sato in Paraguay around 2005 at the instruction of True Parents. The company has an operation where designs and improvements are developed at the New Jersey office in the USA; the boats are made in Paraguay, and then shipped and sold to the Japanese market.

Walking into the building, we were greeted by some young men hard at work on one of the boats inside. A large, beautiful portrait of True Parents hung inside the warehouse, inviting their presence as they preside over the work being done. We marveled at the new additions to the design of the boats, such as bow and stern thrusters, and how wide and big the boats were. Shortly after, we met with Kenji Ezawa and Pedro Escobar who gave us a tour around the facility and explained about the progress of the boats and projects they are working on. They had just sent the 10th boat made to Japan and are now working on the 11th. They are also restoring older Good Go boats.





Working on fiberglass parts for the 11th boat.



Kenji explaining how high the water was when the area flooded along the river.



One of the boats that are currently being restored is the historic Good Go 304 that True Father used. Once the boat is finished the plan is to use it for youth activities in Paraguay to teach kids boating and fishing. The project is called "Pelican Boat Club". A Japanese brother created the idea for the club in Japan and is presently fundraising for this project. In October of 2017 there was a presentation for college students about the Pelican Boat Club in Paraguay.



Yoshika Inoue, a 2nd generation from Japan, is in charge of inventory and part supplies. She is 21 years old and has been working at Acuamundo S.A. for 2 and half years. There are a total of seven 2nd generations in their 20's working at Acuamundo who are from Japan and Paraguay, and have been working in Paraguay with Acuamundo between 1 and 3 years.

Kenji Ezawa is also a 2nd generation from Japan and has worked for Acuamundo/Hobby World for about 5 years.

Acuamundo also has employees outside of the Unification movement from Paraguay. Kenji explained that Oscar is the best at repairing gel coat damage on the boats and learned to do this over the years he has worked at Acuamundo. All the employees at Acuamundo work 6 days a week, and sometimes on their day off if there is work that still needs to be done.



Oscar patching some gel coat damage.



Pictured above from the left: Kenji Ezawa, Pedro Escobar, Bhae-Jin Peemoeller, Naria Gaarder, Yoshika Inoue, and Thomas Kitanaka.



Recently, Acuamundo created a 16' and 18' Good Go for the Paraguay market. The designs of both boats were created by True Father. Because the hull of the larger Good Gos are designed with deeper keels for the ocean they are not the best fit for Paraguay's rivers, but these smaller boats are very ideal.



Pictured are some of the workers at Aucamundo S.A.

From the Left: Mayumi Kawase, Takahiro Kotouge, Atsushi Seki, Oscar, Kenji Ezawa, Hiroyoshi Naruse, Yasushi Kawakubo (front), Hidenari Ichihara (back), Pedro Escobar, and Hisashi Tamori.

After saying our farewells, Kenji drove us to the nearby cemetery. Just only 40 days prior an elder Japanese member of the church, Kazuto Yamasaka, passed away on January 31st from heart complications. The flower bouquet Mr. Kitanaka had brought was for him since it was the 40th day after his ascension. Mr. Yamasaka had worked at Aucamundo for 4 years building boats and wanted to be buried in Paraguay. Unification members who work at Aucamundo and Leda both helped to create a Korean style burial mound for him.



Also buried in the cemetery beside Mr. Yamasaka is another church member, Victor Josiah Sobers, who ascended in February of 2013. He was an old Ocean Church member and also worked at Acumundo.

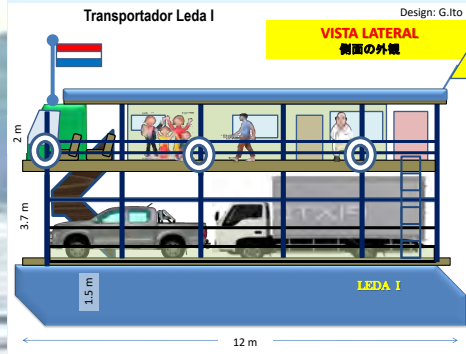


After paying our respects Kenji took us down to the area where the wooden ferries launch so we could get back to Asuncion. We quickly said our good-byes and thank you, then leaped onto the ferry that was just about to leave and waved to Kenji as he sent us off.



Leda's 2018 Special Campaign to buy a Boat

Let's Build the Boat Together!



Loading car Capacity	4 Sedans or, 2 Trucks
Guest Capacity	12 people
Guest Room	4 people/room, 3 rooms
Toilet	2 rooms
Bath room	1 bath

The Leda Settlement is looking forward to making rapid progress in 2018 and achieving noteworthy accomplishments. While we move forward, it is important to reflect that it is 18 years since we received the sacred mission from True Parents to defend to the death the Leda area as it is "the protection place of God's Kingdom of Heaven." Over the years many have invested their heart and soul into fulfilling this special mission and have made a foundation for the current and anticipated advances.

Today at the Leda Settlement you can see the great advances made in agriculture, fish farming and in creating a model of sustainable development. Additionally, the community has actively served the indigenous people in various ways while taking on challenges that will improve the environment and serve in eradicating hunger.

The remoteness of the Leda Settlement has been an advantage in keeping its environment pristine but for it to progress as a global model it needs to be more directly connected to metropolitan areas. The key means of transportation in the Pantanal wetlands zone is by boat. Currently, only slow and limited boat service is available and is not adequate. A purchase of a new ferry boat for the transportation of food and passengers is essential for the settlements successful development.

While Japan has taken responsibility for the construction of a Leda Hotel those in North America have be asked to take responsibility for purchasing a boat. To help secure the victory of the Leda providence, which is the final settlement of the ocean providence, we hope that you will give a maximum gift to Heaven from North America. In line with this, we are heartily asking for your cooperation. Let's make God's dwelling place, Leda, a land of hope for many people as we advance toward building a peaceful ideal world. (We hope TM names the boat)

Goal: \$500,000 Suggested donation is \$1,000 or more per family.
Donors' names will be engraved on a commemorative plaque on the boat in gratitude for your important support.

Schedule : July 2018 start of boat construction; completion January 2020

FERRYBOAT COST		US\$
Boat size	14m x 8m	\$240,000
Engine	350HP x 2	\$150,000
Technical & Design Fee		\$40,000
Tax & etc.		\$70,000
TOTAL		\$500,000

Contact: Y. Takahashi
 Email: ytaka10591@hotmail.com

Please write your check **payable to HSA-UWC** and send to:

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If you would like to pay by credit card, please visit **www.ledaproject.com** and click "DONATION".

(Provide Receipt for Tax Exempt)

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