



UPDATE

from the SHANEYFELTS

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Spring/Summer 2019

Field Systems

In the early 1960s Cameron Townsend, a founder of SIL and Wycliffe and the founder of JAARS, brought the Jungle Aviation And Radio Service (JAARS) center from its beginnings in Peru to North Carolina. Radios required power; often gas or diesel powered generators could be used. Bible translators would periodically check-in from remote areas using radios. In time, new technology brought computers that started out large. The trend of computers getting smaller and more powerful continues today. Solar power technology has been advancing. Solar panels for power systems also are trending in positive directions for price, availability, and capability. The Radio folks at JAARS became the “Wireless” group and the technology trends continued.

As battery technology has been trending in positive directions, the Power Systems team grew out of the Wireless group. Computers became laptops, net-books, tablets, and phones that compute and communicate. The lithium-ion technology has advanced. The radio communication has largely become support for legacy equipment that continues to function in the field as new technology makes internet communication in remote locations possible in many countries. As with power systems, communications is advancing around the world, especially around cities.

The lines between power and communication are blurring into integrated concrete support for Bible translation in the remotest field locations around the world. The Field Systems group consists of the Communications Team and The Power Systems team. Here is where we ministered in 2018 -- the Power Systems Team and our supporters:





Half-Pint
OR
Villager III

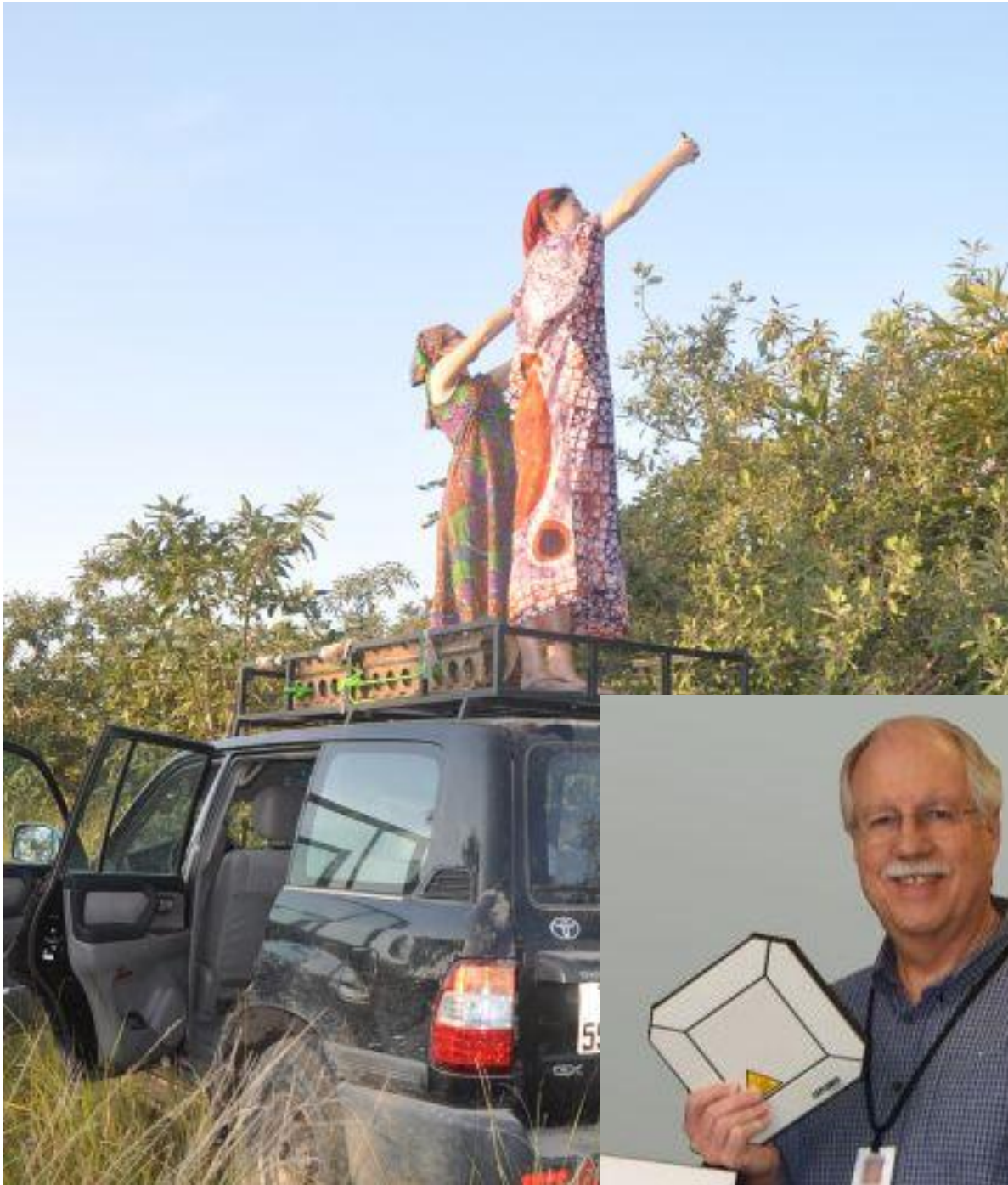


Andrea Comes Back for More Field Support

When we consult with Bible translators, we usually use email, but sometimes they show up at the JAARS Center in person. In July, Andrea was getting some help on deciding whether a Half-Pint or a Villager III system would be more appropriate for someone in her Bible translation project. As we talked with Andrea, she described a picture of herself trying to get a cell phone signal while standing on her vehicle. She went on to say that she drove ten kilometers (six miles) to have the opportunity to climb up and get that cell phone signal. That was when she first was able to use a cell phone. As time went on, the cell phone provider apparently oversold its bandwidth and the customers on the fringes (like those where Andrea ministers) have to drive 60 kilometers (36 miles) to get a cell phone signal. Fortunately, Andrea got help from the JAARS Center and is set up with a Broadband Global Area Network (BGAN) terminal so that she can communicate directly over the Internet via satellite.

In another case innovative Bible translators “in a pinch” put their cell phone in a bucket and hoisted it up with a rope like a flag on a flag pole. After keeping the bucket up in the air momentarily, the cell phone has a chance to send and receive text messages. Range extenders can sometimes be a low cost help for people on the fringes, but at other times, the more expensive BGAN solution is needed.

This may seem weird, but it is reality for many Bible translators in some of the remotest of places in the world.



Bible Translator, Andrea, Drove Six Miles for a Cell Phone Signal Before the Field Systems Group Helped Her Get a BGAN Terminal.
Inset: BGAN held by Galen

Family Matters

Jon and Carol had an opportunity to help with Missions at the Airport event at the end of March. Missions at the Airport brings a little sample of the JAARS ministry to various locations around the country. The team of JAARS personnel often consists of people in aviation, land transportation, technology, and members of the public relations departments. We joined the team for the day at the end of March and talked about the technology needed for Bible translation. At the end of the day, we rode back to JAARS in the helicopter. This was a twenty-minute ride, as opposed to the hour-and-a-half trip in the SUV that morning.



Praise:

The Power Systems team helped the translator in Solomon Islands who needed a Villager III portable power system for his computer and another Villager III power system for his projector. The long-life systems were augmented with converters and connectors for efficiency.

Prayer:

Pray as the Power Systems team works with translators in Cameroon and Papua New Guinea.

Your partners in Christ,

The Shaneyfelts

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For partnership through Wycliffe Bible Translators

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www.wycliffe.org

(Checks should be made payable to Wycliffe Bible Translators with a separate note stating: "Preference for the Wycliffe ministry of Jon & Carol Shaneyfelt")

For partnership through Lutheran Bible Translators

P.O. Box 789
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www.lbt.org/give

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**Lutheran Bible
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Faith *cometh* by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. Romans 10:17