



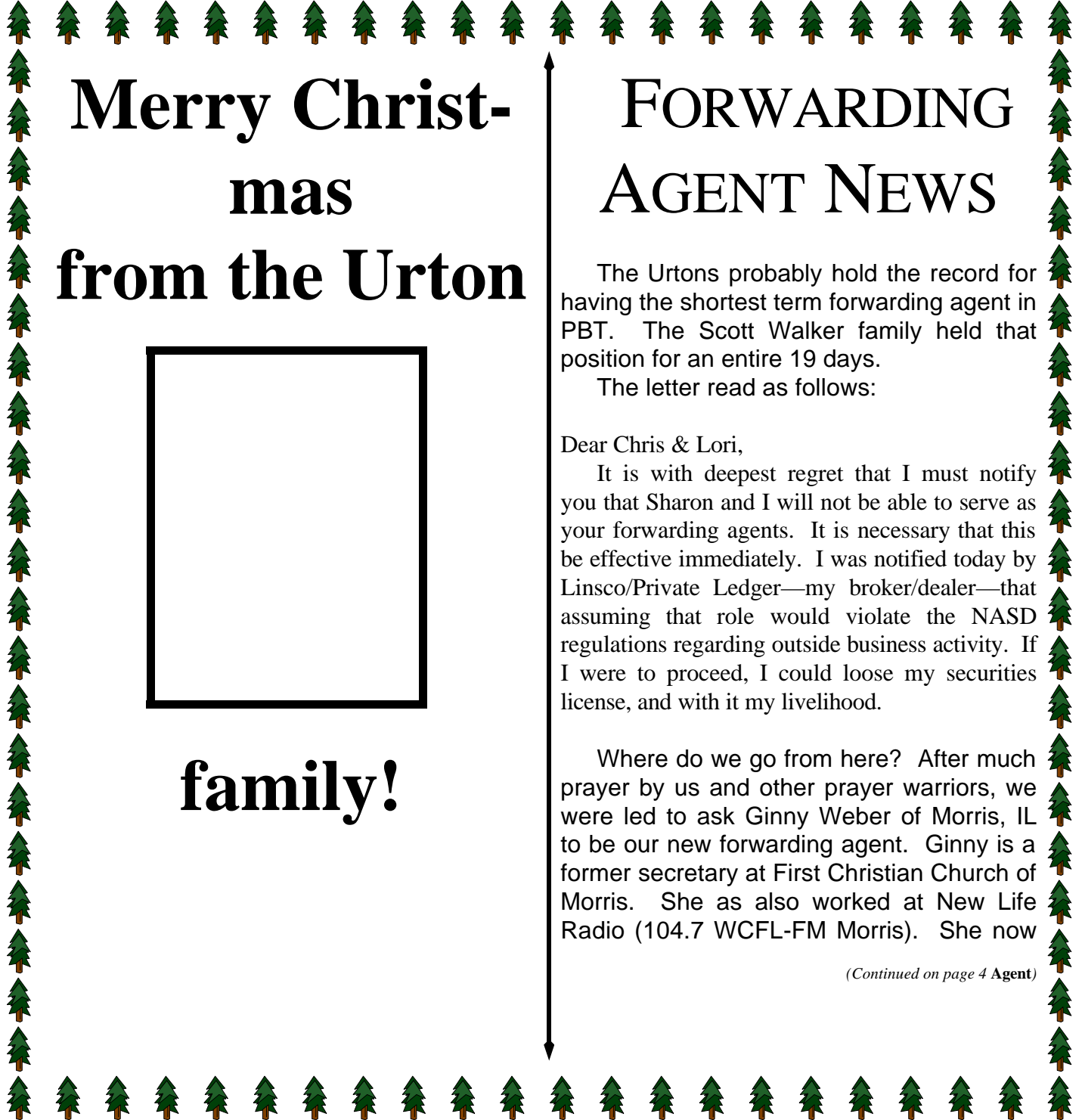
Urtons' Utterings



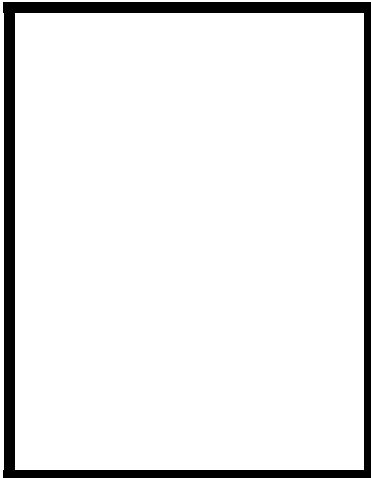
December 1997

Chris, Lori, Stephanie & Ryne

Volume 3 Issue 4



Merry Christmas from the Urton



family!

FORWARDING AGENT NEWS

The Urtons probably hold the record for having the shortest term forwarding agent in PBT. The Scott Walker family held that position for an entire 19 days.

The letter read as follows:

Dear Chris & Lori,

It is with deepest regret that I must notify you that Sharon and I will not be able to serve as your forwarding agents. It is necessary that this be effective immediately. I was notified today by Linsco/Private Ledger—my broker/dealer—that assuming that role would violate the NASD regulations regarding outside business activity. If I were to proceed, I could lose my securities license, and with it my livelihood.

Where do we go from here? After much prayer by us and other prayer warriors, we were led to ask Ginny Weber of Morris, IL to be our new forwarding agent. Ginny is a former secretary at First Christian Church of Morris. She has also worked at New Life Radio (104.7 WCFL-FM Morris). She now

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Stuff About Steph

Stephanie made the girls basketball team at Lincoln Community High School! She is now a Lady Railer! They won their first basketball game. Steph also made the honor roll for the first nine week grading period. She was very proud of that! So were we. Stephanie received her driving permit October 24th. She really doesn't like to drive. She says that it is a lot of work. Steph does pretty good except for

turning corners. We were in Dallas the day that they learned corners in behind the wheel. We told her that she is doing pretty good for never having been behind a steering wheel before. Stephanie is looking forward to Christmas as well as the 4th of January. This is the big birthday-16! It hardly seems possible that our little girl is turning into a young lady. Stephanie is having fun going to the boys basketball games and

the dances afterward. She usually spends Friday night with friends. Stephanie keeps hoping for some snow before we move.



Ramblings About Ryne

Ryne also made the honor roll for the first nine week grading period. He seems to be having a little problem this nine weeks with turning in his assignments. He has been having a lot of homework as a result. He also loses his recesses until he has his past due work done. I tell him to get his "thinking cap" on! Ryne really likes to play the trumpet. He is doing pretty good with it. The 5th grade band will perform in the Christmas program Dec. 8th. He is looking forward to that. Ryne is also looking forward to Christmas. He is looking forward to spending time with his cousins. Ryne likes to back seat drive while Stephanie is driving. He tells her to "floor it" and to "peel out" at stop signs. I can't wait to see what kind of driver he is going to turn out to be! Ryne also is looking forward to snow. I hope that we get at least a little bit before we go. We know that there isn't much snow in Papua New Guinea.



Good Talk

by John Relyea

NOKAM IS A TALKATIVE PERSON. The Aruamu phrase *mögeir amizim* (talking woman) describes her well. Whenever I come up to her clan's hamlet, I can count on Nokam talking loudly in Aruamu faster than most people can think. Engaging and full of conversation, that's Nokam.

I happened to come up to Savaber, the hamlet where she lives, late one afternoon. The men had all gone pig hunting, which meant only the women, children, and a few dogs were in her hamlet. I was walking by her house expecting the usual surround-sound experience, but there was nothing-not even a greeting. She was sitting on the ground with her back to me, next to a pot of boiling yams that would be her family's supper. I saw her shoulders move as though she were mourning. Why the emotion? Had someone died? Quietly, I moved closer.

Hesitantly, almost painfully, she was making sounds.

*"Kö-O! Ka kö!
Akaaarr ag- aguim.
Ai! Ka kar aguim.
Ni-nigha.
Ka nigha!
Ia bagha
Ee- ka ia bagha
Izi- Aah! Kai izi!*

*Oh! that's "I"!
"Taaalk good-good talk".
Hoh! Hey! That's 'good talk'! Whoa!
'Get'.
That means 'get'!
'For you'.
Ooo- that's 'for you'.
'Come'- Aah! That's 'come'!"*




Nokam was holding in her hand a copy of the Aruamu Christmas story and was sounding out the verse in Luke 2 where the angel says, "I come and bring good news to you. "She was full of "oohs" and "aahs" as she slowly worked her way through the text, amazed to hear herself reading the Bible story.

Several times she gasped suddenly as she took in a new word or idea. What I thought was the emotion of someone mourning was instead the trembling of a village mother reading the Christmas story in her own language. She was overcome as she heard herself read out loud and understood the story. God's Word had taken her breath away.

I stood there watching Nokam for about ten minutes. When she finally noticed me, she laughed and started chatting in my direction again. I had been feeling flat since it was Christmas time and I was away from my stateside family. In addition, earlier that day I had found out that the only road into our village had been cut in two places by flash floods, and I was concerned about how we would get out of the village. Now, however, I was feeling much better since I had seen Nokam meeting the Lord through the pages of his Word in her heart's language! This is why we came to PNG! Sometimes when you really need it, God sends a present wrapped up in a noisy, little bundle like Nokam. By the way, when was the last time that, with sheer delight, God's Word took your breath away?

**"This is the one I esteem, he who...trembles at my Word."
Isaiah 66:2**

Partnership

We are thankful for those who have responded and become financial partners with us. We also are thankful for those who have agreed to be prayer partners  with us because we know that prayer is a vital part of our ministry. It is not too late for you to become partners with us. You may send one-time gifts or become monthly, quarterly or semi-annual partners with us. Please send your gifts to:

PIONEER BIBLE TRANSLATORS
PO BOX 366
LINCOLN, IL 62656-0366

Checks should be made payable to **PIONEER BIBLE TRANSLATORS**. Our name must not appear on the check, but please include a note with the check with our name on it. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us at (217) 732-7177. We will be more than willing to answer any questions that you might have about our ministry. All gifts are tax-deductible and you will receive a receipt for your income tax purposes.

Prayer Matters



Praises:

- ✦ We received Chris's Approved Position Number from the Papua New Guinea Department of Labor
- ✦ Our van was healed!
- ✦ Stephanie is doing better in school
- ✦ Papua New Guinea has had some rain to relieve the drought some

Prayer Concerns:

- ✦ Having to say all of our good-byes
- ✦ Pray for the staff & participants of the Pacific Orientation Course (jungle camp)
- ✦ Getting Ginny all trained in her responsibilities before we leave
- ✦ Quick approval of our visa applications

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is self employed, working at "The Office Upstairs."

Ginny has been married to Paul for 26 years. Paul has been an elder at First Christian Church of Morris and works at Commonwealth Edison - Lasalle Station. The Webers have two grown sons, Brian and Doug.

We believe, as does Ginny, that God has led us in this direction. Please pray for us and for