

Mark & Lois Clark JAARS



Mark and I work with the CAM (Construction and Maintenance Department) team here at the JAARS Headquarters in NC. After 23 years of owning and operating a machine shop business God called us into missions as our second career. Mark was raised in a small hamlet in Lancaster, PA into a farming family and was very happy to stay there for the rest of his life. Lancaster is a beautiful place to live and work. When our three boys were young we went to Ecuador on a short mission trip. There God opened our eyes to the need for people with our skills to assist in missions. We came home with a new commitment to serve on whatever short term trip God gave us opportunity to assist with.

Wycliffe Bible Translators had an office in Lancaster County not far from our home. So, Mark went on to volunteer his time to do what he could. Through the course of that meeting Mark was told about the need for people like him to support the translators and that we might want to check out the JAARS center in North Carolina. Mark had never heard of JAARS and I thought that JAARS was just for pilots. We had no idea what we would be getting into when we arrived at the center. Or should I say when we left the center.

Several months later we were accepted as members of Wycliffe Bible Translators and were later assigned to work at the JAARS Center. Mark has many responsibilities here at our center, some of which are: general maintenance, plumbing, carpentry and the oversight of our water department which is regulated by the state of North Carolina. I am in charge of the care of the 588 acres of land where approximately 600 people work. Our facility is also a training center where we house those being trained or those that are here to volunteer for short term mission trips. Some missionaries are here on furlough from foreign fields.