

CHIA NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER, 2011

It's been a while since the newsletter went out to all of you due to a significant change in the ministry. Late in the spring it was decided to move the main office from Dallas back to El Paso. As the violence situation in Mexico has had a definite impact on all ministries, including our own, having the office "closer to the action" should make ministry decisions for that country a little easier. Please pray for all of the El Paso CHIA Team as we forge ahead in the work of spreading the Gospel to the lost.

CHIA will continue working with Engage Hope Ministry out of Dallas. Steve McCool, their director, has been on CHIA's board and is currently heading up a vigorous ministry to Africa and Central America. CHIA will be providing a significant amount of medical/dental/optometric back up for many of their missions. By working together many ministries can have results that exceed what each could do separately. We are very enthusiastic about this relationship and what the future holds for its work for His Kingdom.

PALOMAS

This past weekend CHIA took a small team to Palomas, a community 60 miles west of El Paso, to do a medical/dental mission at the Nazarene church there. Pastor David Roberto has been doing a wonderful work over the last five years and has built the attendance on Sundays to over 80 adults and 150 children in Sunday School. Along with this, he has begun two missions 15-20 miles south of Palomas at Victoria and Modelo where 35 and 50 adults respectively attend worship services. We saw 70 patients during the one day mission, a number which reflects a drop in Palomas' population from 7000 to 4000 over the last three years. Pastor David is making a tremendous impact on that community, a fact that is reflected by the drug runners' efforts to shut down Christian evangelism in the town. Pray for safety for David and his family as they stand up to evil and witness for Christ.

The church/apartment that was built by the Denver First Nazarene Church--with some help from CHIA--still needs some finishing work such as painting, tiling, etc. If any of you are interested in putting together a team, small or large, to help in this effort, please contact me at 915-526-0734. Palomas has not had any violence in the last three months, so I am comfortable with taking a team there.

Our next medical/dental mission to Palomas is January 14, 2012.



JUAREZ/VILLA AHUMADA

The violence situation, especially in Juarez, makes setting teams for these communities a little more problematic. Missionaries from OK and KS have been coming down and serving without problems, and so far the violence has not been directed at innocent foreigners.

Jorge Padilla, a pastor in Juarez whom we've supported for many years, very much wants to get his new church going on land they've had for years. I would have no problem setting up a construction mission to work on the church, though I think I would have the team stay in El Paso and commute to the work site daily.

One way CHIA has helped Jorge was by making arrangements for his wife to have her gallbladder removed a couple of months ago. The US government would not allow her to come to the US for care, so I arranged to take her to Chihuahua where Dr. Alderette and I removed the gallbladder at a hospital Dr. Alderette owns. We were able to get the whole procedure done for a cost of about \$900.00 including transportation and meals. As someone who does a fair amount of surgery in the US, I have to admit it was quite an experience. Preventing what could have been a fatal problem for a mother of two and associate pastor of their church, certainly was rewarding for all who were involved in the "mission."

Villa Ahumada is a town 60 miles south of Juarez. Two churches there have received support from CHIA over the years and could use teams doing medical/dental and construction work. The violence situation there has subsided some and would not prevent my taking teams to do mission work. Travel to and from Villa Ahumada is via the main road from Juarez to Chihuahua and doesn't involve any side roads which could be riskier.

ACAPULCO

Acapulco is another work site that has been put on hold for the last year. While violence continues in that city, I have not heard of any tourist or missionary casualties. The local Christians are very much desirous of our returning to their city with teams, and I feel it is worth reestablishing the work there at some time in the future when security issues have been settled.

NICARAGUA

We have had a number of missions to southeastern Nicaragua to the town of San Carlos and down the San Juan River. All of the members of the teams fell in love with the Nicaraguan people and many have been pushing to return there. We have worked closely with the First Church of the Nazarene of Denver, CO and will be doing so again. Gene Rakes of Denver will be coordinating the construction part of the mission, and First Church is subsidizing the materials to be used in the construction of a church. CHIA will

be putting together the medical team. This is an exciting mission to a very remote part of the world that has a vibrant Christian community. Those who are interested in this mission should contact me ASAP as spaces will have to be limited due to transportation concerns.

PERUVEAN AMAZON

We want to repeat the “Cruisin’ The Amazon for Jesus” mission we did six years ago. The cost will be close to \$4000/00 per person, and we need 32 participants to be able to rent the boat. A time line of late summer or early fall 2012 is projected, but I need to know if there will be enough individuals who are ready to go. Transportation deposits for this mission are significant and cannot be made until we know we have 32 people. We will be working with Engage Hope Ministry on this trip.

UGANDA

We are planning to return to Namirize in Uganda next July. This trip is sponsored by Engage Hope, and CHIA will be in charge of the medical part. This past June we did this trip, and it was unbelievably successful. Steve McCool did a superb job organizing and running the trip in the field. There were two hundred decisions for Christ and thirty were baptized in a closing service. Applications and more information about this mission can be obtained from either CHIA, or Engage Hope.





NOTES FROM KITCHEN

How many times have we said, “I am going to retire—one of these days?” Well, I said that and God changed my mind; so, I am back at Dr. John’s office doing meds again: you never retire from God’s work. I am so glad to be back, even if it is in the kitchen. I have a smaller space in which to work, but I get it done; the reward is far greater when you see the people’s faces and their smiles as they get medicines for their problems. We take for granted here in the USA where everything is available for our aches and pains; but, it’s not so in other places in the world. What a joy to work with John and Sue and to be part of CHIA.

So, Bonnie B. is back in the kitchen doing God’s work. Thanks to all who donate medications, bottles, shampoo, lotion, etc. What a blessing to work with you all.
Bonnie B.

NOTES FROM THE DENTAL CHAIR

In the last mission trip to Palomas, Chih, we had the blessing to count with Dr Claudia Paz from Cd. Juarez, she is been working with us for a couple of years now; and she has the Heart and the Will to GO and help those who need dental work in this community. No one likes go to the dentist, but you can HELP the dentist in next mission trip, and have the blessing to see people smile after been in my chair. My name is MINERVA CONDE-SORIANO, or you can call me MINNIE HA-HA as John does; come, have fun, and be blessed by joining us in a mission.

SUSIE'S CORNER

What a blessing for our group of eleven to go to Palomas, Mexico on Saturday October 29 for a medical/dental mission. Lots of smiling faces greeted us; we had not been there since June of this year due to the violence problem in Mexico.

Our trip was uneventful; we saw 65-70 medical and dental patients. And, as always, the Mardi Gras beads were a huge success as men, women, and children picked out their favorite color. Our 'Dios le bendiga' (God Bless you) was always received with a smile and a 'muchas gracias a usted.'

We are now planning our next mission for January 14, 2012 and we will try to add a construction team to lay tile on the church floor. Please contact CHIA if you are interested in joining us on this trip.

As always, we go to be a blessing and come home having been blessed.
Sue Sherman

MISSION SCHEDULE

January 14, 2012 Medical/dental Palomas. Cost \$50.00
March 9-18, 2012 Medical/dental/construction Nicaragua. Cost \$2000.00
July 2012 Medical/evangelical/construction Uganda with Engage Hope Ministry
2012 exact date to be determined Amazon

CONCLUSION

The new CHIA board has been chosen and will have its first meeting November 15 at the home of Dr. & Mrs. Sherman; Susie will host another of her famous pot luck dinners to welcome the new board members and their spouses. Join us in praying for Divine guidance of the Board as they begin their task of guiding the ministry in its work.

Don't forget, there will be the annual CHIA Christmas party at the Sherman home
December 9, 6:00pm; please RSVP and plan to bring a "white elephant gift."

May each of you have a blessed Christmas and wonderful New Year of service to
our Lord.

John M Sherman MD
Director