



Worldwide Heart to Heart Ministries



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Children's Village, Tegucigalpa, Honduras
Oscar & Amy Serrano, Honduras National Directors

NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2012

90s in Honduras!

Happy Easter to you all! Summer has come once again. Many of you are still dealing with snow. In Honduras we are hitting the low 90s almost every day! The beaches are starting to fill with families carrying handfuls of coolers and floaties. A summer feeling is in the air! This is also the most amazing time of the year for fruit, and Honduras has lots to offer!

Spring Break Plans

The kids are already asking, "What's the plan for spring break?" that will be coming up this month. Usually it means trips to the beaches and rivers, as well as to our local water park. For the moment they are very occupied with all of the events and activities they currently have.

Village Activities

At the Village the kids receive daily English and tutoring classes. They also receive classes in computer and craft/sewing for the girls or wood shop for the boys.

Many of you may have noticed a pleasant surprise in the recent past weeks—the kids are communicating via the Internet with their sponsors! This has been an absolute miracle. My girls, who are now in the States, have said how neat it is to talk to the other kids. We know how important it is for sponsors to make contact with kids

Village Report

by Amy Serrano
Honduras
National Director



that they love so much. This has been such a blessing for the kids and the sponsors.

A very special thanks to Gary and Ashley Kwasney, our live-at-the-Village teachers, for such a great job and sacrifice to make the Internet communication happen. In addition, the Kwasneys do Bible study and games with the children on week nights—all the kids comment on how much they enjoy it!

Water Baptisms

We are proud to say that three more of the kids

raised at the Village, Lesley, Nelson, and Francisco, have decided to give their lives to Jesus and make the public confession of water baptism.

We celebrate our baptisms at a local river property owned by a friend of the ministry. The entire church attends, bringing their lunches that are eventually shared with everyone. Baptisms then turn into all-day swimming/soccer events. It was a beautiful way to share in the confession of faith.

Summer English Immersion Program

We currently have passports for four of the five kids that will be traveling to the U.S. with our Summer English Immersion Program this summer. Wendy, Marisol, Suyapa, and Lesley are all set with their documents. We are still working on the passport for Olga—please pray that all goes well.

The kids are set to spend the summer with their sponsors in the States from June 16th through the middle of August. The focus of the program is for the kids to be able to experience American culture, as well as to improve their mastery of English. The kids are able to meet many people that have prayed, supported, and visited

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Francisco, Lesley, and Nelson (with Pastor Oscar presiding) from the Village are baptized in a ceremony celebrated by the entire church!



Village Report

(continued from page 1)

them on mission trips throughout the years. The trips to the U.S. help the kids to understand an outsider's point of view when they visit Honduras. Kids who have been part of the English immersion program in the past have expressed their amazement of how different it is to know someone when they come to Honduras and then to meet them on their own "turf" in the U.S. The kids have responded very positively to their visits to the U.S.

Father's Day

Father's Day in Honduras was celebrated on March 19th. The teen girls who live with us in Puerto Cortes made Oscar a cake and gave him a present very dear to his heart: a shirt from the Barcelona soccer team! Oscar was showered with cards and letters from all of the kids at the Children's Village in Tegucigalpa, which he and I agree are worth their weight in gold!

Needing a Father

In celebrating such a special day, we are reminded of one of our greatest

human needs—a father. When we have one, we don't really understand that we need one. Only when we come face to face with the lack of a father, do we appreciate the need that we all have for a Father. The kids are living proof of the devastation that being fatherless brings.

One of the things that I love the most about this ministry is that God has taken His special position in the lives of these kids, showing them their need for Father God and His ability to provide. You can see something special in the kids, that while they love their mommies, they yearn for the love of a father—something that "Tio" Oscar and the other men God has called to be fathers to the kids, are more than happy to do.

March Letter Writing / Maintenance Team

We are very excited about the team that will be coming down to Honduras the end of March. WWH2H's Rick and Kim Stephens head up a team that will be working with the kids on letter writing and

taking care of small projects at the Village, working on the new Teen Boys' home and new school in Puerto Cortes, as well as working on security projects throughout the ministry.

Many, Many, Many Thanks!

We again want to thank all of you that love and support this ministry. Your investment in the lives of these kids is priceless and will yield a harvest bigger than any of us can ever imagine. I pray that the Lord blesses you all, and that this coming season of celebrating the Lord's resurrection helps us to remember what it means to have no power to save ourselves. We need to remember that Father God had to reach down into our helplessness and rescue us. When we truly understand this, we are compelled to do the same for others when we can. Each of you that has given so that others can live, have been partakers in this amazing spirit of grace. May the grace and love of the risen Lord fill your hearts and lives with joy, compassion and grace each day. Happy Easter! —Amy

Thank you to each one of you who connected personally with your child in 2011. Last year, there were over 1,000 letters sent between sponsors and their children. For the children, these letters are not only cherished but the words of encouragement and sense of family are life changing. For the sponsor, the blessing that comes from caring for and loving an orphaned child is far reaching.

When is the right time to send a letter? The answer is always NOW! It takes a few weeks to get letters ready to go with a team so the sooner the better.

In 2011, we received 122 hand-picked gifts for our children's

Correspondence & Gift Giving

by Lisa Closer
WWH2H Vice President

birthdays and Christmas. Imagine the joy children experience from opening gifts that were thoughtfully chosen by someone who loves them. If you would like to send a birthday present to your child, email Lisa at LisaC@wwh2h.org for his/her birthday information.

For more detailed information on sending letters and gifts, please go to wwh2h.org and click "Get Involved," or email me.

As mailing and shipping are inconsistent in Honduras, our mission teams transport these items to Honduras for us.

Deadlines for letters and gifts: are May 15, September 1, and October 15!





Happy Easter to all of you from my little corner of the world in Carson, WA, on this third day of Spring, where someone forgot to tell the weather man that two inches of snow on the ground is not exactly the encouragement my tulips and daffodils were hoping for as they try their best to bloom!

Celebrating Easter

Our greatest joy is Easter as we celebrate once again our risen Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ! Because of this day, we are restored to relationship with God. Because of this day, all of us are blessed to be helping in the rescuing and restoration of the lives of His Kids in Honduras. And because of this day, God is orchestrating a beautiful symphony there to care for these little ones.

We are rejoicing with three of our children, Lesley, Nelson, and Francisco, who have chosen to become one with God, asking Him into their hearts and being baptized. Praise God!!!

Work progresses quickly on the new school building and Teen Boys' House in Puerto Cortes.

From the President's Desk

by Mary Frenter



Construction Projects

The new school and new Teen Boys' Home construction projects are going amazingly fast. Plans are in the works for a container to take needed supplies to Honduras this summer for the Village and the new school. God is blessing and blessing, so we may be able to open our school sooner than the projected September 2013 date. We will see what He has in mind over the next few months.

Prayers Always Requested

Please continue to keep all these things in your prayers for our Kids. God bless you and thank you for all you do for this work. —Mary

WANTED: Teachers!

As we plan for the opening of our new school, we are looking for teachers who are interested in volunteering for a minimum of 1-2 years in Honduras. They must have a current U.S. teaching certificate. Teachers will need to raise their own support funding.



WANTED: Classroom Sponsors!

We are looking for schools, churches, organizations, and individuals to sponsor classrooms in our new English Immersion School. Each would raise the funds and/or provide equipment and furniture to outfit a classroom. A plaque with the name of the Classroom Sponsor will be displayed on the classroom door.

WANTED: You! Please contact Mary Frenter at maryf@wwh2h.org

or 509-427-8585 if God is urging You to become part of this great challenge He has put before us for His Kids in Honduras.





So, what's been happening in my class the last few weeks? We have flown our pretend jet from Peru to England where we had tea and scones with Queen Elizabeth, then on to the Netherlands where we sampled cheese and chocolate and learned how the Dutch created land from the sea by building dykes. After that we flew to Italy where we tasted pizza—yum—and tried to imagine what it would be like to ride in a gondola through the streets of Venice. Next we headed to Israel where we walked where Jesus had walked and tasted olives and a cookie that Gary concocted for us which turned out quite nicely. This week, we have safely landed in Kenya where we hope to take a safari and taste some of the local cuisine.

All our travels have been made possible by technology—specifically, the Internet and these wonderful computers—and Gary's expertise at connecting us to the world. Through the Internet, the kids have soared through the Andes and the Alps, they have seen animals they may never see in real life, they have walked the streets of ancient and modern cities, they have experienced the cold and the heat of different climates, they have listened to music of all the nations we have visited, and they have met people from many



Pastor Ashley and Gary Kwasney have moved lock, stock, and barrel to volunteer for WWH2H at the new school. Here is an update on progress at the school.

ethnic backgrounds. More importantly, our travels have awakened in these kids a hunger to see and know more of the world around them. Every week they are excited to find out where we will go next. We are only supposed to study 10 countries this year, but I think I may have

to extend our weekly travels through the end of the year. I love traveling with the kids!

Our reading groups are coming along nicely. We have experienced some bumps and hiccups along the road to literacy but that is to be expected. Several children will not graduate to the next level because they have serious and undiagnosed learning disabilities. It is hard to get the proper care here in Honduras that we take for granted in the U.S. I am simply not qualified to understand all the problems these children have as a result of their personal histories before coming to live at the Village. But God knows each and every one by name, and He has a unique plan for their lives that far exceeds anything I can possibly imagine for them. All of us who work with these children can only do our best to give them the tools they need to bloom and flourish wherever God chooses to plant them. —Ashley

Gary's Two Cents:

We are progressing with our projects in shop class. The boys have started putting together wooden puzzles with millions of pieces. They are representations of famous buildings all over the world—the White House, Eiffel Tower, etc. It has been fun helping them but a little frustrating when they punch out all their pieces first. Then it becomes a long process trying to find one piece when all the pieces look exactly alike and only vary slightly. And yes, I told them all to only punch out the pieces they needed, so that it would be easier to construct. Most listened, however, I spent Saturday afternoon helping several who did not. It's like finding a needle in a haystack. But we are enjoying the process together. Most are even helping me clean up after class. That is an improvement in their behavior.

I posted a computer room schedule on the outside of the door so the kids would know when they have classes and when the computer room would be open for homework. However, it has already become obsolete as the public school gives more and more useless "look-up-stuff-on-the-computer-and-copy" homework. I now spend all morning in the computer room helping students get their homework done and printed. Some are learning to follow my rules while I still have to keep a close eye on several others. When you have 56 kids, it takes time to train them all. But we are making progress.

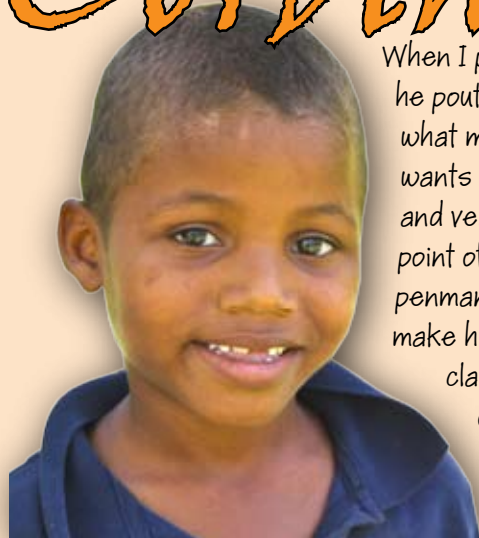
Skyping on Mondays is going great. A little hectic still and for those of you who were canceled for various reasons, please try to understand we only have minimal control. Life gets in the way sometimes. So, keep trying. We will get you connected to the kids eventually. If you want to Skype with the kids please contact Lisa Closner at lisa.closner@gmail.com and she will give you a time slot on Monday nights. —Gary



SPOTLIGHT ON:

by Ashley
Kwasney

Corbin



This month, I want to tell you about Corbin. I don't know all of his history, but he does have several siblings here at the Village. Corbin is seven years old and a mischievous rebel—it's what I love about him. It is not uncommon in one day for three or four students to yell, "Teacher, Corbin is picking on me!" He seems to thrive on the negative attention. When I put his name on the board to spend some extra time with me after school, he pouts and is uncooperative. I spent the first half of the year trying to figure out what makes Corbin tick. I still don't know. But I have discovered that Corbin really wants to please me. He started the year writing all his letters from the bottom up and very sloppily. But I began to give him individual attention and always made a point of touching his shoulder when I walked by his desk. Corbin now has the best penmanship in the class. He will stay in at recess to finish a paper, not because I make him, but because he wants to. I have used his penmanship papers to show the class how their writing should look. Corbin just beams with pride. This has spilled over into his reading. I did not think Corbin was going to be able to read this year. But now He wants to read, and he works very hard at learning all the sounds of the letters. I am proud to say that Corbin is reading in English and Spanish—not perfectly—but he is reading. My little rebel is coming along quite nicely. Oh, he still picks on the other kids a little but now I say, "Corbin!" and in Sign Language I tell him I am watching him. He smiles at me and I can't help but smile at him and class continues.

Jim Beaston, Our "Pa Kettle" and Plumber Extraordinaire!

by Mary Frenter

We said goodbye to WWH2H Volunteer Jim Beaston in March. He went home to Jesus after a year-long battle with cancer. Jim and his wonderful wife, Jane, came on several medical/dental teams. He partnered with another volunteer to be in charge of sterilizing the dental instruments between patients at our clinics held out in remote villages of Honduras. We dubbed him "Pa Kettle" because of all the boiling "kettles" he used to accomplish this task.

When we built the Girls' Home at the Village, Jim came to help with the plumbing. One of my favorite memories of him is watching him standing in a ditch, knee-deep in mud in the torrential rain, trying to connect pipes to the new structure... WITH a huge smile on his face! That was Jim. Nothing seemed to deter him from his appointed task. He did all things as unto the Lord. We are honored to have known him and look forward to that great reunion that is coming. I know he is hearing, "Well done, my good and faithful servant!"

Jim Beaston visits with Olvin during a mission trip several years ago.



July 9th-17th

Leaders: Dave & Paula Fester

Purpose: Soccer Camp/Tournament & Maintenance Trip

Contact: Dave Fester for any information: 425-443-3443 or davefester@hotmail.com



— 2012 MISSIONS CALENDAR —

Please pray for the health and safety of our missions:

- June 7-16: **Maintenance/Letter Writing Team.** Contact Rick Stephens at ricks@wwh2h.org.
- June 22-28: **Jordan Rinta Team from Centralia, WA.** Contact Mary Frenter at maryf@wwh2h.org.
- July 9-17: Leaders: Dave & Paula Fester. Purpose: **Soccer Camp/Tournament & Maintenance Team.** Contact Dave Fester for any information at davefester@hotmail.com.
- July 20-31: **Joel Heiser Team.** Contact Lisa Closner at LisaC@wwh2h.org.
- September 14-22: **Maintenance/Letter Writing Team.** Contact Rick Stephens at ricks@wwh2h.org.
- September 22-29: **MRI Dental Team.** Contact Mary Frenter at maryf@wwh2h.org.
- October TBA: **Crazy 8 Ministries.** Contact Alisa Schwarz at 817.798.3441 or alisa@crazy8ministries.com.
- November 8-17: **WWH2H Christmas Prep/Letter Writing Team.** Contact Rick Stephens at ricks@wwh2h.org.

Our Financial Promise

We view contributions as a sacred trust, accountable to God and to you for their use.

We use all contributions as designated by our donors, and return or transfer monies to a related fund if a project is over-funded.

We use contributions to support the Children's Village home and mission outreach activities in Honduras.

A very small percentage of money is used for printing and postage costs.

Staff in Honduras receive salary and benefits. All U.S. board members and staff are volunteers.

We send year-end tax statements to donors for all monetary gifts given to WWH2H.

Please visit our website for more information about the children we serve, our history, and our mission.

Privacy Policy: Any information you provide WWH2H is held in strictest confidence. At no time will we share your personal information with any person or organization outside of WWH2H. Thanks!

2 Corinthians 1:3-5
Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves have received from God. For just as the sufferings of Christ flow over into our lives, so also through Christ our comfort overflows.

IF YOU DO NOT WANT TO CONTINUE RECEIVING THIS NEWSLETTER, PLEASE EMAIL PHYLIS HAAS AT PHYL@OPUSNET.COM OR CALL HER AT 503.728.3507 TO LET US KNOW.

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