



**Health Talents
International, Inc.**
"A Ministry of Teaching and Healing"

Mission Moments E-Newsletter

MAY 2007

SPRING BREAK TEAMS TO GUATEMALA



ACU/EYE SURGERY TEAM
– March 10-17 – Clinica Ezell

This was the second year in a row we combined a group of ACU students with eye surgeons to conduct an eye surgery clinic. Dr. Lee Coleman and Dr. Brett Teague, ophthalmologists who performed the 53 surgeries, were willing to involve the students as much as possible. Dr. Lee's wife, Amy, trained many students in how to be a surgical assistant.

Additionally, students had the opportunity to go on mobile clinics to Mayan villages. Dr. Tony Rector, ACU campus physician and a family practice doc, was the ACU team leader, and each morning he divided the students into groups so they were able to see the different aspects of medical evangelism. Some worked with him, Dr. Walter Sierra or Dr. David Lux, while others worked Dentist Dr. Jim Haller and Dr. Silvia. Dr. David Gilliam, an orthopedic surgeon, came along to help, even knowing that we have not yet begun doing orthopedic surgery. He became an experienced circulating nurse by week's end!

A highlight of each day was the nightly devotionals when the docs took turns giving their personal testimony to the students on how to be a good doctor and maintain a strong faith and relationship with God.



HARDING PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT STUDENTS
- MARCH 10-17 – Chichicastenango

Health Talents hosted a group of Physician Assistant students from Harding University. Michael Murphy, chairman of Harding's new P.A. program, said that one of their goals is to provide a wide range of experiences for their students. The mountains of Guatemala certainly helped with that!

Dr. Lisa and Kemmel Dunham met the group at the airport when they arrived, and they left immediately for Chichicastenango. The group of both faculty and students were excited to be joining Mary Madill and Nicole Reece, seniors who were completing a 6-week rotation with Dr. Lisa Dunham.

The group divided into groups with a faculty member and student on each team and began seeing patients in villages with names like Sepela and Xepocol. One patient was distressed because her son was drinking and doing drugs, so faculty member PA Phil Tobin referred her to one of the local church volunteers who was present. Her need was clearly more spiritual rather than physical. The basis of medical evangelism is being alert to spiritual needs as well.

PEPPERDINE UNIVERSITY STUDENTS
– MARCH 3-10 – Chichicastenango



The Pepperdine team began their trip on March 3 with the delays typical of air travel these days. Only four of the twelve team members arrived in Guatemala on March 3, with the rest arriving the following day.

The group attended a "thanksgiving worship service" at Mactzul VI on Monday. When night fell, they showed a DVD presentation of the Passion of Chris to several hundred in the community. Tuesday's clinic was in Pacaja Xesic, Wednesday in La Primavera and Thursday in Chichi. The La Primavera clinic is a new clinic site with no latrine in the entire area! Many health teaching opportunities abound here for sure!

The nightly devotionals were led by Dr. Jim Rackley. What began as an exciting trip to another country soon became an intimate, insightful week of sharing, learning and growing. They all traveled a bit further than they had planned that week as their path took them closer to our Savior at every turn. Not a bad way to spend a week...or a lifetime.

LIPSCOMB UNIVERSITY STUDENTS
– MARCH 16-24 – Clinica Ezell



Twenty-six Lipscomb students participated in the medical mission team to the Ezell Clinic for Spring Break, along with doctors, dentists, and a few others, 41 in all. Students interactively participated in learning, teaching, and healing. In the evenings they discussed poverty, peace, and justice in Latin America and the implications of becoming Kingdom people.

After a quick one-day trip to Lake Atitlan, the team headed back to the airport in Guatemala City... when they briefly practiced solidarity in a teachers strike (stuck in traffic), made a quick detour (emergency exit route over the hill and through the woods) and arrived barely on time! The Delta Airlines people hand-filled out their tickets and luggage tags under emergency lanterns to provide them with the full experience! The great companionship, wonderful service of the HTI personnel, the wonderful countryside, and the adventure back all made for a full and complete Guatemalan experience!

PHOTO CONTEST TIME- 2008 HTI CALENDAR

It is time to begin submit your favorite photos for the 2008 HTI calendar!

Basic rules:

- Photo must be landscape in format
- Email to marieagee@healthtalents.org
- Must be received by June 1, 2007
- Photos will be displayed for voting on website for 3 months
- Winning 12 photos will be announced on September 1, 2007

NEW STAFF ON HTI'S GUATEMALA MINISTRY TEAM

We are pleased to announce the addition of three new valuable team members in Guatemala. Drs. Josefina Lux, Dr. David Lux, and Sheri Kretzschmar, RN. Dr. David will be working in the area around Clinica Ezell with Dr. Walter Sierra, and Dr. Josefina and Sheri will be working in the Chichicastenango area with Dr. Lisa Dunham. They have just completed their orientation and are assuming responsibility for their own clinics now. They are all very capable, Christian medical professionals and will be a great asset to this ministry.



Dr. Josefina Lux & Sheri Kretzschmar



Dr. David Lux and his new bride, Sonja

HTI 2007 Clinic Dates

April 14-21 – Gen & Gyn Surgery
July 5-10 – Mobile Medical/Dental
July 21-28 – Eye Surgery
August 4-11 – Gen & Gyn Surgery*
Sept 8-15 – Gen & Gyn Surgery*
Oct 6-13 - Mobile Medical/Dental*
Oct 31 - Nov 5 – Mobile Medical/Dental
Nov 24 -Dec 1 - Eye Surgery

***NURSES NEEDED---\$ grant available**

If you'd like to participate, contact Marie Agee by email at marieagee@aol.com or call 205-991-9939.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR NOW!

18th Annual
Medical Mission Seminar
at
Central Ave Church of Christ
Johnson City, Tennessee

September 14-16, 2007
Contact: lclites@juno.com

WATCH FOR IT...CLINICA CARIS DEDICATED

HTI's new clinic, Clinica Caris, was dedicated on Sunday, April 22, in the village of Lemoa, near Chichicastenango in Guatemala. This clinic will serve as a referral clinic for Drs. Lisa Dunham and Josefina Lux. More about this wonderful occasion in our next newsletter!