



NICA NEWS FROM ED & LINDA BAKER

FEBRUARY, 2010

We began February with hosting a team from Memorial UMC in Fernandina Beach, FL. This team has been working with us since 2005. We worked on several projects while the team was in Nicaragua. We painted a house with primer; in a school we built shelves and painted them; we helped at an orphanage; we designed the wiring for a new building; and we visited several of the work sites around Chinandega. We kept them busy!



This is the library at Santa Matilde with new divider and desk for the librarian, and new shelves for books.



The team primed one of the houses in Villa Catalina – Lauren made a new friend.



We always have “interesting” adventures with our teams. We have been blessed to be able to now live close to the Pacific Ocean. We took Memorial to the beach for a sunset dinner, and then drove back to Chinandega. On our night drive home, Carl was riding shotgun, in charge of watching out for “stuff” in the road. We came up to a vehicle stopped in front of us, off to the side of the road. In front of the vehicle was a cow, sitting on the road, with a piece of reflective tape on its side! Hmm – maybe a thoughtful owner taped his cow before allowing him out. Maybe a vehicle hit him, had a piece of tape on his bumper, the impact stuck the tape to the cow? Maybe the oncoming vehicle (also stopped on the side on the road) hit the cow, and then a good Samaritan put the tape on the cow? We’re still wondering. We did learn a lesson this month: Never let your cow out for a moon light stroll unless you’ve added a strip of reflective tape to his side.

Just as Memorial was leaving, a member of the Dalton UMC came to scout out opportunities for a medical team from Dalton in Nicaragua. We think Jim will be bringing a much awaited medical team this summer. We have available several opportunities – a complete surgical facility built by Amigos for Christ here in Chinandega, as well as several clinics at some of the outlying villages. The team will be an asset where ever they serve.



This month we finished renewing some of our paper work for Nicaragua for 2010. We both needed new passports, which were taken care of at the American Embassy within a week. But after that, we had to have our “residential visa” stamp from our old passport put into our new passport. This took just about ½ day of standing in line, paying a few fees, and it was done.

Next was getting all the appropriate stickers for our Toyota Hilux truck. One of the stickers required is an emission sticker. Much like Georgia, but we think it’s to make sure you have **sufficient** emission to be on the roads of Nicaragua. Our stickers are from Managua (a city of 1 million people), so we drove up to get all our stickers renewed. When we went to the only place in Managua to get the emission’s sticker, the agency had rented their 1 machine out to a company which had a lot of vehicles to inspect. It seems this is the only machine in Managua to do this job! Another trip back, and we finally got all our stickers!

Some of the interns at the Amigos for Christ office here in Chinandega had asked us to have a weekly Bible study. We started with the book of James, and are using Warren Wiersbe’s book “Be Mature” for our study. Please pray for this small group as we look at trials, temptations, and how to mature in our faith together studying James.

Villa Catalina, built by Amigos for Christ, is a village for the displaced people from Hurricane Mitch in 1998. The people had been living in the city dump before moving to Villa. Memorial visited the city dump to see the conditions, and then worked in Villa Catalina. Here are some photos.



Left – people making a living
Right – their houses at the dump
Below – Homes in Villa Catalina!



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ED & LINDA BAKER**

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