

Evangelistic Missionary Crusades, Inc.

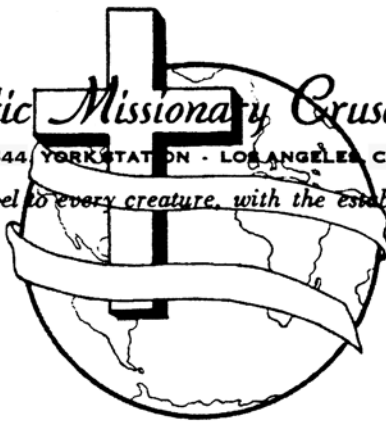
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Dedicated to the preaching of the Gospel to every creature, with the establishing of the New Testament church.

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PRESIDENT AND FOUNDER

LA FINCA DE LOS NINOS

VALLE DE ANGELES. F.M.
TEGUCIGALPA. D.C.
HONDURAS. C.A.

(Home for Homeless Children)

May-June, 2007

Dear friends and co-workers,

You are so valued and appreciated. God bless you for your faithful participation in these ministries.

Highlights of our 38th Anniversary visit to La Finca de Los Niños:



Marta Acevedo Figueroa revisits La Finca.

(Back row, adults, L to R: Sister Marta, Ernest, Marta's niece Ivette with husband Isaac, and Alonso.)

The scripture above the church platform read:

EN DIOS HAREMOS PROEZAS,

Y EL HOLLARA A NUESTROS ENEMIGOS. SALMOS 60:12

38 ANIVERSARIO, 1969 – 2007

(English NKJV translation: "Through God we will do valiantly, for it is He who shall tread down our enemies.")

On Saturday morning, April 21, everyone at La Finca was doing their part to prepare for the Anniversary Celebration. The small children happily swept the basketball court and sidewalks while the older girls cleaned the church. The boys set up shade gazebos and tables on the basketball court. Missionaries María, Betty and Elda prepared lovely tablecloths and decorations for each table. Angel and his crew put the finishing touches on the new building while Alonso and some of the older boys landscaped the exterior with small trees and beautiful flowers. Michele, Bertha and other staff prepared food for the event with visitors Ruth (Doris' sister) and her granddaughter, Beth. (See Beth's report, next newsletter.)

Everyone gathered in the church at four o'clock. Songs of praise and prayers of thanksgiving were offered to the Lord for His faithful provision over the last thirty-eight years. The children sang and performed various skits, with the youngest ones in a marching band called "Winners for Jesus."

It was good to see the alumni: Wilmer, Elias, Julio, Loida, Sesia, Johana, Fredis, and others who came "home" for the occasion. Seeing their faces, and remembering "from whence they came," filled our hearts with gratitude. Each is a story of God's grace and mercy. With tears in our eyes, we were moved to introduce some of them: **Mario Samuel Cabrera** came to La Finca "a breath away from death." According to retired missionary-director Josie Carranza, who named and nurtured him, he was skin and bones, weighing just four pounds at seven weeks of age. Today he is a healthy, happy and intelligent young man of thirteen, who knows that God has a purpose for his life. **Alonso Gomez**, our co-director of La Finca, came to us at the age of five, after his mother died while giving birth to his younger brother. This year he celebrated his fortieth birthday, and feels he must serve others as others served him. God has blessed him with many talents and a lovely family. Thank God for all He has done!



New Dormitory Building.

On arrival at La Finca, April 19, our first surprise was a visit from long-time friend and co-worker, Marta Acevedo Figueroa. We had just greeted all of the happy children, and begun to unpack our luggage when there was a knock at the door. It was Sister Marta, our first acquaintance in Honduras. She and her husband, Rev. Virgilio Figueroa, were missionaries from Puerto Rico, and had a church and Bible School in Honduras. They graciously became our hosts in 1969, when we arrived with Josie Bullock and Averil Hopwel, our first missionary-directors. Brother Virgilio and Sister Marta greatly helped and encouraged us as we founded our home for needy children. Sister Marta was our interpreter and guide as we visited government offices and began the legal procedures for establishing the EMC ministry in Honduras. She continues to serve the Lord, with Ivette and Isaac in Comayagua, Honduras.



Brother Ernest Soady, (right) speaks to Anniversary audience, with Alonso Gomez interpreting.

After the church service, a light rain began to fall as we walked up the hill to dedicate the new building to the Lord. We thanked Him for His provision, for all who gave and served so diligently on the project, and for all who would come and use the housing in the future. As the rain intensified, the older boys rushed back to move the tables into the church.

When we arrived, we continued our fellowship and enjoyed a delicious dinner of chicken, rice, vegetables, mashed potatoes, sodas and cake, served by our youth.

Work continues on the next two phases of the building project, supervised by Angel Cordova.

Emergency Medical Situation

While waiting at the airport departure gate for our flight, Ernest suddenly began having severe chest pains. My sister Ruth and her granddaughter Beth, immediately joined me in prayer for him. The symptoms continued, and the airline called the paramedics. Their examination determined that Ernest needed immediate medical attention, and would not be allowed to take the flight. I (Doris) urged Ruth and Beth to catch their flight; then I followed the paramedics to a waiting ambulance. When the driver asked me which hospital we wanted to go to, my only thought was “the nearest one.” At that moment, *my God sent His angel* (a special messenger)! As I stood beside the ambulance, a La Finca volunteer, Peter Paysen, appeared and asked, “What’s going on?” I told him and he advised, “The American Embassy recommends the Honduras Medical Center.” Ernest asked him to call Alonso.

At the hospital, Ernest was placed in the cardiac ICU and the very efficient and professional staff monitored, tested and cared for him. Standing at his bedside, I held his hand and assured him, “The Lord is with us.” He nodded with positive resolve and said, “I’m more sure of that than ever before.”

The hospital was a beautiful, modern, state-of-the-art facility. It became our “home” for the rest of the week. I was provided a very comfortable complimentary “habitación” (room) just a few steps from Ernest’s ICU unit.

Alonso came to the hospital immediately, and daily thereafter. Peter, we learned later, had come to the airport that morning to meet his sister. After coming to our assistance, he thoughtfully retrieved our luggage without being asked (another miracle), continued to La Finca for his scheduled Bible class, and returned to the hospital to visit Ernest and deliver our luggage; all the while, his sister was waiting in the car!

The next day Alonso advised us that all of the children at La Finca were crying and praying for “Hermano (Brother) Soady” at their Tuesday night prayer meeting. What a blessing and comfort! We later learned that prior to her flight departure; Ruth had phoned family in the US, who began calling others. A multitude of prayers had gone up for Ernest. We are so grateful to everyone who prayed, and to our Lord for answering. We are also grateful to those of our “Finca family” who visited Ernest in the hospital.

After twenty-four hour monitoring, the doctors determined that *Ernest had not had a heart attack*. Thank God! The problem was “arrhythmia,” (an irregular heartbeat) which is life-threatening when, as in his case, the pulse rate drops too low. The doctors advised Ernest that it was unsafe for him to travel, and that he needed a pacemaker implanted immediately. The surgical procedure was done that evening. Complications developed the next day, but by Saturday he was better and allowed to leave the hospital for a mandatory “seven days of rest” at La Finca.

It was a joy to go “home” to La Finca and the smiles and “gentle” hugs of the happy children as they saw “Hermano Soady,” and celebrated the answer to their prayers. Ernest loves to share how the children crowded around him, one claiming him as his “Papá”, the other saying, “No, es mi Papá.” A third one settled the dispute by saying, “He’s Papá for all of us!”

It was also a joy to see former directors, Josie and Roque Carranza who visited Ernest after his return from the hospital. Josie’s health has improved and they are doing well; another answer to prayer. Thank the Lord.

Space does not permit us to relate all of the marvelous things that happened during that extra God-ordained week at La Finca. We returned to Los Angeles on May 12. The doctor ordered four more weeks of rest and then told Ernest he could do everything but climb electric power poles!



Love is the best therapy!

Please pray with us concerning the future education of our Finca Children. It has been announced that the Christian school they have attended for several years is closing at the end of this term, November 2007.

Assistance from Honduras: In 2006, “Fundación BGA-Banistmo” a benevolent foundation which assists needy groups in Honduras, donated grass/sod for our soccer field, treats, and a pre-Christmas dinner party for the children. The BGA (now HSBC) Foundation met with Alonso on May 22, 2007 and officially informed him that they will fund the major materials (not labor) needed for **children’s housing units** two and three. (The bank writes all checks to the name of the merchant/business where supplies are ordered.) We are most grateful to the BGA bank; its President, José Pastor; and its Foundation President, Clarisa Cruz, for their generous gifts. May God’s blessings be upon them. The bank has several Christian employees, including Clarisa who considers their benevolent work “a labor of love.”

Thank you for continuing to pray that the Lord will provide help at EMC HQ, especially a **bookkeeper** with computer skills.

Thank you dear friends, for your continued prayerful support. Over one hundred children are alive, well and daily learning the love of God at La Finca de Los Niños, because you and others share the love of Jesus through your prayers, gifts and service.

Gratefully yours in His service,
Ernest and Doris Soady