

Evangelistic Missionary Crusades, Inc.

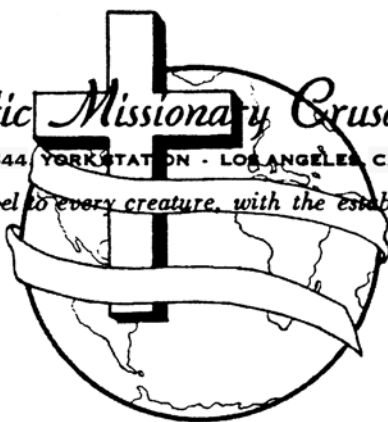
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Dedicated to the preaching of the Gospel to every creature, with the establishing of the New Testament church.

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LA FINCA DE LOS NINOS

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

(Home for Homeless Children)

September-October 2006

Dear friends and co-workers,

“Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.”
“He Who has begun a good work in you will complete it until the day of Jesus Christ.”

Philippians 1:2, 6

A REPORT OF OUR “WORK WEEK” TEAM TRIP TO HONDURAS

Harlan Horst, volunteer from Pennsylvania:

Janelle, Angelica and myself (Harlan) traveled to Honduras July 18th, one day before the rest of our group. We were greeted by some changes at the airport in Tegucigalpa. You now get on and off the airplanes via modern jet ways instead of the stairs and a walk across the tarmac. I'll personally miss the old way of doing it, but I guess the new way is a sign of progress. Also they now take an electronic fingerprint and a photo, all of which were new procedures for us.

We bought some of our groceries before heading out to Valle de Angeles and did some other preparations the day we arrived. Our team followed us down the next day. Everything went smoothly on their trip down. We were a little concerned about the teachers' union that just happened to be protesting and blocking access to the airport the day of our team's arrival. Fortunately they were cleared out by the time our group was off the plane and ready to leave the airport. Alonso rented a bus to transport our team to and from the airport. That worked out just fine.



Our Team

Our team consisted of 8 adults (including Janelle and myself) and 20 youth and young adults from our church. Five of the adults had previously been to La Finca to visit us when we lived there. The guys slept in the back kinder room. Jon Buch, our youth pastor, stayed with them. The girls slept in the team house. Jon's wife Kendra stayed with them. The rest of us stayed in the missionary house. We ate our meals (except breakfast) together in the team house. It was tight but we all fit in.



Demolition of the dormitory and bringing down the brick walls.

Thursday morning we started **our work projects**. They included painting, demolition of the old dormitory, and clearing away of the debris. The work went well and by Monday afternoon we finished tearing down all of the old dormitory.

We used the green pick-up and a basic utility vehicle (a university graduate project on loan to La Finca) to haul away **the “mountains” of debris**.



Hauling away the debris.

The brick part came down quickly, once we figured out where to weaken the walls. Our young people did a great job of working together safely.

We were also able to paint some of the outside walls of the church and other buildings at the lower end. A fresh coat of paint sure makes things look nice! A few of our guys helped Concho (Concepción) lay block for retaining walls in the hole where the trampoline was to be placed. The older Finca children helped out with some of our less dangerous work and it was encouraging to see how well we all worked together in spite of the language barrier.

Of course much of our free time was spent interacting with the children. Saturday afternoon we had a volleyball tournament with the kids, which was fun for everybody. Saturday evening the Finca children gave a program for us, which included music and dramas. Our youth were impressed with how well done their program was. Afterwards we had a bonfire on the “Cancha”, roasted marshmallows, and made smores. I again observed many wonderful moments of interaction between our group and the Finca children around the bonfire.



Sunday Morning Service

Sunday morning our group was in charge of the service. Our program included a very short message by one of our young adults, singing (in English) puppets (with a Spanish sound-track), and dramas. All were intended to share the love of Christ and the Gospel message of Salvation. By the grace of God, I trust we planted some seeds or watered the ones that are already growing. There was also a group from Friendship Sports International in attendance for part of the service that morning.

Sunday afternoon we again played volleyball with the children and some youth from a local church. Tuesday, our last full day there, most of our group hiked the whole way to the top of the mountain. Concho (Concepción), Danilo, and Diana went along with us as our guides.

It was a beautiful hike but very tiring! In the afternoon we played soccer with the children back at their new soccer field on the other section of Finca property. It was fun, but our group was already tired from the hike and didn't last very long. It was great to see all the improvements made to the other section of property. It looks very nice.

Wednesday morning we said good-bye to the children and prepared to travel home. It was difficult, as always, to say good-bye. Many friendships were made in our short amount of time there. I believe everyone in our group had a truly meaningful experience. And I believe it was a great experience for La Finca Children as well. We give thanks to the Lord for what we consider to have been an overwhelmingly successful and positive opportunity to serve at La Finca.

Janelle and I were personally pleased to see how well most of the older guys and girls at La Finca seem to be doing. From our interaction with them, they seemed quite stable and are maturing well. Thank God for what He is doing in their lives!

Thank you again for giving us the opportunity to do our "work week" at La Finca. The folks in our congregation are very interested in the new housing project for the children. We may be able to bring another work team for this project sometime in 2007 if there is a need for teams.

In Christ, Harlan

God bless you Harlan, Janelle and all of the team from Metzler Mennonite Church in Pennsylvania! Your generous and valued contributions to the ministry of La Finca de Los Niños are deeply appreciated.



ALONSO REPORTS: La Finca children participated in the "Day of the Bible" parade last Sunday morning. It is celebrated the last Sunday of September, and was organized by the local Christian churches. It went really well. There was also a general meeting after the parade, and our kids gave a very good and powerful testimony with their presentations. To God be the glory!

Missionary Volunteers: Maria, Bety and Elda, our Mexican señoritas returned to La Finca in mid-October. Thank God! Please pray for them as they help minister to the needs of 100 children. **Nicola Pang** felt the Lord leading her to return to England in September. We all miss her. May God bless her for her dedicated service and guide her in her continued walk with Him.

A cry for help, just received from Alonso: "In three weeks (mid November) the kids will be out of school. Help please!"

Christmas will be celebrated at La Finca on December 23rd this year. Thank you, friends and sponsors, for remembering the children and staff with your love, cards, and financial gifts. For you who are thinking and praying about sponsoring a child: **Remember Jesus' Birthday** and those He loves by making a faith pledge to sponsor one of our **eighteen unsponsored children.** "Inasmuch as you have done it unto one of the least of these..., you have done it unto Me." Matt. 25:40. PLEASE CONTACT OUR L.A. OFFICE FOR CHILD SPONSORSHIP INFORMATION.



EMC PERSONNEL NEEDED: Orvil Harris has advised us he will be leaving EMC by the end of the year 2006. For over twenty years Orvil, our Associate and Brother in Christ, has been a mainstay in the EMC ministries, Serving much of the time in the office, behind the scenes, he has kept the accounts up-to-date, mail processed, reports and newsletters sent out, computers operating, phones answered, plus maintenance and 1,001 other jobs. On Friday nights he has played the piano, led worship and Bible Study and occasionally, done the same on Sundays when the Soadys needed to be away. We thank God for his invaluable service to the Lord in these ministries. May the Lord bless and guide him as he follows the Lord into the future.

Please pray with us that **the Lord will provide the personnel needed** for this essential position in our L.A. office. If you feel the Lord may be calling you to serve in EMC ministries, especially in computer bookkeeping and general office work, please contact us ASAP. We would prefer to have someone trained to serve in the office before the end of the year.

The Honduras Housing Project is another object of much prayer. *Our children at La Finca are living in very crowded conditions* since the old dormitories have been condemned and demolished. Plans have been drawn to house eighty children, with caretakers. **Please pray with us** for engineers, builders and the funds necessary to complete the job, which we hope to begin in the current dry season: November 2006 to April 2007. Thank you.

God bless you each one and meet your every need.

Serving Him with gladness,
Ernest and Doris Soady