

Nica



News

A Periodic Newsletter of

TogetherWorks Nicaragua and TogetherWorks Chinandega

Issue No. Four.....July 28, 2012

Questions or concerns regarding the newsletter can be sent to the guy who types it at shelbyfoles@bellsouth.net

Shelby's Updates

Well no one took me up on my offer to send me their comments about their experience(s) in Nicaragua. Thus, I have nothing to present in that regard. If you failed to do so for lack of where to send it to, my email continues to be shelbyfoles@bellsouth.net.

I sent a list of interview questions with John as he went back to Chinandega. He is to "interview" Rosa so I can have something to write about her. Many of you know of her and some likely call her friend and sister in Christ. I'm looking forward to getting that back and publishing it for everyone.

Speaking of John, I've taken up a project related to his work in Chinandega. I've begun looking for people willing to give \$10 each so that we may lease a property in the city. It's new construction, has 14 rooms, a separate house, and is a walled compound. It could be used for permanent housing for John, housing mission groups, pastor conferences, community outreach, Bible studies, English classes for locals, youth ministry, etc. The uses this property could serve are numerous. I know this has been mentioned before but I am now officially seeking funding. If you wish to donate, then send a check, made payable to: TogetherWorksChinandega, 1514 Rock Quarry Rd, Stockbridge, Ga 30281.

TogetherWorksChinandega (TWC) is a member of TogetherWorks Inc. (TWI) and has non-profit status. Donations are tax deductible per current IRS rules.

Before you read JR'S News, let me clear up a few points. The "Tip-Top" is the local version of Kentucky Fried. Lito is a pastor in Chinandega. John told me about him previously. Seems he's an ex gang member who got saved and called into the ministry. It's a story for another time, but I will say this- John said Lito was one of the baddest of the baddest and now he sings psalms/hymns while riding his motorcycle around town. Rey is Reynaldo Miranda, a local Christian man who once was an English teacher but now works as a tour guide. Much of his work is with mission groups that come to the rancho. The "hotel" John refers to is the property mentioned above in my update. Emilio is not yet known to me.

JR's NEWS

Hey Shelby Ray, I hope all yours are doing well. Things seem to be going well down here. Toney and Debbie have left the building (went home Thursday). Several things I need to tell you.

To begin with, Rey and I are beginning an eight week soul winning seminar tonight at Lito's church. Lito came by this morning and was telling me about the visitation group that they have on Thursday nights. Lito says that they had sixteen people and they just go out into their neighborhood and tell the Gospel. He told me that they had five people to trust Christ as Savior and one of them came to church the next Sunday.

When I suggested to Lito that we teach a seminar on personal soul winning, both he and the church were all over it! Anyway, tonight will be our first class, and it will run for seven more weeks. Shelby, there are twenty people that will be there tonight, and Lito says that they are committed to the full eight weeks!

Also, Rey and I are going to go out with them after class each Thursday, into the neighborhood to witness and invite folks to church. This will give them a chance to see how the lessons we learn in class will work. So ask everyone who reads the newsletter to please pray for this group of believers, that God will work in their lives, teaching them how to be effective soul winners; and, that each one will grow in their relationship with the Lord. (emphasis added)

Today, I was on my bicycle (I had peddled out to the hotel to pray over it) and was headed to the Tip Top for a meeting with Lito and Rey. There were three young men that had their three wheeled bicycle taxi cabs pulled over against the curb waiting on fares and resting. As I went by, one of them hollered out "gringo!". So I turned my bike around and went back to see what the Lord had for me there. Now I expected the regular routine- " You speak very good English, where did you learn your English?, I am here as a missionary (thanks for asking)", and here is the Gospel. However, this time, no one spoke any English so I had to make do with what Spanish I had. I think it went pretty well, but I will never be satisfied until I can do conversations. Everyone got a tract and I went over it with them. All were attentive and followed along. What a great opportunity!

I met with Rey and Lito at the Tip-Top. After they left, Emilio came and began to try to learn some more English. For some reason he just would not go away. He wants to go to Lito's church and sit in on the seminar. Douglas, one of the waiters, came to the table to see what we were doing. I was using my translate app to better speak with Emilio. Emilio then goes into my bag and gets one of the tracts and hands it to Douglas. To make a long story short, I was able to use my iPad and the translate app along with the tract to speak with Douglas about trusting Christ as his Savior. Emilio would say something every now and then to reinforce certain points making sure that Douglas understood. Douglas said that he would trust Christ as Savior!

Shelby, that in itself is great, but I was thrilled beyond description that Emilio was so enthused about Douglas hearing the Gospel. So much so, that he wanted to make sure that Douglas understood. I was pumped!!! (*editor's note: this is "john speak" for praise the Lord*).

I will send in a report of how the seminar went tonight, in a few days. If I don't go now I will miss my ride to the seminar. Always for Him, John.

TONY AND DEBBIE AT THE RANCHO/PADRE RAMOS

I heard via the grapevine that Toney was much celebrated and loved on for Fathers' Day down at the Rancho. Many of the local children, from a very young age up to young adult, consider him an ex-officio father or grandfather.

If you are on facebook and interested in seeing posts by those who have recently visited, then search FB for togetherworksnicaragua. A highlight for me was seeing a young lady's

video/powerpoint she made of some very well done photos taken during her visit. Another was learning that a group helped provide an outhouse and a well to a more than deserving family in the village. They care for a special needs child and these additions to their life and home will certainly help them all.

Debbie let me know in a recent message that in October there will be doctors and other healthcare personnel coming to the rancho to help the local villagers. This is one of the things we (Toney, Debbie, John, and I) would dearly love to see occur often and regularly. Please pray that nothing interferes with this plan and that the Lord will bring it about in a mighty way.

Whether it is an outhouse, a well, beds, sinks, medical care, or whatever, all of it is geared toward creating an opportunity to bring the Gospel to as many as possible. Toney once told me that his thoughts are always on giving a hand up, instead of a hand out. Sustainable benefits that improve the lives of these people are meager by our standard of living. They very much appreciate it.

Recommended Prayer List:

Health and wellbeing for Toney and Debbie, John, and Rosa (local young lady)
Reyna and her family; her terminal illness
Teen Bible studies, five nights a week
Children's church
English classes for children
Effectiveness of short term mission groups
The Work in Chinandega- churches, pastors, local outreach
Upkeep and physical operation of the camp facility
Maintenance on the truck, harsh roads and weather wreak havoc on vehicles
Housing and support for John in Chinandega
Permanent resident status for John, long application process, five year status if done



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