

March newsletter:

We wish to thank everyone for your prayers as we traveled home to Mexico. First time in our history of traveling in Mexico we weren't stopped. I mean by the Federales or the army. The army has always had umpteen check points along the way but this time zero! ninguno! none!!

It was rather refreshing to travel at your leisure and not have to pull over and have the vehicle and trailer checked 20 times!! :)

The animals traveled well and we are about settled in. We came home to a clean house. My friend cleaned the house for us

The PRAYERS were definitely felt as we breezed by the officials with our trailer loaded with "contraband" !! We were sad to have had to leave about 25 boxes of clothes this trip but we were 3/4 of a trailer full not including the other ministry tools God **Blessed** us with!

When we got to the border, we were told we needed to come back in the morning because the main office was closed. We decided to try to forge forward. We made it to the 16 mile check point and after some discussion amongst themselves they decided it was to our best interest to return to get a permit for our car. We turned around and went to the office they suggested. They were about to cancel our old sticker when they asked us if we brought our motorcycles with us. We informed them no. They began to tell us that someone would have to take a bus to San Andres and get the bikes and bring them to the border so we could obtain a new permit. Karen began to look to God and tell HIM, **"I know you haven't brought us this far to bring us back again."** Then one official looked at her and asked if her husband was an American citizen. She asked him why? He then asked if there were any cars registered in his name. As she thought of the motorbike and van, she overheard him say something to the effect that she probably didn't understand his question. He continued to tell her that if she could prove they were married, Pat could apply for the new car permit. She thanked him and ran for the paper work that would be needed. Pat came on the scene and with the new car permit in hand we set out again. We arrived at the 16 mile check point to find a new guy at "bat". We pointed to the ones who sent us back. They came over and explained that they had checked our paperwork but not our trailer. We thought, *"oh Lord,"* but kept our eyes on HIM. Karen prayed as Pat was asked to open the trailer. She heard the moans and reactions to all the STUFF in the trailer. She felt the suburban move as they tugged on the items inside. She prayed ever the more. She watched as two elderly women were asked to unload their blazer of its contents even down to their car pillows. She prayed even the harder. Ashley began to walk her dog. Karen sent her Pat's way to report in to her. She didn't come back. Next thing she knew we were loading up and leaving. the women were still unloading their belongings with an attitude of displeasure. As Pat drove off he began to share of the encounter he had just had with the Mexican officials. He felt the prayers that were going forth. The guards told him that *next* time we pack the trailer we need to make an itemized list of its contents to give to the brokers on the border. He continued to tell us that it would take hours, 8 or better, to unload the trailer so they could see it's contents and that we were in a 15 minute holding station and had reached our limit. Plus it was our second time in passing that night; the guard decided to let us go. God is soooo good!

We arrived at the home of Pam and Glenn Ducote in El Carmen in the wee hours of the morning. Glenn had tried to stay awake all night awaiting our arrival not knowing exactly what hour we would arrive. We hugged and talked a few minutes and then we all crashed in the beds which were beckoning our sleepy heads. They were the perfect host and hostess preparing for us delicious meals and planning our stay making sure we meet their friends. We had such a wonderful time meeting their friends and many of our own whom we hadn't seen in over 3 years.

After a few days we bid them adue and were off heading home. It was a first in all our travels in Mexico, we weren't stopped for any reason. We have experienced stopping at as many as 20 check points. It was such a pleasure to drive at our leisure and stop when we want to stop not when they want us to stop. We

never had to open the trailer to show it's contents to anyone else after the 16 mile check point! Thanks to all who took part in praying for our travels; they were definitely felt!

Just as God had watched over our travels; he watched over our home while we were away. Our friends who were taking care of our house and pets told of how Sheba, our Rottweiler guard dog and family pet, was found chewing on a shoe. Someone had tried to come inside the compound with intentions of robbing our things but was confronted with Sheba. They threw rocks at her to ward her off but found the battle a bit too much and retreated to the streets never daunting the house again. Thank you Lord for keeping your eye on Your things in Mexico while we were away!!

We are about settled in and ready to begin new things here in San Andres.

CASA DE GLORIA:

Without having time to unpack or organize Casa de Gloria, Carmen came beckoning, making her needs known. Carmen was mentioned in our November newsletter. She was pregnant with twins and came to us hungry and dejected because of an unfavorable doctors' report stating one of her twins was apparently dead. The doctor couldn't find a heartbeat or any movement on that one side. Ashley and Karen prayed for her. After she had eaten, she testified that there was a considerable amount of movement on both sides of her stomach!! Praise the Lord. In December, while she was in labor, she came to our home wanting us to pray for her delivery but we were stateside at this time. She delivered her healthy twin girls on January 2, 2002. Living in a grass hut and sleeping in hammocks, she came to visit us hoping Casa de Gloria could supply her and her family with some much needed clothes and shoes. We were grateful to be able to oblige. We wish to thank everyone who help to contribute to the clothing ministry because without your support of this ministry people like Carmen would not find the *blessings* of clothes for her two new babies.

VIDEO MINISTRY:

Being our first Sunday home, we decided to continue to visit the beach churches like we faithfully did in the past. We delivered speakers and amps to El Real and La Barra. Like hands extended, we were only the instruments used to pass these ministry tools on to those who needed them. We quickly got caught up on all the news while we were away. We made our visits short so we could greet the two churches this day. Pastor Goyo asked for Pat to show a movie, so he brought out the new projector and one of his new videos. We commenced to watching it. After the movie, Pat stood up to share and gave an opportunity to everyone to know Jesus personally. Looking around and knowing everyone there were Christians didn't stop him from obeying the voice of God to give an altar call. Our old neighbor and mother of Beaux friend Jose, had accompanied us this day. Not wanting to be alone and never having been out to the ranch churches; she decided to join us on this rainy Sunday. When Pat asked if anyone would like to accept Jesus as their personal savior, she grabbed Karen's knee with anticipation. She later told her that she felt as if she would drown in her excitement if she didn't accept Jesus right then and there. She knew God had a plan and purpose for her to come with us this day. She now has a burning desire to know and follow the truth. Praise God for the first fruits with the film evangelism ministry this year. Thank you to all those who sowed into the new projector and videos and into God's Kingdom business.

INTERSTATE TOLLS:

We wish to tell you how blessed you are to live in the U.S.A. God did a miracle at the border getting us across. Pat felt led of the Lord to travel the autopista to Monterrey. The autopista is a highway system much like our interstate system only worse. One must pay a toll to travel on the Interstates in Mexico. They aren't heavily traveled for this reason too. It cost us over \$60.00 U.S. to travel about 2 1/2 hours trek on a fairly decent road. These roads are in much better shape and aren't as hard on the vehicle like the free system of travel. So next time you travel interstate for any reason appreciate the fact that the roads are in good repair and feel blessed you don't have to stop and pay tolls every so many miles.

THE BEST OF BOTH WORLDS IS BEING ABLE TO GIVE AND RECEIVE:

One of the best parts of our job is to deliver the goods, to be the middle man. We get to receive the goods then give them away. It is the best of both worlds in our opinion. This year we were able to present both of the ranch churches with Pevy speakers and amps. Pastor Goyo told his congregation to look at their prayers manifested. They have been praying and believing for a nice speaker and amp system for some time now. He has an electric guitar but could only play it every 15 days when Pat brought his equipment. The Father's House Family Church in Hattisburg, Mississippi pastored by Joey and Deedy Kugler and Grace

Harbor Family Church in Folsom, Louisiana, pastored by Mike and Bertha Patterson sowed these systems into these two churches. Believe with us that God will bring forth their harvest quickly.

PRAYER REQUESTS