

MARCH 2003 NEWSLETTER

We will miss You: The beloved wife and long time companion of Don Rafael died last month. When we moved to San Andres three years ago, there was an elderly gentleman in his young 80's that would come by our home seeking his life as he so commonly put it. (begging to put it bluntly) His name, Mr. Rafael or Don Rafael. You see, Mexico doesn't have a Social Security program for it's elderly nor any other program. It is not uncommon to witness men as *young* as Don Rafael swing machetes trying to earn a few pesos to buy their daily tortillas. We may never know how old Don Rafael is because he never celebrates his birthday. This too is ever so common among the poor and humble. Their births aren't documented nor recorded. They don't have birth certificates.

We began our friendship in a rather neat manner. When he came to us begging for his daily substance three years ago, he had a huge sore on his foot that he professed to have had for over 2 years. It was ugly and very infected. Karen cleaned the wound every time he came to the house and within a few months it was totally healed. A Pastor/Doctor from Veracruz visited us one day at the same time Don Rafael did. He wondered why we were wasting our time with this old poor man.

We knew Jesus wanted to meet his every need, physically and spiritually. It wasn't long and he began to bring his wife by the house. We were able to share the word of God with them both. Being that they spoke a little bit of Spanish and more of their native tongue which is one of the Indian dialects here, it was hard to understand them. They tried to teach us their language but not having conquered Spanish we thought it not wise to learn another language at this point. After a friendship was established, we were able to lead them both to the Lord on our front porch. Casa de Gloria was able to provide them with shoes when they were without and other clothing through the years.

The end of last month we changed houses here in town and the move took our attention off our friend for a few days. After we settled into our new home, Karen questioned Pat about our dear old friend. It was then that Pat met up with him in town this month. He shared with us that he and his wife were walking down the highway like they did so many times together in their daily search for a few pesos to buy their daily bread; when a truck hit them both, hurting his leg and killing his wife of many years.

They would walk for miles sometimes reaching our home with mud still caked between their toes or up to their knees. A few times the river they had to cross to come to town would take their shoes right off their feet due to its swift current and they would wind up at our house with one flip-flop on his bare feet.

We want to thank everyone who prayerfully and financially supports us here in San Andres Tuxtla giving us opportunities to meet people like Don Rafael and his wife. We are so blessed to have the peace in our hearts that she knew Jesus before her departure. We will one day see her again.

4-DAY CAMPAIGN IN CAHUAPAN:

Pat spent all day the day before his trip, trying to find a starter for the Ford van. He finally found a used one that cost as much as a new one but it did not work. The man who sold it to Pat then took it to his electrical mechanic to have it worked on. They put it in, cranked her up and Pat was ready to go into the mountains with Eligio our Mexican missionary friend. The next morning before they could even get out of the city limits of San Andres Tuxtla, guess what happened? Yes, you guessed it, after only cranking it three times, it went out again. Pat was given the part to find and began his trek through the city's part's dealers. That makes over a month and 3 starters later, before he was off and running again.

The van has been a blessing...when it runs well. But that's the way it's been with this starter for a while now. They can only piece things together using whatever they have that's similar to the original part. Since it is an American made vehicle the parts are more difficult to find here even though the make is Ford or even Chevy. The United States has different regulations on their vehicles and therefore the parts are made different. Remember the next time you need a part for your vehicle, you are blessed with part stores that have what you are looking for and not parts of parts. It's the little things in life we need to be thankful for, Amen?

Pat, Beaux and Eligio spent four days with a family of five in a small village called Cahuapan about 5 hours south of San Andres. Pat and Beaux spent their nights on one side of a river while they ministered on the other. They broke into new soil and worked on earning the trust of the people on this trip. Last year when we were in a village near this town, they took note of who attended the film showing and followed up on house visits making new relationships. A small church of about 30 people was formed due to that outreach. Now that church is spreading it's borders and casting it's nests.

Pat, Beaux and Eligio had an opportunity to pray for the sick. Eusebia Carmona Diaz, an elderly lady

they met, has had a horrific case of gangrene on both of her feet for over three years. The stench of her wounds was enough to make one sick. Eligio was moved to tears when he saw and smelled the wounds and could only imagine the pain she must be in to have wounds so profound that they expose the bones. The doctors have advised her to have them amputated but she doesn't want to because she is believing God for a miracle to restore her feet.. This elderly Catholic lady excepted Christ into her heart and later died a few days after their visit.

Beaux brought a new found joy to the children on Cahuapan. Typical routine for kids is to work and go to school but sometimes not in the same order. Needless to say, it doesn't give them much time to play. Beaux discovered, by accident, that when the mud of the river bank is wet it makes a wonderful slide. And so it went, as he had the neighborhood kids slipping and sliding in the mud. We have come to believe that mud really does slow down the aging process because Pat joined in the fun too. Boys and mud know no age limits! You would not have caught Ashley and Karen doing this. Ha!

ALCOHOLIC OUTREACH IN SAN ANDRES TUXTLA: We were greeted with expectant faces and hearts. Some were truly excited to see us and thanked God for reaching out to them. All were invited to Casa de Glorias' service on Sunday morning. The majority live not far from our new home in San Andres Tuxtla and on Pat's normal Sunday morning bus route. Pray that God will touch their hearts, make them feel welcome, and give them a desire to come hear the faith building message that is preached from the Word of God. May they desire to want to come on a regular basis, so as to edify their beings and draw closer to God.

NEW MISSION CHURCH IN TECHAPLAN DE ARRIBA: Pat brought a small group of about 32 from Techalpan to La Barra this month. They enjoyed the physical food of fried fish as well as the spiritual food of the Word of God.

BIBLE COURSE STUDY: We have completed our second trimester leaving only 3 more trimesters to go. Jesus spent three years teaching his disciples and Paul spent two years making disciples. So it is with this International Bible course. We are looking to graduate by the end of this year.

ENGLISH CLASSES: Enrollment is ever increasing and the Word of God continues to be taught. In one of Karen's classes, a 63 year student commented on how sad the story of the prodigal son was after having only heard the first part of the story. Karen explained the comparison of the son to the father and how it parallels the relationship of us and God. When the whole story was shared and taught, a big smile reached across his face as he thought how sweet the story ended. It did Karen a world of good to see contentment in her students as she shares Biblical teachings with her students.

All day Youth Rally in La Barra : Many of teens from La Barra and San Andres spent the day worshipping the Lord on Feb. 8th. Karen brought several teens for a fun filled day with the Lord in La Barra. Five of the youth that participated at the Mexico City youth Conference in December were baptized in the Lagoon on this festive occasion. The church prepared a huge pot of seafood soup much on the same lines as a gumbo in Louisiana. It was accompanied by fried fish La Barra style, both were cooked on an open fire. After much of the day was spent in worshipping and praising our Lord and Savior, they were given some free time to hunt seashells on the beach and enjoy the cool Gulf waters. Bibles from our supporters were presented to the five kids who were baptized. Thank you for allowing us to be an extension of your hand and plant the Word of God into their lives. May God bless this seed into your lives with a sevenfold -hundred fold return.

FILM MINISTRY: Usually Pat goes film evangelizing, casts the net out and almost never does it come back full. But in Los Pinos this month he had the opportunity to share the gospel with the people after the film. Pat could tell it was the Holy Spirit speaking and not him because when he asked who would like to meet Jesus Christ, some 80% of the people came forward to the makeshift altar. There were old, young, kids, every age was represented. We believe, like Cahuapan, this area didn't have an evangelical church before the film showing campaign. We pray they will begin one with the new converts so they will have a place to go to be fed the Word of God. We believe the people found what they were looking for, that void in

their lives was filled when they asked Jesus into their hearts.

CASA DE GLORIA CLOTHING MINISTRY: Continues to be closed until we can obtain more clothing. We are seeking new ways to evangelize using the clothes we have. We hope to re-open soon with a new organized and more effective plan to reach the people. Please pray that God will guide into this new level of ministry.

BANNER WORKSHOP:

Karen held several streamer/banner workshops this month because time did not allow them to complete all their projects in one session. Three churches were again represented. Those that participated made many colorful streamers and banners. May His name be lifted higher through the use of these anointed banners in the churches. May they take them to the streets when we march in His honor on Saturday, April 26th, for the second annual March for Glory.

PRAYER NEEDS:

The first Friday in March is known as Witches Day here in San Andres Tuxtla and the surrounding areas which are known internationally for their witchcraft. "Witches" from around the globe will reunite on this day/night to practice their rituals etc.. Please pray that God's name and power will be made manifest this day as they enter their cave which has been claimed in Jesus' name. May His presence meet their needs and His power not allow any evil to transpire.

1. Ministry tools:

A. Over head projector for use in Casa de Gloria's church service, English classes, and banner making. (We can purchase one in Veracruz between \$200-300. US.)

B. VCRs (with 4 heads) for use in English class, Bible course, and film ministry. Tropical conditions and rough roads make for more wear and tear than under normal conditions. (Last year alone we went through 5 VCRs.)

C. Portable Cd/tape player for use in the film ministry and Casa de Gloria's Sunday morning services.

D. We are in need of the following:

1. Chick tracts in Spanish of various themes or topics (\$3.25 US per package of 25)
2. Spanish New Testaments (case of 100 for \$150.00 US or 50 for \$37.50 US

depending on the version and style)

3. Booklets of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John in Spanish (case of 200 for \$30.00-\$45.00 US). Anyone wishing to contribute to this need may either do so by sending their \$\$ to either of our addresses posted in this newsletter or contact Sandy Warren (985) 796-3140 for more specific information as to where and how to go about ordering them.

E. Spanish Region 1 Christian DVD's or videos (\$20.00-30.00 US each) for our film ministry and lending library.

F. 15 passenger Van to replace the old jalopy who's on it's last leg.

(Praise God it still gets us around where God wants us to go.)

LOOKING FOR TEAMS TO COME BE A PART OF A WHAT GOD IS DOING IN VERACRUZ.

If you or a team from your church feel lead to participate in any of the areas below, then we would like to invite you in the infamous words of "The Price is Right's" host, Bob Barker, to **"COME ON DOWN!"**

Basic Principles Implications:

Construction teams needed for House repair: to replace a roof on the existing house, add a roof on the unfinished portion of the existing house, paint exterior and interior walls, and do any elec. or plumbing repairs needed. We will attend services in various churches in the surrounding area in the evenings allowing the team to experience the Mexican culture in addition preach or present their personal testimonies and/or programs in the local churches . Would love to see the church take care of the single moms!!

Also, Pastor Goyo would like to have indoor bathroom with plumbing.

Week Tract Drops in which you provide the tracks to be distributed during the stay.

Vacation Bible school during the Christmas, Easter holidays or summer 2003. You and your church team could teach children about Jesus our Savior.

Clown teams will have opportunities to go into a school, city parks, churches, & villages to “minister” before an evangelistic film showing. Each team must be equipped with their own costumes, make-up, routines and bag of tricks.. etc..

Painting Teams in which participants will assist local churches in general building maintenance.

Church Building Teams as participants literally help build a worship facility for a local community of believers.

Roof Project Teams will oversee the repairs of roofs on church facilities and individual homes.

House Repairs Teams will be involved in the repair of some of the area individual homes.

Pray Walk Teams to walk through areas of San Andres and Catemaco hosts of the International Occult Headquarters.

Sports Tournament Teams host sports tournaments as an evangelistic outreach. Volleyball, basketball and soccer are popular sports here.

The Arts Ministry Teams to use the performing arts like clowns, dance, mime and drama as an outreach .

Teaching Teams in which classes designed to build up and equip the local Mexican Body of Christ will be conducted.

Areas of interest are:

1..**Hair braiding:** French braid, corn rows, etc...This may be a way to generate extra \$ with little expense for those in the fishing community of La Barra during the tourist seasons. It works well in other beach areas in Mexico and Caribbean Islands.

2. **General Health care and/or nutrition**

3. **Crafts to help generate finances:** preferably with shells or other sea life creatures because many are fishermen and have access to these things.

4. **Music lessons** (drums, keyboard, and guitar. They play all of these but with no method or madness. Some of them have never been taught the use of rhythm etc..)

All the above are much needed and your helping hand extended can help change the lives of your family in Christ here in Veracruz, Mexico.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:

Every Sunday, we visit La Barra (beach church) and/or El Real (Bayside Church) after

church service in Casa de Gloria at 9:00 am.

Every Monday, Friday, & Saturday night Pat goes on a film evangelism outreach in various areas of San Andres and beyond.

Every Monday and Friday from 4:00pm-8:30pm Karen has English classes in Casa de Gloria where she teaches from the Word of God.

Every Tuesday from 10:00am-2:00pm, Karen opens Casa de Gloria to distribute free clothes/shoes and offers prayer and the gospel of Jesus Christ to everyone who passes through the door. **(Suspended until further notice.)**

Every Wednesday and Thursday night from 8:00pm-9:30pm, The International School of the Bible classes are held on CVD in Casa de Gloria. These classes are also being made available to La Barra on the weekends.

Every Saturday morning we will hold an Alcoholic outreach in San Andres Tuxtla. To try to be a more effective witness to the lost and hurting in our city.

Every Saturday from 10:00am -3:00 pm, Karen holds a streamer/flag/banner workshop in San Andres Tuxtla in Casa de Gloria where she teaches how to make them. Once they are equipped with their “arms” she will teach them how to use them via video and live demonstrations.

PAT’S FILM MINISTRY SCHEDULE:

1st March- Film outreach in Techalpan de Arriba , a subdivision of San Andres Tuxtla.

6th of March - Pat will join some of the local area Pastors as they go to anoint and pray over a “Witches” Cave” in Laguna Encantada, San Andres. (About a mile from our home) before their biggest day of the year, which is the first Friday of March.

21st-23rd March -Three day Grand Evangelistic Outreach Campaign in Techalpan de Arriba, San Andres Tuxtla in the park.

26th-27th of March Two day campaign in San Andres with Argentina’s Alberto Motesi’s right hand man, Noe Lopez.

28th and 29 of March - Film Campaign in Santiago/Tres Zapotes, Veracruz.

2nd-5th April -Evangelist **Alberto Mottesi** of Argentina will be speaking at the Grand Evangelistic Campaign in Acayucan, Veracruz. Ten cities within a 2 hour radius of Acayucan will be participating in this mega event.

9th-11th April - **Franklin Graham**, son of Rev. Billy Graham will be hosting the 4 day Festival Esperanza (Hope Festival), in Veracruz.

25th - 27th of April -Three-day Film outreach in La Palma, a community 30 minutes just this side of the fishing communities of La Barra and El Real.

26th of April - Second Annual March for Glory in San Andres Tuxtla, Veracruz. We will begin the march at 10:00 am. and parade through the streets of our city proclaiming His name ending the festivities in central park