

Second Quarter Teams

- 4/30 Nacocchee UMC
- 5/7 Canadian Veterinarians
- 5/21 CVM
- 5/28 Wesley Memorial UMC
- 6/4 FBC Newnan
- 6/4 Grayson UMC
- 6/4 One Sky
- 6/11 Mission del Sol
- 6/11 O U Grad Program
- 6/11 St. Lukes Presbyterian
- 6/18 Hillside UMC
- 6/18 Simpson-wood UMC
- 6/25 Grace Presbyterian
- 6/25 Stevens Creek Church



Spring 2011

www.hoi.org

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HOI and Universities Fight World Hunger

The University of Guelph, located in Ontario, Canada, hosted the sixth annual **Universities Fighting World Hunger Summit** February 25-27, 2011. One of the speakers who led a panel discussion was Emelisa Callejas, Consul General to the Southeast U.S. from Honduras. The discussion was entitled, "A country in action—the initiatives in Honduras". HOI's Executive Director, Laurie Willing, gave a power point presentation detailing the success of a recent project in an indigenous village served by HOI missionaries. Within 6 months, at a cost of \$1,100, the villagers who live in *La Laguna*, in the department (state) of Olancho, progressed from a subsistence diet of yucca to raising chickens and tilapia, planting a vegetable garden, and even selling some of the excess!



EMELISA CALLEJAS-
Consul General
to the Southeast
U.S. from
Honduras

More than 70 universities are currently involved in the **Universities Fighting World Hunger Alliance**, which started in 2004 as a partnership with the United Nations World Food Program and Auburn University. Emelisa Callejas is now creating a team to launch the **Honduran Universities Alliance against Hunger**, to be inaugurated in October of this year in Tegucigalpa. That team will be partnering with an important Latin American Agricultural School called El Zamorano, located 30 kilometers from Tegucigalpa. Auburn University and the University of Guelph will send representatives to the inauguration who will also visit Rancho el Paraiso and some of the villages HOI serves.



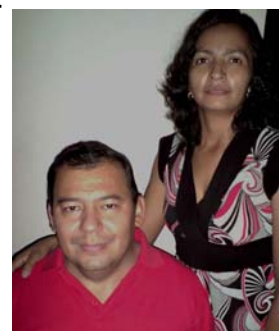
LAURIE WILLING-
HOI Executive
Director

New Ranch Director Hired

Honduras Outreach is pleased to announce that José Mondragón has been hired as the Director of Rancho el Paraiso, effective May 2011. José is no stranger to the operations of HOI. He was hired 19 years ago when the organization was in its infancy. In 2005, José left HOI in order to pursue other interests, one of those being farming. José kept in contact with HOI staff and board members over the past 5

years as his love and passion for the mission of the organization continued. He and his wife, Elena, have two children. We are all very excited and blessed to have José and his leadership back at Rancho el Paraiso, as we continue to follow God's plan for the future.

Jose and Elena Mondragon



2010 Annual Report

During 2010, the economic environment in the U. S. continued to affect the operations of HOI. Through God's blessings, supportive donors, hard working Ranch staff, and 500 North Americans working in the villages, the organization's mission was supported and the vision continued.

Listed below are the highlights of 2010 in each of our program areas. HOI looks forward to new opportunities to work with the worldwide Hunger Initiative in 2011 and continues to follow God's plans for the people of the Agalta Valley.

Agriculture

- * Graduated 12 students from the Vocational Agriculture school, representing 7 different villages.
- * Assisted with veterinary procedures in 43 communities with HOI staff and U.S Vet groups.
- * Improved the Ranch agri-business
 - 23% increase in cattle birth rate
 - Increase in the hog and sheep production
 - Earned \$45,000 from sales of livestock, poultry and farm produce



Community Development

- * 63 family gardens were developed.
- * Completion of one water project expansion and one kindergarten
- * Organized and implemented the La Laguna Farm Project, which included fish farming, poultry and community gardens.
- * Planned and implemented work projects between North American Mission teams and the local residents in 27 communities. Projects completed include latrines, cement floors, roofs, water connections, chimneys, improvements in health clinics and schools, mudding walls and teaching children's Bible school.

Education

- * The Scholarship program, which provides financial assistance for middle and high school students to attend four different area schools, funded 116 students.
- * 18 four and five year olds attended the Ranch Kindergarten; 8 five year olds graduated to the first grade.
- * Provided Elementary school education to 99 students in our Culuco school system.
- * 112 students attended our Hope Middle school in Culuco. 41 students graduated to High school.
- * 17 students attended our Grace High school in Culuco.



Health/Medical

- * Provided care for 8,740 patients
- * Performed ultrasound tests on 384 women

(Continued on pg. 3)



**Wilmer Padilla
has signed up 22
students to
attend the
pastor training
classes that he
teaches over the
week-ends in
San Esteban.
Way to go!**

Did You Know?



**Honduras'
territory
measures
112,492 square
kilometers.
Olancho is the
largest
department with
23,905 square
Kilometers
-Source Honduras
Weekly**

2010 Annual Report (cont. from pg. 2)

- * Provided prenatal care for 918 women
- * Immunization rate 96% in the HOI health region
- * Malaria prevention education given, 2 cases reported, but contracted outside of the Agalta Valley area. No cases detected in HOI's health region.



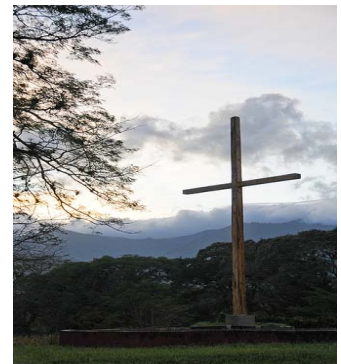
Mission Groups

- * With the help of our 34 visiting mission teams the following projects were accomplished: 43 latrines were built, 276 concrete floors were completed, 57 new roofs were put on, 67 room additions were constructed, 117 chimneys were built and children's bible school was taught in multiple communities.
- * 1,287 children learned of God's love and grace through Bible school lessons.
- * 41 kindergarten teachers from rural villages were trained.
- * Martha Fuller library in Culuco was completed, benefitting the whole community.
- * Furniture was constructed for the new library in Culuco.



Spiritual Life

- * Organized with area pastors, the "National Day of the Bible", bringing together 1,400 people from different congregations for worship.
- * Taught, shepherded and graduated 20 spiritual leaders from the Mahaffey Bible Training Center.
- * Distributed 236 Sunday school books to area churches.
- * Provided improvements to 4 community churches.
- * Taught Bible classes at the Hope Middle School in Culuco.
- * Weekly devotions are held for the Ranch employees.
- * Weekly worship service is conducted at the Ranch for employees and teams.



**Thank You to Each And Every One of You Who Made
All of This Possible!**



A team of vet students from CVM (Christian Veterinary Missions) recently “passed the hat” and raised \$1000 designated towards a scholarship for a Vo-Ag student when the Vo-Ag school resumes at the ranch in 2012!

The Veterinary teams who traveled to the Ranch in 2010 visited 43 villages and assisted with veterinary procedures– giving rabies shots and spaying / neutering village animals.



Martha Fuller Library Opens

The Martha Fuller Library in Culucó opened with the beginning of the school year in February. Built in memory of Mrs. Fuller, this public library on HOI’s Hope Middle School campus has become the focal point of the community with its beautiful hand crafted wooden windows and doors. During a week in March, the Wilderness team, organized by HOI Board Member Bob Hope, brought the elementary school children in for a story telling time. The children thoroughly enjoyed their first trip to the new library and the teachers will continue to offer this special reading time each week. The Hope Middle school students already use the



facility each day for research and study. The people in the surrounding communities have been blessed by generous North American donors and mission teams who put much work into making this library a special place for learning and one that brings hope for a better education.

**-Laurie Willing, HOI
Executive Director**



Impressions from a First Time Traveler

Honduras is a land of contrasts- rugged mountains, afternoon downpours, wildflowers everywhere and grinding poverty. There is almost a sense of “suspension of disbelief” because the natural beauty of the countryside stands in stark contrast to the needs of the people. For me, this sense was the strongest when I finished working in the village and travelled back to the Ranch- where there would be a hot shower and an abundant supper. How could I have so much when others have so little? And what should I do about it?

I had guidance from one of the women in our group who had traveled with HOI many times. She explained to me that we do not want to foster a “hand-out” mentality. That is why we take the time to travel to remote villages to work beside the villagers and build partner-

ships. The point is not to simply **give** the villagers the things they need. The goal is to work **with** the villagers to help them move towards self-sufficiency. Ultimately, we want them to be able to live in the freedom that the Lord intended us all to live in- working to sustain ourselves and our way of life, rather than depending on someone else to provide for us.

The best example that I can give is the day that I was giving candy to the children everywhere we stopped to buy gas or food. My friend gently suggested that I save my candy for the Fiesta that we would have on our final day in the village. Then she pointed out that giving out candy was encouraging the very “dependent” mentality that HOI works to move beyond. And she was right- the children kept coming back to our bus asking for more....Finally, I understood in a nutshell!

The Illiteracy rate in Honduras is 15.2%. Honduran women have more years of education, on average, than do Honduran men-6.4 for women versus 6.0 for men



Approximately 66% of Hondurans live in poverty-21% in relative poverty and 45% in extreme poverty. The term "extreme poverty" refers to those who do not earn enough of an income to meet their basic food needs.
-Source Honduras Weekly



Reflections From Smoke Rise Baptist Church- Deb Leamon

There is no way that the group that travelled from Smoke Rose Baptist Church can quantify the joy, love and blessings shared by all us- the village, the ranch friends, and our team. I know from the depths of my heart that I received more than was ever given away by sweat equity, collecting and hauling things to the village, etc. Nothing beats hanging out with my Honduran and SBRC buddies! God was truly amongst us weaving love stories for a lifetime. We are all looking forward to our 2012 trip!

The projects that were completed in partnership with the village of San Lorenzo, Gualaco:

- * Completed with the villagers all the construction of 14 cement floors, 5 chimneys, 2 latrines and 2 room additions.

- * Provided VBS for 130 students with Bible stories and crafts

- * 40 villagers were screened in a vision clinic

and provided corrective glasses or sunglasses.

- * Over \$300 of school supplies was given to the teachers.

- * Soccer balls and equipment were presented to the school and the village team.

- * Over 200 hygiene kits and first aid supplies were distributed to village families and to the ranch clinic.

- * 130 Spanish Bibles were given to village families, friends at the ranch, and Pastor Wilmer.

- * Large donation of first aid and medications was delivered to the ranch clinic.



Employee Recognition at Rancho el Paraiso



HOI recognizes and thanks the following employees for more than 10 years of service at the ranch and for their participation in the ongoing work in the Agalta V alley:

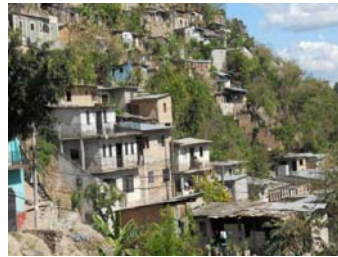
Faustino Vargas-Gardener
 Ubaldo Ponce-Driver
 Dr. German Jimenez-Medical Director
 Mirian Diaz-Administrator/Accountant
 Blas Romero-Nutritionist
 Maria Louisa (Rosa)-Cook
 Juana Barralaga-Cook
 Seyla Andrade-Teacher
 Nelly Padilla-Custodian
 Margarito Perez (Manguacho)-Construction
 Nohemy Urbina-Nurse
 Chona Moya-Custodian
 Miguel Hernandez-Nurse
 Maria Cruz-Medical Secretary
 And later this year the following will mark their 10 year anniversaries with HOI:

Martha Espinoza-Group Leader
 Olvin Valladares-Mechanic Assistant
 Rogelio Galeano-Handyman

WE APPRECIATE ALL OF THEIR DEDICATED SERVICE!

Trip Reflections from Hamilton Mill UMC– Allison Howe

About 6 months ago, my mom first brought up a trip to Honduras. I think she was expecting me to say no, but she still asked. I probably surprised her by saying I was interested. I officially decided to go, and Mom gave me ample opportunities to back out. But I never did. I'm so glad I chose to stick with it, because I got myself into a trip that would change my perspective completely. Flying into Tegucigalpa was my first flight, so I was freaking out a bit. I was convinced that I was going to die, thanks to a few friends who were trying to mess with me the day before we left. Obviously, I didn't die! After we landed and got outside, I was amazed at the poverty, even just outside the city. It blew my mind. The houses appeared like they were just stacked on top of each other. It was totally new to me. I just had to sit there and soak it all in. Going into the village of La



Higuera was a bit intimidating for me. I was about to go a place with a bunch of people who don't speak English, to do work I've never done before and reach out to people, especially kids, in a way I had no idea how to do. But I found it came easily. Everything I did was such a blessing to me, from being with the kids to mudding the houses. It was all so great, but for me working with all those precious kids was the best part. They were so innocent and so happy with what they had. A simple bottle of bubbles made those kids have some of the biggest smiles I have ever seen. The love of Christ just shined through them. They would come up to you and just give you a huge hug and love on you. It was amazing to me how you could connect with them even

though we didn't speak the same language. It was definitely hard to leave all the people at the end. Coming home, it was difficult to get back into the normal routine. I was back to a life of school, homework, and dance. But other than the fact that I had come home to a bunch of school work to make up...I had come home with a new perspective. When I first walked into my house, I realized just how huge it was. The house I helped mud could have fit into my bedroom.. Ordinary things like going to school feel different. I know just how good we have it in the U.S., because our "normal" here is in no way normal in Honduras. They were happy with what little material things they had and we are over here wanting *more* than all that we already have. Since returning home, I have had friends tell me that whenever I talk about our trip, I have a glow to me. I may no longer be in Honduras, but a part of my heart is about 1,500 miles away with the people there.



“I was amazed. at the poverty, even just outside the city....The houses appeared like they were just stacked on top of each other.”

-Allison Howe

Decatur Presbyterian Church and Marathon Runner raise over \$10,000

What does it take to raise over \$10,000? A congregation like Decatur Presbyterian, that is passionate about its mission work in Honduras and a marathon runner, by the name of John Bell. Mr. Bell, a member of the First Presbyterian Church in Greenwood, S.C., who traveled with the Decatur team last year and decided to take pledges from his own church to sponsor his 40-mile mountain run in late February. Decatur Presbyterian also responded with pledges by their members and together the congregations raised over \$10,000! The funds will be used to provide a better education for the children in the village of Guapinol and throughout the Agalta Valley. God has used this special gift of John's, along with the giving hearts of the two churches to make an impact in the lives of the Honduran children. Thank you so much!!

-Laurie Willing, Executive Director



Find us on Facebook and Twitter!!!



Facebook – Honduras Outreach, Inc. (HOI)
(Make sure to include the (HOI). This is our official page)



Twitter - @HondurasOutInc

Needed at the Ranch....

If you are planning a trip to the Ranch and find that you can fit any of the following items into your luggage, we would be so grateful:

- * Spanish Bibles– “Reina Valera” is the preferred translation
- * Pots and pans
- * Cookie sheets
- * Bath towels
- * Hand towels
- * Twin sheets for the dorms– YES, we still need these! We received enough for the *old* dorm but we need them for the *new* dorm.

Our clinics always need over-the-counter medications. Please ensure that all donated items have a minimum of 8 months validity remaining.

- * Aspirin (81 mg)
- * Acetaminophen liquid
- * Ibuprofen (200 mg tablets)
- * Ibuprofen (400 mg tablets)
- * Ibuprofen (liquid)
- * Immodium
- * Multi-vitamins (adult and children)
- * Prenatal vitamins
- * Naproxen sodium (tablets)
- * Robitussin
- * Triple antibiotic cream
- * Mylanta
- * Tums
- * Prilosec
- * Nexium
- * Pepto Bismal

If you would like to make a donation to HOI for a specific program area or overall support, go to
www.hoi.org/donate_online

We appreciate your support!!



SAVE THE DATE-HOI GOLF TOURNAMENT

Please mark your calendars for the Monday AFTER
Labor Day to play Golf in the HOI Fundraiser
Monday September 12, 2011
Where: Smoke Rise Country Club
When: 10:00 a.m.

Email Melanie for Information– mtoven@hoi.org

