



Flying Samaritans

Mother Lode Chapter

Clinic Report - June 2018

Primary Care Clinic

The sky in Stockton at 7am was hazy (maybe smoke) on Friday morning, **Chris Nelson** with **Bill McDavid** had taken off from Placerville Airport, arrived in Stockton to pick up **Dianne VanOrder** and **John Demshar**, Optometrist; **Bryon Krey**, pilot and dentist, flew from the Bay Area with dentist **Therese Noe** and her husband **Jeff Wolinsky**; we were joined in Baja by **Rich** and **Margie Wilson**, and **Joe Zachwieja** from Southern California who drove down by car.



The sky was beautiful and the thermometer read about 75 degrees on Saturday morning at the beginning of clinic. Since we had dentists the parking lot was full.

The medical clinic only had one MD so we expected to be busy and weren't disappointed. We saw a total of 71 patients. Next weekend the Gold Coast Chapter is going to be at Buen Pastor Hospital with ENT physicians so we had numerous referrals for ear, nose and throat problems, including a young man with a possible tumor in his nose.

Our local volunteers do more than their share of helping at the clinic, from translating for our docs, to moving patients from one place to another, gathering

names, bringing people into the medical clinic to be seen, Patty is the first person to see a medical patient, she gives them a number, fills out the exam form, then sends them to be triaged for vital signs. We could not do what we do without their help. One of our volunteers cleans and washes our vehicles, and cleans the clinic in preparation for our arrival. **Cecelia** also interprets for use, a all-around get it done lady.

Our flight home was head winds all the way, bumpy coming into Stockton but a great flight. Now to get ready for next month.

Dianne VanOrder, RN
Clinic Manager



Thanks to our Sponsors!

A SPECIAL THANKS to some of our many important program sponsors without whom The Flying Samaritans could not make the significant humanitarian impact delivered to those in need. Both monetary and non are essential to the operation of our clinic.

- Celeste Roseberry-Mckibbin with "Love, Talk, Read" generously donates children's books for each of the backpacks.
- Soroptimist International: Placerville, Cameron Park and Folsom
- Rotary Club International: Folsom; Folsom Lake; Placerville; Arden-Arcade; Pocket-Greenhaven; Loomis; Roseville-Sunrise; Orangevale, East Sacramento
- Rotary Interact Clubs; Casa Robles High School; Oak Ridge High School
- Ann Hively
- Lions Club International; Folsom Lake; Placerville; Embarcadero; Sacramento Senator
- Cris Gerard
- Dee Farmer
- Dr Bob Haining
- Dr Nancy Archibald and her Dental Team
- Folsom Project For The Visually Impaired; Don Ring
- Sister team, Dianne Vanorder and Margaret Sanderson
- Restoring Vision
- Revamps Hair Salon, Lucy and Andrea
- SOLO Eyewear
- Vitamin Angels
- SHARE Institute; Dr. Soheir Stolba
- Jack Olson; Folsom Lake Bank
- Tanya Moran
- Marlyn Pino-Jones
- Bank Of America Retiree Group
- Folsom Prison "Hooks And Needles"
- Placer County Corrections, Women's Division
- Sharron Flynn and neighbors
- Rolling Hills Church
- Brenda and Sterling Daley
- Cheri Throckmorton
- Trish McCum, American Sewing Guild
- German Club of Stockton
- Debi Amaral/VSP
- Maria Boyd
- Barsotti Family/Fran Ward
- Barbara Goyette
- Karin Aguilar
- Fiber Fanatics Knitting Group
- Lofti Lou Knitting Groups
- Joyce Hansen
- Elena Munoz-Plaza
- Lena Miguelgorry
- Eloisa Ciancaglini, RN
- David Herrmann
- Theresa Dao-Makiyama
- Todd Makiyama
- Alexandra Hansen
- Patricia A. Nelson
- Brian Claassen
- Dr John Demshar
- Lonnie Davis/Hope Haven West
- Anthony Pineiro and Wife
- Anu Rau M.D.
- Renfro's Bridal Shop
- Falco Family Foundation
- Pam Crause, Kathy Schneider
- Hangtown Fiber Guild



An additional THANKS from the children, women, and men in rural Baja for all of your thoughtful humanitarian contributions!!!

Backpacks for Baja

Junes Clinic celebrated reaching over 3,138 "**Backpacks For Baja**" distributed to those in need since the program began in 2014!!!



Chris, with the assistance of several local volunteers, distributed over 80 special backpacks to children attending the clinic. Each backpack included a special gift, sunglasses, important sundries such as tooth brushes and toothpaste as well as school supplies and a first aid kit. In addition each backpack includes a book donated by **Celeste Roseberry-McKibbin** of "**Love Talk Read**". Women attending the clinic also received handmade handbags that include personal care items, sunglasses, and a special gift. Volunteers distributed many donated items and sundries such as toothpaste, soap, shampoo and lotions. In addition there were special handmade dresses that were made and/or acquired in support of the "**Dress A Girl Around The World**" initiative. This initiative is designed to provide at least one nice dress to as many young girls as possible to build Dignity, Health, Joy and Love. Each dress was personally fitted to a happy recipient. Over 75 of these dresses were distributed. The **Rolling Hills Church** sewing team also contributed handmade children's dresses, dolls and other children's items, including shorts for young boys, which

were greatly appreciated!!!

There was also a distribution of hundreds of men, women and children's clothing items which were greatly appreciated by the thankful recipients.

We also gave out a large supply of handmade hats and scarf's as well as socks. These items were all made by the "**Hooks and Needles**" team of men at Folsom Prison. This team also contributes handmade stuffed toys and other impactful items each month. The items were greatly appreciated by all and the recipients asked that their thanks be passed along!!!

Linda Nelson makes many of the backpacks/handbags (Over 2,000 program to date!!!!!!) and manages the coordination of the items that go into them as well as putting them together and ensuring they are ready for transportation/distribution. She also coordinates the packaging and transportation of all the other items distributed, including the monthly supply of women's and children's vitamins. Thanks for your caring and thoughtful efforts!!!

Cheri Throckmorton along with help from members of The Rolling Hills Church, once again, contributed handmade backpacks and other meaningful and much needed items. THANKS!!!

Great teamwork takes place every month in helping make this impactful initiative happen!!!!
A special thanks from the women and children in Baja for everyone's humanitarian contributions



Optical Clinic

In June 103 exams were completed and nearly all of these patients had glasses fitted and left the clinic with a smile and greatly improved vision!!! Two pairs of glasses were ordered for patients with unusual prescriptions.

We were fortunate to have assistance from **Dr. John Demshar** to work with challenging patients. Dr. Demshar examined every patient after they went through preliminary testing. This ensured accurate prescription readings and helped to identify more complex prescriptions which would require extra attention to fit. Thanks for the outstanding contribution!!!!

Over 98% of the patients needing glasses were fitted on the spot this month thanks to an improved work flow instituted by **Margie Wilson** as well as her diligence and training of the entire team!!!

Historically, we have been able to fit about 94 percent of the patients with glasses on the day of the clinic and we then order the remainder online for delivery by one of the pilots the following month. Thanks to the knowledge and patience of Margie Wilson assisted by **Lucie, Dalia, Angie** and **Chris** in the fitting/evaluation area, nearly all patients needing prescription glasses were fitted on the spot!!! This is very significant in our effort to assist those in need of vision care on the day they are evaluated.

This was a team effort with **Joe Zachwieja**, interpreting and assisting with training and utilizing the new Spot Vision equipment in the initial evaluation. **Judy**, a long time local volunteer managing the intake of new patients and assisting with exams as well as providing knowledgeable assistance to all. Judy's son **Jesus** and a friend, **Victoria** as well as **Candy Castro**, a local student and the daughter of one of our long time volunteers, gave oversight to the distribution of children's and adult sunglasses.



We had a pre exam and initial patient intake forms completed by Judy and other local volunteers including **Melanie** the daughter of long time volunteer **Imelda**. We continue to train/utilize everyone that was capable to ensure timely service for those in need.

The total number of patients seen was well over 175 with over 103 exams using the Auto Refractor and/or Spot Vision. In addition we gave out 37 pairs of readers and 2 pairs of glasses ordered from months prior. We also distributed approximately 225 pairs of sunglasses. This included Men's, Women's and Children's sunglasses. The children's sunglasses were a big hit as many of the recipients had never had the opportunity to own a pair in the past and the styles were current and "cool" with themes that they could relate to such as Spiderman, Batman and Ninja Turtles for the boys. The children's sunglasses as well as some of the readers distributed were provided by Tte **Restoring Vision** organization as well as the **Lions Club**...Thanks!!!

The service was efficient and the success rate of fitting was excellent due to the efforts/diligence of the entire team!!!

A special thanks to **Don Ring** of the Lions Club and **Folsom Lake Lions** for providing the prescription glasses and sunglasses. Also the generous donation by Solo Eyewear and Restoring Vision of reading glasses and children's glasses was appreciated by the thankful recipients.

We also received a donation from □ **Morris** with **VSP** of 125 pairs of high end sunglasses that were a huge hit particularly with the Women who appreciate the styles and quality that we would not normally be able to provide!!!

Another special THANKS to **Jim McKay** and the **Central Valley Chapter of the Flying Samaritans**. They helped us with the funding to purchase a much needed Lensometer and also loaned us a Spot Vision set of evaluation equipment. Dr. John Demshar also made the generous donation of a Slit Lamp. The new equipment greatly improved our ability to accurately and quickly evaluate patients and help them with the appropriate optical solution.

MANY THANKS to everyone that made this clinic an impactful humanitarian effort!!!

Chris

Expanding Orthotic Services

"Hecho Por Amigos Para Amigos - Junio 2018"

We are in the process of refurbishing the current garage space to accommodate a patient area where Orthopedists can better assist those in need.

With our ever expanding array of services and growing needs of clients, every bit of space is needed!

The project will take a number of months and is planned to be a collaborative effort including members of the Flying Samaritans, the **East Sacramento Rotary** (who have assisted significantly in the past with premises and other challenging issues) as well as other participants, both local and from the U.S. as needed.



The space is approximately 30' X 15' and is in need of a new roof as well as flooring and a complete interior build out. Rick is working to put together a detailed cost estimate that can be presented to Pinos Ranch requesting assistance.

All resources are being evaluated as the need for assistance with this project is significant. special thanks to everyone who has assisted with this project to date. In particular **Rick Wilson** the project leader.

Thanks!!!! It will not happen without great teamwork!!!!

Clef Pallet Patients

The little girl in the photo is two years old and came into the clinic because she was ill. It was determined by **Dr. Bill McDavid** that she had Chicken Pox.

The child also has one of the more extreme types of Cleft Pallet. Bill is taking ownership of assisting with getting this condition repaired and already has arrangements for her first appointment with a surgeon. In the U.S. this condition would have been addressed and repaired at a younger age. If this child had not gotten Chicken Pox and come in for treatment her condition may never have been repaired as her family does not have the resources etc.....

Thanks Dr. Bilito!



Dental Education at Alma Luminosa

At a recent clinic, after extracting multiple teeth on a 4-year-old, **Dr. Theresa Noe** found herself frustrated. She could treat patients and get them out of pain, but without any education about dental health or diet, nothing would really change. Recognizing that there's virtually no time during clinic to educate patients individually, she started brainstorming other options. Then it hit her -- patients and families waiting at the clinic are a captive audience. If we could present them with some dental education materials, it could be a huge win, especially if they material were presented in an entertaining way. Dental education cartoon videos (in Spanish) seemed like a great way to reach both kids and their parents.

With this idea in mind, Dr. Noe started thinking about the equipment and media content needed to make this happen. A big flatscreen TV on a stand would be perfect for showing videos to the many folks waiting (sometimes for hours) at the clinic. How could we easily get that equipment to Los Pinos? Costco Mexico delivers! Where could we find some good education videos in Spanish? YouTube!



Although Dr. Noe was originally going to fund the project herself, after hearing about her idea, the **Alameda Country Dental Society Foundation** generously decided to pay for all the equipment. **Arturo Rodriguez** volunteered to receive and hold all the equipment at his home in San Quintin, and personally delivered it all the afternoon before the June clinic.

Dr. Noe's husband, **Jeff Wolinsky**, assisted by Dr. **John Demshar**, unboxed the equipment, assembled the stand, mounted the TV, and tested the video playback. With the help of **Chris Nelson**, they found the perfect shaded spot to put the TV.

On the morning of the clinic, we rolled out the TV, and started showing the educational cartoon videos. Kids and entire families gathered around to watch. After the same videos were looped many times, we switched over to some regular cartoon entertainment, then back to more of the education videos. Mixing it up was well received.

Of course it's hard to determine exactly how much information was being absorbed, but folks seemed entertained and engaged. If even a little information about brushing or diet or the importance of baby teeth gets through, it could make a big difference.

We're excited to show the educational videos at every clinic and, over time, to add additional health education videos (more about dental health and diet, general health, eye health, diabetes, etc.) If you're aware of any videos that would be good to add, please let us know. The TV can also be used for showing training videos to helpers or for other purposes that benefit the clinic, volunteers, and/or patients. We have a DVD player available.

Special thanks to Dr. Theresa Noe, Arturo Rodriguez, Doug Wirzberger, and the Alameda County Dental Society Foundation for their support of this project.

Dental Report

The June Dental Clinic was very busy with a line of patients already waiting at 7:00 in the morning for their opportunity to have their dental needs taken care of. They were fortunate to have Dentist, **Bryan Krey** and **Theresa Noe** to assist them. **Jeff Wolinsky** also worked in the dental area assisting with patients and ensuring that Bryan and Theresa had the necessary tools to operate efficiently. **Rick Wilson** also played an important role repairing equipment and ensuring that the dental team had all the stations operating as needed. The four dental chairs were occupied by patients in need the entire day.



Many of the patients were children and the primary need for all patients was the extraction of teeth. All patients in pain or in need of extractions were seen and the dental team worked well into the evening to make this happen. The total number of those taken care of was approximately 40.



A Fresh Prospective

I'm thrilled to have joined the Mother Lode Chapter for my first trip to Los Pinos in June. My wife, Theresa, is a dentist and has participated in clinics before. Despite her enthusiastic descriptions, it's hard to appreciate the energy of a clinic day without being there in person.

Our flight day from the Bay Area was clear and uneventful. Dr. Bryan Krey was our excellent pilot and graciously put up with my dozens of aviation questions. After landing, while Bryan and Theresa and other volunteers set up the dental clinic, I undertook my first task of the weekend: setting up a large screen TV and stand for showing dental education videos, primarily for kids. (More about this in another article in this clinic report). After what seemed like 100 assembly steps, it all came together and the equipment was ready for the next day's clinic.



We capped off the evening with cervezas and street tacos. Being a vegetarian, my choices at the taqueria were quesadillas, quesadillas, and quesadillas. I chose the quesadillas (and they were really good). We rushed back to the bar at Hotel Mision Santa Maria just in time to watch the Warriors win the NBA championship. Go Dubs!

After a good night's sleep, a strong cup of coffee, a filling breakfast (including more quesadillas), and a jugo verde ("green juice" -- highly recommended), we were fueled and ready for clinic. When we arrived, I found the clinic already in motion. Patients were being triaged and families were staking out spots for the wait ahead. I was surprised to see over 200 folks waiting before the clinic had even officially opened for the day.

I set up the TV and started the dental education cartoon videos. It was great to see a bunch of kids gather around and watch. I also set up the autoclave for sterilizing the dental equipment. After helping to take boards off the windows of the dental clinic, we were off to the races. Dr. Krey and Dr. Noe (Byran and Theresa) started seeing patients at an amazing clip. I was tasked with handling their used trays, syringes, and instruments. As someone who tends to turn green at the mention of medical procedures, I wasn't sure how I'd do with all this. In the end, I spent the whole day cleaning and sterilizing instruments, and disposing of extracted teeth -- all without once vomiting or passing out -- a small victory! My cleaning duties were occasionally broken up with other tasks: holding down the limbs of small children during extractions (necessary but heart-wrenching), searching for various obscure dental supplies, helping repair a dental chair, switching the TV over to more-entertaining cartoons after the kids has seen the educational ones for the 10th time, and tormenting locals with my mediocre Spanish (they we so kind and understanding).

In the later afternoon, the crowds starting thinning, with only dental patients remaining to be seen. Major kudos to Brian and Theresa for their determination to treat every patient they could. With extra help from Chris and Dianne and others, we buttoned up the dental clinic and headed back to the hotel. After an exhausting and gratifying day, we decided to stay put at the hotel, indulging in way too many margaritas and a big dinner (with a delicious local tomato salad and, thank goodness, no quesadillas!).

As we flew home on Sunday, I reflected on my clinic experience. With so many activities going on at once, I was tremendously impressed by how organized the clinic was, how dedicated and competent the volunteers and helpers were, and how many people we were able to help. Although my contribution was small, I was honored to be part of this effort.

-Jeff Wolinsky