



Flying Samaritans

Mother Lode Chapter

Clinic Report - June 2019

Primary Care Clinic

June clinic was a bit different this month, **Maria Boyd** and I flew Southwest to San Diego and then drove to San Quintin with **Margie Wilson** a few days before Saturday's clinic. We were able to clean/rearrange cupboards and discard/re-donate supplies that we no longer could use. We had a huge supply of dressing materials and The Mission (an orphanage that serves many in the town of San Quintin was able to use all of the items we could not.

The rest of our volunteers were as follows:



Chris Nelson flew **Mariana Locke** and **Gwen Douglas**; **Charley Santoni** flew **Bob Haining** and **Dan Dowling**; **Sonny Sethi** flew his daughter **Sahej**, **John Demshar** and **Linda Ogata**; and **Julius Chiang** flew **Selina Yang** and **Gary Grieder**. We also had a large contingent of volunteers come with **Raffy Rodriguez** from Southern California to run the Dental Clinic this month, including **Elmer Batac**, **Eliza Rodriguez**, **Mhark Calanac**, **Estaban Campos**, **Katerina Furlow**, **Elizabeth Gibbons**, **Fernando Gutierrez**, **Mario/Melissa Isas**, **Christa Jarmillo** and **Laden Mohammadabadi**. **Joe Zachwieja** drove from Oceanside to join us.

We were busy in the medical clinic seeing 56 patients, several repeat patients and many new ones. I had

help from **Linda Ogata** who did vital signs, she is a volunteer from the Lodi Rotary; and, **Cheryl Flores** who is a resident of San Quintin who comes on Saturday mornings to help in the medical clinic. **Maria Boyd** also help sign in patients to the medical clinic. It would not have been successful Saturday without them. A really special thanks for their help.

The pilots flew home Sunday morning to good weather and returned safely. We, three, drove back to the US on Monday and then **Maria** and I flew back to Sacramento. It was a very successful clinic and I look forward to another in July.

A very special thank you to **Cecelia Castro-Rueda** a volunteer who lives in San Quintin. She is our Flying Sam representative there and takes care of the clinic and our vehicles, notifies the radio station as to whether or not we have dentists, and just picks up the little things that need to be done to get the clinic ready for use. She also signs in patients to the medical clinic every Saturday. She has been a faithful volunteer for us for several years and we depend on her and she comes through for us always. Thank you **Cecelia**.

Dianne VanOrder, RN

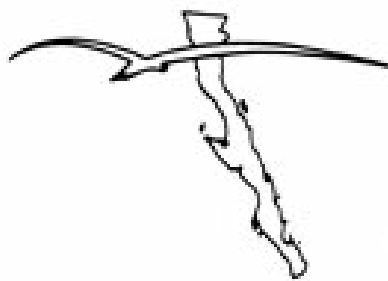
Thanks to our Sponsors! A SPECIAL THANKS to some of our many important program sponsors without whom The Flying Samaritans could not make the significant humanitarian impact delivered to those in need. Both monetary and non are essential to the operation of our clinic.

- 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, Folsom High School, Bella Vista 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
- 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
- Marcella Claassen
- Cheryl Francis, Grace & Mercy, Lodi
- Lisa Smith
- Nina Wright
- Nicholas and Carmen Soberanis
- Dennis and Carol Anne Venturelli
- Dennis Metzler

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



Flying Samaritans®

SAMARITANOS VOLADORES

Backpacks for Baja

The June Clinic celebrated reaching over 3,892 "Backpacks For Baja" distributed to those in need since the program began in 2014!!! **Linda**



Nelson has made 2,400; **Cheri Throckmorton** and the **Rolling Hills Church Team** have made 1,180; Placer County Corrections Inmates have made 723 and other helpers made 629!!!!

Cecilia, with the assistance of **Imelda, Gwen Douglass, Chris** and several other local volunteers, distributed over 80 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 50 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!!!

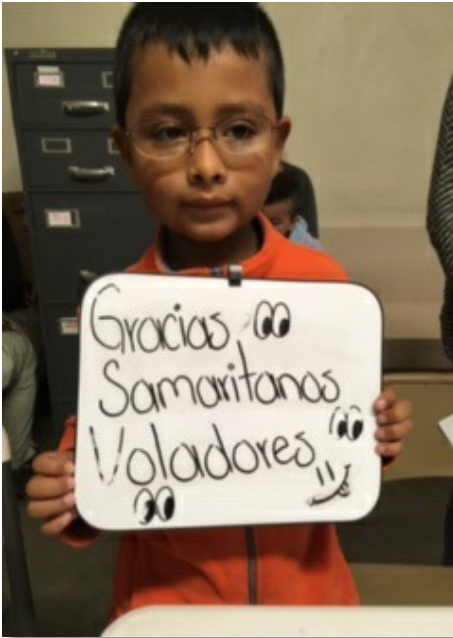
Linda Nelson makes many of the backpacks/handbags (Over 2,400 program to date!!!!!!) and manages the coordination of the items that go into them as well as putting them together and ensuring they are ready for transportation/distribution. She also coordinates the packaging and transportation of all the 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 over 90 optical exams were completed before noon. 95% of the patients needing glasses were fitted on the spot this month and left the clinic with a smile and greatly improved vision!!! This successful outcome was thanks to the improved work flow instituted by **Margie Wilson** as well as her diligence and training of the entire team!!! This is very significant in our effort to assist those in need of vision care on the day they are evaluated. Margie was assisted by **Angie, Lucy, Chris**, as well as other local volunteers in the fitting/evaluation area. We were fortunate to have **Dr. John Demshar** as part of the team and he did an examination on all patients as well as made recommendations regarding work flow.

Historically, we have been able to fit over 97 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.

This was a team effort. **Joe Zachwieja** managed the exam process including utilizing an Auto Refractor as well as having assistance from **Gary Grieder** on the Spot Vision unit. **Judy**, a long time local volunteer managed the intake of new patients and assisted with exams as well as providing knowledgeable assistance to all. **Inez**, 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 and assisted wherever needed.

We had a pre exam completed by other local volunteers including **Melanie**, and **Sherlyn** the daughters of long time volunteers, **Imelda** and **Minerva** as well as **Denya**, the daughter of Judy. We continued to train/utilize everyone that was capable to ensure timely service for those in need.

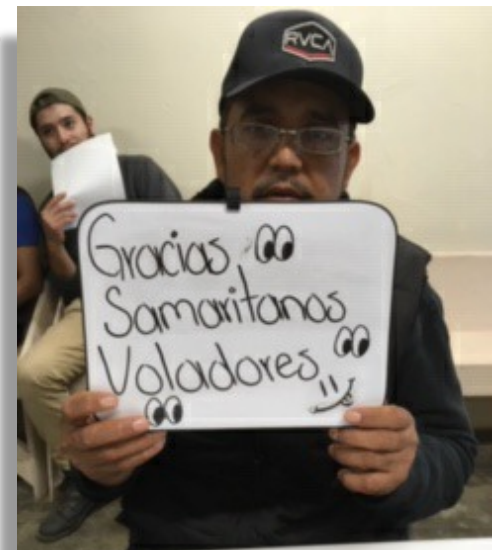
The total number of patients seen was well over 180 with the 90 exams referenced above completed using the Auto Refractor and/or Spot Vision. In addition we gave out 40 pairs of readers and 3 pairs of glasses ordered from months prior. We also distributed approximately 100 pairs of sunglasses. This included 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 The 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 **Chris Morris** with **VSP** of 100 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.



Dental Clinic

The June trip to the dental clinic at Los Pinos in San Quintin was a great success. The dental clinic completed 29 cleanings, 13 extractions and 19 fillings which totaled to 60 patients. Everyone worked hard throughout the day and it was fulfilling.

The dental team's trip started in the early morning of Thursday. The van filled with 10 volunteers and over 600 pounds of donations left from Orange County, CA and traveled around 250 miles to Los Pinos. Our first destination was at a daycare center in San Quintin where the first set of donations were distributed. Special thanks to **Fernando Gutierrez** for donating over 300 t-shirts throughout the whole trip. The second stop was at Hogar Para Ninos in the town of Vicente Guerrero, an amazing orphanage that is filled with a loving and caring staff. Lastly, the team stopped at the dental clinic to drop off the rest of the donations for Saturday. The dental team arrived at the hotel exhausted and deserving of a goodnight's rest.



Friday was a day of relaxation and fun activities. The team had split up to experience the beautiful San Quintin. The adventurous group went on a deep sea fishing trip. The fishing trip hit the ocean at 5:30 am and lasted until 2pm in the afternoon. The other

group wanted to fill their bellies with delicious oysters at a nearby oyster farm. The team had a great day to absorb the beauty of this area!

Saturday started with a breakfast buffet at the hotel restaurant where the team met a lovely couple, **Julius** and **Selina**. Julius is a pilot that flew the other members down to Los Pinos and Selina is a college student studying to be a dentist. The team consisted of hygienist, 2 dentists, 3 dentist assistants, 2 translators and 3 volunteers. Our regular hygienist and constant volunteer, **Ladan Mohammadabadi**, and her amazing assistant, **Beth Gibbons**, commandeered two alternating dental seats for maximum efficiency. **Dr. Eliza Rodriguez** and **Dr. Esteban Campos** along with their assistant **Mhark Calanoc** and Selina worked diligently to do extractions and fillings. **Marc Arango** and Julius were in charge of cleaning instruments and using the autoclave. **Sahej Sethi** was in charge of organization and tray set ups. **Minerva** and **Dhalia** were a big help in translating. **Mario Isas**, a research scientist at USC and a member of the dental team, was more suited to help at the Vision Center. Overall, the clinic ran smoothly as the day went on. It was rewarding!!

The dental team worked very hard but at the end of the day, they felt more grateful and happy that they got a chance to be a part of an amazing organization and helping the wonderful patients at Los Pinos. Special shoutout to Dr. Eliza Berris Rodriguez and Marc Arango for coming down to help even though it was their birthday. Happy Birthday!!



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A Fresh Prospective



What a great trip it was! I have learned so much on every trip.

I had no idea that kids still suffered from clubbed feet as old as two or three years old... I thought that it was always treated while still an infant....

And I was able to buy an orange and a huge pastry for about 70 cents at the grocery store...

But the people are what makes this group so amazingly enjoyable...and efficient! Dianne and Marianna are very cognizant of time and very picky on how things are done. It guess that is how you all keep it going!

Thanks, again...and by the way, Sunny is a great pilot!

Linda Ogata



Expanding Orthotic Services

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 Wilson put together a detailed plan that was presented to Pinos Ranch representatives requesting assistance. A meeting was held in June with a member of the Rodriquez Family/Pinos Ranch and he agreed to replace the roof and begin work on the cement floor. This work will begin in July, weather permitting.

Rick has completed cost estimates with the help of Victor Castro a local contractor that we work with who is also the husband of Cecilia, a long time volunteer.

All resources are being evaluated as the need for assistance with this project is significant.

A special thanks to everyone who has assisted with this project to date. In particular Rick Wilson the project leader and the East Sacramento Rotary who are assisting with funding the project.

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

