

Flying Mother Lode Chapter

Clinic Report - July 2019

Primary Care Clinic

Another bright and sunny morning in Placerville heading South to Baja, **Chris Nelson** flew me, **Mariana Locke** and **Clay Laderer**. Clay is a pilot and a physicians' assistant, new to Flying Sams and first time at clinic, but participated like an old shoe. He will be a great asset to our medical team. We picked up Clay in Livermore, which had cloud cover upon our arrival and we had to land IFR (instrument landing) not a problem for Chris. **Evelyn Hahn**, our pilot from Davis, flew her husband **Dan** (his first visit to the clinic) and picked up **Dr. Bob Haining** from Concord. **Joe Zachwieja** drove from Oceanside and

brought **Bridgett Moran** and her daughter **Olivia**. Bridgett is a certified nurse midwife.



We landed in Mexicali to very hot weather, even at 11a in the morning it was close to 90 degrees. We had a new Immigration Agent but the process went very well, and we were on our way to Los Pinos, to 75 degrees and a light cool wind.

We had four medical providers and saw 67 patients total. It was busy and we saw variety of medical problems. Dr. Haining repaired a ladies full hip to foot prosthesis, as it was ill fitting. He saw his "regular" patients, as he is a rehab pediatrician and follows children from birth to adulthood with special needs. We have several

patients, now adults that he sees whenever he is with us in Baja.

We have many pedi patients and this clinic was no different, coughs, colds, fever, growth problems, Mom's with a wide variety of questions about their kids.

We headed out early on Sunday morning to Mexicali, trying to beat the heat, but didn't have much luck, it was over 80 degrees at 8a there and in Calexico, which is our Port of Entry into the US 10 minutes flight time from Mexicali. It was 90+ very humid in Calexico and the Custom Officer said it has been 112 degrees the day before. Flew out heading North for home.

We had a great clinic, helped a good number of patients and look forward to going again next month.

-Dianne VanOrder, RN

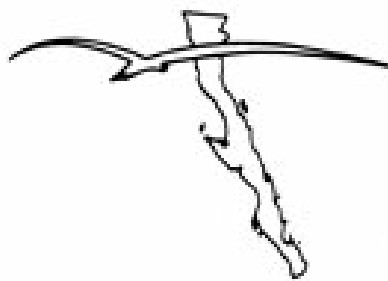
Thanks to our Sponsors! A SPECIAL THANKS to some of our many important program sponsors without whom The Flying Samaritans could not make the significant humanitarian impact delivered to those in need. Both monetary and non are essential to the operation of our clinic.

- 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 4022 "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 60 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 70 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 July over 100 optical exams were completed before noon. 97% 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. patients were assisted by **Dan** and **Evelyn Hahn, Angie, Lucy, Chris**, as well as other local volunteers in the fitting/evaluation area.



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 Dan Hahn 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 1500 with the 100 exams referenced above completed using the Auto Refractor and/or Spot Vision. In addition we gave out 30 pairs of readers and 2 pairs of glasses ordered from months prior. We also distributed approximately 120 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.

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

A Fresh Prospective

From the moment I learned about Flying Samaritans and inquired about information, they made it an easy and welcoming process to get involved.



They assisted in helping me get scheduled for the July clinic and were extremely supportive in explaining the logistics in being picked up at Livermore Airport. The pilot contacted me a couple days before departure to coordinate my pickup and upon arrival at the airport I was enthusiastically greeted by the pilot and the other volunteers. The flight down to Mexico was safe and fun. During the flight everyone was gracious in explaining how things worked there, sharing stories of their experiences and providing insight on how one can become more involved. The customs process was explained in a very informative manner which made the process very easy when we landed in Mexico. From our required customs stop we proceeded on a quick flight down to Los Pinos where we landed on an airstrip that was a couple hundred feet from the clinic.

I was provided a quick orientation to the clinic and we set off for the hotel which is in a great location to sit back by the beach and relax after the day as well as have a meal with the group.

The clinic was well organized and during this weekend operation, they were providing both an eye and medical clinic. Upon arriving at the clinic it was amazing to see the number of people waiting that had taken a bus or walked to get medical care. It was impressive to see how well tuned the process was for checking people in and getting them seen both in the medical clinic as well as the eye clinic. There was a great team atmosphere as everyone was willing to help out and engage with each other. Being my first time, I had numerous questions about procedures as well as types of medicine that I do not typically get involved. The other providers, nurses, and volunteers were very helpful and informative. It was definitely a very collegiate, interactive and intelligent team and exciting to hear about the different types of services the Flying Samaritans, such as: medical, dental, ophthalmic, and even prosthetics.

After a great day at the clinic, it was nice to enjoy the comradery while out to dinner with the group but also hearing the stories and their experiences over the years at the clinic and how much passion they have and the joy it has brought them.

The next morning, we loaded up early and headed home with another safe and enjoyable flight. On the way home, it was rewarding to reflect on the care that was provided to people that truly have very little and even less in the way of medical care, or even the simple ability to get glasses. It was amazing to think and see how a simple thing such as glasses and the ability to see now can change a life so much and bring so much happiness to others. My first experience with the Flying Samaritans was nothing short of rewarding and excellent. I look forward to being a part of the group for years to come.

-Clayton Laderer

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 July with Arturo and Rafael Rodriguez, members of the Rodriguez Family/Pinos Ranch and they agreed in concept to replace the roof and begin work on the cement floor. They will be presenting a proposal to the Pinos Ranch Board Of Directors. This work is planned to begin in September, 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!!!!

