



MCCA Newsletter

MEXICAN CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S AID

2ND QUARTER, 2011

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And whoever welcomes a little child like this in my name welcomes me. Matt 18:5 NIV

BORDER NEWS

Recent border crossings into Mexico have gone very well. There are still restrictions preventing the import of fresh fruit and vegetables, although beans and rice are allowed. Travel in Mexico has also proceeded without incident. We receive regular reports from the places we visit and have been reassured that they hear of no unusual threats. We welcome volunteers to help pick up products, load trucks, and travel along on the trips to Mexico. Please be assured that we are cognizant of the "fear factor" associated with travel in Mexico, and that is why we maintain frequent and close communication with the orphanages and ministries we serve.

REUNION

On Saturday, February 12, MCCA was greeted by fifteen Christian men at Rancho San Juan Bosco in Tecate. They had returned to visit the orphanage where they were raised 10 to 12 years ago. In that return, they expressed their thanks to the directors, Misael and Yolanda Morales Quezada, for all the blessings and love given them over the years.



Misael told us, "They remember with much love and gratitude how every month MCCA came to provide food. They also remember being part of a tradition at San Juan Bosco, which was to make flour tortillas. The men say 'Here we learned to cook and make flour tortillas.' That was made possible by the sacks of flour that you [MCCA] always brought." Praise God that **we all have been blessed** to be a part of their lives and the ministry at San Juan Bosco.

Muchas gracias! ~ Ed O'Brien, Board Secretary, MCCA

This is just one of the 50+ ministries that benefit when you contribute to MCCA. Over 97% of donations are used for food and Bibles, so the gift of your blessing is certain.

TREASURER'S CORNER

MCCA is very grateful for all the donations we receive! Without them, we would not be able to help those who depend on the food we deliver each month. No donation is too small! I would like to encourage those who do not now donate to MCCA to consider sending a monthly check for \$15, \$20, or \$25. These contributions add up and can make a big difference! Please pray for MCCA and for God's guidance in your charitable giving.

~ Judy Arnett, Board Treasurer, MCCA

MISSION

Mexican Christian Children's Aid is a charitable corporation founded in 1964 by a group of Christian businesspersons concerned over the sharp contrast between the wasteful affluence of U.S. society and the abject poverty found so close to our borders. MCCA is dedicated to helping needy children in Baja California, Mexico, by providing food and other assistance to local Christian organizations. At least 97% of all funds are used for food, Bibles, and other aid provided directly to orphanages and other Christian organizations in Mexico.

YOU NEVER FORGET

"It's like riding a bicycle; you never forget" goes the saying: No matter how out of practice you are, once you put your feet on the pedals and push off, it is as if you never stopped riding. Many of us stop riding bicycles when other interests enter our lives or when the effort seems too much. In this case, the children of Casa Hogar Belen were not riding their bikes because there were very few functioning bikes to ride.

A little background information on Casa Hogar Belen. This is the last ministry on the Tijuana (TJ) run, and it houses and feeds 80 children, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. On site, there were many bikes padlocked to a bike rack. The children told us that many had flat tires, rusted chains, or were unsafe to ride. With the TJ run being a short run, which means trucks are back before sunset, and being so close to the US border, MCCA member Fred Jacobs decided to take extra time to get those bikes back in working order.



Photo by Paul Vela

Last November, Fred and I, with the permission of Casa Hogar Belen, set up a bicycle clinic. Packing a case of WD-40, an air compressor, a bag of tools, and medical latex gloves, we went to work. First order of business was triaging the bikes and seeing how much help they needed. Many just needed air in their tires, chains lubed, and handle bars tightened. Some needed new tires and tubes, which we noted to bring for the next time. Others were not repairable, or at least were not repairable in a single day. While we were working, one of the young men came over and asked if he could help. We put him to work and he did the best he could, with Fred and myself guiding him. His friends came by, telling him to come play with them, but he stayed. Caretakers called for him to do other things, but he told them he wanted to help us. He stayed until the end. He'll never forget the opportunity to fix things like one of the big boys. That day, we put 9 bikes back in working order, and the kids didn't waste time riding them. Smiles and laughter filled the yard as both boys and girls took to riding the bikes they had not been able to ride in quite a while.

This past March, we went back to finish the bicycle clinic armed with the same equipment as the time before but with more people to help. Bikes were re-triaged, with tires replaced and new tubes installed. Seeing the kids smiling and having fun on bikes that were unusable just days before was something I will never forget, and I'm sure the kids won't forget it either.

~ Paul Vela, MCCA Board Member

BOARD CONTACTS

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Return Service Requested

RIDER PERSPECTIVE

When I was asked to write a short paragraph on our trip to Mexico to deliver food to orphanages, I was not sure what to write. I was captured by one word that best describes the feelings and plight of these dear children. It is the word NEGLECT. To be born a prisoner of neglect must be the epitome of human rejection. Just imagine if you had to ask yourself these questions every day of your young life: who am I, who were my parents, why did they not care about me, what is my life all about and what am I doing in this place. As I reflected on this, I remembered what Jesus said, "Let the little children come to Me, and do not hinder them for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these." Yes, these are God's kids... and so the men go there every month to serve the kingdom, not to be a hindrance, but to bring with them blessings of hope. We pray that the kids will remember, but one thing is for sure: God sees what we do and He says, "Well done my good and faithful servant."

It is **God** who has given MCCA members **His** love, insight, and the will to serve. It is the faithful support of MCCA's donors that keeps this ministry going year after year to serve the orphans and the Christian men and women who serve these children 24 hours a day and 7 days a week in Baja California, Mexico. It is all to **God's Honor and Glory.**

~ Dean Youngsma, Revival Quest Ministries

2011 MEXICO TRIP SCHEDULE

May 7, Jun 11, Jul 9, Aug 6, Sep 10, Oct 8, Nov 12, Dec 10

PROVIDENT BANK COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

Provident Bank, with 14 locations, is the largest independent community bank in Riverside County. Provident clients can indicate that a certain portion of Provident's earnings be directed toward a non-profit group, such as MCCA. Donations are from Provident, so personal funds are not affected. Specific information for donating to MCCA in this way can be obtained by talking to Christina Cannon at the Redland branch, (909) 793-2992.

The web site link to more information about this program is: <http://www.myprovident.com/businesscommunitypartner.asp>

IN MEMORY OF:

Marshall Mead from Suzanne and Christopher Colby.

BOARD CHANGES

There have been some changes to the MCCA Board. Mike Adler stepped down from the Board and from driving after 34 years. Herm Verhoeven has retired from the Board and from driving although he still rides along to help pick up food and deliver it to Mexico. Art Cooper is recovering from a fall. Some relatively new board members are Ray Hooper, Ron Koning, and Paul Vela. Please pray for healing for Art and blessings for Mike and Herm in the ongoing work the Lord has planned for them. Also remember the new members and the MCCA Board in general for the work they are doing to continue this ministry.



Photo by Ron Koning

Herm Verhoeven and Pastor Eufrazio Perez are pictured in front of Herm's truck. Herm retired from driving and decided to donate his truck to the Mexican ministry that Pastor Enfrasio is associated with. This includes Iglesia Bautista Primera, Instituto Biblico de Tecate, and Tecate Mission (pictured in background).

BOARD NEWS BRIEFS

The MCCA Board meets at The River CR Church, Redlands, CA, at 7:30 pm on the Monday following each regular Mexico trip.

- Sept 13 & 28** – Funding for food is at a critical point. All donations will be designated as general funds for food purchases.
- Oct 11** – The Board is saddened when Mike Adler resigns after 34 years of service. A three-step plan has been implemented to help bring expenses in line with declining donations.
- Nov 8** – Nominating Committee presents a new slate of officers which are approved: Joe Martin-President, Larry Feenstra-Vice President, Judy Arnett-Treasurer, and Ed O'Brien-Secretary.
- Dec 9** – Donations up significantly, Turkeys donated by the following: Morongo Indians (75) and individual donations (36).
- Jan 12** – Over \$29K in donations received in Dec, Praise God. Border crossings went very well, excellent trips reported by all.
- Feb 9** – Report of visit to an orphanage with reported problems indicates these are unfounded, and food donations to the site will continue.
- Mar 12** – Costco donated 240 turkeys. End-of-trip stops at the Tecate Mission will no longer occur since there are now more routes and widely varying times and locations for crossing the border back into the USA. Prayer for healing requested for Kim Cysewski, Linda Doss, and Pastor Roland.

How great is the love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are! 1John 3:1 (NIV). **The wonder of the cross demands a response.**