

JANUARY 2010

May 2010 be a blessed and peaceful year, full of the Holy Spirit to all of our beloved friends, donors, volunteers, and missionaries.



January 1st start by receiving the Minnesota team, so happy because they left the snow behind to come to chilly but sunny Guatemala. Father Nathan Kroll as the spiritual leader and Doria Saros as the lay leader carried out activities like a cleaning rally among boys and girls, singing and playing the guitars, and just fun since the children were on vacation. Father Nathan celebrated the Sunday Liturgy and on the Feast of Theophany the team rented a bus and everyone went to the Divine Liturgy, the Blessing of the Waters, and the Blessing of Lake Amatitlan. There was a trip on the boats to bless the AMSA project that is cleaning the waters of the lake. A delicious lunch at about 3 pm was served by the nuns and everyone enjoyed this very special and holy day. Our little boy Angel Gabriel celebrated his birthday this day when we returned to the Hogar so he had his cake and candles. Many years to all these people!



Jody Adams who had been here since October, left with the Minnesota team, we appreciate all the work she did. Her “see you later” treat was to invite the teenagers to watch a movie and to eat at a nearby and safe mall. Thank you Jody!



Annie Hope from Australia also left this day. Both Jody and Annie helped to type the services in English so that missionaries can follow up what we are doing in church. Thank you both! The tshirts from Australia that Annie brought delighted the children, all Aussie subjects.



Timothy Martini a volunteer and missionary in the country, who helps in the woodshop celebrated his birthday. The girls had fun taking photographs of him! Many years to Tim!



The Sacramento Team arrived with Father Nicholas Andruchow from Flagstaff, Arizona, as the spiritual leader and Antonio Aliviotis from Portland, Oregon as the lay leader. Joining the team was Katharine Furry, who previously had visited as part of a Real Break team. Colleen Shaver from Ohio also joined the team for a few days. They helped with maintenance tasks and Dr. Chris Catt helped in the school evaluating some of the boys. He also gave a talk to the teenagers about keeping a

safe weight, giving them pedometers and an elliptical machine to exercise, as he has a walking program for the young in Kentucky. Father Nicholas celebrated the Sunday Liturgy and a baptism for the parish, the day they left he also celebrated a Liturgy. Thank you all!

- Jember has returned to his mother after being one year in Rio Dulce. His sisters chose to remain in the Hogar as they told the Judge they were studying and had a good and centered life. It is amazing how they all grow and mature! The rest of the older boys returned to AkTenamit in Rio Dulce to continue studying and growing. They will come for Holy Week to celebrate the Orthodox way.



Silvia celebrated her 18th birthday with a lunch in Pizza Hut and a special dinner celebration on the 23rd! She already went to get her adult ID. She is planning to study Architecture or Design in two years when she graduates from High School. Many years to Silvia!



Mr. Alan Russell who is so kind to us came for a week to work with the girls in the woodshop. This time he got them a Shopbot, a very nice machine to have 3D wooden things made. The girls have so much fun with him as they went to dinner twice and to the theater to see Joseph and the Multicolored Coat of Weber and Rice. The maturity and responsibility the girls are obtaining by working with him is great. No words to thank him!



Our pool was leaking so Jorge fixed the problems with construction advice. The pool was half empty and the little children were so afraid of what was happening. Guadalupita and Andrea Patito cleaned the tiles! Active girls!

Dr. Dean Gekas and his two assistants from Baltimore visited on the last Sunday of the month. He is a dentist and came to help with mission work in the country. It was nice to have them here.



Libertópolis, a radio we like very much as they are Libertarians who support all these ideas about freedom and responsibility, gave a beautiful party to the children the last Sunday of the month. They had a Hi5 show run by Claudia (Teatro en Su Casa), piñatas, candies, hotdogs, popsoda, cake, and many presents for the children. We thank Libertópolis, Contravía Kids for bringing this party and presents to our children, and Panadería San Martín for donating the delicious cake, always so kind to us.

We thank everyone who makes possible to run the Hogar in such a great way. All of you who came and shared, you are great people. Thanks for the many donations that make possible to give lots of gifts to the children. All to the glory of God!!! Please come again and pray for us!!!