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On March 1st, all the children and youths were invited to the Palmerola airbase, where they spent a very nice day with lots of games and laughter; it was a very fun and exciting day. They really enjoyed the games organized for them, the food and the snacks. Some of them were given clothes, and the younger ones received toys.

A large group of boys and girls were given examinations by a dentistry brigade at the Club Leones de Comayagua on the week running from February 3 to February 7. We have experienced an outbreak of chicken pox; some girls have had severe cases of it and others have shown milder reactions; they have had very high fevers, but they are all receiving treatment, drinking soup, sodas and plenty of water.

We are pleased to inform you that we will be soon having a wedding. Sara Nohemí Molina will be marrying Mario Ely Bonilla on April 05, 2014.

The arts and crafts workshop is still open, and the girls attend a purse-making workshop for one or two hours after doing their homework. At the Farm, the Carpentry Shop is operating. Luis García and Jaime Ramírez are working there, while they go to University.

The girls and boys in university are very dedicated to their studies and barely visit us during the weekends because they have a lot of homework. They say they are doing well and feeling well, and they are very happy with their new life and changes. The girls studying in Escuela de Bellas Artes, Charlie C. Osorto and Juana Maria Mejía, are very happy to be studying what they like. They say they have had some trouble with one of their subjects, but they are putting in a lot of effort to pass it.

The girls at the Bilingual Schools and Miguel are doing well, studying hard and moving forward with their English.

God bless you all,
Carmen, the children and youths
at Hogar Nazareth

BOARD BULLETS - March 2014

- The Board received reports from several serve teams which have already visited Hogar in 2014. Among the highlights were a reunion dinner with Hogar alumni and their families, meetings with representatives of Association for a More Just Society (a US / Honduran non profit very active in social justice issues in Tegucigalpa), and visits to Tegus to visit the townhomes of our college students and the landfill school.
- The Ministry Partnership Agreement between AGC and Hogar de Ninos Nazareth has been translated and presented to the Hogar Board for their consideration and review.
- Mario and Sara will be married on April 5, and several Board members and supporters will be attending.
- Doris and Christina are applying for admission to the ESL course at Dominican University in Chicago which Juan Francisco recently completed.
- Greg and Janet Brewster will be traveling to the US in June for an extended visit centered around their daughter's wedding.

All God's Children

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For sponsorship opportunities, the history of Hogar de Niños and more information about AGC visit our Web site: www.agcltd.org

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News of the Niños

Spring 2014

Comayagua, Honduras

Dear Godparents, Friends and Members of AGC's Board of Directors.

Asociación Hogar Nazareth respectfully greets you, and wishes God's plentiful blessings upon you all.

Dear Godparents, benefactor friends, and AGC's Board of Directors. We would first like to thank you for all the love, dedication and perseverance you have shown to our young boys and girls, for the unconditional support we always receive from you, for your prayers and blessings, and for the grand desire to continue to share the same thoughts and feelings for the benefit of each and every one of our boys, girls and youths.

Thank you very much for your economic, material and spiritual contributions, which each of you has given us in a different way, but with one common objective: looking out for the wellbeing of all of our beneficiaries. Thank you very much to the members of each group that has come to us in this year 2014; they have been very generous in sharing their time playing with the children, organizing age-appropriate activities for each of them (painting, drawing, making and filling out greeting cards). Some godparents painted the buildings and gates, while others worked on lighting, or plumbing, which took a lot of work. Thank you very much! We would also like to thank the group of men who gave a rose to each girl. They were very thankful and happy with this kind gesture on Valentine's day. Thank you very much for that noble detail.

At the beginning of the year, a bull was donated to us. This was very important, as the cows needed it.

The boys, girls and youths are already attending different Educational Centers to receive their classes, forming their intellect to overcome the difficulties and barriers that our current society demands, so that they can face life and the world when they come of age. They are very excited about their classes. We had their uniforms made, bought their school supplies, backpacks, jackets and even black shoes for some of them. As last year 3 girls were expelled from Victory School, and the rest of them said they did not feel comfortable there, we switched them to a different school, and they are now attending the Ebenezer School during the afternoon. The girls attending Buen Pastor were entered in the evening classes, as during the day they do their homework and take care of their babies. This decision was made thinking of their wellbeing. Gabriela Alejandra Orellana, Ginny Mae Matamoros and Roxana Pérez Sánchez, who suffer from learning disabilities, have had difficulty with 6th grade, and therefore, this year, they were enrolled in a vocational workshop. They are learning dressmaking (tailoring). So far, they are very excited about it. The same happened at the Farm. Roberto Sosa and Jonathan Ramírez were enrolled in the INFOP, where they are taking vocational formation classes. Girls over 12 who could not be enrolled in regular school and have learning disabilities were enrolled in the government's program *educa todos*. They attend there 4 days a week and then receive help supplementing their subjects at home.

Children ages 9 and over who can read were enrolled in the first communion catechism class. Boys and girls over 14 have also already been inscribed for the confirmation of the Catholic faith, which they attend to. On Saturday, March 1, the youths had a vigil at Church. They were very happy to attend. They love participating in church activities. We started Lent with Ash Wednesday in which our boys and girls participated. This Friday we will also begin the Stations of the Cross. This is done every Friday, and it is a way to remember the Passion of Jesus and to accompany him in his suffering on his way to the Calvary. It is divided into 14 stations. The boys and girls enjoy participating in this tradition.

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"Whoever welcomes one of these little children in my name welcomes me." Mark 9:37

MY GRADUATION DEDICATION

Each year the Hogar high school graduates are taken out for a celebration dinner and given a Bible or devotional gift by a visiting work team. They are also each given an opportunity to express their thoughts to the group. Many participate and their words are always profound. The following is the speech given by Henry Fabricio.

With love and affection!

First I thank God for this special moment with all these people or rather our family.

I want to tell a little of my life and the changes I have seen. I feel very happy that God has never left me alone. God is always in my company. Some time ago I was very angry with him because I had lost my mother. I was very mad and very lonely. I wondered why these things happened if God exists. But what was not understood is that God has a plan and within that plan my mother's death was intended. Then as time went on I was getting to know God and pondered what had happened. I had to cure the pain. I had to renounce resentment, and seek God's help.

I asked God to do what he wanted with me. "Show me the plan you have for me!" I can now experience His peace and contentment.

I admire every American who visits the orphanage; I can see Jesus acting through them. I admire and appreciate the love that God has for us that showed through all who visit us.

Thanks to all because they care about our food, education and welfare. I especially want to thank Mr. Allen for his work at the orphanage. I know that he is getting older and losing hair while caring for this project. I also admire his sacrifice in everything he does, so that we have a better future.

I want to thank all the groups because they might not spend enough time with their own families because of their time in Honduras. I know that in heaven God has a great reward for all of you, as he has here on earth.

Thank you very much to all benefactors and friends. I also want to thank my sponsors, Brian & Lea Harlow, David & Rose Hiskes and Tom & Deb Muhlena that have loved me like parents. Thanks to the organization of All God's Children for giving me the opportunity to continue studying. I thank you from the bottom of my heart. A thousand times I give thanks also for your devotional gift to me. It is one of the most precious gifts in my life. I've always asked what is best for me and God answered me with this devotional gift. I said, "thank God, I know you hear me."

For all this I thank God for the lives of all who have helped us both financially and especially spiritually. Thank you dear sponsors for all the support you have given me since I came to the orphanage. You inspire me to be wise and successful and follow your footsteps. For all this I dedicate my graduation to all of you. May God bless you!

Henry Fabricio Romero García



Finding Missing Pieces by Vanja Pistalo

In order to have a relationship with Christ, we must have an open heart filled with gratitude, respect, humility, and dignity for our friends, family and all others. By having an open heart and clear vision to what is going on around us, we see how Christ finds and places the missing pieces to our puzzle. From the first day in Honduras, a few missing pieces were clearly right in front of me. Visiting the children, their homes, playgrounds, and churches helped me see that Christ truly is everywhere. Every person I had the pleasure to meet was filled with joy, happiness and faith in Christ. Those little smiles worked like magic. The love and happiness was everywhere. The days felt longer, and every day was a blessing in its own way. Before this trip, the word paradise had a completely different meaning to me. Paradise, or fulfillment was a nice, warm day at the beach, maybe Hawaii, with little umbrella's in drinks, and nothing to do all day but relax.

Fulfillment for me now is playing dominos, coloring Dora pages, soaking up the sun, enjoying the breeze, connecting with kids that I have never met before and feeling such love. It's love for one another, for a complete stranger that felt like my sister in matter of few days. It's love from a complete stranger in the brickyards to whom we had donated shoes and pajamas. The smiles on those faces and seeing kids running up to people with open arms and open hearts is something I will never forget. This was my first visit to Honduras and every part of the trip was something new and wonderful. The group devotions were inspiring; they were all different yet had the same message; have faith in Christ. We need to have faith in Christ and faith that the love towards Christ is our source of life, joy and the only pathway to paradise. Wherever you find fulfillment it is because Christ is there and everywhere; He is everything. He is the sun that keeps your body and heart warm, the breeze that cools you down, the colors on your page, and the water your body desperately needs to survive. Every child I saw in Honduras had a beautiful smile, a heart filled with joy, laughter and a sparkle in their eyes. They take care of one another, love each other and love all of us that come to visit.

At the end of the week, while saying goodbye to all the wonderful little faces, I realized how much love and joy I felt as my last night in Comayagua was ending and the fact that I found not few, but many missing pieces to my puzzle. Every day was a true blessing, a clear view of Christ, and how important it is to have an open heart and love for one other.

Lastly, I want to say how thankful and grateful I am to have been a part of wonderful group of people that care so much for others. All are wonderful individuals who are in my thoughts and prayers.

To Peggy Rayson, who has been an inspirational figure in my life for over ten years, thank you for being a wonderful role model and for opening my heart to many little faces I will never forget.

To Mr. Allen, thank you for keeping us all hydrated and safe.

