



# H.O.W. NEWS

**A Call To Help Orphans & Widows**

**Spring 2009**



On Feb. 12-15<sup>th</sup>, 2009, Paul Cuellar, a brother in Christ and contributor to a missionary in Costa Rica, and Joe Hernandez, went to Nicaragua. The objective of this trip was to observe the **Nuevos Horizontes Orphanage** bakery in use. The bakery has been built by several **H.O.W.**USA missions' teams. We were able to film the workers baking bread, which was later sold and proceeds used to sustain the children. We had a wonderful time with Pastor Dagoberto, the Director of the Orphanage, and the orphans.

The other objective was scouting a mission's project on Corn Island, which is part of Nicaragua. We spoke to a **Foursquare Missionary** in need of help to build a church. The land has been purchased by **Angelus Temple Church** in Los Angeles. Assistance in purchasing mortar is a current need. The objective here is beyond sending funds only, but includes taking a team to build the church. Corn Island has a terrible drug and alcohol problem and needs the gospel to be preached there.

The last objective was visiting a work, started and being maintained by the **Missionary Doctors Association**, for widows. **H.O.W.** has been working for years with Dr Salinas, a director with that association, in Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, and Ecuador. Paul Cuellar and Joe Hernandez visited 40 widows and 40 orphans. The objective was to meet the widows and orphans and determine how we can help. The widows expressed a desire to start a small business with hopes of sustaining themselves. We had a meeting and discussed how to approach these suggestions made by the widows. Our Lord will guide us in this endeavor.



On March 14 Joe and Arcelia Hernandez went to Oakland, California and met with Dr. Leila Chow. Dr Chow is an Optometrist that works for the non profit "**Lions Insight**" organization. The goal was to establish a strong relationship with **Lions Insight**.

**Lions Insight** provides eyeglasses for **H.O.W.** missionary work around the world. Dr. Woody Hopper (a former **H.O.W.** Board member and now a full time missionary for **Mercy Ships**) was the liaison who would order the glasses. **Lions Insight** provides glasses for their own programs as well, doing 30 or more projects a year in Mexico, Guatemala, Panama, other Central America Countries, and Africa. We had a good time developing a relationship with Dr. Chow and her pharmacist husband.

Our Lord put on Joe and Arcelia's heart to do work in Bolivia in November 2009. The Lord asked them to begin building an orphanage home. The work will be with **Dr Serafin Contreras, H.O.W Central and South America field representative.**

**Lancaster First Assembly Church** will be helping **H.O.W.** begin this project. If our Lord grants our heart's desire, **H.O.W.** will do a widows and orphans outreach, a pastor's conference, medical, dental, construction, and optical service. This will be collaboration between **H.O.W., Lions Insight**, and churches from California communities of Banning, Pomona and the Antelope Valley. May our Lord grant us His grace for His work.

Interested in sponsoring an event, an orphan or a widow? Contact us today!

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## Antelope Valley Poppies in full bloom 2009



## Our Mission

**Helping Orphans and Widows' mission is to help and assist orphans and widows worldwide by strengthening and encouraging them through economic, physical, medical, spiritual, and/or material means.**

The directors of H.O.W. have served on mission outreaches in many countries around the world and have learned no man is or ever will be greater than his creator. Our objective is to serve with love and compassion to orphans and widows and extend Grace to them. They are valuable people. H.O.W. encourages and works with churches, businesses, and government when any opportunity arises that will assist this effort. H.O.W. is Helping Orphans and Widows.

The Directors of H.O.W. are all dedicated to serving and do so without salaries.

## Service with *Mercy Teams* - Cotonou, Benin West Africa

Directors Jim and Nina Bayles February 09

This began as a medical construction event with *Mercy Teams* and to review orphanage and widow needs in Benin, Africa with *H.O.W. Africa Representatives*, Woody & Robin Hopper. A great opportunity to assist with "*Mercy Ships Screening Day*" became available and the entire *Mercy Teams* construction crew of was happy to assist. This *Mercy Team* included men and women from England, Canada and the U.S.

We have been on many medical outreaches over the years. None were a match in the size of this event. We were very impressed in the organization and arrangement in place by *Mercy Ships*. "Pre-register potential patients in a Cotonou, Benin sports stadium."

It was a good day, hot and sunny. As the stadium filled with potential patients, each reflecting a directed focus of sincere hope for medical aid, a peaceful spirit moved among the large and busy assembly of *Mercy Ship* volunteers. That calm atmosphere surely aided relaxing the anxious feelings of hundreds of men, women and children waiting patiently for screening. It was a massive agenda and *Mercy Ships* did an outstanding job reaching out with compassion and love toward each person as a unique and special person, regardless of his or her condition. The value of the person did not blend into a procedural classification, become misplaced and forgotten in the busy pace of this day.

I worked one of the several "registration" tables, with the aid of an interpreter from Sudan. My wife, Nina, sitting along side of me, worked registrations aided by a Nigerian interpreter. One inquired how much we got paid to do this. Both were shocked to learn we were not paid. We were with *Mercy Teams* and we had paid to come and help serve with *Mercy Ships*. That opened the door for witnessing the hope within us during the breaks between registering candidates for medical treatments.

It was stunning to learn many people, especially women, did not know their age or their birthday. Many times, the addresses given for a residence were simply the name of a village. It was a blessing to witness the large number of fathers bringing their son or daughter in for possible treatments. It was difficult to consider some of the men, women and children, with major medical needs, sitting before us, would be declined treatment somewhere in the screening process beyond our registration table. Sharing that news was surely the most difficult assignment of any team member. Everyone registering received prayer. The total number of registrations for that one-day was in the area of 3000 with nearly 2000 being accepted for treatments. Surgeries and treatments, scheduled for a ten month window of service, would begin six days later. It was a good day."

