



LOS MEDICOS VOLADORES

March 2009

Oasis Trip

Dr. Dave Morgan, MD, already has close to 50 members signed up for the March 20-22 trip to Oasis. The Health Fare will be on Saturday, the 21st, travel and setup on the 20th, travel and relaxation on the 22nd.

Dave is very pleased to see people from all 5 chapters signed up, however, he is looking for even more medical professionals of every legal medical skill to help with the monumental task of seeing hundreds of patients in the one, long, grueling day. Contact Dave at 916-408-0633 or david182m@yahoo.com.

[See page 3 for details.](#)

Central America Trips

The next trips to Central America are slated for 2nd week of March 2009 to Dominican Republic and August 1-9, 2009 to Guatemala. See page 5 "Back to the Future"

Safety in Mexico

Last month we discussed kidnappings in Mexico as a relatively new risk for Americans and also wrote that the uncle of one of our members was kidnapped and his family paid all their wealth to have him released. What I failed to state was that the man who was kidnapped was a Mexican citizen and a businessperson in Mexico.



Baron Bob Horvath carrying Olympic Torch in 2002 (Nostalgia)



Patients waiting patiently in El Salvador, 2002

Photographs by Don Wolf

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LMV 2009 Trip Dates

March 7-14; Central America; Dominican Republic, Monte Short, 415-606-3969

March 19-22; San Ignacio, MX; Ed Kneler, MD, (OBGYN); Audrey D'Andrea, MD (Family); Judy Whitehall, MD; Bob Lamkin, Co-Pilot ; Bob Horvath, Pilot. Call Clem Schrick.

March 19-22; South Bay; San Ignacio, MX; Jonathan Kahn, MD(ENT); Barbara Williams, RN; Pedro Rump, Pilot; Heber Alfaro, Interpreter. Call Clem Schrick.

March 20-22, South Bay; Oasis, CA; Bill Rush, Pilot;

March 20-22; South Bay; Oasis, CA; Colleen McHugh, RDA Driving truck.

March 20-22; South Bay; Dave Renbarger, DC; Elicia Hammond, RDH; Brook Nichols, MA; each driving land vehicles.

March 20-22; Gold Country; Oasis; Call trip coordinator

April 16-19; South Bay; Fronteras, MX; James Watson, DDS; Ursula Seville, RDA; Stan Pareto, Pilot; Maria Norall, Interpreter

May 14-17; South Bay; MX, Sam Bishop, Pilot; awaiting other participants, call trip coordinator

May 21-24; Gold Country; Baja, MX; Call trip coordinator.

June 11-14; South Bay; MX, Sam Bishop, pilot; awaiting participants, call trip coordinator

July 9-12 MX, South Bay; awaiting participants, call trip coordinator

August 1-9; Central America; Lake Atitlan, Guatemala. Dental trip, need 4-6 Dental Teams. Call Marian Stahl at marianstahl@comcast.net or Ed Weiss at eweiss1211@sbcglobal.net; or Milt Camp at miltcamp@aol.com or 209-743-2667.

September 9-12; October 15-18; November 12-15;

December 10-13; Call your trip coordinator

Editor Slowed, but not Stopped

By Don Wolf

Your editor had a minor stroke on Sunday, February 22 and spent 3 days in the stroke center at Good Samaritan Hospital. After a couple of MRIs, and dozens and dozens of other tests, the Good Sam staff could not find anything in my head. Thus, without any apparent physical impairment, they sent me home to be cared for by my long suffering live in RN.

The experience was very enlightening. When it felt like someone had pulled a white shade over my left eye, Anita rushed me to the ER at Good Sam. While she parked the car, I walked into the ER and saw a line at the ER window of about a dozen people. I cut into the waiting line, walked up to the glass window where the clerk on duty asked in an irritated voice, "What do you want?" I announced, "I am having a stroke!" **I have never seen anyone change gears as fast as that woman!** She was out of that chair in 1 second flat, had me on a gurney in 2 more seconds and 10 seconds later I was looking up into the faces of a half dozen staff, all

poking, sticking needles in me, applying EKG leads, etc, etc. I was impressed and reassured.

It is true; if you are going to have a stroke, get to Good Sam. They are trained, motivated and competent. They are a Certified Stroke Center! And my eye sight returned, I passed the DMV eye test and received a new drivers license that expires in five years. Thus, no worries for 5 years.

Don

Hello OASIS!!

By Dr. David Morgan, MD

(Editors Note: To give you a feeling for the complexity of this mission, here are some of Dr. Morgan's notes that change every day.)

Below is the tentative line up of those interested in going in March. Changes will occur in this list. Email anytime with questions.

Thanks,

Dave

LMV will work at the Desert Mirage High School this trip at 81-150 Ave. 66 Thermal, CA 92274 phone, 760-397-2244.

We stay again at the Royal Plaza Inn located at 82-347 Hwy. 111 Indio, CA. 92201

Fifteen rooms are reserved, get a roommate and make your reservation. Phone 760-347-0911

Always changes: **We need more PILOTS.**

GC. Randall Sosnick, Pilot BE-36 Bonanza N527RS
<randall@sosnick.net>

GC. Tom Brenner, O.D. <tbrennerod@hotmail.com>

GC. Rex Baker, Optician <rbaker2012@comcast.net>

GC. ??? Lady?? Optician

RC. Art Schmauder, Pilot CE-T210 N727SS

<aschmauder@gbis.com> 775-833-0367

RC. Hank Frohlich, Pilot, Translator

RC. Aimee Abittan, Dental Assistant

GC Michael Narodovich, D.D.S.

<DrNarodovich@yahoo.com>

GC. Jane Rhodes, RDA, H. 530-823-0996, C. 530-305-0882

SC. Bill Rush, Pilot C-182 N 7366S

<brush@skyhighway.com>

SC. Stephen Los, D.D.S.

<molarmknc@earthlink.net>

SC. Marilyn Jaffe, Social Worker; <mjhotlines@aol.com>

H. 707-763-6719, C. 707-318-3912

SC. Scott Plank, P.T. 408-287-8881

GC. Larry Tabor, D.D.S., Pilot Cherokee N8824J

<negley@pacbell.net> 925-516-8498 C. 510-581-0844
GC. Linda Tabor, RDA

CA. Milt Camp, Pilot Cessna 210
<miltcamp@aol.com>

CA. ?? unknown CoPilot

GC. Jack Names, M. D. (Modesto)

<jacknamesmd@sbcglobal.net>

GC. Kathleen Hatfield, P.T. <jkhat@dcn.org>

GC. Jon Katz, Translator, Volunteer <jgk5@cornell.edu>

GC. David Morgan, M.D., Pilot C-182 N9126G

<david182m@yahoo.com>

GC. Norman Beckert, Pilot (best go-fer)

<n.beckert@onemain.com>

HI. Ricardo Guillen, D.D.S. O. 916-428-7004

C. 916-730-7004, Fax. 916-421-3249

GC. Nam X. Hoang, D.D.S. namh@hotmail.com

Driving, groups and individuals or flying commercial

SC. Geni Sundquist, R.N., (driving with passengers)

<halgen@sbcglobal.net>

(possible passengers)

SC. Sabrina Vazquez, Dental Assist. tahoe03@yahoo.com

SC. Victoria Angelo, R.N.

SC. Meg Bowers, Volunteer megbowers@gmail.com

SC. Colleena McHugh, RDA driving (possible passengers)?

SC. Olivia Suttayapiwat, Volunteer olives@gmail.com

SC. Delia G?? Volunteer optimistic_delia@yahoo.com

SC. Blanca Ruiz, Translator, Volunteer,

br_ruiz@hotmail.com

LMV members Driving!! Great!!

SC. Giang Chu, D.D.S. <giangchu@yahoo.com>

SC. Lolinda Dickinson, RDA

SC. Bilma Luquin, Dental Assistant

SC. Michelle Ortega, Dental Assistant

SC. Don Wolf, Photographer, Mission Historian

SC. Anita Wolf, R. N. <anitaswolf@aol.com>

GC. Earl Montgomery, Volunteer

GC. Valerie Montgomery, R.N. <mntyve@att.net>

SC. Brandon Seto, D.D.S., <brandonseto@gmail.com>

SC. possible D.D.S. friend of Brandon Seto

SC. Elicia Hammond, RDA <elicia1968@yahoo.com>

SC. Brooke (Hammond) Nichols, Med/Assist., flying comm

SC. Dennis Beech, R.N. <dbeech1@verizon.net>

SC. Craig Jace, Acupuncturist Licensed P/A 303-333-3411

<medicineman@socal.it.com>

SC. Dave Renbarger, D.C. renbargerchiro@juno.com

GC. Marie Rucker, Translator takes a very big load

SC. Katia Gomez, Volunteer, So. CA. k Gomez@ucsd.edu

No transportation, plane or car!!

GC. Diane Miessler, R.N. Translator, dimiessler@yahoo.com

several others, but no communication with them!???

RC. Denise Parker, Volunteer <deenpark@yahoo.com>

RC. mother of Denise

?? Rudolfo Batarse, M.D.

GC Kaelin Swaney

GC. Jon Swaney

HI. Bob Horvath, Pilot

etc. etc.

CONFIRMED FROM UNLV SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY
SIX DENTAL STUDENTS IN THEIR 3rd or 4th YEAR.

MILLIE McCLAIN, PhD. WITH THEM. .

South Bay Board Meeting Highlights

By Colleen McHugh

DATE: Jan. 7 2009

Attendees: Colleena McHugh, Steven Los, Bob Lamkin,
Pedro Rump, Karen Brown, Roger Martinez, Liz and Clem
Schrick, Wayne Rhoten, Blanca Ruiz, Don Wolf

Treasurer, Elizabeth Schrick, reported: We are solvent!

Membership: Elizabeth Schrick

Renewals Received 33

New Members 3

Equipment Coordinator: Elizabeth Schrick

The next truckload of donations will probably be sent
to Mexico by the end of April.

Optometry Efforts: We have about 60k pairs of eyeglasses to
process. The Truckee eyeglass clinic was cancelled due to
weather.

The Folsom prison processing program has been suspended.

A glasses cleaning clinic is scheduled for May 2, at Gini
Sunquist's home in Sunnyvale.

Old Business:

Blanca is not able to take over membership at this time.
It was decided that membership maintenance will be the
primary focus.

Karen Brown is working with Art Schmauder on
volunteer coordination. Art will fly to villages and survey
their needs, Karen is in contact with a nutritionist who
speaks Spanish, and she is thinking of a gardener for fresh
vegetable information, and a family therapist for information
trips.

Karen got some Spanish training videos for children.
She is also talking to Flying Magazine to see if someone
would write an article on LMV so we could get more pilots.

New Business:

Bill Rush presented a Casa Hogar dental clinic
progress and needs report. He presented a want list for a 2
story school and dental clinic he is helping to build, South of
Ensenada. Clem's motion to donate 8k to the Casa Hogar
dental clinic project, via Bill Rush and Larry Tabor, with
receipts and accountability reports to follow, was passed.

Blanca reported that the Corporate Board felt that the
Mazatlan health clinic should be covered by the Central
American chapter project.

Corporate Board Meeting Report- A cease & desist order was issued by an organization in Africa who has claimed they have been using "The Flying Doctors" name since the 50's, so we took the words "The Flying Doctors" off our web site.

Pedro and Ramón have a meeting on the 14th to talk about the Cisco proposal, and plan to apply for long term sat phone service funding. One phone has been sent to Art for his Mexico trip next week. EBay power sellers donated Spots and service, and we have them. Ramon also got Skype phone/Bluetooth service donated, which is up and running now. Pedro and Ramón also plan to brainstorm our needs, plans, and future. Dr. Los suggested talking about future money spending at the next meeting.

**BACK TO THE FUTURE
DOCS IN THE DOMINICAN 2008 AND 2009**
By Monte Short

Los Médicos Voladores is planning a second trip to the Dominican Republic in March of 2009. But before I can outline the details of this second trip, I really must provide you all with a belated Trip Report for the Exploratory Trip to the DR that took place in March of this year. The following 2008 Trip Report will provide a summary of events and will also provide a pretty good overview of what to expect on the upcoming trip to the DR in March of 2009.

Docs in the Dominican 2008

In March of 2007, my wife and I went to the Dominican Republic with our 6-year-old son for one

And so...in early March of 2008, *Los Medicos Voladores* and *Orphanage Outreach* joined forces to organize and implement a medical and dental clinic in the Monte Cristi area of the DR. From March 1st through March 15th Tom and *OO* sponsored a Health Fair for the orphanage and the surrounding area. As part of the Health Fair, 17 incredible folks from *LMV* volunteered their talents for a 5 day clinic from March 10th through March 14th. This truly incredible team, in no particular order, were as follows:

Stefan Andren.... DDS	Arianna Cagan....Volunteer
Hugh Boyle.....DDS	Christine Meserve.. Medical/Dental Support
Susan Hartzell.....RN	Amanda Meserve..Volunteer
Holly Nelson.....Paramedic	Lynn Gallati.....Medical/Dental support
Edward Lujan.....RN	Bruce Tufts.....RN
Jeanette VanderKwaak...RN	Annica Berkey.....RN
Benjamin Cavilla.Physician	Ruth Terao..Translator/Bilingual Teacher
Franklin Long.....Physician	Monte Short..Trip Coordinator
Edward Weiss.....DDS	

During the actual 5-day clinic, we were joined by several other advanced medical and dental students from various schools throughout Canada and the U.S. The first day and the morning of the second day was spent at the local hospital. The afternoon of the second day and all of the next three days were spent at 4 different Bateys. Each day we set up in typical *LMV* fashion in schools and under sheds and any other structures that worked. We set up the all too familiar "suitcase" pharmacy; and at most of the Bateys we had to use a generator for power and

month. For part of the trip we went to the town of Monte Cristi. Monte Cristi is located at the northwestern most corner of the Dominican Republic, adjacent to the border with Haiti and very close to the Caribbean coast. It is arid and hot and the community of Monte Cristi is a rather large town with most services located in town. It is relatively safe and most of the town is very poor. However, the people are very friendly and smiles are everywhere. Some of the Haitians live in areas of the Dominican called "Bateys" that are essentially campsites in and around the local plantations. These Bateys represent some of the poorest conditions in the DR and also represent the greatest need.

During our stay in Monte Cristi, our family stayed at an orphanage in the town of Monte Cristi for one week. This orphanage is now surrounded by a compound with living facilities for both the orphanage children and various volunteer groups that come and stay throughout the year. This compound and the related organization are known as *Orphanage Outreach*. Their web site is www.orphanage-outreach.org. *Orphanage Outreach* was founded, developed and expanded due to one incredible man...Tom Eklund. Tom is now the Executive Director and continues to expand humanitarian aid to Monte Cristi and the surrounding areas of northwestern Dominican Republic. Upon getting to know Tom and his organization, we both thought a medical and dental clinic was the next logical step in helping this extremely poor area of the world. So we started to put together a joint effort to get medical and dental aid to this community.

the compressor. The people were incredibly gracious and thankful. The clinics went relatively smooth with no major problems. However, we ran out of critical meds on day three but managed to limp along with meds from several local pharmacies. Also, on day four we had a significant language barrier that created a bit of frustration...you see in this particular Batey they spoke a French and Spanish Creole and we had no...I mean NO translators for this language...the medical team managed to get through the morning with body language and Spanish to French interpretations. There were no other major problems and we ended up helping 1,133 patients over the 5-day clinic.

During the clinic in Monte Cristi we all stayed at a multi-purpose building owned by *Orphanage Outreach*. This building is an older, four story building in the downtown area across from the local square. The accommodations were very basic with dorm style, group sleeping quarters; cold "navy" showers; and limited electricity. However, the food was great...very local and very wonderful. Bottom line is the accommodations were very Spartan, but safe and clean. All of the folks who volunteered for this trip knew in advance that it was a no-frills trip...and honestly....there was not one complaint!!...this simply goes to the special type of person that volunteers for a trip like this.

This trip was billed as an "exploratory" trip because we had never done a clinic in the Dominican Republic before....and there were numerous logistical unknowns....No one was more surprised than me that it went so smoothly. But the main reason is the people involved and their innate desire to help out....period. I knew most of the team from other trips and suspected they could pull this off and roll with the last minute changes. The team was a well-balanced group of experienced pros with an easy going attitude and a great sense of humor....not to mention....they worked tirelessly all five days with the best attitude ever; sometimes in life you just get lucky! Also, this trip wouldn't have happened at all without the partnership and shared guidance of Tom Eklund, Coco Baret, Dr. Miguel Garcia, and Dan Neal at *Heart to Heart International*. Thank you all so very, very much!!!

Docs in the Dominican 2009

From March 1st through March 15th, Orphanage Outreach is having its second annual Health Fair. LMV will host another medical and dental clinic from March 9th through the 13th. It will likely be a similar trip as 2008, except we may be staying at another location out at the local beach area. We are planning on spending all 5 days helping out the various Bateys out in the surrounding countryside. As stated before, the need in these Bateys is great and this is chance to help out in a big way. We will likely be joined part of the time by pre-med and pre-dental students and their faculty...details are still being worked out.

The reason for the trip is obvious....it is a chance to help in a big way.....but also it is also an opportunity to visit one of

the greatest places on earth. The Dominican Republic is an island in the Caribbean and with that you have some of the most beautiful country, coast, and oceans in the world. Some of the beaches in the "DR" are listed as the best in the world. Combine this with somewhat economical food and housing, and you have the perfect vacation. On the last trip in 2008, most of the team combined the clinic with a vacation before or after the actual clinic days. Many of the folks explored various areas of the DR including the Samaná Peninsula, Santa Domingo, Cabarete, the interior mountains and a gazillion miles of unspoiled beaches. A person could combine some R and R before or after the clinic and see other areas of this incredible country....just a thought...I realize for some of you R and R is not an issue, but for others this is the only vacation you get.

The cost for the clinic if you stay for one week is \$600 and the cost for two weeks is \$900. The cost of the flight is NOT included. The \$600/week goes for ground transportation, food, lodging and most of all....medicines. Know going in that any and all extra money, if there is any, will go to buy much needed medicine for both doctors and dentists. If you can, fly into Santiago on Saturday February 28th or March 7th and we will pick you up at the airport. If you can't make these dates in Santiago, please arrive in Monte Cristi on Sunday the 1st or Sunday the 8th. Public transportation is excellent and provided by *Caribe Tours*. Also, a rental car or taxi is also an option. The team is now being formed...If you are interested please confirm as soon as possible....

Thank you so much for your consideration. You can contact me anytime by phone or e-mail Monte Short, Trip Coordinator Los Medicos Voladores- Central America 415-606-3969

Prayers Needed

By Don Wolf

Dr. Jack Chamberlain, DDS, suffered a mild stroke around January 25 and spent a number of days in the Stroke Unit at Good Samaritan Hospital in San Jose. He is home and recovering.

Don



Blanca Ruiz, Dr. Jack Chamberlain & Bill Rush

Make a Difference in their Lives

Your contribution will help LMV purchase supplies, equipment, and medicines, upgrade and maintain clinics in remote Mexican and California villages. We will bring back hugs for you from our Mexican neighbors and friends.

LMV sends two to four teams of volunteers to Mexico each month.. Each team normally consists of four to five volunteers that share in the cost of the flight, lodging and meals. However, we depend on donations for supplies, medicines and equipment. Here are some estimates of costs:



Patients in Hidalgo, Mexico

Medicines or dental supplies per patient	\$10	Adopt a Pueblo	\$1000
Education Material per team trip	\$15	Audiometer	\$1000
Angel subsidy for a volunteer without funds	\$100	Portable x-ray Machine	\$6000
Medicines or dental supplies per team day	\$250	Medical Office Upgrades	\$1000 to \$20000
Subsidy per Medical Resident per trip	\$300	Dental Office, Minimum equipment	\$5000
Dental supplies per team per trip	\$500	Auto refractor for measuring eyes	\$3000
Annual board and room for one Hidalgo high school student	\$400	Dental Office, Modest equipment	\$15000
		Complete Medical Clinic equipment	\$150,000

Donation to Los Medicos Voladores (The Flying Doctors)

Donor: _____, _____
 Name Street
 _____, _____, _____
 City State, Zip

Donation Amount: _____ Money Order () Check () : () Dollars () Pesos

() In honor of _____

() In memory of _____

- () General Fund () Equipment Fund () Medicine Fund
- () Christmas Family Fund () MD & DDS Residents Fund () Education Fund
- () High School Student Room & Board Fund

Los Medicos Voladores, Inc. is a 501(C)3 non-profit corporation and donations are tax deductible.

Our non-profit tax ID is 94-2366785

Please mail to:
 Los Medicos Voladores
 PO Box 445
 Los Gatos, CA 95031-0445
 Or

Don Wolf
 15400 Winchester Blvd, Unit 36
 Los Gatos, CA 95030
 408-395-2921

We also need and collect used eyeglasses, hearing aids and x-ray machines.





Los Medicos Voladores, Inc. consists of five chapters, including the South Bay Chapter, the original one established in 1977, High Sierra Chapter in Truckee, the Gold Country in Auburn, the Reno Chapter in Reno, and the International Chapter in San Jose. The first four chapters provide services to Mexico and southern California; the International Chapter provides services to Central and South America. All our services are free to the recipients, as are the medicines and supplies.

The South Bay membership consists of over 150 members and the other chapters are each approximately 100 members. Our members have very diversified backgrounds including Medical Doctors, Dentists, Optometrists, Audiologists, Chiropractors, Nurses, Pilots, Interpreters and general volunteers. What all of our members share is a compassion to help those with needs.

The administrative arm of Los Medicos Voladores mission is to support our medical and pilot professionals so the volunteers can be effective, efficient, productive, safe and happy. We negotiate with the Foreign governments the criteria for service, we arrange the flights into remote areas, we raise money for medicines and supplies, and we help put teams together.

We have no paid staff. All of our members are volunteers and pay their own way on trips, whether they are pilots, nurses, volunteers or interpreters.



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www.flyingdocs.org

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