

## Newsletter for May 2011



A big thank-you goes out to everyone who sent me articles and pictures for the newsletter.

*Carl the Flying Curmudgeon (and Newsletter Editor)*

### April El Rosario Clinic Report

Peggy Clementi, helper/April clinic coordinator



Two planes left Friday morning: Carl Foster's plane left Ryan Field with Chuck Shroll, MD, Zahira Penunuri, educator and interpreter, and Peggy Clementi, helper. Ken Reed, who is also a dentist, flew Lupe Quiroz, dental hygienist, Hank Willis, dentist, and Sara Garcia, dentist from Marana Regional Airport. We all met up in San Felipe to pass customs and then we were off to the runway at El Rosario. The weather was a challenge but held off long enough for us to land. The minute we were all on the ground it started to rain. We loaded the van with the eight of us and took off. First stop, stuck in the mud at the side of the runway. After much pushing, rocking and slinging

of mud, Carl offered to walk back to get the other van. While he was gone, we all tried again to get unstuck, but then the van wouldn't start. Turns out it was only a loose battery connection. We finally got unstuck with a tow from the other van and headed into clinic. We opened up at about 12:30. There weren't a lot of patients, partly due to weather, but it was steady all day and we managed to see 32 patients. We closed clinic and left about 4:45 in order to be able to drive to San Quintin before dark. After a great dinner and a beautiful serenade by Lupe, most of us were in bed sleeping by 9 pm.

We agreed to leave Saturday morning by 8:30 am so we could open the clinic and then be to the airstrip before the two planes scheduled for Saturday arrived. Unfortunately, due to extreme weather conditions in Phoenix, Tucson, and in San Quintin, the decision was made to cancel the Saturday planes. As we drove toward El Rosario, the weather cleared up considerably and by the end of the day the sun was shining bright. We saw a total of 49 patients and didn't leave anyone without some sort of care. Exhausted, we headed back to San Quintin for a relaxing evening of food, conversation and laughter. At dinner everyone was provided with a chance to



have input as to how the clinic ran. Dr. Hank Willis, who had traveled all the way from Idaho just for this occasion, was very impressed with the type of care he provided. He had thought he would be doing a whole lot more extractions than what he did, and was pleased with the amenities that the clinic provided. Dr. Sara Garcia was equally impressed as to the conditions, thinking things might be a little less modern. She was able to do a fabulous job with many patients. As always, Dr. Ken Reed provides us with quality people, including Lupe Quiroz, hygienist, who was happy to be back at El Rosario.

Zahira Penunuri, our educator/translator, did a remarkable job translating for both dental and medical. She was like a ping pong ball, bouncing back and forth between medical and dental. When she had a few minutes without us hounding her to translate, she was actually able to do some educating in the courtyard. Dr. Chuck Schroll was kind enough to be our medical doctor for both days and spent a considerable amount of time sorting through all our expired and almost expired meds and was still able to see 32 patients - including one lady he saw five different times. Carl Foster, pilot/helper, made sure we were fed and watered and was always there to lend a hand when we didn't know what was happening with the building.



Sunday we made it back to the planes and were in the air by about 10 am. Everyone was home safe and sound early in the afternoon.

As substitute clinic coordinator (Judy you can't leave during clinic time ever again), I thank everyone for doing a fantastic job. Each clinic I attend I am more and more aware of all the behind the scenes things that happen along the way. Bill Hunt is always instrumental in guiding the pilots, keeping us safe, and the volunteers just jump right in and do what needs to be

done without anyone asking and without complaint. Thank you to you all. It has been my pleasure to work alongside such inspiring people.

Hank Willis posted more pictures at

[https://picasaweb.google.com/hankwillisdds/Mexico?authkey=Gv1sRgCOnC9\\_rEnZfnUQ#](https://picasaweb.google.com/hankwillisdds/Mexico?authkey=Gv1sRgCOnC9_rEnZfnUQ#)



## April LSI Clinic Report

We had a very small staff of only 7 people for this clinic. Our dentist was Bob Hoskyns, from Scottsdale with Chelsea Johnson assisting. Pat coordinated the dental clinic, and Susan and Zoe Warren were interpreters. There were 16 dental patients who received care. Bob did several extractions, some restorations, and one denture fitting. One of the stations had water mixing with the air, which is not good for drying teeth in preparation for fillings. Carl analyzed the problem and we brought the fitting back with us to be repaired.



Carl also replaced the light extension pole for the middle station, so now only really tall people will bonk their heads on the dental light.



Chuck Schroll met with about 20 medical patients with Susan Warren interpreting. Susan also helped in conversations with Sussy. We delivered a nebulizer and two cannulas to Sussy for the village's use. In discussion with Sussy, we discovered there is a traveling doctor that visits Laguna San Ignacio on most Thursdays. He has a limit on the number of appointments he will take for that day. Most of the village is able to see him but the outlying ranches and fish camps usually wait for our visit. He is a Family Practice physician and does not offer any specialty care. There is no dental available locally, so anyone with a dental problem must either wait for us or travel to Mulegé or San Ignacio.

The traveling doctor has asked to use our dental and GYN rooms to treat patients. We left the GYN room open for his use. The dental room and pharmacy are not open unless we are there. We brought one of the door knob/locks back with us and will re-key that lock so that the GYN room will unlock with the same key as the medical treatment and community room.





Even though we worked with a minimal staff, we were able to meet all needs, have time to eat lunch, and still depart at 3 pm. Chuck returned to Tucson in his plane on Saturday afternoon with Susan and Zoe. Carl flew back to Mulegé with the dental crew and returned to Tucson on Sunday morning.

### **The May Women's Clinic, May 21, 2011**

In addition to our regularly scheduled general clinic the weekend of May 11-13, Judy Austin is in the process of putting together a Women's Clinic which we try to do annually in El Rosario. During the February and March clinics we talked with several women from the town to try to determine the interest from the community. We discovered that they are very much interested in this and, on their own, have signed up almost 30 women to attend. I have a commitment from Dr. Anthea Dixon, OB/GYN to provide her services and a few female interpreters to obtain good medical histories which can sometimes be sensitive in nature. We also have a Health Educator who specializes in women's health provided by SEAHEC. However, I still need to recruit additional interpreters, at least one more nurse and ideally, another medical provider who could assist with pap smears and exams. Bilingual, female members with any form of medical background are especially helpful so please contact me if you are interested. This will just be a one day clinic going down Saturday morning and returning on Sunday. Of course we will also need pilots to get us there. Because we try to maintain as much privacy as possible for the female patients, the pilots don't even have to stick around and work, and Mama Espinoza's is a great hangout!

### **The June LSI Clinic**

The LSI clinic on June 24-26 is the last one until September. We expect quite a few dental patients at this clinic. We canceled the March clinic, and the April clinic happened to be during a time when many people were out of town during their spring break. If you are a dentist or hygienist who can make the trip, please let Pat Hartowicz know so she can get the clinic set up early.

### **Meeting Schedule**

All board meetings (except the May meeting) are held at St. Gregory Preparatory School on Craycroft just south the Rillito. The remaining meetings for this fiscal year are:

- May 9 at Fronimo's on Speedway at 6 pm
- June 6

[Meeting Schedule on the website](#)

## Website

[Website Link](#)

## Fundraising Activities

Rose Quiroga has some details on the upcoming Fundraisers.

### Texas Roadhouse

Tuesday May 17<sup>th</sup> from 4-8 pm we will receive 10% from all sales of people that we send to eat at **Texas Roadhouse on South Wilmot** with the flyer on the last page of the newsletter. So email all your friends and family and have them go out to eat on one of these days. This is an easy sell and not much labor put into it. We will have someone send this out in an email blast, plus I will print some flyers and Ruben will take them to the next meeting, and you can print and distribute the last page of this newsletter.

### Outback Steak House

Next we will be doing our **Big Dinner at Outback Steakhouse on Ina Road** on Sunday June 5<sup>th</sup> from 11 am to 1 pm. We will sell tickets for \$15 for Adults and \$10 for kids. We would like to have a 50/50 raffle plus we will be soliciting raffle items to also do a regular raffle. The place holds 300 people so we have potential between the sale of tickets and raffles to make \$3000 to \$4000. I will also have tickets made up in time for the next meeting and we will need to push these real hard as we will need a head count 10 days prior to the restaurant. We can do email blasts and whoever wants tickets can send me the money and I will send them tickets.

### Continuing Education Dental Conference

We are also working on doing the dental conference and will continue to work with Ken Reed to put it together. We are hoping to conduct the conference in October or November of this year.

Thanks everyone and these events will only be successful because of you.

Rose

## April Meeting Minutes

The April minutes will be featured in the June newsletter.



2010-2012 Officers:

John Osborne, President  
Jennifer Treece, Treasurer  
Vince Lacsamana, Secretary

Directors:

Wally Austin  
Linda Bacon  
Peggy Clementi  
Carl Foster  
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Richard Johnson  
Michael Mandig  
Ruben Ramirez  
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Membership: Judy Austin

Newsletter Editor: Carl Foster

Fundraising:

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Bob Smith  
Rose Quiroga

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Pat Hartowicz (LSI)  
Alexis Nicole Smith (AP)

Dental Coordinator:

Richard Johnson, DDS

Medical Coordinator:

Lourdes Munoz (ER)

Pharmacy Coordinators:

Judy Austin, RN (ER)  
Jennifer Treece (LSI)

Pilot Coordinator: Bill Hunt

Webmaster: Bill Hunt

Honorary Members

Mary Kay Bush  
Gary Cluff  
Libby Cook  
Tom Greninger  
Greg Hatch  
Liza Hoover  
Jimmy Jimenez  
Doug Jones  
Nancy Lefco  
Bill & Angie Merodious  
Bob Netherton  
John Osborne  
Thomas Sanchez  
Dan Shoemaker  
Mike Still



Please join us for Family Night at Texas Roadhouse located at 170 South Wilmot Road

**Tuesday, May 17<sup>th</sup> from 4-8 pm.**

The Flying Samaritans Tucson Chapter will receive 10% of all sales **With this flyer!** So, make sure that you present this to your server before you order!

Hope to see you there for a fun evening with the entire family!!

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