



## El Rosario Clinic Trip Report

**Report Date:** Jun 16, 2021

**Trip Dates:** Thursday, Jun 10, 2021 - Saturday, Jun 12, 2021

**Participants:**



Here's who went:

## Aircraft and Passengers:

ARRIVAL DATE: Thursday, June 10, 2021

PILOT		A/C No	A/C TYPE	US DEP	MX AOE	PASSENGERS		SPECIALTY 1	SPECIALTY 2	SPANISH
LAST	FIRST					LAST	FIRST			
Foster	Carl	N4220R	Piper PA-32	KRYN	MMSF			Pilot		Little
						Bingham	Christine	Interpreter	None	Fluent
Hunt	Bill	N346RN	Cessna TP206D	KRYN	MMSF			Pilot		Some
						Labra	Iris	Pilot	Interpreter	Fluent
						Razo	Richard	Technician	None	None

This was a maintenance, reconnaissance trip to ascertain the suitability of the clinic and the El Rosario, San Quintin areas, for a Flying Samaritans' medical and dental clinic in July. The trip had a number of objectives and we had exactly the right people on the trip to accomplish everything.

At the clinic we needed to ensure the electricity, water, and vacuum pump were operational. During our absence (due to the COVID pandemic) the power had been turned off due to non-payment. Normally, we would pay Gerardo at Mama's and he would pay the power company, but during the break there was a breakdown in communication and the bill wasn't paid. We needed to setup our own account with the local power company and needed some help with that. That's where Tomas Sanchez Ponce (a longtime friend and advocate for the Flying Samaritans) came to our rescue.

We used the ol' divide and conquer approach in completing the objectives. We initially divided into two teams. The "Government" team, Christine and Iris would work with Tomas to set up the electrical account. The "Clinic" team, Carl, Richard, and Bill, would work the clinic.

Here is the account of the trip from each team's perspective:

### The Government Team

Busy, busy we were on Thursday with our friend, Tomas Sanchez Ponce. After picking up the insurance policies for all 4 vehicles, we took one of the vehicles and headed to San Quintin to meet up with Tomas at his barbershop, Just for Men. Little did we realize he had lined up several Public Relations visits with local officials including the acting mayor of San Quintin and another with the secretary general delegate for the government of San Quintin. They are very interested and supportive of the Flying Samaritans' role and what we are doing in Baja now and in the future. Then, we continued on to CFE (electric company) to complete our original mission to deposit money in an account to pay future power bills. After a delicious lunch at El Perico which Tomas said has the best tacos in San Quintin, we dropped him off and both of us were gifted a bottle of wine from the Guadalupe Valley before heading to the Hotel Mision Santa Maria.

Friday, we split up and Iris went with Carl to buy electrical parts and Christine headed to clinic with Richard and Bill. Once Iris arrived at the clinic, we headed to Mama's to drop off hearing aids for Roly (courtesy of Wally) and Bio Freeze for Gerardo/Roly as well as inquire where to buy propane. After a few suggestions, we headed to the store and were directed to another location where they sold propane. Luckily, with their help, a truck arrived and followed us back to clinic where this nice young man unloaded and installed a 30kg filled tank with the generator

after purchasing a new adaptor at the store next door. Very pleased with ourselves, we girls decided we deserved some beach time so we offered to change out the dead battery in the van at Los Pinos and did so. By 3:30 we were walking the beach! Of course we had a special dinner celebration at 6:30 so not too much time to relax. To our surprise, Tomas invited two more officials to meet and join us for dinner which lasted until the restaurant closed at 10:30. We were acknowledging Tomas' efforts and influence (and his daughter, Rosie) in getting power restored to our clinic and finally recognizing our former president, Richard Razo, for his term of leadership exceeding 2 and a half years. His generosity not only of supplies and equipment but service and numerous hours of volunteering at both Mother Lode and Tucson clinics for years earns him the phrase "one in a million". Finally, Tomas very much appreciated the TENS units and sent his "gracias" to Judy Austin and Michael Stone.

### **The Clinic Team**

We went to the clinic last Thursday to make sure everything was ready to go for the next clinic, scheduled in July. Since we had no power when we went in April, the board decided to install a backup generator at the clinic. When we got to the clinic the power was half on due to a failed circuit breaker at the meter. Carl and Richard managed to apply enough WD-40 and wiggled things around to get it to work only to find that the water pump was gummed up. After replacing the water pump and unloading the generator we called it a day and drove to our hotel in San Quintin.

Friday morning Carl and Iris stopped at a hardware store which was well stocked with electrical items, and bought a shiny new circuit breaker. (Iris later stated it was like watching a child at a candy store as Carl perused the selection of electrical devices). After replacing the circuit breaker we had no further issues with the city power. Carl did quite a bit of re-wiring to allow the generator to be connected to the clinic electrical system. While he was doing that, the two fluent Spanish speakers, Christine and Iris, made arrangements to get the propane tank. During this time, Richard was very busy checking out all of the dental equipment, including all the dental chairs and the autoclave. Once the propane tank was in place and connected, Carl made the switch to generator power. The generator powered all of the dental equipment, autoclaves, and lights with no problem. He then switched everything back to commercial power and we returned to San Quintin for the night. We flew home on Saturday. It was 65 degrees when we left San Quintin and 106 degrees when we arrived in Tucson. The clinic is now ready for the initial re-start dental clinic in July.

## El Rosario Vehicle Status:

JUNE VEHICLE STATUS SUMMARY											
Vehicle	Service Date	Location	Mileage	Miles Driven	Fuel	Fuel Added		Miles/ Gal	Cost/ Gal	Status	Discrepancies
						Gal	Cost				
Chrysler	6/12/21	Robertson's Ranch Airstrip	124,873	327	Full	7.2	\$30.04	45.3	\$4.16	Operational	
Dodge	1/11/20	Robertson's Ranch Airstrip	96,926		Full					Operational	
Chrysler LX	1/11/20	Robertson's Ranch Airstrip	124,548		Full					Operational	
Toyota	6/12/21	Robertson's Ranch Airstrip	165,619	294	Full	5.0	\$21.06	59.0	\$4.22	Operational	
						12.2	\$51.10				

## Next El Rosario Clinic:

Friday, Jul 9, 2021 - Sunday, Jul 11, 2021

## Next Board Meeting:

Monday, June 28, at 6:00 PM (Virtual)

## Board Members:

**President** Christine Bingham  
**Vice President** Linda Algar  
**Secretary** Ken Reed  
**Treasurer** Bob Watson  
**Director** Patti Daly  
**Director** Carl Foster  
**Director** Bill Hunt  
**Director** Iris Labra

**Director** Hunter Nash  
**Director** John Osborne  
**Director** Chuck Schroll  
**Director** Bob Smith  
**Director** Randy Wells  
Director *vacant*  
Director *vacant*  
Director *vacant*

*Bill Hunt*

Bill Hunt  
Pilot Coordinator  
Flying Samaritans Arizona

*Christine Bingham*

Christine Bingham  
President  
Flying Samaritans Arizona