

60 More Computers for Schools in El Salvador

By Rod and Sherry Boyd

Once again, David and Deborah Kaiser and the Little Davey team from the Portland, OR area delivered the goods! They assembled and installed 60 computers in four different school computer labs in El Salvador, Central America the last week of March.

The 2010 team is the fifth Little Davey team. Little Davey began providing computers for schools in 2005. This year's team was also the largest team ever with 14 members, plus the two largest team members carried the internal components (motherboard/processor, memory and hard drive) in their carry-on luggage. They also brought network hubs and connectors for each computer lab and five Nike soccer balls for each school. Little Davey raises funds from local businesses and individuals to cover these costs. Team members pay their own travel expenses.

Latin America ChildCare and local schools paid for lab preparation (electrical, cabling, furniture, etc.) and the other larger components (monitor, case, keyboard/mouse and DVD-ROM drive). These components were purchased locally.

The team arrived on Friday night and worked all day Saturday. Work takes place on two fronts. Most of the team assembles the computers. A few members prepare a master hard drive with the operating system and other software, and then begin making copies on the rest of the hard drives. Most of the computers were completed by the end of the day on Saturday.

After church and rest on Sunday, the team began deliveries to the schools. These school visits are much more than simply installing a computer lab. After unpacking computers and monitors, half of the team visits the classrooms to share a brief English and culture lesson and give children candy and the teacher a sack of supplies and gifts. The other half of the team sets up the com-

puters, network cables and hub. We then invite a group of children into their new computer lab for a dedication ceremony.

Each school experience is unique. The first three schools were located in the greater San Salvador area. All three are large schools, two with nearly 1,000 students and the other with 1,800 attending in two shifts, morning and afternoon. For these schools, the 15 computers installed were adding to existing computer labs, replacing very old, non-operational computers. The new modern computers with LCD monitors made for a stark contrast to the out-dated computers that these schools try to keep running.

Almost always, one experience stands out as the most memorable. This describes the fourth and last school we visited on Thursday. We traveled almost three hours out of San Salvador to the community of Guatajiagua, located in the hotter low lands. This is a smaller school, with 273 students. We were installing a brand new computer lab. The director, teachers and students were so excited! This installation took longer. The first order of business was to put all of the computer desks together. And even though all of the network cable was run, we had to put the connectors on and test each cable.

The dedication of the lab was the most special we've had so far. The director of the school asked if it would be OK if she shared a testimony. She explained how they had started a prayer group of teachers and students a year ago and that a new computer lab was on the top of their list! She said we were an answer to their

Prayer Needs & Praise Reports

- Pray for safe travels, favor with pastors and congregations and that our new budget and support needs would be met as we finish the second half of our shortened itineration.
- ☑ Praise the Lord for the record-setting 316 that attended the 2010 Bible School Leaders Summit in Managua, Nicaragua, March 1-4. This represents an increase of nearly 100 from the 2008 Summit.
- Pray for the more than 350 children and youth in our Panama schools that need an LACC sponsor.
- ☑ The Jireh Good Shepherd School is finishing the six new third floor classrooms and most of the first floor administrative and library area. Pray for additional construction funds to complete the stucco finish on the exterior of the building, install windows and doors and electrical/plumbing work on the fourth and final floor.
- Pray for our schools in Panama as classes began in mid-March.
- Pray for final preparations for the Central America Christian School Congress scheduled for June 2-4, 2010 in El Salvador.
- Pray for preparations for the second of the 2010 Bible School Summits that will be outside of Santiago, Chile, August 30 to September 2, 2010.
- Pray that God will provide land in Panama City for the proposed Regional Service Center for educational ministries (www.larsc.net).

prayers. There wasn't a dry eye in the place!

We're so grateful for the ministry of Little Davey and for the work of this year's team. These people have become dear friends. They have caught a vision for the complete gospel that is captured by the LACC slogan: *transforming the heart, inspiring the mind*. Simply put, giving kids the opportunity to learn computers and technology gives them the little lift they may need to not just come to the Lord, but to also become all that He desires for them to be.

If you would be interested in organizing or being a part of a "Computers for Schools" team, please visit our Computers for School page on our website.

More photos from the team can be viewed on our website at:
www.boyds.org/201004LittleDavey.aspx

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NEWSLETTER OF ROD & SHERRY BOYD ASSEMBLIES OF GOD MISSIONARIES TO PANAMA

G E N E R A T I O N S

Now that I am old and gray, do not abandon me, O God. Let me proclaim your power to this new generation, your mighty miracles to all who come after me.

— Psalm 71:18

March 9th in Seattle we welcomed our third grandchild, **Anastasiya Maria McKeown**, born to Jennifer and Geoff. She arrives just in time for the second half of our shortened itineration. We didn't have this opportunity with Tate and Calvin.

Like the psalmist, our greatest desire is to leave a legacy of faith and ministry for future generations. It seems that as we grow older we are more concerned about future generations than our own. Maybe it's that we accept that we're not going to fulfill the big dreams we've had; it's up to the next generation. More likely is that we become conscious of our own mortality and we don't want it to end with us.

This is the very essence of Christian education—understanding and fulfilling the awesome responsibility to keep it going. And this is not just with our own children, although that is priority one. Paul told Timothy to "pass on" the faith, teaching and ministry to the next generation, who would do the same (2 Timothy 2:2). This is our ministry, to raise up Christian leaders in Panama and throughout Spanish-speaking Latin America.

Generations is a special focus for us this year. We just concluded the northern version of the 2010 Bible School Leaders Summit, March 1-4 in Managua Nicaragua. The southern version for South America will take place just out of Santiago, Chile, August 30 to September 2. The theme for these Summits is "**Priority 1: Transgenerational Ministerial Formation.**" A report on the Managua Summit begins on page two.

Sandwiched between these two Summits is the 2010 Christian School Congress that will be held June 2-4 in San Salvador, El Salvador. We are expecting 400 pastors, leaders, directors and teachers from Central America and the Dominican Republic. The theme for the Congress is "**Towards a Transformed Generation.**"

We ask you to pray with us as we finish our itineration period. We only have a few weeks to complete our budget before we return to Panama on May 25th, shortly before traveling to San Salvador for the Congress.

We need to raise \$1,050 in monthly work funds for our ministry and about

\$15,000 to finish the construction of the Jehovah Jireh Good Shepherd

School. Our churches have been especially hard hit by the recession; many have had to reduce their support. Even so, we know that God is able to provide. Please contact us if you are able to make a monthly commitment or increase your current commitment.

Thank you for your prayer and financial support!

For Him and for them... Rod and Sherry

PANAMA



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www.Boyds.org

Stateside Address 21004 28th Ave. West, Lynnwood, WA 98036 (until 5/25/2010)
Email Panorama@Boyds.org • Web www.Boyds.org • AGWM Account 2392710
Panama Address Apartado 0818-00792 Panama City, PANAMA

2010 Educators Summit

Multiplying Generations of Leaders

By Rod and Sherry Boyd

Managua, Nicaragua was the site for the **2010 Bible School Educators Summit**, conducted March 1st through 4th. The Educators Summit has become much more than just a training conference. It's a time for practical training, where leaders connect, where problems are solved, where vision is born. There's a synergy that's hard to describe... you just have to be there. The Summit is gaining momentum. There is a renewed interest in ministerial training among our national superintendents and Bible school leaders.

We had a record attendance of 222 at the Summit in Guatemala in 2008. So we had set the attendance goal at 250 for the northern Latin America/Caribbean version of the 2010 Summit conducted March 1st to 4th. Since participants pay their own registration, travel, housing and meals, we weren't sure how the world-wide recession would affect the Summit. Amazingly we had more than 250 pre-registered by the first week of February.

We were caught by surprise when final attendance reached 316 from 13 different countries, nearly 100 more than in 2008! We were overwhelmed and scrambling for materials the first night. For the first time in the 14-year history of the Summit, one of the non-host countries sent more delegates than the host country. Our work began months ago. Our ongoing con-

tact with leaders and teachers helps us feel the pulse of ministerial training in Latin America. We asked the Lord to guide us in the selection of our general theme:

**Priority 1:
Transgenerational
Ministerial Formation**

We sensed the need to focus on discipleship and training that provides for the succession of faith, teaching and ministry to future generations. Each person left with the clear message that we must all invest in Timothies who will then do the same. 2 Timothy 2:2 marked the path for the Summit program:

“And the things you have heard me say in the presence of many witnesses entrust to reliable men who will also be qualified to teach others.”

Attendance	Country
1	Argentina
1	Chile
1	Colombia
35	Costa Rica
83	El Salvador
18	Guatemala
31	Honduras
17	Mexico
78	Nicaragua
18	Panama
3	Puerto Rico
7	Dominican Republic
23	United States
316	TOTAL

A team of 30 superintendents, missionaries and international and national education leaders ministered in evening services, devotionals, general sessions and workshops. Seven publishing houses and ministries helped underwrite the cost of the event. Not only that, they gave away books, Bibles and other products to very happy participants.

The Resource and Advisory Center serves 1,000 Bible schools, extensions and ministry training centers throughout Spanish-speaking Latin America. It is impossible for us to help each individual teacher or even every director. Our strategy is to work through national leaders to organize and plan the Summits. Even so, our hope and prayer is that God would touch each pastor, teacher, director and leader that attends, who would in turn pass it on to others.

Our veteran missionaries had a very important part teaching in this Summit, whose lives and families give testimony to a legacy of ministry. Their example of commitment, sacrifice and perseverance inspired us all. One woman came up to us at the end of the closing banquet. We could tell that the Lord had touched her; it was difficult for her to even make eye contact. She

put a note in my hand and squeezed my arm, she said thank you, gave us the following handwritten note and left:
Rod and Sherry,

It was so difficult, almost impossible, for me to come to this Summit. But I thank God for giving me this opportunity to grow, to receive the spiritual treasure from those pioneers that made it all possible. I'm returning home not just feeling spiritual satisfaction, but now with a new vision for my ministry. I thank you and your team for all that you did to make possible this great event.

—*Maria Isabel, Mexico*

We would like to thank all that prayed for the success of this Summit. God answered your prayer! Now please pray with us as we continue plans for the South American version of the 2010 Bible School Educators Summit coming August 30th to September 2nd. We are expecting 200 leaders from the nine Spanish-speaking countries of South America to gather with us in El Quisco, Chile (about 90 minutes west of Santiago on the Pacific coast).

Even though Chile has experienced a debilitating earthquake, national church leaders believe that in spite of what the enemy may send their way, it is time for Chile to ramp up ministerial training. They believe that the Summit will play a large role, preparing the work for the harvest God has planned for Chile. As evidence of this, we received word from Guillermo Gonzalez, the national Christian Education director, that the conference center where we will be having the Summit suffered no damage from the earthquake!



We're grateful for the Lords blessing on the Summit. It far exceeded our expectations in so many ways. Three special highlights stand out.

- Jeremias Bolaños, the superintendent from El Salvador, a long-time friend of our ministry and ministerial training, shared a moving illustrated sermon. Five different El Salvadorans dressed in costume to represent the analogies that Paul had made to Timothy. He described the qualities of the pastor, teacher, athlete, farmer and soldier. It was incredible!

- An incredibly satisfying moment came when we gave each participant a copy of the new 2010 Basic Plan for Christian education for Spanish-speaking Latin America. This 400-page book outlines the teaching programs for the various levels, the largest section of which is the Bible school curriculum plan. In the last three years we invested hundreds of hours working with a team of 25 leaders to produce it! The new plan was presented in a general session and two workshops were given to help educational leaders develop their own transition strategy to the new plan.

- Retired missionary Monroe Grams shared during one of the morning general sessions. The emphasis was not so much teaching. Instead it was an extended testimony about a missionary family, dedicated to teaching, training and discipleship. Rocky and Mona, two of his children also missionaries involved in training, shared in the session. Now their children are active in ministry. The Holy Spirit moved as the session concluded. The Grams family opened the altar to those who wanted to rededicate their lives to training and to passing this legacy on to future generations. It was powerful!

