



*Flying Samaritans*

# *Mother Lode Chapter*

Clinic Report - October, 2017

## Primary Care Clinic



The catastrophic fires in the Santa Rosa area impacted three of our pilots/planes . . . **Steve Shaffer** was scheduled to fly **Bob Haining**, **Pam Polk** & and **Dianne VanOrder**, but due to the fire threatening his home, was replaced by **Phil Lancaster**. **Mark Rudolph** flew **Robin Berrin**, DDS, **Gordon Worley**, & **Renada Halliday**; he barely departed Petaluma before Cal Fire closed the airport. **Peter LeLievre** flew **Wendy Bohlke**, a dental hygienist, **Zoe Halliday** & **Alexandra Hansen**. **Joel Prosser** flew **Lisa Seidl**, a dental hygienist, **Jack Ignatowicz** & **Mike Kime**. **Chris Nelson** flew **Tom Ward** & me. It was beautiful flying weather with decent temps in Mexico. **Todd Makiyama** flew alone carrying much cargo. **Joe**

**Zachwiega** drove down with **Shirley McCulloch**, a family nurse practitioner. **Margie** & **Rick Wilson** drove down also.

Saturday we started the clinic at 8 a.m. with Patty arriving on time. This was the first time we had two dental hygienists; we hope to have more in the future. Todd & Robin were very busy all day. Mike Kime (Joel's brother-in-law) & Phil kept the sterilizer active all day. The optical clinic will report separately as will the dental clinic. Suffice it to say that many eye exams were done with many glasses provided.

The medical clinic was filled with a variety of problems ably handled by Bob, Gordon & Shirley. There was a 5-year-old boy who was with his mother & sister being seen as patients, and he cried for 15 minutes without stopping. Bob pointed out that this child is autistic & our brief exposure to him gave us a glimpse as to what some parents experience raising children with this disorder. Zoe and Alexandra are both 3rd year college students, leaning toward the nursing or physician assistant medical fields; they assisted with taking vitals & holding infants for mothers being examined.

Chris arranged cleaning of the building vacated by Valentine, and we enjoyed eating pizza there instead of crowding into the optical clinic for lunch.

Mark Rudolph landed at Mexicali & experienced voltage regulator failure, but fortunately a mechanic was available and replaced it with a borrowed one from another aircraft. Before Mark was in the air again, there was much discussion among the pilots as to how they could transport Mark's passengers to clinic & then return them home on Sunday, but those plans did not need to be activated.

We returned home with good weather the entire way, but Peter & Mark were not able to return to their home airports due to the fires.

-Sr. Bilito

# Thanks to our Sponsors!

A SPECIAL THANKS to some of our many important program sponsors without whom The Flying Samaritans could not make the significant humanitarian impact delivered to those in need. Both monetary and non are essential to the operation of our clinic.

- Celeste Roseberry-Mckibbin with "Love, Talk, Read" generously donates children's books for each of the backpacks.
- Soroptimist International: Placerville, Cameron Park and Folsom
- Rotary Club International: Folsom; Folsom Lake; Placerville; Arden-Arcade; Pocket-Greenhaven; Loomis; Roseville Sunrise; Orangevale, East Sacramento
- Rotary Interact Clubs; Casa Robles High School; Oak Ridge High School
- Ann Hively
- Lions Club International; Folsom Lake; Placerville; Embarcadero; Sacramento Senator
- Cris Gerard
- Dee Farmer
- Dr Bob Haining
- Dr Nancy Archibald and her Dental Team
- Folsom Project For The Visually Impaired; Don Ring
- Sister team, Dianne Vanorder and Margaret Sanderson
- Restoring Vision
- SOLO Eyewear
- Vitamin Angels
- SHARE Institute; Dr. Soheir Stolba
- Jack Olson; Folsom Lake Bank
- Tanya Moran
- Marlyn Pino-Jones
- Bank Of America Retiree Group
- Folsom Prison "Hooks And Needles"
- Placer County Corrections, Women's Division
- Sharron Flynn and neighbors
- Rolling Hills Church
- Brenda and Sterling Daley
- Cheri Throckmorton
- Trish McCum, American Sewing Guild
- German Club of Stockton
- Debi Amaral/VSP
- Maria Boyd
- Barsotti Family/Fran Ward
- Barbara Goyette
- Karin Aguilar
- Fiber Fanatics Knitting Group
- Lofti Lou Knitting Groups
- Joyce Hansen
- Elena Munoz-Plaza
- Lena Miguelgorry
- Eloisa Ciancaglini, RN
- David Herrmann
- Theresa Dao-Makiyama
- Todd Makiyama

An additional THANKS from the children, women, and men in rural Baja for all of your thoughtful humanitarian contributions!!!

# Backpacks for Baja

October Clinic celebrated reaching nearly 2,700 "Backpacks For Baja" distributed to those in need since the program began in 2014!!!



**Dozens of local children line up to receive the donations**

they designed and produced in Spanish for young children. These were a huge hit and appreciated by the children as well as their parents!!!

There was also a distribution of hundreds of men, women and children's clothing items which were greatly appreciated by the thankful recipients.

With the weather beginning to cool we also gave out a large supply of handmade hats and scarves as well as socks. These items were all made by the **"Hooks and Needles"** team of men at Folsom Prison. This team also contributes handmade stuffed toys and other impactful items each month. The items were greatly appreciated by all and the recipients asked that their thanks be passed along!!!

**Linda Nelson** makes many of the backpacks/handbags and manages the coordination of the items that go into them as well as putting them together and ensuring they are ready for transportation/distribution. Thanks for your caring and thoughtful efforts!!!

**Cheri Throckmorton** along with help from members of **The Rolling Hills Church** contributed handmade backpacks and other meaningful and much needed items. THANKS!!!

Great teamwork takes place every month in helping make this impactful initiative happen!!!!

A special thanks from the women and children in Baja for everyone's humanitarian contributions!!!

**Chris**, with the assistance of several local volunteers, distributed over 90 backpacks to children attending the clinic. Each backpack includes sunglasses, important sundries such as tooth brushes and toothpaste as well as school supplies and a first aid kit. In addition each backpack includes a book donated by **Celeste Roseberry-McKibbin** of **"Love Talk Read"**. Women attending the clinic also received handmade handbags that include personal care items, sunglasses, and a special gift.

Other volunteers also distributed many donated items and sundries such as toothpaste, soap, shampoo and lotions. In addition there were special handmade dresses that were made and/or acquired in support of the **"Dress A Girl Around The World"** initiative. This initiative is designed to provide at least one nice dress to as many young girls as possible to build Dignity, Health, Joy and Love. Each dress was personally fitted to a happy recipient.

**Barbara Harris** and **Linda Daniel** of the **"Inner Wheel Ladies"** with the help of **Ann Hively** donated a supply of special books



**Many thanks to our generous donors for their support!**



# Optical Clinic



**Tom Ward and Joe Zachwieja administering eye exams**

We had a pre exam and initial patient intake forms completed by two local high school students Ynez, whose family owns "Tiburon's Pongas" and Cinthia, whose family owns "The Old Mill Hotel". Ynez and Cinthia also handed out purses that they had made for young girls. Each purse was filled with meaningful items to brighten lives!!!

The total number of patients seen was well over 200 with 83 exams using the Auto Refractor. In addition we gave out 48 pairs of readers and 4 pairs of glasses ordered from months prior. We also distributed approximately 175 pairs of sunglasses not including those that were in the Backpacks given to women and children. The children's sunglasses were a big hit as many of the recipients had never had the opportunity to own a pair in the past and the styles were current and "cool" with themes that they could relate to such as Spiderman for the boys. The children's sunglasses as well as some of the readers distributed were provided by The Restoring Vision organization as well as The Lions Club...Thanks!!!



**Margie Wilson tests patients on the autorefractor**

The service was efficient and the success rate of fitting was the best due to the efforts/diligence of the entire team.

A special thanks to **Don Ring** of the **Lions Club** and **Folsom Lake Lions** for providing the prescription glasses and sunglasses. Also the generous donation by **Solo Eyewear** and **Restoring Vision** of reading glasses and children's glasses was appreciated by the thankful recipients.

We also received a donation from **Debi Amaral** with **VSP** of 100 pairs of high end sunglasses that were a huge hit particularly with the Women who appreciate the styles and quality that we would not normally be able to provide!!!

## A Fresh Perspective...

This month, two of our three "Fresh Perspective" pieces comes from **Lisa Seidl and Wende Bohlke**

I had the pleasure of volunteering with the flying sams in Los Pinos this past weekend. Along with Wende Bohlke, a fellow Registered Dental Hygienist, we were able to offer dental cleanings to over 30 men, women and children of Los Pinos. When I found out that we were the first Dental Hygienists to ever see patients there, I was so excited and humbled by my experience. I have never worked harder or felt more appreciated in my career than I did that day. It was an amazing experience for me to work with all the extraordinary volunteers that were there and am looking forward to when I will be able to return.

**-Lisa Seidl**



**Lisa Seidl performing a cleaning on a patient**

There has never been preventative dentistry done at San Quintin clinic. As a first timer and a hygienist I was scared that I would be unable to help out. Well, I was wrong. Not only was there another hygienist but we were able to take care of 32 patients. We also had time to set up a hygiene dept with materials and instruments ready for other hygienists when they came to volunteer. I truly believe that most patients had never had their teeth cleaned. One after another would sit in my chair and through my broken Spanish I was able to clean their teeth and bring a smile to their face. This experience at San Quintin will NOT be my last and since being back in the Bay Area I cannot stop talking about my experience and recruiting future Flying Samaritans!!! From the pilots, to the seasoned and dedicated volunteers this is a class act.



**Wende Bohlke (shown above) and Lisa Seidl became the clinic's first hygienist team!**

**-Wende Bohlke**



## A Fresh Perspective...

This month, our final "Fresh Perspective" piece comes from **Zoe Halliday**

I first heard about the Flying Sams last year from my mom, who is an RN, when she was talking about going with my uncle Gordon, an NP. They went, and when she came back, all she could talk about was how good of an experience they had. So since I'm an EMT, the next time they went, they brought me along with them. It ended up becoming a family event for us, because not only did I go with my mom and uncle, but my cousin, Alex, who is an EMT as well, came along too. We all had a great time. The clinic was better than I could have imagined. It was so humbling to be a part of such a selfless team; and watching everyone come together in order to make a difference was amazing. The locals who came to the clinic were so kind and appreciative, that you couldn't help but smile during every interaction you had with them, even when there was a language barrier. I will definitely be back, and refer everyone I know as well!

**-Zoe Halliday**



**Renada Halliday and Zoe Halliday**

# Dental Report

Every successful business or organization has pivotal/hallmark moments that are remembered where far greater success is recognized. For the Dental Corps of the Mother Lode Chapter, Flying Samaritans - this particular clinic has to be one of those moments. As the dental coordinator – I've been trying to do this for years.... today it happened: We offered PREVENTATIVE dentistry for the first time in our chapter's history.



Until the past year or so, we've suffered from a lack of equipment which was required for proper dentistry, especially preventive dentistry, from being offered. To date, we've only offered to fix problems that already occurred. A bit ago, we obtained the needed equipment and for the first time, dental hygienists were part of our clinic today - improving the health of our patients and trying to prevent problems rather than fix ones that already occurred.

**Robin Berrin, DDS, Wende Bohlke, RDH, Lisa Seidl, RDH, Michael Kime, Jack Ignatowicz. Mark Rudolf,** and I comprised the dental team in addition to our trusty resident translator, **Minerva**. It was Dr. Berrin's, Wende's, and Lisa's first time working the dental clinic today and we all hope they return often. Dr. Berrin and I took one room and took care of the extractions, fillings, and dental consultations. Lisa and Wende took the other room and

spent the day cleaning the teeth of patient after patient.

Due to family matters, I had to depart the clinic early on Saturday around 4:30p. By that time, the dental staff had cleaned and scaled 30 sets of teeth, extracted 35 teeth, 10 fillings, and 9 dental consultations/limited examination. I'm sure the clinic continued into the early evening and these numbers grew by a bit by the time the dental crew quit.

I sincerely hope this trend of having hygienists attend dental clinics becomes a regularity. It was truly a great feeling to know we not only fixed existing problems, but really helped prevent new ones for once.

**DENTAL SAMS..... SPREAD THE WORD!!!**

Thanks to all the Dental Sams this trip, you all truly contributed to an incredibly successful clinic.

**-Todd Makiyama, DDS  
Dental Coordinator., Mother Lode Chapter,  
Flying Samaritans**



**Mark Rudolf assisting with a patient in the busy dental clinic**

## Expanding Optical Services

Thanks to the Rodriguez family, we will be expanding our clinic floor space by taking over the space adjacent to the dental clinic where Valentin used to live. We are in the process of refurbishing the space, and will make an announcement once the renovations are complete. With our ever expanding array of services and growing needs of clients, every bit of space is needed!

The space is currently targeted to be our new Optical Clinic which will allow us to better serve a greater number of optical patients as well as free up much needed space where Optical is currently located for the Medical team to expand.

The project will take a number of months to complete and is planned to be a collaborative effort including members of the Flying Samaritans, the East Sacramento Rotary (who have assisted significantly in the past with premises and other challenging issues) as well as other participants as needed.

