

AERONOTES

The Newsletter of Aeromedicos • Santa Barbara, California



Aeronotes • Summer • 2015

2014/15 Year in Review

March of 2014 was our last clinic in Cadeje to this date, but we are working hard to reopen the runway and resume our clinic at the Cadeje location. Meanwhile, we have been active with the Phoenix Flying Sams at their clinic in Lopez Mateos, which is 60 miles south of Cadeje.

Our first clinic with the Sams was in June 2014 and was a great success. Here are the notes from Dennis Gerlach of Flying Sams:

We were working with a group of providers, the Aeromédicos, from Santa Barbara, that many of us had met socially at Hotel Serenidad. They are a fine group of folks, but we didn't really know their expectations or their approach toward operating a clinic. The dental team was composed of three dentists from Aeromédicos and a dental assistant on her first trip with us. Audiology was a new offering and we were light on interpreters and not certain how many the Aeromédicos would need to support their providers. Along with some other uncertainties about who was going to cover what, there was the concern, though really unfounded based on recent experience, that there would be a poor patient turnout and frustrate the providers who'd traveled a long distance to donate their services.

Guess what, it all worked out great! Though it's really not about numbers, this was one of the largest number of patients treated in recent memory. Please see the impressive results at Alicia's blog <http://samaritansmovil.blogspot.com>. The Aeromédicos were great to work with, melded right into our clinic process, and contributed greatly to the success. Two of the Aeromédicos' dentists performed basic dental work

and the third was focused on dental surgeries. We used the motor home, El Movil, to provide the Aeromédicos' audiologist a quiet testing environment away from the hustle and bustle of the clinic building. One of their pilots was able to speak what he called 'construction Spanish' and that was sufficient for him to fit reading glasses. I've seen it a few months in a row now, but it still amazes me how something so simple could make both the person receiving and the person fitting the glasses so happy.

July was very hot on the Mulege side and the Serenidad Hotel was very crowded but the clinic was a great success. Here again are the notes from The Sams:

This month we were graced again with the help of the Aeromédicos from Santa Barbara, a wonderful giving group of providers who looked for someplace to apply their efforts after the closing of their runway in Cadeje. Due to their dental and medical providers, along with ours, and three local providers from Ciudad Constitution, our numbers for July were respectable.

The October clinic was well attended but with some trepidation about the summer hurricane damage. The repairs were amazingly fast and well done so that the Serenidad Hotel and the clinic were in good order. Again, here are the notes from the Sams:

Once again we had a generous and much appreciated contribution from the Santa Barbara Aeromédicos and thank them for their continued support. We were able to partially return the favor by treating several patients that were driven in from Cadeje. (Recall access to their Cadeje clinic is currently blocked because of runway issues.)



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SPECIAL THANKS

to those who helped with
donations this year!

Don and Maureen Anderson
Mounir Ashamalla
Kay Bradley
Deborah Brown
Sheila Cullen
Ryan and Leanne Elliott
Federal Drug
Greatergood.org
Crystal Gutierrez
Raul and Tonia Guerrero
Valerie Harrison
Kevin Hutton
Don and Charlene Jessup
Peter Lewis
Carpinteria Lions' Club
Goleta Lions' Club
Kevin McNally
Glen and Barbara Mitchell
Alisa Monticelli
Jeff Moorhouse
Amanda and Jamie Naismith
Kathy Ogden
Jackie Parker
Terry and Pat Rahe
Frank Pineda
James and Christan Scheib
John Thacher
Debra Weinstein

Trip Dates

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!

**Remaining trip dates
for 2015 are:**

**October 16-18
November 20-22
December 18-20**

2016 trip dates for January though
June are To Be Determined.

Donate and Help



More than ever, Aeromédicos needs your continued support. This season, with the help of donors like you, we hope to have our runway licensed and reopened. The clinic needs a new roof and runway repairs are needed before reopening. Donations can be mailed to the address below.

Thanks for your support.

**Aeromédicos
of Santa Barbara**
P.O. Box 538
Goleta, CA 93116



Join Aeromédicos

Aeromédicos has a continual need for dentists, doctors, nurses, dental hygienists, translators, and pilots with airplanes. We occasionally need volunteers for other sorts of tasks as well, such as organizing medicines and medical supplies.

Please visit us online to download and fill out the form and mail with payment to Aeromédicos of Santa Barbara (address listed below). We will send you proof of registration after we have received your completed form.

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of Santa Barbara**
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Goleta, CA 93116



2014/15 Year in Review

(Continued from front cover.)



January was an interesting trip that showcased the spontaneity and creativity of the Aeromédico group. Saturday morning Alicia called from Lopez Mateos to say that it was raining there. The pilots looked at weather and decided wisely that it was not appropriate to fly down for the clinic. The Phoenix group then decided to return to Arizona. Our group turned to Terry Rahe and other locals, and asked if there was something we could do in town for the locals. The answer was yes there was an orphanage with kids that needed to be seen. So in short order they were rounded up and we opened the Rotary Clinic to examine and possibly treat the kids. The clinic had not been used for a while and needed some organization, but in a short time we were up and going strong. Kids were examined medically and dentally and fillings were done as needed.

The success of our spontaneous January clinic led to a request by the Internado, a boarding school for the kids who live on ranchos in the surrounding area, to treat their students, as well. We agreed and decided that a four-day trip would be the better option, to allow us to screen kids on Thursday afternoon.

February weather caused us to cancel the trip. However, in March we flew down two dentists and a nurse on Thursday to do the screening. We were met by Terry Rahe, who had lunch waiting, and as soon as we had eaten, we went to the school to screen patients. The rest of the group arrived on Friday and some went to Lopez Mateos while the dental crew stayed in Mulege. It was a very successful clinic; so successful that the Internado in an adjoining town asked if we could see their kids the following month, as well.

April we again scheduled a four-day trip and saw the kids of Mulege and Santa Margarita during the two days of clinic. We estimate that we did 60 to 80 fillings, a few extractions, and many consults. We were asked to see them again in the Fall and we intend to do so. Meanwhile, another contingent went to Lopez Mateos and helped in the clinic there as well. The American organizers who winter in Mulege were extremely helpful and well organized. A celebration beach party was held for all of us at the home of Terry Rahe, complete with beach bonfire and beautiful starlight.

Everyone who participated in the February, March, and April clinics was very proud of the service provided and well rewarded by smiles and happy faces all around.

May was a one-airplane trip but a very productive one. Two dentists and an assistant helped the Sams round out their clinic in Lopez Mateos. Our participation was greatly appreciated.

We are very confident that we are moving forward with the reopening of the runway at Cadeje. The Baja Bush Pilots are acting on our behalf with Mexico City and the complicated paperwork needed to reopen the runway. By the time of our annual picnic we hope that there will be positive news and possibly even a temporary landing permit.

Be sure and join us on September 26th for the annual BBQ, and bring friends. It promises to be a good time for all.

Thanks to all who contributed this year to Aeromédicos. You are very special people and it is a privilege to know and work with you all.

-JWG



2014-2015 Volunteers

Angel Alvarado
 Angeli Mancuso
 Christine Gaskin
 Christine Simeral
 CJ Boyer
 Crystal Gutierrez
 Debbie Weinstein
 Elwood Schapansky
 Erin Lawhn
 Erwin Green
 Frank Heintz
 Jim Gaskin
 Joe Moore
 John Grube
 John Lawrence

Kaitlin Stout
 Karyn Yule
 Katherine Stradling
 Kylie Knoles-Barnett
 Larry Cochran
 Lauren Mitchell
 Margo Kenney
 Marilyn Zellet
 Martha Jimenez
 Myra Howard Cochran
 Natalie Schapansky
 Paul Perez
 Roni MacPherson
 Scott Walther



Stu MacPherson
 Susan Grube
 Ted Kenney

Terry Harris
 Toni Riparetti
 Vu Te Le

VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR - Marilyn Zellet



Marilyn Zellet is our Volunteer of the Year 2014-2015. Prized as a passenger on each trip for the delicious onboard lunches she prepares, Marilyn has been working behind the scenes on most of our fundraisers and events during the last eight years. She has also been an active participant as a member of the Board of Directors and as a translator at many of the clinics. Her international background... born in Australia and living and working in both Nicaragua and Mexico, has given Marilyn experience and insight, which has been of great value to Aeromédicos. Her quick wit, tinged with an Australian accent, has enlivened many a discussion. Always ready with a smile, Marilyn has been a valuable asset to Aeromédicos and is our very special Volunteer of the Year.

Save the Date! - Annual BBQ & Pre-Season Meeting

**Bring a friend,
 sign up for future trips,
 renew your annual membership
 and have a wonderful time.**

Tri-tip, chicken, salads, beans,
 all the trimmings, dessert, wine,
 beer & soft drinks. Price is \$20 for adults
 and \$1 per year old for each child under 21.
 Dress is casual.

Location: Nancy & Robin's Ranch
Date: Saturday afternoon, September 26th
Time: 3:00 p.m. (Barbecue served at 5:00 p.m.)

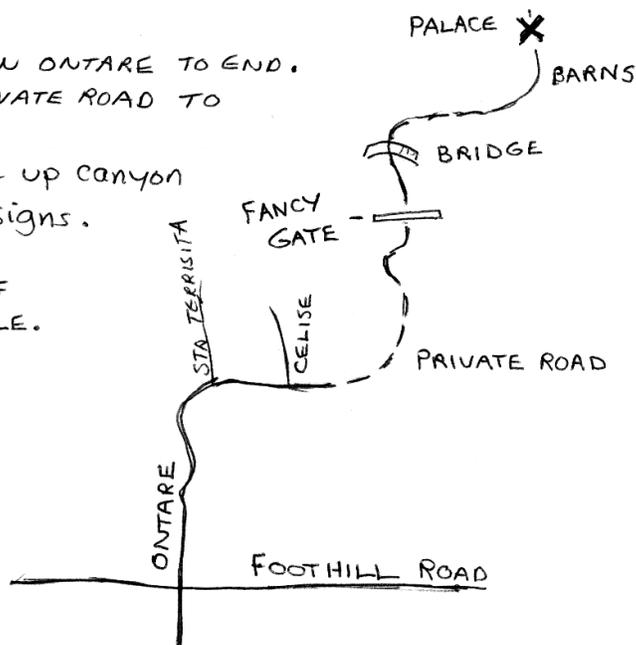
Please, no pets. Thank you for your cooperation.

**Generator turned off at midnight.*

DIRECTIONS :

NORTH ON ONTARE TO END.
 THEN, PRIVATE ROAD TO
 GATE ;
 1 1/8 mile up canyon
 follow signs.

CARPPOOL IF
 POSSIBLE.



Gate combination---#1234 ---note five symbols