



Yucatán Evangelistic Association News Letter

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| Gene Murphy | 2007 | 16 | October 3, 2007 |

Annual Yucatán Evangelistic Association Meeting

Mark your calendars and be sure to attend our annual YEA meeting. It will be held at the Emmanuel Baptist Church Family Life Center in Ruston, Louisiana, Saturday, 20 October, and will be covered dish. Tea, water and coffee will be provided. The meal will begin at 12:00 noon with our meeting following. Brother Toni Mendoza will be guest speaker. Music will be provided by his daughters, Ivette & Mónica, by Bill & Liz Allen, and by others. We invite you to come hear what God is doing in the Yucatán and to help us plan our upcoming year.

A Few Words From Shelby

Although 2007 has been a difficult year, we still have many victories to celebrate in the Yucatán. Buildings have been built, missions strengthened, an orphanage equipped, and new partnerships formed in the Valladolid area.

Second Baptist Church in Tekax is now the largest Baptist church in the state, and has completed their sanctuary. The building is even more beautiful than we expected it to be. The dedication service will be held on New Years Eve, combined with the Ordination service of Brother Juan as co-pastor. The church in Ticum has also completed the floor and roof.

Tremendous progress was made in San Felipe. Most of the people there have accepted the fact that we are there to stay, in spite of being told that there would never be an evangelical church in San Felipe. Our mission pastor there, Francisco Lara, has proven to be a great soul winner, and a very patient person.

We have partnered with a couple of churches in Valladolid, but there is much to be done before they are ready to sponsor missions. Both of the pastors have hearts for missions, but their churches are very small, and leaders need to be developed. The pastors, themselves, seem to be lacking in both leadership and organizational skills. Brother Tomás, from Tekax, has agreed to spend three months with them in effort to establish the necessary skills.

The Mérida orphanage received a new stove, refrigerator, freezer, and computer. The computer was designed for us to be able to communicate directly with the children, but there are some legal issues that have to be resolved. The kids have to be protected from persons that may have impure motives. We are working to resolve those issues.

Thank all of you for making 2007 a successful year. Without you, it would not be possible, Shelby

Yucatán Evangelistic Association Orphanage

The current orphanage in Mérida is sponsored by the Salvation Army, but with recent hurricanes the Salvation Army is low on funds and has had to let many of the orphans go. At the first of the year it housed 67 boys and 39 girls. This June, there were only 29 boys and 2 girls remaining.

The new YEA orphanage project is almost overwhelming at this point, but I really feel that God wants us to get this done, so I am confident that we can do it. We want to purchase a house in the south side of Mérida. The owner of this house said that she would accept \$40,000 USD for the property.

There are actually three dwellings on the property and it could be converted quite easily to facilitate the orphanage. The house on front has two bedrooms and a bath. This would easily accommodate 6 toddlers and the house parents. Behind this building is another that contains two dormitories, a kitchen, and a bath. If we expanded the bath, and built another, we could house 20 beds in this area. The third building is also at the front of the property. This area could accommodate at least 6 more beds. This would accommodate 32 orphans and the house parents. The main house has just been remodeled and has new plumbing and electrical wiring. There is hot water available to both the kitchen and bathrooms. There is a very nice patio, or play area, between the house and dormitory and a washroom with automatic washer and dryer connections at the end of the patio. Behind the dormitory is another patio and a very large swimming pool. The state will allow us to keep the pool but we will have to build a fence around it. There are very good schools in the area and public transportation is easy and convenient. Once the house is purchased we will need to purchase a commercial stove, refrigerator, beds, and other furnishings for the house. The state requires a bed for every child, even if the child prefers to sleep in a hammock. It will cost about \$10,000 USD to furnish these buildings. This figure is an accurate figure based on what we invested at the Salvation Army orphanage. I am praying that we can purchase the property, complete modifications, and have the facility open by late summer. Pat, my wife, is planning to retire and coordinate the orphanage and a Christian school. I can be reached by cell (318-990-2135) and Gene Murphy at (318-243-4077) if you need more information, Shelby Boyd

These are children who dearly need to see Christian love and to see Jesus in the lives of caregivers. We may be the best opportunity of keeping these kids off the streets and offering them a chance of living productive lives for God. If the Lord leads you to financially support either the new YEA orphanage or the YEA general fund, please contact YEA officials or visit <http://www.yeamissions.org/donations.html>.

The Mayan Warrior

When I arrived in the Yucatán on my first mission trip, Alfonso Cetina Novella was assigned to be my translator. Although fluent in English, Spanish, and the Mayan languages, he rapidly became much more than just a translator. Within a few short weeks, Cetina had become my translator, teacher, best friend, mentor, and my little, big brother. He was my constant companion for 15 years.



Cetina stood only about 4' 8" tall, but was a Giant in his work for our Lord. He translated, taught, preached, witnessed, carried concrete blocks, mixed concrete, or whatever else that was needed to accomplish the task at hand. He laughed, joked, and always had kind words for all of the Americans that were privileged to know him. He simply had the most loving spirit, and purest heart of anybody that I have ever known. Pat says, "To most of us, Cetina is synonymous with the Yucatán."

Alfonso Cetina Novella went to be with the Lord in June of this year. Heaven gained a spiritual giant. We all miss him. Several people have asked me when I was going to get another Cetina to work with us. I always say, "There will NEVER be another Cetina". Shelby

The **Yucatán Evangelistic Association, Inc. (YEA)** is an organization to coordinate and support the evangelical effort on the Yucatán peninsula. Through concerned Christian volunteers, the evangelical and construction work in the Yucatán has had great results with these receptive Mayan people coming to know the Gospel. Volunteers are needed to continue the Lord's work, whether it be the construction of churches, assisting with revivals, holding VBS day camps, performing with puppets, doing drama, conducting a medical mission, or conducting a sports program. **YOU** can help do a mighty work for the Lord by volunteering your time, efforts and/or resources in the Yucatán. Each individual who goes and serves truly bonds with these wonderful Mayan people and will receive such a blessing! If you would like to know more about the opportunity to become involved in this mission endeavor, please contact us.

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