

# Nicaragua Assistance 2003/2004

100 % Direct Humanitarian Support Since 1996

Trip 9

Total Assistance To-Date: \$37,000.00+

Dates of Journey: May 26 to June 6, 2003

## 2003 Focus:

- Hospital San Jose, Diriamba, Carazo
- Hogar de Ancianos Agustin Castro Flores (Old Peoples Home), Masaya, Carazo
- Montessori School, Masaya, Carazo
- Nehemias School, Sta Teresa, Carazo
- Rodolfo Aburto Castellon, Student, Managua
- Daryl Pao, Student, San Marcos, Carazo
- William Guzman, Student, San Marcos, Carazo
- Fred Ulrich, Catering Business, Managua
- A few Families and Individuals in the Carazo & Chinandega regions.



A place to call home seen all over Nicaragua.



The administrator of an Old Peoples Home in Masaya, Carazo receiving useful items and funds. One resident, shown to the right, once worked in Chicago, therefore, the Chicago Tribune and a large box of Franco Mints to be sampled by all residents at the home.

## Struggling Continues In Nicaragua...

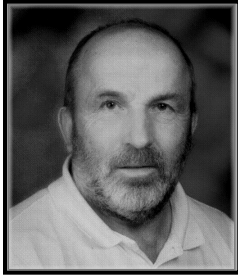
...for the vast majority of Nicaraguans in spite of some progress with the political situation and the infrastructure throughout the country. Unemployment is rampant and for those fortunately enough to work the income is meager, approximately \$3.00/day or less. Having assisted with charitable support in the form of much needed items, funds, as well as guidance, in NI since 1996, we have made a difference in the lives of the people being directly or indirectly helped. Every journey to NI bears this out in the form of appreciative comments, visual observations and jobs being acquired. What could be a better reason to stay the course?

This year's journey, in addition to prior visited locations in the Carazo province, took me to the Chinandega region in the northwest corner of the country. It used to be a very industrious part of the country that have fallen on hard times with unbelievable daily challenges for most of the inhabitants. Corinto, a port city is close by and provides some employment for people in the area. Foreign governments have assisted with building the port and erecting break walls along the coastline.

Again, **CONTINENTAL AIRLINES**, came through with accommodating extra pieces of luggage. In January 2003, twenty-two parcels were shipped by freight carrier to NI. Most of it was medicine which, unfortunately, was ruined by sitting in customs for too long a period. Very sad for the individuals that could have benefited from receiving these items and, likewise, for the donors. In as much as the present government is trying to overcome corruption, etc., it is still ongoing. I was told by many that I/we only had been lucky up to this point in getting our items through without difficulties; that I now believe to be true.



January 2003 shipment ready to go...



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Your assistance is desperately  
needed and being much  
appreciated by the recipients.

### Recent Comments Received:

...You are doing a very wonderful service for so many agencies and individuals there. While it takes a great deal of effort on your part, the difference that you are making in the lives of the people there, must give you great satisfaction. - HP

...We thank you for everything you are doing for us. - CF

...Thank you for your helping my family. - DP



Sister Claudia Fernandez , Hospital San Jose, Diriamba, Carazo, in the midst of a major Hospital expansion project chats with an employee on the job. A remarkable person, she is.



Young mind at work at the Nehemias School , Sta Teresa, Carazo

Again, without the goodwill of so many Individuals and Businesses, this would not be doable.

I thank everyone for making this possible and, in so doing, improving the lives of many.

*Thank you.*

### Contributors to the 9th Nicaraguan Humanitarian Journey:

#### Individuals:

Valeria Abatangelo  
Christine Al-Wazzan  
Noell Bidwell  
Catherine Cygan  
Robert and Terry Davis  
Julia Gillman  
Rune and Barbara Karsbæk  
Len Kreuzler  
Richard and Odette Maskell  
Jette K. Nielsen  
Marie Louise Nielsen  
Diane Pelletiere  
William and Shirley Plattenberger  
Jim Radeck  
Thomas J. Reynolds

Richard Sicchio  
Mike Wade

#### Businesses:

Continental Airlines, O'Hare, Chicago  
Il Pescatore Restaurant - Franklin Park  
Vito Barbanente, Owner  
Itasca Lions Club  
Dr. L. Ragas  
Seminole Plaza Hotel, Managua - R. Soto  
Triton College Student Association

*...if, for some reason, I overlooked somebody, please accept my apology.*

### ITEMS NEEDED FOR NOVEMBER 2004 JOURNEY...

#### Medical:

- Aspirin, Tylenol, Advil, etc.
- Tooth Brushes
- Tooth Paste
- Bandages
- Canes and Walkers

#### Other:

- School Supplies - Pencils, Erasers, Water Colors, etc.
- Calculators - Solar Powered Only
- PC's - Laptops or Notebooks Only
- Computer Software - Original Only
- Toys - Ages 2 to 10
- FUNDS - Make Checks out to: "NICA DIRECT"

All donations are distributed to carefully selected individuals and organizations. This is a 100% direct effort with no administration expense. All expenses associated with each trip are paid for personally.

Total Value of Items and Funds  
Disbursed on this trip:  
\$7,054.30