

EMU

INTERNATIONAL

Evangelical Mission to the Unreached

Evangelical Mission to Uruguay

PROCLAIMING THE TRIUMPHS OF THE GOSPEL

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Ken & Joan Jensen
Assistant Director

ALONG THE WAY . . .

So, what did you do on the 4th of July? Family cookout? Vacation to the ocean, lake, or pool? Hike in the mountains? Enjoy fireworks? Stay inside with the A/C turned down? Whatever you did was more relaxing than what Joan and I did! Having ordered and received 18 cubic yards of mulch prior to Independence Day, our goal was to get as much of it spread into our garden beds as possible on July 4. (Joan had already spread some of the mulch by herself the day before.) After an IHOP breakfast with my parents, Joan and I donned our work clothes and started our task of shoveling, wheeling, dumping, spreading, and pruning. Beginning at 9:30, I was determined to work at least until 1:00 p.m., knowing my current lack of stamina. Seventy-six degrees is a perfect temperature for outside work. But when 76° is the Dew Point, it's time to bring the kids, pets, and old people indoors! I didn't make it to 11:30 outside, and then spent the rest of the day trying to recover inside. Meanwhile, Joan continued slaving with the mulch until after 8:00 p.m. Most of my 65 July Fourths are not memorable. This one was. The Independence Day lesson for me is: Freedom is always regulated by ability.

Both freedom and ability have been exercised to blanket this EMU Newsletter with the months of July and August. And I'm hoping I don't have to include September!

Our missionaries have various ways of celebrating July 4th in the countries of their

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A CHEER FOR THE PATRONS

by Ken Jensen

(new camp cheer)

"What do we want? Patrons!

When do we want them? Now!"

(repeat several dozen times)

If you have a kid who went to summer camp this year, he/she probably came home with a new cheer. But probably not this one. The campers at Camp Emmanuel in Guazuvirá, Uruguay, don't even use this ditty. Mainly, because I just made it up. It's more of an office cheer in the EMU offices in the US and Uruguay.

I found the perfect definition for "patron" in the American Heritage dictionary, too: *1. One that supports, protects, or champions someone or something, such as an institution – like Camp Emmanuel, event – like camps at Camp Emmanuel, or cause – like projects at Camp Emmanuel; a sponsor – for campers, or benefactor – for the continuing ministry of Camp Emmanuel.* (This definition has been slightly enhanced.)

There is not a Christian camp – or secular one for that matter – that I know of which does not need financial support above-and-beyond camper fees. That is why, about this time every year, I send out a plea for donations to help us accomplish the list of projects that the Camp Emmanuel director, Pedro Donzé, and my brother, Rick Jensen, decide are priorities for the "Rick's Work Team," with workers from the US and Uruguay, to accomplish during the latter days of October.

The *modus operandi* in preparing for these work teams is that Pedro sends a list of projects that need or should be accomplished at Camp Emmanuel to Rick, with a cc: to me and now Jeff; Rick and Pedro spend several months corresponding concerning the feasibility, logistics, materials, and cost of each project and create a priority list; finally, Rick puts together a team of men and women who are adept and industrious to accomplish the needed work, while Pedro recruits folks

from among our MEU churches in Uruguay who will do the same. My part – easier, though equally as stressful! – is to try to find the funds to finance the materials and, if possible, the food and housing costs for the workers at Camp Emmanuel. And, then, there is "your part."

Besides listing the projects, I will give my own comments to, hopefully, emphasize the importance of each:

1. Three Fire Hose Stations: \$25,755

Although Camp Emmanuel is large – land-wise – and though forest fires are yearly events in this area, the fire department regulations in 2006 originally only required us to have one fire hose station, which is located just outside of Pedro's camp office and the dining room. However, with the growth of the camp facilities and activities, the authorities have let Pedro know that 3 additional stations are now required.



Current Fire hose station

The cost breakdown is as follows:

(a) Permits & inspections from the municipality, fire department, and hydro-engineer analysis - \$2,510; (b) Honeywell fire detection system - \$8,360; (c) pipes, fittings, and fire hose station units - \$13,000; (d) trenching with backhoe - \$1,885.

Thankfully, the fire department will allow us to do this project in stages, if needed. Breakdown (a) is the most critical at this time, but it would be great to get (b) done this year, too. It would also be very convenient to complete the "back breaking" points during one work team, though this, too, could be broken down into 2-3 parts.

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callings. On the Saturday before the 4th, a special day of games was held for the MKs of expats in northeastern **Cambodia**. **Brooke Illsley** planned the 15 games for the “Fun-Field Day” that lasted from 9:30-4:30, and **Bonnie Ruth Farmer** oversaw the feeding of the 35 kids who attended. Several of the parents stayed around as spectators. The Crowley home in **Ban Lung** was once again the fairground. After lunch **JD Crowley** gave a short Bible challenge to the participants. Sounds like this would make a great 4th of July tradition. And it is guaranteed to feel like the 4th – almost any day in Cambodia is hot and humid!



Jeremy's family & parents

Early in June, the parents of **Jeremy Farmer** visited **Stung Treng, Cambodia**, for a week to see their eight grandchildren. This was the second leg of a journey that included visiting their second oldest son and his family, who live in Indonesia. **Durwood and Carol Farmer** raised four wonderful children!



JD (center front) at the 60th anniversary of Arakawaoki Baptist Church in Japan



JD teaching with his translator, Hatsuho San. She's a PhD candidate in Chemistry/ Biochemistry.

In July **JD Crowley** flew to Japan to participate in the celebration of the 60th anniversary of the church that his father, **Dale Crowley**, started. Although there is not physical persecution against Christians in **Japan**, the culture seems to be diametrically opposed to Christianity. It

is such a blessing to see the perseverance of these believers in Christ over these many years. Also, the **Vietnamese** translation of **JD's Romans Commentary** is now in print! Pray that this book will be greatly used in Vietnam to reach the lost, strengthen Christians, and promote sound exegesis among the Vietnamese church leaders.



Josh and Amy Jensen received their one-year visas on July 9, along with their returned passports, which they needed to be able to take their driver's license tests - in **Phnom Penh**. They made the 8-hour-trip, one way, to PP two days later. Because they decided to get 10-year licenses, it was necessary to take both the written and driving portions of the test. Thankfully, both passed both tests. This allows the Jensen family to travel to the Cambodia/Thailand border in their own vehicle on Saturday, July 28, and cross the border that same day. The importance of this is that Amy and Josh are expecting their 5th child to be born in August, and they were advised to leave Cambodia before election day on Sunday the 29th. No one is expecting any national problems, but leaving a few days early is a wise precaution. Josh plans to leave their car with some friends and hire transportation to take them to **Bangkok** to await the new family member. Before returning to Cambodia, Josh and Amy will need to have plenty of paperwork approved by the U.S. Embassy so the baby will have a passport and documentation of birth abroad. As an added blessing, **Brooke Illsley** will be joining them closer to the due date to help with the other four children.

The **Kanes** have been in need of a newer vehicle as their current one has become unreliable for trips into the villages over “roads” that could break a donkey's leg! A church in the US learned of this need and has given to fund this project. Finding a good used **vehicle in Cambodia** for off-road use can be time-consuming and frustrating. We haven't heard if they've found a suitable replacement yet, so please pray about this search for a “gem” in the vast red plains of Cambodia's used car market. Oh, and it needs to seat at least 9 people – in seatbelts!

Another blessing along this line was a sizeable donation to **Billy Judson** for a newer used vehicle for use in his ministry in **India**. Though Billy and Saritha live in Hyderabad with paved roads, the routes to places where the **Good News Bible Colleges** are located are jarring, to say the least. Billy arrived in the US in May to make more contacts with pastors and to look at various programs from Bible colleges that offer MDiv degrees. Billy would like further degrees as he plans to start a Bible seminary in Hyderabad. Credentials are very important in the Indian culture. While Billy was in Greenville, SC, to speak with professors at Bob Jones Seminary, **Jeff** and

I were able to meet with him – **Jeff** for a longer period of time. One of the first things **Billy** told me was that **Saritha** had just told him, via Skype, that she is pregnant! Can't remember when she's due.

The **Steels** returned to **Montevideo, Uruguay**, on July 6 after their furlough, which took them as far away as upper Alaska. They traversed a lot of the US in North America during their 4-month furlough. On July 21, **Dr. Mark Minnick** arrives in Uruguay to speak at the Steels' church in Pando and then teach a book course in Montevideo to the **FEBU** students and anyone else who can attend the 5-day seminar. Mark is the pastor of the Steels' sending church, Mount Calvary Baptist Church. The following week the **FEBU** classes will begin their 2nd semester. The **Espinels** will return to Uruguay from a short visit with **Kristine's** parents in Myrtle Beach, SC, on August 14.

The **winter camp** for adolescents and Jovenes was held at **Camp Emmanuel** in Uruguay July 5-7. Retired pastor **Hector Gomez** from Rivera was the guest speaker.

Pastor **Gabriel Gomez** of **Montevideo** has been suffering greatly from shoulder pain. After months of doctor visits, the physicians finally said he needs an operation. And he finally received drugs strong enough to lessen the pain and allow him to sleep more than 2-3 hours a night! During this time, **Marcos Gomez**, his son who works part-time with **Pedro Donzé** at **Camp Emmanuel**, injured his knee. I don't have an update on that, but it was serious enough for **Rosanna** – wife and mother – to mention it to Joan in an email. These two men are very involved in ministries in Uruguay, so please pray for their recoveries.

Steve and Charity in **China** participated in the **VBS program** at their church. Because of government crackdowns on religious groups, the **Creation Camp** was truncated



VBS in Beijing church

In addition to helping with the games, Caleb was the A/V operator.



to only two days in July. But they were 2 very packed days, and the Gospel was clearly presented. Several of the workers at the VBS are from rural churches in China, and they have taken

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this program to their churches for VBS. We appreciate “Answers In Genesis” help with materials for this camp. Steve has been hired for another year to teach English at the university at which he has been teaching. During the remaining summer weeks, Steve is focusing on further development of a **Bible Study Tool website** started some years ago by a missionary from another organization.



HPBC teens & sponsors at the Nuñezes' church in Cancún, Mexico

Marco and Gwendolyn Nuñez hosted a group of young people and adults from **Hampton Park Baptist Church** for 10 days at the end of June and beginning of July. They were able to take the Nuñezes a couple of 50-pound boxes of tracts and other literature. The HP team traveled to churches in **Bécal**, Campeche; **Valladolid & Chemax**, Yucatan; and **Cancún & Playa del Carmen**, Quintana Roo. The teens gave testimonies, sang as a choir, helped with children's ministries, and passed out literature. From what I read from an HP teen weblog, the team seemed to have a blessed time. And Marco and Gwendolyn are worn out! The last full day before leaving Cancún for home, Marco took the team to Isla de Mujeres for snorkeling, swimming with sharks, and sightseeing.

In August, the **Nuñezes** will be visiting some supporting churches in **Colorado**. They also plan to take a short trip to **Greenville, SC**, so we will have the opportunity to be with them again. Pray for their safety in travel and good services.

Ted Allston heads back to Africa – this time **Uganda** – on August 9 to visit a refugee camp. In past years Ted has been to South Sudan, where he taught several groups of church leaders. In recent years South Sudan has been in the midst of civil war, making return visits by Ted far too dangerous. Some of the men he taught in the past are now in a refugee camp in neighboring Uganda, and Ted was asked to come teach them there. Ted returns to the US on August 27. A week later, **Ted and Marla** will fly to **Oslo, Norway**, to teach in a church until September 24. The Allstons have been with this group of believers before while filling in for Ted's sister and her husband, who are missionaries to Norway and have been pastoring in Oslo for many years.

The **Coles** in **Bordeaux** (actually **Pessac**),

France, will be in need of a new meeting place in the near future. For several decades, **Bob and Bonnie Bixby**, parents of **Tim Bixby**, held their church services on the ground floor of their rented house. Since Bob's death a little over a year ago, Bonnie has decided to move back to the States. Inquiries as to whether or not the owner will continue to rent the house to the Pessac church have gone unanswered. The search for another building has likewise produced no concrete results. Bonnie will leave southern France toward the beginning of Fall. Pray for God's wisdom and leadership concerning the church's place of worship.

The **Tim Bixbys**, along with the **Sarcelles** church outside of **Paris**, have been attempting to lease-to-buy a building in Sarcelles since last fall. The roadblocks have been myriad! But they finally have all the permissions from the local municipality, the insurance company, and the owner to repair and occupy the building. However, there is one more hurdle to overcome having to do with the company that holds the mortgage on the building. (It's kind of complicated, as everything else with this process has been!) Pray that the Lord will continue to work out the details and that this “deal” will go through soon.



The building in downtown Koprivnica that is available for purchase

The **Crnkovics**, in **Croatia**, are in desperate need of a new place for the **Baptist Church of Koprivnica** to meet for services. The landlord of the building (house) that the church is currently renting, wants to use the property for other purposes. The last month that the church can use the building is September. **Kornel** and the other men in the church have been looking for property to buy for several years, but they have not found anything suitable or in their price-range – until a couple of months ago. A property became available in the center of Koprivnica which has a building suitable for a sanctuary and another out-building that could be used for Sunday School and other purposes. The original price, which was quite high but seemed doable, has been lowered by 100k Euros. The church leadership is pursuing this property. There are inspections to be done and permissions needed from the municipality. A lot of work will need to be done to the interior of the buildings to make them

conducive for holding services. Although the accompanying photo of one side of the main building looks like it was once a church, it actually was not. Pray that the Lord will give definite leading concerning the purchase of this property. If the church does buy this real estate, I will be letting you know; for one thing, we would like to raise more money for the purchase and renovations to help the congregation, which has already saved a goodly amount for just such an opportunity.



Baptismal service at the Drava River. (l-r in white) Daniel & Antonija, & Drazenka

On Sunday, July 1, there was a **baptismal service** at the **Drava River** for three new members of the Baptist Church of Koprivnica in Croatia. One of the candidates was **Drazenka**. A few years ago there was an article in the newsletter by the **Crnkovics** in which they wrote about **Petra and Luka**, a young couple in their church. Luka learned that he had an aggressive cancer, so they wanted to marry as soon as possible. They were each the only Christians in their families. After Luka died, Petra's mother, **Drazenka**, started attending church and eventually accepted Christ as her Lord and Savior. It has been a blessing to follow her spiritual progress. The Crnkovics ask prayer for **Drazenka** and her unsaved son, **Ivan**.

The **EMU annual board meeting** took place on Saturday, July 14, followed by a delicious lunch at a restaurant in Greer, SC, which included the spouses of the board. Our out-of-state board members – **Steve Ridge, Brad Lapiska, & Steve Erkens** – were not able to attend, though Erkens was with us via Skype from Beijing, China. We thank the Lord for the men and woman (Joan) who serve on the board and lend their wisdom and time to help better run EMU International. The board members who did attend the meeting “in the flesh” were **Drew Conley, Ken Martin, Greg Mazak, Rick Miller, Nelson Neal, Dan Sallé, Jeff Davis, and Joan & me**. We also thank the Lord for supplying the needs of EMU for another year.

And we want to thank you for your continuing interest in EMU International. Many of you have let us know that you “pray through” the EMU Newsletter each month. That is such an encouragement to us. We also see the donations that come to the EMU office in support of various aspects of the mission. May the Lord bless each of you at least in the same measure that you are a blessing to us. †

Return Service Requested

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Cheer for the Patrons

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Again, this is a requirement by government agencies, so it's not really optional.

2. Six New Cabin Doors: \$4,200

The old doors have been repaired many times through the years due to the salty environment – 1 kilometer from the beach. Also, the new doors will have emergency handles or latches (I'm not sure what these look like) required by the fire department. This is not an immediate requirement, but the cost of repairing the doors has reached the point when this would be a conducive time to replace them. Also, one of the team members replaces doors and windows for a living.

3. Repair of Bathroom Dividers: \$542

Corrosion from the damp bathroom environment and the salty air of the camp's location is requiring more extensive repair of these dividers. Although Pedro would like to replace these with aluminum dividers, the price is high, and other projects are more of a priority.

4. Stainless Steel Kitchen Cabinets: \$6,100

In 1998, Vernon Smith and I made a special trip to Uruguay in order to build cabinets for the kitchen. (As I recall, I was going down anyway for meetings with the missionaries and Junta.) At that time, Vern worked part-



Wood cabinets in the kitchen - 2008

time in the woodworking shop of Hampton Park Baptist Church. The only tools we had were rather primitive – slightly above sharp stones and wooden mallets!

There are 2 major destroyers of wood in Uruguay: termites and a certain species of wood beetle. The latter especially has deteriorated those cabinets to the point of needing replacement. The requirement for “commercial” kitchens is to have stainless steel for new or replacement cabinets. These new cabinets will probably need to be manufactured by a company in Uruguay.

5. Repair of Large Crack in Chapel Wall: \$3,039

This crack is rather noticeable and has increased in size to the point that it needs fixing by the work team. The cost is basically materials as a sizeable portion of the wall needs to be removed and rebuilt. We are hoping that Rick will concoct a less expensive means of repair. He's good at that sort of thing!

6. Tree Removal

There is no cost listed here because the work will be done by an experienced

arborist traveling down with Rick. One or two other men will help with this task. There are some enormous trees – especially white eucalyptus – that are leaning towards structures – especially cabins. These trees are not rotting, but if they fall in one of the winter cyclones that hit the coast, they would wipe



White eucalyptus trees leaning over both girls' cabins - 2013

out entire structures. Other arborists who have worked at the camp have declined to remove these trees because of the danger and difficulty of doing so. The arborist going down in October might come to the same conclusion, but year-by-year we become more anxious about this problem. I am not sure if any new equipment will need to be purchased to remove these trees, but probably so.

7. Repair the Leak Problem of the Roof Over the Outside Kitchen Grill

No price has been set for this, as we need Rick to evaluate the situation first. This outside grill is attached to the kitchen and is used almost every day that a camp is in session.

When the US team arrives at Camp Emmanuel on either October 20 or 21, Pedro will have added projects which will include both the Uruguayans and Americans. And those will have costs, as well, but there is no projected cost yet. The US team will leave Uruguay on November 1, hopefully with all the projects completed. Pray for Rick and Pedro as they continue to organize and strategize.

Whatever you give towards any (or all!) of these projects will help. We have never had to cancel a Rick's Work Team because of a lack of funds, though some have been more expensive than this one. All we really ask is that you pray about this need, and if the Lord lays it on your heart to give, then do as He leads. For your convenience, there are many ways listed on the website by which you can send your gift. †

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