



August/September 2019 E-news

Website: www.fathertomsmission.org

As Misioneros De Padre Tomas in the U.S.

President:.....Ron Covey

Vice President....Sr. Sandra Alta

Treasurer.....Harry Lehr

Secretary.....Tato Ramirez

Advisors:

Sherry Arrick

Doug Arrick

Lori Morris

In Guatemala as Caminando Por La Paz

Presidente.....Carlos Miranda

Vice Presidente..Isis Miranda

Secteria.....Violeta Estrada

Vocal 1..... Sandra Us

Vocal 2.....Liseth de Leon

**A Special day for the Guatemalan Maryknoll
Affiliates.**

10 years ago the request of Father Thomas Goekler the tears at Monte Maria formed the Guatemalan Chapter of the Maryknoll affiliates. On Saturday, August 24th we celebrated the 10th Anniversary of the founding of the group.

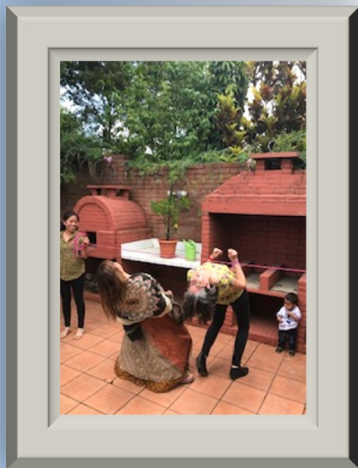


Wasn't the cake just beautiful. It taste great too!

The celebration was for the 10 years but we also honored Sr. Judy who was celebrating her Jubilee year. *As well as* Sr. Juana Bellesbach had completed 70 years with Maryknoll



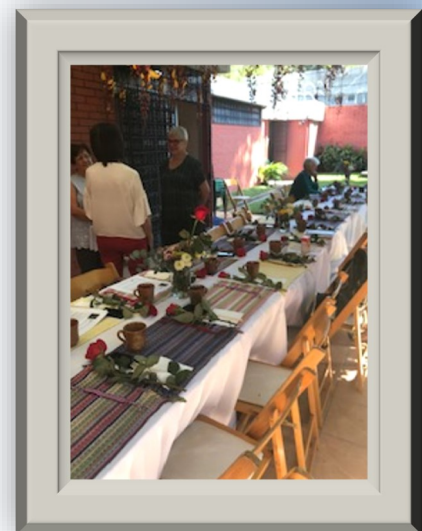
In the blue with back to us you can see Judy's dance



Limbo lower now.

How low can you go?

And, of course, we finished with Table fellowship. i.e. great Guatemalan food was served.



Please remember: Your visit to Caminando Por la Paz would be a blessing for us and those we serve.

If your visit should overlap with a Maryknoll affiliate meeting you could come as our guest.

We also stand ready to assist you with visit to any part of Guatemala you might wish to visit.

You can contact us on our website's [contact page](#).

Sending kids to school

Our tutoring program serves neighborhood children. It's open to any child in the neighborhood. In fact, it is the primary focus of our mission.

Those attending are split into groups by age and grade level. Tutoring is held Monday thru Thursday's. We have older children in the morning and younger in the afternoons. A portion of these kids are those we have placed in local schools. They make a contract with them us, and their parents concerning their behavior in school and attendance at tutoring.



When kids come for tutoring they receive a meal.

Did you know that at times malnutrition is higher in Guatemala than in Africa.

We have about 70 kids coming during the week. This includes the 25 that we pay all or part of their school expenses,

Most of those we place in schools (k-12) are paid from our general fund but 7 of them have a sponsor in the U.S.

You can sponsor one of our kids just go to our [sponsorship page.](#)

We have an interesting way to determine and pay for the schooling of those we serve. As the name Caminando Por La Paz indicates we walk about and Thus get to know very well the resources and needs Of the families we serve. For those we place in Schools we may pay all expenses or perhaps only a part Such as registration, monthly fee, test fees, uniforms. Transportation, etc. We feel this system allows us to Use you donation in the best possible way..



Our founder, Father Thomas Goekler MM frequently said: "Education is the window to a better future."

About Sponsorship of a child

We find that the price of a full scholarship for one child in K—12 is \$600.00. This covers all expenses for one child for one school year.

We have a concern that someone in the past may have sent money intending to sponsor a child but did not mention Sponsorship in their donation submission. If this has happened we invite the donor to inform us so we make suitable arrangements. Since our major expense is the education project any donation has a positive effect on the children we send to school and the supplies, etc. for our tutoring program.

Another growing concern is that each year we have students completing high school and asking for assistance to attend a local college. A partial answer to that question is the existence of San Carlos University the state supported school where the expense would be school supplies, transportation (a greater distance than to the schools we use), books, etc. but at least less than other universities. In the past the number for help with University expenses has been small and we worked it out from the general fund and occasionally colleges granted half scholarships. Our board, of course, is aware of this and beginning discussions on how we might be able to work out a solution to this problem.



As this image suggest the cost will not be small. Naturally we are counting on the generous support of our friends.

We work hard to select the kids who really want to have a good Education. They are happy to be in school.



Meditation

Oh Lord, open my eyes that I may see the need of others.,
Open my ears that I may hear their cries,
Open my heart so that they need not be without succor.
Let me not be afraid to defend the weak because of the
anger of the strong.
Nor afraid to defend the poor because of the anger of
of the rich.
Show me where love and hope and faith are needed,
And use me to bring them to these places.
Open my eyes and ears that I may this coming day
Do some work of peace for thee.

Listen to Open my Eyes in English:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eo6gZAUuQ3E>

In Spanish:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v6iVgL_rwuU



Bits of wisdom from St. Augustine

It is better to need less than to have more.

Don't exchange harsh words, but if your words do hurt, let your own words become a medicine to heal the wound.

Let everyone live together in openness of mind and heart, and honor the God in ourselves whose temples you have become.

On Saturday, September 21, our friend Dona Rosa left to be with her heavenly father. If you ever visited us you may have met this wonderful lady who lived directly across the street from the program house.

She was a wonderful part of our neighborhood and will be sadly missed by all of the community.



Neighbors gathered to remember Dona Rosa

“Infuse your life with action. Don’t wait for it to happen. Make it happen. Make your own future. Make your own hope. Make your own love. And whatever your beliefs honor your creator, not by passively Waiting for grace to come down from upon high, but by doing what you can to make grace happen...yourself, right now, right down here on Earth.”



Inside a Coffee Processing Plant

Coffee up-date

We can safely say that our market share is slowly increasing. We certainly wish it would be much greater but we are none-the-less encouraged. As you may know the basic premises for the coffee project is to eventually provide for all our on-going financial needs.

One idea for possible development of the project is to identify someone who may choose to sell our coffee on a commission basis.

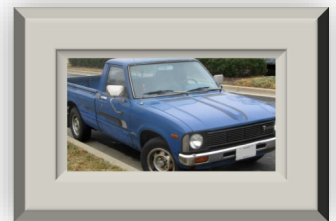
We are currently planning a distribution of a sample packet at churches, school, etc.

Your ideas on how we might increase our market share would be greatly appreciated. You could use the contact form on our webpage at: www.fathertomsmisssion.org to communicate your ideas to us.

Vehicle Concern

We have not worked on our go fund me vehicle project during the past couple of months.

We are now experiencing a small change in our thinking about this. We now believe it would be best to eventually purchase a new or used pick-up and rent a van only as needed. We plan future activity with the go fund me to express this change.





Our kids attending a lecture in the teaching area.

There are many ways you can be a part of Caminando Por la Paz:

1. pray for our continued existence and our ability to perform our mission in our little corner of the world.
2. Visit our website.
3. You could visit [family Coffee](#) and purchase some of our premium coffee. The purchase of our coffee goes a long way toward the price of putting the kids in School.
4. You could send a tax deductible donation to us as:

Caminando Por La Paz

Post Office Box 158
New Caney, Texas 77357

5. Publish our efforts on your Facebook and other social media pages and perhaps ask your contacts to donate to our efforts.

Our kids say Thank you for all your great support