



April 2012

# QUE PASA

WHAT'S HAPPENING

A Publication of International Children's Care  
P.O. Box 820610 Vancouver, WA 98682-0013

(360) 573-0429 • FAX: (360) 573-0491  
VISIT OUR WEBSITE! [www.ForHisKids.org](http://www.ForHisKids.org)

## Remembering James

Last month I wrote to our ICC family about our visit to the Patmos Children's Village a few months ago. You might remember that I mentioned that we had participated in the Lord's Supper and foot washing ceremonies, and that I had the privilege of washing the feet of one of our young men.

Well, life is very fragile in that country, and I have some very sad news to report. James Baganizi, 17 years old, was one of our children at the Patmos Children's Village in Congo, the very same one that participated with me in that special service, and he passed away a few days ago from a tragic accident. James had climbed an avocado tree, a branch broke and he fell to the ground. He didn't tell anyone about his fall for a few days. Then he didn't feel so good, so he informed the staff what had happened. They took him to a doctor immediately, and he was taken to a hospital in Goma on the mainland. James slipped into a coma and died a few days later from internal injuries.



We are all devastated and saddened by this news, and we pray for our children and staff at the Patmos Children's Village as they have to deal with this loss.

James had not always been one of the best-behaved boys on campus, and we had some serious talks with all the boys during our last visit. Afterwards, James came to us and asked forgiveness and

pledged to change his life and give his heart to Jesus. I felt at the time that he participated with me in the Communion Service that he was sincere, and Désiré, our administrator, confirmed that to me this week. He told me that ever after that day, James had a miraculous change in his life and that he kept his pledge to change.

I believe that he sincerely wanted to do what is right and that he loved Jesus. I look forward to meeting him again in Heaven at Jesus' feet as the ICC family from all over the world gathers to lift our voices in praise to God when He rescues us all from this world of sin and death.

Let's all lift our voices in prayer for our ICC family in Congo. They have passed through many trials lately. Pray for the children as they have to face this new trial. We pray that God, the Father of the fatherless, will sustain and comfort each one and keep and prepare them for the future on this earth and encourage them with the promise of a new earth to come.

*Rich Fleck*

# Cooking with BioGas

It's a simple fact. It costs money to operate and maintain our children's villages. Our ongoing expenditures for energy usage at our projects, such as electricity and propane, can be significant especially at the larger projects. To that end we are continually searching for ways that our projects can become more self-sufficient and sustainable with their energy needs.

Through an organization in Nicaragua, Felix Alamdarez, our project administrator in Nicaragua, was able to obtain a biogas system that is inexpensive, relatively easy to install and was self-sustaining. Manure from our dairy cows at our Nicaragua children's village provides the 'raw' material for the biogas generator. Three cows can supply all



BioGas generator at Nicaragua

the needs of one individual biogas system. We now have sixteen cows in Nicaragua.

Biogas is used all over the world as a cooking fuel and as a renewable replacement for wood and propane. Gases from the anaerobic breakdown of the cow manure is trapped and stored in a collection system from which it is piped directly into each home's gas cooking stove.

Our plan is that each of our homes in Nicaragua will have its own biogas system which can generate savings of \$100 per month per home. As each system costs \$150 for materials, the energy savings will pay for each system in two months time. Felix has been using a biogas system in Nicaragua since January.

We expect that this biogas project will prove successful in Nicaragua and we are planning for and exploring the possibilities of expanding the use of these biogas systems to other of our projects.

## MEMORIALS

### **Betty Paulson**

By Mr. & Mrs. Don Wysong

### **Lorraine Phillips**

By Dr. & Mrs. Louis (Edgel) Phillips

### **Lillian Price**

By Ms. Gaylah Cantrell

### **Wanda Ragan**

By Dr. & Mrs. Griffith Thomas

### **Mary Rasmussen**

Mrs. Eunice Rasmussen

### **Arden L. Ray**

Ms. Joyce Stockton

### **Mary Reimche**

By Mr. & Mrs. Don Wysong

### **Adnan Saaty**

By Dr. & Mrs. Ghanim Elias

### **Edward Schneider**

By Mrs. Winifred Schneider

### **Kurt Schneider**

By Mrs. Winifred Schneider

### **Dorothy Spry**

By Mr. & Mrs. Fred Smith

### **Elaine Swanberg**

By Ms. Betty J. Bottemiller  
Mr. and Mrs. Ronald V. Buck  
Mr. and Mrs. Skip C. Dynes  
Ms. Tammy Lilly  
Ms. Lois Michaelson  
Mr. Kenneth R. Ordelheide  
Mr. and Mrs. Don Rosen

### **Louise Tenbrink**

By Mr. and Mrs. Paul G. Pitts



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# A Personal Note

## ICC India Update

Dear ICC Family,

ICC's children at DEWS Sweet Home in India continue to thrive under the nurturing care of Lilly Kaligithi and her dedicated staff. Sharon and I recently visited these children, and I would like to share this update with all of our ICC family of supporters who make this ministry possible.

When we arrived at the Sweet Home Children's Village, the children greeted us at the gate with smiles and flowers. They were all very excited, as were we, to see each other again.

Each morning the children gathered in front of the house where we were staying to have a short worship before walking to school. They would sing the song, "My desire – to be like Jesus!" We would say a few words, and then they wanted me to pray for them. They were in the midst of taking important exams that week, so they always wanted us to pray for them as they went to school.

The children each have chores that they do during the day after school. Lilly assigns each child a certain area to be responsible for. They must clean the ground, water the plants and tidy up. They also wash clothes and clean the homes.

They also had time to play – some on the swings, some playing with a small toy or ball, or some playing organized games together such as volleyball, cricket and soccer.

In the evening, the children gathered in the meeting hall to have worship together. They sat on bamboo mats on the floor – the girls on the left and the boys on the right, with Lilly and us sitting on chairs in the front. We sang, told stories and prayed together. Sometimes the children recited long passages from the Bible. Usually Lilly had a small treat to give everyone as they left to go to their homes. In the evening they do their school homework together around the table.

On Sabbath, I was asked to sing for special music. One of our staff members, a young man named Willingson, agreed to sing a duet with me. Willingson was an orphan boy who grew up in a REACH orphanage. He is from the northern part of India – Manipur. Through a scholarship with another organization, he made his way to Flaiz College and into the heart of Lilly. He worked for Lilly doing a variety of things while he was finishing college. He graduated last year and continues to work for Sweet Home as Lilly's assistant doing just about everything, from accounting to driving the car and doing all kinds of errands. He also does maintenance and painting. He told me that he feels like he has really found a home at last at Sweet Home. He has a small one-room apartment that Lilly gave him to live in, and he loves it. He told me it is like a pal-



ace to him. He truly considers himself to be a member of the family there.

While we were there, the workers finished the project of getting the soccer field fixed up and goal posts in place. Also, they were finishing up a project to get the cricket pitch completed and the volleyball court remodeled. The cricket pitch and volleyball court share the same spot. ICC received some special donations for these projects. So we got to enjoy watching the children playing on the new soccer field and the new volleyball court.

Lilly is very concerned about getting a fence around the backside of the property where the agriculture is located. The neighbor's water buffalo sometimes get loose and get into the gardens. Also, there is a problem with thieves taking the produce. The engineer who works with Lilly to do our construction and remodeling projects went ahead and built part of the fence with a small down payment. And he is willing to wait until donations come in for the rest of his money and to finish the job.

We visited the whole campus and inspected the various projects that have been completed, such as fixing the water tower and the storage building (including the garages for the vehicles). And we saw the work that was completed to repair a couple of the homes where they had some structural problems.

On Sabbath afternoon we took the kids on a drive to the beach. They enjoyed their time walking, running, wading and building sand castles. And as the sun set, we gathered together for sundown worship, and Willingson led out with an interesting story for the kids.

As we sang and worshiped together watching the sun set over the Bay of Bengal, our thoughts were naturally drawn to the day when Jesus will come and gather us all under his wings and lead us home to the special place He has prepared for us. We can't wait to see the crowd that gathers for a great ICC reunion where we can all meet every one of the ICC family members – from supporters in the United States, Canada, Netherlands, Germany, Spain and many other countries, to all the children and staff members who were part of the great ICC family of His children around the world. I can't wait to be there. How about you?



In His Service,

Rick