

Friends of Honduras Society
President's 2016 Annual Report

2016 was another productive and encouraging year for the Friends of Honduras Society (FOH). Work and support continued at the schools in Retiro and Macueliso and the process of renovating the small house adjacent to the school in Retiro into a medical clinic was begun.

In early February FOH was invited to the Prime Timer's group at Central Baptist Church to give a talk on the work in Honduras. Bob & I presented a slide show on the history of the school with both of us doing voice overs for the various photos. We also took some artwork made by the students, plus FOH brochures & business cards were distributed directing the attendees to the FOH website. The presentation was very well received and approximately \$750 in donations was received from the folks who were in attendance.

In March the annual DFH bake sale in support of FOH was held. Organized by Ally Guevin at DFH, the sale was a huge success and over \$1600 was raised.

In July a generous supporter of FOH offered to provide up to \$5000 in matching donations for any monies raised by September 15, 2016. The "matching donation" promotion was posted on the FOH website and Facebook page, and was spread by "word of mouth" & social media to a wide ranging audience. By September 15th over \$10,000 had come in, making a final total of \$15,050 for the fund raising promotion.

Also in July, discussions began with the FOH website provider in regard to upgrading the website to a more "responsive" platform. This would modernize/update the entire site and make the website more easily viewable on hand-held devices. After getting input from various sources as to what the new site should look like and include, the new website went "live" in September and was very well received. As part of the new website FOH now has their own

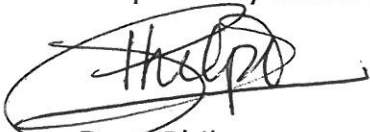
"YouTube" channel where videos taken at the school can be displayed on the new website.

During the course of the early & middle part of the year Leda obtained three separate estimates for the construction/renovation of the medical clinic. We appreciated very much Leda's expertise and diligence in vetting these estimates on our behalf and in September we chose one of the estimates, with the work to be done in 4 phases. Leda was given the go-ahead and monies for the first and second phases were wired to the FOH account in Honduras. The construction work commenced and Leda has kindly been sending photos of the progress being made.

In December another generous supporter of FOH made a \$5000 donation and these monies, combined with other monetary donations that came in, have provided sufficient funding for all phases of the clinic to now be completed, plus there are funds in reserve which will allow for purchasing supplies and food for the start of the new school year in February 2017.

None of what has been accomplished this past year would have been possible without the tireless work of the FOH board members who continue to so selflessly volunteer their time and energy to this purpose. Thanks to Leda & Rigo Chang in Honduras....you are the reason that FOH is able to move forward in a positive manner! Thanks also to Iris Bos for providing her language & translation skills and for acting as our liaison with Leda & Rigo. Many thanks to Cathy Stone for so ably looking after the books and finances of the Society and to Jillian Polson for faithfully recording & distributing the FOH meeting minutes. Thanks also to Directors At Large, Bob & Heather Philps and Greg Stone and to Member At Large, Graham Philps.

Respectfully submitted on January 30, 2017,



Dave Philps