

Friends of Honduras Society

President's Report for 2017

2017 was another productive and encouraging year for the Friends of Honduras Society (FOH). FOH continued to support the school in Retiro and was also able to provide some assistance to the school in Macueliso. Construction/renovations continued on the medical clinic building adjacent to the school in Retiro and we are hopeful that the medical clinic will be operational in 2018. Some generous monetary donations came in through the year such that there is now full funding available for the completion and outfitting of the medical clinic over and above the monies needed to provide for the continued day to day operation of the school in Retiro.

In January FOH was invited to the Men's Breakfast meeting at Gateway Baptist Church to give a talk on the work in Honduras. Bob Philips & 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 & crafts made by the students, plus FOH brochures and business cards were distributed directing the attendees to the FOH website. The presentation was very well received and approximately \$450 in donations was received from the folks in attendance.

The ownership, staff & Realtors at DFH Real Estate Ltd continue to be strong and faithful supporters of FOH. In August Dennis & Ally Guevin again sponsored a BBQ in the DFH parking lot with donations/proceeds going to Santa's Anonymous and FOH. And in December Ally Guevin organized her annual DFH/FOH Bake Sale with lots of Realtors & their significant others providing a variety of baked goods available for "purchase by donation". Over \$1500 in donations was raised by these two events.

The FOH webpage and Facebook page continue to be well received and they allow FOH to get news and updates out to a far wider audience than we ever could by word of mouth.

It was hoped that a team from FOH would be able to take a trip to the school in the Spring of 2018 but those plans have been put on hold for the moment as a result of the political unrest in the country that followed the Honduran general elections that were held in November.

None of what has been accomplished this past year would have been possible without the generous monetary donations that have come in from a wide variety of sources. A big thank-you to all the folks who have contributed to FOH in this manner. A big thank-you also for the tireless work of the FOH board members who continue to so selflessly volunteer their time and energy to this project. Thanks to Leda & Rigo Chang in Honduras....you are loved & appreciated and you are the reason that FOH is able to get things accomplished in Honduras. Many thanks to Iris Boss for her language & translation skills and for acting as our liaison with Leda & Rigo. Many thanks also to Cathy Stone for so ably looking after the books and finances of the Society, to Jillian Polson for faithfully recording & distributing the FOH meeting minutes and to the Directors At Large, Bob & Heather Philps and Greg Stone and to Member At Large, Graham Philps.

Respectfully submitted on January 29, 2018,



Dave Philps