

# Salud Juntos Winter 2011 Brigade to Punta Ocote



**Monday 3 January 2011**

## Off to a good start-

The morning started off with the usual battles of what goes where and just what do each of us do? Fortunately, this year we had returning staff who had worked eye brigades before. Christina Nunez has worked multiple Salud Juntos Brigades; she was joined today by Franklin Ruiz.



By 0930, we were seeing our first patient and teaching the refraction protocol to the three community members who also recorded histories and helped the patients select their glasses. Our first patient was very patient with all the attention! At one point, 8 people were crowded around him, starting the time honored practice of “see one, do one, teach one”.



Our target was 20 patients in the morning, and we saw 19 by lunch. We use an approach to refracting where the staff binocularly refract with a target acuity of 20/40 or better for distance and near. The monocular acuities were later determined by Doctors Thiri and Matt.

The glasses in the banner photo above were collected by the Lions Club Members through the ALERT eyeglasses recycling program, cleaned, powers determined, and then sorted for use. Thanks!

## Chief Complaint: “ I can’t see my watch”

In Tucson, we take reading glasses for granted. They are common enough that you find them lying all over the house of many people over forty. Here, they are scarce – and without them, simple activities are difficult.



seeing 20/40 in each eye, and complaining about the scratches on his glasses. We follow him for glaucoma, and he was supplied a years worth of glaucoma medication, courtesy of Allergan. We were able to provide him a spare of aphakic spectacles this year.

### Motorcycle Mama (and daughter)!



Dr Feng is shown with a patient who could read his watch for want of a pair of reading glasses. With all our training in the care of disease, handing out reading glasses can still be the high point of the day, when you see the gratitude that the donated reading glasses produce in the patient that received them.

Pat Broyles saves a young Honduran girl from future pterygia with a stylish pair of sunglasses. Mom, a motorcyclist, is already sporting her safety sunglasses. The two ride together, a common mode of transport.

*(Dr Thiri was once observed on a motorcycle in Madras with her mother and two children- all on one scooter, all wearing eye protection!)*

### Follow up of the day:



When Martiniano first came to the clinic two years ago, he was effectively blind due to the lack of a special pair of glasses for aphakia, a result of a cataract surgery where lens implants were not available as they are now. Salud Juntos donors purchased a pair of custom glasses for him. His goal before the glasses was to be able to read the Bible again. Today, he was

We were very fortunate to obtain polycarbonate sunglasses and clear lenses at cost from Tucson General Supply and Industrial Tools. Thanks!



## Fringe Benefits



Staff members picking their personal favorites from the sunglass selection.

## CASE OF THE DAY



This 71-year-old diabetic female presented with burny, itchy red eyes. Her best corrected vision was 20/80 in each eye at distance and near. Her right pupil was widely dilated and the anterior chamber shallowed. Intraocular pressure was low teens. The view of the retina suggested cataract, and nerve appeared normal. The patient was referred as an unknown. Perhaps the start of a phacomorphic lens change? Sure would be nice to have a slit lamp down here!

## Today's Geotag: Rancho Tipico

N 15 deg 08.297 min,  
W 87 deg 07.583 min.

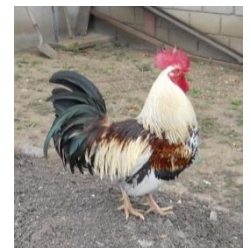
## Salud Juntos Focus – Franklin Ruiz



Franklin has been translating for Salud Juntos since Dale met him at Hotel Casa Blanca 3 year ago. Franklin learned his English while working in Texas, and enjoys the opportunity to practice the language while working with our group and several other medical teams. He is 36 years old, married to Claudia Carolina, and the father of three girls. While he grew up in Tegulcigalpa, he has lived the last six years in El Progreso. He enjoys playing football with a round ball, and the opportunity to live the Christian life in this opportunity to serve others. Friends can reach him by email at [FrankTrefrateli@hotmail.com](mailto:FrankTrefrateli@hotmail.com).

## Photogenic Hen of the day-

*Photo credit: Pat the chicken stalker.*



## Monday Patient Statistics:

Of the 39 patients seen, 15 (38%) were men and 24 (62%) were women.

Age	Hyperopia	Emmetropia	Myopia
<= 40 yrs	3	7	0
>40	27	2	0

### Diagnoses:

- 21 CATARACT
- 20 REFRACTIVE ERROR
- 17 DRY EYE
- 12 PTERYGEA
- 10 ALLERGIC CONJUNCTIVITIS
- 2 DIABETIC WITHOUT RETINOPATHY
- 1 DACROCYSTITIS
- 1 APHAKIA
- 1 GLAUCOMA



Eye Brigade January 2011

First Row: George Antunez, Thiri Pugazhendi MD, Matt Feng MD, Christina Nunez, Flor, Ramon, Janira  
Second Row: Joe Miller MD MPH, Pat Broyles, Dale Reiger