

Trail Poop

Carefully gathered by the fairly inarticulate Tim Bernard at Happy Trails Products. Only the dirt and nothin' but the dirt, well a little bit of pavement to get there.



CMA Nicaragua Mission trip November 2006 Final Chapter - part 4

The next morning we were treated to a great breakfast and then we loaded everything back on the bus for the trip to Managua. Wilson had been up early to get the tire fixed and assured us everything was fine. As we headed out of Jinotega the inevitable conversation came up about how long a trip it was back to Managua. You guessed it the common consensus was an hour and half! Mike recorded all of our interpretations of an hour and half to see who would be the closest to the correct time. We had gone about 40 kilometers when we saw a dead horse on the right of the road. It was a pretty ghastly sight and about 200 meters up the road was the truck that had hit the horse. The front of the truck was not a pretty sight either. As we passed by a few chills ran up my spine as I thought back to the riding of the bike in the pitch black the previous night.

Mike took us to see his welding and blacksmith school. It is on the property of a church and school in a little town called Los Brasiles. As we pulled up the little kids were excited to see us and especially Mike and Jason. Mike and Jason definitely stand out in a crowd among the Nicaraguans, they over 6 foot tall and big in stature with shaved heads. I kept waiting for them to get in a WWE ring and put on a wrestling match for us. The two may look big and mean but they are two of the kindest men I have ever met. I have always heard the term "*called into ministry*" and getting to know these two guys really brings clarity to that term now.

Mike asked one of the teachers to unlock the computer lab. As she was unlocking the door Mike was asking us to pray that the power would be on soon in the neighborhood. A transformer had blown in the area and the power had been out for over three weeks. Here is that time issue again in Nicaragua; time has a different meaning here. As we entered the room the fans were running, at first we did not realize that the power had come on! We moved through the school compound greeting the kids in there classrooms, all the schools are open air with bars and screens to secure them. Just walking by totally disrupts the kids since they are so excited to see people; and they love to have their pictures taken by digital cameras so they can see the picture right away in the camera.



The building that Mike is using for his welding and blacksmithing school has been seriously transformed since last year. When I was there the year before it was a concrete slab with three walls and a roof. I would say the building is 50 feet by 150 feet. Most noticeably is the front has been enclosed by metal bars to keep everything secure. It is still hard for me to comprehend the open air concept for schools and working. Work benches have been made, forges have been made and an antique forge has been resurrected as the center piece of the school. The electrical capacity coming to the building will only support one welder. Mike had funds to purchase a transformer and to get it installed but due to some politics the transformer was hung over 3 months ago and is still not hooked into the power grid. Something this straightforward could have been resolved in an afternoon in the States but here is an example of what time is in Nicaragua. Tomorrow can be interpreted as someday.

Mike starts the day with his students breaking charcoal into small pieces for the forge. By sitting around in a circle and using hammers to gently break the charcoal into smaller pieces conversation is much easier and barriers are broken down which makes the interaction with some of the students much easier.

Jason has used the building to teach some basic auto mechanics to the students also. Mike had talked to one of his former teaching associates about coming down from the States for a few days to work with the students on basic geometry.

We wanted to visit the new Harley Davidson dealer in Nicaragua, when we arrived at the Harley Shop we had to be buzzed in through the locked door. The security for retail shops in Nicaragua is very tight so locked doors with remote locks or armed guards are the normal. With about 20 of us walking in the door the lone sales clerk was overwhelmed and made some frantic phone calls to the owner and his wife. We stocked up on Harley t-shirts, hats and other items that were branded with HD Nicaragua. The owner Guillermo and his wife were excited to see such a crowd in their small store. The store was about 1200 square feet and I do not believe it had a service department. The store had only been open a few months but had sold about 14 new bikes since their opening. They have an expansion plan in place along with a future service department. Currently they fly a mechanic from another country for service.

Guillermo invited us to meet a group of Harley riders the next evening for dinner. We eagerly accepted this unexpected invitation.

Thursday was a work project for the team. We were going to work on some housing at a compound for recovering prostitutes. Some walls need added to the caretaker's quarters along with mudding exterior walls on the dormitories. There were also some bathrooms that needed painting.

I was going with Jason for the day to find out about his mechanics ministries. Having started my adult life out as a mechanic and owning a specialty auto repair center until 2002, I was eager to find out about Jason's ministry. I had never had any idea that such a ministry was needed. Our job for the day included diagnosing and repairing some tail light problems on a teacher's car and appraising a used vehicle that a missionary was considering buying. Jason does make house calls or in this case school calls. We drove to NCA Schools found the car and Jason was quick to diagnose the problem as a bad taillight socket. The tail light wiring harness was removed and we were off to Harbre litre (little tree) to get parts. The Little Tree is where the automotive parts dealers are and they are just on the edge of the black market section of town. A gringo is wise not to venture into the black market area. Jason said you would be lucky to come out with your clothes and maybe even less! We pulled off of the main street and parked on a side street. In less than a minute a parts runner was there checking us out and seeing what we needed. Jason had a brief conversation in Espanola and the runner was gone. About 10 minutes later he was back with the exact part we needed. The part was new, much to our surprise, but was the socket only. With some creative splicing it would work fine. Another conversation determining the price and everyone was happy. Jason made sure there was a little extra money in it for the part runner's time.



Jason made a phone call to the missionary that needed to have us appraise the used vehicle he was considering purchasing. The missionary had made other commitments and could not keep the appointment with Jason. This is another example of what time is in Nicaragua. I guess this missionary has been in country for a while. Jason has the patience and the understanding to make this ministry work (I would have told the guy just how valuable my time was and he better find someone else to work for free on his cars) . When he and Amberly return to Nicaragua after the birth of Angus he has identified several of his primary needs to me. He will need a loaner vehicle so he can exchange vehicles with the missionaries to make better use of his time. The ARM (Auto Repair Ministry) of Missionary Ventures is made up of mechanics that visit countries on a short term ministry basis. The work they do is not only on Missionary vehicles but on local Pastors vehicles also. You could consider it a repair blitz week. One of their biggest challenges is a place to work on the vehicles and have the vehicles staged for work when they arrive for the short term mission trip. They have approached Eric and have received permission to build a 6 bay shop on Eric's property. This is where Jason will be based out of in the future. Jason will also be able to have a plan put together for the ARM team so they will be able to accomplish much more in the time they spend in Nicaragua. I understand that a parts runner visits them wherever they are working. One of Jason's other top priorities was to budget in a motorcycle to run his errands on. A motorcycle in the right hands is a great asset in Nicaragua. (This will be taken care of with one of the Nehemiah bikes.)

We went out to dinner to meet up with the local Harley group Guillermo had invited us to meet. We were on US time and the Harley group was on Nicaragua time. Six Harleys and about 10 people showed up at the Restaurant which was a copy of a 60's restaurant here in the US. You could buy an Elvis Burger and a James Dean shake or anything else that was from a popular namesake in the US Rock & Roll culture. I find it strange that people in other countries are always saying how bad the USA is but they wear Levi's, Nike's and mimic everything in the USA. They say if you want to know somebody look in their check book. The wealthy people in Nicaragua buy everything they can that is popular in the USA. We had a great time talking directly and through interpreters with HD Riders and our highlight was when we were able to Bless their bikes. One of our team members who is known for crashing a bike on a previous CMA Mission Trip was offered a ride on one of the Harleys and said yes immediately. He was gone in a flash and we immediately went into prayer. We thought the worst. Guillermo was in hot pursuit and they took an extended ride instead of just going around the block. Prayers were answered and both returned safely. I do not know if I would have gotten on an unfamiliar outrageously expensive bike in downtown Managua. It would have COMBAT TOURING at it's best.

Friday was another day on the bus. Our first goal was to find the school Asdrubal that Marta had founded. The landmark was a cemetery about ten miles away. You guessed it; someone had told Wilson a shorter way to get there. Today Marilyn Loftsgard was with us and the way Wilson took after exiting the main highway was not familiar to Marilyn. Opportunities like this get you into some extremely impoverished neighborhoods and if one wanted to you could get quite stressed. God wanted us to see the people as they really are not just as we perceive them. Yes the housing is less than storage sheds in our back yards yet these people are proud of who they are and what they have. I don't want to make it sound like the people in these neighborhoods deserve or are completely complacent my point is that whether you are here in Nicaragua or in a mansion somewhere else, the only Rest is in God. At last we sighted the cemetery and I thought to myself, it was odd that we must find death and then we could find our way! The school compound was quite impressive and there were students there helping with maintenance work. The school had been dismissed the week earlier for Christmas break.

Our next stop was at a potter's house to see how pottery was made and to buy some beautiful pottery to take home with us. Then we were off to lunch. After lunch we took a boat cruise on Lake Nicaragua to see some of the mansions on the island. The sites were very impressive but something had finally caught up with my intestinal tract and I was happy to just lay in the bow of the boat and sleep.

It was back to the mission house for a shower, dinner and a debriefing session. The next morning we were all up by 4:00 AM and ready for a quick breakfast and our last bus ride with Wilson to the airport.

Now it was time to go back to the USA and return to familiar surroundings. No roosters crowing at 4:00 AM. Walls, windows and hot water, what nice things we have grown accustomed to here in the land of plenty.

Time to start preparing for the next step; "Adventure Missions" called the Nehemiah Riders! Where do you want to be? I will settle for God's Country.

Vya con Dios!

Nehemiah Riders

Well the guys are back in town, safe and sound. What an amazing trip and what a hand God hand in all of the planning, funding and the trip itself.

I am going to ask the guys to each give a write up for the next issues of Trail Poop.

You can read about their progress at <http://nehemiahriders.blogspot.com/>

Their are pictures at <http://purplesageranger.smugmug.com/>

Their are also hyperlinks of the Happy Trails web page.

Moab April 25 - 29 Dual Sport Ride

Randy and group of Riders made it back and maybe we can have an update on that trip next issue.

May 5 Carl Struthers Memorial Ride / CMA Run for the Son

We will be doing a similar ride to last year. There will be several dirt road options as well as a paved road route.

Meet at Carl's Cycle 5550 West State Street at 9:00 AM for sign up. There will be coffee and rolls provided by Carl's. The ride will start at Carl's Cycle and end at the Hot Springs FS campground for a BBQ. This is a benefit ride for CMA (Christian Motorcycle Association). If you want to ride up on your own and meet us for the BBQ you are welcome to do that.

DIRECTIONS

Take State Highway 55 from Boise, Idaho, 35 miles north to Banks. Turn east on Forest Highway 24 (Banks-Lowman Highway). Go 17 miles to campground.

See attached flyer on page 7.

July 19-22 Happy Trails Twin Peaks Ride

This year will be a different format for the camping. We will be staying at Challis Hot Springs Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights. Last year we had only positive comments about the Hot Springs and we did not get to see everything we wanted to we decided to return and finish the ride. The date has been moved up about 10 days to be ahead of the start of fire season. This will be a great ride with some of the best vistas around Idaho. Sleeping Deer and Twin Peaks will be one the rides we do. This year day one will be a little different than in the past. We will not have a led ride to Challis; you will be on your own to get to Challis. If you wish to participate on Day 1 in what we call a DIRTY DOZEN you are welcome to do so. The DIRTY DOZEN will be similar to a scavenger hunt. We will open the



shop at 6:00 AM for check in and you can not leave until 7:00 AM. You will be give a list of destinations and clues and you will have until 7:00 PM to check in at the Challis Hot Springs. The rider with the most points will be the winner. We will also have team entries. There will also be special bonus points if you meet ED or me on the trail at specified places and times during the day. This is not a competitive event just another way to see the sites of Idaho and improve your knowledge of the State. Any clues will be answered in an information handout so if you are not from Idaho you will still have a fair chance.

The cost is \$85.00 and includes 6 meals and your camping at Challis Hot Springs.

We will be able to transport a limited amount of camping gear this year for those with bikes that are not set up to carry the gear.

Marty Morache has said he will join us again this year.

Sign up <http://happy-trail.com/ProductInfo.aspx?productid=HTP%20TWINPEAKS>



RIDE2READ 2007
SATURDAY JUNE 9, 2007

RIDE2READ (R2R) is a 501(c)3 organization whose sole purpose is to host an annual motorcycle rally to support Idaho libraries, local and national literacy programs. If you can read this you are among the fortunate 50% of the US population that can.

According to the National Institute for Literacy, approximately 50% of the US adult population lacks a sufficient foundation of basic literacy to successfully function in our society.

There are many reasons for low literacy skills and without



books, newspapers

or magazines in the home and a parent who reads to serve as a role model, many children grow up with severe literacy deficiencies.

R2R's goal is to do what we can in bringing financial assistance to programs and libraries in Idaho.

R2R's mission is to help children and adults learn to read and open the world of books to them.

By learning to read they can change their communities and their destinies.

U.S. Secretary of Education Roderick Paige said:

"A child who can read is a child who can learn and a child who can learn is a child who can succeed and become an active contributing participant in society who then can pass those traits down to their children."

Each year R2R works on having the needs of the rally donated: water, fruit, muffins, printing, raffle prizes, so that

R2R can reach their goal of minimum operating costs and maximum donations to our recipients.

For more information go to: www.ride2read.org



Great news! Snake River Yamaha (SRY) will be hosting the "Biker's Night" party through September. One night will be set aside each month for a large non-alcoholic event, where 500+ bikers will gather from 6-10:00 pm to enjoy free food, fun, and live music. The best part is that SRY has chosen to represent Boise Rescue Mission during these parties. Dressed in leather and chaps, Reverend Roscoe (or an associate) will speak at each party about BRMM operations and needs. One hundred percent of all food and money donations collected go directly to BRMM. Even better, we can advertise our Ride for Rescue event (June 30th-July 1st)! General public welcome.

Confirmed dates: (all Saturdays)

April 21st 6-10:00pm

May 19th 6-10:00pm

June 21st 6-10:00pm

August 11th 6-10:00pm

Sept 22nd 6-10:00pm

SRY will advertise through Kissin' 92, and The Eagle, 96.9.
Any suggestions or questions...call me.

Thanks!

My Best,

Jason Billester
Events Coordinator
Boise Rescue Mission
cell (208) 921-2514
email: jasonb@boiserm.org

Bikes for sale:

2004 KTM 625 SXC w/2250 miles and all original parts (seat, tank, brush guards) bought New for \$6995.00

Included Extras and Upgrades:

1 x KTM Dual Sport Kit	\$569.00
1 x Talon Rear Hub and Spokes set	\$550.00
1 x KTM 5gal Tank and Comfort Seat set	\$369.00
1 x Happy Trails SU Side Rack kit (for soft side or aluminum panniers)	\$255.00
1 x ProMotoBillet Tail Rack	\$185.00
1 x Wolfman Explorer Tank Bag	\$159.00
1 x KTM Aluminum Skid Plate	\$115.00
1 x Acerbis Hand Guards	\$79.00
1 x Renthal 42 tooth aluminum rear sprocket	\$49.00
Total investment	\$9325.00
Asking price	\$4800.00

2000 Suzuki Intruder VS800

7500 miles

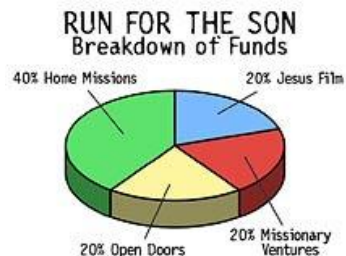
Leather Saddle bags, passenger back rest and rear rack. Polished engine, engine guards and highway pegs. Brand NEW tires. A must see!

\$4000.00



2007 Run For The Son 20th Anniversary - Saturday, May 5th

Over the past nineteen years, CMA has been able to extend our outreach to millions of people throughout the world by the fruits of Run for the Son. By giving 60% of Run for the Son monies to fellow ministries, we have been able to place the message of Hope in front of the multitudes in hundreds of other countries.



In addition, Run for the Son has enabled CMA to equip the saints here in the United States to reach the lost with the Gospel of Jesus Christ. The successful efforts of the past nineteen years have raised over 24 million dollars to help spread the Good News.

~~~~~ HOW IT WORKS ~~~~~

On Saturday, May 5, 2007, motorcyclists from all over the United States and Canada will participate in the 20th Annual Run for the Son. Our plan is to spread the light of Jesus around the world as a result of the work leading up to this day.

Those participating in this event will raise money by seeking individuals to sponsor them on a ride, usually taken with their chapter. The joint efforts of thousands of motorcyclists will make this run a successful endeavor.

Every penny promptly goes to work. CMA does not lose sight of the fact that money is entrusted to the ministry to be used to spread the Gospel. Every effort is taken to handle the Run for the Son funds as efficiently as possible, realizing that proper administration will put more money into the work of reaching the lost rather than in the administering of funds.

Through yearly mission trips, CMA members have personally delivered Bibles into the hands of fellow believers in restricted access countries and presented motorcycles to native pastors around the world. Will you help spread the light of Jesus around the world through the Christian Motorcyclists Association's Run for the Son?

CMA Emmaus Riders
Contact: Pres. Tim Bernard 208-866-2553
Tim.Bernard@happy-trail.com
4545 W Chinden Blvd; Boise, Id 83714

The Emmaus Riders Chapter will be having 2 rides again this year on Saturday May 5th. They will have their Dual Sport ride which will include a lot of dirt; and they will have a road ride for those that want *no* part of the dirt. Both of these rides will meet for a



BBQ lunch in the mountains (location TBA).

If you would like to participate in one of the above rides, they will meet at Carl's Cycle Sales on State St. at 9:00 am. The rides will be 100 miles.

CMA R-Wheels-R-His
Contact: Pres. Jim Kennedy 208-571-4992
JimKennedy@cableone.net
P.O. Box 4885; Boise, Id 83711

The R Wheels R His Chapter is having their 100 mile Run for the Son ride leaving from the Boise Community Center on Eagle road at 8:30 AM. After the Run for the Son ride, we will assist the Coalition of Motorcycle Safety (ICMS) with their Motorcycle Awareness Ride from Lucky Peak. There will be flags from several motorcycle units leading the parade including the CMA flag. Since the Capital building and the surrounding area is closed this year for construction, the ride will end at the MK Building of Washington Group for the speakers, etc. The rest of R Wheels R His will go to the Municipal Park and get ready for the Awareness Rally BBQ put on by CMA for ICMS. We will have tracts and a bike blessing and invite bikers to attend Biker Sunday the following day. If you would like to attend Bike Sunday on May 6th it will be at 7540 Northview Ave.; Northview Family Worship Center (look for the domes) in Boise. This is a Biker Service where CMA leads the service. After the service there will be a BBQ and bike blessings.

