

Hola Amigos del Hospitalito,

We hope all of you are doing well, staying warm, and enjoying the winter. It has been sunny and cool at night here, into the 40s. There was a week of fierce *norte* (north wind), and no boat travel on the lake.

The farmers are preparing to plant their milpa, which mean that they are burning their fields. Not a good combination when the winds pick up. It is so dry now, it is hard to believe that the corn will sprout without watering, but the first tiny green shoots are coming out if what appears to be hot sand. The corn is traditionally planted on the same day each year.

The Hospitalito has been full of medical volunteers, and everyone is benefiting. Kathy Roach has returned in good health, we are so happy about that. She brought photos of Leah and Antonio's triplets.

The Hospitalito recently made a great contact with Vine International. Vine has a large warehouse outside of Guatemala City. They are a "Pipeline of Resources" that ships medical donations from Knoxville, Tennessee to Guatemala. When the container arrives, Hospitalito gets an email invitation to see what we might need. It is just like Christmas going to the Vine warehouse. We get a large cart, and go up and down the aisles... shopping, but there is NO CHECK OUT! Everything is free!!! Vine told HA that they will ship things especially for the Hospitalito... we just need to get it to Knoxville.

Jeff Lang, the NY carpenter and HA handyman is here. Nyla got some much-needed shelving in the reception area. The shelving for medical records was overflowing. Jeff is also building a roof over the outdoor pila... preparing for the rains to begin, and he is working on the electrical medical equipment list for the new hospital. We greatly appreciate Jeff for his great talent with the banjo and violin.

Construction commission for the new hospital is busy, trying to keep ahead of the weather. Work groups are welcome. Take a look at what's happening with the Hospitalito and other Pueblo a pueblo programs at....

<http://www.puebloapueblo.blogspot.com/>

Keep us in mind....

Tb'na cuent avi!

Hospitalito staff and Board of Directors