

The Water Log

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So much to tell about I hardly know where to start! I usually like to sum up all the activities of the past year in December, but I don't think you want to spend all day reading, so I'll try to be brief. For those of you that like more pictures, I've posted an album on my *Facebook* and on our website.

Let's start with the most recent event- India. Michael Glesener and I covered a lot of territory while we were there. Overall we spoke at and did CPU training sessions in 18 different areas. Most were in churches, a couple were in schools, and three were in the middle of the town street. We also partnered with VMI and did training for 56 pastors at a conference. It was exhausting and challenging, but very rewarding. We saw a bunch of sights and got a much better understanding of the people, the culture, and how to best begin a successful SWIM ministry there.

The biggest answer to prayer was finding some very capable people willing to work with us. They were so excited to have an outreach ministry tool that also has real value in the community's eyes as a practical way to help with a huge need. We should have much more to report about from them in the coming months. The Lord also blessed me with a great travel partner. Michael never complained about the harsh conditions, the curry in the food, or the all night train rides and was always in a good mood, especially after we got bumped to first class on



Ah! First Class

one leg of the flight! Please contact Michael and let him share more about his perspective and how you can help in India.



CPU training

Vickie managed to hold down the fort in Estelí for over a month in my absence and Rafael kept up with the water projects and follow ups. I knew I'd been gone for way too long when our pup, that is now a full grown dog, didn't recognize me upon my return and barely let me in the house. I also missed out on some very heavy rains and flooding in most of Nicaragua. PTL our new home didn't leak or flood!

After returning to Nicaragua, we gave a year-end appreciation luncheon for a dozen of the health department promoters who work with us. Without them it would be impossible to have the success we've had. They steer us to the communities with the greatest water needs, introduce us to the leaders, and provide us with data on the results from the chlorinator use. Rafael thought it was high time we showed them how grateful we are and they were thrilled with the certificates and gifts that we gave them. One promoter commented, "No one has ever told us how much they appreciate what we do except you!"



Showing appreciation

Our winter visitors should start trickling in shortly. We enjoy them and appreciate the supplies they bring. Shipping things into Nicaragua is still next to impossible. We work with a couple of Christian schools who could use work teams, and the rural people love meeting first timers. If you feel led to come and visit, we encourage you to try it.

Thanks for making it another great year of serving and reaching out to others in Jesus' name. We couldn't do it without you and your involvement. Have a great time celebrating our Savior's birth. You might not celebrate with fireworks like they do here in Nicaragua, but please remember the reason for the season. Blessings,

Greg & Vickie

Greg & Vickie Stout



John 4:42b ..now we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this man really is the Savior of the world.