

# NICARAGUA NEWS



## FEBRUARY STASKO DENTAL TEAM

In February, Dr. Joe Stasko once again brought a highly qualified dental team to serve the people in the Skylark area. Over the course of 6 clinical days, they were able to see over 200 patients and perform services from restorations to extractions and everything in between! With the help of the portable x-ray machine, they were able to make informative decisions regarding treatment. As the patients left with smiles on their faces, they were able to take home a bag of goodies like toothbrushes and hygiene items.

Sophia Prymak, a young lady from Ontario, reflected on her first trip to Nicaragua as part of a dental mission.

“...I remember the first night getting there, probably around 11pm, I was completely shocked by this foreign country that I was in. We got our bags out of the van and headed over to the dorms . . . ready to get some sleep. But before we all went our separate ways, I remember little Brianna strutting up to this group of adults. The first thing she did was give everyone a hug - even me, a complete stranger. Throughout the week it wasn't hard at all to love this sassy, hilarious, innocent child. She became my little sister in seven days and I will always remember how kind and caring she was to a complete stranger like myself. So even though I was a 16-year-old girl in a foreign country, surrounded by



strangers, I never felt more at home thanks to the welcoming people of Nicaragua like little Brianna.. ”

(see picture at top)



MAY 2015

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## APRIL PARAMEDIC TEAM

The April 2015 First Responders Training Program brought 8 Paramedics to Nicaragua and was the first of many future missions that will include Paramedics from across Canada. Our 1 week mission brought 26 eager students to the Skylark Center for phase I of their training. Each group was taught the basics of patient care and were given skills and knowledge to treat common injuries and diseases that they may encounter in their communities.

As our program unfolded, we

saw their dedication to learning and were equally impressed to see everyone practicing their new skills, teaching each other and performing as a team. Our final scenarios tested their newly learned skills, scene management and decisions to stabilize, treat and transport to hospital. Each team responded as new first responders who were able to work together to stabilize, treat and transport sick or injured people for further care.

The dedication shown by our

students and the training team gives us great pride that we continue to make a difference in their lives and the lives of their families, friends and community. It is this vision that continues to bring our team back to provide life saving education, skills and knowledge.

**By Kevin Corrigan**



## APRIL NOSM MEDICAL TEAM



In April, a small group comprised of two medical doctors and two 3<sup>rd</sup> year NOSM students (Northern Ontario School of Medicine), plus several keen support staff, travelled to Skylark and set up a clinic to service the people in the surrounding communities. It was a repeat experience for a few of the Canadian staff as well as a first time exposure for others. Everyone jumped in and willingly tackled whatever task was required of them and, by all accounts, the clinic was a success. One of the physicians, Jenny Hernandez, reflects on her experience. ‘. . . **This was my first time to Skylark and it**

**won't be my last! I was impressed by how well the clinic was organized and, as a new physician, it was definitely a rich learning experience. We saw rare tropical diseases, common chronic conditions such as high blood pressure and diabetes, brand new babies and spry 96 year olds! The Nicas struck me as grateful and generous people and it was a privilege to provide them with much needed medical advice and treatment. . . .** Many former NOSM students have benefitted from the experience of their exposure to the medical needs of the Nicaraguan people.



## MAY DENTON MEDICAL TEAM

The May 2015 Denton Medical team was a huge success. 325 patients were attended to during the 6 days of clinic. Many of the complaints were related either to anxiety, hypertension or diabetes. The team worked together in an attempt to meet as many urgent and long term needs as possible. This was accomplished not only through diagnoses and prescribed medical treatments but a considerable amount of health education was also delivered. It's amazing how a team of 13 people can come together in a short time to accomplish such well needed services to the people of San Marcos, Nicaragua, and surrounding communities.

The people, although very poor, are clean, well-dressed and try their best to please. Although life is extremely difficult, generally they are very appreciative and have learned to take life as it comes. Margaret, one of our volunteers from Chatham, shares her thoughts. **“. . . this was my third trip to Skylark. Each time, I am impressed with the gratitude of the Nicaraguan people. We, as helpers, can learn a lot from these people. I would highly recommend this type of experience to anyone who is interested in helping a Third World Nation. Skylark is a beautiful area where one can feel the hand of God at work; a truly remarkable experience. . . .”**



## GAYLE BAUMAN—VOLUNTEER EXTRAORDINAIRE!



Gayle Bauman has been volunteering her excellent bookkeeping skills at the Canadian *Threefold* office 4 to 6 hours a week since 2011. We could not manage without her! She and her husband Ray retired to Parry Sound in 2000 and have both faithfully supported the ministry since its inception. Along with her work at *Threefold*, Gayle is also extensively involved in other local volunteer work at places such as her church, the

local hospital and the nursing home. Gayle is naturally hospitable and often hosts dinners at her house. She loves to cook and bake and is never happier than when she is spending time with her 7 grandchildren! She is known as the hug lady – she always has a warm embrace and a winning smile for everyone she meets! Thank you so much for all you do, Gayle! Your contribution to *Threefold Ministries* is invaluable.

# TRANSITIONS AT THREEFOLD MINISTRIES

## GARY ROBINSON



**“There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under heaven.”  
*Ecclesiastes 3:1***

*Threefold Ministries* is about to enter a new and exciting phase of ministry. In 2006, with God’s help and prompting, *Threefold Ministries* was established. We were uncertain as to what the future would hold but, looking back, we can see that God has used the work of *Threefold* in very significant and powerful ways to positively impact the lives of many people in both Nicaragua and North America. But now it’s time for me to

step back and pass the baton of leadership to other hands. Wayne Hancock and Tammy Miller will be stepping into the ministry in various capacities (see below). They, along with the Board, are capable and poised to move *Threefold* into the next phase. Please support them, pray for them and partner with them as they faithfully serve Christ in His ministry. To our friends and supporters I say, “Thanks for your unwavering faithfulness”. I can’t name you all but without people like Mauricio, Fish, Karl and especially my wife Laura none of this would have been possible.

I’ll be hanging around *Threefold* for a little while longer, on a very part-time basis, working mostly with the motley crew of medical teams and paramedic reprobates I have come to love.

Thank you again for partnering with us in ministry these past nine years. May the Lord continue to abundantly bless you as you continue to serve Him.

So long for now!

Cheers,  
Gary

## TAMMY MILLER

**Tammy Miller** joined *Threefold* as **Ministry Coordinator** on May 4th. Tammy is no stranger to *Threefold*, having transitioned from the Board of Directors where she contributed to the leadership of the organization for over two years. Prior to joining *Threefold* as an employee, Tammy spent many years in the corporate world, most recently as a Human Resources Manager at a local tech company. Tammy lives happily in Waterloo with her adoring husband, Dale, socially active teens, Luke and Miranda, and squirrel-obsessed dog, Penny. Tammy can be reached at [tammy@threefold-ministries.org](mailto:tammy@threefold-ministries.org).



## WAYNE HANCOCK



**Wayne Hancock** will be expanding his involvement with *Threefold* on August 1st as **Managing Director**. Wayne has been involved in the ministry since 2006 and has served on the board of directors since 2007, chairing the board since 2013. He has been leading an annual conference ministry at Skylark since 2008. After 34 years of ministry in various churches across Canada, Wayne is excited about following God’s call to give more day to day leadership with *Threefold*.

He is married to Helen and they have three children and three grandchildren.

Wayne can be reached at [wayne@threefold-ministries.org](mailto:wayne@threefold-ministries.org)



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Threefold Ministries is a registered charity and non governmental organization founded in 2006 to respond to the significant needs of the people of Nicaragua. Our goal is sustainability in long term missions work. We believe that it is absolutely essential that, if people are to be helped in a meaningful way, the commitment must be for the long haul. That means that if **projects** are to be initiated in a third world country, they must also be staffed with **people**, with the provision for their ongoing operational needs. Following that is the need to run meaningful **programs** to enhance the lives of those being given a hand up.

**VISIT US AT OUR WEBSITE:**  
[www.threefold-ministries.org](http://www.threefold-ministries.org)

**REAMS OF SEAMS . . . .**  
**THREADS OF LOVE!**

In the fall of 2008, a group of ladies from Faith Evangelical Missionary Church in Wasaga Beach, ON, began a sewing group called 'Threads of Love'. They use donated material, thread and wool and, over the years, have created some lovely items for mission groups across the globe. They first became involved with *Threefold Ministries* in 2011 when they donated 100 baby quilts to the *Best Start in Christ* program. Since that time, they have contributed items such as teddy bears (1163), medicine bags (2719), pillowcase dresses (159), eye glass cases (299), and receiving blankets (40) to *Threefold* in Nicaragua. Each article is impeccably made by these very talented ladies.

This group recently celebrated the completion of their 9000<sup>th</sup> quilt! Kudos to you! The joy of their work is reflected in their faces as they lovingly create the items to be shared with people around the world. A hearty thanks goes out to this wonderful group for their dedication to serving the Lord in this way using the talents with which they have been blessed.



**RESPONSE FORM**

Enclosed is my donation to the general fund for Threefold Ministries

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Town/City: \_\_\_\_\_ Prov: \_\_\_\_\_ PC: \_\_\_\_\_

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Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make cheques payable to: Threefold Ministries  
 Tax receipts will be issued for donations over \$20.