

# Guatemala Mission Team 2010



**International Eye Institute**

## Record number of surgeries performed by March HDLF Team

International Eye Institute

North Idaho

**Eye  
Institute**



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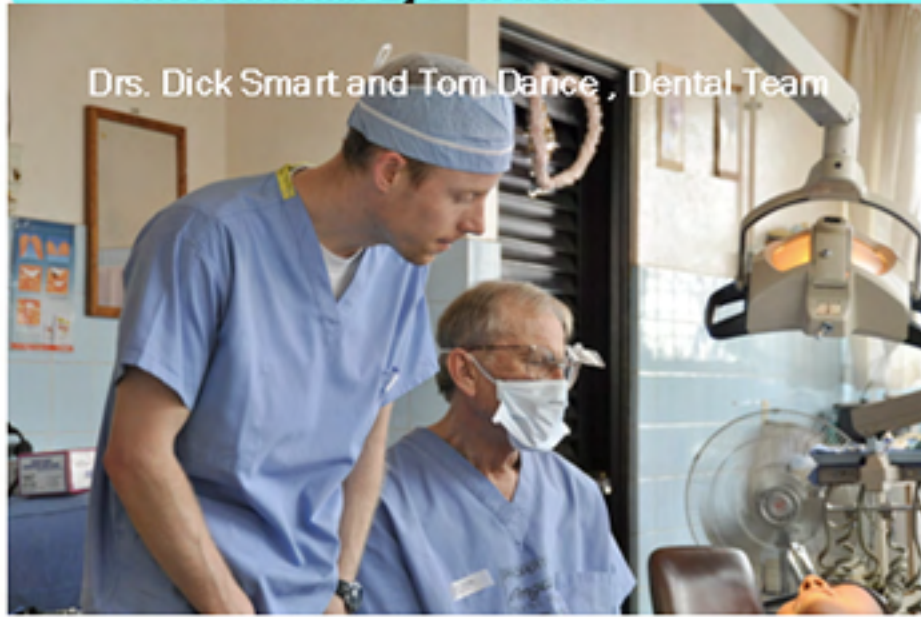
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35 people travelled as a team to Nuevo Progreso, Guatemala to provide eye and dental care during a 10 day mission trip in March. Patients were seen and treated by an experienced team of eye professionals for various eye ailments and the team was able to include 2 dentists and a dental student to treat patients with dental problems.

It was hoped that we would be able to perform 150 surgeries during the time we were in Guatemala, but at the end of the surgical week, 185 procedures were counted. The team broke all records in the past for number of surgeries performed in one day. This was accomplished through hard work, careful planning, organization and long days. The team, led by Dr. StormoGipson of the North Idaho Eye Institute, consisted of doctors, nurses and lay volunteers from across the United States. There were 5 ophthalmologists, one ophthalmology resident, 2 dentists, 2 optometrists, 15 RN's or technical volunteers, 2 pediatrician's, one CRNA and 7 lay volunteers.





Drs. Dick Smart and Tom Dance, Dental Team

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456 patients were attended over 6 days in the referral clinic at HDLF. 178 patients underwent surgery over 6 days, including the 22 patients from San Lucas Toliman. 145 of these included adult cataracts, a few pterygia and one corneal transplant. 33 were pediatric cataracts, strabismus and plastics cases (tumors, eyelid trauma, droopy lids), nasal duct obstructions, and one eye removal due to tumor growth. General anesthesia was provided for eye cases and some pediatric dental cases by our CRNA, Mike Oswald.

91 dental patients were attended by 2 dentists and one pre-dental student who worked with a number of Guatemalan dental students at HDLF.

# THANKS!!!

To our generous sponsors:

Hospital de la Familia Foundation and especially Ms. Diane Nishikawa- Salomon

Alcon Laboratories and Mr. Mike Kuykendal

BD Ophthalmic and Ms. Jennifer Evenson

Americares and Ms. Cia Marion (You're amazing!)

Kevin Penelerick (Henry Schein Medical Supplies)

Lori Worlf, Fugazzi Travel

Leiters Pharmacy and Mr. Chuck and Mort Leiter

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John Ukich

Brent Unruh

Kurt Petellin

Tom Smart

Marty Hann

Dan Davidson

Jim McNamara

Dick Smart

Rick Gibbon and Whitney Dan Cullum

Dirne Dental & **special thanks to Vince Rossi**



Dr. StormoGipson & team with a postop patient.



Mindy RN, Marie RN and Dr. Shah with a patient who has brought them a gift.



This year, a new method of reaching the poor and indigenous peoples of central Guatemala was begun. Dr. Justin StormoGipson and his wife, Dr. Maj a pediatrician, went down a week ahead of the main team to examine and recruit patients for surgery at the hospital in Nuevo Progreso. During that week, he met and worked with Lance Kinney, a professional photographer and co-founder of I-Care International . Lance followed several patients from their exams in San Lucas Toliman through surgery at Nuevo Progreso and back to their homes. He has graciously allowed us to include this note:



*"I am off this morning to visit some of our cataract patients in their homes to see how they are adjusting. The bus ride home to San Lucas (five hours of death defying chicken bus antics) was an experience I shall never forget. As we got closer and closer to San Lucas, our patients were buzzing louder and louder... It turned into one big happy fiesta and I do not think I have been hugged or kissed by so many people in such a short time. Most all were filled with joyful tears and many were in the aisles praying, thanking God for his graces upon them. Every landmark they saw (sometimes clearly for the first time in a long time) bringing them that much closer to home brought waves of emotion throughout the bus. I will cherish forever that last 20 minutes as we steamrolled towards Lago De Atitlan."*

Lance Kinney has documented this mission trip as well as the work of Eye Care International on a DVD that is available for purchase. You may see his photos and contact him at: [www.lancekinney.com](http://www.lancekinney.com)



Dr. Parden with a patient

**March 2010 HDLF Team members:**

- Dr. Justin StormoGipson, Team Leader, Ophthalmologist
- Dr. Patrick Parden, Ophthalmologist
- Dr. Pulin Shah, Ophthalmologist
- Dr. Dave Robinson , Ophthalmologist
- Dr. Dave Dance, Ophthalmologist
- Dr. Ephraim Abwal, Ophthalmologist Resident
- Dr. Tom Dance, Dentist
- Dr. Dick Smart, Dentist
- Dr. Maj StormoGipson, Pediatrician
- Dr. Simone Fogarasi, Pediatrician,
- Dr. Rupert Chowins, Optometrist
- Dr. Rob Sorensen, Optometrist
- Mike Oswald, CRNA
- Mary Sibulsky, RN Team Coordinator
- Niki Roberts, RN
- Barb Baker, RN
- Forest Bell, RN
- Mindy Hobelman, RN
- Eric White, COT
- Dallin Dance
- Tiffany Lopez , Tech
- Karen Sines
- Ann Smart
- Deacon Gary MacSwain
- Deacon Chuck Finan
- Marie Bell, RN
- Ketty Musson, RN
- Denise Buettner, RN
- Debbie Parkins COT
- Sokheun Chau
- Kathy Teal, COA
- Elisabeth Sibulsky, Tech
- Theresa Oswald
- Bill Bell
- Lance Kinney



## Our Team

Volunteers and mission sponsors are the driving force behind making these trips a possibility. But not everyone can take two weeks from work and travel to a foreign country to be a part of the team. You can help by becoming a part of the sponsoring team — make a donation to the International Eye institute, a non-profit organization (*501(c)3 status pending*) dedicated to providing vision care and services to impoverished peoples throughout the world.

For more information,  
call 208-667-2531  
or visit us on the web at  
[www.EYEGIVE.org](http://www.EYEGIVE.org)



This newsletter is made possible by the North Idaho Eye Institute and the International Eye Institute. For more information about what you have seen in this newsletter you may contact Mary Sibulsky by e-mail at:  
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