



May 2006

# QUE PASA

WHAT'S HAPPENING

A Publication of International Children's Care  
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## AMAZING *Survival* IN THAILAND

**L**eft alone in very harsh jungle conditions, with the equivalent of 25 cents, it is truly a miracle how these three children survived. Their father was killed by a wild elephant, and their mother abandoned them. Trying to take care of his younger brother and sister, the eldest child, who we estimate to be around eight years old, carried heavy loads on his head up steep hills every day.

When ICC discovered the children, the two youngest were malnourished, had very high fevers, heavy colds and were covered in sores. The eldest boy had two black eyes, with bruises and cuts all over his body from beatings he had endured while trying to protect his siblings.

When we asked them how long it had been since their mother had left, they could not tell us as they did not understand time in terms of weeks, months or years. After some discussion, we eventually determined that it had been three wet seasons, which could mean between two and a



The oldest arrives at KJRC

Two months after being rescued

half to three years. We estimate the children to be eight, four and a half and three years old; though they look much younger. We are guessing that the eldest boy has cared for his siblings since he was five or six years old.

After talking to the children we gave them some food. The eldest boy handed the plate to his younger brother and sister first, and then took one piece for himself. He was hungry, but not greedy and he was most unselfish and protective of his siblings. The

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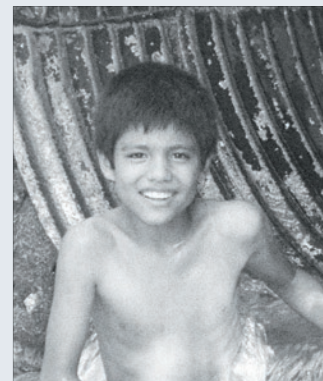
## PLEASE SPONSOR ME!

### My name is Omar

I need a sponsor. I am 11 years old and live in Guatemala. Please return this coupon to sponsor me each month. Thanks!

☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$\_\_\_\_\_

**(800) 422-7729**  
Sponsorship Department



# *Dreaming of the Stars*

From the President of ICC



While visiting the ICC Children's Village in El Salvador, Sharon and I were occupied training our administration. But we enjoyed the breaks when we would take some time out for lunch and eat with different families.

On the second day we were eating lunch with the children, and Samuel\* was sitting next to me. We talked about the weather, about school and about the good food we were eating. Then he looked up at me and said, "I have a question for you."

"What is your question?" I responded.

"What are your dreams for this place?" he asked earnestly.

I was taken back a little by this 10-year-old asking such a mature question out of the blue like that. But it is a question that Sharon and I have thought about a lot lately. Since ICC accepted responsibility from Maranatha for managing and operating this Children's Village in El Salvador, we have worked hard to provide high quality care for these children and give them the opportunities that will help them realize their dreams.

With joy I began to explain our dreams to Samuel. "We want the children in this Hogar to be happy, to have a loving home, to be able to succeed in school. But most of all we want them to learn about a Heavenly Father who loves you and wants the best for you."

Then I looked into his sparkling eyes and asked, "Now let me ask you a question. Samuel, what are your dreams?"

Obviously this was something he liked talking about. "I want to be an astronaut," he said. I love anything that has to do with science in school. Whenever the teacher talks about the planets and outer space, I really like that."

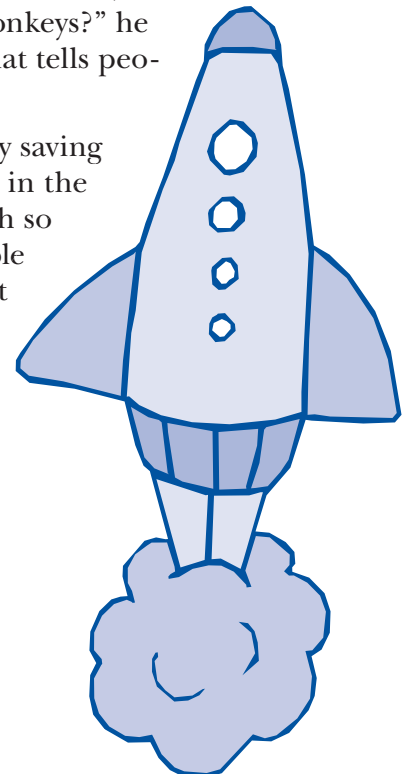
"Do you love Jesus and want Him to guide you in your life?" I asked.

"Yes, I do," he responded. "I have noticed that most scientists don't believe in God, and they tell people there is no God. Can you believe they even say we came from monkeys?" he giggled. "I want to change that thinking. I want to be a scientist, an astronaut, that tells people there really is a God, and He created us."

I thought to myself, what a difference can be made in the life of a child by saving him from the hopeless poverty of this world. And what a difference he can make in the world around him! The ICC family members who send their support every month so that children like Samuel can have a new chance in life may never know the ripple effect of their kindness in extending a helping hand to those in need. But I see it in lives changed, and in little boys dreaming of the stars.

*\* The name has been changed to protect the privacy of our child.*

*Nick Fleck*



## *“What you have done for the least of these, you have also done for me.”*

**W**hat a blessing it has been so far to see all of the work that has been accomplished at our El Oasis Children's Village by groups and other caring people. The workload has been great, but the dedication of the people who have helped there has been amazing!

There have been so many people to thank for what has been accomplished to date. There have been people who have taken up the torch of sending financial help as well as those who have provided the “muscle power” to accomplish great things in Mexico. Literally hundreds of students and people from many churches have gone and made huge differences on that campus. It has been a blessing to me to personally witness many of those groups and their dedication to the children living there.

There have also been other special people who have given up so much personally for this project. We have an amazing man who has lead out with his family and friends in Oregon who have been such tremendously loyal support-



ers of that project. My life has been blessed to see how these people continue to be dedicated to the children of Mexico. They truly care enough to help us continue on with this special work in Mexico. They have made an amazing impact on that campus for “His kids,” and we are so grateful to them.

Malcolm and Joyce Smith are two special people who have also made tremendous changes to our campus in Mexico. They have continued to bring a youth group down to our project every year and work from sunrise to sunset in order to complete a big project to improve the lives

of the children there. They have been the main contributors and have lead the way for our soon to be opened Educational Center on our campus. They have created a foundation to help with funding of projects for El Oasis. This list goes on and on of the things that they have helped to accomplish there, and we are so grateful to them for their dedication and love.

All of these people, and possibly thousands more, have gone the “extra mile” to help El Oasis get to the point of where it is today. The challenge is that there is so much more that needs to be completed there, but with the dedication of these people, and the many more to follow, El Oasis will be an even greater place of hope for hundreds and possibly thousands of children to come.

Thank you all for what you have done, and are doing to change the lives of children who need to know what the word “hope” means. In many cases, you are literally saving their lives.

*Doug Congleton*

## **CONGO CONTAINER SUPPLIES**

**W**ith God's blessings, one of our donors has received a return on his investments and has offered a \$5,000 Matching Gift for the Congo Container shipping in September. We have asked for donated items, but for those items we don't receive, we will purchase them with these funds.



Any cash gift will actually be doubled because of this matching gift! Just write “Matching Congo Container” on your check memo. Visit our website to see the updated needs list, or send a e-mail to

container@forhiskids.org. Please continue to remember the general operating needs we have for our monthly budgets.

*Liana St. Clair*



## Amazing Survival *continued from front page*

three of them ate as if they had not eaten for days.

Finally, we asked if they would like to come and live at Kirsten Jade Rescue Center (KJRC) and they all nodded in unison, with the eldest boy giving a faint smile. The only clothes the children had were the filthy rags they wore, so we bathed them in the creek and dressed them in some clean clothes we had taken with us. We

then set out on the eight hour trip back to KJRC.

After one day at the centre, the children were smiling and would cuddle in for affection. They looked so much better. The children had only lived in the jungle so everything at KJRC was like a new world. The eldest child is a wonderful boy. On the first morning he woke up and immediately asked for work to do. Now, two

months later, all three are happy, healthy and enjoy being a part of a very loving family to care for them. Your support enables children like these to have hope for the future.

*Merilyn Beveridge*



Arriving at KJRC



Two months after being rescued

## New Tractor in Nicaragua

Recently ICC received funds from a donor to pay for a shipment being sent to our project in Nicaragua. When we got the shipment free, he agreed to use that money (\$3,600) to help pay for a tractor. Other donors gave additional funds and the tractor was purchased.

The biggest reasons for getting it are for farming and hauling water from the river to the site where we're building the children's village. We also purchased a water tank mounted on a trailer. The cost for the tractor, water tank and trailer was \$5,200.

## Gilbert's Funeral - Congo

Previously, we shared with you the sad news about Gilbert Safari, who passed away from congenital heart complications. They held his funeral recently on the island and included the kids in the proceedings. He is the first of ICC's children to be buried in what is now the Patmos Children's Village Cemetery in The Congo.

## SOCCER FIELD *for Guatemala*

In the summer of 2005, Michel Hordijk (an old school friend of Lambro Triantos, director of ICC Netherlands) came up with the idea to give soccer training for the children of ICC. Michel is a professional soccer trainer in the Netherlands. Sharon Fleck suggested to do this training at Los Pinos, because we have more than six soccer teams there. The only problem is the current soccer field is in very bad condition. A new field will cost about \$7,500. Michel and Lambro said they would raise the money. Another soccer player, Richard Smaal,

offered his help. Two weeks ago the campaign started with a benefit dinner in a Greek restaurant where \$900 was raised.

On the 29th of March Michel organized soccer training in Kinderdijk. This soccer training camp was visited by 75 children and brought in \$300. In the coming months, more activities will be organized. ICC hopes that before summertime we will have raised all the necessary funds. Michel's goal is to give the soccer training at Los Pinos in October or November of this year.



*A Legacy of Love*

*Providing for the future  
through planned giving*

Contact Doug Congleton at ICC for more information on how you can become part of the "Legacy of Love"

(800) 422-7729  
Doug@ForHisKids.org