

On November 5 of last year, I experientially learned a new word. I found out that syncope means an unexpected and temporary loss of consciousness. As an emergency room nurse carefully pulled up the sleeve of the sweater that Nancy was wearing, the sudden shock of seeing Nancy's obviously broken lower right arm caused me to feel very woozy. After being pushed in a wheelchair to the room where Nancy was being attended, I finally passed out. I came to in another room. After an IV and an EKG and after eating some food, I was allowed to go to the room where Nancy was waiting for an orthopedic surgeon to arrive to pin the bones in her broken arm back together.



*Nancy with her broken right arm.*

On October 16 of last year, Hector Pivaral received a master's degree from SETECA – which is the Central American Mission's seminary in Guatemala City. Hector did his required thesis on the "the attitudes of the evangelical believers towards the violent and the criminal behavior that is taking place in the churches in Guatemala." Hector has been requested by SETECA to teach his thesis findings over a 10-week period – each Monday for four hours, during SETECA's first trimester of this year.



*On the Rio Dulce.*

On January 26 of this month, we are hoping to fly to Guatemala with a medical/dental/ministry short-term team. This team is planning to spend about eight days in eastern Guatemala. It is going to spend time ministering in several communities that are located in the Rio Dulce region. We will serve as translators for the team. This team plans to return to the U.S. on February 7.

Returning to Guatemala for 11 full days will give us the chance to reconnect with many of our friends there in Guatemala – including Hector and Patty. It is Hector's desire to continue his studies at SETECA, beginning in 2007, toward a doctorate in theological education. We are very grateful for your prayers for Hector and Patty. Please continue to pray as to how you can help them. Hector is hoping to have another PEB started sometime early this year.



*Hector, Patty, Aaron, Carissa, Benjamin with Patty's mother and Hector's parents.*

Nancy's badly broken right arm, which broke very close to her wrist, is going to take time to heal completely. Nancy has an "Introduction to OC" scheduled for January 11-13. Four units have all their paperwork completed for their pending interviews on January 10. Because of her arm, Nancy has not been able to help me as she was planning to with the different intern units.

With how things have unfolded for us in the last couple of months, it would be nice if this new year would let us move into it nice and easy. It isn't. Please pray that we will continue to have the strength and the energy to come alongside and to help in any way that we can the around 30 intern units. Please pray that we will have the funds to join the short-term medical/dental/ministry team that is going to Guatemala. If you are able to help us, please send the funds to OC – designating the funds to Rio Dulce 2006. Please especially pray that Nancy will soon have the full use of her right arm again. Thank you.

Sincerely, in Christ,