

**PAN AMERICAN MEDICAL SOCIETY  
OF WASHINGTON D.C.  
M.F. ROIDER FOUNDATION  
10215 Fernwood Road, #300  
Bethesda, Maryland 20817**

Carlos;

Once again, thank you very much for your support and very valuable contribution.

From August 19<sup>th</sup> to August 25<sup>th</sup>, a group of six (6), went to Comayagua, Honduras, Central America - Hospital Santa Teresa (public). We performed eleven (11) laparoscopic cholecystectomies and one (1) open cholecystectomy. We also repaired eleven (11) abdominal wall hernias.

During this mission, we worked with four local surgeons to help them "improve and advance" their surgical skills and therefore improve the local level of care. Additionally, we donated equipment and supplies. (see attached)

Honduras is one of the poorest countries in the hemisphere. The level of poverty is astonishing. There is no national healthcare system. The population is indigenous in its great majority and has no means to receive even the most basic medical care, much less any surgical care. People will live and die without ever having the opportunity of receiving medical or surgical attention.

Each participant has financed their own expenses (including me), to cover transportation, room and board and other costs. Monetary donations made by others were used for cost of storage, transportation of equipment, supplies, etc.

Other than the performance of surgical procedures to needy poor patients, we provided educational help to the local professionals and it is our plan to continue to do so.

This coming February (2007), a larger group (20) will travel again to San Pedro Sula, Honduras, Central America. We were there last year. We will have three complete surgical teams, plus all the needed supplies. We plan to perform about one hundred (100) procedures: laparoscopic cholecystectomies and hernia repairs.

Last, but not least, we have teamed with local leaders in Honduras helping in the reconstruction of the devastated surgical facility (already in progress).

Sincerely,

**BJK:cmb**

**Berny J. Kreutz, MD**