



ASSOCIATION
AMICUS

A work of churches of Christ

www.associationamicus.com

*Baxter Institute and JMA Clinic
c/o Westover Hills Church of Christ
8332 Mesa Drive
Austin, Texas 78759*

*Instituto Baxter y Clinica JMA
Apdo. Postal 1726
Tegucigalpa, M.D.C., Honduras, CA*

March 10, 2010

AN UPDATE FROM THE PRESIDENT

[Note: the following is taken from Howard's monthly report to the Board of Directors.]

Greetings, Brothers and Sisters:

Baxter Institute and the James Moody Adams Clinic are doing well in Tegucigalpa. Here are some bullet points to update you on things that have happened in the last month.

- 1- We now have three of our **five Cuban students** on campus as well as the **Peruvian student** for whom we were waiting. When the two other Cubans join us (we hope in late April or early May), we will have **60 resident students**.
- 2- Two **VCOM medical students** are doing a one-month tour with JMA. They seem to be doing well.
- 3- About 15 North Americans attended "**The Gathering**." This one-day meeting had as its purpose fellowship, information, and getting acquainted. **Dwight and JoAnne Tomkins** planned and organized the inspirational gathering of US workers in Honduras, and Baxter provided the cafeteria as a meeting place.
- 4- **Bob and Jan Young** and Jane and I met to compare notes and talk about **Baxter's needs and opportunities** for the months ahead.
- 5- I had the opportunity to speak on opening night at the **Freed Hardeman Lectureship** and at the closing service in Oklahoma's "**Affirming the Faith Seminar**" in Oklahoma City. These appointments gave me a platform to talk about Baxter and present lessons that I hope were helpful to those present.
- 6- I made three very **good contacts in Arkansas and Texas** with individuals and congregations who are interested in becoming involved in and supporting this work. I also spoke at the funeral of my cousin, Mary Ann Vinzant Walters. Mr. Ross Perot attended the funeral and went to the burial. He impressed me as a very fine, humble man.
- 7- I had a profitable visit with **Dr. David Burks**, president of Harding University, concerning Baxter's desire to find a way to make sure our **academic program is maintaining a high standard**. This was a follow-up on a discussion in one of our committees at the December Baxter board meeting.

- 8- Jane, Timoteo, and I had a long lunch and discussion with **Tim Hines** in the Baxter Cafeteria. Tim and we are cautiously seeking ways to re-establish a working relationship.
- 9- Our **recruiting goal for school year 2011 is 75** resident students at Baxter.
- 10- Ruth Barcenas is working on a plan to place a **photograph and brief biography of each student** on the website. We will start with first-year students and work toward all the students.
- 11- I have appointed **Miguel Aguilar and Mario Rivera** to additional responsibilities. Miguel Aguilar will continue to be the Director of Spiritual Life and will add the title of Advisor to the President. Mario Rivera will be Aguilar's and my special assistant. These two men will be working a great deal with Seminario Baxter 2010 scheduled for May 12-15 and with the spiritual involvement of our students with patients at the Clinic. Miguel Aguilar will also be gathering material to write the history of Baxter. Further, he will assist me in Baxter's relations with churches of Christ in Central America.
- 12- **Dr. Dan Coker has accepted Baxter's invitation to be the keynote speaker at this year's Seminario Baxter.** He and his family, we believe, started churches of Christ in Honduras. In my opinion, Dan is the most knowledgeable person in churches of Christ concerning the history and culture of Latin America. He has lived and worked in Guatemala, Honduras, Uruguay, and Mexico and has traveled and visited churches throughout Latin America.
- 13- **H. M. Motsinger** of Dallas did a two-day seminar at Baxter on "How to Transform Lives." He is president of **New Life Behavior International**.
- 14- **Walter and Mary Nelle Kreidel** of Franklin, TN will give seminars this week to our students. They are 30-year veterans of Brazilian missions. Walter will talk about establishing healthy churches, and Mary Nelle will teach the women about what is involved in being a missionary wife.
- 15- **Armando Pacheco** is recovering from a prolonged and difficult illness, and **Miguel Angel** continues to recover from a serious injury to his left hand.
- 16- We regret the **death of the mother of Hermana Mercedes Pacheco** in La Ceiba.
- 17- We have **18 groups** scheduled to stay at Baxter over the next few months. **Dudley Chancey** brings a group in this coming Saturday.
- 18- **Jerry Brooks** led a telephone conference a few weeks ago involving the **Clinic Committee** which connected people for conversation both in Honduras and the USA. This group is focused on increasing funding and spiritual support for patients.
- 19- Thanks to an invitation from the **La Vega Church of Christ** which is next door to the campus, I presented an all-day Saturday seminar on the subject of "**Church Development and Administration.**"
- 20- "So neither he who plants nor he who waters is anything, but only God, who makes things grow." (I Cor. 3:7 NIV) "Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up." (Gal. 6:9 NIV)

--- Grace and peace to all of you,

Howard Norton

