



# MCCA Newsletter

MEXICAN CHRISTIAN CHILDREN'S AID

December 2016

*And whoever welcomes a little child like this in My name welcomes Me. Matt 18:5 NIV*

*Serving the needy children of Baja since 1964.*

## Trip Reports-2016 Year-end Report

So many things have happened over the past 12 months. Changes in policy and enforcement regarding donated goods coming into Mexico went into effect in January 2016. We walked right into those changes completely unaware on our first trip of 2016. Suddenly, we were facing long delays and large fees for the first several trips. The inspectors did all they could to guide us through the new procedures and, thankfully, we were able to take all the products through each trip.

In August, arrangements were made to take **beans and rice only** through the San Ysidro border crossing and Mexico's declared cargo inspection area. This has worked out great. There is a lot less confusion between us and the inspectors; the fees are minimal (just a few dollars per truck), and we are usually on our way in under an hour, closer to 30 minutes.

The downside of this arrangement is that we now have to purchase the rest of the products in Mexico. That includes meat, eggs, oats, powdered milk, sugar, detergent and cooking oil. We have always purchased flour in Mexico. Being able to take our own beans and rice is a financial blessing, a blessing that is due to the generosity of Louie Davenport, a farmer who ships the beans and rice to us at his expense, delivering them with his own 18-wheeler. If we had to buy these in Mexico, the cost for beans would be about 3 times more than what we pay in the U.S., and the rice about 50% more. Most of the other products are more expensive in Mexico; but this way, we know we can continue to provide the same support to the ministries and we do not have to pay the high fees at the border.

## Apoyo a Menores en Riesgo (Help for at-risk youth)



At the November board meeting, the request for support for Apoyo a Menores en Riesgo was approved. The ministry is in Colonia Inglaterra, near

Ensenada. They feed about 60 children, ages 3 to 18, that are considered at risk. They meet at local parks weekly for Bible study, food and outreach. For pictures and information, they do have a Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/apoyoamenores.ac>



## New Board Officers Election



Each year, a committee is formed to nominate officers for the next calendar year. The elected officers for 2017, from left to right, are Tom Rasmussen, who is continuing as treasurer,

Mike Ramirez as vice president, Don Dresner as secretary, and Warren Arnett as president. Please pray for these men as they take on the responsibilities of this ministry.

Thank you to the outgoing officers--Ron Koning, Fred Jacobs and Rich DeWitt. Their service of time, commitment and dedication to MCCA is greatly appreciated.

## Turkey Donation

The River Christian Reformed Church of Redlands has once again donated turkeys for MCCA to distribute to Mexican ministries. The turkeys were donated by church members attending services on November 20 and December 4. In addition to the donated turkeys, a cash donation was received to purchase turkeys in Mexico.

## AmazonSmile Donation

We recently received a check from AmazonSmile. The amount has grown over the past year, as the number of Amazon shoppers that select MCCA has increased.

If you are an Amazon customer, you can use this link: <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/95-6155986>. If not, you can sign up through the same link. There is no additional cost to you, and Amazon will donate a portion of the purchase price on all your eligible purchases.

## 2017 Trip Schedule

January	7	July	8
February	4	August	12
March	4	September	9
April	8	October	7
May	13	November	4
June	10	December	2

## Mission

Mexican Christian Children's Aid is a charitable corporation founded in 1964 by a group of Christian businesspersons concerned over the sharp contrast between the wasteful affluence of U.S. society and the abject poverty found so close to our borders. MCCA is dedicated to helping needy children in Baja California, Mexico, by providing food and other assistance to local Christian organizations. At least 97% of all funds are used for food, Bibles, and other aid provided directly to orphanages and other Christian organizations in Mexico.

## Board Contacts 2017

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**Presidents letter-**by Ron Koning

Last year I wrote on the positions we take before God in the Christian walk--sit, stand, walk, and run--but I neglected the most important position of all, and that is a position of humility, the one we must take daily in order to function effectively, and that is on our knees in prayer before God!

God LOVES to hear from His people, and we need desperately to not only pour out our hearts before His throne but also to LISTEN to His voice as we seek His heart and will! It has been a joy and pleasure over the last year to see God work and provide as we serve ministries and children in northern Baja California. It's amazing to see God at work providing the right person for each task that is required to get the job done, to get supplies not only over the border (always a challenge in dealing with border authorities), but also ordering supplies in Mexico, which we do at an ever increasing rate.

When God calls you to a task, He will always provide a way for you to complete what He has called you to do! Here at MCCA, we do all we can-and God does all that we cannot! That is true in all things in the Christian walk; He will always meet us in our efforts to serve Him.

MCCA continues to carry out God's work in Mexico after 52 years! Special thanks to ALL who support and serve God through MCCA!

Have a BLESSED Christmas, and may God's blessing go with you in the coming year!

Ron Koning

Mexican Christian Children's Aid

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**Pancake Breakfast**

Last October, members of Bethany Reformed Church in Redlands hosted a pancake breakfast as a fundraiser for MCCA. There was a good turnout, and it was nice to be able to put a face with the names of our supporters.

Thanks to all who pitched in with the cooking, serving, setting up and cleaning up. You made it a successful event. In addition, thanks to those who donated the food. Thanks also to Bethany Reformed Church for allowing the breakfast be held at their church

**Prayer Request**

One of the early MCCA members is Jerry Hamill. A couple of months ago, Jerry was very ill, to the point where doctors had very little hope. After a lengthy hospital stay, Jerry is home recovering. Please continue to pray for Jerry's recovery.

The deadline for orphanages to make expensive safety upgrades is approaching. The threat of the orphanage being closed, and the children removed, is very real. Please pray they can satisfy the government's demands and gain favor with the officials.

**Next trips:** January 7; February 4, 2017

*If anyone gives a cup of cold water to these little ones because he is My disciple,  
I tell you the truth; he will certainly not lose his reward. Matthew 10:42*