

WATER WELL PROJECT UPDATE

By Ben Windham

The end of 2010 marked the completion of the 8th drilling season of the Nicaragua Water Well project, and was one of the most productive and longest drilling seasons that we have experienced. In total, 36 wells were drilled and equipped with pumps, providing safe drinking water for hundreds of impoverished Nicaraguan families. Notably, these results were achieved for the most part by the local crew that our driller Mickey Moore has worked with and trained since the project began. Although there are certainly many additional skills that Mickey plans to teach them, their having the basic skills has enabled us to stretch the drilling season by several months. The only constraint now is the period of heavy rains that persist during hurricane season.

Mickey plans to return to Nicaragua on January 20th, followed shortly by a group of Tulsa Rotarians led by Judge David Peterson. This will be the fifth annual trip taken by members of the



Rotary Club of Tulsa. Participants on the trip will visit sites of previously drilled wells, where they will see for themselves the differences in the villagers' standard of living as a result of having easy accessibility to safe water. Additionally, the travelers will visit sites where wells will be drilled this year. The contrast in living conditions will astound those who are making this trip for the first time. As David Peterson has said many times "This trip is a life changing experience."

A third goal for the trip is to renew acquaintances with our

partners in the Rotary Club of León. In December of 2009, a delegation from the RC of León visited in Tulsa for a week. The personal relationships established by that visit, as well as the friendships made by the previous visits to Nicaragua by our members have gone a long way toward increasing the productivity of the Water well Project.

Persons interested in supporting the project are encouraged to visit our club website www.TulsaRotary.com .

See: .EVENTS/PROJECTS OWN A WELL