



Bob Ruehl D6600 International Service Chair

**Medical Mission** - Honduras Scheduled

1 Nov to 8 Nov contact Bob Ruehl 419-991-0004

**Dental Mission** – Honduras Scheduled 30 Nov to 6 Dec, Bring Tooth Brushes

These dates offer the cheapest airfare of the year to San Pedro Sula. (As of 8/22 Continental RT \$448.00)

## A Bit of News From the Summer

- RI Grants District  
\$300,000 for Honduran Project
- Bike Ride Fellowship
- MESA Equipment  
That We need  
  
3H Grant



These are the mountains of El Merendon, Honduras 3H country

Rotary International Trustees entertain each April proposals for Health, Hunger, and Humanitarian grants. This year D6600 has been fortunate to have partnered with D6400 and Lima Rotary partner with USALA Rotario of D4250. 3H Grants require that the applicant compete against other Rotary organizations through out the world for funding. The process takes from two to three years.

D6600 success in participating with this grant comes after some stiff competitors from around the World. The 32000 clubs which Rotary has throughout the world produced proposals from 64. Of these proposals 36 were approved for formal application for funding. 19 proposals were finally approved in April of this year. The trustees approved \$5,162,302 in 3H Awards. When cosponsors' pledged contributions are added, the approved project budgets total \$6,167,271. The point is the 3H grants are difficult to obtain.

To be able to participate as a partner on one of these is a rare occurrence for a club and or district. Our current effort is directed to the El Merendon area of Cortez in Honduras. El Merendon is North, Northwest of San Pedro Sula in the mountains at about 5000 feet. It is a Poverty stricken, deforested, economically stressed area. The project has seven Parts to it which I will explain over a period of newsletters. Installing water filters, composters, bio-degraders, and creating an economic system for the people are some parts of the effort.

### Bike Ride Fellowship

Behind the Mesa Bike Ride is a great deal of preparation of a positive mind-set. For example, from Defiance to St. Marys it's a celebration of "I made it." Most of the time a celebration was a welcoming Rotary club giving the riders a hard time, depending on if a man finished last. The jokes flow in about

the men not being able to keep up with the women during the day's ride. But, there is always friendly conversation during and after the ride, along with the need to refill the lost carbohydrates from the hot dry days during the bike tour.



Here are a few questions to answer about the Ride. If you get them right we will seat you at the Head Table.

- Who got lost more than three times?
- Who was lost more than twenty miles off course?
- Who said "don't touch my bike"?
- Who is known as the wrench?
- How long does it take to prepare the maps we use for all the back roads?
- How do the riders keep cool in the heat of the day?
- What was the average size of the crowds who greeted the riders at each town we stopped?
- How is the money used that we give to MESA?

### **Medical Equipment That MESA Needs Now for the Santa Cruz Clinic in Honduras**

In order to furnish the dental portion of the clinic: small tools to work on false teeth, regular dental tools, and about 5000 toothbrushes. The Medical side of the clinic needs: small examination tools to check the eyes, ears, and throat; bandages and other necessary items for triage; and an ambulance.

A Day Care Facility in the back part of the building is also in need of equipment and supplies. At this point, we are open to suggestions from you regarding what it will take to furnish a good operating Day Care facility. If you have knowledge to offer, or equipment and supplies for the Day Care facility, MESA can arrange to have it picked up at your convenience. Any help you can provide to make the Day Care a success, please contact us with your ideas and suggestions.

### **Medical Missions Planned with D6400 in San Pedro Sula**

**Medical Mission** – The Honduras trip is scheduled for November 1 to November 8. Medical doctors of dermatology and ophthalmology are needed. We presently have 3 Doctors. Nurses are welcome as well. Contact Bob Ruehl at 419-991-0004 for more information.

**Dental Mission** – The Honduras second trip is scheduled for December 6 through December 12th. This mission includes taking the 5000 toothbrushes. Presently 2 Dentists have signed up. \*\*The dates chosen are due to the time of year that the airfare is the cheapest to San Pedro Sula, air temperatures are more comfortable and the rains are ending for the season.