



You  
Did  
It!



## ***Cruising with the Cruces***

**January 13, 2010**

**Dear Friends,**

We are so excited to be able to update you on the progress of your prayers and support for the past year. Wait until you hear what God was able to do through a few dedicated people.

### **The Best of 2009!**

In 2009, working together as our partners, you balanced the books for our support as well as for the "country shares" projects of Peru. Thank you so much!



Plus, you made hundreds of kids smile through your support of the "Brighten Their Christmas" project. Hundreds of Crocs were donated, brought into Peru, and delivered to needy children. Hundreds of shirts and toys were purchased, wrapped and presented to children in the name of Jesus. The Peruvian Christmas treat of hot chocolate and Christmas bread was received with eager hands at various locations.



Thank you for your encouragement to us personally and to the people of Peru as you have prayed us over mountains and through desert coastlands, many times in the middle of the night. You have sent us letters, cards and e-mails. Thank you for being responsive to God's leading. Thank you for investing in global ministries for eternity's sake.

Please find the smiling faces recorded here as proof of your time, money and energies well invested.

### **Jungle wetlands are a favorite**

Six team members made the longest trip of their life as the bus from Lima to Tingo Maria crossed the Andes Mountains at more than 15,000 ft elevation. Adding to strenuous journey was that the bus had several flat tires at about 2 am. Several team members were affected by the altitude and the curvy road.

As it had been raining for days, group members were awarded their own new pair of rubber boots once we arrived in the jungle. Despite the washed out roads we were able to arrive at the Christmas party in time to distribute the gifts and to provide games and crafts for the children gathered.



A wonderful meal of yucca, chicken, pineapple juice, and breadfruit was served as "fruits of the land", freshly picked in our honor and cooked over an open fire. Maybe it was the fact that it had taken so much to get there, or maybe it was that we were unusually hungry, but it will be remembered as the "best meal ever" by people who have tasted some of the best cuisine in the world.



### **From Coca to Cacao**

We were able to take the BTC team to catch a first-hand update on the progress of the jungle transformation project. Our dedicated couple, Rosa and Marcial had a surprise waiting for us. They were excited to report that their farm had been selected by a university professor to become a "model farm" for his students. He needed a place to bring his students to show them how the coca plants, used to produce cocaine, is not the only agricultural crop capable of supporting a family in the jungle. He was able to get a governmental grant to purchase 1,600 cacao plants for Rosa and Marcial's farm. The beans of the cacao are refined to produce fine chocolate. Wow, am I ever interested in the jungle now!

### **Praise and Prayer Notes**

Thank you for your prayer and concern for Pat's sister's husband, Gaylord, Deb and Ivan Mills. God is supplying their needs.

We had a wonderful Christmas holiday with our kids and nieces.

Thank you Lord, for health and strength you have provided for the work that we get to do for you!

Pray for the country of Haiti. We have just received news of the devastating earthquake there. Pray that the Lord will guide the rescue workers and give comfort to the families who have lost loved ones.

### **Ministry Quick Links**

For more info on our ministry in Peru you can contact us at [garrycruce@yahoo.com](mailto:garrycruce@yahoo.com)

For information on how to support our ministry financially online please contact [www.fmwm.org/give](http://www.fmwm.org/give)

### **Calendar of Events**

**January 4-10** Spring Arbor University cross-cultural student involvement

**January 15&16** Seminary class in Lima-Comas

**January 22&23** Seminary class in Tarma

**January 26** The Crouses return to Peru

**February 10-15** Youth group VISA team from Williamston, MI to partner with Youth Congress, Peru

*You will go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and the hills will burst into song before you, and all the trees of the field will clap their hands.*

*Isaiah 55:12 NIV*

**Love & Prayers Always,  
Garry & Pat Cruce**