



Operación
SAN ANDRÉS

...five barley loaves and two fishes,
but what are they among so many?
John 6:9

HEARTBEAT

Collique

News and Happenings at Operación San Andrés – Collique, Lima, Peru

February-March, 2012

VBS with a great turnout



During the weekly team meeting on Wednesday February 1st, we decided to organize a VBS for the children in the community. It was just great to see how fast news spreads in our community. Only a few hours after we started the promotion, children came to sign up for the event. Finally, we got fifty children during the week. As it is summer in Peru, the children have summer holidays from mid-December until the first day of March, which was a big reason why we had so many.

The theme of this year's VBS was "Build Your Life." We told Bible stories, sang songs, did crafts, and played on the field outside. We sense that all got the message, that it is important to build our lives on Jesus the rock. The children were so happy with the VBS, they wanted another week, but because we started our new program the week following the VBS, that was not possible. However, we will consider having two weeks of VBS next year; maybe one week in January and another week in February.



International Women's Day

Every Wednesday afternoon, the mothers of the 2nd Grade children come to OSA for a workshop organized and led by Charo, OSA's social worker. Thursday afternoon it's the turn for the mothers of the middle school students. Sometimes all mothers come together at the same time, like on Thursday, March 8, International Women's Day. Charo

organized a special workshop, invited a troubadour and provided some cake and sodas to celebrate the day and the birthdays of the first trimester of the year. At the end of the afternoon they all received a "certificate for perseverance," which stated "in recognition of your sacrificial work as mother, woman, and friend."



The Gospel of John

This year we are studying the Gospel of John with the children and mothers. We also visit them in their homes and study with them and their families. Mauro visits the families of the 2nd Grade, and Kees and Elizabett visit the families of our middle school students. In this way, we try to stimulate them to read the Bible together. Last week, we were studying

a passage with a mother and her daughter, when the grandmother walked into the room. She shared her excitement seeing her daughter and granddaughter bowed over the Bible together. We sense a real hunger for God's Word and look forward to every meeting. The Bible verse for the month of February is John 3:16,

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

Field Trips Middle School Students

Over the last months the middle school students, who are in our program, got to go on two field trips. The first one was on January 27; that day they visited the Inca Kola company (Inca Kola is the most popular soft drink in Peru), Museum of the Congress and Old Tribunal of Inquisition, and the recently opened Metropolitan Museum of Lima.

At the Inca Kola company they heard about the history of the company and they were given a little tour of the bottling facilities. Hopefully, this visit helps our students to broaden their horizons.

The other visits of the day to the two museums took the students back into the history of Peru and Lima. The Metropolitan Museum displays Lima's timeline starting some 10,000 years ago, since the first human settlements, until the contemporary years, taking advantage of modern technology and advanced audiovisual systems to make these representations an unforgettable experience. In one of the rooms they saw a 4D movie of one of the

earthquakes that struck Lima. At the moment in the movie when the earthquake struck, the lamps in the room came three feet down and the chairs shook, which caused some students to rise from their chairs, thinking that a real earthquake took place.

A month later, the students visited Callao. First, they went to the Real Felipe Fortress, where they got to tour the main buildings inside the fortress.

After the lunch, there was time to buy new school shoes or uniforms—each year OSA helps the children to get ready for a new school year. The last visit of this trip was to the Museum of the Submarine Force. There they had the highlight of this day, entering a real submarine.

Both days, the students were given a few questions which needed to be answered during the day. This was to help them reflect about the places they visited. The children did well with the questions and turned in some well written reports to the teachers in charge.



Upcoming Events

April 5-6

- Easter holidays (OSA closed)

April 20-28

- Spring Mission Trip

Blood Test

Every year, the children undergo a blood test. It is always good to know the children's blood type, but also the blood is taken to the laboratory and is checked for Anemia. For some new children, it was the first time, but for most it wasn't. Anyway, most of the young ones feared the nurse that came to OSA. Well, maybe not the nurse herself, but her actions were not appreciated. The older children did their best not to cry and they didn't. After the nurse had left, they all had their stories and were talking about it if nothing bad happened.



Please, PRAY with us for

- OSA's children and their families
- Upcoming mission trip
- Ongoing meetings about the Comedor
- OSA Board of directors and advisors, and their families
- OSA's staff and teachers
- OSA's interaction with the community

Retreat

From Thursday morning, March 29, till Saturday morning, March 31, the OSA personnel had a retreat in a conference center in Chaclacayo. Dr. Luis A. Campos and his wife Ruth were in Lima for this retreat together with Betsy Contreras, who led the program.

In the time and place away from the busyness of our work at OSA, there was time to study the Bible, to worship, to share testimonies, and to share our dreams for OSA. Also, we came up with a new vision and mission statement. We ask you to pray for us, that we keep focusing on our vision as we move forward. More about the retreat in the next issue of *Heartbeat Collique*.

Nutrition Class

In one of the psychology classes the children learned about nutrition. This class was taught by Charo, who used multimedia to make the topic more dynamic and interesting.

The picture below shows the 2nd grade children after the class.



More photos and stories about news and happenings at OSA on our website and Facebook page at <http://operacionsanandres.org> and <https://www.facebook.com/operacionsanandres>

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