



SCHOOL-WIDE FOOD DRIVE

by Danika Helin

Last summer God gave me a passion to see E.C.A getting involved in an outreach in Spain. I had no idea what God had in mind, but I knew I wanted to be a part of it somehow. The food drive idea came to me at, let's just say, a very unusual time. I was in the middle of English class. Mr. Hendricks gave us a thought for the day that talked about how thoughts themselves are not always enough, and sometimes we need to take action. Then he gave us this example: "You can think all day about the starving and hungry people in the world, but what good does that do? You have to be willing and ready to make them a sandwich, and that is putting thought into action."

Right then it hit me and I began scribbling the idea of a food drive down in my notebook. It would be an awesome way to get the school involved in outreach. However, I had no idea how to get it started, so I talked to my mom about my idea, and we began to pray that God would open a door for us if this was his will. Just a few days later, we heard of a woman named Sylvia Tovar who was starting a shelter for abused and battered women and children . . . and the shelter needed a lot of canned food for the first weeks of opening!

It was amazing to see everything just fall into place as God helped us get the ball rolling. After we talked with a very delighted Sylvia, we asked Mr. Musser about the idea and he gave us the thumbs up! As we began to work it was great to see our school

pull together and collect hundreds of canned foods and baby items for the shelter. God used ECA to meet a huge need around us! I truly hope this food drive becomes an annual event that will continue to show the community that we care about them and want them to see the love of God in action.

Danika Helin is a junior at ECA

A LITTLE SPEECH BROUGHT ACTION

by Merry Davey

It was the dream of a life-time come true. Every year after our study of Shakespeare in my Honors English class, I have commented, "Wouldn't it be fantastic if we could take a field trip to England and walk where Shakespeare walked in Stratford-Upon-Avon, see where Henry VIII had his wives executed and Richard III imprisoned his nephews, then follow the path of the great London fire which raged through the streets as told by Pepys. We could shadow Johnson as Boswell did, discovering London; but I suppose that this will always be *just a dream.*"

This year the results of that little speech brought action. Pippa told her mom about our conversation. Mrs. Jolley immediately went on online, found us very cheap tickets to Gatwick Airport, booked our flights, arranged our housing, procured our first train tickets, and looked into 2 for 1 entrance fees.

Thursday through Monday we were tremendously blessed by the various families from the church at South Woodford, who took such good care of us, feeding us breakfasts, proving activities with their youth group, and ending it with a high tea. What an adventure! With all-day tickets in hand, we were out on London's sidewalks where we were impressed by Big Ben, the parliament buildings, Shakespeare's globe theatre, the tower bridge, the Tower of London, and a wild ride on the city bus.

Our journey ended near Buckingham Palace and Victoria Station, where we caught the fast train to Gatwick and our return flight to Madrid. It was an adventure we will never forget. God gave us a marvelous time and incredible weather for England—not one drop of rain the entire time!

*Merry has taught at ECA since 1978. She recently completed writing a textbook entitled, **The History of Spain.***

Evangelical Christian Academy

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Staff Reflections

SENIORS RETOOL FOR SECOND CAREER

Senior citizens that is! There are three couples on staff this year at ECA who are donating their time and money to serve here. Each of them fall into an older age bracket, but they desire to serve the Lord by volunteering to teach our MK's.

Jerry and Peg Schweitzer retired from the Mesa, AZ public school system 15 years ago and they have been teaching for nine years at ECA. Jerry teaches math and science classes in the middle school while Peg teaches first grade. In addition, Jerry has taught elective courses in ceramics and landscaping, and both have accompanied two senior classes on their senior trip. They have a volunteering spirit and are always ready to assist whenever and wherever needed. The Schweitzers have three married daughters and five grand-children. One daughter and her husband serve as missionaries with Young Life in Hawaii.

Dean and Arlene Johnson live in Wichita, KS. Dean has a PhD in Math Education from the Kansas State University and has worked most of his life for Boeing. Previously Dean taught calculus and physics at both the high school and college levels. Arlene works at the receptionist desk in the front office three days a week. The Johnsons have been retired for six years and have previously served at a Christian Camp on Cyprus for a summer and several month long stints in ministry in Bratislava, Slovakia. They heard about the need at ECA for a higher math teacher from one of our staff while visiting his/their home church in Wichita. The Johnsons have three grown children and six grandchildren. They have been serving at ECA for over two years.

Sherwin and Pat Crumley hail from Estes Park, Colorado. Sherwin's career has been in church music/worship leading while Pat has taught high school English in the Denver Public Schools for 25 years. They retired two years ago from their respective positions and spent those two years ministering at the Rift Valley Academy, in Kijabe, Kenya, before coming to ECA in January 2009. The Crumleys are substituting for Andy and Ruth Anderson who are on home assignment. Sherwin teaches two Bible classes and choir and Pat teaches English and gives piano lessons.

The Crumleys have 2 children and 5 grand-children. They met and fell in love when students at

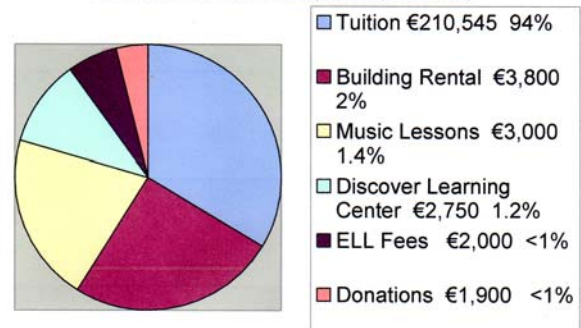


Baylor University. They are only committed to spend this spring semester at ECA, but are open to staying longer if the Lord so leads. When Pat was asked to say something to retired readers her answer was "this is a most meaningful work. My advice to my retired friends in good health is to get off their hindquarters, turn the television off, and do something to extend the kingdom of God."

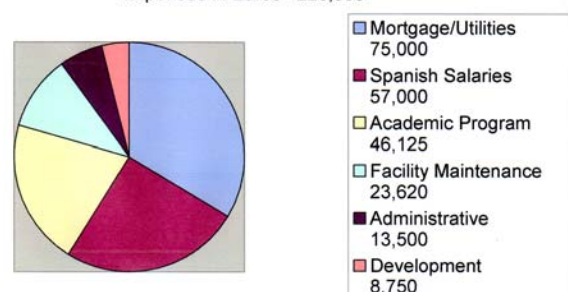
All three couples plan to leave at the end of this school year. If the reader would like to see a list of faculty/staff needs at The Evangelical Christian Academy in Madrid, Spain for next year and beyond, you will find the answer across the page and on our website. There is even an application there.

www.ecaspain.com

Income in Euros €223,995 for 2008-09



Expenses in Euros 223,995



LOOKING FOR "A FEW GOOD MEN" (and women too)

We are looking for "called and qualified" individuals who sense God's leading to be part of a rewarding and exciting opportunity to invest in the lives of missionary kids here in Spain

Troy Hendricks
Personnel Director ECA
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2009-2010 School Year Needs

All-levels principal
(a huge need for us at ECA)
Assistant Principal
Guidance counselor
HS Math
MS Social Studies
MS Science and Math
MS Language Arts
Elementary teacher
for Fall of 2009
HS PE teacher
for Fall of 2009
ESL teacher *(all-grade levels)*
Business manager
NILD Therapist

Long-term Needs

HS Science
HS Math
ESL teacher
Elementary teacher
Kindergarten teacher
Art/Graphic Arts
Computers Elem & HS
Personnel Director
Chaplain/Student life
Piano teacher
Dorm parents *(boys and girls)*
Full-time secretary
Elementary Aide
Physical Education
Library Aide
NILD Therapist
Office Aide/Receptionist

the Administrative Team and Faculty as they daily carry out the ECA Vision and implement the Core Values.

Development Projects: Opportunities to invest in God's work at ECA

As we shared with you in the last Echoes newsletter, we have chosen to focus on two development projects during 2009. In order for these important projects to become reality, ECA depends upon the Lord to provide substantial outside financing.

Dream Big Project: For years now the physical education classes have taken place in an open field. Under normal weather conditions this arrangement is workable though not ideal. But during the winter months the rain turns the clay-rich soil into a sticky gumbo that makes sports activities difficult and messy. For this reason we would like to pour a full-size sports court. We conservatively estimate that the total cost of pouring a sports court will be around \$50,000. So far approximately \$11,500 has been raised toward making this dream become a reality. *However we still need another \$38,000 to complete this project.*

Technology Toolbox Project: On an ongoing basis ECA must update its technology toolbox. Things like computers, computer software, the photocopier, the telephone system, etc. need to be upgraded or replaced. We estimate that \$35,000 will enable us to accomplish this objective. To date \$1,300 has been received. *So we still need another \$33,700 to complete this project.*

[For more information about these projects and how you might help, please visit our website: www.ecaspain.com]

In light of the current financial crisis, we are very mindful that some of you are perhaps struggling to make ends meet. As faith-supported missionaries, most of us are also facing financial challenges. But in these present circumstances we continue to wholeheartedly believe in our great God and Savior, being confident that HE will accomplish HIS good and perfect will in our lives and ministries. May God help us all to trust and obey HIM in these turbulent days.

Serving together for God's glory,
Rich Brown
Chairman of the ECA Board of Trustees

The Sounding Board

Dear friends of ECA,

On behalf of the Board of Trustees I want to express our sincere thanks to so many of you who have faithfully supported the efforts of ECA. Some of you have supported us through prayer, others have supported teachers with financial gifts, and still others have given gifts for special needs. The entire ECA community salutes you, giving thanks to God for your active participation with us in seeking to "testify solemnly of the gospel of the grace of God" (Acts 20:24).

Institutional Direction: Seeking to effectively accomplish our mission

The Board earnestly desires that every student will grow in his personal knowledge of Jesus Christ and at the same time receive a quality academic foundation. We believe that these two factors will equip ECA students to effectively serve God and their fellowmen. The Board also strongly endorses four core values which will guide the school in fulfilling its mission: Christ-centered, Bible-based, Academic-excellent, and Service-driven. *Please pray that God will strengthen*

Headmaster's Vibes *by Scot Musser*



Dear Friends of ECA,

Do you remember the good old hymn "Great is Thy Faithfulness?"

My dad was 35 years old when the Lord called him into missions. He had 5 children, had just built his dream house, and was a successful partner in a lumber business – life was good. But within 6 months

he had sold the house, quit his job, and most folks thought he was crazy. Yet he faithfully followed the Lord and soon we were in Brazil where he served as the director of a boarding school for missionary kids (MK's) for many years. My dad and mom are tremendous examples of faithfulness to me.

The school hymn there was "Great is Thy Faithfulness" and we sung it on special occasions – the start of school, at the start of our business meetings, at graduation, etc. It was the first hymn I ever committed to memory. It declares God's faithfulness towards us, towards His creation, and it reminds us that His mercy and love are fresh every day. By reminding ourselves of God's faithfulness, it encourages us to cling to Him and strive to be faithful as well.

Faithfulness is a virtue that is mentioned frequently in the Bible, and it usually involves some degree of self-sacrifice. Faithfulness is cultivated by increasingly choosing to do the right thing according to God's standard. Obedience is a step of faithfulness, and when you string a line of obedience decisions together you have faithfulness. It is a fruit of the spirit that evidences Christ's work in our lives. Faithfulness often grows where the labor is hard, where the rewards may be few, and many times where no one notices. But someone always does – God does, and to those who are faithful the Lord will one day grant the Crown of Life.

At ECA we continue to sing that great hymn and I have been blessed to serve alongside other dear servants of the Lord who have served 10, 20, 30 years and more in the harvest fields of Spain. Their toil has not been easy but their reward will be great. Their example to me has been inspiring, and I thank the Lord for surrounding me with such Godly people

who invest their lives into the lives of others – day after day and year after year.

I encourage you today to stop and remember some examples of faithful people in your life. Give thanks to the Lord for them, and if they are still living, maybe even stop and write to tell them. You will be encouraged by doing so.

Thanking God for His Faithfulness,
Scot

JUST AROUND THE CORNER

May 16	Rastrillo
May 22	Spring Concert
June 5	Awards Assembly 11 AM
	Graduation 7 PM
Aug. 27	First Day of Classes
Oct. 12-13	Fall Break
Nov.26-27	Thanksgiving
Dec.7-8	Constitution Day
Dec.21-Jan 6	Christmas Break

World-View Puzzle: *Where is this?*



Look for the **answer** to this issue's world-view puzzle in our next issue, Fall 2009



ANSWER to the last Worldview Puzzle:
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