

HARE TODAY

The former Hope Academy has been beautifully restored and now is a center for teaching God's Word and building His Church.



Dear Friends,

Hope Restored

The end of May, Macon and I traveled back to Colombia SA along with our son, Jeremy and family, to help him host his 1993 Class Reunion at the former NTM School. Abandoned and deteriorating, this property was recently purchased and renovated as a Christian Conference Center.

My most vivid impression of the Hope Restored Reunion was the morning of our return to the former MK school property, Hope Academy. The group of 40, which included adult Missionary Kids and their families, were super excited; all talking at once, before and during the journey over the mountain road. We could see them hanging out the bus windows, taking pictures, exclaiming at each bend in the road as something spiked their memories. But a change overcame them the moment the buses arrived onto the former school property and they disembarked. As their feet touched that cherished, so familiar ground, which embraced the majority of their childhood with it's joys, hurts, and losses, a flood of emotions overwhelmed them. It was somber. It was hallowed.

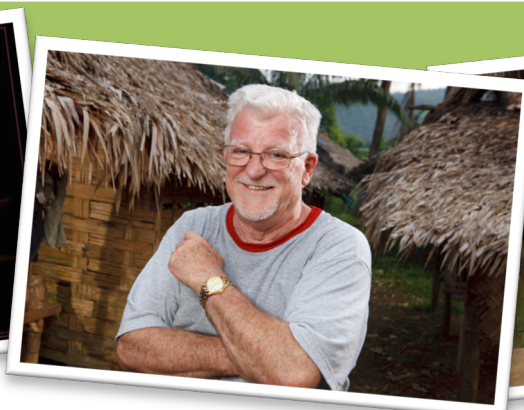
I looked around and I could see MK's overcome with emotion; unbidden tears flowed from every eye. Their spouses and children silently supporting them; not feeling their grief, but knowing the depth of it, wanting to comfort any way they could. Their loved one was lost in remembrance of a time long ago, when they were young. A time we all grieved, a time before armed guerrillas and evacuations, and death. A time before innocence was lost. They were deep into a place where memory mingled with reality.

The incredible hospitality of the property's new owners, and inspiring daily program that Jeremy and his reunion team planned brought closure and renewal for the MK's and their families. The week concluded with an inspiring service in the previous hanger, now beautifully tiled chapel, and led by missionary pilot Paul Dye. Many of the valleys citizens attended along with Jeremy's biological brothers and sister, cousins, an Aunt and her family.

Point of Praise: Jeremy's Aunt and family stated they want to follow Jesus. Your prayers are making a difference! Please keep praying for Jeremy's Colombian family, our opportunity to interact with them and grace to model Christ's love.



Jeremy stands, center, in this snapshot with former classmates, Shad and Scott Welsh, who lost their father when armed Marxist guerrillas entered the Mk school property in the fall of 1993 and kidnapped missionaries, Steve Welsh and Tim Van Dyke. The school was evacuated. The missionaries were held for a year and assassinated. Scott and Shad and their families are now missionaries in Peru.



Philippines –July

Macon traveled to fascinating new areas by jeep during his month long trip in the Philippines and interviewed some outstanding missionaries. You will soon be able to see the results of these interviews online and glimpse some of the incredible still shots by Dale Stroud, his traveling photographer.

Highlights were when they spent time with one of the Philippines' original tribal groups, met an outstanding NTM missionary who just happens to be a Philippine tribal person, and let's not forget to mention the evening the jeep in which they traveled was accosted by banditos. Yes, banditos. But wait till you hear how God intervened in what could have been a deadly encounter.

Your support and prayer mean the world to us, Macon and Katy

ROCKED!!

Darkness had fallen as the jeep jostled over the muddy mountain trek. We were nearly home with our NTM visitors, Macon Hare, Dale Stroud and Regina Sullivan, when all of a sudden out of the darkness it came! POW!! The BIG rock hit us with enough force to smash our windshield. Shouts and shadowy forms of men caught against the headlights broke through our stupor and Paul gunned the accelerator. The jeep lurched in response and around the bandits to safety. We arrived home to Lapoc with our guests, shaken, but safe.

Early the following morning, village officials were at our door to inform us they had found the culprits. They were 4 young married men –two in particular were troublemakers. One had even been involved in a killing. There was going to be an inquiry the next morning at the chief's house and they wanted us to identify these men and press charges, maybe even get them thrown in jail.

What to do? We didn't want to be the cause of these young men going to jail or of their children having to go hungry.

"Lord please show us what to do," our hearts pleaded.

The next morning, the officials escorted us to the inquiry. The chief took us inside his house and the proceedings started. We looked at each of those young men who had stoned our car with intent to harm and rob us and felt such compassion. It was easy to see their need for the Savior. As the young men confessed, one of them hung his head and wiped tears from his eyes.

Then came the part they had been dreading. They must be punished for what they did. They knew that they could not afford to pay for a replacement windshield and that the alternative punishment was imprisonment. The officials had men in place outside with guns waiting to put them in restraints and take them to prison.

These four young men were scared as they waited to hear what charges Paul was going to press. Paul leaned forward on his seat and looked at each one. He said, "Tell me what you think that I should do?" They said, "We don't know." Paul said, "Well, since you don't know, let me give you two choices and you choose your punishment. I don't want you to go to prison, but there are two other things. You could pay for my windshield to be replaced, that would cost about 50,000 pesos (\$1,000US)." They said, "Amay, we

This whole problem started with a rock...

don't have money like that, we could never get that much." Then Paul said, "Do any of you have a buffalo? Do you have a motorcycle? Do you have a pig?" The answers were, "No, no, no." Then Paul said, "Do you have a chicken?" One of them said, "I have a chicken." Paul said, "Do you think you could all get a chicken each and some rice?" They all said, "Yes."

Paul said, "Here's what we're going to do. I will release you from paying for the damaged windshield, but on Saturday the 14th, I'm going to come to your houses. I'm going to bring my family and we want to have lunch with you and your wives and

your children. We're going to bring about 10 people with us. You have to prepare a feast and cook it for us and we'll eat it together. And we'll talk. I want to tell you some things."

This agreement finished and signed, the young men came one by one to us to take our hands and to ask forgiveness.

The officials were amazed that we had shown such compassion and solution to a problem like this.

This whole problem started with a rock and we hope to finish it with another Rock.



Romans 9:33 "Behold I lay in Zion a stumbling stone and rock of offence: and whosoever believeth on Him shall not be ashamed."

Please pray for Uyu, Imay, Buling and Uboy and their families, that through this shattered windshield God will repair their broken lives. – By Paul and Deb Howells, tribal missionaries, Philippines.

MACON AND KATY HARE
ntm.org/macon_hare
macon_hare@ntm.org