



Eagle College with completed roof.

## What's Next?

First, steps need to be built to the upper level. Then stucco will be applied over all of the cement blocks, a six to eight month job. After that the painting begins. PLEASE help us reach our goal to finish this phase of the building. A donation envelope is enclosed for your convenience.

## Upcoming Events

Mark your calendar for the annual Spring Banquet on Thursday, May 24 at Immanuel Church. The guest speaker will be Allodia Sanchez, a former State Representative in Mexico, who will speak about the urgency of the Christian School in today's Mexican border communities.

## Next trips:

There will be a Fall 2012 trip and then again in Feb/ Mar 2013. If you or your church are interested, please contact Ron/ Jane Brouwer for details at 616 399-1429.

## Changing Hearts Bringing Hope!

## Prayer Requests

- Thank God for the successful work done by the WWCS/Indiana Team and for their safety during their 16 days in Mexico.
- Thank God for the engineering leadership of Bob Harmsen from Immanuel Church in Holland - who came for one week, designed and helped build the first 5 trusses. His expertise was a gift from God!!
- Thank you, God, for all of our faithful, end of the year supporters. Without their help, we would not be able to complete the cement and the roof.
- Please continue to pray for Pastor Ramon as he deals with "paper work and red tape" trying to get proper authorization to expand Eagle College to include a Middle School.



Hope for Kids Mexico  
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Address service requested

### Board Members:

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## News from Hope for Kids Mexico



Winter 2012

## A God Story

I became increasingly anxious as we approached the Mexican border in a van carrying 17 Americans and 2500 pounds of equipment. As I drove over the Rio Grande River, I said to the team, "now is the time to pray". Are we going to be allowed to bring all that equipment into Mexico? Are we going to have to pay a huge tax? Will a group of 17 Americans even be allowed to enter the country?



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## A God Story, continued

At the border, we stopped for inspections where all baggage was searched. We presented the authorities with serial numbers for the six welding machines. The inspector then asked for the passports of six people. We followed the inspector into the border patrol office, leaving the rest of the team alone and not knowing what would happen next. As the six of us answered all the questions and filled out all the forms, I glanced out of the office window and saw the rest of the team praying in a circle. At that moment, the inspector returned our passports to us and said that we were free to enter Mexico without any fee.

God is always one step ahead of us!!

*Ron Brouwer*

## Finally... A Roof!!

The focus of the building this quarter has been the completion of the metal roof which connects the 2 buildings over the courtyard. The roof's clear span is 52 ft. wide by 182 ft. long. We were blessed to have a 17 person team from DeMotte, Indiana spend 16 days working on Eagle College. Their challenge was to complete the roof, the largest one they have done in the 20 years their team has been working together. We are thankful to report that not only was this goal attained, but there were many other unexpected blessings along the way. Here's a few highlights from the team:

- the church service was great, especially when the congregation gave the work team a "blessing".



- fantastic hospitality/food: the willingness in which we were served
- being invited to the school's chapel service
- awesome team devotions
- the view from the rooftop of the new school (the mountains of Monterrey)
- the challenge of using red paint!!
- the satisfaction of completing the largest roof that we have ever done.
- watching a group of non-professionals work together so well for such a worthy cause.
- the HOT salsa!!!!

*Ron Brouwer and the DeMotte Team*



*No one is more excited* about the opening of the new school than the students themselves. Here are just a few of the questions that were asked many times:

- Will there be a playground?
- Will there be more than one bathroom so I won't have to wait in the hall?
- Can we play soccer outdoors?
- Will there be grass?
- How big will the classrooms be?
- #1 most frequently asked... When will the new school be done?

## From Steve Gemink, Worldwide Christian Schools

It is so good to see the trusses going up on this project.

Our Worldwide HANDS Team Leader confirmed that Ron had done a great job of preparing for their welding/fabrication team. This is not trite praise as I have worked with this group for many years and they have high expectations from the host for project prep to get the roof completed.

Due to all the challenges of the security in the last few years, I had frankly wondered if a Worldwide Christian Schools Hands team would be able to assist on this Eagle School project. Well... God has answered all of our prayers by providing a window of time perfectly matched to the team availability. He provided

safer conditions and a highly skilled set up team who went down under Ron's leadership to prepare for this massive roofing project.

I give God the glory for making this plan come together for Eagle College, the many supporting churches, the donors and for us at WWCS.

So... can you see the children meeting under this roof? ...playing under the roof? ...and the ministry that will occur at this location? We pray that the completion of the school through the partnership in West Michigan and Mexico will continue at a good pace. May God bless you all! We too are glad to be part of this project.

Serving a Mighty God with You, Steve.

## Construction facts

- 50 gallons of paint were used on the trusses.
- each truss is 52 feet long and almost five feet tall weighing 900 lbs.
- 595 welds were made on each of ten trusses.
- 26 ten pound spools of welding wire were used for a total of 260 pounds of welding wire.
- we used 6 welding machines, 5 grinders, and a steel cutting saw (that we burned out) .
- on the 2nd day we blew out the city fuse.



*the Demotte team*