May 2004

# The Masters Update

s we wrote our last prayer letter, Olivia had just begun to wear a "helmet" to correct her head shape problem Leaused by torticollis. We are very excited that after 4 months of wearing the helmet 23+ hours a day, she is finished with the treatment and no longer has to wear the helmet! Her head shape has improved tremendously, so now the only ongoing treatment we have is doing neck exercises daily until she is 18 months old. Alyssa is looking forward to Kindergarten graduation on May 26, and on to 1st grade next year! All three girls are eagerly anticipating spring birthdays in the next 4 weeks and will be turning 6, 3 and 1. How time flies!

## **GEEK SPEAK (Brian's column)**

February held a few surprises that caused me to shift my "planned" organized schedule.

Surprise #1 - Centro de Publicaciones Cristianas (Libroscpc.com) and Mensaje de Vida (mensajedevida.com) partnership. God lead CAM to Tito Mantilla, Director of Mensaje de Vida or Message of Life, who will lead CPC (CAM's Spanish book sales division) to continue selling Spanish books, Bibles, and other literature along with distributing the Message of Life Sunday School and Vacation Bible School material. I became involved in the process to help transfer their 800 number to CAM, setup their phone, fax, and computer needs, along with helping transfer the Message of Life customer database and inventory items into the CPC database and accounting system.

**Learned #1** – jumping a phone line to 3 different buildings really isn't that hard.

**Surprise #2** – Creating an Auto-Attendant for CAM's phone system. Through several months of investigation, prayer, and research, CAM decided to begin using an automated phone system. We already had the equipment and the ability, but had never "programmed" the system to perform in this manner. I spent the last week of March "programming" the system for these menus and the first week of April making a few small tweaks. It is running well, offers both English and Spanish, and has easy to follow menus. Give CAM a call (800-FON-CAMI), listen to the menu and let me know what you think.

Lesson Learned #2 - Reading the directions and manuals actually helps!

The planned projects that were also completed include:

- · Completed the tool MyHomePage for missionaries to create their own website.
- Completed phase one of the personnel database a tool to track our missionaries' personal information as well as their ministry history.
- Completed the setup of 2 new laptops, 2 new desktops, and 2 new cell phones.

During the months of April and early May, I will be spending more time working with our mailroom function as Nancy Sisco (current mailroom employee) prepares to resign to attend nursing school. One of the projects to complete before Nancy leaves is the document scanning solution for CAM Center. This will allow us to email documents to our missionaries instead of mailing information to them every month through the postal system.

### **SUPPORT**

With all of the large projects and goals for this year, and with the departure of one of Brian's employees (Nancy), we have come to a hard decision. Brian will resign from his 2nd job at Marketplace Ministries at the end of April. We are trusting God to provide the \$1200 per month that this 2nd job provided. We are actively looking for opportunities to share our ministry with Sunday School Classes, Churches, Small Groups and individuals. Although we have not lost any support, our current support level has "dropped" from 78% to 70% due to increased health insurance costs and a cost of living increase in the goal support level set by the CAM board. If you are interested in prayerfully or financially supporting us, please contact us or CAM.

### **TRAVEL**

In just two short months, Brian, Jennifer and Alyssa will be leaving for a 9 day trip to Guatemala (June 18-26). We will be visiting CAM missionaries, getting to know CAM ministries in the country and helping Ken Spaugh, a CAM missionary, with a computer project. Please pray for safety in traveling to and throughout the country. Pray also that this trip would be a valuable learning and growing experience for Alyssa (6).

The Masters

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Alyssa Olivia Sabrina

