



ENGINEERS
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Building a Better World, One Community at a Time...

India Integrated Project

By Mike Posey

Mike Posey recently traveled to India for an implementation trip for the India Integrated Project. EWB-LA's structural engineering team helped teams from EWB-Houston and EWB-San Francisco with the design of a water station in Andhra Pradesh, India as part of the Tsunami Reconstruction Project. The LAPP structural team provided the structural plans, the SF team designed the wastewater system and connected wetland, and the Houston team provided a rain catchment design along with general project management.



Baja House Build

By Cynthia Lee

On April 19, 2008, 32 EWB professionals, students, and friends joined together to participate in Amor Ministries' mission trip to build houses for needy families. Amor Ministries is a nonprofit religious relief and development agency which specializes in facilitating short-term building projects in Mexico. They have built over 4,000 homes since 1980.

In this trip, our group was sent to a community called Terrazas del Valle 2 in Tijuana, Baja, Mexico, where we helped build two houses. These houses were of very basic construction, with a concrete floor, stucco-finished exterior, a weather sealed roof, two windows, and a door. A typical house takes four days to complete. The steps to building a house are 1) slab,

UPCOMING EVENTS

July 12: Steering Committee Meeting @ Santa Monica Library

July 17-31: Malawi Project Site Assessment Trip

July 29: General Meeting @ TBD

October 10-12: West Coast Regional Conference

A wash station was begun in the village of Jalamma Palam. The SF chapter sent 2 volunteers in February to construct the waste water system, and Mike oversaw the structural portion during his trip in March. On the last day of Mike's visit, the concrete for the roof was poured. There is still much work to be done, and plans are underway to send a new LA volunteer to the village later this summer to complete the construction.

EWB is soliciting volunteers to travel to India to help oversee construction of these projects and funds may be available for travel. Donations are still being accepted to help complete these projects. If you are interested or have any questions, please contact Mike Posey at mposey@saiservices.com.

2) framing, 3) wall prep and roofing, and 4) stucco. Since we only spent a day in Mexico, we were only able to participate in one phase of the building construction: the framing for the first house and the wall prep and roofing for the second house.

Overall, the experience was very rewarding for all of the volunteers and we hope to organize another trip in the future. For more information on Amor Ministries, please visit www.amor.org.

2008-2009
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2007-2008 Year in Review

EWB-LA has had a busy year with on-going projects and local outreach events. Thanks to everyone for all the hard work in planning for these events.

On December 15th, approximately 20 members of EWB volunteered with Habitat for Humanity at the Jimmy Carter Work Project in San Pedro. The group worked on clearing the scaffolding from the site and doing other finishing work.

On February 2nd, 12 members of EWB spent the day at the CalEarth Institute in Hesperia. On a tour, members saw shelters constructed of long coils of polypropylene bags filled with stabilized earth stacked to form domed structures. In between the coils is a strip of barbed wire which helps to hold the coil in place in event of an earthquake. The main focus for this method of construction is providing a simple means of constructing durable temporary shelters.

From June 15-18, the Rotary International convention was held in downtown LA. EWB-USA had a booth staffed by members of EWB-LA and the student chapters. The conference was a huge success, and many Rotary members expressed interest in having an EWB speaker or working with EWB on a project.

Malawi Project Update

By Liz Jordan

EWB-LA has recently been approved for a new project at the Malamulo campus in Malawi. The Malamulo campus in Malawi contains a 275 bed hospital, a K-12 school, and a 450 student college of health science. There are approximately 4000 people on the campus. This hospital also has the leading HIV/AIDS prevention program in the country. We will partner with Adventist Health International to provide a better supply of clean water to the campus.

The hospital's current water system is inadequate, and many of the potential sources of water are contaminated due to pesticides used on nearby farms. The water transport infrastructure is old and damaged, and the power system has frequent failures.

EWB-LA is currently planning for our site assessment trip this July, at which point we will prioritize all of the campus needs. This is going to be a big project, and we will need more volunteers in all areas. If you're interested in water treatment, water transport, power supply, construction or health contact Andrew Peterman (apeterman@gmail.com).

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Donations can also be mailed to our Post Office Box at:

Engineering without Borders - Los Angeles Professional Partners Chapter
 P.O. Box 5510
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Make checks payable to EWB-USA with "for EWB-LA" in the memo line.

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