

A Report
Guatemala 2013 - Rev. Steve Parelli and Jose Ortiz in Guatemala
36 Days (Five Weeks) of Pro-LGBT, Faith-Based Activism in Guatemala
July 13 – August 17, 2013
Other Sheep – *othersheepexecsite.com*

Written by Rev. Stephen Parelli
September 23 - 25 2013

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Part I – Background (Objective, Means and Strategy)

Objective:

- (1) To make known, in Guatemala, during a five-week period, the mission and vision of Other Sheep by positively addressing/giving forth practical studies/ materials/ testimonies, through various means, on topics relating to homophobia and religion; by continually creating opportunities for presenting/speaking on topics relating to homophobia and religion to as wide an audience as possible, while at the same time speaking to every individual, when practical, with whom we come in contact.
- (2) To target
 - **the LGBT community**
 - to edify and educate, to encourage and ennoble
 - to enlist, in practical specific ways, to carry-on in the ongoing distribution of literature, telling their stories, etc., to the religious community
 - **conservative religious leaders** to find an inroad among them by
 - (1) exposing them to sound exegetical studies on the relevant key passages of scripture,
 - and by (2) telling our stories and the stories of LGBT Christians in general (putting a face on homosexuality)
 - **the general public**
 - to involve individuals at the grass roots level in engaging their respective communities and associates (church, school, family, workplace) in the ongoing discussion of the topic of the intersecting of religion and homophobia for the purpose of raising awareness

Means: The distribution of literature, the use of media, street “evangelization” - casual and structured conversation on what the Bible does and does not say about homosexuality, educational seminars, general meetings, cold-calling, and stated appointments with significant religious individuals.

Strategy:

- (1) Working directly with existing LGBT individuals and organizations
 - **August 2012. Inclusive Christians of Guatemala** - In Antigua, Guatemala, in August of 2012 (one year prior to the 2013 Guatemala mission), Steve Parelli and Jose Ortiz met with Marlon Vega, leader of *Cristianos Incluyentes de Guatemala* (Inclusive Christians of Guatemala) and planned a tentative strategy for a five week campaign in Guatemala
 - **June 28-30, 2013. PFLAG Guatemala: Familias por la Diversidad** – In Lima, Peru, in June of 2013 (less than one month before the 2013 Guatemala mission), Steve Parelli and Jose Ortiz, speaking a Latin American-wide conference, met with Carlos Eduardo Izaguirre and his associate (leaders of PFLAG Guatemala). PFLAG Guatemala invited Other Sheep to conduct two seminars in Guatemala City during their visit to Guatemala. One seminar was hosted by PFLAG; the second was hosted by *Colectivo Amigos Contra el Sida (CAS)* - Friends Against AIDS
 - **July 14, 2013. OASIS** – In Guatemala City, July 14, 2013, the first full day of Steve and Jose being in Guatemala, at Jose’s request, Marlon Vega (Inclusive Christians of Guatemala) invited Jorge Lopez Sologastoa (personal, long-standing friend of John Doner, Other Sheep Latin America Coordinator) to meet, if possible, and have breakfast together (fortunately Jorge lives in the same neighborhood as Marlon and was able to accept our invitation at a moment’s notice). At

breakfast, Jorge gave us his contact number and from that point forward, Jorge stayed in touch with us throughout our trip

- i. Jorge Lopez connected us with Honduras, resulting in an LGBT meeting there
- ii. Jorge Lopez connected us with Quetzaltenango, resulting in an LGBT/ church-related meeting there

(2) The distribution of relevant literature, a flyer and business cards

- ***What the Bible Says and Doesn't Say about Homosexuality*** (in Spanish), by Rev. Dr. Mel White
 - Soulforce provided 800 copies of Mel White's pamphlet on the Bible and homosexuality (in Spanish); Soulforce shipped these copies to the home of Marlon Vega in Guatemala City where we were able to receive them. We gave bundles of 50 to LGBT organizations that committed to distributing them (especially note Henry Cortez below)
- ***The Children Are Free*** (in Spanish), by Rev. Jeff Miner and John Connolly
 - We kept with us some copies of *The Children Are Free* (in Spanish) for Guatemala, having distributed the great majority of the 200 hundred copies we took with us to Peru and Venezuela. We distributed these copies carefully, to individuals and organizations in Guatemala especially where we felt there was the possibility of taking on the project of printing the book locally in Guatemala
 - We introduced Jeff Miner's offer (presenting a copy of the "agreement") of having individuals print locally the book TCAF (*The Children Are Free*)
- During our first week, **we created a flyer**
 - The information on the flyer:
 - listed the above three organizations (by permission, by name as listed under "strategy #1") with their mission statement, contact person & contact info, and web site address
 - provided a description of Other Sheep and gave the cell number of Steve and Jose while in Guatemala as well as their respective email address
 - heading the flyer was the title of Mel Whites pamphlet "What the Bible does and does not say about homosexuality" with the web site address for the Internet copy of the pamphlet
 - 1,200 copies of the flyer were printed
 - A copy of the flyer was placed in each of the 800 copies of Mel White's pamphlet
- We pre-made (while in the States) business cards, in Spanish, customized for the trip; among other contact info on the card, the card stated that our phone number was on the reverse side (which we wrote in once we obtained a sim card in Guatemala)

(3) Regions recommended for targeting, and the criteria for choosing a region

- Of the four regions Marlon Vega had recommended for outreach, we were able to work in the following two areas:
 - i. **Puerto Barrios**, on the Caribbean Coast
 - ii. **Quetzaltenango**, the western highlands
- (In addition, we also worked in **Guatemala City** because of the two seminars and the one Bible study meeting that were planned there)
- **The criteria used for identifying a region for outreach:** (1) it was known that an LGBT community existed in that region; (2) it was believed that materials/speaking on religion and homophobia would meet a felt need

(4) Networking: to use every means possible to connect, stay connected and to inter-connect with individuals and organizations

- We obtained one cell phone with a Guatemala phone number – used for texting, phone calls, What'sUp app downloaded, indexing names and phone numbers, Internet (at times)
- Posted adds on a gay Guatemala social network
- Sent out eNews-announcements on upcoming Guatemala meetings to Guatemala contacts and organizations with whom we were working
- Constant networking - with every person we met from media to LGBT organizations to the individual on the street, to the cold call we made; when we could we exchanged contact information and asked for leads from everyone

- Introducing people we met to people we met; in some cases the people or groups we introduced to one another were meeting for the first time (through Other Sheep’s networking)
- (5) Media – We contacted media (radio, TV and newspapers) in Puerto Barrios, Guatemala City and other towns; with each interview we were granted, we invited Guatemalan LGBT individuals to be an active part of the interview, with the media’s consent – our objective was to bring media attention to LGBT Guatemalans, not just to the message of Other Sheep.
- (6) The use of a survey questionnaire – We created a short survey questionnaire to use in approaching people on the street; objective was to discern one’s interest in the topic before giving them a copy of Mel White’s pamphlet on what the Bible does or does not say about homosexuality
- (7) Rent-a-car and Housing
- Not our usual practice, but in this case we rented a car for the full duration of our stay in Guatemala which gave us easy mobility for all our activities
 - We had three weeks of complimentary housing
 - i. One week of complimentary housing in Puerto Barrios – a four-five star resort – which became our base there and was a major factor in deciding to work the Caribbean coast
 - ii. Two weeks of complimentary housing in Antigua – a four-five star resort – which became our base for working in Guatemala City and the western highlands

Part II – Five Weeks - Log of Events (Activities Accomplished, Given in Sequential Order)

A. Puerto Barrios (Amatique Bay Resort) & Honduras, Saturday, July 13 – Sunday, July 21 (Day 1 – 9)

A Remarkable Week in Puerto Barrios and A Day in Honduras

Saturday, July 13 – Sunday, July 21, 9 Days

Note: Puerto Barrios was chosen as a region known to have a gay community and gay activism, however no contact information for Puerto Barrios (from Inclusive Christians, OASIS or PFLAG Guatemala) were given to us prior to, or upon or during our arrival in Puerto Barrios; this was a mission to see what contacts where there that we could make. OASIS did tell us to ask around for a group by the name of ALII (Asociacion Liberal Integrada de Izabal). We asked Lilian, our TV host in Puerto Barrios, if she heard of ALII; she had and she immediately began an investigation in search of the offices of ALII.

Saturday, July 13 and Sunday, July 14 (From Guatemala City to Puerto Barrios, the Caribbean Coast)

1. Marlon Vega, leader of Inclusive Christians of Guatemala; first night in Guatemala, in his home
 - Saturday evening, arrive in Guatemala City by plane from Venezuela; Marlon Vega of Inclusive Christians meets us at airport
 - Spend Saturday evening with Marlon Vega and his boyfriend **Allan**, a closeted evangelical Pentecostal, at a Chinese restaurant
 - Sleep over Saturday night in Marlon’s apartment
2. Preparations and Road Trip to Puerto Barrios (Amitique Bay Resort) – a seven hour trip by car; first full day in Guatemala
 - Sunday morning Marlon attends church (service at 7AM) alone (without Steve and Jose); Steve remains at Marlon’s apartment and bundles Souforce’s pamphlets into groups of 50 (about 800 copies total) and repacks their personal items; Jose and Marlon (having returned from church) walk to local store for necessary items
 - Marlon takes Steve and Jose to airport for a rent-a-car; Marlon conducts Steve and Jose out of Guatemala City (around 3PM)
 - Steve and Jose arrive after dark in Puerto Barrios (around 10PM) – with Police escort (two police trucks each loaded with policemen with rifles) from town’s outer limits, through town (to circumvent a Fair), to Amatique Bay Resort.

3. Jorge Lopez of OASIS, Close Associate of John Doner Other Sheep Latin America Coordinator
 - Sunday morning breakfast, in Guatemala City, with Jorge Lopez and Marlon Vega
 - Jose had inquired of Marlon, on Sunday morning, if he knew Jorge Lopez saying he wanted to connect with him – within minutes Jorge agreed to meet up with us for breakfast
 - Jorge kept in touch with us throughout our travels in Guatemala; he gave us two great contacts: LGBT groups in Honduras and Quetzaltenango
-

Monday, July 15 – Wednesday morning, July 17th (Administrative and Networking)

4. Created Flyer
 - Created flyer-insert for Mel White's pamphlet for distribution. Flyer showed three LGBT organizations in Guatemala available for further information. Went to copier in town, made 1,200 copies of flyer.
 - Inserted flyers into the 800 copies of Mel White's pamphlet. Grouped pamphlets into packets of 50.
 5. Created Survey Questionnaire
 - Created survey questions and survey record sheet for use for distributing flyers discriminately
 6. General Social Networking via the Internet
 - Updated Other Sheep website with information in Spanish on how to reach us by phone while in Guatemala.
 - Posted on GayGuatemala.com announcing our presence and mission and contact info in Guatemala.
 - Created and sent out an Other Sheep eNews to last-years contacts in Guatemala
 7. News Release
 - Wrote a news-release for Eduardo Izaguirre of PFLAG in Guatemala City which he distributed to news media there
 8. 2012 Individuals by Name who responded to our texting/eNews
 - **Jonatan Yalivat** (English translator) phoned to say he wants to attend our PFLAG meeting in Guatemala City with his mother (her first visit to PFLAG)
 - **Heard from:** Arturo of Gay Fellowship contacted us because of eNews sent out; Luis member of Gay Fellowship (texted we are glad you are here), Eduardo the nurse (texted let me know what you need for support), Eduardo (gay kid from Antigua resort) who wants to attend Marlon's group, David Alonzo (on staff in Antigua resort) who will reach out to Celia (Lesbian group), reached out to hairstylist (Antigua), straight ally Jaime (welder in Antigua)
 - [Reached out by texting (but **no response from**): Donald Byrne (John Donor's contact), Juan Carlos (owner of gay bar in GC), Edgar (gay in wine story in Antigua), Rudy the teacher (in Antigua), Celia Padilla (Lesbian group in GC)]
 9. Scheduled Meeting with LGBT HIV group in San Pedro Sula, Honduras
 - **Jorge Lopez** connected us with **Ramon Valladares** of the LGBT HIV group in San Pedro Sula, Honduras. We made arrangements with Ramon for a Thursday meeting
 10. Scheduled appointment with Local evangelical pastor
 - Cold call on local pastor at his church who agreed to meet with us on Saturday morning
 11. Meeting people incidentally
 - Meet individual local gays, incidentally, while doing copying, purchasing items like TIGO (phone time), miscellaneous items, as well as meeting straight people: exchange contact information. Meet many people at the resort who work there who take our information (many are evangelical)
-

Wednesday afternoon, July 17 - Sunday afternoon, July 21 Our (fortuitous) Major Accomplishments

Wednesday

12. Scheduled TV talk Show (Chance) meeting with local TV host (local weekly one hour TV talk show) – How it came about: Jose was saying we should spend Wednesday afternoon in town hitting local media;

I said I was too tired (1 week and ½ without stopping, since leaving Peru for Venezuela) and needed a break, **that we would spend the afternoon at our resort pool rejuvenating**; at the pool, through visiting in the pool with a young lady from LA, Calif., we were in turn introduced to her aunt who hosts a local TV show. In visiting with her, she scheduled us for the August 1 TV show. *Wednesday afternoon*

- *Confirm and finalize plans for next day visit to Honduras. Wednesday evening*

Thursday

13. Conduct San Pedro Sula, Honduras, Seminar (Travel to Honduras and return in same day.) Lunch with Director of Honduras organization. Discuss with him religious-LGBT situation in Honduras. Conduct seminar on Bible and homosexuality – covered Gen. 19 and I Cor. 1:9 and I Tim 1:6. Explained/challenged printing TCAF in Honduras. About 12 people present, LGBT people. All very interested in the topic. Handed out 5 copies of TCAF to attendees. Also one copy to Director. Left one copy of TCAF for pro-LGBT Lutheran pastor. Have to return to border by 6:00 PM (Honduras closes). *Thursday*

Friday

14. TV Talk Show Host Connects Us, In Person, With Key People (traveling about town together in our car rental). **Friday morning to mid-afternoon**
 - **Director of Puerto Barrios radio station(s)** who promises to send us the contact information for radio stations of the towns in Guatemala that we will be visiting
 - **Director of the TV station.** Again, a chance meeting. Our TV host took us to a salon to introduce us to her evangelical gay hair stylist; there, the director of her TV station was just finishing getting her hair done. When our TV host introduced us as her scheduled August 1 TV talk show guests, the director of the station asked for, and arranged, an interview from us to be aired that night
 - **LGBT Puerto Barrios Organization Leader** who arranged for us to meet that afternoon with the organization
 - (In addition, the TV host conducted us to **TIGO** where Jose was able to attend to his phone; conducted us to a **medical clinic** where I was able to have treatment for my ear infection. NOTE: The objective of meeting up with the TV host this Friday morning was for the sole purpose of being introduced to the LGBT group; the TV host was persistent in finding one of the organization's leaders by following three leads that finally led us to the home of Eduardo, a leader. In the course of following leads, the TV host took us to the **radio station** and took us to **TIGO** to kill time while waiting for a phone call following-up on one of the leads)
15. Pre-recorded TV Interviews, aired Friday night and Saturday at noon. Friday afternoon
 - As mentioned above under Director of TV station, a chance meeting with the TV station director led to an immediate interview. She immediately called for a news reporter who came and recorded an interview with us at the salon/spa/medical clinic.
 - With our meeting **with the LGBT group**: the reporter requested us to phone him when we were to meet with the LGBT group (as we had told him our next appointment was with them) so that he could get footage. When he arrived I asked him if he would like to include one of the members of the LGBT group in the interview, which he did – he recorded Jorge.
 - (The interview was aired as scheduled: two people at the resort told us they had seen us on TV – one was the manager at the front desk as we checked out; the other was the lady at the pool at the towel desk who described particulars of the interview, i.e., where we sat, how we walked together; we did not see it for ourselves)
16. Meeting with LGBT Puerto Barrios Group From about 3:30 PM until 9:30 PM on Friday
 - We met with three men (Jorge - ED, Eduardo and Manuel) and one woman of the organization at their center
 - They told us about their organization, we told them about Other Sheep including printing TCAF
 - We phoned the reporter and he arrived for footage; at which point I asked him if he would like to include one of the members of the organization in the interview – he interviews Jorge; I also added the comment for the interview that churches do not know that they have gay members, etc.
 - The lady of the group had to leave before the interview with the reporter

- We all went to dinner together at the chicken place. Jorge, Eduardo and his boyfriend, and Manuel (total of six of us)
 - We discussed a project: to have gays meet to share with pastors how the church misunderstands them – tentative plans for when we return on August 1
 - Manuel’s professor (woman) was eating with a boy (son?); Manuel spoke with her; I was introduced and gave her White’s pamphlet
- We all went to the Resort to swim at the pool – Jorge brought his boyfriend and son (Joshua) – so now a total of eight of us
 - Swam in the pool until 8 when it closed
 - Played volley ball on the sand at side of pool
 - Walked the beach, the pier to the end, and climbed the pirate’s tower
 - Changed at pool side (and got bitten by mosquitoes) and all went home.
 - Jorge and son and boyfriend on his bike.
 - Jose and I drove Eduardo and his boyfriend and Manuel to town

Saturday

17. Meeting with area pastor, accompanied with a second person identified as “friend” only.

Saturday morning

- Met in our resort apartment at dining table
- Shared with him my personal story a summary statement on Romans 1, I Cor. 6:9 and I Tim. 1:6 and Gen. 19. He listened
- He concluded
 - Let the just remain just and the unjust, unjust
 - Homosexuality is a sin like any other sin: adultery, etc. (to which we commented)
 - He commented something like each is free to live before God (and to be accepted before God) – he was speaking out of both sides of his mouth (like most evangelicals today) – I asked him directly . . . Are you saying that my relationship with Jose is accepted before God as any heterosexual relationship, like that of a man with a woman? – he could not give a straight answer
- Meeting lasted for about an hour
- My debriefing: Why are we doing this?
- (The low point: why are we even bothering with evangelicals? -- Alfred of Uganda emailed me and reported that he had given my paper on Liberty of Conscience to the President of Uganda and that the president said he would read it and would respond to it. I was truly amazed at this report and encouraged to continue in the struggle.)
- Break for lunch and swim at resort pool: **Meet financial woman** of Livingston, Guatemala who works (for more than 30 years, I believe) in a **Manhattan, New York, at Plaza 1** in a financial firm (age 58 – was her birthday) who invites us to stay in her home when we return to Puerto Barrios for TV interview. **Saturday afternoon**

18. Meeting with two college age women, sexual diversity human rights activists *Saturday evening 5:30 PM to dark (7:00PM)*

- Meeting arranged by our TV host. These two women are her students. We met the students and TV host following their class time and then with the two students went to chicken restaurant for desert. (We had such fun laughing with these two young college students! We laughed and laughed.)
- **Discussed**
 - They have been involved with their particular organization for two years (as volunteers).
 - They are currently teaching reproductive rights and awareness of sexual orientations to a class of high school students of an evangelical school once a week for a period of several weeks. They invited us to teach the class the week we are there for the TV interview if they can schedule on Wednesday (the class is on Thursday morning, the same day we will be on TV.)
 - The possibility of having an event (media or otherwise), to talk with evangelical pastors about the LGBT community
 - We connected them with Jorge and Eduardo for possible joint project

Sunday

19. Meeting with President of the (Evangelical) Pastor's Association Sunday Morning

- Age 68. Met in resort restaurant. Buffet breakfast. He was very agreeable. Showed him our literature, website, and PowerPoint (just a few slides to illustrate how what we have for a seminar).
- **Discussed**
 - Our desire to meet with the ministers association on some level
 - To discuss the Bible and homosexuality
 - To discuss the fallacy of the church's idea that gays can change
 - To have local sexual diversified people meet the church
 - Emailed him (there at the breakfast table from our computer) links to our related Spanish materials
- **Agreed**
 - He said he would speak to those pastors he felt he could confide in about a meeting
 - – a house meeting with a few pastors – to meet when we return to PB for TV show
- Returned to apartment to pack. Got a 30 minute late check-out (1:30PM, I think it was). Lots of packing with 800 copies of literature (in taped bundles of 50s), etc.

(This part of the report, for section A, above, was completed (over a period of days) by Stephen Parelli on early Wednesday morning (6:29AM) of July 24, 2013 at El Rancho, Progreso, Guatemala, in the hotel of Camingo Largo)

Part II (Continued) – Five Weeks - Log of Events (Activities Accomplished, Given in Sequential Order)

B. Chiquimula, Copan, El Rancho, Sunday, July 21- Sunday, July 28 (Day 9 – 12)

Towards Guatemala City

Sunday afternoon, July 21 – Wednesday afternoon, July 24, Three Days

(Note: Plans to meet up with Marlon in Guatemala City on Tuesday morning to travel together to the western Highlands did not materialize due to his not being able to leave work. In fact, we did not hear from Marlon about the change of plans until sometime on Tuesday. Hence we stayed in El Rancho, instead of continuing to Guatemala City, in the event that we may travel to Corban, Guatemala; so we waited in El Rancho until we had word from Marlon or a set of plans of our own, i.e., a solid lead that would take us either to Corban, Guatemala – our first choice – or to Guatemala City.)

20. Road Trip from Puerto Barrios to Chiquimula – (1) a full day of travelling by car towards Guatemala City with a side trip travelling towards Copan, Honduras; (2) accomplished: photo copy of survey questionnaire and survey-result forms

Sunday, July 21 Travel from Puerto Barrios to Chiquimula (east central)

Log of events:

- Leave from front desk of Amatique Resort, Puerto Barrios, around 2PM
- In Puerto Barrios – Jose notices smart phone is not working correctly (uses it for WhatsUp – can talk to anyone anywhere worldwide who uses Whats Up). Stop at Puerto Barrios mall to see if we can fix phone. No TIGO; try one phone stand in mall – no results
- On route – drive off main route to view entrance to Mayan Ruins – just a mile or two off main route – to make a mental note to visit it on return trip to Puerto Barrios
- On route – stop at a bus stop/truck stop open-air, restaurant
- Arrive at Chiquimula
 - Check-in to a hotel

- **Photo copy survey questions and survey forms**
 - Briefly visit a street, evangelical event (auctioning for financing the building of the church)
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21. Ruins at Copan, Honduras – (1) Travel from Chiquimula to Copan, Honduras, (2) Spend half a day visiting the Mayan ruins, (3) travel from Copan, Honduras to El Rancho, Guatemala. *Note: This is our first day off (since before our first day in Venezuela), taking off from **Sunday evening** when we turned off our main route, until our return to the main route on **Monday evening**, continuing towards Guatemala City, arrive at El Rancho)*

Monday, July 22 Travel from Chiquimula, Guatemala to Copan, Honduras (about 15 minutes from the Guatemalan border). **Return through Chiquimula to El Rancho, Guatemala** (about 85 km from Guatemala City).

Log of events:

- Visit the Mayan ruins of Copan, Honduras
 - Arrive at El Rancho, Guatemala (about 85 km from Guatemala City)
 - Stay two nights in hotel Camino Largo in El Rancho (Monday and Tuesday nights)
-

22. Scheduled live radio interview (1 and ½ hours in length) with a national radio station in Guatemala City; invited **Gerson Gamboa** of Colectivo Amigos Contra el Sida, an openly gay Catholic man **who at one time an active leader of Catholic youth** (Roman Catholic)

Tuesday, July 23, Hotel Camino Largo, El Rancho (about 85 km from Guatemala City)

- Contact media in various towns in Guatemala through an eNews news-release and by phone; having received media email contact info from the radio director in Puerto Barrios
 - **Ke Buena Radio** asks us to come to their Guatemala City Radio Station for a national, live broadcast on Thursday
 - Contact Eduardo, the director of PFLAG with the idea of having a gay/religious individual from Guatemala speak with us on live radio (needing the representation of a Guatemalan gay/religious person); **Gerson Gamboa** agrees to join the interview
-

23. Create and email an eNews announcing Saturday’s meeting with Inclusive Christians

Wednesday, July 24, Hotel Camino Largo, El Rancho (about 85 km from Guatemala City)

- Create and mail eNews announcing Saturday, July 27, meeting with Inclusive Christians of Guatemala, Guatemala City.
 - Leave El Rancho for Guatemala City
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Part II (Continued) – Five Weeks - Log of Events (Activities Accomplished, Given in Sequential Order)

C. Guatemala City, Wednesday, July 24 - Sunday, July 28 (Day 12 – 16)

Guatemala City

Wednesday afternoon, July 24 – Sunday morning, July 28, Four Days

(i) Arrival from El Rancho, Guatemala, and Get Situated in Guatemala City, Wednesday

24. Visit Ke Buena Radio Station (dry run, to be sure we know where it is); Visit two hotels, settle on the third more costly hotel

Wednesday afternoon, July 24, Conquistador Hotel, Guatemala City

- Travel by car from El Rancho to Guatemala City in the afternoon, arrive while it is still light (got lost in Guatemala City which afforded us a wonderful view of the volcano from Guatemala City heights)
 - First, visit the radio station Ke Buena in Zone 4 (to be sure we know where and how to get there for tomorrow's live broadcast)
 - Then, visit two less-expensive hotels in Zone 1 (the old center of Guatemala City), but decide on El Conquistador Hotel in Zone 4, more costly, but right next to the radio station Ke Buena, and more effective for working with our computers (and more space – not on top of each other)
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(ii) Activities Accomplished while in Guatemala City, Thursday – Saturday (three days)

25. Live 1 and ½ hour radio interview with national radio station Ke Buena (Thursday)
26. Jose maintains contact with/follow-up with individuals in Puerto Barrios (from the President of the evangelical ministers' association to MILDAM and Opiniones)
27. Meeting with leader from PFLAG Guatemala and leader from Inclusive Christians, with Steve and Jose
28. Steve speaks (Jose translates) at the regular Bible-studying meeting of Inclusive Christians
29. Jose records Josue Samayoa's testimony (his story about attempting to be ex-gay) and asks TV host if she can air it
30. Jose counsels, by phone, two gay individuals who found Jose's advertisement on line
31. Casually meet, and then by appointment meet-up with, a young gay man who shows interest in Other Sheep
32. Steve builds Other Sheep web pages regarding Chris and Jim, new worldwide volunteers with Other Sheep (Thursday and Friday) and sends out eNews announcing Chris and Jim coming on with Other Sheep (Saturday) – *Note: this is the only back-log work Steve does – work unrelated to Summer 2013 – while traveling*

Thursday, July 25, Conquistador Hotel, Guatemala City

- Steve prints out English text on Bible & Homosexuality (hotel business office)
- 1 and ½ hour live radio broadcast (morning)
 - Jose Ortiz of Other Sheep (evangelical background) and Gerson of CAS (catholic background) featured live on radio
 - Topic – religion and homosexuality
 - Approximately the first hour is an interview by radio host
 - Approximately last 40-30 minutes, comments and questions from listeners through Facebook and by phone
 - Text message from owner of gay bar Juan Carlos congratulating Gerson and Jose on the program
- Steve builds webpages for Other Sheep website – including webpage for Chris and Jim (new worldwide outreach volunteers); Jose maintains contacts in Guatemala and Puerto Barrios

Friday, July 26, Conquistador Hotel, Guatemala City

- Steve builds webpages for Other Sheep website – including webpage for Chris and Jim (new worldwide outreach volunteers); Jose maintains contacts in Guatemala and Puerto Barrios

- Casual meeting with gay waiter from area restaurant
- Taco Bell meeting with Eduardo Izaguirre of PFLAG and Josue Samayoa of Inclusive Christians of Guatemala, Guatemala City (this is the first meeting of these two organizations, neither knowing the other existed, brought together by Other Sheep)

Saturday, July 27, Conquistador Hotel, Guatemala City

- Create and send out eNews introducing Chris and Jim (new worldwide outreach volunteers)
- Meet briefly with gay waiter from area restaurant
- Meeting with Inclusive Christians of Guatemala, Guatemala City
 - This is Marlon Vegas' group
 - Seven (gay) men were present (not including Jose and me)
 - Eduardo from PFLAG was present
- Jose records Josue Samayoa testimony on Flip Video camera (who tried to be cured of his homosexuality, as recommended to do so by his evangelical church)
 - Jose notifies Lillian of Puerto Barrios who agrees to use Josue's story on her TV program (note: Flip did not conform with their format; was not able to use)
- Jose counsels two gay men on the phone, contacts who phone him from Gay Guatemala (a Jonathan, and an older man in his 60s)

(iii) Wrapping-up, leaving Guatemala City for Puerto Barrios (our second week there)

33. Jose downloads and emails to TV host for airing, Josue Samayoa's recorded testimony (while Steve packs)

Sunday morning, July 27, Conquistador Hotel, Guatemala City

- Jose downloads Josue's recorded story and emails it to Lillian the TV host of Puerto Barrios
- Steve packs
- Jose and Steve check out and leave Guatemala City, by car, for Puerto Barrios

Part II (Continued) – Overview of the Five Weeks (Activities Accomplished, Given in Sequential Order)

D. El Rancho, Quirigua, Livingston, & Puerto Barrios, Sunday, July 28 - Saturday, August 3, 2013 (Day 16-22)

Return to Puerto Barrios

Sunday, July 28 – Saturday, August 3, 2013

34. Enlist Jonathan Yalivat of Guatemala, translator, to do translation work from English to Spanish for Other Sheep (Jonatan, as of this September writing) continues to do translation work
35. Visit Mayan Ruins at Quirigua, Guatemala, (a 90 minute visit, situated two miles off the main road to Puerto Barrios)

Sunday, July 28 – Travel to Puerto Barrios (first evening and night in a local hotel in Puerto Barrios)

- Travel from Guatemala City to Puerto Barrios, about 7 hours
- Lunch at El Rancho (Hotel Carmingo Largo, where we had stayed) – Significant phone call with **Jonatan Yalivat, translator**

- Jonatan agrees to translated from English to Spanish Steve’s talking points on the Bible and homosexuality; both the paper and the PowerPoint presentation
- Visit the Mayan Ruins at Quirigua, Guatemala – located only two miles off the main road; our visit lasted between 60-90 minutes; was the end of the day, just before park closing; a small area of ruins but the stele were extremely interesting
- Arrive at our hotel
 - Hotel owner, upon spending the evening with us and learning about Other Sheep –
 - receives a copy of Mel White’s pamphlet on the Bible and homosexuality, and one copy of TCAF
 - grants us a discount for the nights we will be at his hotel (he applies the weekend discount to the weekdays, a big savings)
 - on Tuesday, he phones Jose from bus to Guatemala City and asks us to leave him 10 copies of Mel White’s pamphlet to give to his friends

Monday, July 29 – To Livingston (by ferry – only way to arrive there) for the day and night, guests of a Guatemalan New Yorker whom we had met two weeks earlier at Amatique Bay Resort

- Spend the day on the Dulce River with a woman from New York City and her two granddaughters (cousins to one another) from America
 - The one granddaughter has two mothers (lesbian parents)
- Give Mel White’s pamphlet to two men at the hot springs restaurant
- In Livingston the following morning (Tuesday), waiting for our boat to Puerto Barrios, we spoke with
 - A waitress from Belize about the homophobia in Belize, comparing our notes (that openly gay people cannot obtain entrance to Belize)
 - A young man from Puerto Barrios who overheard our conversation with the waitress and asked to speak with Steve, telling Steve he is bisexual

36. Teach 22 high school students, at an evangelical Nazarene school, on homosexuality (Wednesday)
37. Jose and others participates in a live local TV Talk show (Thursday)
38. Jose and member of ALII interviewed live on the radio by the radio news caster (Friday)
39. Individuals (straight and gay) significantly incidentally engaged (see item ii below for details): a sexual diversified family, hotel owner and desk receptionist, a medical doctor and wife hosts drag show, and more
40. (Administrative) Get SBU with Josue’s interview on it to TV station for broadcasting (could not interface with TV equipment)
41. (Administrative) Obtain from TV and radio stations each a copy of the recordings of the programs in which Jose was featured;
42. (Administrative) Money Order (\$700) to Colombia to help with the cost of printing 1,000 copies of the books TCAF

Tuesday, July 30 – Friday, August 2, 2013 (Four days)

On Tuesday, by ferry, arrive early morning in Puerto Barrios, returning from Livingston (and our Monday trip on the Dulce River)

- (i) One significant meeting with high school students of an evangelical day school; two live talk shows (TV and radio)
- (Wednesday, July 31) Jose and Steve spoke to **22 high-school students (boys and girls) at an evangelical Nazarene day school**. Four adults (teachers and teachers’ assistants, I assume) were present. One teacher challenged the idea of gay marriage and dominated much of the

discussion towards the end of Jose's presentation, although there was a good amount of give and take. The session was sponsored by MILDAM – Izabal Women Fighting for the Rights and the Education of Women – who give weekly instruction to the students and who had invited Steve and Jose to present. The teaching session lasted about one hour; refreshments followed during which time Steve and Jose interacted with the students and teachers

- (Thursday, August 1) **Live local TV talk show “Opiniones”** with talk show host Lilian Orellan, and before a live audience of high school students. Jose Ortiz, a straight woman activist, and a clinical psychologist made up the panel that answered questions on homosexuality and religion
- (Friday, August 2) **A live radio interview** at a local radio station; Jose Ortiz of Other Sheep and Eduardo Aguilar of ALII were interviewed on the topic of religion and homosexuality

(ii) People with whom we connected along the way (other than those with whom we did activism)

- The **owner of the hotel** where we stayed – as mentioned above; (on Tuesday by phone) he requested 10 copies of Mel White's pamphlet; he received (on Sunday) one copy of TCAF
- (On Thursday evening) Jose and Steve attend, by doctor's invitation (having visited the doctor on Wednesday for an ear treatment), a fantastic **drag show/birthday party** hosted by the local medical doctor and his wife, and held on the grounds of their spa; the night was filled with fireworks, Mariachi singers and drag performances
- The grandmother and her granddaughters from Livingston - They spent Friday night at our hotel and so we reunited; our time (Steve and Jose) with the granddaughters (swimming, eating) was, of course, representative of **the one granddaughter's own gay parents**, ourselves a married gay couple
- **Openly gay young man** (Luis) of Puerto Barrios who spent two evenings (Tues & Wed) with us hoping to record his testimony (at our request), which did not come to fruition
- The **hotel's straight male, desk receptionist**, wanted a copy of TCAF for his own study and for his father-in-law to study who operates a Christian radio station
- (On Thursday) Jose engages the hotel's straight male, desk receptionist in conversation about Other Sheep – Jose gives him a copy of TCAF in Spanish for his personal use (he is an arduous self-taught student) and for his father-in-law's use who runs a Christian radio station
- The two individuals mentioned above (under Monday) from Livingston: a straight **waitress from Belize** and a **bisexual young man** from Puerto Barrios

(iii) Administrative things we accomplished

- Took (on Tuesday) the **USB with the Josue Samayoa** interview to a friend of TV host for processing (since email did not open; also, this USB copy did not work, so interview was not shown during the TV show)
- **Located** (on Tuesday) the Nazarene church in advance of Wednesday's meeting (past it two or three times); also, **located** in advance the location for live TV show
- Obtained (Friday) from the radio station, **a copy (on disk)** of the Friday radio broadcast of the interview of Jose Ortiz and Eduardo Aguilar
- Obtained (Friday) from the TV station, **a copy (onto my computer)** of the Thursday talk-show broadcast
- **Wired about \$700.00 to Colombia** (on Thursday and Friday – it took two days to figure it out, visiting three banks) for the printing of the book *The Children Are Free* (in Spanish)

43. Travel by car from Puerto Barrios to Antigua, about an 8 hour trip

Saturday, August 3, 2013 – Leave Early Morning for Antigua, Guatemala – About an 8 hour trip – Arrive in Antigua about 1-2 PM

Part II (Continued) – Five Weeks - Log of Events (Activities Accomplished, Given in Sequential Order)

E. Antigua I, Saturday, August 3 - Sunday, August 11 (Day 22 – 30)

Guatemala City - Two Major Meetings

Saturday, August 3 –Saturday, August 11

44. Jose presents on Bible and homosexuality to Guatemala PFLAG, with 23+ in attendance; the book TCAF are given one copy per family (Sunday midmorning)
45. Steve and Jose go to dinner with Jonatan Yalivat (Other Sheep translator) and his mother (who attended the PFLAG meeting for the first time) (Sunday evening)
46. Steve and Jose (go to Guatemala City from Antigua) to **(1) lunch with** two openly gay clergy; **(2) meet with ALLI of Puerto Barrios** to arrange for funds for Saturday's upcoming meeting; and **(3) by chance meet-up with an LGBT activist** who we've known now for two years who engages us in conversation about distributing Mel White's pamphlets to young men studying for the priesthood (Roman Catholic) (Monday)

Saturday, August 3 - Antigua

- Arrive at Soliel Resort in Antigua, about 1 – 2 PM
- Settle down, rest and prepare for next morning's seminar in Guatemala City
- Soliel Resort serves us (for two weeks) as both a base from which to operate, and a space for physical refreshment (our two weeks at Soliel were **scheduled to be our vacation time**; we did, however, schedule Other Sheep meetings during this time because it was unavoidable if we were to accept the meetings; we also travel to Quetzaltenango during this time; we finalize plans for Colombia – where we will be next)
- (Soliel Resort is about a 45 minute drive from Guatemala City)

Sunday, August 4 – Guatemala City

- Seminar: At a **PFLAG Guatemala meeting** (scheduled from mid-morning to afternoon, held in Zone 1 of Guatemala City), Jose presents a PowerPoint on the Bible and homosexuality, discussion follows; the book TCAF in Spanish is given one copy per family; refreshments follow. 23 plus people attend.
- Dinner with Translator: Following the meeting, Jose and Steve spend the remainder of the afternoon **with Jonatan Yalivat and his mother** – together the four of them eat at local restaurant; this is Jonathan's first time to attend a PFLAG meeting (we've never laughed any more than we did on this occasion as a foursome, – Jonatan speaks English, Steve's Spanish is just enough to be funny – we had a great, great time laughing!)

Monday, August 5 – Guatemala City

- Appointment: For this coming Saturday's meeting, a panel will discuss faith and homosexuality – Steve and Jose recommend (and it is approved) placing Eduardo of ALLI (from Puerto Barrios) on the panel; **Eduardo and Jorge of ALLI** are in Guatemala City on business; Steve and Jose go into Guatemala City to provide Eduardo and Jorge the funds they will need to travel to and from Puerto Barrios for the upcoming Saturday meeting
- Lunch with two gay clergy: While in Guatemala City, Steve and Jose meet-up (at their request) with two middle aged men **who are gay twins and clergy working** with indigenous people, independently; we take them to lunch and learn about their ministry, how they have been

persecuted and their needs; the brothers attended the Sunday PFLAG meeting where we met them for the first time

- Important chance meet-up: By chance, Steve and Jose run into **Henry Cortez of Gente Feliz** at the center; together they discuss how Henry will distribute copies of the Mel White's pamphlet among young men who are studying for the priesthood
-

47. Some people contacts: Jonathan; an evangelical Bible college student from America; brief literature distribution (with survey); restaurant owner with gay uncle

48. Focus on administrative needs: Jose phones Colombia contacts (we arrive there on Aug 17); Jose arranges a meeting in Quetzaltenango, Guatemala; computer virus solved; "restoring" Puerto Barrios' TV recording; phone conference with AWAB director regarding Other Sheep's part in the upcoming October AWAB national conference

Tuesday, August 6 – Thursday, August 8 – Antigua

(i) People in Antigua with whom we connected/contacted

- (Tuesday) Our translator Jonatan who works in Antigua spent the late afternoon and evening with us at Soliel Resort
- (Tuesday) An evangelical accountant contacts us (through Jose's gayGuatemala.com) about Saturday's upcoming meeting – Jose sends info, he does attend
- (Thursday) Sabinova, owner and cook of an Indian food restaurant – Her uncle is gay; invited us to return the following week to speak to friends that she would host in her restaurant (we agreed; no one accepted her invitation)
- (Thursday) Surveyed six people in the streets – distributed Mel White's pamphlet to them - One person surveyed was an American studying theology in an evangelical college back in the States

(ii) Contacting Colombia and Guatemala western highlands

- (Tuesday) Colombia – Jose called (through Skype to individual's phone) Giovanni (both numbers) and left messages on both phones; Called Miguel; Contacted the Rev. in Cali regarding meetings and PFLAG in Bogota regarding radio interview
- (Tuesday) Guatemala – Contacted IDOS of Quetzaltenango, Guatemala, for an appointment for Monday of next week

(iii) Computer Needs! – a Virus (Help!)

- (Tuesday – Thursday) – Steve's computer, the Flip Camera, and Flash drives are all infected with a serious virus (perhaps from Sunday's seminar presentation using their computer and projector): Steve cannot open his picture folders on his computer; a local computer repair recommends bringing the computer in for a couple days (so he can back up files and then restore the computer) – we do not choose this option; Steve asks the front desk for a computer repair recommendation – the front desk sends their resort IT specialist (on Thursday) to our room who finds the virus and destroys it in our computer and accessories to the computer!!! (Wow, what a blessings – one of the advantages of staying at a 4-5 star resort!!)

(iv) Editing and upgrading Puerto Barrios' TV recording

- Because the resort IT specialist was able to restore Steve's computer, Steve and Jose ask the IT to restore the sound to the video recording of last week's TV talk show featuring Jose; the video does not have the voice sound loud enough; the TV station showed us what program one could download to repair the video; the IT agreed to do this for us and over the next several days increase the voice volume so that Jose could be heard on the recording; in the days that followed, the IT also gave Jose a personal tutorial so that Jose could himself restore the sound

(iv) Conference-call with AWAB Exec Director

- (Thursday) – Steve and Jose have a scheduled conference call with Robin, Executive Director of AWAB (Affirming and Welcoming American Baptists) regarding Other Sheep's part in the upcoming October AWAB national conference

49. Full Day Off – Back road drive! And a Volcano Climb! (Friday)

Friday, August 9 – One Fantastic Full Fun-Day Off! Climbing a Volcano

Steve and Jose take the whole day off! A fantastic drive (back, dirt roads through indigenous country) to a national park volcano; with a guide for just the two of them, they climb the volcano. A most memorable day!

Saturday, August 10 – Jocotenango (near Antigua) & Guatemala City

- (Saturday morning) Survey and literature distribution in Jocotenango, Guatemala (located minutes, by car, from Antigua). Steve and Jose survey 20 people from off the street at a town-held parade (with high school marching bands from towns around): these are parents and young adults who are there for the parade
- (Saturday afternoon) Steve and Jose participate in a panel discussion on faith and religion sponsored by Colectivo Amigos Contra El Sida (with the help of PFLAG Guatemala). Five people (including Jose and Steve) are on the panel (two on the panel, Steve and Jose introduced to CAS); Steve closes the meetings with prepared remarks itemizing ideas on how the LGBT community can reach out to the religious community (the room erupts with applause upon hearing the challenge, with practical ways, of reaching the Christian/ religious community). 30+ people are in attendance; local TV reporter interviews leader of CAS before program begins
- Jose and Steve return to their Soliel Resort in Antigua; Jose is seriously sick with a throat infection and cold; the male nurse (or paramedic) on hand at the resort visit's Jose in his room and prescribes something

Part II (Continued) – Five Weeks - Log of Events (Activities Accomplished, Given in Sequential Order)

F. Quetzaltenango, Sunday, August 12 - Wednesday, August 14 (Day 31 – 33)

Quetzaltenango

Sunday, August 12 – Wednesday, August 11

50. (Sunday) Jose spends (practically) the whole day in bed sick

Sunday, August 12 – Jose is sick (in-bed sick!, feeling awful)

- Jose is still sick (Saturday evening's medication from resort paramedic did not do the trick)
- Resort phones a doctor-on-call who visits Jose in his room; the doctor writes out a prescription and calls it in to a local pharmacy that delivers the medication to Jose's room. (Doctor also treat's Steve left ear – blocked with impacted earwax; doctor prescribes medication for Steve's ear – by the following week, hearing is some-what restored)
- Doctor instructs that Jose can travel on Monday to Quetzaltenango if he is on the medication and takes it throughout as prescribed

51. (Monday) Methodist Theological Seminary near Quetzaltenango – leave TCAF with receptionist; Jose phones principal of the seminary and talks with him over the phone

52. (Monday) Christian Book Store in Quetzaltenango – leave TCAF with store owner; informed how to print the book in Quetzaltenango

53. (Monday) Meet with Rev. Roberto Armas and 5 young men (all activists) with IDSO – a time of sharing; discussion around religion and homosexuality; IDSO express interest in further meetings and activism with Other Sheep; each, except one, receive copy of TCAF (all out of copies); IDSO and Rev. Roberto each receive 50 copies of Mel White’s pamphlets for distribution

Monday, August 13 – Travel to Quetzaltenango, Meet with Local Episcopalian Priest and LGBT Activist Group (Monday night at Quetzaltenango)

- Trip to Quetzaltenango – a 4-5 hour drive; left early in the morning to make the afternoon appointment (made it on time!)
 - 4 contacts on the way to meeting: **(1) Methodist Theological Seminary** – we leave a copy of TCAF in the office for the president of the seminary; Jose phones the president and speaks with him about leaving the book and about Other Sheep; **(2) At the center, speak with four young men** about Other Sheep and give them Mel White’s pamphlet; **(3) At lunch (McDonalds), meet an American woman with the Peace Corp** and give her Mel White’s pamphlet and our contact info; **(4) Christian Book Store** – give owner a copy of the book TCAF and show him how he can print the book (give him a copy of the printing agreement)
 - Meeting at Saint Marks Episcopal Church (Quetzaltenango) with Rev. Roberto Armas and IDSO (Iniciativa por la Diversidad Sexual de Occidente)
 - It was an informal meeting of sharing – The Rector (Rev. Roberto Armas), IDSO (five individuals) and Other Sheep (Jose and Steve) – on religion and homosexuality; sharing our stories (one member of IDSO shared how his church used abusive/forceful means to deliver him from homosexuality; another shared about a paper he is writing on I Cor. 6 as a student in the theology department of a Catholic university; one couple shared how they met); Other Sheep provided pizza (delivery to the church)
 - Steve and Jose gave each (except one individual) a copy of TCAF (last copy given here!) and information on how they could print copies there; also IDSO and Rev. Armas each were given 50 copies of Mel White’s pamphlet for distribution
 - IDSO discussed an interest in having Other Sheep return next year to do some significant outreach in the western part of Guatemala
 - Two member of IDOS took Steve and Jose to three different hotels before deciding on a hotel; then the four of them spent the evening with drinks in a restaurant overlooking the center
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54. (Tuesday) Evangelical church in Almonga – deacon receives two copies of Mel White’s pamphlet

55. (Tuesday) Chance meeting with 50 people at an evangelical picnic-outing at hot springs (Zunil) – give out several pamphlets; talk with the three pastors who receive the pamphlets

56. (Wednesday) Return trip to Antigua stopping off at Tzumucubal and Lake Atitlan (towns of Solola and Panajachel on the lake); distributing pamphlets to waiters, others

Tuesday, August 14 – A day and night at Las Fuentes Georginas (Georgiana Hot Springs), Zunil, Guatemala

- Step inside an evangelical church in Almolonga, present a deacon with two copies of Mel White’s pamphlet
- At Las Fuentes Georginas (hot springs not far from Quetzaltenango) where we spend the day and night relaxing
 - A chance meeting: We (Steve and Jose) have lunch with an evangelical church group at their picnic outing, having invited us to join them; about 50 people present; three pastors with whom we shared the story of Other Sheep and gave them, along with some of their parishioners, copies of Mel White’s pamphlet on the Bible and homosexuality
 - We present the pamphlet to one of the resident workers at the hot springs

Wednesday, August 15 – Travel back to Antigua (from Zunil), with a lunch at Panajachel on Lake Atitlan

- This return trip took the whole day (it is a 4-5 hour trip from Quetzaltenango; we were about an hour or more from Quetzaltenango)
- Stopped off at a small town in the highlands: Tzumucubal; visited their school briefly (young children); talked with a man who visited Time Square, NY - gave him a pamphlet
- Refreshment drinks at a Solola restaurant; lunch at a Panajachel restaurant – leave pamphlet with waiter

Part II (Continued) – Five Weeks - Log of Events (Activities Accomplished, Given in Sequential Order)

G. Antigua II, Wednesday, August 14 - Saturday, August 17 (Day 33 – 36)

Last days in Guatemala – in Antigua

Wednesday evening, August 14 – Saturday morning, August 17

57. (Wednesday evening) A no-show at the Indian Restaurant: Owner asked us to be present at a gathering of friends/family that she hoped would come at her request (her uncle is gay, whom she loves); unfortunately there was a no-show
58. (Thursday, and Friday) Entertain guests/ spend time with friends at our resort: Four individuals from **Inclusive Christians** (Guatemala) spend half a day; **Dave**, an evangelical Christian (Guatemala) visits us; **Jonatan** (translator) visits us (Friday) on his day off – into the evening,
59. (Thursday and Saturday) Marlon helps with delivery of Mel White's pamphlet to Henry Cortez
60. (Friday) Resort IT spends time showing Jose how to manage a program for improve sound to videos recordings
61. (Saturday) Travel from Antigua to International Airport (Guatemala City) for a 12:30ish PM flight
62. (Saturday) Connecting flight Mexico City – between 20-30 young student priests receive each a copy of Mel White's pamphlet

Wednesday evening, August 14 – Indian Restaurant Affair

- Return to Antigua after dark but in time to make our engagement with the Indian Restaurant whose owner (a young woman married to a young Frenchmen, whose uncle is gay) was hopeful in having friends come for finger foods to meet Jose and Steve (something she initiated upon meeting us). Unfortunately, there was a now show. However, we did show our support in her determination to invite her family and friends to meet us.

Thursday, August 15 – Entertain guests at our Resort

- **Four** individuals of **Inclusive Christians**, the gay Christian fellowship that invited us in 2012, have breakfast with us at our Resort and spend the morning enjoying the facilities.
- Marlon takes bundles of Mel White's pamphlet for **Henry Cortez**
- In the afternoon, **another evangelical gay Christian** from 2012 spends the evening with us; we take him to the Indian Restaurant for diner

Friday, August 16 – Final Full Day

- The Resort IT **shows Jose, in our room, how to work the program** on my computer that will clear up sound problems on the video that features Jose, that the Puerto Barrios TV station sold us

- **Jonatan** has the day off and spends it with us as we finish up odds and end, getting ready to leave the next day
- The three of us – Jonathan (Other Sheep translator), Steve and Jose – drive towards Escuintla; a huge rainstorm floods streets, drivers take precaution
- At a restaurant, the three of us share our story (gay and Christian) with two waitresses

Saturday, August 17 – Return our Rent-a-Car at Airport

- **Jonatan** helps us with our last odds-and-ends: goes to laundromat and gets our laundry
- Our flight was scheduled for 12:30ish PM; left Antigua accordingly – early in the morning (got lost in Guatemala City; asked a taxi driver to lead us to the international airport!)
- At the car rental return at the airport: We asked the attendant (a woman) to keep a couple bundles of Mel White’s pamphlets to be delivered to Henry Cortez of Gente Feliz (through Marlon who agreed – and who did, so we later learned – to pick them up at the airport)

In Mexico City International Airport, two or three gates down from ours (we were making our connecting flight to Colombia), there were between 20-30 young Catholic priests all together about to board at their gate. Steve gave each one a copy of Mel White’s pamphlet (along with our business card). This depleted our supply of Mel White’s pamphlet. None left.