



Welcome to AMIGOS News, our bi-annual newsletter sent to keep all of our amigos informed on our trips, events, and accomplishments. Continue reading to see highlights from our Belize and Guatemala summer trips, updates for future events, and more! Don't forget to follow our Facebook and Instagram accounts to be updated weekly!

UPCOMING EVENTS:

October 12-13, 2018

AMIGOS Booth at GWCO Conference – Portland, OR

October 27, 2018

26th Annual AMIGOS Eye Ball

December 2018

AMIGOS service trips to Tanzania and China

March 2018

AMIGOS service trips to Senegal, Costa Rica and Belize

YOU BETTER BELIZE IT

This August, Team Belize partnered with the Belize Council for the Visually Impaired (BCVI) to provide eye care to underserved populations in multiple cities including Crooked Tree, Maskall, Burrel Boom and Ladyville. The team spent four days in clinic, and they were able to see over 230 patients. 75% of these patients received comprehensive dilated eye exams, and 67 patients were referred to the in-house Belize City eye clinic for further evaluation. Team members treated diabetic retinopathy, multiple stages of cataracts, a subluxed lens, and many more conditions.

AMIGOS sent a new PanOptic with the team, and team member Taylor said it was a great thing to have during the clinics. "We had a referral system through BCVI, so it was really great to get those views of suspicious nerves to make the appropriate referrals. I think all of us, especially the first years, were really happy to have it for patients that we had a tough time getting good views on."

Every patient who walked into the clinics were able to leave with something in their hands, whether it was a pair of glasses, medication, sunglasses, follow-up appointment dates, or information on their conditions in their language. After the four days of clinic, students and doctors were able to relax on the Ambergris Caye island, snorkel with sharks, and explore the island on boats and golf carts.



MUCHOS OJOS EN GUATEMALA

Team Guatemala spent eleven days in the country providing eye care to more than 1050 patients at schools and a church. Coincidentally, this church was located right down the street from Pacific University's Assistant Professor Dr. Scott Pike's organization, Enfoque Ixcan. Doctors, students, family members, and one enthusiastic Bausch and Lomb representative treated a wide variety of ocular syndromes including nystagmus, penetrating eye injuries, endophthalmas, strabismus, proliferative diabetic retinopathy, and more. Team Guatemala was able to use AMIGOS' new anterior segment camera attachment for their cell phones, which allowed them to capture interesting cases to use as educational tools.

"It was very fun to watch the (now) second years improve their skills and get exposure to some pathology they likely hadn't seen before. They all caught on very quickly and did a fantastic job doing exams on some tough patients. I hope they caught the travel bug and they go on to attend more AMIGOS trips!" – Trip leader Kara

New to the Guatemala trip this year was the addition of a brand-new full finishing lab. With donations from the community, the team and AMIGOS were able to purchase a lensometer, lens cutter, frame heater, and edger to make glasses on-site. New frames and lenses were also brought along thanks to donations from Jorgenson lab and ClearVision Optical.

"It was very rewarding to be able to make custom glasses for some of our patients," trip leader Amir explained. "I'm very happy we were able to make the dream of bringing a finishing lab a reality. We were able to train some individuals who will continue to use the equipment to make patients glasses even when we are not there. This brings us one more step toward the AMIGOS goal of sustainability."

During some well-deserved days off, team members explored caves, waterfalls, and turquoise pools, and even hiked the Pacaya Volcano to roast marshmallows at the top. They all enjoyed a dinner on their last night to celebrate a fun and successful trip!

RUN, RUN, RUN!

On September 8th, the Forest Grove Lions Club hosted their annual Lions Run & Walk for Sight and Hearing. This year, they combined forces with both AMIGOS and the School of Audiology to put on a stellar 5K/10K race! We would like to extend a huge thank you to the Lions Club for all of their hard work planning the event, as well as to those who volunteered or participated in the race. Proceeds from the Run/Walk go toward student scholarships, the indigent patient care fund, the Audiology School, and AMIGOS. We can't wait for next year's race, so keep a lookout for the 2019 race date and information by following the Forest Grove Lions Run and Walk for Sight and Hearing Facebook page or the AMIGOS page!



EYEBALL 2018 – James Bond Casino Royale

You are cordially invited to the 26th annual AMIGOS Eye Ball! Please join us Saturday, October 27th at the Sentinel Hotel in Portland for a three-course dinner, silent auction, live auction, and dance. The annual Eye Ball is the organization's largest fundraiser of the year, and the event helps to provide free eye care to underserved populations around the world. This year, auction items include treasures brought back from Cambodia, Tanzania, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Senegal, Belize, and Guatemala AMIGOS trips, as well as items graciously donated by local businesses, doctors, and corporations. If you are interested in attending or donating to Eye Ball this year, please email us at amigos@pacificu.edu. We look forward to seeing you in October!



HOW TO GET INVOLVED

If you are interested in being involved with AMIGOS, there are many ways to do so. We are always in need of equipment and medications, and we provide a list of needed items on our website. If you are interested in learning more about our upcoming service trips or are interested in attending a trip, please visit our website to find more information, or email us at amigos@pacificu.edu to get in touch! Monetary donations are always welcome and are accepted online through PayPal. Please visit our website and click the "Donate" button.

www.amigoseyecare.org

Alternatively, you can donate by making out a check payable to Amigos Eye Care and sent to:

**Pacific University UC 786
2043 College Way
Forest Grove, OR 97116**