



GOLD COAST CHAPTER: FEBRUARY / MARCH 2017 CLINIC REPORT

DR. ARYA: EAR NOSE THROAT / DR. JOSEPH LOPRESTI: GENERAL SURGERY

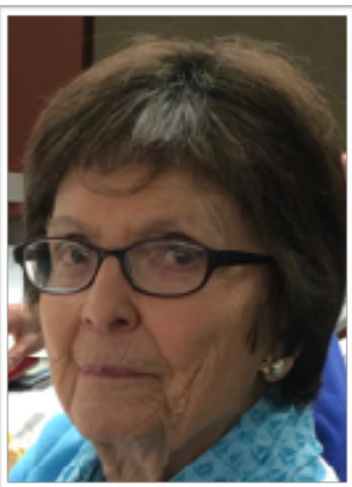
DR. REX BRYCE: ORTHOPEDICS

February Clinic

Attendees: (4)	Specialty	Procedures:	Aircraft: (1)
Dr. Satya Pal Arya	Surgeon	Tonsillectomies	N17745R Beech B36
Dr. Tom Cummings	Anesthesiologist/Pilot	Sinus Surgeries	Pilot: Tom Cummings
Sharon Cummings	Nurse/Pilot		
Sara Stark	Nurse		Clinic Coordinator: Don Alderman Pilot Coordinator: Dave Gowan Clinic Duty Officer: Joe Kuntze

March Clinic

Attendees: (16)	Specialty	Procedures: (10)	Aircraft: (4)
Dr. Joseph LoPresti	Surgeon	Inguinal hernia repairs x 3	N17745R Beech B36
Dr. Rex Bryce	Surgeon/Pilot	Lipoma excision x 1	Pilot: Tom Cummings
Dr. Tom Cummings	Anesthesiologist/Pilot	Sigmoid Colectomy and Rectopexy for severe Rectal Prolapse x1	
Mary LoPresti	Nurse	Laparoscopic Cholecystectomies x 3	N526VR AeroCommander 500
Lisa Valdes	Nurse	Inguinal Hernia Repairs x2	Pilot: Rex Bryce
Vanessa Pina	Nurse		
Karen McDaniel	Nurse		N34421Y Cessna 182N
Brandon Magill	Surgical Tech		Pilot: Gary Marshall
Timothy McClain	Stryker Rep		
Gianna LoPresti	Student		N9JS Grumman AA5-A
Corinne Bryce	Student		Pilot: Tony Gaspar
Tess Engel	Student		
Josephine Davila	Translator		Clinic Coordinator: Don Alderman
Wendell Wilkes	Support Staff		Pilot Coordinator: Bob Nicholson
Tony Gaspar	Pilot		Clinic Duty Officer: Richard Wallis
Gary Marshall	Pilot		



“If you want others to be happy, practice compassion. If you want to be happy, practice compassion”- Dalai Lama

Dear Fellow Samaritans, This past March we suffered a great loss with the passing of our dear friend and fellow Samaritan Rose Nutile. It was one of my greatest honors to have known such a remarkable woman. Rose embodied the true spirit of a Samaritan, with her kindness, generosity and compassion. She touched the lives of so many and brought love and joy to our hearts. She will be sorely missed. On behalf of the Gold Coast Chapter, I extend our deepest sympathies to Rose's son Joe Nutile, our past President and fellow Samaritan.

This clinic report is combination of our February ENT clinic and our March General Surgery clinic.



February ENT Clinic

Although we had a wet winter and the weather outlook for the weekend stated out a bit grim, it did not impact the clinic. We were able to operate a light ENT clinic in February, with only one aircraft, departing from Oxnard via Bakersfield. Dr. Cummings and Sharon, accompanied by Dr. Arya and Sara Stark, made the most of the weekend and left a day early and flew to Mulege, where they overnighted. On Friday morning they flew to San Ignacio lagoon to take in some whale watching before flying on to Los Pinos later that afternoon. Tom reported a very successful clinic, with the typically busy surgical schedule for Dr. Arya. The Medical team returned home on Sunday afternoon. I would like to thank all of those who helped make this weekend a success; our clinic volunteers, Doctors, Nurses, Pilots, Translators and Support Staff. Special thanks to Dave Gowan (Pilot Coordinator), Dr. Don Alderman (Clinic Coordinator) and Dr. Joe Kuntze (Clinic Duty Officer).



March General Surgery Clinic

Due to Mother nature making her presence known in January, we had to postpone our regular scheduled General Surgery clinic. Thanks to Dr. LoPresti, we were able to reschedule the clinic for March, and this time the weather cooperated. Other than some early morning fog issues, the flying conditions were perfect, making for smooth sailing. We had 16 attendees sign up for this clinic and I am happy to report that due to the generosity of our volunteer pilots, we were able to accommodate everyone. We had four aircraft depart for San Quintin, pilots Tony Gaspar and Gary Marshall departed from Paso Robles, whilst Dr. Tom Cummings departed from Oxnard and Dr. Rex Bryce departed from Tucson, Arizona, and Karen McDaniel drove from Rosarito I would like to welcome both Gary and Rex as new volunteer pilots to our chapter. We have the added benefit that Rex is also an Orthopedic Surgeon. This was an opportunity for Dr Bryce to observe our clinical operation and to access the needs of the hospital. We look forward to Dr. Bryce returning later this year to perform an Orthopedic surgery.

Dr. Cummings reported that Dr. LoPresti had a busy clinic. Performing 4 surgeries on Friday evening and another 6 surgeries on Saturday.

I would like to thank all those who helped make this weekend a success; our clinic volunteers, Doctors, Nurses, Pilots, Translators and Support Staff. Special thanks to Bob Nicholson (Pilot Coordinator) and Dr. Don Alderman (Clinic Coordinator). Also to Josephine Davila, a new member and Translator who made such a galant effort to get to the clinic, traveling all the way from the SFO Bay area. I would like to thank Dr. Gonzalez and the local Lions Club, who gracefully hosted our volunteers on Friday evening.





I asked those who participated in the clinic to write a quick review, so in their own words....

Tony Gaspar: *This weekend's clinic went really well. I learned a thing or two on this trip that may be helpful to other pilots. I filed two flight plans for my trip on my iPad through Foreflight. The first flight plan was for Friday for my flight from Paso Robles to San Felipe and the second for the return trip from Ensenada to Brown Field, San Diego. Before leaving Camarillo with my two passengers I activated my flight plan on my iPad. I used flight following on my journey south. Once over the border, about 20-30 miles south I was still on frequency and was contacted by Tijuana Approach which asked me to contact San Diego Radio as there was a problem with my flight plan. I contacted SD Radio and the lady informed me that I was late for my arrival to Brown Field. She was confused by my heading to San Felipe. It quickly became clear to me that I had accidentally opened my Sunday return trip flight plan on foreflight. This was the first and last time I will open a flight plan on Foreflight. I asked SD Radio if she could fix the error. After talking to her for 5 minutes and filing a new flight plan with her she said I was good to go.*

I normally file my flight plan with Foreflight but open it with SD Radio 10-20 miles north of the border. I will do that in the future. It is just too easy to click the wrong button on foreflight.

Because of the issue that <some pilots> had returning into the US last year I decided to call the customs office from Ensenada to confirm that they were expecting me. As the fog had rolled in over Ensenada before my departure I told the Brown Field customs office that I would be in within a 30 minute range. I took the officers name as he confirmed he was expecting my plane with 2 passengers. I felt much better knowing they were expecting me....

One last thing. The officers at Ensenada do not offer change for the landing fee and for the immigration fee. It is very clear that they are scamming the pilots. In San Felipe they give change freely. I will make certain to have plenty of smaller bills and or pesos the next time I land at Ensenada. San Felipe remains my favorite. Adds 15 minutes of flight time to the trip but the folks are amazing.

Btw...I taught Tess how to drive a stick shift..She is now an official back up driver for the Subaru....



Dr. Rex Bryce: *We enjoyed our visit to San Quintin last weekend and are looking forward to our trip May 19-21st. I have commitments from our anesthesia group for one of the anesthetists to come with me along with Brandon Magill-who accompanied me last time and is our lead surgery tech. I am planning to bring a circulating nurse and my son, Ethan, who is applying to medical school as well. I also have commitments from Stryker to provide the necessary equipment for performing arthroscopy. Some of the equipment we will be leaving for future use, some we will need to bring back with us to Arizona. We are planning to bring some fracture fixation equipment from Synthes, plane weight permitting, which will be left there....*



Wendell Wilkes: *SAM's Medical Supplies and Electronics Storage - It was difficult to access the hanger. The hanger doors were locked and a key was not available. Access was gained by climbing through an unsecured utility closet at the back of the building. That entry is not a safe one. The Gold Coast storage room has equipment and most items are unmarked. There was no inventory located.*

Hospital Electronics Storage - Hospital storage areas and garage are full of old equipment which may or may not be of use to the hospital. Approximately 3/8" of mud has flowed into the hospital storage rooms and the mud is still wet in many places.

Desirable Medical Electronics - At the welcome dinner, Dr. Gonzales expressed an interest in getting the following specific equipment operational. It would be good to review what correspondence we may have from him regarding specific equipment. Written questions to or an additional interview with Dr. Gonzales regarding desirable equipment could be helpful.

1. An anesthesia machines' gas metering function is not operational. Therefore, spinal blocks are currently being given. The location and identification of the anesthesia machine was not determined. The repair, testing and calibration of the gas metering function is most probably beyond our best technical capability, and attempts to do so may not be prudent due to the nature of this device.

2. In the delivery room, an HP fetal monitor is not operational. An identification of the monitor was made. Gary and Wendell will attempt to obtain the



manual. A direct replacement for the non-op fetal monitor is recommended.

3. A EKG monitor is not operational. The location and identification of the monitor was not determined. I understand that a technician from Ensenada examined the equipment and said that replacement parts were not available. A replacement for the non-op EKG monitor is recommended after its' identification.

New Clinic Construction Required - Rose Gonzales commented that Mexico City now has authority over rural hospital license requirements and that another phase of room construction will apparently be required. Costs were estimated to be \$185K; a \$50K grant from the state was identified. Rose said that she thought rural hospitals may be a target.

Wendell may be able to offer assistance to the architect with respect to certain civil engineering issues related to building construction. Evidently the architect has prepared or is in the process of preparing the plans for the next construction phase. Wendell will follow up with the architect directly.

Translation Services - Josephine and Tess performed translation services during the clinic. Mary LoPresti recommended that Josephine could additionally assist the doctor with comfort and information to the patient in the OR, just prior to anesthesia.

Thank you again to all who attended and those that work behind the scenes to make these clinics a success.

Richard Wallis
Gold Coast Chapter Flying Samaritans