



GOLD COAST CHAPTER: FEB. 2016 CLINIC REPORT

DR. ARYA: EAR NOSE THROAT

Attendees: (9)	Specialty	Procedures : (9)	Aircraft: (2)	
Dr. Satya Pal Arya	Surgeon	Tonsillectomies x 4	N6143T	Cessna 182TR
Dr. Tom Cummings	Anesthesiologist / Pilot	Nasal Septoplasties x 2	Pilot:	Dr. Antonio Wong
Dr. Antonio Wong	Anesthesiologist / Pilot	Sinus Surgeries x 2		
Betty Gamez	Nurse		N15630	Piper Arrow PA28
Karen McDaniel	Nurse	(Dr. Gonzalez)	Pilot:	Joe Nutile
Nancy Callison	Nurse	Hernia Repair x 1		
Kathryn Cornella	Med Student		Clinic Coordinator: Josh Wilkinson	
Kody Wakasa	Med Student		Pilot Coordinator: Bob Nicholson	
Joel Nutile	Pilot		Clinic Duty Officer: Dave Gowan	



Another very successful clinic under our belt and I would like to thank all those who made it possible. Our clinic volunteers: Pilots, Doctors, Nurses, Translators and Support Staff. Our behind the scene, unsung heroes, Bob Nicholson: Pilot Coordinator, Dave Gowan: Clinic Duty Officer and Josh Wilkinson: Clinic Coordinator.

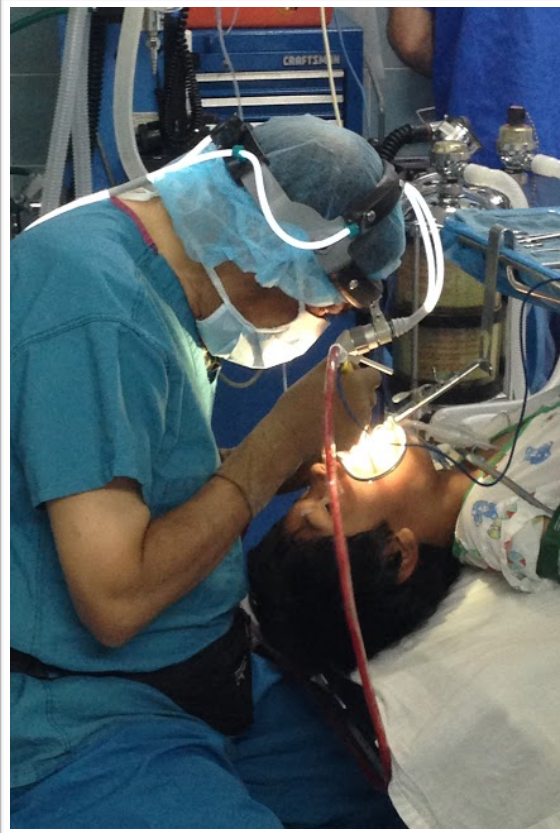
I would also like to thank Dani Barsa and Katie Putnam for their patience and understanding. Both had signed up to volunteer for the clinic, but unfortunately we only had two aircraft available and seating was at a premium.

This situation arises from time to time and we need to prioritize our passengers to required medical and support staff. Education is one of our mission statements and we are very fortunate to have a lot of enthusiastic students signing up for our clinics. It is important to us that we make every effort to accommodate our student members and we try to spread the opportunity around and offer space to those who have not attended a clinic in the past. We are actively recruiting additional pilots and planes with hopes of alleviating this problem in the future. Please continue to sign up for clinics that you are interested in attending and we will make every effort to accommodate all participants.

That said, this clinic seemed to go off without a hitch. Other than some early morning low clouds on Friday, the weather cooperated and I believe it was smooth sailing all the way.

We had two aircraft fly down to San Quintín. Dr. Antonio Wong departed from Reno and made a





stop over in Bakersfield to pick up Dr. Satya Pal Arya, Betty Gamez and Dr. Tom Cummings (who had driven up from Oxnard). Antonio then flew to San Quintín via San Felipe, where Tom reported a very smooth transition.

Joe Nutile departed from Paso Robles with students, Kathryn Cornella and Kody Wakasa. Joe's flight was weight restricted due to the need to carry additional tools to facilitate repairs to the Suburban. Joe flew to San Quintín via Ensenada and reported that the only issue was the commandant's printer not working, causing an inconvenience in the issuance of the multi entry permit. The solution was to pick it up on the return trip, however on Sunday Joe found Ensenada Airport to be unexpectedly closed and so processed out of Mexico through Tijuana. Hence Joe and his multi entry permit are yet to be reunited.

Joe reports that he was able to breathe new life into the Suburban. The two Subarus had no battery issues, started and ran well. Oil changes and Solar charging panel installation will need to be completed during future clinics.

I asked those who attended the clinic for a post report, so I will let them speak for themselves.....

Dr. Satya Pal Arya: *" I love to go on these mission trips. So I am grateful to all those wonderful compassionate people such as your brother pilots who fly us with great care and safety, Nancy who works tirelessly behind the scenes and many other kind members of Samaritan organization .*

I want to thank Dr. Antonio Wong and Dr. Tom Cummings , Betty Gamez, Joe Nutile, Kody Wakasa, Kathryn Cornella for all their help and support in making this clinic a success . I want to thank Patricia, Faveola and Aracely for their help in the clinic and operating room.

Finally I am grateful to People of Baja California for having faith and trust in our organization to allow us to treat and operate on them. For that trust, we stand on the shoulders of Gold Coast Chapter, Tom and Sharon Cummings, Joe Nutile, David and others who have given their heart and soul in building and maintaining the organization. No one individual can achieve anything significant. It is always team work."



Dr. Tom Cummings: " Antonio departed Reno early Friday morning and met Dr. Arya, Betty, and me in Bakersfield shortly after 9AM. We departed Bakersfield before 10AM and landed in San Felipe around 12:30. San Felipe was again outstanding: Antonio got his multi entry permit while I fueled the plane, everything was very quick and efficient. We landed at Los Pinos a little before 2 PM.

While Paul and Betty saw patients Antonio and I did the anesthesia for a hernia repair with Dr. Gonzalez Friday afternoon.



It was a very busy clinic. As usual, Patty did a great job of triaging the patients. Dr. Arya saw a total of 58 patients during the weekend!

Saturday Dr. Arya and Betty did eight surgeries. Four tonsillectomies (all on children), two nasal septoplasties, and two sinus surgeries. Faviola was a huge help as our circulating nurse.

Saturday night we had a nice dinner at the Old Mill. All the patients did well and were able to be discharged home Saturday evening. This made for a very relaxing Sunday morning and we were able to get an early start home."



Katie Cornella: "I had the most incredible experience on this medical mission trip and have never felt so rewarded for my service. Watching everyone come together from far away places and work so well together as a team was amazing. I am blessed I got to be a part of this medical team. There is no better feeling than watching the families smile and thank you after being seen by Dr. Arya who significantly improved our patients lifestyles. The families were so ever grateful for our teams' work.

The doctors were so knowledgeable and interested in teaching Kody and I. I really enjoyed meeting everyone there and look forward to making more trips to Baja with the Flying Sams! I was so pleased with all that I was able to do and really enjoyed the flight down there with our awesome pilot Joe!"

Kody Wakasa: "The trip was a total success. I cannot have asked for a better first experience with this chapter and



mission. The amount of new experiences I got to witness first hand was phenomenal. From the moment I saw Joe's 4-seater plane, I was learning and soaking in as much I could. Joe was so nice to Katie and I [and] he answered all of our questions.

Dr. Arya, Dr. Wong, Dr. Cummings, and Betty were all very nice and inclusive. They were very professional but at the same time relaxed, working with the amount of resources they had and enjoying our time in Los Pinos. I got to practice my Spanish and was able to pick all of their brains to hear where they all came from and why they do what they do. Very cool.

Again, I'm so grateful for being able to go and help out. I am definitely hooked and will hopefully find another date where I can go. The tacos were the best tacos in my life and as Dr. Wong said, "It's all about the ratio."

Thank you again to all who volunteered and gave of their time. Our March clinic has been postponed, so our next clinic will be Reconstructive Surgery on April 15 - 17. Please sign up early and help us make it a success!

Please mark your calendar for our annual **Cinco de Mayo Poker Tournament on Saturday May 7th at Sculpterra Winery**. This is one of our big fundraisers for the year and I encourage everyone to get behind the effort to make this year's event a great success. Past Tournaments have proven to be a lot of fun so please spread the word, bring your family and friends and join us for a great evening. We are accepting donations for prizes, please let me know if you or your friends would like to make a prize donation. Please keep in mind that we are a 501(c)3 charitable organization and as such all donations are tax deductible.

Another fundraising event is the **2nd annual Mini Mille Car Rally** to be held on April 2nd. Dr Joe Kuntze and Josh Wilkinson are putting together this fun event, So dust off the old jalopy and come out for a fun day of driving on the central coast. For details on both these events, please visit our website www.flyingsams.com. Again all donations are tax deductible.

Thank you for your continued support of your Gold Coast Chapter.

Richard Wallis
FSGC President

(Pictures courtesy of Katie Cornella)