

A LICA Member with a “Can Do” Attitude!

By Janet-Burtle-Doubet

Carl Hoerr with other volunteers installing a septic system.



As this issue was going to print, a LICA member with a “Can Do” attitude was driving a bus loaded with 50 volunteers to a children’s home in Mexico. For the past three years Carl Hoerr has spent Thanksgiving at the Casa Vida y Esperanza (CVE) or “The House of Life and Hope”, located in Magdalena de Kino, Sonora Mexico. Casa Vida y Esperanza is a 25 acre Christian children’s home whose purpose is to mentor young lives with truth, love, and hope for today and forever. This includes meeting their physical, mental, and spiritual needs through education, training, and by providing them with a secure and stable home life.

The first time Carl visited the children’s home and spent time with these children he realized he had to come back. For the past three years he participates as part of a volunteer construction work team focusing on improving the campus. He is an experienced heavy equipment operator and the owner of Hoerr Machinery LLC, whose primary business is the purchase, repair and marketing of used Caterpillar equipment, making him uniquely qualified for this mission. Most of the machinery and vehicles at the property are in grave need of repair so one of Carl’s many tasks has been to get the equipment up and running. He recruited two very knowledgeable volunteers from Caterpillar, Mike Flamingo, Corporate Service Engineer and Paul Knobloch, Senior Mechanical Technician, who worked alongside Carl virtually nonstop for four days. They successfully repaired every mechanical piece of equipment they could find, which included heavy equipment, golf carts, vans and trucks.

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Volunteers working to repair the equipment.



Carl enjoys training on heavy equipment.



Ryan and Carl Hoerr in their yard in Peoria, IL

Because of the efforts of Carl, the other volunteers, and staff, the Children's Home now offers many opportunities that minister not only to children in need, but also the parents or relatives of the children, employees of the children's home, neighbors, friends and the entire community. Casa Vida y Esperanza offers team opportunities for church members and friends in a safe environment that the Apostolic Church controls. It provides short and long-term mission opportunities for Mexican and American volunteers as well as many work team construction projects.

The Apostolic Christian Church officially purchased the property on August 16, 2004. At that time, the property contained a large main house and several buildings, although most were in appalling condition. A tremendous amount of cleaning, repair, remodeling and new additions, all done by the small staff and volunteer work teams, allowed CVE to receive their first children in February 2005.

Today the orphanage houses more than 40 children ranging in age from infancy to 21. CVE is in the process of building additional housing for children, as the need continues to grow.

Located in Peoria, Illinois, Hoerr Machinery LLC is a used-equipment dealer that has provided quality machinery to construction and earthmoving businesses for over 20 years. Their “Can Do” attitude and quick response time have elevated them within this industry!

Hoerr Machinery is a family owned business. Carl Hoerr is the President with his son Ryan serving as the company's Vice President. Through the purchase, repair, and marketing of used Caterpillar equipment, their customer base has grown to include factory dealers, used equipment dealers, as well as end users. They have a comprehensive repair facility equipped with all the necessary tooling and supplies to complete repairs of any magnitude. Their technicians have the necessary training and many years of experience to efficiently and accurately repair construction equipment.

Hoerr Machinery also offers rental machinery to the local market on a daily, weekly or monthly basis and provides lease purchase options to their clients. Having more than 70 years experience in used equipment, they carefully examine each piece of machinery and then appraise its worth compared to today's market value. This valuation process in conjunction with the many years of exposure to the construction equipment marketplace allows them to offer inspection and evaluation services to their customers as well. To complete their list of services they provide logistical services, financing solutions, and related industry expertise. Their can-do attitude not only serves to make them a successful business, it allows them to serve others as well. ▼

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