

Bill Ardill

From: Bill Ardill [bill.ardill@sim.org]
Sent: Wednesday, March 05, 2008 9:03 PM
To: ardill-news@sim.org
Subject: more work with some fun

Sorry for being so late this week with the letter. Last week the weather started to warm up and now it is getting quite hot and uncomfortable in the early afternoons. We all slow down a bit and lose some energy and zip. It is especially difficult for teachers to keep the students' attention during those hot afternoons. A bit of respite is that the water came twice this week so we are noticing a difference since the city workers have resumed work after their strike. The government teaching hospital (JUTH) is still on strike with no end in sight. It sure increases our workload when we are the next biggest hospital in the city. We are overflowing with no extra beds and each day work on discharging patients so we can help more. The resident doctors are working very hard and we are keeping busy with emergency cases.

Dorothy has had a rough week. The student with an anger problem continued to act out and misbehave so she now has the elementary principal and the school superintendent involved. Dorothy has been extremely patient and gone way beyond reasonable in trying to help this student but has seen little improvement. Stay tuned and keep praying.

There has been a team of 5 urologists visiting the Evangel Hospital VVF project. They are from Tucson and have been a great help during their visit. I have asked for their help with a number of pediatric and adult male urology cases and they have taught me a lot. They also produced a terrific video of the Evangel VVF work which I am trying to get copied. The annual Vvf reunion is also coming up so there have been lots and lots of VVF patients around. The urology team has been doing cases every day so it has made our lives busier in addition to the usual surgical cases we do. I am glad we have also seen some unusual and interesting cases like the 14 year old girl with a bladder tumor probably from schistosomiasis and a host of VVF patients with various problems. I have been quite busy with surgery cases. This week I have done two myelomeningoceles (a spina bifida defect in newborns), several emergency cases and some hard cases. We began to see some progress on the autoclave room renovation today and look forward to steady progress from here.

Our new internet antenna is up and running and there has been a big improvement in the reliability of our internet access. We hope it continues.

Last Friday was the annual elementary field day. All the elementary children are divided into teams and spend the day competing in various fun events. The finale is the water slide. Most of the teachers were coaxed to go down the slide but I forbid Dorothy to go near it with her back problems and she behaved herself. David had a great day even though his team did not win.

Then on Saturday the school had the annual Carnival. This is another event geared for the elementary age kids and is open to the community. They have a jumpy castle, pop-the-balloon contest, horse riding, various food and snack items including a snow cone machine and David's favorite event, the zipline. This year he went again by himself and did great. Although the Carnival is a 10th grade fund raising event. Heather and Anna helped with some of the events and booths.

Tomorrow I have the Hillcrest Board meeting and we will appoint the administrators of next year. We still need a number of teachers for next school year and especially 2009-2010 so if you know of a teacher who might be interested, please let me know.

Till next week.

In Christ,
Bill Ardill

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