



PROJECT HOPE

THE TWAIN HARTE CONTINGENT



Excerpts from an article by BJ Sibley <http://www.sierramountaintimes.com/>

Five Tuolumne County women were among 32 Rotarians from District 5220 to make a recent two week trip to Kenya. To say that it was an "adventure" would be a real understatement. Sonora Rotary was represented by Judy Delbon, Chris Daly and Carolyn McGinty. Leading the Twain Harte Rotary contingent was club president Jeanie Frankenstein and Donna Smith, Jamie Stout, Barbara Boberg and I. The purpose of the trip was to do hands-on work

The Twain Harte contingent; BJ, Jeanie, Donna, Jamie and Barbara with a group of Agape boys in front of the classroom and office building at Agape. Dennis, center, checks out a

projects for the District's ongoing Project Hope 2005. While in Kenya, the visiting Rotarians worked on a number of related projects including painting the ceilings, walls and blackboards in eight classrooms; building cement water filtering jars for the kitchens; painting a mural to brighten the dispensary; touring a factory to help choose classroom equipment; and assisting Dr. Gallagher as he conducted eye exams and fitted the Agape children and staff with eye glasses.

Carolyn and a baby from the New Life Home enjoy each others company. Photo by Chris Daly



Project HOPE – Pam Moreno

What is a person's value? In the United States a person's value is too often seen in relationship to his or her job or bank account. If a person is Masai, he or she would be measured in the amount of cows he has or she could bring. Since being part of Project Hope I find my personal value much more measured by smiles and tears and thank yous. How much is the smile of a young girl worth as seen through the stick wall of a classroom while the team pounds nails to make walls. How much is a good morning visitor worth to a person, as a class of young children attempt to learn above our noise. How much is a tearful thank you from a grandmother of 27 after a new business is created? It is worth more than all the money I could earn in months or years, it is worth all the sweat and the toil and the sacrifices of my children so that their mother could leave during Christmas and not feel guilty. It is worth every penny that can be raised and given. Project Hope did not just change the life of the team members and the people whose lives we touched. It will keep touching as

each member of the team tells about the trip to his or her family and friends. This is a gift that passes and grows with each person it touches, because there is no way to measure this change. How would a person measure the ripples in the water? Project Hope is a ripple and there is no telling where the ripples will touch next. To be a part of this team and represent Rotary was an honor and a privilege that will mark each of us in many ways for years to come.

