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Nancy L - Nancy Simpson

Currently living in the Ottawa area and working as a temporary Educational Assistant for the Upper Canada School Board. Enjoying life in my 50's and being a Grandparent to Myles and Kayden.

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Blogs & Travel Journals

by Nancy L, order by Date newest first.

Pacaya

By Nancy L
February 15th 2010

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An early morning to catch the shuttle to the volcano. We were up at 6AM, no place open for breakfast so we had cookie which had been purchased at the Xelapan yesterday and off we went. It took an hour to reach the Volcano park where some of us hired horses to climb up the mountain to the base of the volcano Pacaya. we climbed for about a half hour to the base of the lava flow where we dismounted and had to climb further on foot, about another 40 minutes. Pacaya last blew in 2006, as we stood looking up [[View Full Entry](#)]



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riding up the mountain to Pacaya

From Xela to Antigua

Central America Caribbean

By Nancy L
February 12th 2010

We left Xela around 9 in the morning, after the usual breakfast of fruit with yogurt and ganola on a waffle at the cafe next door. The drive was long and winding but once in San Pedro life was fine. Our hotel accommodations were great, each room had its own toilet and shower for a cost of about 4.00 Cdn per person per night. We took the bags to the room and then set out for lunch at a local restuarant on the shores of Lake Atitlan. It was like being at a holiday resort, with the breese blowing and the [[View Full Entry](#)]

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getting ready to move on



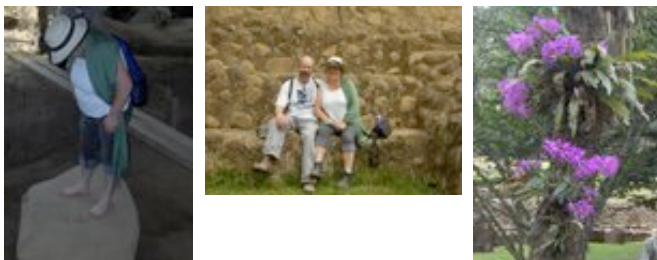
Pictures from Ab Ah Tak Alik

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By Nancy L
February 12th 2010

Pictures from the trip to Ab Ah Tak Alik the ruins we visited from Xela [[View Full Entry](#)]

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We arrive at Ab Ah Tak Alik

back in Xela

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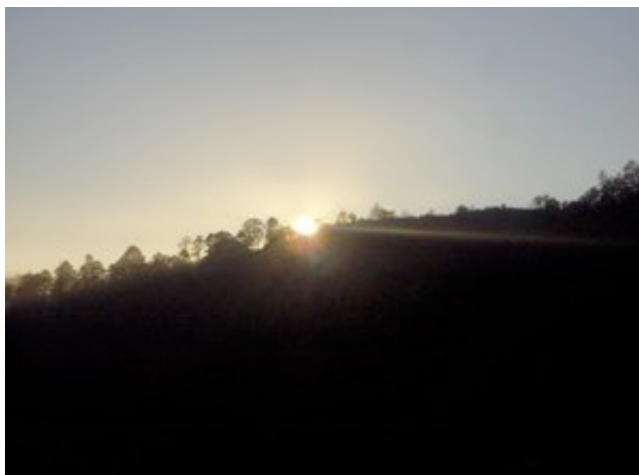
By Nancy L
February 9th 2010

We arrived back in Xela this afternoon, a long bus ride on an exciting chicken bus again. the day was amazing, we walked up the hill for breakfast where we had steak and scrambled eggs with beans of course. From there we met Ruben at the AMMID office and then back to the hotel to pack bags and load the truck. We had a visit to the farm, which is a learning centre for AMMID, and were able to meet 8 women who were on a refresher course. The community leaders once they join the AMMID group spend time at the [[View Full Entry](#)]

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sun coming up in Comi



Tak Alik Ab Ah and Comitancillo

By *Nancy L*
February 8th 2010

Central America Caribbean » Guatemala » Quetzaltenango » Quetzaltenango

Saturday morning we had a leasurely breakfast and then off to the ruins at Tak Alik Ab Ah. The bus ride was about an hour and a half but well worth it. We arrived just before opening at 10AM and were able to book a guide to take us about the area. David and Heidi between them were able to translate for the group and that was a real bonus. The ruins were first discovered in the late 1800 and are being excavated by a group from Berkley University in California. It happened to be New Year on the Mayan Calendar [[View Full Entry](#)]

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market on the way to the bus



Panamaquim

By *Nancy L*
February 6th 2010

Central America Caribbean » Guatemala » Quetzaltenango » Quetzaltenango

Today we visited the Sam Clarke Memorial School in Panamaquim. The village is located high in the mountains outside of Xela. We were picked up at 8 in the morning by Clara and Ishim in two passenger vans.



The ride through the mountains was amazing. We stopped half way at the highest point to view the area then continued on down the other side of the mountain and along a dirt track to the school. The village was awaiting our arrival, the place was decked out in flags and balloons and everyone was dressed in their best clothing. The play yard [[View Full Entry](#)]

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gifts for the students



the stove building

By *Nancy L*
February 4th 2010

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We have just finished 4 days of stove building in the village of Rancho de Teja, which is located high in the mountains north east of Xela. Jim and I were in a few different groups and completed 2 stoves and began a third. I found it very emotional when the stoves were finished and the lady of the house would thank us for her new stove. Our first family was a large extended family with the mother, father and three children, one of the daughters and her husband had a 2 children of their own, a small son (about 4 [[View Full Entry](#)])

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stove building

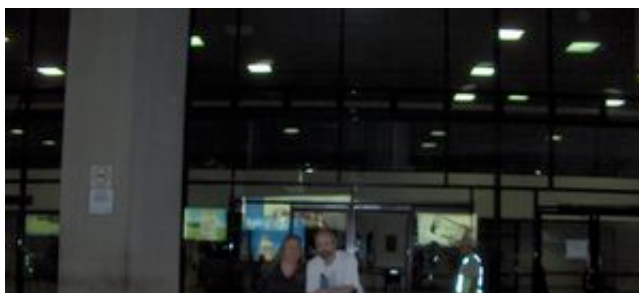


Arrival in Guatemala

By *Nancy L*
February 2nd 2010

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Arrived in Guatemala on <january 30th. Emma and Justin drove Jim and I to the airport at 4 in the morning to catch a 9 AM flight. Were joined there by others from the Stove Project trip. We ate breakfast in the airport as well as on the flight. Passed quickly through customs and were on our way to Mexico City and a connection to Guatemala City. We arrived around 2 PM and were met by Leslie, Rowan and Jason who had arrived earlier. Boarded a bus for a 40 minute ride to Antigua. The drive



through Guatemala City was intense, [[View Full Entry](#)]

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arrival

packed

By *Nancy L*
January 25th 2010

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We are all packed so now the count down. I have two days of work this week and then a ride to Toronto. Meeting Jim in Toronto as he is on a course there for the week. We fly out to Guatemala very early on Saturday morning. Because of Jim's course I am feeling super organized as we are packed and ready to go well in advance. [[View Full Entry](#)]

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packed

Getting ready for Guatemala

By *Nancy L*
January 23rd 2010

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I am getting things in order and getting bags packed as we are off in one week to build stoves in Guatemala. Due to new security regulations packing in a bit different. We are travelling Air Mexicana and are allowed one carry on piece of luggage and on checked piece of 50lbs each. My sleeping bag will take up more space than I want to give up really, but it is essential. Travelling lightly as we will be out building stoves most of the time so there is no real need for a dress I suppose. I am looking forward to [[View Full Entry](#)]

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Packed

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