Trip to the Dominican Republic

June 7-14, 2014
We went to the Episcopal camp and conference center in El Pedregal (see red marker A).
The Dominican Episcopal camp is much like church camps in the United States, with dormitories and other buildings.
This is a view of the lawn in the front of the camp at El Pedregal.
Our team had 15 members from six dioceses.
Padre Álvaro and his wife, Ángela, are the administrators of the camp and work with visiting teams.
This is the K-8 school on the grounds of the camp in El Pedregal.
One of our projects was to build a playground for the school children.
We completed half of the playground, and the other half was completed by another team from Nebraska.
Another one of our projects was to rebuild this house for a family in the village.
A photograph of the family in their former home with Padre Álvaro and his wife, Ángela.
We replaced the wooden house structure with a concrete block structure.
Our team finished half of the house reconstruction, and the second half was done by the Nebraska team.
Another project was to conduct knitting and crocheting classes for the women of the village.
The goal of these classes was to teach the women how to make items they could sell to support their families.
Our team has a long history of working in this location. In this 2006 photo, team members are working in the church yard.
In this 2006 photo, team members are creating benches and a water fountain in the church yard.
In 2006 the team members worked to build the school attached to the painted church.
In this 2006 photo, team members are carrying lumber to the second floor of the school.
Another 2014 project was to conduct a “splash party” for the village children.
The party was enjoyed by village children of all ages.
The school children were always in our minds as we worked on our various projects.
One of the teachers in the K-8 school.
Another teacher with students in her class.
Another classroom in the K-8 school.
This classroom has a temporary wall divider to make two classroom spaces in the same room because the school is not big enough for its current or planned enrollment.
Another teacher with students in her class.
Another teacher with a student in his class.
These eighth-grade students are graduating this year and will enroll in a public high school in a nearby city.
This student attends a public special-education school in a nearby city. The cost of his education is supported by our team.
Our team presented Padre Álvaro and Ángela with 35 school scholarships for the 2014-15 academic year.
Photographs courtesy of Julius Arial, former Director of Georgia Southern’s Zach S. Henderson Library
Thank you for your coming!

For more information, contact Fred Richter at fredrichter17@gmail.com, Georgia Southern professor emeritus