

On Land and Sea

Update – January 18, 2011

Back in Africa

I'm back in Africa, but not yet on the *Africa Mercy*. I'm staying with most of the crew at Appelsbosch College – a campus in South Africa near Durban no longer in use as a college, but ideal for temporary quarters for the crew while the ship is in shipyard. We all hope to be moving back onto the ship within the next couple of weeks and set sail for Sierra Leone.



The five months at home seems to have breezed by very quickly! Between attending a wedding in Portland, attending the Gateway program in Texas, traveling with my Mom through Virginia, W. Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, and N. Carolina, spending a weekend with a group from my church in Pigeon Forge, TN, and spending a week on the west coast (Portland and Seattle) I seemed to always be on the go. When I wasn't traveling, I was working and continuing to sort through my "stuff". Oh, yeah – I also threw in a "Discover Scuba Diving" class and a snowshoeing trek (while visiting Portland), both new experiences for me!



Though I've only been in South Africa for a few days (I arrived on Friday, Jan. 14) I've had the opportunity to visit a coffee shop for lunch in nearby Wartburg, and spend some time at the beach at Ballito on the Indian Ocean coast after church on Sunday. Between now and the time the ship sails I will be going to the ship most days to help with the cleaning and preparations to get underway.



Keep in Touch

We live in a marvelous world with many communications options! Though I will be far away, I hope that you'll all keep in touch.

Email is the quickest and easiest way to contact me. You can use either my personal or Mercy Ships email address: ClaudiArabia2004@yahoo.com or Claudia.Juarez@MercyShips.org.

I'm also on Facebook (Claudia Nash Juarez), so you might catch me there sometime for a brief update or an internet chat!

I have a website, too! You can find it at www.hisfamily.com. There is some general information as well as links to my previous updates and my blog (bloodbankclaudia.blogspot.com).

Mail can also be sent to me via the International Operations Center (IOC) for Mercy Ships in Texas. It is forwarded at least weekly to the ship by courier (e.g. FedEx). Letters and cards are forwarded at no additional expense, however I will be responsible for paying the additional shipping charges for any packages. That doesn't mean you can't send a package – just let me know so I can be prepared to pay for it on arrival – and keep it light!

The address is:

Claudia Juarez, Hosp. Lab
M/V Africa Mercy
PO Box 2020
Pleasant Valley, TX 75771

Finally, there's the telephone! The ship is equipped with a satellite telephone system with a US-Florida number. It's probably easier for me to call you, since I don't generally spend too much time in my cabin. But FYI, the number is 954-538-6110. I also have an eFax number (you fax a document and I receive it via email): 810-815-7639.

So, KEEP IN TOUCH!

And, just a quick note about the time difference. Between here, in South Africa, and the east coast of the US, the time difference is 7 hours (I'm 7 hours ahead of you). Once we get to Sierra Leone, the time difference will be 5 hours (until you go to Daylight Savings Time, when it will be only 4 hours since W. Africa doesn't participate in Daylight Savings Time).

And always, your prayers for Mercy Ships and for me as we go out to serve the forgotten poor through hope and healing are necessary and gratefully received.

God bless you!

Claudia

ClaudiArabia2004@yahoo.com

Note: If you'd prefer not to receive these updates, rather get them at a different email address, or know of someone else who'd like to receive them, just let me know! Feel free to pass this on to others who might be interested, too.

Financial Support

I serve as a volunteer and am reliant on the support of others for all of my expenses. If you are led to share in my ministry financially, please make checks payable to Mercy Ships and send to: Mercy Ships, Donor Services, P.O. Box 2020, Lindale, TX 75771 with a note designating for the support of missionary Claudia Juarez (#2793). Or, you can make a contribution online at: <https://connect.mercyships.org/page/outreach/view/crewmates/juarezc>