



Newsletter of Jeff, Diane, Daniel & Alyssa ~ living and working in the Persian Gulf & Central Asia.

## 2008 In Review ~

We spend a lot of time doing things that don't seem very exciting: getting visas, buying groceries, writing funding proposals, riding the school bus, studying, getting the car repaired again. Daily life in a country that looks "western" on the outside, but is "eastern" on the inside, takes more time than where we grew up. But here are some of the more interesting things we were involved in during 2008.

Ø Daniel and Alyssa played basketball and volleyball on their school teams, and Alyssa also swam, played soccer and did track & field.



Ø We brought a teacher over from Oklahoma who trained 11 men to be school teachers in 8 days. We hope soon to help start a school in their own "Angus" language in the village where one of these men lives. Diane, who assisted with the training, recognized him as the top participant in the training. [At left are Diane & Jeff with the teacher.]

Ø We brought an expert in Community Development to training 12 village men in how their villages can learn to help themselves climb out of poverty, instead of looking to the outside for help.

Ø Connected with that training, we made small business loans to 13 families to start businesses, from which some of the profits will go to fund development needs for their villages.



Ø In the area devastated by floods in the summer of 2007, we dug 175 wells for drinking water, where their water sources were destroyed, distributed 855 livestock where theirs had been washed away, repaired the walls of 2 schools, and provided food rations [left] to 271 extended families.

Ø We drilled a deep tube well for crop irrigation and livestock needs for a cluster of small villages hit by that flooding.

Ø With the help of a farmer in Nebraska, we provided diesel for the irrigation of a demonstration farm in a remote area to promote better dry-land agriculture methods.

Ø With the help of our Lincoln, Nebraska church, we provided the salaries for the teachers in a remote village school where the government provides no education, as well as text books for some of the students whose families could not even afford the \$3.38 for the set of books.

Ø We distributed 3600 copies of reading books in the "Angus" language to children to help preserve and sustain their heart language.

Ø In October, a powerful earthquake hit a rural area where "Angus" and other groups live. We provided 1028 winterized tents, 365 quilts [right], 330 coats, and 5660 pounds of flour, oil, rice, lentils, and sugar to people trying to cope with the affects of the quake in 17 villages.

Ø Diane supplied "Angus" women who follow Jesus with teaching about women in the Bible, and "Angus" men believers with teaching about how to treat their wives.



- Ø The translation of the book of Acts into the "Angus" language is almost finished, which will be published together with Luke. We distributed 250 audio copies of a set of stories from Genesis in the "Angus" language, and supplied "Angus" churches with 26 hand crank cassette players to listen to Bible stories and teaching where there is no electricity.
- Ø Jeff gave training to leaders of "Angus" churches on parenting, ministry accounting, data collection, among other topics.
- Ø We facilitated our "Angus" brothers and sisters in ministry in four countries.

This list has the word "we" in it a lot, but we have many wonderful partners, especially among the "Angus" themselves, without whom there would be no list. And we have a heavenly partner as well.

## What's Going on These Days ~

Daniel has his end-of-season basketball tournament next weekend, where teams from nearby countries come to compete for the championship of the schools that are run by the company that owns the school Daniel attends. Last weekend was the Dubai city league

tournament, in which Daniel's school finished runner-up.

Alyssa finished basketball season earlier, and decided not to do track & field this year. Her basketball team didn't do well, but she had fun. And in one game she scored half of her team's points!

New Covenant Community Church  
6000 S. 84th  
Lincoln NE 68516

**News from Jeff & Diane**

Non Profit Org  
US Postage  
**PAID**  
Lincoln, NE  
Permit No. 968

*If you know somebody without internet access who would like to receive BROWNEWS by mail, send their mailing address to Danny Keelan at:*  
[dannyk@inetnebr.com](mailto:dannyk@inetnebr.com)

*If you received this through the mail, but you have internet access and can save us time and postage by viewing BROWNEWS Online, send your e-mail address to Danny at:*  
[dannyk@inetnebr.com](mailto:dannyk@inetnebr.com)

*If you would like information about our Prayer Community, contact Danny:*  
[dannyk@inetnebr.com](mailto:dannyk@inetnebr.com)

Come visit our website:  
[www.BrowNews.org](http://www.BrowNews.org)! We just got a scanner, so we might figure out how to put some new stuff on the site. J

### Contact Information:

Phone numbers: (home) 971-6-5722153  
Jeff: 971-50-8725466  
Diane: 971-50-8725472

E-mail: [caracasbrown@bigfoot.com](mailto:caracasbrown@bigfoot.com)