

May 2011

Has it actually been 10 months since I've sent an update about the GIVE shirt movement? WOW.

Wednesday I return home after 3 months of spreading the message of giving throughout Central America. I've also been researching and writing the book, and learning more Spanish. I'm very excited to be able to once again do some things that I've been unable to do while here, such as meet with potential volunteers and interns! There is so, so much to be done with the GIVE shirt movement – seemingly infinite. Like some of the volcanoes here, it's gradually building, and just waiting to erupt. But I cannot make it happen alone, nor almost alone. My role needs to develop into one of a leader, organizer, supervisor, spokesperson, etc., rather than continuously trying to figure out which of thousands of things are most important to do at any given moment! Thus, the GIVE shirt movement needs volunteers, interns, students, etc. now more than ever – and the more the better. If you're willing to help, or know someone who might be, please let me know. Thank you!

One thing I'm very excited about is offering the GIVE shirt at more fundraising events, including some (Rush the Festa, North Face Endurance Challenge – Madison, etc.) that have become annual events! This remains the primary method of distributing the GIVE shirt. So, please continue to inform me when an organization or fundraising event would like to join forces with the GIVE shirt movement so we can help each other raise awareness of giving, as well as raise more money for the organization.

Since I'm still awaiting the significant donation that will fund this movement, theGIVEshirt.com fundraisers also remain very important. The 2<sup>nd</sup> annual 24-Hour Runathon to Raise Awareness and Money for Health and Giving almost has a confirmed date (10/22/11, Saturday before Halloween weekend). The First Annual Give Shirt 5k only needs someone to plan and organize it. And other such fundraiser opportunities are needed! So, please let me know what ideas you have.

It's been too long since I've last updated you, which means that numerous advancements have been made. One is the yet again vastly increased selection of GIVE apparel, both Athletic/Dri-Fit and 100% ORGANIC Sustainable Cotton, all printed by Orchard Street Press, a totally environmentally friendly and local printer! All suggestions for improvements continue to be very welcomed and needed, especially when they are accompanied by the willingness to help make them happen!

Time is the only thing holding us back. But between all of us, we have plenty of time to do what needs to be done. Too bad more of it cannot be done down here, as there are always many people just sitting around everywhere. But I guess it's the same in the U.S. – we're just sitting in front of TVs and movies, computers and facebook, etc. For many of us, time is even harder to give than money. But there's always time to give...

Thomas