

Factory Roof by Jason

The Atkins Family Jason, Emily, Savannah, Nathaniel, and Miriam

Serving in Guinea-Bissau, West Africa Our community drinking water tap turns 1 this month, having dispensed 75,000 gallons of clean water!

SOLAR POWER System The diff girld data of the state of th

New Base Fundraising Progress

Housing
Family house,
questhouse, and

bungalow.



\$72,500 — \$60k — \$50k — \$40k — \$30k — \$10k —

with demand. A couple of exciting expansions are in the works over the next few months! The first is the completion of its second production building, which will be used for finishing and packaging

The drinking water factory is still hum-

ming along, working toward a stable

production schedule that can keep up

the filters. The main building is fairly dusty, as milling and screening ground sawdust and clay powder always will be. The new building will be the "clean" room. In it the

filters, after being fired and tested, will have their colloidal silver applied, the buckets will have their spigots installed, and the finished filters will be packaged. We will be installing the roof on the building in the coming weeks! Stay tuned over the next few months!



Where You Least Expect by Jason

Sometimes I think it's fairly easy to grow accustomed to what's around you and begin to assume that what's outside of your normal is like what you're used to inside it. It's helpful for me sometimes to get a little time "outside the bubble" to remember how blessed we are.



This month we set out on a project to help build a water tower for WAVS (our previous sending organization and until recently the operator of the vocational school in Canchungo). For the last several years they've been at the beginning of building a big campus in the capitol, and now need running water. Unfortunately, although there is a power grid in the capitol, which for the last several years has been fairly stable by West African standards, WAVS hasn't gotten their connection set up yet. They were anxious to get the tower done right away though, so we loaded up a truck full of equipment including a generator / welder which was one of the few things in my shop that was donated new rather than being bought 30 years old at auction, and has been nothing but reliable for those 10 years, and headed to Bissau.

We made great progress the first day welding gussets onto the tower legs (laid down on the ground) which when stood up by the

Where You Least Expect by Jason

... crane that was scheduled for the second day, would be used to bolt the tower's cross bracing together. We had a good team including a welding teacher, intern, and two students from the school, and we made great progress

Unfortunately, in the middle of the work the second day, the generator all of a sudden stopped sending power! We later determined that it was a circuit board that had gone bad (which there was no local replacement for) and we were out of luck. After spending several days looking around for alternative generators which could be rented, we had to give up and go back to Canchungo. Fortunately (and ironically), as we were packing up, the electrical contractor was stringing the power lines for the school out to the road, so it'll likely only be a few weeks before they have grid power and we can go back and finish the job by plugging in to that.

Working out in the swirling dust and sweltering sun of a recently clear cut and graded 30 acres made me mighty glad for the shade, protection, and stable electricity of the shop back in Canchungo!



I had my suspicions when this rented generator pulled up. It was supposed to be a 10kva generator but only had a power plug capable of supplying 3kva. Unfortunately, my doubts proved correct the first time we started welding and the tired out old motor bogged down. On to Plan C!

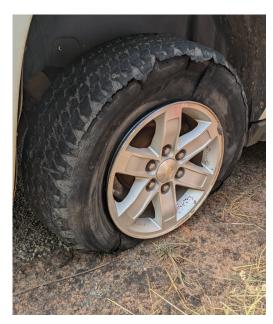
Recent sights



The project land is everything we could have hoped for except for lacking one important feature: mango trees! This was one of four we planted two years ago, and has been slow. Fortunately, a recent drip irrigation system has brought some new growth!



Cashews grow on trees, and have just started appearing on the many trees at the land! The nut shows up first, and then the cashew apple (usually yellow or red) will grow behind it.



On a recent trip we had an impressively shredded flat tire! Local guys can patch a vast array of punctures, but this tire is toast!



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