

Belize City East Branch Annual History

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THE CHURCH OF
JESUS CHRIST
OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

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Belize City East Branch Calendar 2012

January 2012

Sunday January 15, 2012

- 1:00 PM Regional Training Meeting

Sunday January 22, 2012

- 5:30 PM Priesthood Preview
- 6:30 PM New Beginnings

February 2012

Sunday February 19, 2012

- 10:00 AM District Conference

Saturday February 25, 2012

- 4:30 PM Family History Center Open House

March 2012

Thursday March 15, 2012

- ➡ 3/15-3/17 Temple Trip

Friday March 16, 2012

- ← 3/15-3/17 Temple Trip

Saturday March 17, 2012

- ➡ 3/15-3/17 Temple Trip

May 2012

Friday May 25, 2012

- 4:00 PM Father and Son Campout

June 2012

Tuesday June 12, 2012

- ➡ 6/12-6/15 Young Women Camp

Wednesday June 13, 2012

- 10:00 AM District Conference

Thursday June 14, 2012

- 10:00 AM District Conference

Continues for 2 more pages.

Officers Sustained—Branch

The General Authorities of the Church, the Area Seventies, and the officers of the district and branch are to be presented for sustaining at the annual branch conference.

A member of the district presidency or an assigned high counselor is to present the full names of officers for sustaining. He should present only the officers listed on this form. The branch clerk should complete this form, insofar as positions have been filled, in time for careful review by the priesthood leader who will use it. **After the conference, the branch clerk should give this form to the district clerk to be included in the Annual History for Stakes and Districts (32299).**

The annual conference of the Belize City East Branch of the Belize District of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, held at Belize City, on 5 August 2012

It is proposed that we sustain as General Authorities of the Church:

Thomas S. Monson as prophet, seer, and revelator and President of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints; Henry B. Eyring as First Counselor in the First Presidency; and Dieter F. Uchtdorf as Second Counselor in the First Presidency.

Those in favor may manifest it by the uplifted hand. Any opposed may so manifest it.

Boyd K. Packer as President of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles; and as members of the Quorum of the Twelve Apostles: Boyd K. Packer, L. Tom Perry, Russell M. Nelson, Dallin H. Oaks, M. Russell Ballard, Richard G. Scott, Robert D. Hales, Jeffrey R. Holland, David A. Bednar, Quentin L. Cook, D. Todd Christofferson, and Neil L. Andersen.

The counselors in the First Presidency and the Twelve Apostles as prophets, seers, and revelators.

Those in favor manifest it. Any opposed manifest it.

All other General Authorities, Area Seventies, and general officers of the Church as presently constituted.

Those in favor manifest it. Any opposed manifest it.

It is proposed that we sustain:

Rene Alvarado as president of the Belize District, with Julio Perez as first counselor and Isreal Munoz as second counselor. Those in favor manifest it. Any opposed manifest it.

All other stake officers as now constituted.

Those in favor manifest it. Any opposed manifest it.

It is proposed that we sustain:

Luis Escobar as president of the Belize City East Branch, with Enrique Oliva as first counselor and Jose Donis as second counselor. Those in favor manifest it. Any opposed manifest it.

No seat held. Michael Nelson, No seat reserved secretary David Christopher, No seat reserved secretary Jerry Brown, No seat reserved. Name blank. Those in favor manifest it. Any opposed manifest it.

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Belize City East Branch—Brief Narrative

Regional Training Meeting: The branch president was invited to attend the regional training meeting with a member of the Quorum of the Twelve. District and branch clerks were also invited to attend. The meeting was held on 15 January in Guatemala City at a special sacrament meeting.

The messages shared by the speakers centered largely on the strengthening of families. (President Escobar shared these same messages at a special training meeting for priesthood and auxiliary leaders in the branch on 4 March.)

Family History Center: An open house was held on February 25 at the Belize City family history center, which is in the Belize City East Branch meetinghouse. As part of the goals set for 2012, the Church in Belize City encouraged members to utilize the resources in the family history center. Members increased in their knowledge and appreciation of family research, and local nonmembers also participated. Through this effort, over 50 names were submitted for temple work or taken by members to the temple to perform the ordinances for them.

Unfortunately, on 11 August 2012, the family history center was broken into. The burglars were interrupted in the act and fled the scene without taking anything, but it was clear that measures needed to be taken to make the center more secure. The equipment was moved to a secure location, and the family history center has been closed temporarily. It is expected to open again in January after reinforcements to the building are completed.

Temple Trip: A temple trip was made to the Merida Mexico Temple March 15–17. It was planned for members of the branch ready to receive their own endowment. We were happy to see that Enrique and Sandra Betancourt received their endowments. They were sealed on the 16th. Thomaso Jimenez also made the trip and received his own endowment and was sealed to his parents, who are deceased. Several members of the branch had been fellowshipping the Betancourts over the last year, so there was a lot of excitement and joy because of this event. We've seen a renewed emphasis in the branch on temple attendance as a result of this inspiring achievement.

Branch Presidency: On April 15, the branch presidency went through a change in counselors. The second counselor, Jorge Rivero, was called to serve in the mission presidency. After serving for 5 years in the branch presidency and being such an active advocate for missionary work in the branch, Brother Rivero will be a great addition to the work of the Belize Belize City Mission.

Called to replace him was Jose Donis. Brother Donis has experience serving as a branch clerk and, most recently, as a member of the Belize district council.

Father and Son Campout: On May 25–26 there was a campout for the men, young men, and boys in the branch. The priesthood group organized the event, which took place at the Crooked Tree campground near Western Lagoon. It was a great success, as several inactive men in the branch took the opportunity to take their boys camping and became better acquainted with other members of the quorum and their sons were able to meet the boys their age in the branch. Two of these fathers have been bringing their families to church more often since the campout. The young men were responsible for the breakfast on Saturday morning and learned some things about preparing food. But for many of the boys, the highlight of the campout was riding the zip line that runs across the campground.

Mission Presidency: President Benicio Olivera completed his mission in June 2012 and returned to his native El Salvador. President Clyde Washburn was welcomed as the new mission president, along with his wife, in their visit to Belize City in July. President and Sister Washburn are from Waco, Texas, where President Washburn taught medicine at Baylor University.

Young Women Camp: The young women in the branch joined with the young women of the Belize District for Young Women camp on June 12–15. The camp took place at Mountain Pine Ranch, a Church-owned property that includes cabins, a new kitchen and dining hall, as well as a new restroom and shower facility (recently renovated to commemorate the 100th anniversary of Young Women camp). This was a great opportunity for the young women to get out of the city and experience being in the wilderness. They also learned leadership skills and fellowshiping. Several of the less active girls in the branch were convinced to attend. One of the young women even brought a nonmember friend, Olivia Fabers, whose family ended up taking the missionary discussions and joining the Church. The young women report that the highlight of camp was the testimony meeting on the last night of the camp.

Branch Conference: The Belize City East Branch Conference was held on 5 August 2012. The district president, Rene Alvarado, presided over the meeting. Israel Munoz, second counselor in the district presidency, and Luis Escobar, branch president, each spoke during the conference. President Escobar expressed much appreciation for the prayers of the branch in his behalf and for the support of Sister Escobar that help him to keep up with the demands of his calling. He said is very encouraged by the efforts of the branch members in strengthening their own families and in strengthening the branch family.

New Missionary Couple. On August 25 Elder and Sister Little, who had served as missionaries in Belize City since late 2010, went home. They left behind many grateful memories of their time and efforts in Belize City. We are grateful for the sacrifices that they made to share their talents and gifts to help establish the cause of Zion in Belize. We welcomed Elder and Sister Wolstenhume on August 30 as the new missionary couple assigned to serve in Belize City.

Convert Baptisms: On September 8, the Fabers family was baptized and then confirmed members of the Church in sacrament meeting on Sunday, September 9. Those baptized and confirmed were the father and mother, Ricardo and Andrea Fabers, their daughter Olivia Fabers (14), and their son Ricardo Fabers Jr. (11). Ricardo and Andrea also have a younger daughter, Victoria (7), and a son, Roberto (5), who are a welcome addition to the Primary.

The baptism was attended by nearly the whole branch, and the Spirit was very strong. The sacrament meeting the next day was one of the most spiritual events of the year for the branch. An outpouring of love and gratitude was felt by all, and many tears of joy were shed.

Service Project. Hurricane Yelda, a late-season storm, struck just south of Belize on September 23, affecting parts of Honduras and Guatemala. There was a great need for hygiene kits in the affected areas. Belize City was not affected, but the Belize City East Branch Relief Society organized a project to collect and package items for the needed hygiene kits. On September 28, we were able donate over 200 kits to the Church's humanitarian efforts.

Belize City East Branch Photographs



March 18, 2012. Belize City. Enrique and Sandra Betancourt. They were sealed two days earlier in the Merida Mexico Temple.



August 25, 2012. Belize City East Branch. Elder Eldon Little and Sister Sarina Little at their going-away party. They served in Belize City for over a year.



August 30, 2012. Elder Darwin “Wooly” Wolstenhume and Sister Tamara Wolstenhume in their apartment at 448 Marine Parade Blvd., Belize City, on their first day in their newly assigned area in the Belize Belize City Mission.



September 26, 2012. Belize City East Branch. Members of the Belize City East Branch assemble hygiene kits for victims of Hurricane Yelda. Relief Society president Tamara Munoz (front) organized the effort.



Photograph courtesy www.shutterstock.com

June 13, 2012. Mountain Pine Ranch, Belize District Young Women Camp. Sophia Rivero poses in front of a cabin.



June 13, 2012. Mountain Pine Ranch, Belize District Young Women Camp. Olivia Fabers poses for a picture on her way into the dining hall.



Photograph courtesy www.shutterstock.com

June 14, 2012. Mountain Pine Ranch, Belize District Young Women camp. Leann Escobar just as the young women set out on their hike.



Photograph courtesy www.shutterstock.com

June 14, 2012. Mountain Pine Ranch, Belize District Young Women camp. Corinne Oliva is ready for her role in the skit that the girls from the branch put on.

Permission to Use Photographs

For all photographs or audiovisual productions being submitted for inclusion in an annual history, the owner of the photographs or audiovisual productions completes this form and gives it to the person assigned to compile the history.

Terms, Conditions, and Owner's Agreement

I, the undersigned, am the creator and owner (the "Owner") of the photographs and audiovisual productions identified in the "List of Submitted Photographs" section below (the "Photographs").

I hereby grant Corporation of the President of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints and its affiliated entities (collectively, "COP") a royalty-free, worldwide, unlimited, nonexclusive, nonterminable, perpetual license and permission to freely use the Photographs, including the right to reproduce, distribute, rent, lend, perform, display, broadcast, communicate to the public, alter, crop, edit, modify, adapt, prepare derivative works, and otherwise use the Photographs, either in whole or in part, in any and all media, in unlimited number, and by any and all means now known or hereafter devised, together with the right to freely sublicense others to do any or all of the foregoing.

To the full extent permitted by law, I hereby waive, forever and throughout the universe, any and all so-called "moral rights" now or hereafter recognized with respect to the Photographs and to each and every part thereof for any and all now known or hereafter existing uses, media, and/or forms. In this regard, I acknowledge and agree that I will not receive a credit on or in connection with COP's use of the Photographs.

I represent and warrant that the Photographs are original with me and have not been copied or derived from any other source and that I have the full and unconditional right to grant this permission to use the Photographs. To the best of my knowledge and belief, COP's use of the Photographs in accordance with this permission will not violate the copyrights or other rights of any other person or entity.

I warrant and represent that I have read this Permission to Use Photographs and that by signing below I have granted the permission set forth herein.

Name of Owner (please print) Luis Escobar	Address 879 East Front St Belize City, Belize 789JP9
Signature <i>Luis Escobar</i>	
Date 4 January 2013	

Parental Consent If the Owner of the Photographs is a minor child, the Owner's parent or legal guardian must complete the following.

I, the undersigned, hereby warrant and represent that I am the parent or legal guardian of the minor child named as the Owner above, that I have full authority to execute this Permission to Use Photographs on behalf of the Owner, and that by signing below I have granted this permission on behalf of the Owner.

Name of parent or guardian (please print)	Address
Signature	
Date	

List of Submitted Photographs Continued on page 2. If more space is needed, use a separate, signed form.

Following is a list of the photographs and audiovisual productions I am submitting.

Brief description	Date	Location	Names of those appearing in the photograph or production
The Betancourts at home.	18 Mar 2012	Belize City	Enrique and Sandra Betancourt
Elder and Sister Little's farewell.	25 Aug 2012	Belize City East Br.	Sarina Little, Eldon Little
Elder and Sister Wolstenhume.	30 Aug 2012	Belize City	Darwin and Tamara Wolstenhume
Branch members assembling hygiene kits.	26 Sep 2012	Belize City East Br.	Tammy Perez, Clarissa Marin, Ramon Gillaland, Jamen Alvarado

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I warrant and represent that I have read this Permission to Use Photographs and that by signing below I have granted the permission set forth herein.

Name of Owner (please print) Alberto Marin	Address 14 East Park St Apt 7 Belize City, Belize 789JP9
Signature <i>Alberto Marin</i>	
Date 4 January 2013	

Parental Consent If the Owner of the Photographs is a minor child, the Owner's parent or legal guardian must complete the following.

I, the undersigned, hereby warrant and represent that I am the parent or legal guardian of the minor child named as the Owner above, that I have full authority to execute this Permission to Use Photographs on behalf of the Owner, and that by signing below I have granted this permission on behalf of the Owner.

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List of Submitted Photographs Continued on page 2. If more space is needed, use a separate, signed form.

Following is a list of the photographs and audiovisual productions I am submitting.

Brief description	Date	Location	Names of those appearing in the photograph or production
Sophia Rivero at YW Camp.	13 Jun 2012	Mountain Pine Ranch	Sophia Rivero
Olivia Fabers at YW Camp.	13 Jun 2012	Mountain Pine Ranch	Sarina Little, Eldon Little
Leann Escobar at YW Camp.	14 Jun 2012	Mountain Pine Ranch	Leann Escobar
Corinne Oliva at YW Camp.	14 Jun 2012	Mountain Pine Ranch	Corinne Oliva