

Respond to this post by replying above this line

# New post on **The Stalnaker family**



## [the Matagalpa Bi-Monthly](#)

by [sosendiu17](#)



Christmas Cookie Contest

Hello to everyone & a Happy New Year! The holiday season was a lot of fun this past year! We all agreed that it was an improvement over last year's celebrations. We put up decorations, listened to Christmas music 24/7, set up a Christmas tree, and even ate turkey!!! Though we all were/are a little homesick, we still enjoyed Holiday Season #2 in Nicaragua!



Our Christmas tree {featuring our homemade ornaments!}

Our landlord stopped in for a visit a couple of days ago and received a surprise...! When you come into our house, the first room you enter is our schoolroom. From there, the hallway and living room branch out... In the schoolroom there are desks wall to wall, books, pencils, eraser "erasings," etc..... \*\*Remember this info for later\*\* Well, he came in and was looking over the house and saw children, children, and more children! Big children, little children, dark-haired children (even blonde-haired children!), running around and playing! Everywhere! (Our American neighbors were over "hanging out.") He asked about all of the children and my mother told him that there are 11 of us kids in the family and that the rest were neighbors... So anyways, he completed his inspection and left.

A couple of days later, my dad receives an email from him... Our landlord stated in the email that he did not believe what mom had said about the kids. He also said that we were running a private **school** and **orphanage** for **foreigners**..!!?????? We all got a big kick out of that one!!! =D My father emailed him back and was able to resolve the situation. Our landlord apologized and begged pardon for the misunderstanding.

Jelly has become quite the hair stylist! We noticed a couple of days ago that her hair was a little shorter in the front. So my dad called her and after a little while she finally told us what she had done... In her high-pitched, girly voice, she confessed, "I wanted bangs so I cut my hair with scissors..." Uh-oh..... She got into trouble over that one.... The irony is that it turned out pretty good! Anyways, a couple days later she told Joy, "If you let me borrow

your computer, I can watch a video on youtube, and then cut your hair, too!!!!!" Uhhhhhhh, no. =D

We took our quarterly trip to Costa Rica this past December to renew our three-month visas. We've gotten so good at it that we can leave at 8:30a.m. from Matagalpa, drive the four and a half hours to the border, cross the border, sit on the other side for five minutes, and then re-cross, and come home, all in the same day. They say practice makes perfect! =D This past time was our seventh time crossing the border to renew our visas. Aaaaand, if we make good time, we reward ourselves by going to Papa John's Pizza!!!! Amongst all the rice and beans in our diet, that is a very special treat!



Jordan & Jacklyn enjoying Papa John's Pizza!

Anyways, about 15 minutes from the border, Joy was busy filling out the paperwork required to cross when she discovered that Jelly's passport had expired...! Thank God we caught it before we crossed. If they had realized her passport was expired, they may not have let her re-enter Nicaragua or enter Costa Rica and would have had to stay between the borders. Ya, it could have been really bad... My dad stayed with her on the Nicaraguan side, while the rest of us went across. We were a little nervous, but it all went very smoothly; and not long after, we were all together again and on our way home to Matagalpa...

Hope you enjoyed the letter! We will be taking a trip to the States this coming end of March-May! Please pray for safety and that everything goes smoothly!

[sosendiu17](#) | January 20, 2015 at 2:42 am | Tags: [Matagalpa Monthly](#) | Categories:

[Uncategorized](#) | URL: <http://wp.me/p5C3Us-3>

[Comment](#)

[See all comments](#)

Thanks for flying with  WordPress.com