You know you are in the Amazon when ...

- It gets dark at 6:10 pm
- The river water is so brown that you think you are swimming in coffee.
- There are hungry mosquitoes trying to bite you through your pants, shirts, and socks.
- There are tarantulas, flying cockroaches and gigantic spiders as large as your palm that are waiting for attack.
- There are flying fish when you are riding in a boat when it is pitch dark @ 6:30 pm.
- There are chiggers in the villages that have nothing better to do than defecate in your skin.

- There is a possibility of being robbed by a monkey.
- Your clothes take 4 days to dry and if they do, they are already moldy.
- You eat rice and beans every day.
- There are trees in the middle of the river and you take a boat over them praying to God that you don't sink the boat.
- You collect enough jungle bling for your family and your entire city.
- You go to bed at 8:00 pm because you are so exhausted from the hot sun during the day.

- You pray for a rainstorm at lunch time because it refreshes the air.
- A Coca-Cola never tasted so good.
- You can swim with pink dolphins in a river and Amazon river mud is the new spa treatment.
- You have to take a shower in deet just to walk out of your hut.
- There is a tower that looks over the entire jungle canopy and the sunrise is the most beautiful view you have ever seen.
- Jose the jungle man is making monkey sounds and goes Caiman hunting any chance he can.
- You eat fried platanos every day but in different shapes.
- You can boat and canoe down river without even paddling.
- You can see the shaman and he will put a protection over you and your family.
- The children in the villages hang on you like you are a celebrity.
- There is a film of dirt that remains on your skin no matter how many showers you take.
- A nap in the hammock is all you look forward to after a long day at the clinic.
- You get beaten horribly at Casino.
- Your alarm clock in the mornings is the conch shell and the screeching of Pepe the parrot.

- The clean water tastes like chlorine.
- The people are the most amazing people you have ever met.
- You wish you could describe the beauty of the jungle to all your family and friends.
- The work crew will carry fifty pound medical boxes on their shoulders and head for long distances.
- The crew always holds your hand when you get off the boat.
- You have to make sure not to celebrate too early when the boat starts because it is bad
luck.
- You pee off the boat when you are in desperate measures.
- A drunken man comes and serenades you at 9:00 in the morning.
- Bagging vitamins is actually therapeutic.
- Wearing the same pair of pants for two weeks is not so bad.
- You give English lessons to Dr. Alex, Nolberto, and Ricky and laugh every time they say unbearable with a head/butt movement.
- Donate money just because you don't need it compared to the people in the villages.
- Raise money for a patient and attend his funeral.
- Run to house calls for patients who don't have the strength to walk to clinic.
- You want to cry every time you see a starving patient that can't support his family.
- You feel like there is no other place that needs your love and resources more.