

card games. They all want human contact. They are constantly touching my arms and legs, holding my hand, and hugging me around my neck. What child wouldn't want contact? One small boy, named Manni, ran up and presented me with a homemade envelope containing a page ripped out of a coloring book beautifully completed in crayon. It's a gift I'll treasure. I'm actually surprised at the depth of my love for these kids and my attachment to them. I dread the thought of my departure.

6/29 We finished painting the first set of cottages today. We replaced the re-colored tiles on the chapel roof. We worked till 6:30 p.m., but were able to complete the job. Brother Joseph was very pleased. After dinner, we planned the Fourth of July party. The children will each receive a bottle of soda and a mango; each cottage will receive a bag of toys which our group has brought from America.

7/1 We visited a neighboring village in the evening to see the work that the Brothers are doing there. Again, we received "special guest" status. We're greeted at the door with cheers and ritual blessings and given seats reserved for the village elders. We meet the women's forum groups and farmers' co-ops, and the children perform songs and dance. It is all so amazing. The Brothers respect and use traditional village customs to better the lives of these people. They are really doing something profound here.

7/2 We are all working well together, and our communication has reached a level of comfort. Our

"Bossman" has become somewhat emotionally attached to us and said, "I was thinking of your leaving. I little bit cry."

7/4 After attending Mass, we started the Independence Day celebration with the children. They ran in sack races and three-legged races and had a water balloon toss before lunch. We returned to the village and gave the children sodas and mangoes. We sang the *Star Spangled Banner*. The children were instructed to go to their rooms and then return. They discovered the bags of toys and returned delighted.

7/5 We completed the chapel!

7/6 Finished painting all of the cottages. In the evening, the Brothers took us to Madurai for dinner and shopping. A wedding reception was in progress at the restaurant, and we were encouraged to join in the dancing!

Brother Mark Murphy,
Delegate to India, talks
with Rich Trusendi.



One of our first images of India,
Jim Borrelli and Rich Trusendi
walk the streets of Bombay.



A woman spins thread at the
batik factory.