



Sus donaciones al futuro de La Paz

¡Viva la diferencia!

Your donations to the future of La Paz



Welcome to the *Boletín Informativo* of FUNDACIÓN AYUDA NIÑOS LA PAZ, A.C. (FANLAP)

This newsletter has three aims: to let you know what has happened in our past 12 years of working with the children of La Paz, to keep you current on projects in the works, and to let you know what is coming up in the next few months. Your comments and suggestions will be welcome.

FANLAP Working in Partnership for Children

Mission

To offer nutritional, medical and educational support to children and adolescents who live in situations of economic poverty in our community, so they may achieve a better lifestyle.

Vision

That all children and adolescents of our community have an equal opportunity to nutrition, education and health... so that they may develop a better self-image and pursue a profession which results in better employment opportunities, thereby elevating the quality of life of themselves and their families.

For information, to get involved, or make a contribution, please visit

www.lapazninos.org. or
telephone Judy Peterson
612 121 1221 or
612 121 2166

Much Accomplished in 2008

FANLAP works with its partners and with support from the La Paz community, Club Rotario La Paz Balandra, Club Cruceros de La Paz, individual contributors and the Mexican Federal, State and Municipal governments to: (1) offer better nutrition for children; (2) help children who desire to apply themselves to attend and succeed in junior and senior high school; and (3) help these students develop a sense of community and higher self-esteem.

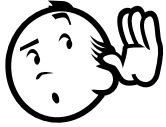


In 2008:

- Between 65 and 85 children received breakfast three days a week at Colonia Márquez de León.
- Lunch was served five days a week to 150 children at Colonia Laguna Azul.
- Scholarships were awarded to 219 students: 116 junior high, 61 senior high, 5 higher-education.
- Psychology services were provided to 51 children ranging from pre-school to senior high school.

For details about these programs and other accomplishments, please visit www.lapazninos.com, select News and then the 2008 Annual Report.

Muchas gracias to Centre Comercial Californiano (C.C.C.) for their generous help to our programs. Please support them, too.



Have you heard? By Judy Peterson

- **Club Cruceros' Subasta** about which we wrote in our Fall 2008 issue took place on November 30th. The net amount received by FANLAP was 90,053 pesos, which will send thirty (30) students to junior high school. In addition, Diana Bergstrum sent out an annual Christmas Drive letter asking for donations to go into our fund with International Community Foundation in San Diego, which brought in an additional 2500 USD. Thank you to the cruisers and "landlubbers" who again made this event a success.
- **Presentation leads to scholarships.** Mary and I were asked by Linda Neil and John Glaab of the Settlement Company, Mexico's oldest escrow and title company, to make a presentation of the work of Fundación Ayuda Niños La Paz, A.C., to a group of attendees of their Real Estate Conference and Motivational Workshop held on January 29, 2009. We're happy to report that the proceeds of this event in addition to two individual donations, a total of 7100, was given to us for our scholarship fund. Thank you so much Linda and John for helping the Children of La Paz.
- **Help for the Breakfast kitchen.** The students and parents of Colegio Anahuac, a private school across the street from Ibarra Pottery, provided breakfast in Colonia Márquez de León on Wednesdays during January and February. "Felicidades" to all and especially to "Profe Esthér".
- **CCC continues to donate fruit and vegetables** which are no longer saleable but are still useable. Pete picks them up on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays and delivers them to the colonias to be used by the families. Thank you so much to CCC for helping our program to provide nutrition to the children.
- **Accountability.** Pursuant to Mexican law, our accountant will prepare a tax return to be filed on or before the last day of March. After that, we are audited by an independent accountant authorized by the Republic of Mexico to perform such an audit. That audit must be filed with the Secretary of Hacienda (like the IRS in the U.S.) by the end of June of the same year. To provide total transparency, we are required to fill out a form on the website of the Secretary of Hacienda; this form contains our mission, vision and objectives, a listing of all income and expenses for the year, and the names of donors. *Continued next column...*

Have you heard? continued from previous column...

- **Good news for the library/learning center.** We're happy to announce we have received the last \$20,000 USD to complete the construction of the second floor of our dining room building in Colonia Laguna Azul. Two anonymous donations were made through International Community Foundation, and we received the funds the 3rd of March. When this issue of Viva la Diferencia goes to press, our dream of a library/study center for our students will have come true.
- **Fundraising and Publicity.** FANLAP is in the process of forming a "patronato" to work with our board. This will be a group of volunteers who will organize fundraisers and publicity for the foundation, among other things; the president of the patronato will have a seat on the board. If you are interested in serving in this capacity, please contact us.
- **Concerts and Arts Festival Booth lead to scholarships.** (1) The Barking Dogs classic rock band played a benefit concert on March 20 and FANLAP volunteers hosted a baked goods and art sale at the La Paz Arts Festival – all proceeds from these two events were donated to the FANLAP scholarship program to help send current 6th graders to 7th grade. (Total received: \$34,375 pesos from the Barking Dogs Concert, and \$6,676 pesos from sales at Art Festival). (2) A percentage of the Alex DePue and Miguel DeHoyos concert on March 22 and the Noche de Flamenco on March 26 will also be donated to the FANLAP scholarship program. (Total received: \$4,740 pesos from the Alex and Miguel Concert, and \$17,000 pesos from the Noche de Flamenco).
- **Club Rotario La Paz Balandra** continues to provide medical consultations to children of the colonias. On Thursdays Rotary Club member Dr. Aguirre, along with other members of the club, international visitors, and two nurses from the Mexican Institute of Social Security do height and weight checks, vaccinations, and provide other medical consultations to children who otherwise would not be attended to.
- **Government funds.** We have again applied to SEDESOL (Secretary for Social Development) for a grant to pay the costs of food for our dining room lunch program. We hope to hear soon whether the application is approved, and will report on this in our next issue of the Newsletter.
- **The women of the colonias** donate their time to cook and serve meals to the children, and also do the cleanup. In return we provide them uniforms and shoes for their children and give them an occasional "despensa" (rice, beans, cooking oil and other non-perishables) when funds are available. ###

Muchas gracias to California Chicken for their generous donations to our programs. Please support them too.

CENTRO MEXICANA DE FILANTROPIA (CEMEFI)

by Judy Peterson, FANLAP President

Dulce and I attended the annual meeting held by CEMEFI in Mexico City November 10 – 12, 2008

The Mexican Center of Philanthropy (CEMEFI) was organized twenty years ago by a group of businessmen who wanted to join together to better serve the public. Many of the businesses you would be familiar with: Wal-Mart Mexico, J.P. Morgan, Office Depot, Office Max, Microsoft, Google Mexico and Kraft Foods Mexico.

The mission of CEMEFI is “to promote and articulate philanthropic participation, commitments and social responsibility by citizens and their organizations, to achieve a more equitable, solid and prosperous society.” Because it is important to interact with other non-profit organizations, governmental organizations that promulgate the laws, and philanthropists, Fundación Ayuda Niños La Paz, A.C., became a member of this organization in June of 2008.

Dulce and I attended the annual meeting held by CEMEFI in Mexico City November 10 – 12, 2008.

On November 10 we arrived at Hotel Camino Real Polanco as usual, a half hour early. That was fine, as we had to go through four (I counted them, there were four) metal detectors on the way to the meeting room. I thought there had been a bomb threat or something else to cause such attention to security. In the excitement of being in Mexico City I had forgotten that Felipe Calderon Hinojosa, Constitutional President of the United States of Mexico, was to open this meeting. (I didn't get to shake his hand.)

Three intense days of meetings, conferences and workshops followed.

I was impressed by people from all over the world who made presentations to this group of 700 people. Some of those present were Manuel Arango Arias, owner of Marina Costa Baja and president of the annual reunion 2008; Denise Dresser Guerra, a well known journalist who specializes in political science; Steve Gunderson, president of the Council on Foundations; and Josefina Vazquez Mota, who was appointed by President Felipe Calderon as secretary of Public Education and who developed the Alliance for Quality in Education. *Continued next column...*

Dulce and I reviewed the schedule of workshops, picked those which we felt would benefit the Foundation most. (Six workshops were held each day, and we each attended two different ones each day.) The two I attended which helped me immensely were about how to conduct campaigns for the annual fund (which consists of all monies raised by an organization to sustain its programs), and new laws concerning fiscal reporting of income and expenses conducted by an attorney from the office of the Secretary of Hacienda and Public Service (the counterpart to the IRS in the U.S.)

I also picked up some pointers on running an annual fundraising campaign, ideas which we are presently using for our scholarship program; and about “transparency”, which is so important that I'll write about it in a separate article.



Dulce attended workshops on how to write an annual report (this is why our report for 2008 was so professional); on how to form a “patronato”, (a support group responsible for fund raising for an organization), on which she is working right now to establish for FANLAP; and on how to write a Manual of Policies and Procedures, also in process. As important as what we learned about Foundation policy were the important contacts we made, one of which was with FUNDEMEX (Fundación del Empresariado en Mexico) founded in 2004 by the presidents of twelve businesses to allow them to combine forces within the business sector to combat poverty in Mexico.

Funds collected in La Paz by FUNDEMEX are used to pay tuition costs for students to attend CONALEP, a school which trains students for careers in nursing, pre-engineering, tourism and accounting. Dulce and I made an appointment with the office manager of FUNDEMEX to see if they would work with us, since many of our scholarship students attend CONALEP. We hope to have an agreement with them for school year 2009-2010.

###

Order tamales for your fiesta from the cooks at the Comedor; they are unbeatably eatable.

Volunteers Teach English

Every Thursday morning, the four of us meet at Marina de La Paz and drive about a half-hour to reach Colonia Márquez de León.

Here the streets are desert dirt, the homes are small and simple, some made out of scraps of this and that. This is the La Paz you don't see from the Malecon, the mall or tourist brochures. This is one of the colonias where the Fundación Ayuda de Niños La Paz (FANLAP) helps to ensure that children have at least one meal a day.



5th grade class at Colonia Márquez de León

We've been coming here since September 2008 as FANLAP volunteers and at the invitation of Enriqueta Beltran Verdugo, the director of the small public primary school, to teach English to 70 fifth and sixth graders. Our students now greet us in English with "Good morning," and we are as proud as they are to exchange the greeting "How are you?" and the response "I'm fine, thank you."

The classroom teachers are learning English with their students. We volunteers are studying Spanish and speak it well enough to get our point across eventually. We correct their English pronunciation, they correct our Spanish. We are learning together.

The four of us do not have formal teacher training or experience, but we and three others who substitute from time to time, took on this challenge because we wanted to give something back to La Paz. We have no illusion that

Continued next column...

our efforts will result in their English fluency this year, we are simply providing them an introduction. If these students are able to continue their schooling through middle and high school, they will be required by their government to learn English. We are helping this primary school give them a jump start. These kids need every advantage they can get.

We use a workbook and interactive computer program provided by the Department of Education and supplement with songs and activities from our own individual experiences and activities found on English as a Second Language (ESL) Internet sites.

Our classes are full of individual participation, applause for accomplishments and smiles. Sometimes, students struggle with a concept and we and they are rewarded when their faces light with understanding.



6th grade class at Colonia Márquez de León

We are charmed by these beautiful children and are further rewarded by the hope that learning English now will help them obtain a brighter future for themselves and the next generation. --Barb Conley (s/v Philosea), Phyllis Patton, Joan Grooms (s/v Charlotte Ann), Cathy Winn (m/v Oso Negro).

We need volunteer English teachers for the 2009-2010 school year. If you'd like to help, please contact Mary at Marina de La Paz.

Please Help Continue FANLAP Programs – They are Sustained by People Like You

1. Via the Internet, visit: <http://donate.icf-xchange.org/donate.php/losninosdelapaz>
2. You may leave cash or a check written on a Mexican bank at the office of Marina de La Paz, or mail it to: FANLAP at Calle Santiago 320, Colonia Bella Vista, La Paz, BCS., 23050
3. Mail a check drawn on a U.S. bank to: International Community Foundation, 2505 N. Avenue, National City, California 91950, USA.

2008 Annual Report

Palapa El Manglar was the setting for a mid-morning presentation of FANLAP's Annual Report on its project and its accomplishments during 2008. Board members were on hand to answer questions during the first social half-hour; guests talked, looked at a brief video, picked up literature, and enjoyed coffee, juice, and pan dulce under the palapa. The rest of the meeting was in the salon where Judy Peterson (in English) and Dulce Cota (in Spanish) elucidated on statistics illustrating the Foundation's work, emphasizing the growth of scholarship aid.

Thanks to Palapa El Manglar and its staff for the use of the palapa, to students of Universidad Mundial for set-up, to Tanxel Publicidad for donating the design of our annual report, and to Elena Rodrigues and her staff for providing the tasty brunch.

The complete Annual Report can be found on our website at www.lapazninos.org

#

A Small Helping Hand Gifts for Children

Will you visit La Paz some time during the next year? In between now and then will you be a guest in a motel? Do you have grand children who are getting older? Do you have a wonderful dentist and dental hygienist? If so, you can lend a helping hand to the children of the Colonias of La Paz where the Foundation works.

These items don't take much room and don't weigh much: pencils, pens and colored markers; tooth brushes and toothpaste; shampoo and hand lotion; socks and underwear; cars and dinosaurs; and especially Barbie and Bratz doll clothes. We have a bag full of dolls as bare as the day they were born!

These gifts are much more appropriate gifts than candy and keep a smile on a face for much longer.

Donations

All who work with Fundación Ayuda Niños La Paz A.C. are volunteers with the exception of a librarian and our administrative assistant. Some of the volunteers drive over 300 miles a month without receiving reimbursement even for gasoline.

Tax deductible donations may be made payable to International Community Foundation, 2505 N. Avenue, National City, California, 91950 USA. Please put "Children of La Paz" on the lower left-hand corner of your check. Or make an on-line donation at <http://donate.icf-xchange.org/donate.php/losninosdelapaz>.

A check drawn on a **Mexican** bank, in pesos or in U.S. dollars, may be made payable to Fundación Ayuda Niños La Paz A.C. and mailed to Calle Santiago #320, Col. Bella Vista, 23050 La Paz, B.C.S., Mexico.

Or deposit directly to our account at Banamex. Use account number 09620066750 to donate pesos or account number 09629017914 to donate U.S. dollars.

If you wish to have a tax deductible receipt from Mexican income taxes for your donation, please contact FANLAP at the above address.

Thank you for your help. Together we can make a difference in the lives of these children.

For more information please send an email to either of the following addresses:

jupete49@hotmail.com

fanlap@hotmail.com

anyracs@hotmail.com



Club Rotario La Paz Balandra continues to provide medical consultations to children of the colonias.

Muchas gracias to Tortilleria Rosita I y II for their generous help with our programs. Please support them too.

Fundación Ayuda Niños La Paz, A.C.

INCOME AND EXPENSES IN PESOS 2008

Income		
From Trinity Lutheran Church		49590.00
From Club Cruceros Subasta		90053.00
From SEDESOL		151607.00
CCC donation of centavos		173463.74
From ICF (operating expenses and scholarships)		722360.00
From ICF (library construction costs)		424700.00
Miscellaneous Donations		40600.00
TOTAL		1652373.74
Expenses		
Scholarships		559985.23
Breakfast kitchen (food and supplies)		32169.75
Dining Room (food and supplies)		188070.12
General Expenses		51086.35
Library Construction		424700.00
Library Expenses		32436.77
Pickup		88998.18
Office Equipment		5382.60
Employee taxes		9622.04
Operating Expenses (other)		68010.54
TOTAL		1460461.58

Library for Colonia Laguna Azul Becoming a Reality



Children celebrating the beginning of the library project

For more information about the Fundación Ayuda Niños La Paz, A.C. or this Boletín Informativo, visit our website: www.lapazninos.org