



Sus donaciones al futuro de La Paz  
**¡Viva la diferencia!**

Your donations to the future of La Paz



**Welcome to the *Boletín Informativo* of FUNDACION AYUDA NIÑOS LA PAZ, A.C.**

This newsletter has three aims: to let you know what has happened in our past 11 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.

**SUBASTA 2008 – November 30**

**Subasta** (Spanish for auction) is Club Cruceros' biggest fundraiser for the Fundación Ayuda Niños La Paz.

**From its humble beginning ten years ago** with the auction of a few nautical items from the back of a pick-up truck in Marina de La Paz which netted a few hundred dollars for the Club Cruceros Charity Committee...



**Subasta 1988**

...to **Subasta 2007**, which netted approximately \$10,000 to support the lunch program where 150 children are given a hot lunch 5 days a week through the school year...**Subasta** continues to be an opportunity to enjoy yourself and do good for others at the same time. See you there!



**Children from Colonia Marquez de Leon operating their booth at Subasta 2001**

**Subasta Success Depends on Volunteers!**

Bring us your donations ahead of time for sale at the Bazaar; bid for your not-to-be-missed treasure at the Silent Auction; compete vigorously at the Un-silent Auction for a real deal; chow down on the home-baked goodies with your morning coffee; and enjoy a beer with your hotdog or taco at lunch. Volunteer to help set up and manage a booth for part of a day. There's a lot to do and it's an excellent way to get to meet people. Contact a Club Cruceros member to find out how you can help.

Learn more about both organizations on the web at [www.clubcruceros.org](http://www.clubcruceros.org) and at [www.lapazninos.org](http://www.lapazninos.org).

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



## Have you heard?

➤ **Veronica Menchaca Tinoco** is our new administrative assistant. For the last two years, we knew we needed someone to handle the filing, accounting and office work necessary to maintain the foundation. At the same time, we wanted to make sure most of the money donated goes to the children. In order to save expenses of renting an office, we converted an unused room at Calle Santiago #320 into our base of operations, added a computer, and hired Veronica. Which brings us to her first great accomplishment....



*Mary, Veronica and Judy at SEDESOL*

March 9 of this year, SEDESOL (Secretary of Social Development) had an Internet announcement inviting associations such as ours submit projects which may be eligible to receive Federal funds, up to \$200,000 pesos (about \$20,000 USD).

Our just-hired administrative assistant and I visited Miguel Angel Jordan from the local office to see if our lunch program would qualify to receive funds. He said "yes", we said "muy bien" and this began three weeks of filling out the multitude of pages of the application, going to see Sr. Jordan for his perusal and suggested changes, re-filling out the application, reprinting, revisions by Sr. Jordan until the final copy, indeed a masterpiece, was sent to Mexico City.

We were one of ten projects submitted; of that number 8 were approved by the Federal Government. Three of those did not complete the requirements to receive the award, so on June 17 we were one organization of five who received a check. The total award to us is 151,607 pesos or more or less 15,000 USD. Veronica has already earned her keep.

## Have you heard continued...

- **In December of 2007** we received authorization from Hacienda (the Mexican counterpart to the IRS) to give tax deductible receipts for Mexican donations. Soon we will apply for the right to give receipts for donations from the United States.
- **Final count for scholarships 2008 2009 are:** 116 to junior high school, 61 to senior high and 5 to University or other institution of higher learning. We also gave uniforms and shoes to 15 students at the request of SAMM (the governmental agency to prevent violence to women and children) and 22 at the request of SEP (Secretary of Public Education). The total estimated cost for our scholarship program 2008 2009 is \$60,000 USD. Thanks to those who donated to this project and to those who will donate during the year to help us keep these students in school.
- **Reinhart Family Foundation**, who granted 25,000 USD each year for five years, is no longer funding money for scholarships to Mexican students who wish to attend school past the sixth grade. Because of their love of archeology and their hands-on work in Guatemala, they are now devoting all their efforts in that area. We are grateful for their faith in us when our foundation was in its infancy.
- **Our scholarship program** is for students who have grades of B average or better. We have long wished to help those students who work to capacity but just are not able to improve grades above a C average; at times this is only because the student does not understand a particular subject. With the help of a local Montessori teacher who wishes to remain anonymous, Dulce (our secretary who has her Masters degree in Ericksonian Psychotherapy), has developed a program to help students who go below the required B average. The student will have to attend her workshops or will be dropped from our scholarship program.
- **Club Rotario La Paz Balandra**, one of our partners in the Library/Learning Center Project, has received a grant from Rotary Foundation to build two mobile medical units. The units have arrived, and we have signed an agreement with CRLP Balandra to have medical consultations provided to children enrolled in our programs. We're happy to be part of this endeavor.

*Continues on page 5 ...*

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

## Educational Forum – April 6 – 9 2008, Colima, Mexico

Three hours southwest of Guadalajara, at 4000 feet above sea level, nestled below a volcano, lies the little town of Cofradia de Suchitlan. Twelve to fifteen hundred people live here, depending on whether or not you count the new developments outside the town proper. Most of the inhabitants of the area work in one of two ejidos in either the sugar cane or the coffee industry.

Here live Ted Rose and Susan Hill, founders of Project Amigo, A.C. The mission of Project Amigo is helping children of all ages overcome the impoverished condition of their families. Working with Rotary groups all over the U.S.A., they have accomplished much in their twenty-five years of community service; building a pre-school/kindergarten at the sugar cane camp (and providing a teacher for the school), loaning computers to grade schools and providing teachers to train the grade school teachers to use them, running two boarding houses (albergues), one for girls and one for boys who come from outlying pueblos to attend University or other higher education. In addition, they have a scholarship program much like that of FANLAP.



Cofradia de Suchitlan was the site of the second annual Education Forum sponsored by International Community Foundation of San Diego from April 6 – 9 this year.

On April 6, Ted picked up four Baja California Sur participants (one from Todos Santos, two from Cabo San Lucas, and me, Judy Peterson, from La Paz) at the bus terminal in Guadalajara, a three-hour drive to Cofradia de Suchitlan. We passed through farm land and cattle ranches, past restaurants serving tortas ahogadas, pozole, tacos de rajas, tacos de papas and other traditional Jalisco fare. Cofradia de Suchitlan is very attractive with brightly painted cement block houses surrounded by bougainvillea, poinsettias and ferns. We were delivered to our rooms to freshen up, after which we set off for a tour of Colima.

Upon our return to the "Hacienda," the main meeting room/office/dining room of Project Amigo, we were met by the rest of the attendees of the conference; one woman from Tijuana and three from Nayarit. All of the attendees  
*Continued in next column...*

are volunteers with civil associations aimed at education of children. Representing International Community Foundation were Amy Carstensen and John Wiater. The objectives of the two full days of meetings were to gain a better understanding of the Mexican educational system, to generate tangible goals to improve our organizations' long term vision, to think about how our

organizations are having an impact in our respective communities, and to formulate strategies to engage other residents of our communities in our work within that community.

I came away from the meeting confident that we should continue administering our projects much as we have been, concentrating on nutrition, education, and psychological help for those children who need it. I also learned that it would serve us well to attempt to broaden our involvement with other community groups. An example of our current involvement with the community is our library building, a joint project of FANLAP and the three levels

(municipal, state, and federal) of the government, and Club Rotario Balandra. But we could do more.

Project Amigo requires all scholarship students and those who live in their boarding houses to participate in a "Homework Club" monitored by a hired teacher. This helps to ensure that each student develops a code of helping themselves and their companions to work to capacity.

Our Board should also consider incorporating into our policy an agreement between FANLAP and the scholarship student a way to repay at least some of what they have received from us; this after he/she has completed schooling and is employed, by helping another needy student to continue his/her education.

We appreciate ICF for again giving us the opportunity to work with other organizations like ours to better our programs.

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

## CCC REDONDEO RESULTS

### Small Change Can Make a Big Difference

If you are like me, you hate those small coins that so easily get lost in your purses or drag down your pockets and are worth absolutely “nada.”

Between September 1, 2007 and April 30, 2008, with a two month hiatus for a drive to raise money to help the inhabitants of Chiapas and Tabasco who lost so much due to flooding and hurricane damage in October and November, the CCC supermarkets had a “redondeo” in which their clients could donate that small change to one of two local civil organizations.

One of them was FANLAP. The result of the “redondeo” was \$173,463.74 pesos (about \$16,500 USD). We of the Fundación think that \$173,463.74 is a lot of money.



*FANLAP children pose with CCC Redondeo check*

Thank so much to all those who chose to donate their centavos to our programs. We will use this money to cover part of the construction costs of building the second floor onto our building in Colonia Laguna Azul, which will house a library and study center.

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## Fundacion Ayuda Niños La Paz

### Annual Meeting – January 17, 2009

Our annual meeting is held in January each year. At this meeting the Board both summarizes the work accomplished during the previous year, and presents our work plan for the coming year.

At this meeting sign-up sheets are provided for volunteers. If you have a special talent, such as teaching art and/or crafts or English; or tutoring in math or Mexican history, or any other appropriate subject; or assembling usable computer packages out of donated equipment for scholarship students, we can use your help. Bilingual or only-English speakers can purchase and deliver the weekly supplies for our lunch or breakfast program. Spanish-speakers who have a vehicle may volunteer to pick up and deliver in-kind donations. Volunteers for fundraising and publicity are always welcome.

The Annual Meeting is open to all. Please come, meet the Board and like-minded volunteers, and learn first hand what we accomplish within the La Paz community. The next meeting will be held in January 17, 2009 - time and place to be announced.



*Children benefiting from the Lunch Program*

### Please Help Continue These 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.

## Expansion of the Community Center/Library Project

As we mentioned in our Spring 2008 Newsletter, our dream of constructing a library/study center as a second floor in the present building located in Colonia Laguna Azul will soon be realized.

Having received three anonymous donations through International Community Foundation, 10,000 USD each, to which we added 10,000 USD already in our "Friends of Fund" at ICF, and having secured the construction permits, we have started construction. We have also received a building materials from the State Government.

We are two-thirds of the way to our goal of collecting 61,000 USD to complete this project. We should also mention costs have steadily increased since that budget was prepared.

As mentioned before, this is a collaboration of FANLAP and its many donors, Club Rotario La Paz Balandra, and the three levels of the government.

To read more about this project, you may access our Spring 2008 Newsletter by entering the following address in your browser:  
[http://www.lapazninos.org/new\\_site/content/newsletters/spring/2008.pdf](http://www.lapazninos.org/new_site/content/newsletters/spring/2008.pdf)

Thank you for your help in constructing what will be the only NGO-owned library in Mexico.

# # #

## Have you heard continued from page 2 ...

➤ **CEMEFI (Centro Mexicana de Filantropia)** is an organization of companies, individual donors and associations like us who are looking for money. After having received authorization to give tax deductible receipts, we have joined CEMEFI. Through them we will apply to other sources for funding. Dulce and Judy will attend their annual meeting in Mexico City the 10<sup>th</sup> through 12<sup>th</sup> of November of this year.

➤ **CCC** (the local grocery store which we wrote about in connection with the donation of centavos) is now giving us a donation of fruits and vegetables that are not of the quality necessary for sale, but are still useable. Six days a week Pete was picking up the donation in our PT Cruiser, not really designed to do this type of work.

Michael House, a student of International Development at a University in San Diego, had to perform 160 hours of community service with a nonprofit. He just happened to have access to a Ford 150 pickup truck and did the work through August (thank you to Michael and his family). We later received two generous donations (anonymous) and were able to purchase a used pickup, thereby saving wear and tear on our personal car.

➤ **La Perla Department Store**, owned by Grupo Ruffo which also owns CCC, is now asking their clients to donate their centavos to FANLAP. Many don't realize they have opened their store across the street from their large department store burned down a couple of years ago. Although this store is much smaller than the original, it still offers quality clothing, jewelry, handbags, et cetera. Your points cards from CCC also are accepted at La Perla.

# # #

## Donations

All who work with Fundación Ayuda Niños La Paz A.C. are volunteers with the exception of a librarian, a University student, 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/losniniosdelapaz>.

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](mailto:jupete49@hotmail.com)

[fanlap@hotmail.com](mailto:fanlap@hotmail.com)

[anyracs@hotmail.com](mailto:anyracs@hotmail.com)

## Other News



*The La Paz City President witnessed an agreement between Club Rotario La Paz Balandra Rotary and Fundación Ayuda Niños La Paz, A.C.*



*Your donations help the children of La Paz.*

*Muchas gracias to El Uniforme (Uniformes y Accesorios de BCS) and Baja Escolar (Distribuidora Escolar de BCS) for their generous help with our programs. Please support these businesses too.*

## JULY 1, 2008 – JUNE 30, 2009 BUDGET

**July 1, 2008 - June 30, 2009  
IN DOLLARS**

| <b>Projects</b>                                 | <b>Estimated Cost</b> |                  |
|---|-----------------------|------------------|
| Dining Room Food                                | 21195.80              |                  |
| Breakfast Kitchen Food                          | 4000.00               |                  |
| Building fund (library)                         | 70000.00              |                  |
| Librarian                                       | 7200.00               |                  |
| Library Maintenance                             | 6000.00               |                  |
| Scholarships                                    | 60000.00              |                  |
| Administrative Assistant<br>and office expenses | 10000.00              |                  |
| <b>Total</b>                                    |                       | <b>178395.80</b> |

| <b>Donors</b>                            | <b>On Hand</b>   | <b>To Receive</b> |                  |
|--|------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| Trinity Lutheran Church-<br>breakfast    |                  | 4000.00           |                  |
| Trinity Lutheran Church-<br>lunch        |                  | 7200.00           |                  |
| On hand July 2, 2008-<br>general fund    | 8615.50          |                   |                  |
| SEDESOL dining room                      | 6489.66          |                   |                  |
| SEDESOL lunch to<br>receive in September |                  | 7580.30           |                  |
| Library building                         | 40000.00         |                   |                  |
|  | 15000.00         |                   |                  |
| Club Cruceros Subasta<br>November 2008   |                  | 12000.00          |                  |
| Other donations<br>throughout the year   |                  | 12000.00          |                  |
| Received from ICF                        | 42000.00         |                   |                  |
|  | <b>112105.16</b> | <b>42780.30</b>   |                  |
| <b>Total on Hand and to<br/>Receive</b>  |                  |                   | <b>154885.46</b> |

**SHORTFALL**

**23510.34**

*For more information about the Fundacion Ayuda Niños La Paz, A.C. or this Boletín Informativo,  
visit our website: [www.lapazninos.org](http://www.lapazninos.org)*