

Casa de Angeles

"House of Angels. Home of Hope."

Spring 2005

Memo from Mickey

I recall that in my first Spring message in 2002, I referred to you, the donors, as the owners of the Foundation and the orphanage. At that time there were almost 300 of you. Now, three years later, there are 600 of you and many of you have donated time and time again. So, this Spring's newsletter is both to thank you for all of your support and to bring you up to date on the progress of the children and the orphanage.

My wife and I have just returned from a month in Guatemala. This Spring each of the other members of the Board of Directors were able to visit the children and Sisters, too. I can only report the progress being made as "astonishing."

The 28 children, (14 girls and 14 boys, coincidentally), are happy, well nourished, healthy, rambunctious, and excited about their young lives and their 'family'. And, it is truly as a family that they see themselves. You can see this in the way they gather around anyone who is feeling frightened and the way they flock to aid anyone who falls or has an accident. Six of the children attend the local primary school, with Claudia in the lead in 5th grade. (Cont'd)

Save These Dates!

Mark your calendars for these events:

5th Annual Abalone Fiesta

Saturday, September 10, 2005

Westminster Presbyterian Church

Tiburon, California

A raffle and a silent auction will be featured. Please begin thinking about donation items now.

Contact Mickey Golbus for details.

4th Annual Halloween Party

Saturday, October 29, 2005

Corvallis, Oregon

Prizes for best costumes plus dancing, music, and a silent auction. Contact Pete Hinckle with auction items.

Special Donations

Over the last year, we have received three substantial donations from institutions. We wish to thank: The Seton Institute of San Francisco, St. James Catholic Church of Savannah, and St. Mary's Parish of Corvallis. In addition, we would like to recognize individual donors: Mary & Peter Hinckle, Vicki & David Stollmeyer, Norm Laboe, Linda & Peter Fox, Janet & Scott Jones, Judy & Robert Greber.

A Memo from Mickey, cont'd.

They are all serious students, anxious to show us their homework, (and receive our praises). The medical challenges continue, but are under control. Three of the children had open heart surgery in the past year, but all have done well post-operatively. We have a new child with Crouzon's syndrome (a premature closure of the skull bones) and we are arranging a neurosurgical consultation in Guatemala City to evaluate his care.

The physical progress of the orphanage continues at a great pace. The Sisters and children have been living in the new dormitories for the last 9 months and love the room and freedom provided by these quarters. We are now building a reception area opposite the entry gates, and behind this is the common building, containing the multi-purpose room (with its stage), dining hall, kitchen, pantries, and infirmary. We hope to have these structures complete and serving the orphanage by the end of summer. Casita 'A' has been changed into a permanent pre-school classroom with a supporting computer room and Casita 'C' is serving as housing for the two novices. Casita 'B' will be available for adult housing as the staff is enlarged.

It is you, the donors, who have made all this happen. You are changing the future of these children and, through them, the future of Guatemala. On behalf of the Board of Directors, thank you.

Mickey Golbus, M. D., President

Pete's Report

Peter Hinckle, M.D., Casa de Angeles Foundation pioneer and Board Member, recently returned from his annual visit to the orphanage. This is part of what he had to share with us: "The orphanage has a new dog kennel to house the two guard dogs that are currently in training. They also have a young calf and a vegetable garden with corn and sugar cane. The garden will grow larger soon, with many more vegetables added.

We brought along more 'quillows,' books, and school supplies. We also presented the Sisters and the children with a photo album of the orphanage's history since we first met the Sisters, in 1999 in Acatenango, just one year after they emigrated from Spain. They all loved the album. In return, at lunch they sang a lovely 'grace' for us and later sang, "My Bonnie Lies Over the Ocean," in English!"

Please Contact Us!

Contact us with your donations, items for auction, or whatever is on your mind regarding the Foundation and orphanage. You will receive a prompt and personal reply.

Casa de Angeles Foundation
501 San Pedro Cove
San Rafael, CA 94901

415.482.8375 (phone)

415.482.8376 (fax)

casaangeles@aol.com

www.casadeangeles.org