

The Sweet 16th Visit to Malingua Pamba, Ecuador with 6 SWEET volunteers
March-April 2011

Pre-Trip Preparations:

Special thanks to my Packing Party - Frank, Mike, Suzal, Karly, Frances & Katie. PLUS thanks to Joel and Mike for delivering the 25 boxes to DIA & William Dise of AirAmb.



March-April '11 Travelers:



Daniel

This spot is for Your Picture. My next trip will probably be in Oct. 2012. Mark your calendars!

- We now have 14 teachers & assistants "on campus" of which 10 are paid for by the EC government.
- *Universidad Technica de Cotopaxi* (UTC) visit and meeting with Rector as well as "our university" students; home visits to see the living environment of our 'universitarios'
- Tutoring of our UTC universitarios by Lark and pam;
 - Mom donated her computer & printer to Enma, our Valedictorian → she was overwhelmed!



Latacunga Rotary Club held this mtg in private home.



Don Miguel Sansur; "In Getting Lost, I Find Myself."
Sr. Holquin donated 200 tomate del árbol



Enma gets lesson on how to use her new computer. This 'new life' in the provincial seat, 2 hrs away from family and familiar customs is VERY difficult for our universitarios.

- "Power Point Presentations are Us" - I gave my PPT to the Latacunga Rotary, Colegio La Minga, Elementary School in M.P., and Elementary in Tunguiche. Included in this was :
 - "The Story" & how the community spirit of the Kichwa (Quechua) has "robbed my heart";
 - message about the 'power of mingas' (barn raising) building all school bldgs & water systems;
 - purposes of and how to use composting toilet including upcoming EWB Erosion Project
 - distribution of toothbrushes & announcing upcoming Dental visit by JLMF by Mark Backlin;
 - Trash Clean-up Project and daily trash pickup.

- Special Acknowledgements:**
- ♥ *Esperance Family Foundation*
 - ♥ *Jack Forte Foundation, Inc.*
 - ♥ *Rotary Clubs of Golden and Granby* esp. our champion Eden Recor.
 - ♥ *Jen Stanzel & her girls* for a mountain of clothes and shoes.
 - ♥ *Airline Ambassadors (AA) & William Dise* for shipping our 25 boxes gratis to EC.
 - ♥ *Norma Gilbert* for computer and printer
 - ♥ *McGuckins Hdwr* for discount & donations.
 - ♥ *Rhonda Farrell* for sewing machine & fabric
 - ♥ *Jeff Shaw* for 3 monitors.
 - ♥ *FHS* for school supplies - 2 boxes full !
 - ♥ *Dr. Potts, Sandy & MDDHS* for toothbrushes
 - ♥ *McCoys* for toys & electrical supplies AND, of course,
 - ♥ to ALL of our "guagua" Sponsors ! ♥

- *Ecuador TV* spent a day filming including a re-enactment of my getting lost. Waiting for the airing of this clip.
- Pam taught math, English, sewing, salsa, and the two-person jump roping technique!
- Clothing Give-Away - See pics below.



Jill divided clothing into categories.



People waiting their turn. To be fair, it was a lottery draw based on minga attendance.



Two very excited 'winners' shopping. Thanks Jen & girls!

First 'Wave' of 3 Volunteers:

Pics of our stars 'relaxing', followed by how we met & the skill they shared in M.P., and pic of them in action.



Mike Arias - met in Sep '10 while we both were volunteering at the CO Master Gardener Desk. Mike is interested in everything and an owner of an electrical company in Colorado.



Chris Quartetti - son of one of the "Chicago Dentists" whom I have known for 15-20 yrs. Currently on a 'walk-about'. He is a seeker of knowledge and an expert in computers.



Daniel Verschatse - met in '80 while motorcycling to Alaska ; flew in from Chile; CEO of S. Am. branch of German h.f. coaxial connector company; is astronomy devotee & bicyclist.



Electrical problems solved in the Colegio Viejo esp. computer lab; Paulino's Hostal, and in a classroom in Tunguiche.



Chris got 9 computers working up to tempo - it only took 40 hrs - WOW! He also taught classes on compu maintenance & juggling.



Daniel gave electrical lessons; made elec. repairs, translated & gave astronomy lessons - all in 4 days!

Second 'Wave' of 3 Volunteers:



Lark McCoy - she read the article about M.P. in the Granby Rag in Dec. '07 and began supporting Centro Educativo La Minga, Inc.



Drew McCoy - alias MacGyver - they accepted my invitation to come to EC. Lark & Drew are an incredible team with a wealth of skills.



Suzal - met in '09 in Rapid Refill. Retired art teacher and more who master-minded the mural on Edificio Grande in Apr '10. 2nd trip to M.P.

None of this would have been possible without "Mama Julia: Our intrepid chauffeur, translator & "Jewish Mama".



As I brought home-canned applesauce for Elvia, our hostess, this inspired Jill to make the "mother of all Latke"!

So I will end with describing our "Greeting Ceremony". Some of the 37 ladies who participated in the Organic Farm Trip & received seeds showed us their produce from their 'new & improved' gardens - in front of 300 people! They were SO PROUD! Now Eden & I are planning a Nutrition Course.



And the incredible leadership, vision, & selflessness of Paulino & Elvia Sacatoro: President of Malingua Pamba & hostess of hostel

He is basically the 'superintendent' & teacher in our K-12 school, Pres. of Potable Water System, go-to-guy for ANY problems including emergency fixes of water system, mediator, transportation for goods into & out of M.P., and seeker of knowledge.



I even had time to teach math, English, sewing, & salsa all week. It was **SO FINE** !!!

Celia - our overachiever :-)



Come join me some-time! pam

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