

## The 18th Visit - April 2013

It never ceases to amaze me what a difference two weeks can make - especially when you have a **Dream Team** of Volunteers! Let me introduce them to you.



Top row: **Charlie** - mainly known as "Mono Loco" (crazy monkey) - is a pilot who found us through Airline Ambassadors. (BTW: AirAmb helped us get our boxes full of educational and health supplies to EC at a lower cost.) Charlie could and did do **everything** including keeping us laughing; **Pamelita** - with new title of 'Boss' as designated by Alex; **Amy** - one of Centro Educativo La Minga's (CELM) new Board members. In this, her 2<sup>nd</sup> trip in the same number of years, she brought lots of joy to our little ones including playground games and songs; **Alejandro (Alex)** - CELM's new Multi-Media Specialist - is a jack of all trades. Together with MonoLoco, they refurbished the kindergarten including re-locating the DVD&TV so that our very motivated kindergarten teacher, Lily could actually use it;

Bottom row: **JennyB** - our other new CELM Board Member. Her first visit was on her own back in 2007. True to her nickname "Jenny Can Do It", a few of the things that she accomplished were hygiene training for the "kindergarten moms" with 'graduation gifts'; toothbrush lessons and distribution; and, perhaps the best part, was to enjoy her 'godchild' Ivan that she has been sponsoring since 2007.

**Jill Saré** - our trusty translator / chauffeur / Jewish mama. Jill's mammoth achievement was revising/revamping the pre-Global Grant questionnaire (which she was great at doing), then being the main interviewer (which she thoroughly enjoyed) and then collating the results including writing four individual narratives. Sadly, she has announced that she has to 'retire' from coordinating our visits. She has left behind a fabulous legacy of helping the Engineers Without Borders trips since 2006 and many of my volunteer trips. She will be sorely missed.

**Georgia** - it was delightful to have my second niece (age 16) join us for the first weekend. She even practiced speaking Spanish! ;-)



## A Marathon of Meetings while in Latacunga

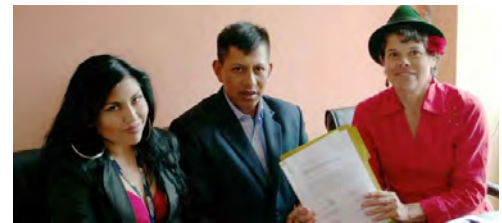
### Dinner Meeting with Nuestros Universitarios

I asked each one for their idea(s) to improve their community after graduation; the intensity of their response was palpable!!! Present: Gladys, William, Freddy, Raul, Pedro, Lautaro, Mario, Mauro, Enma, Ignacio, and Alejandro.



Ignacio Sacatoro is taking his role as President of Malingua Pamba seriously. When he came by Hostal Tiana, Latacunga to begin our two days of meetings, he was all dressed up. We started our day at the Oficina de Gestion Inmobiliaria with a poorly organized Sally Garzol who lost some paperwork re: Tipo B Education. But upon our insistence, found it at the last moment.

Next we tried (several times) to meet with Blanca Guamangate, prefectura. She has the ability to help with roads, erosion, etc., but was never available; only accepts appointments two days/week.



Rector Guido Yauli, pro-temp de **Universidad Tecnica de Cotopaxi**. We discussed tutors for our Universitarios. The Rector is also willing to donate desks for Colegio Minga.

### **The MOST Important Meeting - El Ministerio de Educacion de Cotopaxi - Sra. Gladys Vaca**



First we met over lunch, then moved to her office along with Juan Ulloa of Unidad Educativa (our Colegio currently operates under his direction.) We discussed Educacion Tipo B and the future of our Colegio La Minaa and its incorporation under El Ministerio.



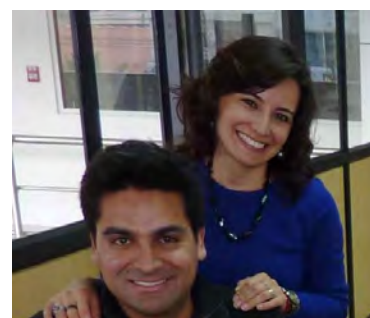
Rotary Club of Latacunga - Alex presented "Geoff's Relleno" - water infiltration technique; Jean Brown explained about a Rocket Stove; and I explained about the questionnaire as a technique for pre-Global Grant assessment.



SECAP - a vocational training school. Belen and Diego coordinated this meeting, but Gabriela Reinoso didn't fulfill her promise to come to Malingua Pamba to initiate any training; hence.

On to Malingua... the first of three **Big Greeting/T.Y. Ceremonies**

On the first weekend, the Colegio had dances and a skit, mid-week, the Elementary School did likewise including a Beauty Contest with guys dressed up as the contestants complete with wigs and high heels, and on the last weekend, Quinta Tunguiche coordinated an excellent program which was also enjoyed by the Latacunga Rotarians.



#### **Meeting of Potable Users:**

##### Agenda Items:

- \* PPT from Field Trip to Coast
- \* Payment of System Fees
- \* Potential Features of Global Grant including Questionnaire
- \* PPT on Birth Control including assistance from universitarios



#### Visit from Subcentro de Salud

- \* Dentist Roberto
- \* Dra. Sophia on Puberty



#### Modified Rocket Stove - Global Grant

By Jean Brown at the home of Luis Arturo Toaquiza and Delia

Purposes of Stove:

- \* to use less wood hence less time spent seeking wood and less deforestation
- \* source of heat (heated 'bench')





### Overview of Accomplishments during Apr '13:

- \* Refurbishing of Kindergarten Area
- \* Minga for Maintenance Issues on campus
- \* Teacher In-service for Educational Materials
- \* Hygiene Lessons for Kindergarten moms
- \* Dental Lesson for Students by Dr. Robert
- \* Teacher In-service for Educational Materials
- \* Pre-Global Grant Questionnaire & Interest Survey
- \* Potable and Irrigation System Dues 90-95% paid-up
- \* Meeting with Guantugloma for Potable Water Project to be funded by Aurora Rotary Club
- \* Users marked on Map for Eng w/o Borders (EWB)
- \* Presented new Centro Educativo La Minga, Inc. (CELM) Board Members Jenny & Amy
- \* Presented new CELM Intern, Right-hand man, and Multi-Media Specialist, Alex Saldaña



\* Visit by Rotary Club of Latacunga



Guillermo, Pres., Xavier, Javier, Alex, Jill, Santiago, pam, Miguel,

Paulino has passed the gavel of the presidency of Malingua Pamba; he is staging to run for alcalde (county commissioner). I am excited to see what improvements he can facilitate in this role as supported by his wife and partner, our beloved Elvia.



As you can see, there is a cast of thousands who are responsible for making all of this come together. Let's give them a hand.



Karen & Bill brought chopsticks with them. Chopsticks in Malingua??!



Abracitos,  
pam  
Centro Educativo La Minga, Inc.  
More pics & vido on our NEW  
[www.escuelaminga.org](http://www.escuelaminga.org)

