
Washington State/Chile Partners of the Americas

Amigos Americanos

March 2003

Important Dates

TODAY: **Please remit 2003 dues.** Thanks.

March 13, May 8, July 10, Sept. 11: Partners Board meetings (all welcome)

Nov. 1: Annual Meeting (location TBD)

Nov. 20-22: Partners International Convention (Lexington, Kentucky--focus on cultural exchange)

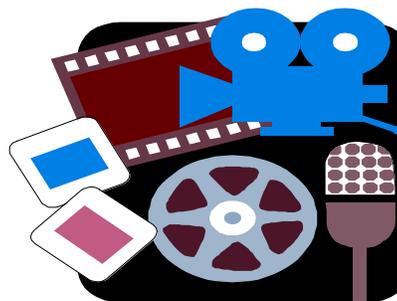
Washington Film Maker Attends Chilean Festival

Dr. BJ Bullert, Washington documentary film maker and Senior Research Fellow at the University of Washington's Center for Communication and Civic Engagement, spent the latter part of November and early December in Chile under a Partners-sponsored travel grant.

BJ's video, "Space Needle at 40," was accepted by the Tenth Chilean International Short-Film Festival, one of 450 short films submitted from 31 countries. The festival took place November 14-21 at the Cine Hoyts in the La Reina section of Santiago.

BJ's participation in the festival was arranged by Chilean Partner María Teresa Herrero (Chair of the Arts and Culture Committee), with assistance from other Chilean Partners and members of the Arts and Culture Committee. Committee member René Lara arranged a visit to Diego Portales University. Chilean Partners President Jorge Valenzuela

welcomed BJ to Santiago, and ex-President Augusta Crino hosted her in her home. Other visits arranged by the Chilean Partners included visits with professional women connected to Rotary and Partners, to the U.S. Embassy, to the University of Valparaíso and to the Binational Institute in Santiago. She also met several times with many of the Chilean Partners.



On BJ's return to Seattle, she was hosted at a potluck dinner by Paula Laschober, at which time she was able to show her Space Needle film and a video highlighting Chilean Partners and other aspects of her trip to attendees.

Future projects that may develop from BJ's visit to Chile include a U.S. Embassy invitation to propose a documentary film festival conveying the diversity of the United States, and visits to Seattle by a Chilean architect and two Chilean

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historians.

Washington /Chile Partners of the Americas

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President & Chairs - Chile

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Newsletter Editor: Paula Laschober, with photo help from John Morford. Convention photos from Susan Sola.

Partners 2002 International Convention in Quito

The 2002 Convention was held November 21-23 in Quito, Ecuador. The theme was "Working Together for Peace and Development."

Approximately 250 volunteers, staff and friends of Partners attended. As is true of all Partners

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conventions, participants were able to attend a wide variety of workshops, with topics including volunteer management, proposal writing, and gender analysis in project development and evaluation.



Convention opening ceremonies

Two new additions to the convention were the opportunity for participants to visit development projects before and during the convention, and a marketplace of ideas showcasing 30 citizen participation projects throughout the Americas.



Marketplace of ideas at Convention

Washington Partners were represented at the Convention by Susan Sola and Paula Laschober. Paula also brought five University of Washington students with her, some with grant funding from the university. The students arrived several days before the convention and

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were able to spend time learning about Partners development projects in Ambato and San José de Minas. During these visits, they were hosted by Ecuadorean Partners.



UW students Craig Lacy, Mari Matsumoto, Erika Gulyas, Silesia Hunter and Leslie Flores with Paula Laschober (left to right) at the Convention closing dinner in Quito

All seven Washington participants also visited a microenterprise project called Mushug Pacha ("New Earth" in Quechua). This project is led by Quito Partners President Santiago Andrade, who took time from his convention organizing activities to personally provide the tour to one of the project's workshops and its downtown commercial office.



Mushug Pacha candles, boxes and napkin rings

Mushug Pacha is dedicated to training and employing young people, some of whom are

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developmentally disabled, and all in need of income-generating opportunities, in the production and painting/finishing of useful and decorative objects for the home and office. One of the University of Washington students, Silesia Hunter, commented: "The talent of these young people is amazing. They are very passionate about their work and grateful to be part of such a project where they can express themselves through the art they create." This project received grant funding over the last year from a Partners of the Americas endowment fund created by the Laschober family for projects in microenterprise, youth, and education.



Mushug Pacha artists at work

2002 Annual Meeting

The Washington/Chile Partners held their annual meeting for 2002 on November 2 at Barnaby's Restaurant in Tukwila. Meeting activities included a discussion by BJ Bullert of her planned trip to Chile (see p. 1 of this newsletter) and updates on other planned projects.

Sr. Yvette Mallow was re-elected to a two-year Board term and Board member Mary Manos "retired." The Washington Partners would

welcome new Board members
(nominations/proposals accepted all year).

Washington Partners 2003 Officers Elected at January Board Meeting

The 2002 officers were re-elected for 2003 at the first Board meeting of the year, which took place at John Morford's home on January 9. The continuing officers are: Bill Zachmann, President; Susan Sola, 1st V.P., John Morford, Treasurer; Gwen Vernon, Secretary; and David Hedrick, 2nd V.P. for Central Washington. Paula Laschober will continue as Executive Director.

BJ Bullert attended the meeting to provide comments on her trip to Chile in November, noting especially future Partners exchanges that might develop from her contacts. Other issues discussed at the Board meeting included:

1. A summary of holiday salmon sales, provided by Buck Frymier. A total of \$200, which will be added to the local Partners travel fund, was earned on the sales.
2. Treasurer's report, by John Morford. John noted that \$4,508 are in the treasury, but that funds are quite a bit lower than they have been in recent past years. Several Board members contributed annual chapter dues at the meeting.
3. Potential projects/exchanges:
 - a) Chilean teacher Doris Venegas, who came to Washington in 2001 under a Partners travel grant, has reconnected with the Environment Committee and would like to pursue watershed projects;
 - b) Health projects: Buck Frymier may go to Chile to undertake joint planning, and Paul Mocha is still working on a proposal to bring a Chilean mental health worker to Washington.

Partners Grants Available

Farmer to Farmer: Technical assistance travel funds, North to South only.

Education and Culture: Travel grants and small project assistance (up to \$2,500) for educational methodology and curriculum, university linkages, arts and culture, environmental and civic education, justice and human rights, and minority and indigenous programs.

Teacher-in-Residence: Travel grants and up to \$400 for expenses to hosting chapter, for one-month exchanges in English language and culture programs involving Binational Centers.

Family Life Education: Travel and project assistance funds to strengthen the capacity of communities and institutions to address the need for family planning information and services.

Sports: a) Travel funds for coaches, to lead workshops, clinics and competitions (ends May 2003). b) TetraBrazil Soccer Programs bring professional Brazilian soccer coaches to the U.S. to run clinics and camps for American soccer players and coaches. Brazilian coaches stay in the U.S. for 8 weeks during the summer and stay with host families while running the soccer programs.



Health: \$750 from the Venters Endowment for any health-related program. Proposals due by Sept. 15, 2003.



1996 Washington/Chile Partners project--training of Chilean paramedics

Youth/Education/Microenterprise: \$1,000 from the Madelyn L. Laschober Endowment for any project in areas noted. Proposals due by Sept. 15, 2003.

Partnership Development: Up to \$1,500 per chapter or \$3,000 per partnership for projects that strengthen the organization--e.g., newsletters, web sites, software, training, and membership development/recruitment. Proposals due by Sept. 15, 2003.

More information on the opportunities described above can be found at www.partners.net, under Resource Information.

Partners Action Networks

Partners Action Networks (PANs) offer a new way for Partners volunteers to increase impact by communicating across our entire network on themes of common interest. The Internet makes this a feasible and effective undertaking. These interest groups will complement and strengthen the traditional geographic partnerships that will

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always be at the heart of Partners. There are three primary goals of PANs. The first is to create a communication mechanism for more efficient and effective sharing of best practices of Partners and others who are interested in a given field. Initially, these virtual partnerships, facilitated by email-based listserv groups supported by the Partners office in Washington, D.C., will be managed and moderated by volunteers. These groups could also be an effective recruiting mechanism for bringing new members interested in a theme into contact with local chapters, which leads to our second goal--strengthening our chapters and partnerships. Ultimately, the hope is to create PANs with program delivery capability and then seek funders for the activities and expansion of that network. For now, PANs must be established voluntarily, since there are currently no funds available for this purpose. If you are interested in participating in or moderating a PAN, please contact mclausen@partners.net.

Services Offered by Partners

Rodrigo Yáñez offers export consultant services to Washington companies interested in exporting their products to Latin American countries. Rodrigo has been in the business of trading in specialty crops with Latin America for over 20 years. He can be contacted at: phone (206) 575-1650, fax (206) 575-1697, e-mail ryanez@rodrigointl.com, or 16400 Southcenter Parkway, Suite 504, Seattle WA 98188.



See Rodrigo Yáñez' Web site at www.rodrigointl.com.

Barbara Houplin-Garcia offers flights to Chile that can help Partners travelers manage costs and often meet last-minute travel needs. Contact her at All-Around Travel/ Bellevue branch, (425) 861-0231, or



barbarag@Bellevue.AllAroundTravel.com.

Thanks for 2003 Dues

Individual: Pam Emerson, Buck Frymier, Barbara Houplin-Garcia, Paula Laschober, Yvette Mallow, Susan Sola, Gwen Vernon, Bill Zachmann.

Family: John and Jerene Morford, Ron and Carmen Kaler.

Patron/Lifetime: Walter Pereyra

2003 dues are now being gratefully accepted!

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ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

I am interested in becoming a PARTNER/renewing my membership. Please enroll me as the following:

Student-\$10	Business/Professional-\$100
Individual-\$30	Corporate/Institutions-\$250
Family -\$60	Patron-\$500 or more

Interests:

Name:

Address:

City, State, Zip:

Home Phone:

Business Phone:

Fax:

E-mail:

Membership for Year:

Date of Application:

Please mail application to: Partners of the Americas, P.O. Box 1017, Seattle, WA 98111-1017.

Washington/Chile Partners phone: (206) 367-6344

Partners Web site: www.partners.net

WA/Chile Partners Web site: www.washington-chile.org

The mission of our partnership is to build and sustain community between the people and institutions of Washington State and Chile, through the sharing of skills, knowledge, culture and friendship. All of our people-to-people programs are carried out jointly and are dedicated to providing mutual benefits to our two regions. Through projects in education, social development, health, environment, emergency management, economic development and the arts, we provide opportunities for our volunteers and supporters to promote international cooperation and understanding, as they enrich their own lives and the lives of others in our hemisphere.