



DIRECCIONES

Newsletter of the Arkansas-East Bolivia Partners of the Americas
Bob Frans, Ed., 276 Alzheimer Dr., Fayetteville AR 72704

January 9, 1998

Past-Presidents message

1997 has been filled with the excitement of travel for me - Mexico City in March, Singapore and Bali, Indonesia in June, Buenos Aires, Argentina and Santa Cruz, Bolivia in November, and Mucat, Oman and Amsterdam, the Netherlands in December! Winter's wintry winds, snowflake flurries, rain and sleet, plus below freezing temperatures have been tempered with warm temperatures, balmy breezes, and tropical shrubs, trees, and flowers. My respites followed by the past season of joy filled with the spirit of love have allowed me time to reflect back over the past months at the way by which we have become an interactive, global, cross-pollinated world and the role played in this phenomenon in Latin America by Partners of the Americas.

My tenure began with a wonderful Annual Meeting and banquet/dance celebration in 1995 attended by President **Aida McKenney** and culminated with my fabulous trip to Santa Cruz where I was hosted by **Blanquita de Callaú**, and feted by **Maria Teresa de Guillaux**, my host family during my visit to Santa Cruz in 1989.

At the beginning of my tenure, I called for initiatives in membership building, fundraising, improved communication between North and South and within Arkansas, maintenance and strengthening of ongoing projects/programs, publicity for the Partners, and building stronger relationships.

Although we have been working in

each of these areas, there remains so much more to do. As you recall, when one door closes, another one opens. Therefore, the work continues to expand.

*At the same time that we add members, we lose some.

*We have received monies for project proposals, especially in Farmer-to-Farmer (FTF), through the commendable work of **Phil Serafini**, Democratic Initiatives (DI) through the work of **Bettie Lu Lancaster**, and the Teacher in Residence Program (**Miguel Arrazola** spent a month in Arkansas), but we have not generated funds for extending the operation of the chapter and for implementing/enhancing project development.

*We obtained a Foundation Grant for a computer to aid in the improvement of communication via e-mail with Santa Cruz, but it has not yet been activated.

*We have maintained some of our projects including FTF (in fact, this is a major undertaking), DI, brucellosis, but we have had little support or help for such areas as culture, rehabilitation, economy, education, women in development, and youth development. To be noted, health is back underway through the efforts of **Thecia Taylor** and **Bill Parsons**, work even nominated for the award at the 1996 Annual Meeting in Boston, but the work of the Speakers Bureau needs to be strengthened.

*In building stronger relationships, we have provided varieties of experiences, both work and social for several visitors, including **Sonia Suarez**, **Patricia Sosa**, **Desiree Mostajo**, **Roxana Rivero**, **Jorge Audaza**, **Aida McKenney**, and the

three women traveling under the auspices of the Democratic Initiatives: **Mime de Gasser**, **Maria Cristina de Carazas**, and **Maria Yuja Gomez**, however, those of us who have been in East Bolivia still maintain that we can't match our **Compañeros Cruceños** in hospitality. The warmth, generosity, friendship and love demonstrated over and over, one-on-one and collectively by the Bolivian people truly warms our hearts.

Our chapter has had laudable successes: over the ten years of the existence of the Kellogg Fellowships, we have had five; pictures of two of our partnership fellows were found in the POA's Fellows document, **Leah Wilkinson** and **Desiree Mostajo**; 3 of our projects were nominated for awards in 1996; our newsletter, *Direcciones*, was commended for its dissemination of information received from the POA office; our chapter was highlighted in two cameos in the POA newsletter this year; we have witnessed steady growth (15 to 22) in the number of students enrolled at the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville (and we anticipate having similar numbers enrolling at the University of Central Arkansas in the near future); we are financially solvent; our By-Laws have been updated; our organizational structure permits easy transition of officers and directors; and our leaders, **Margaret Clark** and **Kay Kraeft** have benefited from Leadership Training Workshops at the POA office.

Let me thank you, Arkansas Partners, for permitting me to serve as your president for the past two years. It has been an honor for

me to represent you. I look forward to continuing to serve you and the Partners of the Americas in whatever ways I can.

The heart and soul of Partners, a grassroots volunteer organization, in my opinion, are truly reflected in these words from a poem written by **Rosario Villaroel** from Trinidad, Beni:

Cuando existe amistad y amor fraterno
No hay distancia, ni tiempo que separen,
Ne idiomas, ni costumbres que interfieran,
Si hay la libre voluntad de darse.

When friendship and brotherly love exist
There is no distance nor time that separates us,
Nor language, nor customs that interfere,
If we give ourselves freely.

Dear Partners, may we continue to give of ourselves freely.

Sincerely,

Margaret Clark

New President's message

As the holiday season and festivities are upon us, I am eager to share, as from one busy person to all of you equally busy people, my continued enthusiasm for all that Partners of the Americas is to me, as I hope it is also to all of you. My privilege of attending both the POA Leadership Conference in October and the Buenos Aires International Convention in November offered me once again the opportunity to glimpse just what an awesome and yet "user-friendly" organization we are a part of.

Although I have yet to sort through the mountains of materials that relate to my responsibilities, nevertheless some ideas begin to emerge that might in the near future help us to become more effective in what we do, to become better known by the public and to be able to accomplish even more

with the ever limited means at our disposal.

First, I want to get to know in a more personal way who we are. Therefore I will begin a process of meeting each and every current member and possibly some past members. Maybe you, like me, are not always aware of the many accomplishments, hopes, dreams, thoughts and ideas that abound among us. Second, as many of us know, we need a fresh plan for strategic and targeted recruitment of new members. This will require the aid of all of us to identify and then to attract such an essential resource. Third, I want to meet with each committee chair in an effort to assess current activity and to generate more where that is needed. Especially important is the Reach Out wing of our chapter. This, along with its corollary - a public image and publicity plan - is vital to our survival.

Let me share with you now some concepts that might be worth exploring in our effort to grow and improve. One is that as a group we have, over the years, involved many, many non-Partners who have helped us achieve our short and long term goals. Examples might be those in the media, the state and local government, the schools and universities and also individuals who have helped with our visitors or who have consulted with us. My idea is to look for a very public way to recognize and honor these people. In this way we will not only publicize ourselves but also show how our work touches so many outside of ourselves.

Another concept is that of seeking a way to structure or bring into better focus how we relate to and function with other volunteer NGO's in the state. Although some ground-work may already have been laid, I am not aware of a coordinating body that can help such organizations function better, more efficiently and, where appropriate, cooperatively in this age of diminishing time and financial resources.

Finally, I am encouraged by the formation of our three Bolivian Partnerships coordinating council, Actually I am not sure we have a

formal name as such but representatives from North Carolina, Utah and Arkansas met, as you know, to begin the process of identifying ways to work together. In Buenos Aires we also met and had the added advantage of representation from the 3 Bolivian groups. We will make every effort to see that the work of these councils is a bonus to us all. At the appropriate time we will seek the proper Arkansas representation.

So, this New Year, as we dig into the multitude of details, let me hope that you had a wonderful holiday season and that we all are ready to go with plenty of energy.

Ciao, **Kay Kraeft**

New Officers and Board Members

As a result of our recent election and as reported at the Annual Meeting, the following are the new Officers and Members of the Board:

PRESIDENT - Kay Kraeft
VICE-PRESIDENT - Robert Dzur
REGIONAL VICE-PRESIDENT, CN - Don Thurman
REGIONAL VICE-PRESIDENT, NW - Steven Neuse
SECRETARY - Susan Heily
TREASURER - Paul Noland
PAST-PRESIDENT - Margaret Clark
DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE (1998) - Cora Zabala-Holt
DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE - (1998) - James Scroggs
DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE (1999) - Mark Robertson
DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE (1999) - Robert Reilly
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR - Bob Frans

Committee chairs are:

PUBLIC RELATIONS - Maura Lozano-Yancy
ECONOMY - Preston La Ferney
HEALTH - Fernando Murillo-Lopez

CULTURE - **Kay Kraeft**
REHABILITATION - **Mary Alice Serafini**
EDUCATION - **Margaret Clark**
A G R I C U L T U R E
(AGROPECUARIA) - **Phil Serafini**
WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT -
Mary Anne Sennett
DEMOCRATIC INITIATIVES -
Bettie Lu Lancaster
REACH OUT - **Thecia Taylor**

Our thanks go to **Lisa Ronis, Jane Scroggs, Natalia Salazar,** and **Laurin Wheeler,** who are retiring from the Board.

Board meeting dates - 1998

Incoming President **Kay Kraeft** has announced the dates for meetings of the Board for 1998. They are as follows:

January 31
April 25
July 25
October 24

All Board meetings are held on Saturdays and at Russellville AR unless otherwise specified.

A special trip

Past-President **Thecia Taylor** traveled recently to Santa Cruz, and provides us with this report:

"In September I returned, after a ten-year absence, to Santa Cruz. Many things have changed there, but not the hospitality of our friends.

"**Dr. Desiree Mostajo** was my hostess for over two weeks. **Aida McKenney** place a notice in the newspaper several weeks before my arrival. As a result, many of the 40-odd Partners that Don and I, or I have hosted over the years invited me to lunch, dinner and even breakfast.

"My first night there I attended the Physicians Annual Dinner and Dance. Later in my visit I was

guest of honor at the Dentists Annual Banquet. There I was presented a beautiful tray for my work with the Dentists and a plaque honoring **Don Taylor** for his years of work with them.

"**Carmina Fernandez** facilitated an interview with **Pedro Rivero Mercado**, Editor of El Deber. He was such an accommodating man and I hope a future Partner. Aida and I talked as fast and as long as we could with the result being an outstanding article about the Partners.

"I spent a day in the country and a weekend at Samaipata. A very special evening was spent at the home of **Mercedes Ortiz de Gasser** where she had invited the Partners for a wonderful party and dinner.

"One other side trip was to visit my Foster Child, **Marilu**. She is such a beautiful four-year old and her hugs more than repaid me for the small amount I contribute to her well-being through Child Reach.

"I bring greetings to all Arkansas Partners from our Santa Cruz Partners."

Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting was held on October 25 in Conway at the Old Gin. **Anabella Bruch**, our POA representative for Arkansas-East Bolivia attended the meeting. During the luncheon, she addressed the group on the topic "Changes, Initiatives, and Future Directions of POA."

Program highlights included a presentation by **Karen Brown**, President and Director of Kids Voting Arkansas, a division of Kids Voting USA. She gave an overview of the development of the organization nationwide and then followed up with information about the Arkansas organization with emphasis on the schools that are currently implementing the specially designed K-12 curriculum. This program is being partially emulated by the Partners in Santa Cruz in order to orient young people about the importance of

voting as a part of citizen participation. **Robert Dzur**, Research Associate at the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville and member of the Board, explained the use of GIS by using Bolivia and Santa Cruz particularly as reference points to illustrate these techniques for displaying areas of forestation, arable lands, waterways, transportation facilities, etc. **Leah Wilkinson** and **Jeff Allender** gave updates on activities of Fellows, with Wilkinson describing the reunion activities of Fellows, and Allender giving insights into his own project endeavors and the requisite travel for Fellow IX seminars. **Phil Serafini** sent an updated report on activities in the Farmer-to-Farmer program that was presented by **Laurin Wheeler**. **Thecia Taylor** described her two week personal vacation trip to Santa Cruz and indicated how it turned into a Partners trip, too.

The highlight of the evening's banquet was a speech made by **Dr. Jim Boren**, professor and humorist from Northeastern State University in Talequah OK. At the beginning of his speech he told of his role in the origin and formation of Partners and his political inroads into presidential politics, including his Arkansas connection. This was followed by his famous entertaining advise to bureaucrats: "When in charge, ponder; when in trouble, delegate; when in doubt, mumble!" On a more serious note, he called attention to the plight of some Indians.

The prelude to the evening's banquet was an exciting musical treat that included Bolivian songs sung by **Natalia Salazar** and accompanied by **Kay Kraeft** on piano, the music of Robert Schumann's Fairy Tales played by violinist **Dannice Crespo**, a student at UCA, accompanied by **Yuin Zhang** on piano, and African-American spirituals sung as a tribute to Marian Anderson's 100-year birthday by **Kristen Lewis**, a music student at UCA, accompanied by Kraeft.

Board meeting

The Board met, in conjunction with the Annual Meeting, on October 26, 1997 at UCA in Conway. The following are a few items of general interest from that meeting:

General

We were pleased to have **Anabella Bruch** as an attendee at this meeting. She brought greetings from the POA staff and encouraged us to submit proposals for foundation grants.

Margaret Clark reported on one such grant, being the computer purchased with money from the grant (\$750) plus money supplied by the Arkansas chapter (\$250), and sent to Santa Cruz. There appeared to be delays in getting the computer operational for e-mail use, due to fees involved in setting up such services.

The Board decided that it was time to raise the dues of this chapter due to increased expenses. Consequently, dues of \$10 for students, \$20 for individuals, and \$30 for families were approved.

Suggestions were made that we need to develop informational manuals, one for new members, and one for travelers to Bolivia. **Frans** and **Wheeler** volunteered to work on the travelers manual and **Kraeft** and **Heily** on the new members manual.

Education

Chair **Margaret Clark** reported on the northern meeting of leaders of the three chapters partnered with Bolivia (Arkansas, North Carolina, and Utah) held on Sept. 26 to 28 in Fayetteville. The presidents of Arkansas and North Carolina chapters, the presidents-elect from Arkansas, North Carolina, and Utah, the Executive Director from Arkansas, one Board member from Utah, along with other members of the Education Committee from the Arkansas chapter drafted a proposal to assist the Bolivian education reform program. The draft was sent to all three Bolivian chapters and to the Bolivian

coordinating committee for their input. Representatives of all six chapters, all three partnerships anticipate meeting in Buenos Aires at the International Annual Meeting to continue the discussion and to refine the documents.

Women in Development

Chair **Mary Anne Sennett** mentioned her former involvement with women's health projects in India and Pakistan. She is currently doing a survey of POA projects involving women and income generation in addition to maternal mortality rates. She anticipates having a proposal to submit at the next meeting.

International Meeting

The annual International Meeting of Partners of the Americas was held in Buenos Aires, Argentina from November 20 to November 22, 1997. In attendance from our partnership were **Margaret Clark**, **Kay Kraeft**, and **Bob Frans** from Arkansas, and **Desiree Mostajo**, from Santa Cruz in conjunction with her last seminar in Fellows. The highlights of the meeting included an opening reception, breakfast roundtables, a town hall meeting, a luncheon in honor of volunteers, and the awards banquet.

The Friday morning roundtables described successful project endeavors, such as Civic Participation, Farmer to Farmer, and others. As an example, South Carolina's project members described collaboration in the area of the empowerment of women involving four leadership teams of women from the South who went North and women from the North who went South. This resulted in the formation of a community of women in leadership. The Kansas-Paraguay project involved collaboration with the League of Women Voters on the teaching of people how to vote. It focused on women in the marketplace which had mayoral candidates sign contracts regarding actions they would take if elected. New

emphases have involved workshops on planning debates using as a guide the League's book Face to Face, which was translated into Spanish, workshops on lobbying, and workshops on using the format of Debate Watch to analyze and discuss candidates' debates. Additionally, they have set up a rotating credit fund. Argentina distributed samples of the brochures used for the 1997 election to help encourage people to vote and to help them understand eligibility requirements. North Carolina described its leadership development project with leadership viewed as a resource development. It adapted the Kellogg's Fellows' program and got seven potential leaders to go to Bolivia; they also searched for corporate funds by using 501(c) to provide tax-exempt contributions. The incoming President, **John Colward**, a Fellow X, as a fulfillment of his project, got each of the seven potential leaders develop a formal project.

For the second year there was a town hall meeting. This year the topic was "How Should We Use Limited Community Resources." Three choices were given for discussion and consideration: 1) Fill the Gap, Seal the Cracks; 2) Teach Us How to Fish; and 3) Be the Conscience and the Voice of What Ought to Be. No conclusions were reached, but opinions expressed noted that the choice is sometimes made based on the circumstances, the urgency of the needs, and the capacities of the Partners. Additionally, different chapters may be involved in one, two, or all three of the choices either simultaneously or at different times and in different ways according to the specific objectives. The general consensus was that it is important for Partners to decide mutually on the best use of limited resources. Sometimes, during brainstorming sessions, one may realize that resources that appear to be limited may be less limited when one differentiates human resources from material resources, and when collaboration and cooperation with other organizations are considered.

Although we did not receive any

awards at the volunteers luncheon or the Awards Banquet, we were delighted that members of our sister chapters in Bolivia did. The main attraction at the banquet was the entertainment - the wonderful singers, the band music, and particularly the tango dancers. A group of children, including a little five-year boy took the attention of all. Of course, afterwards, everyone had an opportunity to dance to the American and Latin rhythms, including the hit songs from "Evita."

Interspersed among all of these activities and the business session, we were able to stroll the streets and plazas that were lined with the beautiful blue-lavender jacaranda trees, dine in a couple of the famous steak houses, including La Estancia, attend one of the oldest tango clubs, La Vieja Almacen, for a program of instrumental music (solos by violinists, pianists, accordionists, and vocals by male and female singers) and watch the exciting tango couples whose intricate dance movements kept our eyes riveted to the dance floor.

As we reluctantly left the beautiful Parisian-like Buenos Aires, we happily took note of the fact that next year's annual meeting is to be held in Washington D.C., another Parisian-like city.

Bolivian Leader's meeting

Several members of the 6 Bolivian chapters, including the incoming president from Utah, members from Cochabamba, **Blanca de Vera** from La Paz, **Hank Graden** from North Carolina, **Margaret Clark**, **Bob Frans**, and **Kay Kraeft** from Arkansas met to discuss and react to the draft of the project to assist with the ongoing Bolivian education reform that was sent to the three Bolivian chapters by the three Northern chapters partnered with Bolivia: Arkansas, North Carolina, and Utah. Some initial concerns expressed the need to expand the educational curricular and instructional assistance areas to include the areas of sports and

physical education (aerobics, gymnastics, etc.), music, art, and agriculture. It was agreed that the three Bolivian chapters along with the Coordinating Committee set up by the three Bolivian chapters should be given more time to study the proposed document and to send their comments, suggestions, and ideas to the Northern chapters.

Another trip

Following the Partners International Meeting in Buenos Aires, **Margaret Clark** and **Bob Frans**, in the company of **Desiree Mostajo**, traveled to Santa Cruz for a few days visit. They were met at the airport by **Blanquita Callaú**, who hosted Margaret's stay, and by **Aida McKenney**. As noted by Thecia above, the hospitality was outstanding, as the friendships of many years standing were renewed.

After a delightful luncheon the first day with **Blanquita** and **Walter Callaú**, Aida took Margaret and Bob to a violin recital of a young 17-year old boy, **Juan Quiroga**, showing great promise. Negotiations are currently underway, attempting to find a place in Arkansas for him to continue his studies. Afterwards, a delightful late night supper was held in the company of **Max Frydman** and **Sylvia Suarez**, both instrumental in helping Cruceña students attend the University of Arkansas, and with **Franz Terceros**, who visited Arkansas a couple of years ago.

The second night there, most of the parents of students attending the University honored Margaret and Bob with a dinner at the home of the **Von Bergens**, and presented them, and Max with plaques for the parts they played in helping those students become established at the University under the out-of-state tuition waiver.

The third night, the Partners held a party in Margaret and Bob's honor at the Callaú home, where they were interviewed on TV, and entertained with an indigenous folk group, with dancing and all! It was

a great evening and a great trip. **Stephen Perry** was also part of the festivities, since he was in Santa Cruz on a two-week Farmer to Farmer trip (see his report elsewhere).

Also during their visit, they met with the administrators of three universities. First a meeting was held with members of the faculty and the administration, including **Rector Jose Antonio de Chazal**, of UPSA (Universidad Privada de Santa Cruz de la Sierra) to discuss possibilities of increasing the scheduling of activities between UPSA and the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville, with whom UPSA has an established memorandum-of-agreement, especially in the area of student exchanges; another brief meeting was held with **Rector Jorge Orellana Moreno** of Universidad Autonomo 'Gabriel Rene Moreno'. **Rector Manucher Shoaie N.**, his wife **Crystal**, and several members of the faculty of Nur University presented pictorially the role Nur plays in development education, including requests from the Bolivian government to assist with training programs. Also, the faculty and administrators of this university were not only receptive to the draft of the proposed project submitted by the three Northern chapters to assist with the Bolivian education reform, but they had already pinpointed areas in which they could provide expertise and leadership. The result of these visits indicate that there are considerable cooperative projects that can be fruitfully pursued in the future.

A visitor to come

Incoming President **Kay Kraeft** provides us with this item:

"I take pleasure in introducing you to the Guest Resident Artist, **Ricardo Estada**, who will join the UCA voice faculty during our Spring 1998 semester. The following announcement was sent to all music departments in the

state and to many others with potential interest as well. The Visiting Artist Residency is an outgrowth of both Partners of the Americas and Fulbright work on my part when I traveled to Bolivia under both capacities at different times.

"It was during my Fulbright assignment to La Paz as a voice teacher in the National Conservatory there, that I was able to meet and work with the extraordinarily talented musician who will join us in January, 1998. In addition to the services described in the UCA announcement, Mr. Estrada brings additional skills and accomplishments such as his training as a published journalist in British, German and Bolivian newspapers, and his graduate degree in law. This, in addition to his work as an arts administrator with the Philharmonic Society of La Paz, means that he will be a truly valuable resource for us as Partners with part of Bolivia. The announcement is quoted because it describes the project most effectively.

"The University of Central Arkansas is pleased to announce the Guest Artist Residency of tenor Ricardo Estrada of Bolivia during the Spring Semester, 1998. As one of the most prominent acclaimed singers of his country, Mr. Estrada brings the knowledge and expertise of a life-long passion for and study of classical singing in all its aspects to share with students and faculty of UCA and the surrounding area.

"Fluent in 6 languages having spent professional time in England, Germany, Italy and Spain, Mr. Estrada is currently General Manager of the Philharmonic Society of La Paz, Bolivia. He has taught many of the young singers in his own country, some of whom are now working in Spain and the United States as well as in his own country and in neighboring South American countries.

"While in the United States, Mr. Estrada will be active as a voice teacher, as a consultant to the UCA Opera Workshop, and as a performing artist. Widely experienced in opera from Handel

to Puccini and Wagner, as well as Russian opera, not to mention the special genre of Spanish Zarzuela, his own performances have included opera, oratorio, musical comedy and recitals.

"In addition to working with UCA Students and faculty, Mr. Estrada is available for concerts, lessons, master classes, and/or lectures as time and schedule permit. Because UCA is able to sponsor his residency for a very modest cost, lesson fees and honoraria can be kept to a minimum. Inquiries from individuals desiring lessons or groups wishing presentations tailored to their needs should contact:

Dr. Kay Kraeft, Department of Music, UCA, Conway AR 72032. Phone: 450-5762, or Fax: 450-5773, or e-mail: kayk@cc3.uca.edu'

"Already scheduled on his calendar are public appearances which some of you Partners may wish to attend. These with further details to be announced so far are:

February 24 - 1:40 pm
UCA Recital Hall -
Colloquium Lecture
"History of the Spanish Zarzuela"

March 6 - 8:00 pm UA
Fayetteville - Guest Artist
Recital

March 7 - time TBA UA
Fayetteville - Master Class
for Singers

March 16 - 8:00 pm UCA
Recital Hall - Guest Joint
Recital with Kay Kraeft,
soprano

April 28 - time/place TBA -
Conway - Guest
Appearance with Conway
Youth Orchestra

May date TBA - Little Rock
- Guest Appearance with
LR. Youth Orchestra"

A Farmer to Farmer trip

Stephen Perry of the University of Arkansas Library, made a special trip to Montevideo and Santa Cruz, representing the Farmer to Farmer program, in order

to provide workshop participants with knowledge concerning utilization of Internet resources. The following are abridged comments from his early report:

"My first workshop (in Santa Cruz) was with the Veterinary School at the Universidad "Gabriel Rene Moreno" in Santa Cruz. I showed them some sites that were critical to veterinary research, and for the remainder of the session, taught them how to use a search engine, such as AltaVista, to locate sites in Spanish.

"Other workshops included CAO and ANAPO, and as I had already prepared handouts of the major agricultural sites, electronic magazines, and specific search engines, these went fairly well, although access to the Internet was disconcertingly slow at times, just as it can be in the States.

"Among the challenges faced were that many people did not read English, and therefore were not able to navigate the preponderantly English-language sites or take full advantage of the handouts as much as might otherwise be possible. Many of the search engines require English language terminology (the AltaVista search engine is one of the few engines available that allows investigators to search in Spanish, using Spanish-language terminology) and this was another frustration for those that did not read English.

"For the CAO and ANAPO groups, the primary concern was access to prices and markets. I showed them a variety of sites that had links to daily prices and markets. I donated to them copies of all my handouts as well as the book: Agriculture and the Internet that was also distributed to the Montevideo participants. I worked closely with **Juan Pablo Barrientos** at CAO and other people at ANAPO in showing how to use various search engines, how to locate sites in Spanish, as well as sites for electronic journals, links to market/pricing information, commentaries on pricing and reviews of crops and markets by experts in the field.

"In addition to UAGRM, I also worked with UPISA (Universidad

Privada de Santa Cruz de la Sierra). With UAGRM, I worked with the Departments of Economics, Veterinary Science and with UPSA, I worked closely with the Departments of Computer Science, the post graduate school, Architecture and had a chance to talk to the librarian at UPSA about her efforts to automate that library.

"I worked with the Colegio Medico in Santa Cruz. They rented an Internet Cafe one Friday night, allowing me to divide the 12 doctors into several different groups. I showed them how they could have free access to Medline, a major bibliographic database and search engine. Participants could query the database using English language terminology (most of these physicians could read and write in English) and have almost instantaneous results back of articles pertaining to their topics, with two or three paragraphs of summaries describing the latest medical research in their areas of interest. They were also impressed with the access to a number of medical electronic journals in the field, as well as specific medical search engines. They were such an enthusiastic group of people, very interested and committed to learning and accessing the Internet, and so hospitable. Far and away, this was my most successful Internet workshop in Santa Cruz. I donated several photocopies of books dealing with medical research and the Internet as well as copies of my handouts on the Internet and medicine.

"I also gave very brief Internet demonstrations to the librarians at the Biblioteca Municipal in Santa Cruz and to staff at the Centro Boliviano Americano, also in Santa Cruz.

"While visiting Cochabamba on personal time, I had a chance to visit extensively with **Alvaro Pozadas**, a very impressive young man, and director of the Farmer to Farmer program. I shared with him all my handouts, diskettes, and showed him the internet sites and search engines that people at CAO and ANAPO were most impressed with. He wanted me to give a formal talk, but since my time in

Cochabamba was so limited, I worked with him so he could eventually give some lectures and demonstrations as his computer skills are formidable."

Annual Dues

Yes, it's time for us all to pay our annual dues. But, **please note!** There has been an increase in dues in the individual and family categories. These are now \$20 and \$30 respectively. Continued increases in costs of operation, plus our limited resources has forced the Board, at its last meeting, to vote for this increase. We hope you will continue to support the activities of your partnership and promptly take care of your dues so that the work can continue. Just tear off the sheet attached to this newsletter (the dues statement), fill it in and mail it to the Executive Director. Thanks for your attention to this matter.

From Sue

Sue Heily has sent us this bit of news:

"I am enthusiastic that the Presbyterian Church in Conway is going to share in a service project I will be engaging in this summer to Bolivia. Another church member, **Barbara Huban**, who is a new Partners member, is going to travel with me in mid-June to Trinidad and Agua Dulce. We are going to do an inservice at a Special Ed. School in Trinidad and the Mission Committee is going to direct the church donating of books and teaching aides for the R-3 level school in the jungle at Agua Dulce. God willing, thier knowledge and work with Partners of Bolivia will grow through this experience."

Congratulations, Sue!

New members

We have but one new member to report in this issue of the newsletter, and she was noted in the preceeding article. She is:

Barbara Huban, 2406 Jessica, Conway AR 72032.

She is interested in education and will be working closely with **Sue Heily**. Welcome Barbara!

A reminder

Don't forget, all Board members and Chairs of committees: the next meeting of the Board will be Saturday, January 31, presumably in Russellville, although you will be contacted later for further details.