



# DIRECCIONES

Newsletter of the Arkansas-East Bolivia Partners of the Americas

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## President's message

This year's POA International Convention in Kentucky, Building Bridges, was presented with Southern hospitality and fabulous weather. We were enveloped with information, enthusiasm and know how. The break out sessions in which I participated were "Traveling On" presented by the Kentucky/Ecuador partnership, two justice program discussion groups, a rechartering/annual plan workshop and the new Fellows workshop. In the off times I was able to share with many partners with particular chats with **Hermes Justiniano** of Santa Cruz and **Mauricio Ramirez** of Cochabamba Thank you for sending me on your behalf.

While I did participate in the election of two Board Positions, the biggest piece of news to be brought back to you is that Arkansas won the bid to host the 2005 International Convention in Little Rock, Arkansas. **Thecia Taylor** and **George Vena** have graciously agreed to guide us through this wonderful experience. Our first step in this adventure will be to plan to attend the Partners of the Americas Convention in 2004 in Antigua, Guatemala. Not only will you be enriched, but it is TRADITION for the upcoming host group to attend and encourage attendance to the next year's convention. Thecia and George will be delighted to hear of your plans to attend.

We have a vibrant year ahead of us:

- Rechartering
- Hosting a visit in the winter from **Martha Cecilia Villada** of the Citizens Working for Justice Program
- Exploring art, music, environmental, agricultural, and membership projects
- Annual Planning

Lastly, the Washington office has asked for our assistance in locating candidates for the American Fellows Program. They must be a current employee of a government agency, excluding the teaching profession, who would be willing to work for between 2-6 months, in a host country. If you know of someone please refer them to the web site: [www.partners.net](http://www.partners.net), [cotero@partners.net](mailto:cotero@partners.net), or **Cecilia Otero** (202) 637-6228. There is a rolling deadline

Sue Heily

Addendum:

Happy New Year!

With what tradition or traditions did you greet the New Year? I used to make resolutions for the incoming year. For me, that tradition met with minimal success. My resolutions seldom survived through February which in turn ruined my self esteem. Nowadays, what works for me is to take a few minutes to think about what new directions I'd like my life to take. Then, I adjust my time schedule to accommodate the first few steps of the new direction. For example, after hearing of my election as Arkansas-East Bolivia President, I cut back on some of my duties at my church and quit my second job on Saturdays to allow myself room for my new service to Partners. I thank you for your confidence in me.

I would ask each of you Partners to consider your time commitment to Partners for 2004. Is there an area of interest you have? I will be asking committee chairs to recruit from our members list and create their committees by the April Board meeting. Below is a list of committee chairs. If you have a special interest and a "cup" of minutes to offer, please contact them. Also know, they may be contacting you by April.

Remember the difference between a "cup" that is half full versus half empty is our attitude. I ask YOU ALL to look at what you do well and might offer---not what you don't have or do poorly. In that way, you will be helping Partners to grow.

Committee Chairs:

- Public Relations and Partnership Development, **Bill Millager** 479-636-4195
- Health and Wellness, **Kristine Hall** 479-846-3632
- Culture, **Hank** and **Jo Ann Kaminsky** 479-443-2077
- Education and Professional Development, **Sera Vena** 501-223-9602
- Agriculture and the Environment, **Don Dombek** 479-442-6950
- Women and Families, **Fran Free** 479-443-6732
- Democratic Initiatives, **Bettie Lu Lancaster** 479-521-4069
- Sports, **Barry Brown** 479-750-4004
- Direcciones, **Bob Frans** 479-443-5403

Susan Heily



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## News from around the Partnership

### Dan Nolan

Dan has kept us up-to-date on his activities as follows: "Although we're living in the Rocky Mts. We still enjoy staying connected with our Arkansas Bolivia Partners. I'm still working for the Forest Service - now in the Rocky Mt. Regional Office. I was glad to see Hermes taking the lead in Santa Cruz! But, was sad to learn of the death of **Laurin Wheeler** - he worked with me on several Forest Service projects as well as Partners.

"Best regards to all."

### Hank Kaminsky

This article was provided to us by our peripatetic reporter from the north, **Bill Millager**. It was written by **Jill Rohrbach** for the Arkansas Department of Parks and Tourism. We gratefully acknowledge this organization in allowing us to reproduce this material. As many of you know, Hank, along with his wife Jo Ann, are new co-chairs of the Culture Committee for our partnership.

#### Fayetteville Artist's Work Speaks to World

It's the culmination of a lifetime of work for Fayetteville sculptor Hank Kaminsky...and a massive piece of public art that speaks to the entire world. Ten feet in diameter, the World Peace Prayer Fountain is a bronze sphere layered with more than 100 languages touting the same message, "May Peace Prevail on Earth."

The work of public art was unveiled New Year's Eve 2002 on Fayetteville's downtown square. Water streams from its top and flows to a pool below, and elements of nature have already begun to color the bronze sculpture a brilliant, green patina. Throughout the piece, languages meet and intertwine. The Hebrew and Arabic languages converge at the word "peace," as do the Chinese and Tibetan scripts.

While the sphere symbolizes Earth, there are underlying abstract elements. "I'm an abstract thinker. It's what makes me feel alive," he explained. Places that have shaped who Kaminsky is have also shaped the sculpture. Horizontal elements of the Ozark strata are represented in the work.

When asked why people should travel to Arkansas to view the immense sculpture, Kaminsky said the most spiritual of reasons is that this piece is a beacon -- a physical radiation of peace from the middle of the

continent outward. "In one way or another, it touches everybody. Or, it can."

The sculpture also spins in the direction the Earth rotates when visitors lay their hands upon it. "You can put your intentions into the prayer," he said.

The artist first imagined the piece in 1999 while viewing architectural drawings for Fayetteville's Town Center (convention center), which was completed in 2001. At the time, though, he did not visualize a finished work of art.

"I envisioned a piece of sculpture. I saw shape and a relation to the building. That's all," Kaminsky explained. After discussing the piece with the architect and community leaders for many months, the project was approved at a cost of more than \$275,000, which was financed by **Ed Bradberry** of Fayetteville and New York. The Bradberry family is known for its philanthropic support of Fayetteville and the University of Arkansas.

It took 16 months to build the sculpture, with 20 people working during the peak of the project. The sculpture took form by first welding together a steel sphere and covering it with two inches of potter's clay.

Kaminsky's art is not about what media he works in, but rather about method. He creates plastic sculpture. Kaminsky explained that the word "plastic" was invented before the product of plastic that we know today. In the art world, plastic means to add and build from within. The clay on the sphere was added piece by piece until all the languages were shaped, as can be seen by close inspection. The pattern of the languages was not mapped out beforehand, but added when and where Kaminsky -- and the other artists that helped -- felt it right.

The sphere was then divided into 42 sections and a rubber mold was made of each. Sand molds were taken of the molded patterns and cast into bronze. The 42 bronze pieces, each weighing some 200 pounds, were then welded together to form the hollow sphere which sits and spins on a large metal pole anchored in the ground. Although the sphere is only three-eighths of an inch thick, the entire sculpture weighs about 8,000 pounds.

Kaminsky said a majority of artists work with a finished product in mind. "I sculpt because I want to discover form," he explained. "My method yields a product, but I'm often surprised at what comes out." But, there is a deeper reason why the 64-year-old artist sculpts. "I'm trying to discover the shape of the universe."

While the prayer fountain is a culmination of his life's work, Kaminsky will continue to explore the shape of the universe through art. "What else is there?" he asked. "Everything is part of the universe."

Kaminsky has also created busts and numerous other

public commissioned pieces, most in Fayetteville and Little Rock. The artist is currently working on a bust for the Lady Razorbacks and two large projects, one for the town of Clinton and a fountain for the Washington Regional Medical Center.

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### **Roald Peterson**

On a sad note, we're sorry to report the death of a long-time Partner friend and member - Roald - on January 9, 2004. He was 90 years old, and had an uncommon zest for life and possessed an intellectual curiosity about a variety of interests. His latest love in the plant world, one of many, was the growth and cultivation of pigeon peas. Only a few weeks ago he gathered together several of his Fayetteville friends at his apartment to help shell some of this year's crop - done over convivial conversation and a few sips of scotch. Roald worked in many parts of the world including Mongolia, Africa, Central and South America. He was Director of Agriculture for the Southern Zone of the Organization of American States, and later headed a division of the Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations, and was stationed both in Rome and the Dominican Republic. He retired from his international duties in 1979 and moved to Fayetteville, where he was soon appointed adjunct Professor of Agronomy. For the Arkansas-East Bolivia Partners, he traveled to Santa Cruz, working with problems in range management. He remained a valued agricultural consultant and friend to Partners up until his death. He was one of our first Honorary Members. He will be greatly missed.

### **John Harrison**

Another death to report is that of John, December 15, 2003. He was retired from the University of Arkansas as dean of libraries. Although no longer active in Partners, John was one of a group of UofA professors recruited by **Myron Brody** to represent our partnership to East Bolivia, at that time consisting only of Santa Cruz. John engaged in an exchange there working with community libraries in Santa Cruz, interacting, primarily, with **Marcelo Auroz**, an experience that he later claimed "changed his life." John was a native of Michigan, educated there, worked in libraries at Harvard and Yale before coming to Arkansas to direct the library system at the UofA. He loved books, music, good food and good conversation.

### **Did you know?**

A recent development has been the awarding of the 2005 International Partners Convention to the Arkansas-East Bolivia Partners. It will be held in Little Rock with the Peabody Hotel as convention headquarters. Bringing the convention to Arkansas was the result of leadership efforts by Past President **Thecia Taylor**, and an attractive bid put together by the Little Rock Convention Bureau. **George Vena**, with assists from Thecia and **Don Thurman** (who headed up the 1986 convention held in

Little Rock), has agreed to be the overall Chair for this effort. There will be lots of work ahead to bring about a successful convention, but with a strong push and cooperation from our membership it will be a fruitful and satisfying experience. Its our chance to promote Arkansas and the Arkansas-East Bolivia partnership to the western hemisphere!

### **Natasha Moore**

We're pleased to include here an account of one our newest members, Natasha. She was a Peace Corps volunteer in Bolivia - but, we'll let her tell her own story:

"Hello, my name is **Natasha Moore**, and I am perhaps one of the newest members to the Arkansas/Eastern Bolivia Partners. I was asked to write a small article about what motivated me to join your group and what will forever live in my memories and hopefully my future - Bolivia. I was a Peace Corps Volunteer, in Tarija, Bolivia from 2000 until late 2003.

"I hope that most of you have had the opportunity to travel to Bolivia, it is a wonderful country, extremely diverse in all senses. The eastern part of Bolivia is very different from the southern most part where I lived. Tarija, the largest city in the area, is six hours (by old, broken down bus on a horrible, side-of-the-mountain, dirt, and riverbed road) to the Argentine border. The city and area (thought I am biased!) is some of the absolute best of Bolivia! (A travel tip: both Sucre and Tarija are considered Bolivia's most beautiful cities - Sucre for the beautiful white buildings, and Tarija, for the many, many parks and plazas of flowers). I could write a book how much I love Tarija, land of sun, wine, and flowers. But I will only try to describe a little of my experience, I lived in a rural village about an hour from Tarija. Here everything was dirt, we had one little store that sold flour, eggs, and sugar, candles and batteries, but for the most part the people produced everything they needed for day to day living. Everyone was poor, the only money coming in was from family members who were living and working in Argentina - this was everyone from age fifteen to fifty - they worked in Argentina and sent money home for their children and grandparents who remained in Bolivia. So for the most part I worked with the very young or very old, except for a month or two of winter (there) when the population of the community swelled with the returning family visiting from the South.

"I tried to teach them many different things, we talked about nutrition, sanitation, and different farming techniques. I taught courses on organic farming, composting and worm composting, crop rotation, companion planting, natural pesticides, canning, food preservation, erosion control, and firewood-saving techniques. In the school I taught English, and Environmental Science, to different women's groups I taught self-esteem and gender issues, and I worked with other volunteers to bring youth together to help guide them in self-awareness, self-esteem, leadership, and educational issues. I built several "Cocinas Lorenas," or worm composting facilities and a Grey Water system. I also brought in and planted several experimental erosion control/forage grasses and worked on a reforestation

project. This is what I did. One hopes you will make a difference, however it is what they will do with the knowledge that will make the difference. What I personally found most rewarding, was my commitment with the women and my work in gender and self-esteem issues.

“Perhaps the work described above will not be utilized by everyone; however, I can most definitely say that I made a lasting impact on my community and the area by just living there and being part of the community. I would go on and on about organic farming but I would only hold their attention when they were asking me (sometimes for the thousandth time!) about my parents; ‘What were their names, how many brothers did I have, what was my house like, how much money did I make in the U.S., did the U.S. have mountains like Bolivia, why did all the TV shows and movies have things blowing up all the time, did everyone have a gun?’ What I did was to bring home the idea that there was something out there different besides the life they knew in Bolivia. However, the largest part of giving was on their part - they brought me into their lives, teaching me everything from how to talk, to what I had to do to survive. They shared the best portions of their food, (even if that was the chicken’s feet!) family life, fiestas, and their friendship. Teaching me that there is so much more than just the U.S. and so much more to life. I could go on and on.

“I had so many great experiences, (yes, some great only after I made it out of them alive!). I loved my time there and especially loved having the rare opportunity to show someone from home (U.S -Fayetteville) all of the things I found special about Tarija and Bolivia. One of those times is when **Laurin** and **Libby Wheeler** were in Bolivia and gave me the rare pleasure of having visitors from home. Both had been my professors and advisors during my time as a student at the University and yes, they did much to encourage my Peace Corps experience and talked many times of Partners. I will look forward to meeting more of you soon, I have hopes of more free time in the near future. Right now I am working a lot to gather resources (a nice name for money!), to bring my husband here from Bolivia, I hope to have him here about June and am happy to find such good-hearted, wonderful people to help show him our culture and the U.S. If you should like to talk with me, want a bit more on the culture of Southern Bolivia, or want see any of my voluminous photo albums (just kidding!), feel free to contact me, at [amazondancer@hotmail.com](mailto:amazondancer@hotmail.com). Que te ya vaya con dios! Natasha”

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## News from Washington and elsewhere

### Partners of the Americas Strengthens Democracy At The Special Summit Of The Americas

Washington, D.C.—Partners of the Americas (Partners) has teamed with a consortium of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) from across the Americas to organize a Civil Society Forum at the Presidential Summit of the Americas on January 10-11 in Monterrey, Mexico.

The forum is one of many efforts Partners carries out to give citizens in the Western Hemisphere a stronger voice in their communities.

Partners and select NGOs will present concrete recommendations for how governments can more effectively involve NGOs in the Summit of the Americas Process and address development needs confronting democracies throughout the region.

“Partners of the Americas offers a unique grassroots perspective that is invaluable to the Summit Process,” said **Cynthia Smith**, Director of the Civil Society Program of Partners of the Americas. “Because we work in the communities that Summit mandates impact, we have a first-hand understanding of their needs and challenges.” (contact her at [csmith@partners.net](mailto:csmith@partners.net))

Following presentation of these recommendations to government officials at the Presidential Summit, Partners will work with 22 NGOs from 20 countries to promote fulfillment of Summit Action Plan mandates and engage in public education on the Summit Process and how NGOs can be involved.

The recommendations are the product of NGO analysis of select mandates agreed to by governments in the 2001 Quebec City Summit of the Americas Action Plan, which serves as a strategic framework for strengthening democratic governance in the Western Hemisphere. In November, Partners, together with the Organization of American States, the Government of Mexico and other NGOs, met in Mexico City to draft recommendations. The recommendations were then submitted to the Summit Implementation Review Group for final review on December 8 and were prepared for further discussion and presentation at the upcoming Presidential Summit.

Established in 1964, Partners of the Americas is an international organization with a people-to-people network of committed volunteers in Latin America, the Caribbean and the United States. In pairing U.S. states with the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean, Partners works to build opportunity and address common concerns of social, economic, and cultural development. Over the years, Partners has turned thousands of ideas into action, producing linkages among professionals, institutions and communities to improve quality of life throughout the Americas.

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## Travels

We have not had many travels of late but there are a couple of items that may be of interest to you. The first of these was provided to your Editor by **Paul Noland**.

### President Jimmy Carter

This report is most interesting but a bit too long to reproduce in its entirety here. At best we can only excerpt parts of it. President Carter was in Bolivia from December 16-21, visiting, primarily, the La Paz and Altiplano area. He and others were invited by the new President of Bolivia, **Carlos Mesa**. He was invited by President Mesa to assist in “drafting and implementing a freedom of

information law, which we have learned in other countries will greatly reduce corruption and enhance confidence of disaffected people in their government.”

Apparently President Carter plans to use his Carter Center in providing this assistance. While there they met with leaders of MNR (Goni’s party), as well as with MIR, MAS, NFR, and UCS. And, as he puts it: “**Felipe Quispe**, radical head of the MIP, left our meeting place and refused to return, claiming that we were two minutes late.”

It seems that natural gas is still an issue, trying to figure out how to get adequate taxes on exports and how to change the laws regarding natural gas extraction. It would seem however, that they spent considerable time on the coca problem, “which has shaped the political landscape and was a major factor in the downfall of Goni and his government.” They talked about shifting to other crops, such as pineapples, bananas or citrus fruits. (Your Editor was involved in such discussions 28 years ago when he lived in Bolivia for a year - such discussions were fruitless then and are probably just as fruitless now) The “Cocaleros” apparently convinced Carter and his party that the present production levels were inadequate for normal and legal domestic production. They proposed a brief freeze on the present level of production for the next six months.

“We left La Paz Sunday morning, pleased with an enjoyable and productive visit but still deeply concerned about the future of Bolivia. It is a wonderful country, dedicated to democracy, having recently granted indigenous people a stronger voice in the government, suffering economically from lack of access to the sea, greatly influenced by Washington policies, heavily dependent on foreign assistance, eager to resolve its problems and capitalize on natural gas and productive land, and searching for ways to resolve political differences without further violence. The greatest threat to the country is the possible uprising of the people and another overthrow of their president if foreign assistance is inadequate, poverty is not addressed, and trust in government is not restored.”

### **Luis Fernandez**

Luis visited Arkansas from November 8, 2003 to November 21 as part of the Justice Project. He divided his time between Little Rock, where he was hosted by **Wayne Swegle**, and Fayetteville, where he was hosted by **Bob Frans**. In Little Rock he was able to do several things, including being hosted by **Thecia Taylor** at a Partners reception, and visiting the Clinton Library under construction and the Arkansas Art Gallery. Also, he was able to visit Winrock International with Wayne, as well as AETN, the statewide educational television network station in Conway. At the invitation of **George Vena**, he was able to visit and observe a Federal Court. They were also able to make a video concerning justice themes during this visit.

**Bettie Lu Lancaster** arranged for his activities in Fayetteville. These included meeting with the members of her Judicial Committee (**Judith Kilpatrick, Molly Sizer-Stephenson, Don Voth, Steven Neuse, Amilcar Medina, Ingrid Arinez** and **Will Miller**). Luis was

interviewed on Community Action Television by Steven, with **Bob Frans** and Bettie Lu participating. He also was able to consult with experts in television, including CAT staff, University professors and documentary producers. Some of these were **Larry Foley, Dale Carpenter, Dan Borgengaser** (the latter of Ozark Film and Video) and **James Spencer**, of Tyson Corporate Communications. From there he was able to take home training videos and videos from American courts for training juries.

At the Multicultural Center he met with **Al Lopez** and **Diana Shiell**. He also attended a seminar conducted by **Senator David Pryor**, which also includes several prominent jurists and deans or directors of law schools.. He also was invited to speak to the UofA Latin American Politics Class of **Jeff Ryan**. Steve and **Jeanine Neuse** hosted a Partners reception at the end of his visit.

### **Hermes Justiniano**

Hermes was a visitor to Arkansas from November 23 to November 30. His visit followed his trip to Lexington, Kentucky for the Partners International Convention. Hermes is the new President of Partners in Santa Cruz, Bolivia. He was hosted in Little Rock by **Thecia Taylor** and in Northwest Arkansas by **Bob** and **Nadine Spears**.

Much of his activity in both locales was his expressed desire to meet with as many of our committee chairs as possible, which he did, becoming familiar with our programs of interest and seeing how those interests could mesh with those of like committees in East Bolivia. He also had extensive talks with **Mark Robertson**, who collaborates with Hermes on conservation projects. During these discussions, Hermes was able to interact with other institutions such as LEADAR, The Nature Conservancy, Audubon Society, and to visit the Little Rock Zoo and the Art Museum. In both the Central and Northwest Arkansas locations, Hermes made a Power Point presentation of his activities in conservation in Bolivia, emphasizing how these might coordinate with the goals and activities of Partners.

While in Northwest Arkansas, Hermes was able to observe and enjoy the Thanksgiving celebration through the warm hospitality of Bob and Nadine. He also took note of the large number of Bolivian students attending the University of Arkansas and sought ways of strengthening ties with these students, perhaps by closer contact with their parents in Bolivia. Hermes pledged that, upon his return to Bolivia, he would engage in considerable reorganization of Partner activities, not only in Santa Cruz, but also in Trinidad and Cobija.

It was a fruitful visit, coming soon after Hermes’ becoming President, and allowing extensive discussions with our members in Arkansas. It was his hope that both sides of the partnership would become more active in recruiting and retaining new members to Partners of the Americas.

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## Board Meetings

October 25, 2003

The meeting was held at Arkansas Tech this date. Retiring members from the Board were noted, as well as new members for 2004 who were present. These included **Wayne Swegle**, new Treasurer, **Louise Montgomery**, new Secretary, and **Fran Free**, new Chair for Women and Families. Other members introduced themselves and gave a little history of their involvement with Partners.

President **Thecia Taylor** announced that we had lost funding for Farmer to Farmer, but that possible funding might be worked out with Winrock, the new South America contractor for the FTF program. The Executive Director noted that dues for 2004 were due, and that he would carry on in this position and as Editor of Direcciones until replacements could be found.

Several committee reports were given. Both **Jo Ann Kaminsky**, co-chair for Culture, and **Fran Free** reported on their trips to Bolivia and offered ideas for new work in their respective areas.

It was voted to add a new category to membership called Honorary Members - those by virtue of long-time interest in Partners. It was also voted to submit a bid for the International Meeting to be held in Arkansas in 2005, and further voted to propose that the meeting be held in Little Rock.

**Susan Heily** gave greetings as the new incoming President of Partners and announced the dates of the 2004 Board Meeting: January 17, April 17, July 17, and October 16. **Thecia Taylor** bade us farewell as the outgoing President.

January 17, 2004

This meeting was held in Conway in conjunction with a training session led by **President Susan Heily** and **Wayne Swegle**, starting the night before. **George Vena** was welcomed to the meeting as the Chair of the 2005 International Convention.

**Carol Corning** reported on progress being made in transferring the Treasurer's job to **Wayne Swegle**. She also reported on possible changes to the banner as well as production of tee-shirts. It was noted that we needed a better seal for the Pando for both projects.

**Bob Frans** reported on changes in the By-Laws, reflecting the addition of the Honorary Membership category. It was voted also to establish a new Environment Committee, removing that designation from the Agriculture Committee.. It was also voted to designate the President or Vice President be given authority to sign checks in the absence of the Treasurer, and that approval for expenditures greater than \$500 must be obtained from either the President or Vice President. Expenditures greater than \$1000 would require approval of the Board.

It was noted that **Margaret Clark** had resigned as the Regional Vice President for Northwest Arkansas, and that President Heily was in the process of searching for a replacement. In further new business, it was noted that

our existing tax-free status as a 501(3)(c) entity needed backing by an official certificate of designation. George Vena was given the authority to research this matter for the Board.

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## New Members

We have several new members to report, and they are:

**Kristine Hall**, 11902 Doc Hall, Prairie Grove AR 72753, 479-846-3672, [hallroad@yahoo.com](mailto:hallroad@yahoo.com)

**Fran Free**, 33 W. Prospect C-1, Fayetteville AR 72701, 479-443-6732, [franbfree@usa.net](mailto:franbfree@usa.net)

**Tim & Susan Lovett**, 387 Blue Springs Rd., Fayetteville AR 72703, 479-571-1633, [itimlovett@aol.com](mailto:itimlovett@aol.com)

**Natasha Moore**, 10834 Brady Rd., Prairie Grove AR 72753, 479-267-6140, [amazondancer@hotmail.com](mailto:amazondancer@hotmail.com)

**Peg Nichols**, 604 S. Grant Ave., Olathe KS 66061-4317, 913-782-0189, [rmnichols@att.net](mailto:rmnichols@att.net)

**Molly Sizer-Stephenson**, 14621 Goshen-Tuttle Rd., Elkins AR 72727, 479-521-9868, [mollystephenson@earthlink.net](mailto:mollystephenson@earthlink.net)

Welcome one and all - we're glad you are members!

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## Dues - again!!

A final plea from your tired (and wishes he were re-tired) Executive Director - **Please, Please, Please** send him your dues! It's only \$20/individual or 30/family. Yes, I know, several of you have paid for 2004 - Bless you! But several of you have not - look around, you were sent an invoice for dues two issues back - do you still have it? If so, why not dig it out and send it along with your check, either to the Executive Director or to the Editor of Direcciones (doesn't matter which one, they're both the same person). Their (his) address is found within the masthead of this newsletter. So, that's about as easy as we can make it for you - if you don't know whether you've paid or not, give one of those guys a call, or e-mail one of them (they both have the same address, too!) And one of them will respond post-haste. Next issue we'll try to publish a list of paid members - you do want to be on it, don't you?

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## Final note

**Bill Millager** has provided us with a connection to the internet for The Country Commercial Guide Bolivia. It is: <http://lapaz.usembassy.gov/english/commercial/ccg2004.pdf>. It's long, but a great source of information about Bolivia. Enjoy!