



# DIRECCIONES

Newsletter of the Arkansas-East Bolivia Partners of the Americas  
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## President's Message

Our partnership has experienced several "first" this year that I think we can be proud of and for which we can be grateful. The most exciting for me was that eighteen Bolivian students at the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville have become Arkansas Partners members. I am certain that these new members will join us in contributing our time and talents to the International Convention. Next, our Board had the opportunity to select the first Bolivian recipient of the Maria Teresa Frans Scholarship. Let us continue to make contributions to this fund by sending donations to our Treasurer, Wayne Swegle, 2 Crystal Mountain Lane, Maumelle, AR 72113-6551. Thus, we can continue furthering the future of Bolivia. Lastly, we hope to finalize at the November business meeting paying for professional archiving of the documents from our partnership's history by the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville.

See you all at the International Convention - go on line and register.

**Sue Heily**

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## International Convention

This is our big news for this issue. The convention was announced in a letter sent last month by Co-Chairs **George Vena** and **Thecia Taylor**. Perhaps you have seen it, but maybe not. At any rate, it is an excellent summary of what will happen, and we follow it with a draft

copy of the agenda. Here's their letter and a first draft of the agenda:

"As you may know, this year's International Convention of Partners of the Americas will be held November 9-12, 2005, in Little Rock, Arkansas. The Arkansas-Eastern Bolivia partnership is working diligently to make the conference, titled "2005 & Beyond: Promoting Innovative Partnerships," an interesting and enjoyable experience. We encourage you to join us.

"Some of the highlights of the convention in Little Rock include a stay at the Peabody Hotel; a reception at the Clinton Presidential Library, plus a tour of the facility; a reception at the Historic Arkansas Museum that includes folk music and dancing in a complex that houses artwork and artifacts in restored buildings from the territorial days of Arkansas; optional tours of Little Rock, Hot Springs, and the architecturally progressive "green buildings" of Heifer Project and Winrock International; and a tour of the Clinton School of Public Service.

"The conference will also celebrate your achievements and those of your fellow partners, and provide assistance in various areas of partnership development. Such notable speakers as Dale Bumpers, former Senator from Arkansas, and Bob Nash of Shore Bank in Chicago, will address those assembled. In addition, our Bolivian counterparts are working to provide some interesting and fun surprises.

"Every effort is being made to provide a worthwhile experience at the convention and a comfortable stay in Arkansas. Please join us. We look forward to seeing you and visiting with you soon."

## ***Wednesday November 9***

Noon – 5:30pm Early Registration

2:00 – 5:00 pm Panel – Arkansas & Bolivia – Political and Social History sponsored by the Blair Foundation

***Theme: Partnerships (engaging with the private sector)***

***Title: 2005 & Beyond: Promoting Innovative Partnerships***

## ***Thursday, November 10***

7:30 A.M. to 6:00 P.M. Convention

Registration

8:30 AM to 9:30 Plenary : Partners of the Americas in 2010

Welcome from Mayor/Vice Mayor & Proclamation; Malcolm Butler &/or Baldonede Napoleao (Board Chair)

(how do we want to be identified, where do we want to be, strategic plan to get us there)

9:30 –9:45AM Coffee Break and Entertainment

Interlude (T)

10:00-12noon **Regional Updates - panels on major issues confronting the Regions (elections in Bolivia, economic trends, sports, TIP, etc.)**

12:30 – 2:00pm Awards Lunch: guest speaker Senator Dale Bumpers - **(balancing the public and the private - how collaboration benefits a state)**

3:00 – 6:00 pm Partners Congress and Elections, President of Congress, Paula Laschober

6:30 – 10:00pm Welcome Reception and dinner Clinton Presidential Library: welcome by Senator David Pryor, Director of Clinton School for Public Service (Entertainment by Enrique Castro – guitarist, catering by Catering Creations)

## ***Friday, November 11***

7:00 AM to Noon **Registration**

9:00- 10:30am Plenary: (Role of Private Sector - corporate & not for profit - in Development) guest speaker Bob Nash, VP of Shorebank, Chicago

11:00 –12:30 Best Practices: Private Sector Partnerships - PVOs/NGOs with private sector companies, look at the mutual benefits, common threads, potential pitfalls, and other characteristics of partnerships occurring in various contexts. The new reality sees a

smaller role for government, more players in the field, new wealth, more think tanks and universities, and a great wave of philanthropy. Partnering is not just about combining funds, or fundraising, but about figuring out how to engage in real, sustained partnerships and how to leverage resources from private corporations to work effectively in the nonprofit sector. The “stories” told by the partners themselves provide insight into how to form and keep good partnerships and how to make the partnership work for both parties.

1:00 – 4:30 PM Lunch & Marketplace

2:00 – 4:30 PM Board Committee Meetings

5:30 to 8:00 PM Gathering at Historic Arkansas Museum (HAM). Entertainment - Lark in the Morning (Transportation by Little Rock Tours, Catering by Trios, pub crawl follows as option as does the trolley art tour)

## ***Saturday, November 12***

7:30 – 10:00 am Registration

8:30 – 10:00am Workshops

Building Membership - recruiting and retention

Proposed writing

Communication Tools -

Media and Outreach

Management Tools -

Community Hubs and Volunteer Impact

Fundraising

10:00 – 12:30 pm Board Meeting (open)

10:00 – 12:30 pm Workshops continued (repeat key ones)

2:00 -5:30 pm Optional Tours: choose one, sign up at registration

Quapaw Quarter Tour & **historic** Little Rock Clinton School of Public

Service & the Green Buildings (Winrock, Heifer)

7:00 – 8:00 Donor Reception

8:00 to midnight Banquet - Band - “The Bob Boyd Sounds”

## ***Sunday, November 13***

Departures

Post Convention Tours leave Hotel at 9:00 am for Memphis and/or Branson

That’s the schedule thus far. About all that we can add to the above is to urge all of our

Arkansas-East Bolivia Partners to attend. Please note that there is a heavy emphasis on Arkansas-East Bolivia, so we really need a good showing from our own local members since it is being held in our own backyard. If you haven't done so, we urge you to please go to the internet to register on-line. It's easy to do - only takes a few minutes. Also, do so before September 15 - that's when you get the cheapest rate! There you will also find information about hotel reservations as well. We'll see you in Little Rock!

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## Board Meeting

Our Board did meet July 16 in Russellville. Unfortunately, there was not a quorum present; nevertheless, several items of interest were discussed and later action taken.

Considerable discussion was devoted to the forthcoming International Convention to be held in Little Rock. **George Vena** indicated that Senator **Dale Bumpers** had agreed to speak at the Awards Banquet. He and **Don Thurman** had been working on possible tours and on transportation during and after the convention. Two grant proposals were discussed by **Jo Ann Kaminsky** - one to bring weavers to the convention and the other to bring Bolivian art for display during the convention.

Further discussions were held on designating our local partnership the responsible party for the Maria Teresa Scholarship fund at the University of Arkansas, with our Treasurer designated to be in charge of receiving donations and disbursing them to the appropriate officials at the University (see also the President's Message above). Later discussions are to be held on this matter.

**Tom Green** reported on the successful "asado" held for graduating Bolivian students at the University of Arkansas in May. Assisting in this event were **Jo Ann** and **Hank Kaminsky**, **Margaret Clark**, **Frans Free**, **Thecia Taylor** and **Vivian Careaga** (Editor's note: this event was reported in the last issue of *Direcciones*).

Frans' written Executive Director report recommended the continuation of the Maria Teresa Frans Scholarship fund and that the first disbursement in the amount of \$500 be made to **Ninon Gamarra**. These actions were later approved by the Board.

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## From Partners

From the most recent issue of *Partners*, the newsletter from the Washington office, these words: "We all know it is true, but that doesn't make it any less challenging. Voluntary organizations such as Partners must continually reinvigorate their membership with new people. Our four decades bring a tremendous asset - a core base of experienced volunteers who have committed, in many cases, the majority of their lives to the Partners mission. Now, as Partners enters its fifth decade, it's necessary that we incorporate a new generation to complement our current volunteer base."

That's certainly a clarion call to all of us - we need new blood! Locally, we seem to all be getting older and greyer, particularly as we contemplate the forthcoming International Convention and putting that event behind us. Perhaps this would be a good time for us to reinvigorate, cast about us, and in the light of a hoped-to-be successful convention, invite and encourage new people to join us. Worth a try!

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## Final notes

This issue is short, but hopefully, to the point: we're having the International Convention in Little Rock in November - please register for it (go to [www.partners.net](http://www.partners.net)) - plan to attend and help make it a rousing success - and show forth that famous Arkansas hospitality! See you there!