

Report No. 12 from Alto Cayma - 24 Sep 17

"Save the Date"

For those of you who live in the Charlotte area, within driving distance of Advent Lutheran Church, please save the evening of **Sat, 4 Nov**, for a Peru Reunion Dinner. This is an opportunity for everyone who is interested in what goes on down here in Alto Cayma to come together for an update and to enjoy a Peruvian-themed meal. We will also try to reach out to as many of you as possible with an Evite, to which we will ask you to please respond, in order to help us plan for the appropriate number of people. I assure you that it will be a fun and inspiring event.

Happy Birthday, Dear Dunebuggy

On Wednesday we celebrated the 6th anniversary of having picked up



our then-new van at the dealership. You'd almost think it's still new today,



with the way Victor takes care of it.

Association Serving Alto Cayma (ASAC) Planning Commission

Over the past several weeks, the ASAC leadership has been meeting twice a week with the objective of streamlining and formalizing our business practices. This effort is being driven by a number of factors, including:

- Our need to grow our programs without growing our staff
- The recent arrival of Briza to take over a key role in the ASAC as our Director of Social Work
- John moving into a stronger leadership role in the ASAC
- Carol coming on board to manage the finances of the ASAC
- Me trying to phase out of the details of the activity here in Alto Cayma, in order to concentrate more on sponsor and donor relationships

On Friday, we held a meeting with the ladies who do the field work for the Acercádonos sponsorship program, to begin involving them in the change process. The meeting went well. (As you can see in the photo, we are



all still here - there weren't any defections. :-) While I've got everyone assembled all in one place, let me link up the names, faces and responsibilities of these people you keep reading about in these reports.

Back row (l to r)

• Lidia - Director of Student Programs and Administrator of Finances

• Carol - CFO

• Jim - CEO

• John - COO

• Briza - Director of Social Work

• Victor - Director of Logistics and Special Projects

Front row (l to r)

• Sabina - Assistant to Lidia

• Lurdes, Maribel, Luz, Genoveva, Giuliana, Tula - Case Workers in the Acercádonos program

Day of Youth and Springtime (and of the Student)

September 23, the first full day of Spring in the southern hemisphere, is celebrated in Peru as the day of all of the above. It's a single day, but we celebrated it all week. On Wednesday, the Ciudad Blanca Rotary Club hosted



our Rotaractors and Interactors for a celebration. On Saturday, Lidia and Sabina organized a celebration for our Bridge to Opportunity students who



are studying in the academy. (They had already done the same for the Salir Adelante students at their meeting on the previous Saturday.)

This was all such fun that it has given me a new idea. I'm going to campaign to have March 21 designated as the Peruvian Day of Old Goats and Autumn (and of the Hopelessly Untrainable :-)

Family School of Love

The 4th Saturday of every month, we do a special event in Mujeres con Esperanza. Two months ago we did a party for the children, and last month we had an event for the elderly. This month it was the parents' turn, and Briza organized a workshop on how to raise your children with love. She



talked about the needs of the different members of the family, and how to respond to those needs positively, with love, rather than negatively, with

Reports on "Ahijados" (Sponsorees)

Those of you who are sponsoring "ahijados" in the Acercándonos program will remember that I have mentioned, on more than one occasion, that when I return to the States this time, I'll be bringing letters from "ahijados" only for those sponsors who wrote a letter to be answered. I'm going on the assumption that those sponsors who don't write do want to help their "ahijados" financially, but they don't care if they hear from their "ahijados" or not. (Note: This is purely an assumption on my part. If I'm wrong, please let me know.)

Even if my assumption is correct, I also feel that sponsors who are giving so faithfully and generously are entitled to know how their "ahijados" are doing, whether they write to them or not. Therefore, I have directed the ladies in our Acercándonos office to write a short report on each of the 250



"ahijados" who didn't receive a letter this time. I will translate and e-mail those reports to the sponsors when I get back to the States in early October.

Chinese Junque

I finally got my genuine Wanxin (that's Mandarin for "Mao Tse-tung's Revenge") motorcycle back from the shop after an engine rebuild. I think I'd



better unload this beauty as soon as I return to Peru again, while it's still at least temporarily in running condition.

"Love God, Serve Neighbor/Serving Alto Cayma",

Jim