



## Cyber News – Issue #45 – May 2008

### FDR PRESIDENT'S CORNER –

We are experimenting with a new PDF format for the Cyber News with this issue. Please send us your comments.

I am busy refining my agenda for a 3+ week tour of the SW states which will include the DR RPCV Reunions in Durango and Tucson. I look forward to meeting some of you there!

Roger Weiss, <mailto:President@fotdr.org>

### NEWS FROM FDR –



#### Well drillers DR 4 Reunion, Durango, CO, June 16-19, 2008

The Dominican Republic IV Peace Corps Volunteers, known as the "Well Drillers", served during 1962-64. As one of the early Peace Corps groups during the Kennedy Administration, it has been 44 years since most of them have seen each other. They will gather in Durango, Colorado from June 16-19, 2008. Others are welcome.

For more information, check the reunion website: [www.2008dr4.us/index.html](http://www.2008dr4.us/index.html)



#### Southwest Reunion in Tucson, AZ, June 26-29, 2008

Andy Hernandez (now 95 yrs old) will be the center of the SW Reunion in Tucson, AZ, June 26-29 at the Hilton Hotel East (7600 E. Broadway Blvd., 520-721-5600). Andy was the popular first Country Director in the DR 1962 to 1964.

On Friday, Sherry Teachnor will have a reception at her Galeria la Sirena, 2905 E. Broadway Blvd, 5-7 pm. We are in time for the Hot Island Dreaming show, with paintings of scenes of the Caribbean. Plus Dominican nibbles!!!



On Saturday evening there will be a dinner at the very nice, relaxing home of Herb Trossman.

Sign up with Jess Stone [JessStone@aol.com](mailto:JessStone@aol.com) (208) 798-7043

*Note that both CO and AZ gatherings are in the Southwest and about a week apart, so you can easily attend both!!!*

### FDR Participated in Seattle Peace Corps Expo

FDR had a display table at the Peace Corps Expo in Seattle and President Roger Weiss served as a panel member. About 400 attended the event that was held at the Seattle Pacific U. The event was organized by Peace Corps, NPCA and Seattle Area Peace Corps Association (SEAPAX). The panel addressed the topic of how RPCVs have brought the Third PC goal into their careers.

See images at [www.facebook.com/album.php?aid=20484&id=8545788683](http://www.facebook.com/album.php?aid=20484&id=8545788683)

### PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT –

#### Rotary Center Peace Fellowships and Conflict Studies Opportunities

The Rotary Foundation announces a call for applications for the 2009-11 Rotary World Peace Fellowships (RWPF) and 2009 Rotary Peace and Conflict Studies (RPCS) Program sessions. Deadline for applications to The Rotary Foundation for these sessions is 1 July 2008. Programs are open to anyone, regardless of citizenship or country of residence. Click on the full article here:

[www.fotdr.org/dnn/CyberNews/tabid/287/Default.aspx](http://www.fotdr.org/dnn/CyberNews/tabid/287/Default.aspx)

### NATIONAL PEACE CORPS NEWS –

#### American Idealist, The Story of Sargent Shriver

"This DVD video about Sargent Shriver, brother-in-law of John F. Kennedy and first PC Director, is excellent," according to a review by Neil Ross. "Having experienced the start-up era," Ross comments that "much of the content about the Peace Corps resonate as very true while giving behind-the-scenes insight to how it happened and why."

The video goes on to the time and trials Shriver had starting up the War on Poverty for President Johnson. Included is a recorded phone call between LBJ and Shriver, about his appointment as director of the anti-poverty program, and it is classic LBJ and quite funny.

The DVD can be obtained for only \$7.45, including shipping, at: [www.americanidealistmovie.org](http://www.americanidealistmovie.org)

### PC-DR RELATED NEWS –

#### Editorial from a DR-RPCV on intertwining of Espionage and Education – (It parallels PC volunteerism and espionage perceptions)

The following editorial appeared in the Gainesville (Florida) Sun. It is in response to the University of Florida publicly creating a spy school under the spearheading of former Senator Bob Graham.

Sen. Graham's Center for Public Policy is a major new asset that will encourage student involvement in matters of national priority. Let's not, however, sabotage this marvelous new center by publicly associating it with training in covert cloak-and-dagger activities. However vital these activities may be to the security of the nation, they are alien to the mission of its universities.

Click on the full article here:

[www.fotdr.org/dnn/CyberNews/tabid/287/Default.aspx](http://www.fotdr.org/dnn/CyberNews/tabid/287/Default.aspx)

### HAPPENINGS IN, AND ABOUT, THE DR –

#### New Community Challenge Fund Projects

The Challenge Fund is finally a nation-wide program! One of the two projects approved for assistance last month is from the El Seibo area. The approval of the Los Mameyes de El Seibo latrine project represents the first such project in the eastern regions of the country. In large part, this has been a reflection of the more limited presence of Volunteers in the east. These are the 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> Challenge Fund projects, raising the total number families assisted to almost 1,400!

The El Seibo project will begin to work toward

solving long-standing health deficiencies of the community where two-thirds of the community has inadequate sanitation facilities and many are without facilities at all. The approved project will assist 10 families with the construction of new ventilated latrines, providing improved sanitation for those families. The project will include instruction on the maintenance of latrines and sustainable use.

The other project, an aqueduct in La Cienaga de Jarabacoa, will extend an existing system to 25 new households in a very poor area where the subsistence farmers struggle to make \$125 a month. Each of the families will have individual spigots bringing potable water to their homes for the first time. Work on the extension will be carried out by the beneficiary families and community volunteers. As part of the aqueduct extension, the PCV is conducting a "Healthy Families" Program in the community including the training of 7 health promoters on nutrition and food/water management. Each of the 7 Promotoras will then select 15 members in the community to train and educate.

### **Dominican Scouts to Serve as International Camp Staff**

The Dominican Scout Association will be sending seven Scouts to serve as International Camp Staff at Boy Scouts of America camps across the U.S. This will be a record for the number of Dominican scouts participating in BSA summer camps. Each will be going to Scout camps in beautiful locations.

This year celebrates the 10th anniversary of written agreements between the Dominican Scout Association and Narragansett Council, BSA, in 1998. This very successful International Scout Exchange Program was created and is run by Neil Ross, FDR's first President.

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### **EXCERPTS FROM DR1 NEWS - <http://www.dr1.com/>**

#### **Dominicans Mourn Loss of Tourism Writer**

Dominicans mourn the loss Luis Augusto Caminero, a writer who published about 50 years ago what is probably the first tourist guidebook about the DR to be published by a Dominican. Mr. Caminero died at 81 after a long illness. By 1962, he had published the fifth edition of his book, 'Things to Know,' focusing on the

Colonial City of Santo Domingo, which at the time was considered the country's leading attraction. In 1966, the publication evolved into 'Bohio', a periodical on tourism topics and 'La Cotica' (1984), a tour guide. Both Bohio and La Cotica are still in publication. Caminero was born in San Pedro de Macoris, son of poet laureate and writer Mario Caminero Sanchez. Caminero was closely involved in the early efforts to position the DR on the world tourism map. From May 23, DR1

#### **President Fernandez reelected**

Dominicans gave four more years to President Leonel Fernandez and Vice President Rafael Alburquerque in the Friday, 16 May Presidential Election.

Fernandez is credited with restoring macroeconomic stability and a favorable business climate after inheriting an economic and banking crisis. Of 5,764,387 registered voters, 4,086,541 valid votes were counted. The final Bulletin No. 9 issued at 6 pm on Saturday, 17 May showed President Leonel Fernandez had won with a convincing 53.83% plurality (2,199,734 votes).

Calling for a union of all interests, Fernandez thanked voters for giving him his third term in office and the first re-election in Dominican politics since Joaquin Balaguer was re-elected in 1990. His main challenger, Miguel Vargas Maldonado, had conceded defeat shortly after the second bulletin from the Central Electoral Board (JCE) was released to the public. From May 19, DR1

#### **Breadbasket of the Caribbean**

The Secretary General of the United Nations, Ban Ki-moon, has expressed confidence in the Dominican Republic's ability to set up a program aimed at solving food shortage problems throughout the Caribbean. The project to convert the DR into the breadbasket of the Caribbean could be pushed forward with the help of the UN and the developed countries, and it has a projected cost of between US\$800 million and US\$1 billion.

Speaking at a luncheon hosted by Dominican Foreign Minister Carlos Morales Troncoso, Ban Ki-moon said that he would call the Security Council to session on Haiti and the Dominican Republic to take a look at the issue "where we should all work together and create a coordinated effort". From May 7, DR1

**CONTACT US!** Have a news piece, announcement, photo, or suggestion for the next Cyber News? Sent it along to the FDR Cyber News editor at [CyberNews@fotdr.org](mailto:CyberNews@fotdr.org) . Visit Friends of the Dominican Republic online at: [www.fotdr.org](http://www.fotdr.org) .

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**Fondo Quisqueya** - FDR collaborates closely with our sister organization, Fondo Quisqueya. Like FDR, is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation. Fondo Q provides scholarships for low income Dominicans at all levels below university, including vocational and non-traditional education. Fondo Q welcomes your support. For complete Information about Fondo Q, visit their website: [www.fondoq.org](http://www.fondoq.org) . Contributions may be sent to Fondo Quisqueya, P.O. Box 6628, Falls Church, VA 22040-6628.

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