



YACHASPA

Quechua for “sabiendo” or “knowing”...

Newsletter of Amigos de Bolivia y Perú, Inc.



President's Column

In this hot weather, sit down, have a nice cold drink and read another wonderful issue of our *Yachaspa* newsletter – all credit due to our treasured Editor, Ray Brown, assisted by Publications Coordinator, Gayle Hartmann.

This is my first column as the President of Amigos' Board of Directors, elected by my Board colleagues on May 1. We owe a major debt of grati-

tude to Patt Behler who served as President from January 2005 through April 2006, effecting a smooth transition from the long-term leadership of Amigos founder, Ken Rustad. During her presidency, we strengthened Amigos' infrastructure, including the development of a new set of bylaws. Fortunately, Patt remains an active and valued member of the Board.

(Continued on page 15)

Update from PC/Bolivia

We congratulate Marko Dolan on his new assignment as Program and Training Officer for Peace Corps in Lima, Peru. Daniel Lopez will replace Marko Dolan as the new Microenterprise Development APCD. Daniel has an MA in Education from American University in Washington DC, and a BA in International Relations / Spanish from Ameri-

can University. He has most recently served as program director for Visions Service Adventures, placing short-term volunteers in the Dominican Republic, Peru, Ecuador, Bolivia, Chile, and British Virgin Islands. Particular strengths he brings to the program are in training and youth development. He has just finished

(Continued on page 4)

Update from PC/Peru

Greetings from a chilly and gray Lima. There is certainly no need for sunscreen this time of year.

I'm sure everyone followed the recent elections. The second round was described by many Peruvians as a choice between the lesser of two evils, and a referendum on the role of Venezuela's Chávez in the rest of South America. Fortunately, the elections took place peacefully, the voting and ballot counting took place fairly and efficiently, and all parties accepted the results. Peace Corps is confident it will be able to work

very well with the new government, which takes office on July 28.

Peace Corps continues to grow in Peru, under the scenario that I've described in previous columns. On June 23, we welcomed 37 new Trainees, who will be working in our Small Business and Youth Development programs. Gloria Levin kindly organized a dinner for them during their two-day staging in the Washington area, where they were able to meet RPCVs from several generations. We expect another 37 Trainees to arrive

(Continued on page 11)

Summer 2006

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Inside this issue:

President's Column	pp. 1,15
Update from PC/Bolivia	pp. 1,4
Update from PC/Peru	pp. 1,11
We have a Winner!!	p. 2
Meet Our PC Desk	p. 3
Amigos Dinner for Peru 7	p. 5
Kantuta Update	p. 6
Amigos Elections	p. 6
Shall we...? Shall we not?	p. 7
Peruvian Elections Featured at Andean Seminar	pp. 8,9
A Fundraiser is a Fun Raiser!	p.9
The Devil's Miner	p. 10
New Book by RPCV	p. 10
CARE Responds to Bolivian Floods	p. 11
Comparsa Culture: The Dialog of Dance	pp. 12-14
Websites of Interest...	p. 14
RPCVs Found Non-Profit	pp 16-17
Films & Videos	p. 17
Membership Form	p. 19
NPCA News	p. 20



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Perú Advocate
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Amigos de Bolivia y Peru, Inc. is a nonprofit corporation, affiliated with the National Peace Corps Association. As an affiliate of NPCA, *Amigos* is one of approximately 150 organized groups of returned Peace Corps volunteers, former staff and friends who work together and separately. *Amigos* promotes and supports a variety of activities for the purpose of enhancing cooperation and understanding among the peoples of Bolivia and/or Peru and the peoples of the United States.

Yachaspa, the newsletter of *Amigos de Bolivia y Peru*, is distributed quarterly with the following anticipated deadlines for submitting materials to the editor: Spring Issue-

March 15th; Summer Issue-June 15th; Fall Issue-September 15th; Winter Issue-December 15th.

Articles are welcome and may be submitted to brownr@westminster-mo.edu.

Yachaspa is distributed to members by mail or electronically in .pdf format. Past issues are also available at www.amigosdeboliaviayperu.org on the *Amigos* web site.



We have a winner!!

Patt Behler

Amigos Board Director

In our last issue, we pictured a necklace made by an artisan in Arequipa, Peru. The jewelry cottage industry is taking off in the markets there and one of our RPCVs traveled to Peru over a holiday period and brought back several pieces from the market.

We announced a quiz question that, if answered correctly, would qualify one of our readers as the winner of the necklace.

Our winner is Sue Knox, of Hollywood, CA. Sue, and Bob, her husband, both served in Arequipa during the 60s.(Peru 1963-65) They have become world travelers and are headed to the Middle East soon on another trip. Both have pursued professional careers since they returned to the States. Congratulations, Sue, and enjoy your new piece of handmade jewelry! Watch for another contest soon!



Marushka Lutz Benevides Hollen, Sue Dickinson Sobenes Fisher, Betsy Edmonston Evans Banks, and Patt Behler



Meet Our PC Desk

Gloria Levin
Amigos President

At Peace Corps headquarters in Washington are three people who constitute the "South American Desk Unit." The desk officer is Shawn Schwartz Wesner (Ethiopia, 97-9); the assistant desk officers are Kerry Carmichael (Ecuador, 1992-4) and Saba Firoozi (Dominican Republic, 2000-2). South America is one of four subregions making up the IAP (InterAmericas and Pacific) region, the other three being the Pacific, Caribbean and Central America. Six countries comprise the South American domain: Bolivia, Peru, Ecuador, Guyana, Paraguay and Suriname. Kerry is the first point of contact for Bolivia; for Peru, it's Saba, but all three fill in for each other.

The desk officers perform a wide range of duties, collaborating with other PC units in doing so. In ad-

dition to answering phoned or emailed questions from invitees, they compile and update the welcome package sent to applicants upon being invited to serve in a specific country. (They are "invitees" until leaving for their assigned country, at which point they become "trainees.") Included in the package is a CD-R on which is recorded a fact-filled "booklet" about the assigned country, the life of a PCV in that country, resources such as books and websites; and emergency contact information to be left behind for families. In this wired age, the desk officers are in close contact with their assigned country directors, including regular telephone briefings.

This time of year, the desk officers are on the go constantly, preparing for and then staffing "stagings" of 1.5 day orientations held in the U.S. for invitees. Among the topics discussed in stagings are PC's approach to development, invitees' aspirations and

anxieties, and safety and security. The trainees then board a plane to begin training in an established training center located in their assigned country. Trainees live with host families during training, and all Bolivia and Peru PCVs are required to live with host families throughout their service. Although a "permanent" community and work-site have been pre-selected for each invitee, the (approximately) 2.5 month training period includes an opportunity for trainees to give input into their placement.

Peru stagings are typically (but not always) held in Washington, DC, in June and September. The staging for Peru 8 will be incorporated into Peace Corps' 45th anniversary events in mid-September. Bolivia stagings (held each January, May and August) are routinely held in Miami.



(left to right) Saba Firoozi, Kerry Carmichael and Shawn Wesner. Shawn is the Desk Officer and the other two are the Assistant Desk Officers, all for PC South America. (They've posed in front of a backdrop showing S.A., but it may not show up.)

Update from PC/Bolivia (continued from p. 1)

OST and will arrive in Bolivia in late July.

For this issue, I'd like to submit the following three excerpts from a 'gender calendar' project we are working on. The concept is to highlight positive female role models from rural backgrounds, for use by our volunteers who work with young girls in rural areas. In addition, our volunteers working with teachers will use this calendar and a supplemental guide of activities to promote self-esteem, emotional intelligence and understanding of gender issues in the classroom. The submissions of admirable women with whom our volunteers work have also been inspiring for the staff at PC/Bolivia. Enjoy!

1) **María Balderas** es una mujer muy conocida por su dedicación al trabajo, y por ser una líder en su comunidad. El dinero que gana para su familia lo consigue de muchas formas: haciendo mermeladas, dulce de leche, mantequilla de maní, y realizando artesanías.

Cuando fue presidenta del club de mujeres, ella motivaba a las socias haciendo nuevos proyectos para crear oportunidades y educar a las mujeres. Doña María ayudó mucho a que las mujeres pudieran tener una sede donde realizar transformaciones de productos agrícolas. También era concejala en la Alcaldía del municipio.

A pesar de tener tanto trabajo, siempre asiste a talleres que se realizan, ya sea de contabilidad o computación, y participa en lo que tiene que ver con su comunidad. Doña María dice que "La mujer tiene que saber hacer todo. Siempre hay que estar aprendiendo."

2) **Mariana Villagómez, Apicultora - Villamontes**—Mariana (la segunda mujer de la izquierda en la foto) se dedica a la apicultura con su familia. Muchas familias como ella trabajan en este rubro en el Chaco boliviano. Ella trabaja todos los días con "Miel Chaqueña," la marca de miel propia de la zona. Mariana es responsable de filtrar y envasar la miel, para luego llenar y etiquetar los frascos.

A Mariana le gusta poner gran empeño en todo el trabajo y es por esto que el producto final es de gran aceptación por la calidad en su proceso.

Además, Mariana participa en las ferias enseñando a la gente sobre los usos y beneficios de la miel; y nunca se cansa de hablar de su trabajo como apicultora.

Ella es líder de la comunidad y está a cargo de la organización de los grupos de mujeres, grupos religiosos, y grupos apícolas. Siempre esta motivada a trabajar con todo tipo de proyectos y por su carisma, Mariana transmite confianza a las otras mujeres de la comunidad.

3) **Eduarda Espinosa, Sastre - Sopachuy** — A los 7 años, Eduarda

Espinoza dejó sus estudios, y salió de su comunidad y se fué a Sopachuy a trabajar como empleada. Ella trabajó así en Sucre y Sopachuy sin seguir estudiando hasta la edad de 15. A los 15 años decidió volver a sus estudios y entró al Centro Joven Campesina (SIPAS) y después a la SEMA - Centro Catalina para aprender costurar y tejer a palillo y crochet, mientras seguía trabajando como empleada. En 2006, mientras seguía estudiando en la SEMA empezó con el Curso Gestión Empresariales, un curso presentado por ACLO y SEDESEM Bolivia para aprender como uno debe manejar una empresa.

La Eduarda, mientras no ha tenido la habilidad estudiar cuando era niña ahora está aprovechando cada oportunidad para seguir aprendiendo y mejorando su vida. Ella quiere salir bachiller y su última meta es tener una sastrería buena para que pueda enseñar a las otras que no han tenido las mismas oportunidades que ella.

Ahora Eduarda sigue estudiando y tiene una sastrería pequeña. También está apoyando a un proyecto, capacitando a la gente de su barrio sobre higiene y saneamiento básico."

Doreen Salazar
PTO



Street Scene in Copacabá, Bolivia



Peru 7's First Despedida

Gloria Levin
Amigos President
and
Sarah Preston
RPCV (Peru 2)

Amigos de Bolivia y Peru organized a dinner for the members of Peru 7, on June 21, after their first day of orientation in Crystal City, Virginia, and just 1.5 days before they flew to Peru to begin training. All but a handful of the group's 37 members attended the dinner at Oyamel Restaurant, decorated with a Peruvian flag (brought by RPCV Mike Wolfson) hung on the wall. Four RPCVs hosted the dinner and answered questions from the "aspirantes" or invitees. Much in demand was Sarah Preston (Peru 2) because of her recent service in Peru, where she

worked in youth development and small business – the assignments for most Peru 7 members. She reports that the questions posed to her ranged from dangers to love.

Among the questions were how soon she felt comfortable with the language; what she and her Peruvian boyfriend talked about and did; if she ever felt threatened or had been robbed; what her host family and her projects were like; how she communicated with her family back home; and if she ever went home on vacation. Recognizing that each PCV's experiences are as different as they are alike, she supplemented her own experiences with those of her fellow PCVs, as well as PC policy.

RPCVs Eric Graber, Gloria Levin and Mike Wolfson spoke about their (more distant) service and their con-

tinuing involvement with Peru and Peace Corps. Recently returned Peru PCVs, including Greg Bocquet, Huong Diep, Meghan Herwehe, Jordan Mallah, Doug Neal, and Sarah Reed, had emailed their observations, advice and good wishes – a set of which was given to Peru 7 to pass among themselves on their way to Peru. The host RPCVs were impressed with the group's preparation, spirit and developing camaraderie and envied the adventures awaiting them. Each will soon, as trainees and then as PCVs, create their own individual stories.



Photos by Amigos member, Mike Wolfson, RPCV/PERU





Kantuta Update: Bolivia

Gerard Maguire
Amigos Kantuta Coordinator

Amigos de Bolivia y Peru recently signed a donation agreement with Peace Corps/ Bolivia. This agreement provided an initial \$1,000 Kantuta Grant to Peace Corps/ Bolivia with the funding to be used for development projects facilitated by Peace Corps Volunteers.

The agreement is similar to one signed between Peace Corps/Peru and *Amigos de Bolivia y Peru* earlier this year. (Editor's Note: Readers can also see the *Kantuta Update* that starts on the p. 1 of this past Winter's edition of *Yachaspa*, Vol. 16, No. 4.)

Projects will be reviewed for funding from the Kantuta Grant using an evaluation committee from Peace Corps/ Bolivia. Once projects are selected, Peace Corps/ Bolivia will provide *Amigos de Bolivia y Peru* with project descriptions and periodic project updates.

If you wish to make a donation, it will be best if you use the membership form included in each issue of *Yachaspa* (p. 19 in this issue). Please send your contributions to:

Amigos de Bolivia y Peru
C/O Gloria Levin
7327 University Avenue
Glen Echo, MD 20812

Checks should be made out to *Amigos de Bolivia y Peru*. If desired, you can indicate on the membership form or your donation where you would like the money applied, i.e., Peru Kantuta or Bolivia Kantuta. If there is no designation, funds will be divided evenly between projects in Bolivia and Peru.

Be sure to check the *Amigos* website for additional information on Kantuta (i.e. its mission and types of projects funded) and periodic updates on current Kantuta projects.

If you have further question, feel free to contact me at gimaguire@hotmail.com.

Rurrenabaque, Bolivia



Amigos Elections

Stephen Paul Jacobs
Amigos Secretary

On May 30, Frank Salveson, Elections Judge, and Joan Pugh Avent, Elections Coordinator, reported the results of the election of three Board Directors by the membership of *Amigos de Bolivia & Peru, Inc.* Ray Brown, Steve Jacobs and Gloria Levin were elected to three-year terms. Joining

Patt Behler and Hugh Pickens, whose terms continue, the Board currently consists of five elected members and two members appointed by the Board for 2-year terms.

Meanwhile, on May 1 the Board elected its officers: Gloria Levin - President, Steve Jacobs - Secretary, Gayle Hartmann - Publications Coordinator, and Gerard Maguire - Kantuta Coordinator. Gloria Levin

agreed to serve as interim Membership Coordinator. In addition, on May 13, Gayle Hartmann was appointed to a 2-year term on the Board beginning on June 1.

Multiple congratulations to new and continuing officers. Particular thanks are due Patt Behler for her steady and thoughtful leadership since January 2005.



Shall we...? Why not?

Patt Behler

Amigos Board Director

I have been pleased to turn over responsibilities of the *Amigos* presidency to Gloria Levin, who has a wealth of experience in organizing as well as the time to devote to our affairs now that she's among the retired...well, maybe it works that way. Personally I've found that during the last 10-12 years since my retirement I've been busier, have joined more organizations, taken more trips, had more romances and spent more money than I ever did before. I'm not complaining though; it's good to wake up in the morning knowing that I'm being paid (by many of you younger ones) to do just what I want to do!!

One of my interests has continued to be working with *Amigos*. Our group has had its ups and downs but it is still in existence and seems to be picking up steam. We are helping our PCVs in both Bolivia and in Peru with financial help. Perhaps we will also be able to offer "experience-help" too as time goes along, although so far we haven't been asked to do so. It does seem to me that our years of work there may give the newer volunteers some insight into current problems and projects and since many of us have computer connections, it is easier to be in touch, now. Why not? Country directors, consider this an offer!!!!

Another aspect of our mission, as stated in our newly revised bylaws, is that we serve our RPCV members and friends with opportunities to correspond, connect and continue to maintain our friendships and rela-

tionships that we formed while in Bolivia and Peru. Although many of us do so on an individual basis, it seems to me that we, as the *Amigos* organization, owe it to you, our members, to develop ways to keep in touch that supplement the newsletter you have been receiving either by e-mail or in print form. One of our "columns" is intended to give you the chance to put in notices of a personal nature...."looking for...?" do you remember.....? asking who it was that...??? so realize that you can be part of that search for reacquainting yourself through the newsletter with those "lost" volunteers and host nationals you may be thinking of. Send queries and comments ANY TIME to Ray Brown, Board Director/Editor.

Since I live in Missouri, I've looked over a recent membership list and find that we have had approximately 30 *Amigos* members who live in the Central Time Zone area, e.g. the Midwest. I counted 19 who were Bolivian RPCVs and 12 who were Peruvian RPCVs. One concentration is up north: there were five in Michigan, six in Illinois, three in Minnesota, three in Ohio, and one in Wisconsin. Then down south there were five in Texas and one in Louisiana. Rounding out the geographical area were three in Missouri, two in Iowa, and one in Nebraska.

Now, I say to myself, what if we could have a get together some long weekend or even during a longer time to renew old acquaintances, make new friends and do some planning to help out *Amigos*? It probably won't happen this year, but 2007 might be "a very good year", right? If

we added spouses, "others", kids, and host country nationals whom we know who are living in the US, that would be a mighty big crowd! Planning a regional reunion near a resort area where there are lots of things to do would add to the pleasure of being together. So, I say, "Let me know!". How about it?" When? But not Why!!! We know it could be a great gathering! Call me at 573-635-0608 or e-mail me at pabehler@socket.net.

We're looking for newly returned RPCVs too, of course. Since we have had volunteers in both countries in recent years, a group is developing of those who could become valued members of our organization. They are the ones who are "in the know"; they have up-to-date information about their recent work in Peru and Bolivia. We encourage the newer returnees to continue their membership in *Amigos* and offer articles and comments to the newsletter as well as offering to work on the Board, as a Director, or as active members.

In many ways, we continue to be "one family" it seems to me. I find that when I talk to an RPCV from any country, we have a lot in common to discuss. Since *Amigos* members served in neighboring countries, there are many ways that our interests coincide. Let's keep the ties that bind us going. Our support of causes that can benefit both Bolivia and Peru will be of benefit to us too!

Peruvian Elections Featured at Andean Seminar

Gloria Levin (Peru, 1966-68)

Amigos President

Humbled by predictions made at an Andean Seminar held prior to the Peruvian presidential and Congressional election of April 9 (see *Yachaspa's* Spring 2006 issue) that Lourdes Flores would win, speakers at George Washington University's May 31, 2006 Andean Seminar acknowledged the difficulty of making accurate predictions when discussing the Peruvian electorate and the upcoming (June 4) presidential run-off election. Entitled "Peru's Incoming Government: What Can We Expect?," the speakers were Jo-Marie Burt (Government and Politics, George Mason University) and Carlos Indacochea (Development Sociology, George Washington University), with extensive commentary by Cynthia McClintock, the moderator, of GWU.

Professor Indacochea related a phrase frequently repeated in Peru, depicting the choice facing voters on June 4, between Ollanta Humala (the Outsider, who has been charged with serious human rights violations during his military career and has ties to Venezuela's Chavez) and Alan Garcia (who mishandled both the economy and terrorism during his 1985-1990 presidency): Would you rather have cancer or AIDS? According to Indacochea, the Peruvian right "failed miserably" in the April 2006 presidential election, despite having a viable candidate in Lourdes Flores. She was caricatured as the candidate of the rich, and her endorsement of Toledo's free market policy, proposing the economy be left on "auto-pilot," did not endear her to the poor who never benefited from the coun-

try's recent macro-economic gains. "Entreaties for the population to be patient do not satisfy those who can't afford to be patient," he said. Further, Flores received almost no help in campaigning, not even from her vice presidential running mate. At the same time, Peru's leftist parties were "completely defeated in this election cycle" constituting only 4% of the vote" in April. "Just a few years ago, they would have accounted for 30% of the electorate," he said.

Professor Burt noted the continuing hold of Fujimori forces on Peru's politics, even though he could not run in this election. Fujimori's daughter won the highest number of votes of any Congressional candidate. Also, Fujimoristas interfered in the presidential elections. Montesinos (the strong arm of the prior regime, currently jailed in Callao) "dropped a bombshell two days before the April 9 election," by the release of an audiotape in which Montesinos disparaged Humala, claiming that Humala's 2000 coup attempt was a farce, intended as a diversion that would allow Montesinos to flee Peru before he was arrested. Burt stated: "All this results in confusing the Peruvian electorate, and this is reminiscent of Fujimori's intrigue-filled presidency."

Since we now know that Garcia won the June 4 presidential election (52.62%) – to be inaugurated on July 28 – a few predictions are apt. Indacochea believed that Garcia's party, APRA, has no vision for the future and that most of its members are Apristas because their families were traditionally APRA members. Another factor is Garcia's "locquacity" or articulateness. Although Humala's party won the highest number of Congressional seats in the April election,

Indacochea predicted that the party would fall apart if Humala didn't win the presidency. In fact, several weak parties already dissolved during the elections, and the parties were unable to forge effective alliances during the election period. The likelihood is that the Congress will be fragmented and ineffective during Garcia's term. Sixteen (of a possible 120) Congressional seats were won by Fujimoristas, a destabilizing influence. A possible scenario is a dissolved Congress, after it is unable to effectuate alliances.

The speakers were pessimistic that either candidate would encourage holding accountable those who are charged with serious human rights abuses committed from 1980 to 2000, Burt predicting "five more years of impunity." She predicted that 250 pending trials will be scuttled, invoking some euphemism for "amnesty." All candidates supported some form of amnesty in the lead up to the April election. Dr. Burt postulated three alternative explanations as to why Peruvians are not demanding accountability for the abuses of the past two decades: (1) Peruvians have no interest in human rights; (2) the social fabric is thoroughly degraded; or (3) a residue of fear among the population. She noted that Peruvian politicians invoke fear whenever it suits their interests, saying "fear mongering is being used widely as a way of governing or holding power."

McClintock predicted that Garcia would attempt to broaden his base of support, especially pulling from Flores' voters and others on

(Continued on page 9)

Peruvian Elections (continued from p. 8)

the right. In addition, Garcia pledged to follow Chile's lead and name 50% women to official positions in his government.

Amigos member Mike Wolfson volunteered to assist in the April 9 and June 4 Peruvian elections, conducted in the mid-Atlantic region of the U.S. (Gloria Levin volunteered at the June election.) Wolfson contrasted the ebullience of the electorate at the April election versus the resignation, "almost somberness," of the June election. He interpreted this as enthusiasm for Flores' candidacy in April but displeasure with the choice confronting voters in June. Levin was most interested in the fact that Peruvians are obligated

to vote in person, incurring a fine ("multa") if they fail to do so, even for Peruvians living outside of Peru. The voting place where they volunteered covered States as far away as Kentucky and Delaware, although the vast majority of the voters were from Virginia.

If interested, contact me at (g-levin@comcast.net) for a more detailed summary of the May 31 Andean seminar.

Some resources for keeping up to date on Peruvian politics: The official government line is accessed through the website of Peru's embassy in the U.S. ~ www.peruvianembassy.us/. The Embassy maintains www.peruvian-newsletter.com/newsletter/noticias.asp, a webpage with URL links to a wide range of Peruvian media.

There you'll find links to "Peru 21," which publishes Carlos Ivan Degregori and to "Caretas," which publishes Gustavo Gorriti – both well-regarded political analysts. Both *Amigos* member, Jim Bass, and Dr. McClintock of GWU recommend <http://weblogs.learning.ubc.ca/peru>, a superb compendium of resources on Peru, maintained by a political science professor at the University of British Columbia. *Amigos* member Andres Huerta also recommends the website www.adonde.com as one of his favorite Peru-related websites.



A Fundraiser is a Fun Raiser!

Patt Behler
Amigos Board Director

I suppose we are all touched by pleas for money. It's the nature of the beast that projects need money to survive, to do what they want to do, to make their mark in the world. *Amigos* is no different. We need money to accomplish our mission. Some other National Peace Corps Association affiliates have developed very successful fund raising projects and proceeds are put to use in various

ways for projects they support. I think we can too.

In several of the Peruvians groups I worked with, there were a large number of volunteers interested in the ARTS! Yes, the ARTS! These days, many PCV projects are based on social action or scientifically based topics, but that doesn't mean that those of us who can draw, paint, design, write, make music, dramatize aren't able to raise money. What can YOU do? Are you willing to offer something that comes from

your creative side to support fund raising by *Amigos*?

Please consider this an invitation to design a set of cards, mount some special photos, sculpt a beautiful piece and then let's see if there is a market for it to be used as a donation for *Amigos* projects. Whether we work collectively or as individuals, that will be decided later, but let's begin.....soon! Let me hear from you at pabehler@socket.net.

The Devil's Miner

I am hoping that friends with an interest in Bolivia were able to view *The Devil's Miner* on PBS, May 23. If not, check your local listings or visit the web sites for the film at www.thedevilsminer.com or you can follow the links at www.pbs.org/independentlens/devilsminer/.

David Dolson

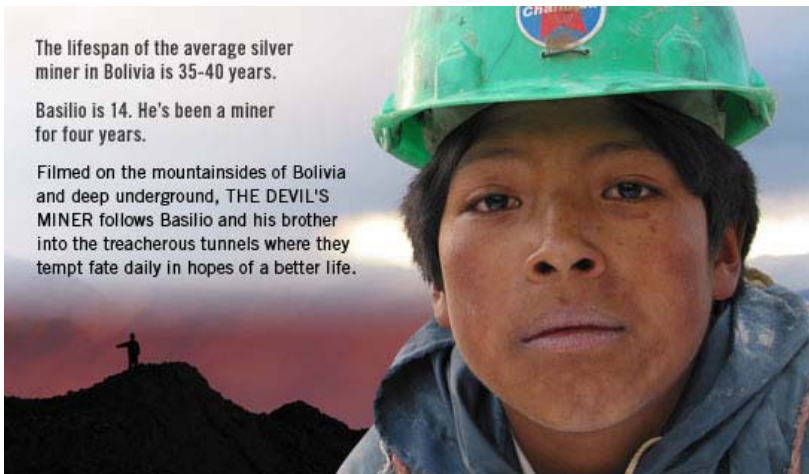
Editor's Note: The www.thedevilsminer.com site is very sophisticated with links to a variety of resources. The film's impact on

viewers led to over \$1 million Euros raised for assistance to the children of Potosi. The film makers are donating part of the proceeds from sale of DVD's and are suggesting donations be made through Kinder-nothilfe, a German aid organization, or through CARE. Both groups are working for better living conditions and alternative income sources for the children of Potosi and are working to reduce child labor in Bolivia's silver mining regions by improving access to education and preparing children for jobs outside the mines. There are links

for those interested in purchasing the DVD.

The documentary is distributed by First Run Features ~ a major distributor of independent films with a social justice orientation ~ whose long time president is Seymour Wishman. Wishman was in the training group, Peru Urban Community Development, 66-68 with Amigos' President Gloria Levin, where he served as an attorney in Lima.

Ray Brown

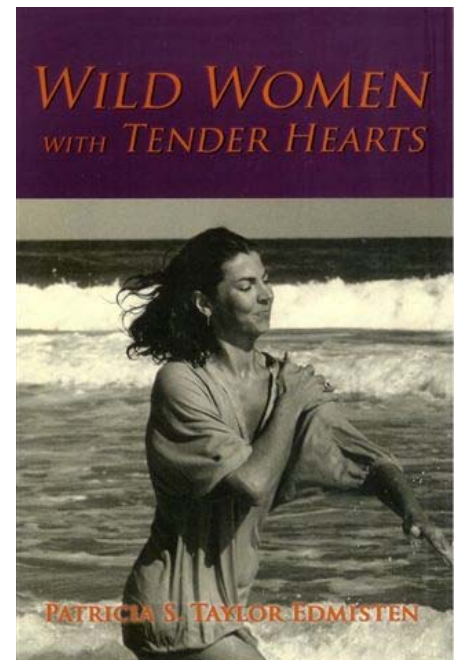


New Book by RPCV

Patricia Taylor Edmesten has a new book of poetry, *Wild Women with Tender Hearts*.

The book is dedicated to all my women friends and is divided into four parts: the inner lives of women; nature; family; and the human family. The book is avail-

able through www.iuniverse.com for \$9.95 and should soon be available, if not already, through most booksellers. If you'd like an inscribed copy, please contact pedmiste@uwf.edu, or call 850-433-1098.



Update from PC/Peru (continued from p. 1)

in Peru on September 15, to work in our Health and Environmental programs. Taking into account PCVs completing their service, we expect to end the calendar year with around 140 Volunteers.

Given our growth, we received approval not long ago to add another American position - that of Program and Training Officer (PTO). This in essence is a deputy country director position, with concentration on the areas of programming and training. After a competitive selection process, in which over 90 applicants were considered, we selected Marko Dolan, currently Associate Director in charge of PC's Small Business program in Bolivia. Marko also arrived on June 23 and has hit the ground running. Bolivia's loss is definitely our gain. As some of you may know, Marko's

grandfather, Oscar Roca, was a counterpart to a number of PCVs in Bolivia in the 1960s.

What is emerging as one of the strongest aspects of our program here in Peru is PCVs from different sectors working together on joint activities. One example is the formation of troupes called "Gringos Saludables," each of half-a-dozen PCVs, which make presentations at schools throughout broad regions of the country. The groups have developed a repertoire of theatrical presentations on a number of different topics, ranging from basic nutrition, to self-esteem, to how to care for the environment.

Another example is the organization of leadership camps for adolescent girls. Taking place over a long weekend, the camps bring together low-income teens and provide

them with the tools and self-confidence to be leaders within their communities. The camps, which have taken place several times each in Cajamarca and Piura, each time with about 12 PCVs and 30 potential leaders, have been so successful that the PCVs have developed a similar camp for adolescent boys. Each camp also involves successful local community members as mentors, and the PCVs have been successful in obtaining local financial support.

We invite you to stop by the PC office when you are in Lima, to hear first-hand what our PCV's are involved in. Thanks for your interest and support.

Best regards,
Michael Hirsh
Country Director

Response to Bolivian Floods

Editor's Note: The text that follows is an excerpt from the CARE website highlighting their work in Bolivia. You can follow the link for more information and pictures at www.care.org/care-work/countryprofiles/6.asp. The corresponding pages for CARE in Peru can be found at www.care.org/care-work/countryprofiles/89.asp

In late January and early February 2006, extreme weather throughout

Bolivia drove thousands of people from their homes. The crisis is now affecting more than 220,000 people. The flooding, landslides and frost have destroyed houses, crops and livestock, and many Bolivians urgently need help regaining their livelihoods and rebuilding their homes. Thousands of families are now surviving in makeshift camps. The camps have little security, and women and children are at risk of

abuse, trafficking and sexual exploitation.

The lowland area of Santa Cruz is the worst-hit by the crisis. Widespread flooding has caused the evacuation of over 18,000 people, more than half of whom are now living in temporary camps. CARE is working in these camps, improving access to clean water and sanitation and working with local organizations to protect women and children in the camps from abuse and exploitation.

Communities in the Potosi region, in the Bolivian highlands, are suffering from the loss of crops and farmland. CARE's response combines immediate food assistance with seeds, tools and training to help farmers re-establish their crops.

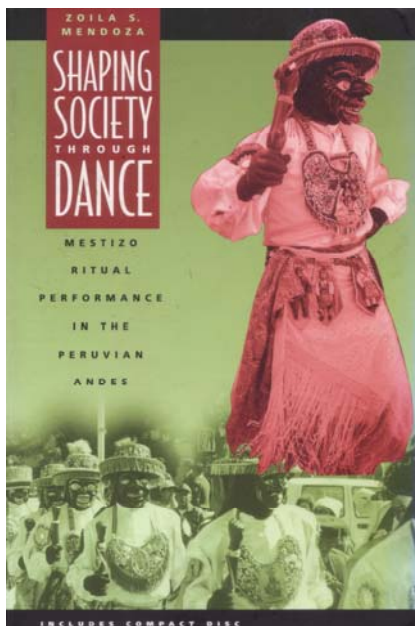


Reina and her family live in the village of Florida in the Pando region of Bolivia. Their house was flooded by the nearby river and they have lost their crops and livestock. (CARE photo)

Comparsa Culture: The Dialog of Dance

Review by Stephen Paul Jacobs

After reading Zoila S. Mendoza's *Shaping Society Through Dance: Mestizo Ritual Performance in the Peruvian Andes*, any romantic notion that folklore is the innocent, honest, and direct expression of a people has been shattered. Professor Men-



doza argues, most persuasively, that it is rather a highly charged vehicle for the renegotiation of the social role of a group or class.

Daniel Goldstein found similar intention in Bolivian urban fiestas in *The Spectacular City*, which I reviewed in the last issue of *Yachaspa*. However, he emphasized the event as a device for gaining recognition and asserting identity. Professor Mendoza, on the other hand, is more interested in the form and content of the performances themselves. She sees the working out of each comparsa's ("ritual dance association's") presentation as an act of self-definition and discovery. She sees each groups dance, its choreog-

raphy, costume and scenario, in relation to a cultural context of memory and myth, of historic stereotypes and ideals. In the process of examining the particular qualities of four comparsas in a particular Peruvian village, she establishes the active role of folklore in individual and communal life.

The primary argument of *Shaping Society Through Dance* is carefully constructed. Prior to examining the specifics of the setting for her study, San Jerónimo, Professor Mendoza establishes a theoretical and historical framework. If folklore is an instrument of cultural action, it is necessary to understand the ambiguities and conflicts of the cultural context that need to be addressed. She proceeds to describe the role of folklore in the Cuzco region and the role of government and cultural institutions in defining and controlling its presentation to conform to an intended profile, in this case to locate Cuzco at the heart of Peru's "authentic / traditional" Andean and Incan roots – as a source of pride and tourism. This claim, in response to the economic, political and cultural importance of Lima and the Pacific Coast, is the first of many pairs of opposing identities that Professor Mendoza presents.

Mendoza locates the particular frame of her study in the community of San Jerónimo, a village becoming increasingly absorbed into an expanding Cuzco and consequently ambiguously poised between an urban and a rural orientation. This threat to its identity gives a particular urgency to the community's annual fiesta, a celebration of its patron saint, which

follows a long tradition of pre-Columbian and Colonial celebrations. A full discussion of the community's conflictive class structure (race, gender, economic, professional, etc.) is presented as a complex field for affirmative identity formation through the fiesta dances.

While San Jerónimo's fiesta has a long and proud history, it was only in the 1970s that the fiesta began to assume its present form. Professor Mendoza introduces the two most well-established comparsas, the Majeños and the Qollas. After a lapse of many years, community leaders decided to reconstitute each of the groups. In both instances they were modeled after similar comparsas from the town of Paucartambo, another of the villages in the Cuzco region. Each of the two groups is examined in terms of the characteristics of its membership and the way they seek to project their identity through choreography and costume. The members of both the Majeños and the Qollas work in transportation, either as owners of truck and bus fleets (the Majeños) or as drivers and owner-operators (the Qollas.) Each comparsa has chosen to represent figures from the Colonial Period equally involved in transportation. The Majeños see themselves as a wealthy elite and have chosen to represent arrieros, the leaders of mule teams trading products from Arequipa and the coast that connected the community with a more technologically progressive world. The Qollas, on the other hand, represent llameros, who drove packs of llamas loaded with products from the altiplano, an explicitly traditional indigenous area.

(Continued on page 13)

Comparsa Culture: The Dialog of Dance (continued from p. 12)

According to the author, the identification of the wealthier citizens of San Jerónimo with the historic arrieros is meaningful on a number of levels both within the context of the fiesta and in the life of the community. The stiff, erect movements of the Majeño dance, their efforts to appear taller by wearing boots and placing their tallest members at the front of the troupe, their initial entrance on horseback and their use of pale whiskered masks are all efforts to associate themselves with Europeans and the former hacienda owners. The Majeños seek a leadership role in the organization of the fiesta and in the community itself.

The Qollas, on the other hand, take the contrary position. They avoid propriety, at all costs, emphasizing spontaneity and improvisation. They, like their Majeño compatriots, are mestizo, of Indian and European descent. Rather than distancing themselves from their indigenous roots, they seek to celebrate this connection as the source of their own vitality and imagination. Instead of taking an aloof posture, they interact directly with the public, seeking to amuse and provoke. Whereas the Majeño pronounce their virility by parading around with phallic noses and bottles of beer, the Qollas express their sexuality through the energy and intimacy of their dance. Their dance celebrates their abilities to flexibly enter into the challenges of daily life with energy and imagination – in direct contrast to the conservative formality of the Majeños.

The juxtaposition of restrained Majeños and sensual Qollas is re-

peated at a significantly more vigorous level in presentations of the comparsas of the younger generation. Zoila Mendoza considers the ritual fiesta dances of the Mollos and the Tuntuna as expressive of another set of preoccupations and a distinct cultural context. Nevertheless, both groups make use of the public forum of the Fiesta de San Jerónimo as the means for self-definition and a statement of their active presence in the community. Rather than confining themselves to a strictly traditional Cuzco regional folklore horizon, the two groups see themselves as part of a broader Andean and Latin American frame of reference. But, perhaps more significantly, whereas the Majeños and Qollas dances are performed by males (with the one exception of the Majeño Dama), the new comparsas have significant female participation both in numbers and choreography.

In contrast with the two traditional comparsas, the Tuntuna and, to a lesser extent, the Mollos are seen as rebels. In 1989, traditionalist Cuzco was shocked by the participation of groups introducing dances and costumes from Puno during the Corpus Cristi fiesta. These exuberant dances appealed to younger Cusqueños, incorporating more overtly sensual choreography and rhythms suggesting “Latin” and Afro-Caribbean influences. Mendoza points out the influences of coastal music on the Cuzco regional youth. One could almost see the historic references in the Tuntuna presentation a pretext to

participate in a dance performance more attuned to a sensibility informed by contemporary media and, more directly by the saya and caporales music and dance from Bolivia. Despite some vague reference to black slavery, any historic reference is not a significant element of the dance. More than anything, it is an excuse for women to display their legs and move their shoulders and hips seductively while the men demonstrate their virility with complicated leaps and turns.

Mendoza sees the performance as an assertion of the identity of a new generation, operating in a cultural, social and professional realm not limited by traditional views of gender and race.

The Mollos are somewhat more inhibited than their Tuntuna peers. While men and women play similar roles in the performance, each gender dancing as a separate corps, clothing and movements are more restrained. Like the Tuntuna, the Mollos are not masked and do not see their presentation as having any historic reference. At the same time, the two groups do represent somewhat different social backgrounds. According to Mendoza, the Tuntuna comparsa is largely made up of the children of the Majeño class whereas, the Mollos appear to attract a broader constituency. It is interesting that, at least in the context of the San Jerónimo fiesta, the more conservative parents produce the most aggressively playful offspring.

Not being an anthropologist by training, I was struck by the persis-

(Continued on page 14)

Comparsa Culture: The Dialog of Dance (continued from p. 13)

tence of binary oppositions at every level of social and cultural organization. The slashed pairings of rural/urban, white/Indian, highland/coast, male/female seemed to permeate the book. I couldn't help but compare this binary thinking to the ancient Andean worldview. The comparsas always appear as matched pairs: the Majeños and the Mollos more controlled and formal, the Qollas and the Tuntunas more spontaneous and overtly sensual.

These opposing attitudes remind me of Freud's ideas of the mental structure. In his terms, our totality results from the competition of repressive super-ego with the creative but uncontrolled id. In the construction of the personality, the interaction of these two opposing qualities constructs an ego capable of confronting the external

world. In its own terms, *Shaping Society Through Dance* makes a powerful case for the use of ritual dance as both the setting for both working out social roles and communicating them to the broader community. While I regret my own loss of innocence in being forced to recognize a more practical and less aesthetic basis for communal art, I am still drawn to the figure of Sr. Pinto, the originator of much of the Qollas' choreography and satiric content. Despite Professor Mendoza's claim that the comparsa dances of San Jerónimo are productive contexts for the articulation of cultural identity, there is still an important role for the individual artist in providing the means of such expression. Zoila Men-

doza's analysis of ritual performance richly demonstrates the centrality of dance and communal participation to social health of San Jerónimo.

Shaping Society Through Dance: Mestizo Ritual Performance in the Peruvian Andes. Paperback: 285 pages with CD. Publisher: University of Chicago Press (2000). ISBN: 0226520099

Websites of Possible Interest...

Check out www.pinr.com for recent papers, "Chavez Miscalculates, and Peru Elects a Compromised President," and "China's Growing Involvement in Latin America," and "Bolivia's Evo Morales Launches His Movement Toward Socialism into the Political Trenches."

The Democracy Center On-Line offers "A War of Words: The Avoidable Bush/Bolivia Meltdown." You can also check out the "Blog from Bolivia" read by between 2,000 - 3,000 people each day. If you haven't had the chance, go to: www.democracyctr.org/blog/

An effort is underway to mobilize opposition to the proposed Andean Trade Agreement between the U.S. and some countries in Latin America. See the URL from Public Citizen's website www.citizen.org/trade/afta/ with links to other resources.

"Crisis or Opportunity? Bolivian Drug Control Policy and the U.S.," is a study co-authored by the Washington Office on Latin America (WOLA) and the Andean Information Network (AIN). The paper lays out the new government's "coca yes, cocaine no" strategy, which seeks to clearly distinguish between coca, a plant long used by indigenous peoples for health,

religious and cultural purposes, and cocaine, an illicit drug. See either www.wola.org/ or www.ain-bolivia.org/.

The Association of Peruvian American Professionals maintains a web site at www.apapro.org/index.php. APAP is a not-for-profit organization that works to improve the lives of its members and the community here in the US and in Peru through various projects and initiatives.



President's Column (continued from p. 1)

Recently, you were invited, probably for the first time, to vote on *Amigos* business, specifically, for three persons (Ray Brown, Steve Jacobs and me) to serve 3-year terms as elected Board members. In the past, our members were divided into time zones and only voted for persons coming from their own time zones. In our electronic age, the geographic location of our members is of little relevance, so the new bylaws direct that all dues-paying members get to vote for all Board candidates. Thanks to Frank Salveson who, with the assistance of Joan Pugh Avent, ran an efficient election. And thanks to all who cast ballots, either electronically or by mail, our nonprofit Board now has a healthier ratio of elected to appointed members. As always, Board Secretary Steve Jacobs has been a commendably thoughtful and fair moderator of official Board business, including internal elections.

It has been a long time since any *Amigos* member has stepped forward to volunteer to serve on the Board, despite our frequent requests. Yes, yes, we're all busy. But I can't stress enough how much your energy and ideas are needed. Our most urgent need now is for a Treasurer. Being a small organization, the workload is modest (as in, fewer than ten transactions a month). If you have basic skills with bookkeeping (e.g., QuickBooks or similar software), that's a good start. Our prior Treasurer, Bill Sherry, established a very clear bookkeeping and reporting system that can easily be maintained. Please contact me (glevin@comcast.net) to volunteer for that or another role in *Amigos*.

We're making real progress in bringing the new generation of RPCVs into *Amigos*, starting with an increase in the number of returning PCVs electing to become free members of *Amigos* for a year. Many of our new members have expressed an interest in being linked with *Amigos* mentors, settling into a geographic location, finding a job and/or making graduate school decisions. I continually hear the same refrain: "I'm looking for a job in the nonprofit sector where I can continue using my Spanish." Remember to list job vacancies with Peace Corps' *Hotline*, a service which is avidly used by returning PCVs. The visibility of *Amigos de Bolivia y Peru* among currently serving PCVs should be enhanced by our having established agreements with PC staff in Bolivia and Peru to receive and distribute Kantuta donations to PCVs' community projects. However, we need your (tax deductible) contributions to Kantuta so we can replenish the fund and make more donations for worthy projects. Read Gerard Maguire's article on p. 6 of this issue on the Kantuta program's progress.

The 45th anniversary of Peace Corps' founding is in 2006; in the past, the National Peace Corps Association (or its predecessor organization) staged extravaganza reunions to mark 5-year intervals. These celebrations, held in Washington, DC, attracted thousands of RPCVs. And country of service groups (such as ours) usually organized a dinner, a country update with a current briefing by experts, embassy receptions, etc. However, this year NPCA (low on cash and stretched in staff) has left it to its geographic affiliates (cities and regions) to hold local events throughout 2006. A few events are being

loosely planned for Washington, DC between September 13-16. Two are closed – a meeting of NPCA's Board of Directors September 15-16 and a meeting of representatives of NPCA's affiliate groups. NPCA's advocacy office will be training pre-registered NPCA members (September 13) and then deploying them (September 14) to lobby their Congressional representatives. Some groups are planning informal mini-reunions, without centralized planning. Peace Corps has scheduled the "staging" for Peru 8 in Washington, DC around September 13, as part of the 45th celebration, with a possible reception by the Peruvian embassy. Some consideration has been given to a display of PCVs' photos in the Embassy art gallery.

I just spotted a GEICO ad in the Summer 2006 issue of *Worldview* magazine (p. 55), announcing a September 16 "NPCA picnic," said to be sponsored by the Washington, DC affiliate and presumably underwritten by GEICO. Another, NPCA, ad (p. 27) refers to a picnic "September 13 through 16." Nothing appears on the websites of NPCA or RPCV/W to clarify this, so it's all quite confused at this point. I'll email all *Amigos* members as soon as I know – something, anything!!

Finally, as a new benefit (a "yapa") of your *Amigos* membership, I will, if you send me names, look up your "lost" PCV friends in the recently published commercial directory, sponsored by NPCA. The directory lists 839 RPCVs from Peru, and 776 from Bolivia. Thanks to Frank Salveson for loaning me his copy of the directory for downloading.

Keep cool!

Gloria Levin
Amigos President

RPCVs Helps Found Non-Profit



Following below is an e-mail I received from a RPCV/Bolivia that I interviewed in 2003 while he was serving in Oruro. He appears to have a fascinating project with other RPCVs that will be of interest to *Amigos* members.

Dave Dolson

Dear Friends,

As many of you know, over the last year Zack Guido, Mike Stephenson and myself have created a non-profit organization, *TERRA - Resource Development International*. Our organization helps fund and develop projects in rural, impoverished Andean communities that receive little international aid. In these communities, people live without basic necessities such as clean, reliable drinking water and proper sanitation facilities. As a result, many people are sick and the community as a whole is highly susceptible to natural disasters. Poverty tends to perpetuate poverty.



TERRA is dedicated to developing community resources and technical capacity in order to: (1) increase a community's standard of living by aiding in sustainable resource, economic, and social development and to (2) improve a community's preparedness and resiliency to natural disasters. If you are interested, you can learn more about TERRA and its current projects at www.terradevelopment.org.

After that brief introduction you may be asking why are we doing this? And, can we do it in a way that breaks the dependency underdeveloped communities have on external aid?

The simple answers are: while some people live in comfort, many people live in houses with dirt floors; and breaking the reliance on external aid is achieved through simple resource development and education. The longer winded answer is as follows (skip to next paragraph if you're in a hurry). A year after my Peace Corps service in Bolivia ended, Zack and I returned to view the NGO landscape from a different perspective. We concluded that there is a lack of aid organizations that: (1) work in the Andean region, (2) incorporate sound environmental and scientific analysis in development, (3) work with communities to prepare them for, and make them resilient to, impending disasters, (4) empower communities to develop and design projects, (5) make the international community aware that many families in the Andes are living in unacceptable conditions.

The above list is long, but we see a niche. All three of us have experience in international development that has lead to our belief that **effective development combines empowering local leadership, non-invasive external aid, and science-based decisions**. We approach each project with the goal of collaborating with communities to build sustainable projects that not only strengthen

local resources and build technical expertise, but also make the community less susceptible to natural hazards. TERRA hopes that a small injection of capital and expertise will eliminate the community's need for additional aid.

TERRA is a non-profit organization incorporated in California.



We are currently under review from the IRS for 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status. Our initial feeling was to wait until tax-exempt status was completed before releasing TERRA to the public. However, after a recent phone call to the IRS they informed me it could take up to four more months (it's already been 6!). There is no reason not to begin working, so we have decided to broadcast TERRA, and we're super excited.

For those of you who served in the Peace Corps with me, I think TERRA offers you a great way to stay connected with your community. We can work together on fundraising activities to finance projects in your old communities and we are currently working with two volunteers in Bolivia.

Starting TERRA has been the hardest, most time consuming, and most expensive endeavor we have

(Continued on page 18)

Films & Videos for Discerning *Amigos*

The Fall of Fujimori on PBS

In 1990, an unknown candidate named Alberto Fujimori rode a wave of popular support to become the president of Peru. He fought an all-out war on terror against the guerilla organization Shining Path, and won. Ten years later, accused of kidnapping, murder and corruption, he fled Peru to his native Japan, where he was in exile for four years. Fujimori has remained virtually silent about the abrupt end of

his controversial presidency, until now. He granted an unprecedented, in-depth interview to filmmaker Ellen Perry, who presents an intimate, chilling portrait of this enigmatic leader's rise and fall, interweaving never-before-seen footage from his regime with Fujimori's own words. As events unfold in his quest to return to Peruvian politics, *The Fall of Fujimori* offers a cautionary tale about power and corruption in an age of terrorism. The film was an Offi-



cial Selection of the 2005 Sundance Film Festival.

The broadcast date was Tuesday, July 18, 2006 at 10PM (90 minutes). Check local listings or visit www.pbs.org/pov/falloffujimori/ to see when it may show in your area or you can obtain the video through Netflix.

El Charango

The 30-minute documentary *El Charango* explores the relationship between a musical instrument and a mountain in Bolivia, where the charango was born. Although the film centers around the small stringed instrument, it is not merely a historical piece. The story of the charango symbolizes the larger struggle for human rights and a quest to keep traditional culture alive among indigenous people.

Director Jim Virga and associate producer Andrew Reissiger shot

this entire film on Bolivia's Cerro Rico (Rich Mountain), the largest silver deposit the world has ever known.

Though most of the film takes place in Potosi, the cameras also descend into the cavernous mines of the mountain itself to reveal the historical, political, cultural, musical and



spiritual roots of the instrument and the people who gave it life.

The documentary was recently shown at Silver Docs American Film Institute.

Compadre

Mikael Wiström - Perú/Sweden - 2004 -90m - doc Available on Beta SP and DVD In Spanish with English subtitles

In 1974, the Swedish photographer and journalist Mikael Wiström traveled across Perú chronicling the lives of people who literally had nothing and were forced to live off what they could find in rubbish dumps. There, Wiström met Daniel Barrientos, a young man stricken with polio. Daniel asks

Mikael what a man his age is doing with such an expensive camera. From that moment, a complicated friendship, lasting over 30 years, develops between these two men.

Following Wiström's 1991 documentary *The Other Shore*, which chronicled Daniel's family's continual struggle to create a decent life for themselves, Wiström returns once more to Perú in 2003 in hopes of coming to terms with both his responsibility and Daniel's

plight. In *Compadre*, Wiström documents the daily life of Daniel's family and also involves the viewer in the great dilemma of the Western filmmaker being confronted with dire poverty, an existential inequality that puts great pressure on the friendship. Wiström may call Daniel his brother, but how far does his "fraternal" responsibility extend?

Excerpts from *The Peace Corps Welcomes You...*

Editor's Note: The first two paragraphs are excerpts from *The Peace Corps Welcomes You to Peru: A Peace Corps Publication for New Volunteers* (February 2006):

"All Volunteers receive a monthly living allowance, paid in Peruvian currency, that enables them to maintain a modest but safe, healthy and adequate lifestyle. Living allowances in Peru vary by site but tend to be around \$300 (U.S.). Volunteers receive the equivalent of \$24 in Peruvian currency each month to help with vacation expenses....Each volunteer receives a one-time settling-in allowance, the equivalent of \$200, to cover the initial expenses

of furnishing a room and purchasing basic supplies.... The Peace Corps sets aside \$225 for each month of service, which is available on completion of service."

"Volunteers in Peru may not operate motor vehicles during their service, including motorcycles. Riding on a motorcycle is grounds for administrative separation."

Quotes from *The Peace Corps Welcomes you to Bolivia: A Peace Corps Publication for New Volunteers* (January 2006) follow:

"Many social events include alcohol consumption. Volunteers are ex-

pected to avoid excessive use of alcohol, which is often the determining factor in Volunteer safety incidents. You have to exercise continual, careful judgment under sometimes difficult circumstances, including social pressure to drink to excess."

"Rice, potatoes and pasta are available almost everywhere. Meat, fish, eggs and vegetables may be scarce depending on the season and your site location. It is challenging, but not impossible, to maintain a strictly vegetarian diet in Bolivia..."

RPCV Helps Found Non-Profit (continued from p. 16)

ever done. Fortunately, most of the bureaucracy is over and we are now at the point where we can fundraise and implement projects. We re excited, and bit nervous because we see great potential to positively improve lives, yet convincing others to contribute to our vision will be difficult. We are hopeful that in time TERRA will have made a huge impact. In the meantime, we need help in getting the word out.

I know there many charities that improve the quality of life for deserving people. If you believe in our mission and methodology, we will greatly appreciated your involvement. One unique way TERRA brings donors closer to the projects they support is by allowing donors to specify the project that will receive 87% of their contribution. Also, those that have a small donation to Friends of TERRA (<http://>

terradevelopment.org/donations/) have the option of receiving email updates.

Thanks so much,

Max Borella



Membership Form (rev. May 2006)

Mail form and check (made out to *Amigos de Bolivia y Peru*) to
Gloria Levin, 7327 University Ave., Glen Echo, MD 20812

Surname _____ First Name _____ Surname as PCV _____

Street _____

City _____ State/Country _____ Zip Code _____

Home Telephone _____ Work Telephone _____

Vocation/Employer: _____ E-Mail: _____

Host Country & Dates of Service _____ (e.g., Bolivia, 1997-1999)

(If spouse is also joining *Amigos*) Spouse surname as PCV _____

Spouse surname now _____ First Name _____ M.I. _____

Work Tel _____ E-Mail _____

Spouse's Vocation/Employer: _____

Spouse's Host Country & Dates of Service _____ (e.g., Peru, 2002-2004)

Please check as appropriate and tally the subtotals in the right-hand column.

_____ Annual Dues for NPCA and Amigos \$50 Individual \$ _____

Double for 2 years; \$135 (single) / \$185 (couple) for 3 yrs.

\$65 Couple/Family \$ _____

<<If you are already a member of NPCA and another NPCA affiliate, check here: _____>>

_____ Annual Dues for Amigos only \$15 Individual \$ _____

Double or triple for 2 or 3 year membership

\$22.50 Couple/Family \$ _____

\$8 Student/Retired \$ _____

\$4 Hardship \$ _____

_____ Foreign Address (Via U.S. Mail) \$5 Individual/Family \$ _____

_____ Tax deductible donation to Amigos' *Kantuta* development programs \$ _____

If desired, earmark your donation to (____ Bolivia) (____ Peru)

GRAND TOTAL \$ _____

News from NPCA

For those planning to come to Washington this September for the Group Leaders Forum and other events, NPCA request that you also participate in NPCA advocacy activities. Central to these activities will be a Capitol Hill Advocacy Day on Thursday, September 14th. Participants will need to pre-register and are strongly encouraged to also participate in an orientation session on Wednesday evening, September 13th.

For those who are interested and able, NPCA will be preparing non-Capitol Hill advocacy activities on Friday, September 15th.

You can register for Advocacy Day by going to www.rpcv.org/pages/survey.cfm?id=20. There is also a page, www.peacecorpsconnect.org/advocacy2006, which will provide updates on advocacy activities and logistics as they develop.

Peace Corps stories and essays are wanted for the travel anthology "Americans Do Their Business Abroad: The Peace Corps Latrine Reader," edited by Steve McNutt and Jake Fawson. RPCVs are requested to think of humorous yet harrowing tales of self-deprecation and disaster.

Above all, think funny. Proceeds from the anthology will go to charity.

The deadline is September 15, 2006. Complete guidelines are available at:

<http://peacecorpsreader.blogspot.com/> and you can e-mail submissions in MS Word or Rich Text file format to: stevemcnutt@earthlink.net or jfawson@gmail.com.

Many excellent stories have been received and the editors hope to get more.

Yachaspa is published quarterly by Amigos de Bolivia y Perú for its membership. The newsletter welcomes articles and other material pertaining to the general purposes of the organization. Except for copyrighted material, items may be reprinted as long as attribution is provided to Yachaspa and Amigos.

YACHASPA

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Email: boliviayperu@hotmail.com

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