September, 2003

Volume 5, Issue 1

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Niños Adelante

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Web page:

www.zihua-ixtapa.com

Pity those poor souls who do not have an organization like Friends of Niños Adelante to support. For them, “education” might be an abstract term of little personal relevance.

Those of us in Niños have an up close and personal feeling about education because we enjoy the thrill of seeing our Mexican children stay in school when others are sadly forced to drop out. We adults, many of us illiterate in computer technology, watch as our students whiz by us on the learning curve, lap tops at hand. And in small ways we observe these same children struggling to learn to speak English, spurred on by sponsors from the US and Canada who donate their vacation time in morning and afternoon English classes.

This year, more than ever, all of us who are involved in the details of keeping Niños on course thank all of you for the many ways you are changing the lives of the children of Zihuatanejo. In addition to your annual sponsorship contributions, you support Friends of Niños in our modest but successful supplemental fundraising. Our annual September Benefit and Golf Tournament, our annual February dinner in Zihua and our ongoing sale of Niños T shirts have been supported generously by many of you.

Over the past many months, California’s Gary Nelson and Bob Albright have devoted countless hours to the developing a software program that we could not have afforded to purchase.

Our tireless “man on the scene,” José Bustos, now has assistance in financial accounting from Mathilde Vera. We have missed the work of Heike Carpenter who had to retire from Niños for health

 (continued on P. 3)

Talk to us!

\*\*to receive the newsletter by email instead of through the US Postal Service, send your email address to Bestzin@hotmail.com (Gary Nelson).

\*\*to help José Bustos help your student communicate with you, send your email address to josebi@prodigy.net.mx.

## From the President

## Tyrone Bujold

Friends of Niños Adelante

**Checks and Balances: Delia Bujold**

I am pleased to report that we ended our year with a surplus. We were able to provide better resources to students for computer use, data entry assistance for José Bustos, secure office space for our computer equipment and help 140 students continue their education.

Contributions come in the way of your annual scholarship fee, memorials and honorarium gifts, matching employer gifts, additional sponsor donations, and gifts from friends of sponsors. Our two fundraising events, the September Benefit and Golf Tournament and the February dinner in Zihuatanejo bring in the balance of our revenue.

## The Niños Treasurer Reports . . .

Sponsor/student

Reunions

January 18

February 15

2004

Hotel Fontan

10:00 am

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Friends of Ninos Adelante, Inc.

Balance Sheet, 2002

 12/31/01 12/31/02

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Assets:

 Cash (Savings) $30,468 $25,304

 Cash (Checking) $ 314 $ 1,422

 C.D. $10,053

Total Assets: $30,782 $36,779

Liabilities: None None

Net Asset: $30,782 $36,779

Operating Statement

Year 2002

Income:

 Contributions $38,282 $33,352

 Golf Tournament $11,197 $16,702

 Memorials $ 2,980 $ 2,160

 February Dinner $ 2,195 $ 2,685

 Interest Income $ 286 $ 110

 Total Income: $54,940 $55,151

Expenses:

 Grants to Ninos Adelante $34,160 $41,100

 Fees (Bank, classroom, other) $ 183 $ 426

 Postage $ 313 $ 383

 Printing $ 294 $ 454

 Golf Tournament (food) $ 1,826 $ 2,990

 Green fees $ 500 $ 650

 Other Supplies $ 210

 February dinner $ 350 $ 960

 Office Supplies $ 470 $ 591

 T Shirts $ 1,390

 Total Expenses $38,096 $49,154

TOTAL INCOME LESS

TOTAL EXPENSES: $16,844 $ 5,997

Niños Computer Update—

Bob Albright

At the annual Friends of Niños Adelante board meeting in February, 2003, funds were allocated for the purchase of two desktop computer for the new Niños Adelante office locate in downtown Zihuatanejo. These two Pentium 4 machines along with a Pentium 1 machine were installed in network fashion with dial-up capability to the Internet thanks to the donation of a phone line by Liz Williams (phone lines are scarce and expensive in Zihua). The primary use for the main computer is data base and records management. To assist José Bustos in this arena, Matilde Vera has been providing help with data entry and report generation. Thus far the new MS Access program is functioning well, The network of three machines is employed on Saturdays by José who has been instructing the children on the use of email and helping them with the process of communicating with the padrinos.

##  From the Pres, continued

*In memory of Elizabeth Langlois Ferguson*

 Grant and Maryanna Langlois

*In* *memory of Robert D. McTeague*

 Shirley A. Staedeli John and Barbara Regnell

 Charles and Mary Rankin Noel and Lindsay Carota

 G. Sommer Virginia McTeague

 Herbert and Sheila Dusinberre William and Molly Hill

 Lois and Michael Haber Peter and Laurie McTeague

John and Barbara Regnell

Noel and Lindsay Carota

Virginia McTeague

William and Molly Hill

Peter and Laurie McTeague

reasons. We also have a new convenient office in Zihua where students can send and receive emails to and from sponsors. Direct your message to José at *josébi@prodigy.net.mx* and students can read them when they visit the office for their monthly *beca* (stipend).

Our dental services continue each February and March, thanks to the devoted volunteer work of John and Liz Cook.

For those of you who would like to donate a few hours a week during your stay in Zihuatanejo to work with a small class of children on improving their English, please let me know as we are beginning plans for 2004.

## Memorial gifts

Niños T shirts

available from

Adrienne Baldwin:

abaldwin@pconline.com

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Friends of Niños Adelante

PO Box 1378

Glen Ellen, CA 95442-1378

***Mark your calendar:***

***Benefit dinner at***

***Villa de la Rocca***

***February 19, 2004***

***Watch for further***

***info!***

***info***

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Meet your student at Hotel Fontan for the breakfast buffet!

Return this form to

Adrienne Baldwin

5010 S. Lakeshore Dr.

Maple Plain, MN 55359

Your name\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Where you will be staying\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date of arrival\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_date of departure\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

I want to attend a get-together on

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Sunday, January 18, 2004 at the Fontan Hotel in Ixtapa — 10:00 am

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Sunday, February 15, 2004 at the Fontan Hotel in Ixtapa —10:00 am

\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Number of persons attending

Students receive their *becas* on the first Saturday of January and February. We need to have this information in advance of these dates in order to inform the students. We will have translators available.