

ECUADOR

I lost my heart

To the
community of
Malingua
Pamba

in April, 2003



To our Darling Padrinos & Madrinhas:

Unfortunately COVID-19 has had Global impact including at 10,000 ft. in the Andes. As of 11/1, our K-12 system only has in-school lessons on Tuesdays. Hence we are currently unable to provide our yearly photo and thank you note from your guagua. Hope you'll accept this update for the time being.



Que casualidad



Fires in the Andes as reported by Enma Sacatoro. She responded to my email with photos of the fires in Grand County with the equivalent in our canton (county) of Sigchos in Ecuador.



Enma, our first
female university
graduate with
degree in
Environment is
working on the
reforestation.

Enma:

- * has been married for 4 yrs
- * is 28 yrs old;
- * waiting until age 30 to begin a family
- * she has a career...

She is an "old maid" by EC standards! & our shining example!



Remember the
meaning of
MINGA?

Warning: next 3 slides are 'older', but setting
you up for the 4th slide.

- Apr '10 - 'Edificio Grande'



Large classroom - Kitchen - Medical room
-Office - Showers - Mech. Room.

You can 'feel the love' in the details!

Overview of location:

Catholic Church (red & white); Edificio Grande with 2nd story in progress (mural telling 'my story'); pre-existing 'kitchen' (blue);
2-story Educational Building (white w/ red trim)
incl Teachers' Appt, Library & community shower



Oct 2019

My arrival for the Inauguration of the Second Story of our Edificio Grande



La Segunda Etapa has a Science Lab which doubles as a Community Kitchen, a Computer Lab, two classrooms, & two offices.

Various elements of the Kichwa greeting!

Very fun to be 'home' with my Kichwa Family!

On the wall in below photo:

- Peace
- Honesty
- Faith
- Friendship
- Love



Our becarios created a dance as part of the Welcome Ceremony!



They gave me a gift of a bottle of mortiño wine. They are working on collaborating to make vino de mortiño using their various skills!



The Einsteinians

Pamelita, John J (EWB), Dianne (my friend) & Ali, ex-Peace Corp who also lost her heart to EC - our driver.

I brought lab coats & wigs to celebrate the Science Lab Inauguration.



Infrastructure Projects in TeamWork with Rotary & Engineers without Borders (EWB):

- Potable Water Projects cont'd
- Irrigation
- Erosion Control
- Toilets for the School
 - ✧ complete with running water and sinks! See next slide!

FABULOUS toilet facility for our school - including a system for keeping it clean!

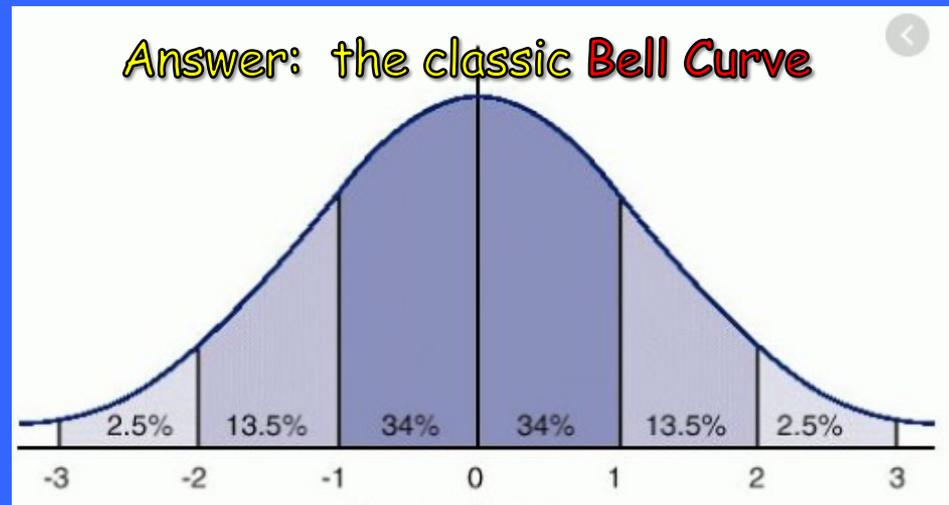


But what about my passion - EDUCATION...

We have not given a 'hand out'
But a 'hand up'.

What has happened with our 20+ students sponsored
for **Professional Truck Driving School**?

- Two of them own their own trucks
- Several drive Propane Delivery Trucks
- Others drive for Veg/ Fruit delivery
- a few only drive personal vehicles



- **K-12: EC Government!**
 - **Weekend High School:**
 - 3 of 4 teachers paid by my foundation (Centro Educativo La Minga, Inc.)
 - **Post-H.S.: Your donations**
 - 9 university graduates
 - 4 teach on our campus; 1 nearby h.s.
 - 1 is a vet
 - 1 is Environmental Officer (Enma)
 - 2 working elsewhere
- Reminder: in 2003 education stopped at age 9.**

Becarios de 25 de Octubre 2020

Este edificio fue posible con la generosidad de la Esperance Family Foundation y Sr. Jeff Talley de los E.E.U.U.
Ellos tienen fe en el poder de la educación.
2009



Business Admin.
Finance
Marketing

Graphic Design

I.T.

Teacher

Teacher

Beautician

CPA



Elem Teacher
Beautician

Exec Chef
Elem Teacher

How about the impact from your donation?! It is called a 'beca' (= scholarship)

• For Post H.S. Students

- **Mingas** - volunteer work, i.e. erosion control around a culvert
- **Designed logo for Canton of Sigchos**
- **Hair styles & Nails**
- **Coordinator of a Chess Club**



So, do you really want to ask about
the impact of COVID-19?

Good: I don't want to talk about it either! Feel free to ping me if you like an update on it in Ecuador.

Elvia, la Presidenta de Malingua Pamba & I would dance the night away for anything you'd like to donate!

- **Old electronics**
 - cell phone
 - laptop
 - tablet? (There is a 35% tax on these items in EC.)
- **Science Lab 'stuff'**
 - protective glasses
 - measuring instruments
 - lab/protective coat
 - hand tools
 - microscope, etc.



The Kichwa & I are
VERY grateful for all of your support!
Don't ever forget that

YOU ARE SO FINE!!!

Questions/concerns/suggestions/ etc. contact me:

pamelita@escuelaminga.org

303-543-8223

We hope that you are still willing & able to donate. We have 3 options:

Opt 1: Send a **check** to:

Centro Educativo La Minga, Inc.

P. O. Box 1877

Granby, CO 80446

Opt 2: Use Venmo @Pamelita-Gilbert

Opt 3: Click the Donate button on our website (www.escuelaminga.org)



Thank you for your
*continued
support!!*

Pam Gilbert
retired Math teacher

Centro Educativo La Minga, Inc.
a tax-deductible, non-profit

www.escuelaminga.org

pamelita@escuelaminga.org

As I have heard Paulino, the main mover 'n shaker say many times:

"We have helped them live with dignity."