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## FROM THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

BY BILL THRELKELD

A joyous spring to all of you! We have a packed spring newsletter. In addition to our report on the most recent grants/scholarships that we have awarded (with your generosity!), we have some great perspectives on the 50<sup>th</sup> PCDR/25<sup>th</sup> FQ Anniversary celebration attended by over 160 folks in Santo Domingo in February and a memorable trip to Cuba enjoyed by several of the anniversary celebration participants. We also have some great news to share from our fundraising events in the DC area.

Speaking of fundraising, many thanks to all for their end-of-year contributions! FQ Treasurer Lou Ferrand reported at our January board meeting that we received over \$6,000 in donations since mid-November. Many others contributed during the anniversary celebration, either for grants/scholarships or to our endowment fund, so we have started 2012 well-positioned financially to meet our goals as an organization.

As a part of the activities that occurred during the anniversary celebration, we officially named our endowment/reserve fund the B.J. Warren Endowment Fund. This honors B.J., one of the founders of FQ, a past president, and a current director, for her instrumental role in the life of Peace Corps, FQ, Friends of the Dominican Republic, and her example to humanity for her generosity of service, spirit, kindness, and love. Ten percent of all general contributions are placed in the B.J. Warren Endowment Fund, as part of our sustainability plan. In addition, donors can earmark their contributions specifically for the B.J. Warren Endowment Fund. The fund, while focused on our endowment goal, also acts as a reserve to cover any special needs FQ may have to meet its goal for awarding grants/scholarships.

Finally, I'd like to welcome BACK to the FQ board Laura Sundquist. Laura was previously a board director, starting in mid-2009, until she transplanted herself to Dominican soil. Back in the DR, she became active in FQ's DR Committee, the real workhorse committee enabling FQ to meet its goal for awarding grants/scholarships, and she now chairs that committee. Many thanks, Laura, for your leadership por allá!

As always, your feedback, ideas, and thoughts are always welcome. My phone is 703-707-0255 or you can email me at [enmicasa@juno.com](mailto:enmicasa@juno.com).

Best regards,

Bill Threlkeld

## 50 AÑOS CON EL PUEBLO DOMINICANO

BY ANNE KOPLEY

There was so much to take from the 50th Anniversary Celebration of Peace Corps in the DR that I'm sure everyone left with different experiences of how they reconnected, remembered, and can recommit to our Peace Corps service. I know that attending this conference just over 10 years since my own group left the country made me appreciate the strength of our shared experience with past and current volunteers, and of our bonds with the Dominican friends and families we worked and lived with. It convinced me that Fondo Quisqueya scholarships continue to fill an important need and create a connection between returned and current volunteers to help fulfill Peace Corps' mission in the DR -- to help Dominicans help themselves.

During the conference there were various opportunities to see FQ beneficiaries in action. We got



FQ Grantees Jean Wilner and Oscar Evens

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*“Even if you couldn’t attend the conference, one way to continue to remain connected is by becoming active with the work of Fondo Quisqueya, either by volunteering your time or skills or by contributing funds to the scholarship program.”*

(Continued from page 1)

a chance to meet Jean and Oscar, two young men living in Batey 6 in the province of Bahoruco, where they took a Construye tus Sueños class with PCV Chloe Kontos. As part of the class, their creation of a winning business proposal swept various levels of competition to win a RD \$64,000 prize to develop their peanut butter business, JeanOscar Mantequilla de Mani. Fondo Quisqueya funds helped them take a specialized training with other peanut butter producers to exchange production techniques. We also met Josiel, a 17-year old young man in Santiago whose scholarship paid for him to continue and complete a program of English classes. Josiel works with PCV Joe South, his friend and English conversation partner, and will be attending university in the fall to study tourism, where his polished language skills are an important asset. To actually taste the subtly flavored mantequilla de mani and to listen to Josiel’s near-perfect English accent, along with the affection between them and the Peace Corps volunteers who connected them with Fondo Quisqueya, helped bring home the significant impact of the small funds we are able to mobilize in the U.S. The final day of the conference, dedicated to recommitting, included a heartfelt presentation by Lou Ferrand about Fondo Quisqueya’s work before the entire conference audience.

I was impressed and inspired by the intense enthusiasm of returned volunteers at the conference to give back to our DR communities and to Peace Corps so many years after service. Even if you couldn’t attend the conference, one way to continue to remain connected is by becoming active with the work of Fondo Quisqueya, either by volunteering your time or skills or by contributing funds to the scholarship program. Although I value how far Peace Corps and the Dominican Republic have come in the last 50 years, my visit to the DR reminded me how far a few US dollars still go to convert a scholarship recipient’s potential into reality. While much has changed, many of the Peace Corps projects today are similar to ones that volunteers worked on 50 years ago. I hope that your commitment and energy to Peace Corps’ goals was renewed by the 50th Anniversary celebration as was mine, and that you look to Fondo Quisqueya as one way of strengthening the cultural connections to the Dominican Republic that we all share.

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## FROM THE VP PERCH

BY CHRISTINA BRUFF

What makes Fondo Quisqueya such a great organization is the generosity of our donors, both RPCVs and non-RPCVs alike. The 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary conference demonstrated the generosity of RPCVs, who recognize the importance of giving back and acted in kind. For those of you who wrote checks at the conference and completed pledge cards, thank you for your support! If you didn’t get a chance to fill out a pledge card and would like to donate, we’ve included a pledge card in this edition of the newsletter. Your donations fund exciting opportunities for PCVs working with low-income individuals and communities in difficult economic times and help sustain those efforts. Every dollar makes a difference! Please feel free to fill out a pledge card and send it to: Fondo Quisqueya, P.O. Box 6628, Falls Church, VA 22040-6628.

It’s especially encouraging when non-RPCVs donate to our cause, as they recognize the importance of what we do and the impact we can have on the lives of Dominicans. Recently, board member Jennifer Daniels submitted Fondo Quisqueya’s name for consideration as part of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Fairfax’s “Share the Plate” initiative. The Fairfax congregation designated Fondo Quisqueya as its recipient in February, and half of all proceeds from plate collections were donated to support our work. UUC-Fairfax donated a total of \$2,265- almost an entire quarter worth of scholarship funds! We are very grateful for the church’s support!

It’s an exciting time to be involved with Fondo Quisqueya, and we are always looking for new folks to join us. If you find yourself in the D.C. area and would like to connect, please feel free to contact me at [cwrightdrv@gmail.com](mailto:cwrightdrv@gmail.com). There are plenty of opportunities to contribute your energy and talents. ¡Cuidense!

## SPOTLIGHT SHOWN ON BJ WARREN AT 50TH ANNIVERSARY

A WOMAN WITH LONG-TIME TIES TO THE DR

B.J. Warren joined the Peace Corps staff in the Dominican Republic in its earliest days. By late 1964 when she arrived in Santo Domingo, B.J. already was a standout since she was the very first woman former PCV (Peru IV) to be hired onto the PC/Latin America staff. Just a few months later, the revolution of 1965 began and B.J. became an icon in her blue jeep supporting volunteers throughout Santo Domingo and helping keep the Peace Corps in the country when other American agencies left. For the following almost 50 years, B.J. has nurtured her ties to the D.R., becoming one of the founders of Fondo Quisqueya in 1987 and serving as its president for several years as well as an ongoing member of its board. She also is an active member of Friends of the Dominican Republic and is famous for keeping a "Rolodex" (to our Blackberry readers this was THE way to stay in touch) that connected former Volunteers & families, PC staff, and individual Dominicans with development projects within the country.

**A Surprise Salute:** Partly because B.J. never draws attention to herself, her friends and fans chose the 50th Anniversary Celebration this February to surprise her with long-overdue applause. At the reception for Peace Corps given by the U.S. Ambassador to the DR, Peace Corps Director Aaron Williams, himself a former DR PCV, honored B.J. with letters of tribute from two of the earliest directors of Peace Corps/Latin America, with a plaque, and with a fine piece of Taino art. Senator Christopher Dodd, another former DR PCV, added his own words of commendation. Saluting B.J. as a surprise was a highlight of that evening.

**Fondo Q's Endowment Named for B.J.** Fondo Q has an endowment fund from which the annual income will support scholarships for short-term skill-training programs for low-income Dominicans aimed at helping them find jobs. At the 50th, Fondo Q named this fund for B.J. Anyone wanting to contribute to the endowment fund in her name should send checks written to "Fondo Quisqueya," with "B.J. Warren Endowment Fund" noted in the memo line. Alternatively, anyone wishing to directly support grants/scholarships can inscribe the memo line with "For Grants/Scholarship -- honoring B.J. Warren." Mail your donation and any words of tribute to B.J. c/o Fondo Quisqueya, P.O. Box 6628, Falls Church, VA 22040-6628.



*“...the revolution of 1965 began and B.J. became an icon in her blue jeep supporting volunteers throughout Santo Domingo and helping keep the Peace Corps in the country when other American agencies left.”*

## CUBA TODAY

BY RANDY ADAMS

After the Peace Corps DR's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration in early February, a group of 34 RPCVs, spouses and/or family members took a tour to see Cuba today. The Friends of the Dominican Republic (FDR) coordinated the trip. We left Santo Domingo on Sunday February 12<sup>th</sup> on Cubana Air and returned to Santo Domingo one week later. The week's educational tour of Cuba was authorized under a license from the U.S. Treasury Department and organized and guided by Phil Peters, Vice President of the Lexington Institute, a Washington, D.C. think tank.

From our base in Havana we visited a tobacco farm, a cigar factory, a health clinic, the city of Trinidad, and a number of urban neighborhoods and small communities here and there along the way. We walked the streets of Havana visiting small businesses that are beginning to sprout throughout the city under Cuba's new initiative promoting limited free enterprise. We visited old Havana walking through el Castillo del Morro and along its Malecón, or ocean parkway, to watch and marvel at the on-going renovations restoring the beauty of the city. And we visited museums, art galleries, the ballet and jazz venues – not to mention a growing number of privately owned restaurants with their wonderful Cuban cuisine. A few of us, individually or in smaller groups, visited old friends from previous visits, went “birding,” or struck out to visit other venues such as local hospitals, schools, and an art institute. We heard presentations from key officials on issues of culture, politics, society, and the status of the relationship between Cuba and the U.S. We also had the opportunity to talk with the many individuals we met along the way to ask questions and elicit their comments on Cuba today!

(Continued on page 4)



(Continued from page 3)

For me, the best part was comparing and contrasting the DR and Cuba after 50 years of watching the two countries evolve in different ways. As usual with any group of RPCVs, we all had our own perceptions and opinions, but we were also able to enjoy the companionship whatever our personal views.

For readings on Cuba Today, check out “The Cuban Triangle” blog at: [www.cubantriangle.blogspot.com](http://www.cubantriangle.blogspot.com)

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## FIESTA AT LOS HERMANOS - RECONNECTING IN DC

BY ANNE KOPLEY

On Saturday March 3, we celebrated post-50th with another gathering at Los Hermanos Dominican Restaurant in the Columbia Heights neighborhood of Washington, DC. Approximately 50 RPCVs, family, and friends attended the fiesta, dining on moro de guandules, lechon, bizcocho, and other delicias provided for sale by the Compres family. Fondo Quisqueya sold Presidente beer and FQ t-shirts and raised enough funds for at least one Fondo Q scholarship. RPCVs from the last 50 years mingled together for a relaxed evening with merengue and memories. Please like our Facebook page to stay updated on future events!

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## FONDO Q’S GRANTS AND SELECTION PROCESS

The Fondo Quisqueya Foundation, Inc. (“FQ”) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization which was formed in 1987 by former Peace Corps Volunteers and Staff who had served in the Dominican Republic (“DR”) and who wanted to give something back to the DR. FQ was incorporated in Virginia in 1993.

FQ provides low-income Dominicans with scholarships and grants for both traditional and non-traditional in-country education and training to assist them in bettering their lives and to help them attain personal development, skills, and advancement. Grants may be to groups of individuals such as members of a coffee cooperative or a women’s group.

FQ’s grants and scholarships are made possible through donations and in-kind support from ex-PCVs and PC staff and other friends of the DR. FQ has no paid staff. Examples of courses funded include accounting, diesel mechanics, beautician school, barber training, driver training, worm composting, beekeeping, construction and cement skills, painting, journalism, mangrove restoration, ecotourism, inverter repair, graphic design, English, and computer classes. Funds can be used for tuition, transportation, books and materials, and other expenses associated with the course or training.

Each applicant must be sponsored by a member of the Dominican community or by a Peace Corps DR Volunteer or staff member.

Individual grants and scholarships usually do not exceed US\$300. FQ’s Local DR Committee reviews grant applications quarterly and makes recommendations to FQ’s Board of Directors for selection. Funds permitting, the Board seeks to fund at least a total of US\$3,000 in scholarships each quarter, for a yearly total of at least US\$12,000. Please donate now. Help our grantees help themselves.

*“FQ provides low-income Dominicans with scholarships and grants for both traditional and non-traditional in-country education and training to assist them in bettering their lives and to help them attain personal development, skills, and advancement.”*

## FONDO Q GRANTEES



Fondo Q normally awards grants and scholarships four times per year. Applicants are screened by Fondo Q's Local DR Committee. Most of the awards are for \$300 or less. Below are summaries of the grants and scholarships awarded during the fall and winter quarters of 2011-2012, which include 8 group awards benefitting more than 115 recipients in addition to 17 individual awards. These awards have provided funding for courses in subjects including eco-tourism guide training; jewelry making; peanut butter making; driver training; beautician school; and English.

### GROUP AWARDS

**Grantees:** 22 Women  
**From:** Los Urabos de Miches, El Seibo  
**For:** Jewelry-Making Workshop  
 PCV Lauren Maghran wrote: *"This community is a fishing area that has seen a large decline in fish stocks. A women's group that sells jewelry is one of the only activities that is actively generating income in the community. If the artisans can improve the quality of their jewelry, they will have the opportunity to sell more widely."*  
**Sponsor:** PCV Lauren Maghran

**Grantees:** 15 Eco-Tourism Guides  
**From:** Pedro Sanchez, El Seibo  
**For:** Eco-Tourism Guide Training  
 PCV Daniel Malin wrote: *"This course is designed to provide guides with the basic skills necessary to participate in a locally-run community eco-tourism project. This course will provide an excellent opportunity for our guides to reinforce their knowledge about local flora and fauna, and it will give them the necessary skills to better communicate with both Dominican and international tourists."*  
**Sponsor:** PCV Daniel Malin

**Grantees:** 4 Youth  
**From:** Los Guineos, Miches  
**For:** Eco-Tourism Workshop  
 PCV Evan Poirson wrote: *"Participants will attend an ecotourism workshop with trained guides at Paraíso Caño Hondo Lodge in Los Haitises National Park. The guides, who are members of the DR's first Brigada Verde club, will instruct participants in kayak use, maintenance, and repair, as well as basic guide/tourist interactions."*  
**Sponsor:** PCV Evan Poirson

**Grantees:** 20 Peanut Butter Makers  
**From:** Batey 6, Bahoruco, Independencia  
**For:** Exchange of Peanut Butter Making Practices  
**Sponsor:** PCV Fotini Chloe Kontos

**Grantees:** 10 Teachers  
**From:** Los Rios, Bahoruco  
**For:** Map Mural Project  
**Sponsor:** PCV Sarah Eastburn

**Grantees:** 16 Youth  
**From:** Rio Grande Arriba, Puerto Plata  
**For:** Field Trip to Museo de las Hermanas Mirabal  
**Sponsor:** PCV Chris Vollmer

**Grantees:** 10 Eco-Tourism Guides  
**From:** Villas Padre Nuestro, La Altagracia  
**For:** Eco-Tourism Guide Training  
**Sponsor:** PCV Selina Smith

**Grantees:** 20 Community Members  
**From:** El Rodeo de Pino, Dajabon  
**For:** Primary Education for Adults  
**Sponsor:** PCV Marissa Puicon

*"A women's group that sells jewelry is one of the only activities that is actively generating income in the community. If the artisans can improve the quality of their jewelry, they will have the opportunity to sell more widely."*



*“Yo he hecho  
entrenamiento de  
INFOTEP para ser  
electricista instalador  
industrial, pero he perdido  
oportunidades para  
trabajar debido a que no  
tengo mi licencia de  
conducir.”*

### Individual Grants and Scholarships

<p><b>Grantee:</b> Estervina Calderon Batista <b>From:</b> El Cruce de Blanco, Bonao <b>For:</b> Beautician School</p> <p>PCV Benjamin Simasek wrote: <i>“Estervina Calderón is a young entrepreneurial woman with many aspirations but few economic opportunities. A mother of two children, she attends classes on weekends to finish her high school degree as an adult. Estervina plans to open her own beauty salon after completing beautician school and receiving her certification, which would go a long way towards helping support her family.”</i></p> <p><b>Sponsor:</b> PCV Benjamin Simasek</p>	
<p><b>Grantee:</b> Daniel Gomez Espinal <b>From:</b> La Yaguita de Pastor, Santiago <b>For:</b> English Course</p> <p>PCV Lena Berlove wrote: <i>“Daniel lives with his grandmother who he supports by working several jobs. He attends high school during the day, sings in his church choir and is the Escojo coordinator for Santiago. Daniel has worked diligently to support the goals of Peace Corps by promoting HIV/AIDS awareness in his 10 Escojo groups, conducting house-to-house campaigns, and organizing marches to educate the community about HIV/AIDS. Daniel hopes that his job prospects will improve by learning English.”</i></p> <p><b>Sponsor:</b> PCV Lena Berlove</p>	
<p><b>Grantee:</b> Eloy Martinez de la Cruz <b>From:</b> Palmar Grande, Puerto Plata <b>For:</b> Driver Training</p> <p>Eloy wrote: <i>“Me interesa asistir al curso porque quiero conseguir trabajo y hacerme profesional. Yo he hecho entrenamiento de INFOTEP para ser electricista instalador industrial, pero he perdido oportunidades para trabajar debido a que no tengo mi licencia de conducir. Si tengo la licencia, voy a tener más oportunidades para conseguir trabajo.”</i></p> <p><b>Sponsor:</b> PCV Christine Russell</p>	
<p><b>Grantee:</b> Adelin Hurtado Lorenzo <b>From:</b> La Otra Banda, Santiago <b>For:</b> Beautician School <b>Sponsor:</b> PCV Lena Berlove</p>	<p><b>Grantee:</b> Jency Ramirez Alvarez <b>From:</b> Bajabonico Arriba, Puerto Plata <b>For:</b> Driver Training <b>Sponsor:</b> PCV Christine Russell</p>
<p><b>Grantee:</b> Miguelina Efigenia Bisono Aguilera <b>From:</b> El Rodeo del Pino, Dajabon <b>For:</b> Nursing Course <b>Sponsor:</b> PCV Melissa Puicon</p>	<p><b>Grantee:</b> Daisy Fortuna <b>From:</b> El Guayabo, Santiago Rodriguez <b>For:</b> High School Program to Pursue a GED <b>Sponsor:</b> PCV Leigh Forbush</p>
<p><b>Grantee:</b> Josefa Reyes <b>From:</b> Judea Nueva, Monte Cristi <b>For:</b> Composting Latrine Construction Training <b>Sponsor:</b> PCV Claire Kugler</p>	<p><b>Grantee:</b> Orlando Vargas <b>From:</b> Jinamagao, Mao, Valverde <b>For:</b> Composting Latrine Construction Training <b>Sponsor:</b> PCV Fabian Valdivia</p>
<p><b>Grantee:</b> Josefina Bonilla Morfe <b>From:</b> Bajabonico Arriba, Puerto Plata <b>For:</b> English Course <b>Sponsor:</b> PCV Maria Salina</p>	<p><b>Grantee:</b> Santa Disla Polanco <b>From:</b> La Cayota, Esperanza <b>For:</b> Beautician School <b>Sponsor:</b> PCV Brittany Hayes</p>
<p><b>Grantee:</b> Edwin Jonas Lugo Contreras <b>From:</b> Clavijo Abajo, Santiago Rodriguez <b>For:</b> English Course <b>Sponsor:</b> PCV Margaret Hudson</p>	<p><b>Grantee:</b> Francelia Camacho Camacho <b>From:</b> Palma Herrada, Espailat <b>For:</b> English Course <b>Sponsor:</b> PCV Michael Bourgeois</p>

**Grantee:** Josiel Torres Peralta  
**From:** Bella Vista, Santiago  
**For:** English Course  
**Sponsor:** PCV Joe South

**Grantee:** Alexander de la Cruz Morfe  
**From:** Montellano, Puerto Plata  
**For:** Computer Repair Course  
**Sponsor:** PCV Maria Salinas

**Grantee:** Luis Jose Rodriguez Toribio  
**From:** Paradero, Valverde  
**For:** Beautician School  
**Sponsor:** PCV Chelsea Koonz

**Grantee:** Oldor Mony  
**From:** Batey Central, San Pedro de Macoris  
**For:** Course to Complete High School  
**Sponsor:** PCV Victoria Harbison



## BECOME A FAN OF FONDO QUISQUEYA

Become a fan of Fondo Quisqueya on Facebook. Just type in "Fondo Quisqueya" on the top of your Facebook page in the box that says "find people and more;" then click on the box that says "become a fan." You will receive messages about upcoming FQ events and ways you can contribute to FQ. Facebook is a great way to keep in touch with other Returned Volunteers and to stay connected to your PCDR friends.

### THREE FQ GRANTEES TAKE TRAINING COURSES TO BECOME A BARBER, A KAYAK GUIDE, AND A NURSE

Fondo Quisqueya grants and scholarships give low-income Dominicans the opportunity to take training courses to gain a marketable skill that can also be applied to help their own communities. Below are stories of three recent FQ grantees including a young man from a rural community who took a course to become a barber; a fisherman who is learning to be a kayak guide to promote sustainable tourism; and a young woman from a community that lacks a clinic who became a certified nurse.



FQ Grantee Angel Rosario

**Angel Rosario** lives in La Penda, a rural community of 400 people that lacks most types of commercial businesses including a barbershop. The nearest barbershop is roughly 3 km away so Angel determined that if he could learn to cut hair, he could earn some much-needed money. An FQ scholarship allowed Angel to cover the tuition and transportation costs for a 14-week course in Tenares, the nearest town. Angel has been busy cutting hair since completing the course and will hopefully be able to utilize this skill to help him make ends meet while attending university in Santo Domingo next year.



FQ Grantee Danny Baret de Dios

**Danny Baret de Dios** is a fisherman from Los Guineos de Miches in El Seibo. He was part of a three-person team that won an FQ scholarship in 2011 to participate in a kayak training at Caño Hondo Lodge in Sabana de la Mar. Danny is now training to be a kayak guide at Laguna Limón, the lagoon where he currently fishes. The goal of the kayak project at Laguna Limón is to reduce overdependence on the lagoon's fishing stocks through sustainable tourism. The project is ongoing, with training continuing throughout 2012.



FQ Grantee Santa Medrano Monción

**Santa Medrano Monción** is from a small town, Pastor de Cordero, near Dajabon that does not have a school or a clinic. In 2010 after the earthquake in Haiti and cholera outbreaks in both countries, the local PCV started giving first aid courses on oral rehydration, which Santa attended. The PCV learned later that Santa had always been interested in nursing. An FQ scholarship provided an opportunity for Santa to complete a 13-month course to become a certified nurse.

*"The goal of the kayak project at Laguna Limón is to reduce overdependence on the lagoon's fishing stocks through sustainable tourism."*



*"This year, in the first quarter, we have donated \$3,894 to 81 grantees for courses including ecotourism guide training, training in jewelry making techniques for a women's artisan group, a beautician training program, a computer hardware course, English courses, a nursing course, and many others."*

## TREASURER'S REPORT

BY LOU FERRAND

This year is very special. Peace Corps in the Dominican Republic is celebrating 50 continuous years of service, and Fondo Quisqueya is celebrating 25 years of continuous presence in the DR.

In 1987, at the 25<sup>th</sup> reunion of Peace Corps in the DR, former PCVs and staff reminisced about their experiences and talked about what the DR had done in helping mold them into becoming who they are now. We talked about how we wanted to give something back to the DR, and we decided that we would form a foundation which would provide grants and scholarships to low-income Dominicans for traditional and non-traditional education and training.

We founded Fondo Q in 1987, and since that time, with the help of many donors including former PCVs, staff, their families, and many others, we have donated more than US\$130,000 to more than 1,120 low-income individuals and groups for training and education in the DR, almost all of whom were recommended for their grants with the sponsorship of a PCV who personally knew the grantee. Most of these grants were for US\$300 or less.

This year, in the first quarter, we have donated \$3,894 to 81 grantees for courses including ecotourism guide training, training in jewelry making techniques for a women's artisan group, a beautician training program, a computer hardware course, English courses, a nursing course, and many others. We hope to donate at least \$10,000 more this year and at least \$12,000 - \$15,000 every year. We can only do that with your help and those of others who care about the Dominican Republic.

I encourage you to help us help deserving Dominicans help themselves to improve their lives and those of their families by contributing to Fondo Q. I also encourage you to donate to Fondo Q's endowment/reserve fund, which was named the "B.J. Warren Endowment Fund" at the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration in honor of BJ's many contributions to the DR and to Peace Corps.

## 2011-2012 HONOR ROLL OF DONORS

(REFLECTING DONATIONS JANUARY 1, 2011– FEBRUARY 3, 2012)

**GENERAL DONORS:** Randy Adams & Mary Jo Smrekar, Mayerson Stutman Abramowitz, Blair Bertaccini, Joe Blackburn, Blaskopf Family Fund (Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund), Thomas Bobal, Rebecca Brown, Gina Caceci, Harold & Susan Case, Amy Christianson, Dave Clary, Joseph & Margaret Deslaurer, James Dillon, Mary Donovan, Jan & Paul Doyle, John Duenes, Dan & Linda Edwards, Richard Elrauch, John Evans, Lou & Mary Ferrand, Loren & Jan Floto, William & Lucy Friedmann, Stuart Frisch, Terry & Beverly Fullmer, Thomas M. Gittins, Art Hansen, Kathryn Hanowell & David McMurry, Polly Harrison, Jerry & Carmen Healy, Robert Holm, Julie Howard, Joseph Hunnings, Davis Jones, Kirby Jones & Linda Jennings, Jeannie Jessup, Roger & Susan Johnson, Jay Kirschbaum, Rik Laird, William Large, Jr., James Linn, Gerald & Madeline Malovany, Romeo & Carole Massey, Joanna Mauer, William Miller, James Munroe, Robert Myers, James & Anne O'Connor, Gary Orso, David Padilla, Bruce Potter, John & Amparo Prusia, Alan Randall, Helena Reed, Vida Sanchez, Stephen Slater, Merle Smith, V. Diann Streator, Bob Tafelski, Anne Ternes, Judith Thoms, John & Helen Torphy, John & Nina Trumper, Michael & Carolyn Vale, S. Vick, Vince and Paulina Vlasic (for nursing program), Eric Wagner, T. Ward, BJ Warren, Sarah Wells, Wanda Wynne

- A. FOR "50 FOR 50" CAMPAIGN:** Stephen Amdahl, Mary Barker, Blair Bertaccini, Mac Chapin, John Duenes, Lynda & Dan Edwards, Lou & Mary Ferrand, Kathryn Hanowell & David McMurry, John Hopper, Ann & Shelby Jacobs, Jeannie Jessup, Davis Jones, Robert Myers, V. Diann Streator, Alison Schmieder, Anne Ternes, Hazel Vespa, Vince and Paulina Vlasic, Aaron and Rosa Williams, Natalie Woodward
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- F. IN HONOR OF JOHN TORPHY:** Mary Kritz
- G. IN HONOR OF BJ WARREN'S BIRTHDAY:** Judith Light
- H. IN-KIND DONATION OF WEB SERVER SPACE:** Bill & Carine Threlkeld
- I. POSTAGE AND P.O. BOX FEES:** Tom Gittins

## NEW FONDO Q LOCAL COMMITTEE CHAIR

Laura Sundquist is the new Fondo Q local committee chair in the DR. Laura was an Information Technology for Education volunteer in Mella, Independencia from 2003-2005. She then became the Peace Corps Volunteer Leader for Special Education and also served as the FQ liaison between the Board and the volunteers. In the fall of 2006, Laura began training PCDR volunteers with ENTRENA. She worked for a year as the Youth, Families and Community Development Trainer and the IT trainer.

After four years in the DR, Laura finally returned to the US and started her Master in Social Work at the University of Maryland Baltimore as a PC Fellow. In May 2009, she graduated with an MSW and a specialization in Social Action and Community Development and joined the FQ Board. After graduation, Laura worked at Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service (LIRS) as a Child Specialist reuniting unaccompanied minors (mostly from Central America) with family members in the US.

In late 2010, Laura returned to the DR and is currently working at Servicio Social de Iglesias Dominicana as a Project Coordinator for a housing reconstruction project in Haiti. As the Fondo Q local committee chair, Laura enjoys reviewing the quarterly solicitations for funds and seeing the impact FQ is having on the lives of so many Dominicans.



## JOIN US AT FQ'S ANNUAL MEETING & BBQ AT 4 PM ON JUNE 23!

*Join Us at FQ's Annual  
Meeting & BBQ at  
4 PM on June 23!*

Join us for Fondo Q's Annual meeting and BBQ on Saturday, June 23 from 4-7 p.m. at Tom and Sue Gittins' home in Falls Church, Virginia. The BBQ will feature Tom's famous chicken and sausage and homemade delicacies contributed by attendees.

All current and past DR PCVs, Staff, and other friends of FQ and their families are invited!

Elections for new Officers and Board members will be held, the annual report on finances and scholarships awarded during the past 12 months will be given, and ideas and plans for grant and scholarship activities for the next 12 months will be discussed.

Please come! Confirm your attendance with Tom Gittins.

**Saturday, June 23, 4-7 p.m.**

Tom's mailing and email addresses and telephone number are:

**6834 Woodland Drive, Falls Church, VA 22046**

**E-mail: [GITASOCINC@aol.com](mailto:GITASOCINC@aol.com)**

**(703) 241-0634**

## CONTRIBUTE ONLINE OR BY CHECK

**FONDO Q:** In addition to making tax deductible donations to Fondo Q by check, you can make them through **PayPal**, **justgive.org**, and by using the **Network for Good Giving System** (NGGS). To donate online, follow the links at the bottom of FQ's "Ways to Contribute" page at <http://www.fondoq.org/contribute>.

**MILA BROOKS FUND- WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT:** If you wish to focus your FQ giving on low-income women in the Dominican Republic, please send your tax deductible donations to: FQ for the Mila Brooks Fund, c/o Fondo Quisqueya, P.O. Box 6628, Falls Church, VA 22040-6628.

**FRIENDS OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC :** Our sister organization, FDR, like FQ, is a 501(c) (3) organization. FDR focuses on helping bring together the community of DR Returned PC Volunteers and staff in the US. It also raises money for two projects: a Program Development Fund, which supports Volunteers and PC programs with donations such as equipment and software, and a Community Challenge Fund, which provides grants for small-scale community infrastructure projects in poor communities. For more information, go to [www.fotdr.org](http://www.fotdr.org). Contributions are tax deductible and may be sent to John Evans, FDR Treasurer, 4512 Park Road, Alexandria, VA 22312.



## 50TH CELEBRATION PLEDGE CARD

Fondo Quisqueya and Friends of the DR are continuing the 50th Celebration Pledge Drive started in Santo Domingo in February. We invite you to make a three-year pledge to the programs/funds we support, as described below.

### FQ Funds

Grants/Scholarships Fund: Provides low-income individuals or groups in the Dominican Republic with scholarships and grants for educational and training purposes designed to assist them in bettering their lives and to help them attain personal development, skills, and advancement.

B.J. Warren Endowment/Reserve Fund: Honoring FQ founding director B.J. Warren, the fund provides sustainability to FQ's grant-making/scholarship awards program, while providing the opportunity to fund occasional special needs identified in the DR, especially in response to crisis.

### FDR Funds

Community Challenge Fund: Provides grants to projects that are planned and managed by Peace Corps Volunteers working with community leaders, to meet basic community needs such as projects bringing water to communities, constructing health and sanitation facilities and improving educational facilities. The Challenge Funds are used to pay for construction materials while the community provides the necessary labor and other materials.

Program Support Fund: Provides funds to support the needs of PCVs in specific program sectors (such as health, education, youth, etc.) that cannot be met by existing Peace Corps-DR budgets. Funds may be used for the purchase of materials benefitting an entire program sector and, in the past, have included specialized tools and equipment, computer software, and copying/duplicating equipment.

### Example

**Peace Corps in the Dominican Republic 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration  
Friends of the DR/Fondo Quisqueya Donation-Pledge Card  
*Apoyando los Pueblos: Investing in People and Communities***

I pledge \$900 to support DR RPCV/Staff-supported Programs over the next 3 years as follows:

Check(s) enclosed

Pledging \$300 per year (month/quarter/year)

#### Fondo Quisqueya

\$75 FQ Grants/scholarships  
(supporting low-income Dominicans recommended by PCVs)

\$75 FQ "50 for 50"  
(supporting the B.J. Warren Endowment/Reserve fund, additional grant-making capacity and sustainability)

#### Friends of the Dominican Republic

\$75 FDR Community Challenge Fund  
(supporting PCV-coordinated community development activities)

\$75 FDR Program Support Fund  
(supporting Peace Corps DR Program Sector needs)

Name (printed): Jane Doe Email address: jane.doe@isp.com

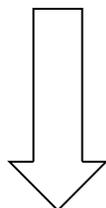
Address: 123 Anyplace St., Anytown, State, 00000 Telephone: 800-555-1212



Please mail your pledge card to:

**Fondo Quisqueya**

P.O. BOX 6628  
Falls Church, VA 22040-6628



**Peace Corps in the Dominican Republic 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration  
Friends of the DR/Fondo Quisqueya Donation-Pledge Card**

*Apoyando los Pueblos: Investing in People and Communities*

I pledge \$\_\_\_\_\_ to support Returned PCV/Staff-supported Programs over the next 3 years as follows  
(SEE EXAMPLE ON PREVIOUS PAGE):

Check(s) enclosed

Pledging \$\_\_\_\_\_ per \_\_\_\_\_ (month/quarter/year)

**Fondo Quisqueya**

\$\_\_\_\_\_ FQ Grants/scholarships  
(supporting low-income Dominicans  
recommended by PCVs)

\$\_\_\_\_\_ FQ "50 for 50"  
(supporting the B.J. Warren Endow-  
ment/Reserve fund, additional grant-  
making capacity and sustainability)

**Friends of the Dominican Republic**

\$\_\_\_\_\_ FDR Community Challenge  
Fund (supporting PCV-coordinated  
community development activities)

\$\_\_\_\_\_ FDR Program Support Fund  
(supporting PC Program Sector needs)

Name (printed): \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

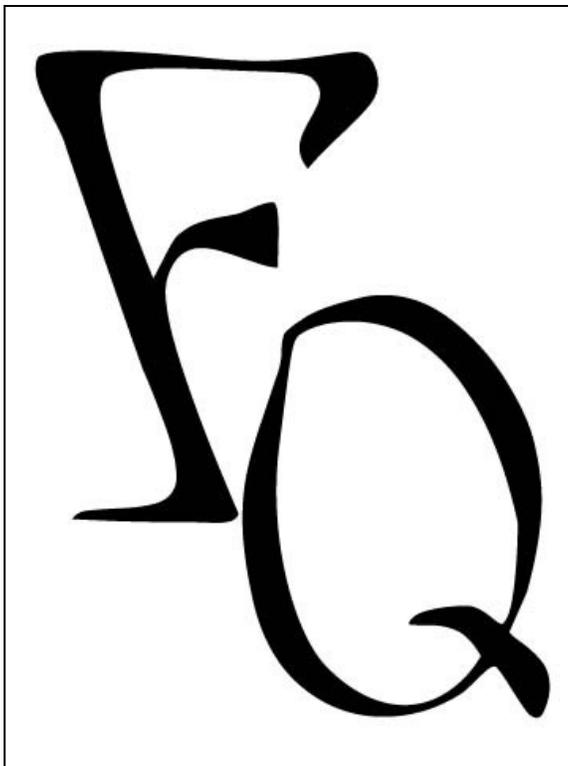
Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address Correction Requested



FONDO QUISQUEYA  
P.O. Box 6628  
Falls Church, VA  
22040-6628

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Merrifield, VA  
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The Dominican Republic and  
Peace Corps benefit from your  
continued support.

Make Checks Payable to:

**Fondo Quisqueya**

P.O. BOX 6628

Falls Church, VA 22040-6628

www.fondoq.org

My tax deductible contribution to Fondo Quisqueya \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Order Your FQ T-shirt at \$20.00 each

(\$10.00 of which is tax deductible )

- Number: I want \_\_\_\_ # of T-shirts. \$ \_\_\_\_\_

- Size(s): I want \_\_\_\_ M and/or \_\_\_\_ L \_\_\_\_\_

TOTAL AMOUNT ENCLOSED \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please send me the newsletter by email

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please DO NOT forward my email address

When making your estate plans, please remember Fondo Quisqueya.