



## From the President's Corner

This has already been a very exciting year for Fondo Quisqueya and Peace Corps in the Dominican Republic. As most of you know, in February, we celebrated 45 years of continuous Peace Corps service and presence in the D.R. It was a very proud and nostalgic coming together for we "oldsters" and I am sure for the more recent ex-PCVs among us. I could not have been prouder of the current PCVs who worked so hard to help us make the 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration a resounding success. They definitely are carrying on the mission of the Peace Corps, which for me is helping others to help themselves. I want to thank all who made the Celebration possible. I encourage each of you to seriously consider coming to the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration which will be held in Santo Domingo five years from now, in 2012.

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## THE MANY IMPACTS OF PEACE CORPS

By Janet Kerley

Dr. Jody K. Olsen, Deputy Director, Peace Corps and herself a returned Peace Corps Volunteer, addressed the 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Conference. Her speech, some excerpted below, underlined one continuous theme – Peace Corps Volunteers make a difference. In thanking the RPCVs who organized the conference, she acknowledged how **DR Returned Peace Corps Volunteers continue to serve long after they return home.**

"I want to give special thanks to the Friends of the Dominican Republic and Fondo Quisqueya. You all have helped make this country a very strong Peace Corps partner, have given extensive resources for community-based projects, and have continued to honor in so many ways the country that changed your lives throughout these past 45 years. You represent the Peace Corps' third goal so well."

Dr. Olsen also praised the many ways in which DR Peace Corps Volunteers touch the lives of their host communities. Citing a bit of history, she noted that "Three years into the program, 1965, a Peace

(-cont. on pg.3)

## CELEBRATION OF THE 45<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE PEACE CORPS IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

by Janet Kerley and Lou Ferrand

The 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of the Peace Corps in the Dominican Republic was a Big Success!! It was a great time to catch up on DRPC and the Dominican Republic and to renew old friendships and make new ones. The celebration marked forty-five years of continuous cooperation and collaboration between the US Peace Corps and the Dominican Republic. Over 150 former Peace Corps Volunteers, their families and friends, came to Santo Domingo from February 8-11 for a full and varied program of activities that included recognition from Dominican and North American leaders, workshops on Peace Corps and the Dominican Republic today, and time to just "hang out." Many current DRPCVs, who traveled from their sites to the Capital, also joined in the event.

(cont. on pg.2)

## FQ Board of Directors

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Lou Ferrand  
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Janet Kerley  
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Gene Lane              Jennifer McGowan

**FQ's DR Committee:**  
**Chair:** Jennifer McGowan  
Diane Partle, Laura Sundquist, Julie Muellen



**(FROM THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER - cont. from pg.1)**

I also want to give special recognition to my Peace Corps Group(1966-1968).

Of the 18 of us in the Group who completed our Peace Corps service, 10 came to the DR to celebrate the 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. It was a real treat for me to catch up with old friends from my Group and from other Groups and to make new friends and acquaintances. For me, the mix of learning about the DR today, about Peace Corps DR today, attending the social events, and taking time to “hang out” with old and new friends made me want to come back to the DR very soon.

Now, let's talk a bit about Fondo Quisqueya. Thanks to our donors, Fondo Q has continued to play an important role in the lives of low income Dominicans who receive grants and scholarships. As you may know, each Grantee is sponsored by a DRPCV. It was especially moving at the Conference to hear Grantees talk about how a small Fondo Q scholarship has made such a difference in their hopes, lives, and aspirations.

This year, Fondo Q has given out US\$5,941 to fund a total of 23 grants and scholarships. The most recent 12 grants ranged from US\$121 to US\$300, and went for computer courses, a Diesel Mechanics Course, English Classes, Guitar Classes, and a Baking Course. We plan to award at least US\$6,000 more in grants and scholarships this year, i.e., US\$3,000 in each of the last two quarters of the year, to approximately 24 more recipients.

I encourage those of you who have donated to Fondo Q in the past to contribute again, and I encourage those of you who have not yet donated to do so.

Finally, if you plan to be in the Washington, D.C. area on July 8<sup>th</sup>, please join us at Fondo Q's Annual Meeting and Barbeque which will be held at Tom and Sue Gittins' home. The invitation and details are elsewhere in the Newsletter.

Saludos, Lou Ferrand

**(CELEBRATION OF THE 45<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY- cont. from page 1)**

The Celebration was organized by Fondo Quisqueya (“Fondo Q”) in coordination with DR Peace Corps, under the leadership of Director Romeo Massey, and co-sponsored by the Friends of the Dominican Republic. Jody Olsen, Deputy Director of the Peace Corps, traveled from Washington, DC for the special events, accompanied by Allen Zanger, Director of the Peace Corps Inter-America & Pacific Region. Both addressed the Conference.

A highlight of the Celebration was the keynote address at the Friday Luncheon by Dominican Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, Carlos Morales Troncoso.



In speaking about the creation of the Peace Corps, Secretary Morales noted that Peace Corps reflects “*the idealism of the policies of President John F. Kennedy.*” Peace Corps “*opened a new path in the Dominican Republic - a two-way street that has lasted for 45 years.*”

Addressing the current volunteers directly, he said, “*The Government of the Dominican Republic, and I personally, appreciate the presence of the young people of the Peace Corps.*” To all who have served, he said, “*I want to thank you for caring about the Dominican Republic and for remaining engaged in what's going on here. It's not symbolic. You came here for two years of your life, with a spirit of service, with a spirit of volunteerism.*”

“*The Government of the Dominican Republic, and I personally, appreciate the presence of the young people of the Peace Corps.*” To all who have served, he said, “*I want to thank you for caring about the Dominican Republic and for remaining engaged in what's going on here. It's not symbolic. You came here for two years of your life, with a spirit of service, with a spirit of volunteerism.*”

Other featured speakers included the Dominican Republic's Ambassador to the USA, Lic. Flavio Espinal; the USA's Ambassador to the Dominican Republic, who gave a moving closing speech, U.S. Ambassador to the DR., Hans Hertell; FDR President, Roger Weiss; Fondo Q President, Lou Ferrand; and DRPC Director Massey. Amb. Hertell called PCVs “*Good Will Ambassadors,*” and he thanked them for their work. Amb. Espinal gave a moving account of his appreciation for the work being done by PC in the DR and also of the work of those who support it.

On Friday, attendees learned about Peace Corps and the Dominican Republic today, issues facing women in the DR, a special learning program sponsored by PC, Quantum Learning,

(-cont. on pg.3)



### **(CELEBRATION OF THE 45<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY- cont. from page 2)**

and Fondo Q's and FDR's programs. On Saturday, DRPCV's highlighted their work in the DR through ten workshops on PCV programs for the environment, youth, women's issues, education, and business. In addition the PCVs organized an Artisan Fair where Dominican coffee and hot chocolate, jewelry and carvings were on display.

During the Celebration, the Andy Hernandez Award was presented. Andy was the first PCDR Director and attended the event. Scholarship recipients from Fondo Q talked about what they are doing with their scholarships, a representative of FDR presented some of its projects, and former DRPCV Jacqueline Alcorn was honored by her Dominican "community" for her many years of exceptional support to members of that community. In addition, the late Bob Kulstad was honored. Bob was a geologist who married the former Norma Gonzales and settled in the DR after his PC service. Bob's friends and colleagues have raised money to fund water projects in poor communities in the DR.

Social highlights of the event included a delightful Dominican Reception by the pool at the Headquarters Hotel Melia, the Friday Luncheon at the Hotel Melia, and a Noche Dominicana at the Restaurant "Liquid" in the colonial zone of Santo Domingo.

Special thanks go to Fondo Q's Tom Gittins who headed the overall planning, coordinating, and implementation of the event; Jennifer McGowan, Fondo Q's representative in the DR without whose work the Conference would not have been a success; DRPC Director Romeo Massey and his staff; and the wonderful PCV's who worked so hard and so well to help make the Celebration successful, including Alison, Kristy, Callie, Jennifer, Marcia, Carlos, and many more! Thanks also go to everyone else in the DR and in the USA who helped make the Conference a success.

Photos from the conference are featured in this newsletter. Also, see FDR's Website [www.fotdr.org](http://www.fotdr.org) for more photos of the 45<sup>th</sup> Reunion.

deliberate and undramatic way ... and the Volunteer in the Dominican Republic enjoys as nearly complete acceptance by the Dominican people as could be wished....The Volunteers are protected and cared for by their neighbors."

Twenty-five years later, Dr. Olsen traveled to the DR with then-Peace Corps Director Paul Coverdell where she observed DRPCV's first-hand. She remembered the volunteer she saw working with HIV/AIDS-positive former prostitutes and their children, a former craftsman from San Francisco who had arranged for the women's products to be sold in the States. "This Volunteer committed herself to these women...creating an environment for them to give love and care to each other and their young children, even as they knew their own lives would probably be short."

Her final story was about a Peace Corps Volunteer who went to Peru many years ago. Dr. Olsen continued, "As she walked down the street in the poorest section of Lima, a twelve year-old boy rushed up, inviting her to live with his family, 11 brothers and sisters and parents in a small three-room house without plumbing or electricity. Surprisingly, his mother and the Volunteer both agreed.

...When the Volunteer married the next year, her husband joined them in that house. They spent time with the boy, encouraging him, understanding him, and he them. They stayed in touch when they returned to the States, and later encouraged him to come to San Francisco for college.

Last year, thirty five years later, that boy, *Alejandro Toledo, now President of Peru*, came to Peace Corps Washington to speak. He said he owed who he is to the couple who lived with his family. They didn't know it at the time, but they made a huge difference in his life. President Toledo said in his speech:

"There is no sophisticated technology that will substitute for the warmth of a human heart. Yes,

### **(THE MANY IMPACTS OF PEACE CORPS - cont. from page 1)**

Corps staff person wrote this about the Volunteers (in the DR):

"...the Volunteers in the Dominican Republic seem to be in rhythm with the country and its people. Not a single Volunteer interviewed expressed serious disappointment ... with his experience. All were working...in a steady,



# From the VP Perch

There were certainly many wonderful times and great memories from the 45<sup>th</sup> Peace Corps Anniversary gathering. It was delightful seeing so many folks, learning what's been happening with Peace Corps, our DR counter-parts and in the DR in general.

One of the highlights was hearing the Fondo Q "becarios" (scholarship recipients) who spoke at the conference. It is amazing how much change can happen in a person's life, from some extra help with training and/or education. Please keep the contributions coming. It was also awesome that RPCV Geer Wilcox, who was involved with the early days of the school for the blind in Santo Domingo, was able to visit the School for the Blind. See the article elsewhere in this issue. Geer has definitely been a great inspiration for all concerned, including yours truly.

I also want to congratulate Jennifer McGowan for the great work she did in organizing the conference and for her election to the Fondo Quisqueya Board as a Director. Tom Gittens deserves many kudos for masterminding this 45<sup>th</sup> conference celebration. Thanks also to Romeo Massey, the current Peace Corps Director, his able staff and PCVs.

The first Peace Corps/DR Director, Andy Hernandez, regaled attendees with his wonderful memories of the first years of the Peace Corps in the DR. Andy says that he will be coming back for the next reunion and I hope everyone else is planning on doing the same in five years.



## RPCV GEER WILCOX VISITS SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND By Marv Anne Walker

A highlight of my trip to Santo Domingo to attend the 45<sup>th</sup> DRPC Anniversary Reunion was a visit to the Centro Nacional de Ciegos, which has an attached school for the blind as well as a massage facility that employs only blind persons. I visited the Center with Geer Wilcox and Hazel Vespa. This was the first time that Geer had visited the Center since he helped establish the school when he served in the DR as a Peace Corps Volunteer.

The directors and teachers at the Centro Nacional de Ciegos were overwhelmed to meet Geer. He is a legend to them. Fausto, the Director of the Elementary School, was moved to tears. He said that he had worked at the School for twenty-eight years, and that he had never expected to meet this great man.

## PAPITO ATTENDS INTERNATIONAL YOUTH CONFERENCE ON CLIMATE

Eudys "Papito" Fabián Hernández, one of FQ's scholarship winners who spoke at the 45<sup>th</sup> reunion, has just returned from representing the Dominican Republic at the Caribbean Youth Environment Network conference in Saint Vincent. Thirty youth from sixteen countries met to study the impacts of climate change on the Caribbean nations.

Recently, at the recommendation of FQ's Local DR Committee, the FQ Board approved an additional grant to Papito of \$170 to attend the international gathering. The small scholarship covered the additional costs of the airfare. Papito was invited to the conference, "all expenses paid." However, when he was not able to get a plane ticket passing through US soil because of the time ticket passing through US soil because of the time

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**(PAPITO ATTENDS INTERNATIONAL... - cont. from page 4)**

constraints to receive a US visa, he was forced to purchase a more costly ticket with a different route.

Papito expressed his sincere appreciation to FQ in this note.

*‘Queridos amigos de Fondo Quisqueya,*

*El existe del desarrollo de una persona y sociedad es el conocimiento, y este fue la que ustedes sembraron en mi, en un joven Dominicano que quejas solo tiene unos pocos sueños que para mi eran imposibles, pero gracias a Dios y ustedes se están siendo realidad. Quiero agradecer a todos ustedes. Con esto ustedes me han dicho que para la educación si se puede. Aprendí bastante en este viaje y me siento orgulloso de representar mi país y recibir esta enseñanza sobre contaminación mundial y negocios. Muchas gracias.”*

Brad Hass, Papito’s Peace Corps volunteer sponsor, noted that Papito was given the opportunity because of the English classes he has taken with his FQ scholarship – “*The conference will be in English,*” Brad said. Brad added, “*He had a great time, couldn’t stop talking about the conference, and returned with a new-found dedication to his English studies. (He is currently taking his 4th semester at the Instituto Cultural Dominicano Americano, even though his first semester was cut short by transportation problems. Papito’s empujo, b... been an e*



**JENNIFER MCGOWAN ELECTED TO FQ BOARD**

We are pleased to announce that Jennifer McGowan is the newest member of the Board of Directors of Fondo Quisqueya. Jennifer was elected at the FQ Board meeting held during the 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration.



Jennifer is well-known to FQ supporters. She is the Chair of FQ’s Local Committee in the Dominican Republic, ably leading the screening and selection process for FQ’s grantees and scholarship recipients. FQ’s vision of helping low-income Dominicans succeed through training and education relies upon her rock solid leadership and her outstanding implementation of the screening and selection process.

Jennifer is the Director of Training for Entrena, and she played a major role in making the 45<sup>th</sup> DRPC Anniversary Celebration a great success.

**Treasurer’s Report**  
By Bill Threlkeld, FQ Treasurer

Fondo Quisqueya raised over \$35,000 for its programs in calendar year 2006. That’s a record for this all-volunteer organization! Here is how that support breaks down in expenditure categories and available funds:

<b>Revenues to Support Programs</b>	\$35,661.74
<b>Expenditure Categories</b>	
- Grants/Scholarships	\$15,940.52
- Operations	<u>\$5,659.49<sup>1</sup></u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$21,600.01</b>
<b>Provided to Endowment Fund</b>	\$5,239.37
<b>Balance Available 12/31/06 from 2006 Revenues</b>	<b>\$8,822.36</b>
<b>Breakdown of Available Funds on 12/31/06</b>	
- Conservation Grants/Scholarships	\$7,994.13
- Mila Brooks Fund for WID Grants/Scholarships	\$62.79
- Other Grants/Scholarships	\$2,683.64 <sup>2</sup>
- Operations	<u>\$2,000.00<sup>2</sup></u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$12,740.56</b>

<sup>1</sup> Primarily the costs of publishing, printing, and mailing newsletters

<sup>2</sup> Includes funds remaining from 2005

(-cont. on pg.5)



**(TREASURER'S REPORT... - cont. from page 5)**

Since the beginning of 2007, we have received an additional \$5,820 in general and earmarked contributions, and we awarded \$5,941.27 in grants and scholarships. The donations are partly the typical year-end giving that we receive, much of which does not hit our ledger until the start of the new year.

With these funds and those remaining from 2006, we made our first awards in January – \$2,874 divided among eleven (11) individual and institutional recipients. In April, 2007, we awarded grants and scholarships to 12 awardees for a total of \$3,077.27.

With your help, we look forward to another solid year of grant making to help meet the needs of motivated and talented low-income Dominicans and Haitians living in the Dominican Republic who need just that little extra financial boost to jumpstart their

**FONDO Q's 2006 HONOR ROLL OF DONORS**

(reflecting deposits January 1 – December 31, 2006, not donor check dates):

**By Bill Threlkeld, FQ Treasurer**

**A.**

Jose & Maria Acosta, Randy Adams & Mary Jo Smrekar, Martin & Helida Adler, AJ & Ana Alcover, Ruth & Thomas Alexander, Victor Amram & Anita Friedman, Minor & Linda Anderson, Dan & Mary Armour, Moya M. Atkinson, Jeffery & Jacquelyn Barber, George & Barbara Beach, Margaret R. Bennett, Sherry & Larry Blaskopf, Thomas & Barbara Bobal, Dwight & Antoinette Bush, Suzanne R. Butler, Steven and Claudia Campbell, Teresa A. Chapa, Robin Chernoff, David Clary, Geraldine Critchley, Anne Ternes & Edward De la Rosa, Matthew Dice & Anne Robson-Dice, D.E. Rieper & O. de los Santos, David Doran, Pete & Joy Duarte, Richard Elrauch, Patricia Erwin, Flavio Dario Espinal, John & Jeanne Evans, Dennis Fenwick & Martha Lewis, Louis & Mary Ferrand, Stuart Frisch, Galen Gaader, Antony Gasbarro, Javier Garza, Elmira O. Gilbert & John T. Rifembark, Tom & Sue Gittins, Kathryn Hanowell & David McMurry, Sandra Hansen, Polly Harrison, Jay Heath Heritage High School (c/o Terri Eubanks), Michael H. Hirsh, Charles & Susan Householder, James & Emily Huttar, Kirby Jones & Linda Jennings, Janet Kerley, Todd Kratzner, Roger Kulstad, Rick Laird & Patricia Rambasek, Gene Lane, William R. Large, Jr., Kimberly Linden, J. Gary Linn, Rafael Madon, Gerald & Madeline Malovany, Charles Manatt,

Carmen Marrero, Lorena Perez & Brian McGill, Bill Miller, Virgilio Mota, Robert E. Myers, Jacqueline O'Connor, David & Kathryn Padilla, Gustavo & Providencia Paredes, Suzanne Petroni, Kinsey & Bruce Potter, John & Amparo Prusia, Doug Pulse, Ryan Reid, Steven & Melinda Robinowitz, Vida & Braulio Sanchez, Ruth Mackenzie Saxe, Susan Schmidt, Dustin Salvesson, Joan Searby, Jay & Peggy Sheinfeld, E. Eugene & Christine Snyder, Mayerson Stutman LLP (Harold Mayerson), Bob & Carolyn Tafelski, Joe Taves, Bill & Carine Threlkeld, John & Helen Torphy, Craig Marken & Wanda Wynee Ttee, Judith and John Thoms, W. Michael & Carolyn Vale, Vincent & Paulina Vlastic, Micheal & Rebecca Vortherms, Travis & La Donna Ward, BJ Warren, Wilcox Family Foundation (Geer Wilcox), The Wheat Family (Donald Wheat), Ken and Teresa Wiegand, Redford & Virginia Williams, John Yuasa, , Donna Miller-Zajac, Allene Zanger, Jerry Lutes & Marsha Zelle.

**B.**

**DONATED TO THE MILA BROOKS FUND FOR WID (WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT):**

Jacqueline Reed, Jessie G. Franco, Holly H. Van Fleet, Richard M. Cabrera, Jess H. Stone, Janet C. Ballantyne, Glen G. Gertschen, Gerald Hildebrand, Michael D. Holt, Matthew A. Brenner & Mila Brooks.

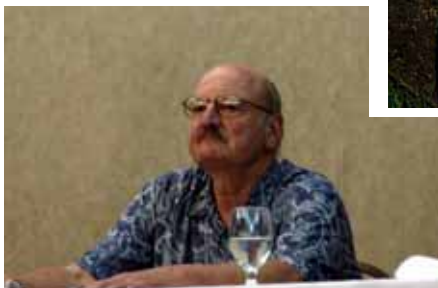
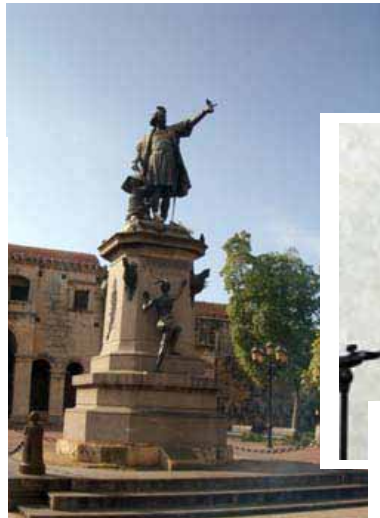
**C.**

**DONATED IN HONOR OF ELAINE FOX, FOR CONSERVATION PROJECTS IN THE D.R.:**

Francis Price (Fox Foundation).

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(HONOR ROLL 2006... - cont. from page 6)

**D.  
DONATED TO HELP FURTHER THE EDUCATION OF  
HAITIANS LIVING IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC,  
AND IN HONOR OF THE MAY 27, 2006, WEDDING OF  
KRISTINE SHIPLER AND KENT MATTHIES:**

Robert & Marcia Matthies, Gene & Carole Svebakken,  
Frank Chiodi, Joseph & Susan Granias, Heather Lee,  
Kirk Peterson, Kristin and Steven Bradley-Bull, Mary Ann  
& John Frazier.

**E.  
DONATED FOR A SMALL BUSINESS PROJECT IN LA  
VEGA/CONSTANZA AREA:**

Harold Hopkins, Jr.

**F.  
DONATED IN HONOR OF TOMMY VENTRE:**

Alissa Clendenen, June Heckman, Justis Brogan,  
Michael Davis, Matthew Gettier.

**G.  
DONATED IN HONOR OF JOHN GUY SMITH:**

Lynda Edwards.

**H.  
DONATED IN HONOR OF JOSE CARRASCO:**

Linda & John Scott.

**2007 HONOR ROLL OF DONORS**  
(reflecting deposits January 1 – April 20, 2007, not  
donor check dates)

**A.**  
Rachel E. Barham, Michael A. & Bonnie L. Daniels,  
James E. & Colleen C. Dillon, Wanda Fullner & Betty  
Peralta, Dianne M. Gittins, Joan M. Goodin, Erika Beth &  
James S. Landberg, J. Gary Linn, Kay H. Logan,  
Charles E. & Judith G. Nelson, Suzanne D. Petroni, Alan  
C. Randall, , Travis T. & La Donna Ward.

**B.  
DONATED TO HELP FURTHER THE EDUCATION OF  
HAITIANS LIVING IN THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC,  
AND IN HONOR OF THE MAY 27, 2006, WEDDING OF  
KRISTINE SHIPLER AND KENT MATTHIES:**

Melissa Klein.

**C.  
DONATED TO THE MILA BROOKS FUND:**

David & Anita Kaufman, Jon Keeton, Holly H. Van Fleet,  
James A. Van Fleet, Hazel M. & Carl Vespa.

**D.  
DONATED FOR TRAINING IN PROVISION OF SAFE  
DRINKING WATER, IN MEMORY OF MARDA MAYO'S  
FATHER:** Marda F. Mayo.

**E.  
DONATED TO SUPPORT CAMP GLOW (GIRLS  
LEADING OUR WORLD):**  
David & Anita Kaufman and Hazel M. & Carl Vespa.

**F.  
DONATED IN HONOR OF B.J. WARREN'S  
BIRTHDAY:** Diane K. Brockett, Lou & Mary Ferrand,  
and Judith D. Light.

**A SPECIAL THANKS TO DR PCV SPONSORS AT THE  
45<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION!**

The participation of current DR Peace Corps Volunteers  
in the 45<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of Peace Corps in the  
Dominican Republic made the event especially rich for all  
who attended. Many thanks to the following who  
provided sponsorships for those PCVS: Randy Adams &  
Mary Jo Smrekar, Jacqueline Alcorn, Minor Anderson,  
David & Lillian Clary, Alan Ehrlich, Lou & Mary Ferrand,  
Stuart Frisch, Tom & Sue Gittins, Dave & Anita Kaufman,  
Janet Kerley, Mary Kritz, Rik Laird & Patti Rambasek,  
Jennifer McGowan, Pat Morgan, Ron Morgan, John  
O'Brien, David & Kathy Padilla, Neil Ross, Bob & Carolyn  
Tafelski, BJ Warren, Aaron Williams.

**THANKS FOR YOUR SERVICE,  
JOANNA**

After three and one half years in the DR, Joanna Mauer  
left the Peace Corps and the Dominican Republic in April.  
Joanna will be starting graduate school in the fall to study  
Environmental Policy. She told us, "*I appreciate having  
had the opportunity to work with Fondo Quisqueya this  
past year. I have seen how a small amount of money  
can really give someone such a wonderful opportunity,  
and I hope that the great work of FQ can continue for  
many years.*" We on the Board of Fondo Q sincerely  
thank Joanna for her outstanding service as DRPC's  
Third Year Volunteer Coordinator with Fondo Q and we  
wish her the greatest success in the next stage of her  
career.



## Twenty Six New Fondo Q Grantees in the Fourth Quarter

In calendar year 2006, Fondo Q awarded 79 grants and scholarships, the majority to individual Dominicans. However, 11 grants went to groups. In the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter, one

### GROUP AWARDS

**Grantees:** Five special education teachers

**From:** Sabana el Mar, El Seibo

**For:** A week-long, all-day training workshop in Sabana de la Mar for teachers who work with special needs children. The course, taught by PCV Samantha Wapnick, covers topics that teachers need to know about when working with special needs kids

### Individual Grants and Scholarships

**Grantee:** Yaniris Altagracia Peña Morfe

**From:** Rincón de Bajabonico Arriba, Municipio de Rincón, Puerto Plata

**For:** An English course that will allow her to work in the tourism industry in Puerto

**Grantee:** Oscar Antonio Peralta Almonte

**From:** Palmar Grande, Municipio de Altamira, Puerto Plata

**For:** An electronics course leading to employment in that field.

**Sponsor:** PCV Daniel Anson

Oscar wrote the following: *Este es un curso educativo dado en Infotep en Santiago que se llama "Electrónicas." El curso va a incluir aprendizaje de reparación y construcción de amplificadores, radios. Este es un curso educativo dado en televisores, DVDs, VHF electrónica digital y de inversores. También aprendizaje de*

**Grantee:** Kenia Peralta Almonte

**From:** Palmar Grande, Municipio de Altamira, Puerto Plata

**For:** Course in computer applications.

**Sponsor:** PCV Daniel Anson

Kenia wrote in her application: *Este es un curso educativo dado en Infotep en Santiago que se llama "Informáticas." El curso va a incluir aprendizaje de manejo de*

**Grantee:** Cesario Ogando Alcantaras

**From:** Baúl, Restauración, Dajabón

**For:** Six month driving course that includes cars, trucks, buses, and heavy equipment. This will enable Cesario to apply for a drivers' position at a company in



**NEW FONDO Q GRANTEES IN THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 2006 (cont. from pg 9)**

**Grantee:** Edwin Emmanuel Jorge Cabrera  
**From:** Los Cocos, Santiago, Santiago  
**For:** English language course.  
**Sponsor:** PCVs Rachelle Olden and Marita Lamb  
 The PCVs wrote: *The tourist industry in Santiago is continuously growing.*

**Grantee:** Francisco Javier Contreras Hernandez  
**From:** Monte Plata, Monte Plata  
**For:** Two cycles of English language courses at the Dominican American Cultural Institute.  
**Sponsor:** PCV Monica Barrera

**Grantee:** Ivan Rafael Acosta Colon; Felix Fausto López Luna  
**From:** Sonador Bonao, Bonao  
**For:** A computer course covering all basic applications and web design.  
**Sponsor:** PCV Emily Hoffman

**Grantee:** Wilian Rodríguez Bared  
**From:** Rincón de Las Galeras, Samana  
**For:** Wilian aspires to work in the tourism industry in Samana and will take a specialized English course for that purpose.  
**Sponsor:** PCV Michael J. Menelli  
 Wilian wrote: *Un curso intensivo del inglés turístico de 3 meses (2 noches semanal) en un instituto de idioma en Samaná. El Cluster Turístico de Samaná ha desarrollado un programa de 5 profesores de la zona que enseñarán el curso para trabajadores de*

**Grantee:** Jochy Verdier  
**From:** Caraballo, Puerto Plata  
**For:** A course of basic English instruction to set him on the path to better employment and opportunities in higher education.  
**Sponsor:** PCV Christy Dimos

**Grantee:** Leonel Fernandez Martina  
**From:** El Caimital, Santiago Rodriguez  
**For:** A course in waiting table and bar tending that will allow Leonel to work in a tourism area in the DR.  
**Sponsor:** PCV Chelsea Cagle

**Grantee:** Carlos Jaquez  
**From:** El Caimital, Santiago Rodriguez  
**For:** To complete a three month computer technology program in Santiago that will train Carlos to work as a technical supervisor at a grocery store. The course is two

**Grantee:** Eliseo Mancebo Moquete  
**From:** Santo Domingo Oriental, Santo Domingo  
**For:** English as a second language classes  
**Sponsor:** PCV Laura Sundquist

**Grantees:** Juan Miguel Green Martinez; Joseph Vladimir Kery  
**From:** Las Terrenas, Sanama  
**For:** A three-month course in working in hotels and tourism to qualify for employment in the tourism industry in Las Terrenas.  
**Sponsor:** PCV Kristine Holley

**Grantee:** Isabel Ortiz Rodriguez (Nana)  
**From:** Angostura, La Vega  
**For:** A six month computer course to use in her community development work.  
**Sponsor:** PCV Courtney Briar  
 Isabel wrote: *Como yo soy la presidenta de la Asociación Milagrosa de Angostura y la*



**(NEW FONDO Q GRANTEES IN THE FOURTH QUARTER OF 2006 - cont from pg 9)**

**Grantee:** Eduardo Perez-Martinez  
**From:** La Pared de Haina, San Cristobal  
**For:** One year training course to become an electrician.

**Grantees:** Maria Ysidra Alcántara Mora and Ana Blasina Perez Alcántara  
**From:** Las Matas de Farfan, San Juan de la Maguana  
**For:** A nine month basic computer skills course.  
**Sponsor:** PCV Molly Hoberman

**Grantee:** Yudis Tejada Castillo  
**From:** Río Limpio, Elías Piña  
**For:** A computer course focusing on secretarial skills to improve Yudis' employment options.  
**Sponsor:** PCV Tommy Ventre

**Grantee:** Mildre Samaelis Cruz Hernandez  
**From:** La Pared de Haina, San Cristobal  
**For:** English language course

**NEWS FROM FRIENDS OF THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC**  
By John Evans

FDR was delighted to co-sponsor the recent reunion in Santo Domingo celebrating 45 years of continuous Peace Corps presence in the DR. FDR President Roger Weiss has extended FDR's congratulations and appreciation to Fondo Quisqueya and to the Peace Corps staff and Volunteers for their months of hard work planning and organizing such a wonderfully successful event. FDR will take the lead for the 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion in 2012. See FDR's Website [www.fotdr.org](http://www.fotdr.org) for photos of the 45<sup>th</sup> Reunion.

Part of the 45<sup>th</sup> program was a workshop to continue efforts to document the experiences of Peace Corps Volunteers and Programs. We now have the opportunity to have PC/DR records placed in the Kennedy Library collection. Any documents, letters, special photos and other items can become part of PD/DR History. To share your ideas and find out how to submit items, contact History Chair Neil Ross [history@fotdr.org](mailto:history@fotdr.org) (401)782-2116.

FDR offers two ways for individuals to support the DR today with tax deductible contributions. The **Program Development Fund** directly supports current volunteers and programs with donations such as equipment and software. The **Community Challenge Fund (CCF)** provides grants up to \$2,000 for small-scale community infrastructure projects in poor communities, usually coordinated by a current Volunteer. Through 2007, all donations to CCF will continue to be matched dollar-to-dollar by John Epler (DR13) and his family. Contributions are greatly appreciated and may be sent to John Evans, FDR Treasurer, 4512 Park Road, Alexandria, VA 22312. See more about FDR online at [www.fotdr.org](http://www.fotdr.org).

To receive the monthly *CyberNews*, please send your email address to Janice Jorgensen: [MembershipDirector@fotdr.org](mailto:MembershipDirector@fotdr.org).

**MILA BROOKS FUND**  
ESTABLISHED

Mila Brooks was the first female Director of the Peace Corps in the Dominican Republic. She had the additional distinction of being the driving force and sponsor of the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of Peace Corps in the DR which was held in 1986, and at which time the idea of Fondo Quisqueya was born... Fondo Q emerged from the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration as a way to assist low income Dominicans with grants and scholarships for traditional and non-traditional educational and training development opportunities in the Dominican Republic.

Mila was a pioneer in many ways. She predated the feminist movement by traveling with her four children to Latin America to learn Spanish and then to Chile, where she served as a regional Peace Corps director. Her career took her to many developing countries where she worked with USAID programs, none closer to her heart than those that impact women.

Mila Brooks died in 2003, leaving an imprint on the lives of everyone she touched. Her friends, Holly and Jim Van Fleet, have remembered her in a way she would have liked, by establishing a special account - the Mila Brooks Fund - under the umbrella of Fondo Quisqueya. The Mila Brooks Fund is unique in that it awards grants for education and training exclusively to women, particularly for young girls, whose lives can be transformed by the special opportunities that a Fondo Q scholarship can provide. In less than one full year of operation (the last four months of 2006), \$3,025.00 was collected; half has already been distributed to twenty beneficiaries. The training is giving women opportunities for careers in computers, among other skill areas. Replenishing the Fund is under way in 2007. If you want to focus your giving on women in the Dominican Republic, please make contributions to the Mila Brooks





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**The Dominican Republic and  
Peace Corps benefits from your  
continued support.**

**When making your estate plans, please remember Fondo  
Quisqueya.**