



Que Pasa

Fondo Quisqueya □ 1989

Getting The Word Out

Say hello to **Que Pasa**, Fondo Quisqueya's newsletter. For those of you who are wrinkling your brows and scratching your heads, Fondo Quisqueya is a more manageable, everyday form of La Fundacion de ex-Voluntarios y Amigos del Cuerpo de Paz — Republica Dominicana. Perhaps you'll agree that such a name could serve for only the most formal occasions. So, barring

serious outcry, we're adopting Fondo Quisqueya for normal use. Why do we need a newsletter? First and foremost, people need to know where their money is going; **Que Pasa** provides a way for the steering Committee to report to donors.

A newsletter can also serve as a forum for funding ideas that may fall outside traditional education, and it can remind people (gently)

that contributions are **always** welcome. But there are **no** rules; the newsletter will evolve into whatever best reflects **people's** wishes.

Perhaps some of you **would** rather not get any more **paper** in your mailboxes, and **that's OK**. See "Chipping In" to get **off** the mailing list. And if anyone has suggestions or criticisms, see "Mail Bag." □

¿Qué Es El Fondo Quisqueya?

If this is the first you've heard of Fondo Quisqueya, please read on.

What is it?

Fondo Quisqueya helps provide training and education for qualified Dominican nationals.

The fund was established at the Peace Corps/DR 25th-year reunion, which took place in Santo Domingo during the summer of 1987. A generous donation by ex-PCVs Frances and Lewis Gottfried ('70-'72) attracted other outright donations, as well as pledges covering a five-year period.

Two branches of the fund now exist: one based in the United States, the other in the Dominican Republic. The US-based group raises tax-deductible donations for the fund; the Dominican branch allocates the money, reviewing and then approving or rejecting applications for support. In addition,

the Dominican partners raise funds and other support from Dominican institutions, corporations, and individuals.

Who benefits?

Grants are made to Dominican nationals who can demonstrate need, and who appear likely to contribute to their communities and their country.

Training must take place within the Dominican Republic and within the candidate's province, if possible. Nonuniversity and/or nontraditional education or training receive preference from the awards committee.

How does it work?

Written applications for assistance must be submitted to the awards committee by such sponsors as teachers, clergy, community leaders, and PCVs, rather than by the candidates directly.

Candidates should have **access** to a mentor during the **life of the** award, although the **mentor** may be someone other than **the** original sponsor.

Awards are available to people of any age group, in any **part** of

—continued on page 4

More inside...

Who Benefited? ———	2
Fondo Highlight —	3
Chipping In ———	3
Keeping the Spirit Alive ———	4

Who Benefited?

Three grants have been approved so far; of those, two candidates have received their funds and the other will receive his when he is accepted into the course of study.

Bibilano Elviro Caraballo — El Canal, La Vega.
\$RD 700 for accounting courses
and a high school diploma.

(See a write-up from his sponsor on page 3 of this issue of *Que Pasa*.)

Nicolas Perez Bonaficio — La Cienaga, Jarabocoa.
\$RD 550 for training at a normal school.

Nicolas, a farmer's son, is president of the community youth group and a member of a local church group. This grant will allow him to enter an escuela normal. Nicolas wants to become an elementary school teacher.

Guaro Blanc — Sangre Linda
\$RD 300 for an auto mechanics course.

The grant has been approved, and Guaroa will receive his money prior to enrollment. Sr. Blanc is a family man with two children. He owns a small motorcycle repair business and wants to upgrade his skills with a three-month course at INFOTEP. The money will help cover tuition and his modest living expenses while training in Santiago or Santo Domingo. (INFOTEP offers no motor mechanics courses in the northwest.) □

Good Looks, Good Price

We hope you like the way *Que Pasa* looks. But in a nonprofit organization, the question inevitably arises, "How much did this thing cost?"

Thanks to modern technology and the donation of time and services, we can honestly answer, "Next to nothing."

Indeed, we could have sent out a typed bulletin; but for just a few cents more, we were able to

produce a newsletter with impact and appeal, one we hope Fondo Quisqueya members will be pleased to pass around.

Que Pasa was typeset and laid out quickly and inexpensively on a Macintosh computer. Final camera-ready copy for printing came from a laserwriter.

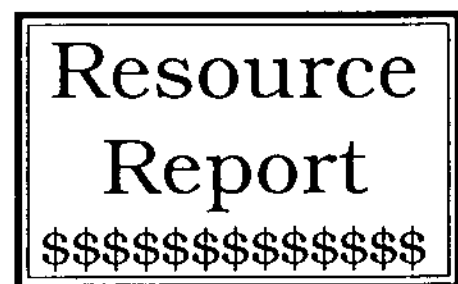
As with any other aspect of *Que Pasa*, we invite your comments on design. □



This space is reserved for reader comments. Use it to share ideas, offer suggestions/criticisms, get in touch with other RPCVs—whatever. If possible, we will include all letters as written. When space is too limited, we will edit only in ways that preserve their message and tone. Address letters for publication to:

Editor
Que Pasa
c/o Fondo Quisqueya
P.O. Box 20653
Alexandria, VA 22320

Other letters should be addressed to Fondo Quisqueya, at the same address. □



As of August 1988, The Dominican committee has \$RD 1,257 and \$US 910 to allocate. (At present, one U.S. dollar roughly equals six RD dollars.) \$4,800 remains in the stateside account and will be sent to the Dominican committee as needed. □

Que Pasa is published by Fondo Quisqueya, a fund that supports training and education in the Dominican Republic.

**Washington
Committee**

- Minor Anderson
- Mila Brooks
- Lynda Edwards
- Lou Ferrand
- Tom Gittins
- B.J. Warren

**Dominican Republic
Committee**

- Mike Benson
- Jerry Dupuy
- John Siebol

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Fondo Highlight

Bibliano Elviro Caraballo, 45 years old
El Canal, Sierra Prieta, La Vega
Working for a high school diploma at CENAPEC

When you go back to your site a few years after leaving Peace Corps, it sometimes rips your heart out all over again. The people are still poor and it seems that two years of work didn't change much of anything. All of a sudden somebody recognizes you and the word spreads like wildfire that you're back. The smiles are ear to ear and there's lots of hugs and pats on the back.

I had a special mission, to hand out the very first scholarship check from Fondo Quisqueya. It took a while to get things rolling but **finally** money arrived in the middle of November and I

high-tailed it out to the campo to see if I could find Bibliano "Elviro" Caraballo.

Elviro is and will always be one of the most special men that I

"The smiles are ear to ear ..."

have ever met. He came to me when I was a rookie volunteer who barely spoke Spanish and wanted me to talk to his association. The first big project we did together, almost seven years ago, was to plant fruit trees. (I received a huge rice sack of fruit

when I left this time.)

Elviro's house is sometimes a community meeting place. He is a member of the agricultural association and the ladies co-op, where he gives classes. Elviro reads the sermon at church and is part of the local commission in the struggle for land reform.

Things had been rough that year for the family, because Elviro had been in the hospital with pneumonia. Lots of people helped out the Caraballo family when Elviro was sick, and they were real proud that Elviro had gotten a scholarship, which would help him finish school. I too felt good to present Elviro his check. When I gave it to him, he smiled and said, "Thank you, Ana. Thank you very much." □

Excerpted from a report by Anne Uhring, RPCV.

Chipping In

The newsletter is meant to serve as a means of communication and a forum for ideas. At the same time, the committee believes that no fundraising opportunities should be wasted, and so a pledge form will always appear. Please don't be put off by that—no contribution is too small. If you can't give money, perhaps you can send us an address or two, or a suggestion on how to make the fund better. Everything helps. □

✉ Mail this form to Fondo Quisqueya, P.O. Box 20653, Alexandria, VA 22320 ✉

Name: _____

Address: _____

Here is my contribution of: _____ I would like to pledge: _____

If you have made a pledge and are able to predict your payment schedule, check one of the following:

Monthly Quarterly Biannually Annually

Please list names and addresses of people you think would like to be on our mailing list:

If you would like to support the fund in some other way, or if you have any suggestions, please note them here:

Check if you wish to be removed from our mailing list.

Keeping The Spirit Alive

When people think of foundations, they rarely look beyond the dispersing of funds. As presently constructed, Fondo Quisqueya fits right into that mold: it raises money and gives it away. That's all it does. But perhaps some of you wish the fund could do more—like maybe

“... perhaps
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help people keep in touch with each other and with a special time in their lives.

If that sounds like you, perhaps you would be interested in forming a patronato for the fund. This might be a city or state group, or one that links ex-vols from two or three states—the Far West, for example, or the Mountain States, the Southwest, the Southeast, etc. The area covered would be up to you.

These patronatos could be a nice way to both maintain some contact with your area's DR hands and influence the fund.

Yet they would be far less cumbersome and expensive than having everyone troop to Washington for committee meetings. Patronatos could make suggestions at any time concerning fund policies. Perhaps they could even hold regional meetings every year or two to coordinate their activities and discuss possible new directions for the fund.

Patronato members might also sponsor occasional fundraisers to augment the fund's resources. Each patronato could earmark its contributions for any purpose consistent with fund guidelines, although the committee would urge you to allow a 25 percent holdback to help build

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the endowment. (Individual pledges would continue to come directly to DC.)

Are you interested? If yes, please let the committee know and they will send you a list of ex-vols living in the area you specify; then you can take it from there. This could be a great way to keep the spirit of Santo Domingo '87 alive and well. □

—continued from page 1

El Fondo

the country—rural or urban. Award amounts are determined by the Dominican committee, which consults with the U.S. committee regarding any award that exceeds \$US 250 quarterly.

Who manages it?

For the sake of convenience, a small Washington DC-based committee manages the U.S. end of the fund's operations. Unfortunately, this pattern allows minimal input from other contributors and friends. Perhaps the newsletter will help to remedy this problem and encourage people to share their ideas and concerns not only with the committee, but also with each other. Please send us your suggestions. □

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