

A Jungle Bridge

**Comments, Thoughts, and Pictures
From Costa Rica**



Monday, September 24, 2007

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The Independence Day parade features homemade light boxes, with creative designs and candles inside. The kids march in a parade at dusk, and the boxes are supposed to be thrown into a bonfire and burned. Nanci saved these for use in an art exhibit. Here are Carmelita, Katie, Sandara, Irene, Roy, Mauricio, Alejandro and Willi showing off their handiwork before heading downtown to the event.

RECENT NEWS

The children bring the lights in a parade through town. Tashia goes to the dogs, as she cooks hot dogs for a celebration. Several "sick days" at The Bridge, as a family takes several very ill kids to the Clinic. Barry loses his talk show virginity. We have an example of caffeine withdrawal. The "clanimosity" seems to be declining as we bring families and clans into friendly contact. Tashia visits 100-yr-old Faustina.

TASHIA DOES DOGS

Children's Day



Costa Rica has a Children's Day, and we celebrated it here con gusto. Tashia Campbell has become more and more involved as a volunteer, and on this day, we found her cooking hot dogs on a charcoal grill.

In this shot, we see Tashia doing dogs, and Willi heading back to the tables to serve them up to those who came to the Community Kitchen.

SICK DAY AT THE BRIDGE

We serve in many ways at The Bridge. Erasmo, a Bribri father of four boys was very distraught. He had previously sent his youngest son Ronualdo to the Clinic accompanied by his wife Elda. Ronualdo had a severe cold that later proved to be pneumonia. On this night, he brought his three other sons, who were all sick with bad colds to The Bridge, and we took them to The Clinic. We gathered them up, and being too late at night to walk an hour into the jungle, bedded them down on our porch.



In this shot, Erasmo, the dad, is at left, Erik and Erasmo Jr. are facing the camera, and Dani sits with his back to the camera. They each came back from the Clinic with at least two medicines. Nanci tries to make sense out of the instructions with each medicine. None of these folks can as yet read, and the instructions have to be translated into a schedule they can actually do something with.

It's been an interesting week, and it continues with a niño on our couch as we write!

RADIO SHOW INTERVIEW

September 17 – The Indigo Room

Barry & Nanci were interviewed on live Internet radio on September 17. For those of you who may not yet have had the time to listen in, the recorded interview can be accessed by visiting <http://www.talkshoe.com/talkshoe/web/talkCast.jsp?masterId=33443&cmd=tc> and selecting **Episode 25 - Manifestation Mondays - Healing in the Rain Forest of Costa Rica**

Barry & Nanci are interviewed on the first half-hour, and Ken Herft, who made two DVD documentaries about Don Cándido and his work with medicinal plants, is interviewed in the second half.

BARRY DOES WITHDRAWAL

Coffee is a Thing Of The Past

For many years, I've been drinking HUGE quantities of coffee. I have a mug which is two full BIG cups, and each day I'd have between 4 and 6 of those filled with coffee. Don Cándido suggested that I stop drinking coffee for a month, and experiment with SMALL amounts after that. "Sure", I said. "Piece of cake!" And I stopped "cold turkey", without even a caffeine patch to fall back on. Little did I know!

I spent a few painful nights, with a sharp pain traveling from my head, down my neck and back, down my legs, and "out of" my feet. I can only imagine what withdrawal from a serious drug would be like.

Any improvement? Sleeping better now, with the feeling that my body is actually doing better – areas of discoloration gone, and some other things that are probably best left undescribed.

We're happy to report that **there is life after caffeine!**

CLANIMOSITY

Bridging people into unity from chaos

We're seeing the kids from different families and clans playing together more and more – walking to school together, talking Nanci into taking them to the beach together. People from different clans are not necessarily friendly, and may even be downright hostile to one another. Their time at The Bridge seems to have helped break down some barriers and build some bonds of friendship.

The "Clanimosity" seems to be declining, and slowly, by example, the idea that **"We Are All One"** is spreading.

TASHIA VISITS A GRAND OLD LADY

Tashia has also been helping with transportation. One of the tasks is to bring a bag of food over to Faustina, a 100-year-old Bribri woman who's family has moved her down from the mountain to a home nearby, so family members can get to her easily.



Tashia and Faustina talking with each other... although neither speaks the other's language, they seemed to be communicating just fine.

Faustina, her body literally deteriorating from a diabetic condition, was asked if she wanted to go to either Don Cándido or the Clinic. She said "No doctor who is eventually going to die himself will cure me. My cure is from God." She's decided she's ready to leave this world, and plans to stay right there in her chair until she does.

The day before this shot was taken, a huge tree fell over, falling into her yard and coming to rest with the tip of the uppermost branch just touching her left foot. She sat right there in her chair and watched it happen.

Not this day.

YOU CAN HELP US!

Send this email to two people you know who might also enjoy it.

If they like it, they can sign up with us directly!

VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE

Donations are still the lifeblood for what we do! The kids continue to go to school, the Community Kitchen is still operating, The Food Program helps families in return for work, and we still have two vehicles in need of inspection and registration. You can help.

NOW's a GREAT time to contribute.

Go to the website donation page by [clicking here](#), where you can use a credit card.
Or, mail a check made out to "El Puente" with "Member 29409704" in the Memo Field to
USE Credit Union, 8697 La Mesa Blvd, La Mesa, CA 91941

Deductions are tax-deductible

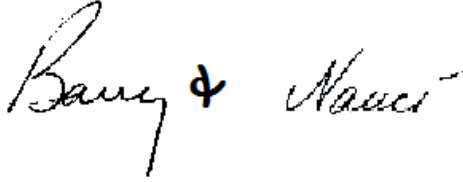
Do it NOW! You'll be glad you did!

Thank you for your support!

Well,

...djmiache

Enjoy!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Barry & Nanci". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

IF YOU HAVE TROUBLE SEEING THE PICTURES

...go to www.elpuente-thebridge.org/weekly and download the file with the date of this issue.

Go to The Bridge Website by [CLICKING HERE](#)

Go to The Bridge Online Store by [CLICKING HERE](#)

Download a Powerpoint presentation and a brochure by [CLICKING HERE](#)

Go to the newsletter archive by [CLICKING HERE](#)

Here's some Video clips showing activities at The Bridge:

[Nanci and Alejandro working together to serve lunch on the porch](#)

[Daniel, Barry, and Alejandro setting up for the movie](#)

[Watching the movie: this day, "Winnie The Pooh" in Spanish](#)

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