



Tuesday, September 9, 2009

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Foto by Masie Crow

This is Willi, some time ago, as he and his family were spending another full day in the river doing laundry. Since the entire family, in one way or another, works with us at The Bridge, we've begun allowing the family of two adults and five children to use the washer and dryer. It puts a little "bump" on the electric bill, and it frees up their time for additional working, and for the kids to handle their homework. We're happy with the outcome.

RECENT NEWS

Happy "Children's Day!" Tribal Elder Timoteo speaks on YouTube. Three Volunteers are building "The Bridge Blog", and we think you're gonna like it. We take a look at Pledging. Finally, we're reconnected to the world.

IT'S "KID'S DAY"

I went down to the Puerto Viejo School this morning. Originally, I was on an errand. I soon found out that today is a national holiday – "Children's Day". The kids were running all over the place, playing games and having fun. As I walked around the schoolyard, I found myself dodging soccer balls and fast-moving school kids. The teachers and lunchroom staff were busy assembling a party. The food smelled good. If I wasn't on a mission, I might have been tempted to hang around for lunch!

TIMOTEO

We've mentioned Timoteo Jackson in many of the previous issues. He's a tribal elder that we've been working with on several projects, and he visits us to help celebrate special occasions. I thought you'd enjoy getting to hear him speak on one of his favorite topics – protecting the indigenous reserve against development. You can find him on YouTube by clicking here www.youtube.com/watch?v=N2cOSVaoJUl

Yes, it's in Spanish... some of you know Spanish, and all can get an idea of his environment, and his body language needs no translation.

VOLUNTEERS ARE AT IT AGAIN!

Three Volunteers – Sophie Lindvik, from Holland, Andrew Condon from Costa Rica and New York, and Swansea, from Germany, are hard at work on the porch. They're working with Nanci to create a "Bridge Blog". The idea is to connect the people associated with The Bridge – Subscribers, Volunteers, and Donors – and start real-time discussions going about the goings-on around here. So stay tuned – and watch for the "Blog's Open" announcement, which should be coming along any day now!

Thank you Sophie, Andrew, and Swansea!

PLEDGE CAMPAIGN

We are currently blessed with \$1,710 in Monthly Pledges from 6 Monthly Donors. Thank you, God!

Our current total level of monthly spending for the Education, Food, and Administrative Programs is \$2,750. This will increase to \$3,250 when we hire a full-time Microloan Manager and restart that program. Nanci and I use our Social Security payments to completely cover Administrative/Overhead expenses, with what's left going into the other programs.

You've seen what, with your help, we've been able to do here. This year, we're supporting and assisting 39 children in school, and more than 50 people a week come to The Bridge for food. We're about \$1,000 a month in expenses to be covered by unpledged donations. From time to time, we get individual donations that help make up the difference. We also have suppliers who know what we do and who are willing to wait for payment.

This would be a wonderful time for you to make a Monthly Pledge to The Bridge. You can see the current status of pledges, and the current goal amount, by looking at the [Pledge Meter – CLICK HERE](#)

There are several ways to set up a pledge.

Please take a few minutes and [check out the Pledge website by CLICKING HERE](#)

THANK YOU! for your support!

RANDOM NOTES

Communications have been restored – we're connected again with phone and internet. The phone company had to replace the entire line to make it happen.

Website – the site is being updated regularly now. If you have some comments, or if there's information you'd like to see in the website, please let me know!

YOU CAN HELP US!

There are several ways you can help.

- **Send this email to other people you know** who might also enjoy knowing about The Bridge..
- **Post a message about us on social networking sites or discussion boards** dealing with adventure, travel, volunteering, education, microlending, human services, eliminating poverty, or other humanitarian activities.

VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE

**We're grateful at the continuing support we have been getting.
You all are allowing us to continue to serve!**

NOW's a GREAT time to contribute.

Make an immediate donation online by [clicking here](#),
where you can use a **credit card** or an **E-Check**.

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

(And please drop us an email letting us know you've done it
so we can say a proper "Thank You!")

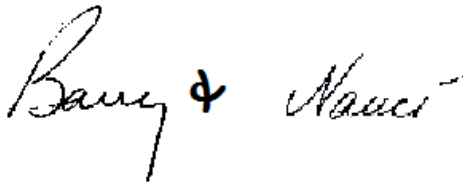
Do it NOW! You'll be glad you did!

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** by [CLICKING HERE](#)

Download **brochures in Spanish or English** by [CLICKING HERE](#)

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

See some **Video clips** showing activities at The Bridge by [CLICKING HERE](#)

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