



May 10, 2010  
© 2010 Barry A. Stevens



*Nanci organized two vanloads of folks from The Bridge to visit at the Jaguar Rescate Center in Cocles. Along with some familiar faces, you can see Rita, a volunteer at the Center holding a baby howler monkey, and Marie, in the light tan shirt, getting ready to give her talk.*

## **RECENT NEWS**

Welcome to Part 2! We took the kids and volunteers on a great educational outing to a local wildlife center to see baby sloths, monkeys, a caiman, even a margay leopard. Dawn comes to visit Daniela. Fund raising for a project at the Puerto Viejo school. Volunteers come through, with a great photo spread, an angel who helped us get ready for Easter, and a clean burning gas stove!

## **EDUCATIONAL TRIP** **Jaguar Rescate Animal Rescue Center**

On April 12, Nanci arranged for 24 kids, adults, and volunteers from The Bridge to visit the Jaguar Rescate Center. We piled into two vans, and away we went!

First off, the tour guides put blankets on the lawn and brought out a few of the baby sloths to get things started.



*One of the baby sloths snacks on greens while listening to the lecture*



*Nearby, a baby caiman lounges next to the pond. Five feet long when fully grown, this 2 foot specimen will be nursed to adulthood and released into the wild when ready.*



*Little Maria and Mom Maria, little Catie, and Willi listen closely as Marie explains about the animals at the Center*

Look at the determined expression on Catie's face. Later, we learned that she was thinking "I WILL work here. Someday I WILL work here."



*Marie holds a baby sloth while giving her talk.  
One can see she really loves her job.*



*Mayra and the kids interact with the animals while Marie gives her talk.*

Marie explained things of interest to our folks. “Don’t kill sloths”, she said. Lifting up the arms of the sloth she was holding, she explained “there’s nothing to eat here – there’s no meat on these arms.” Then she explained about coral snakes. “Don’t kill coral snakes either”, she said. “They eat terciopelos (fer-de-lance) snakes. If you kill the coral snakes, you will have many more terciopelos at your houses.” So while both coral snakes and terciopelos are poisonous, one seems to be better to have around than the other. The jury’s still out on that one!



*This baby margay leopard is also being raised at the Center. We got strict instructions to keep our fingers out of this cage – giving us a new definition of “Finger Food”*



*The appropriate headgear for both Marie, as well as Rita – a volunteer at the Center – seems to be - baby howler monkeys?*

We were treated to a tour that took about an hour and a half through the entire Center, including an exhibit of poisonous snakes, some magnificent owls, and a jaguarundi – a large predatory cat they’re also nursing back to health. Feeding time around here, we’re told, is pretty exciting.

After the visit, the gang walked across the main street to the beach, and spread out a picnic blanket to chow down on some lunch! After lunch and a swim, we bundled everyone up, went to the road, where the vans were waiting to take us back to The Bridge.

A really great day!

## **NOTES FROM THE SCHOOL PROGRAM**

Remember Daniela? When Dawn Pruitt first visited The Bridge two years ago, she fell in love with Daniela's great big smile. She agreed to pay her school expenses that year, and she repeated the gift this year. Recently, Dawn, who works for NASA by day, took some time out and came to The Bridge again to meet Daniela and her family and see how the schoolgirl was doing. The meeting went well for all!



*Daniela, with her back to the camera, enjoys her soup while the conversation flows. Nanci, at left, translates as Daniela's Mom Gretel, and Grandma Elvira, visit with Dawn at the right.*

We're always delighted when people who support The Bridge and its programs come to visit. It's a great way for the supporters to learn more about The Bridge Kids, for us to get to know our supporters, and for them to really see where their money goes!

Thank you Dawn!

## **FUND RAISING FOR SCHOOLS**

Susan Shick is an ex Peace-Corps worker, now a local, is on the Board of the Puerto Viejo school – attended by twelve of our Bridge Kids this year. She's got a large number of volunteers coming to add a room to the school, rebuild the computer room, and do some basic repair. Although they have some of the cash, they could use some help purchasing materials needed for construction. They plan to buy 5 truckloads of rock fill, 25 sacks of cement, 35 concrete blocks, enough wood to construct computer tables and bookcases, four plastic garbage barrels, and enough broken ceramic tile to cover tables. They're about \$1,500 shy of the cash needed. If any of you feel moved to earmark a donation to that project, we'll make sure it gets to them. By way of disclosure, we will be keeping a 5% fee of whatever is donated. To make a donation online now, [click here to go to the online donation page.](#)

## **VOLUNTEER CORNER**

Say Hello! To Jason Winfrey, who recently graced us with his sweet presence at The Bridge, and took many of our fotos at the Jaguar Rescate Center.



*Hello, Jason! And thank you for those great fotos  
!*

You can get an idea of where Jason's head is by knowing the first part of his email address – "healingtheworld"

**And a hip-hip-hooray for Lili and Roi.** All the way from Isreal this wonderful couple came, bringing with them a passion to be of service. After electing dish detail at The Bridge, with our awful pot-blackening propane stove, the very next day, on their way out, they "picked us up a new one". I've got clean fingernails again, and the kitchen staff and I bow our heads in gratitude! I didn't think kitchen life could be so good!  
Thank you, thank you, thank you!

Nanci et al

**Emma Smith** is a High School Student Volunteer who came to stay overnight and helped us get ready for the Easter Party. She was also gathering material for a school project. Before Emma left for Costa Rica, she fund raised a nice donation for us that was met by her dad's employer Microsoft. Way to go Emma.!



*Willi, Emma, and Maria get to know each other*

## DONOR NOTES

**More About The Pledge Program:** Want to see Comments from some of the Monthly Pledgers? [Click here to see why they made a pledge.](#) Now would be an excellent time to join their ranks and make a monthly pledge to support The Bridge. [To get started on a pledge, Click here.](#)

## YOU CAN HELP US!

There are several ways you can help.

**Each One Tell One;** You can really help us help The Bridge Kids and the families who come here. It won't cost you anything. Think of one person you know that you think would like to hear about The Bridge, and forward this email to them! That's all you need to do! Thank you!

**Help Wanted for projects** – click on each one to send us an email about your interest.

[Adding to our US newspaper press release database – we have newspapers in 27 states – 23 more to go!](#)  
[Help with formatting of press release database for Canadian newspapers from incredibly clumsy source data](#)  
[Repairs and maintenance at The Bridge](#)

**Post a message about us on relevant web sites or discussion boards.**

**Look at our list of critically needed supplies** – [click on this link to get to the “What Can I Bring?” page on our website.](#)

## VIEW FROM THE BRIDGE

Thank You for the continuing support we have been getting.  
You all are allowing us to continue to serve!

**NOW's a GREAT time to contribute.**

Make a **Monthly Pledge** by [clicking here.](#)

Make an **Immediate Donation** by [clicking here](#),  
and donate online using PayPal, or mail a check.

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

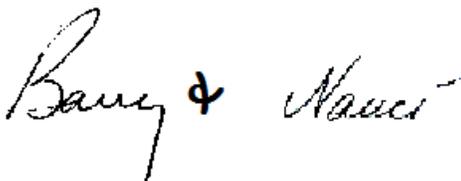
\*\*\*\*\*

***Thank you for your support!***

Well,

...djmiache

Enjoy!



## IF YOU HAVE TROUBLE SEEING THE PICTURES

...go to [www.elpuente-thebridge.org/weekly](http://www.elpuente-thebridge.org/weekly) and download the file with the date of this issue.

Go to The **Bridge Blog** -“Angels With Their Skins On” by [CLICKING HERE](#)

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](#)

## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

Email: [barrystevens@earthlink.net](mailto:barrystevens@earthlink.net)  
[nanci.stevens@gmail.com](mailto:nanci.stevens@gmail.com)

Our toll-free number from the US is  
1-866-462-7585

SKYPE: barry.stevens2