



Newsletter

Cuchoquesera celebrates the arrival of drinking water



Inauguration day in Cuchoquesera

On Sunday August 16th, we departed from Huamanga/Ayacucho for Cuchoquesera, about two hours away, to participate in the inauguration of the new drinking water system. The community gave us a very warm welcome. We were accompanied by Vladimir Arana, from the *International Secretariat for Water*, as well as representatives from the Peruvian organizations Agua-C and SER. The latter organization was responsible for carrying out the project.



Elizabeth and Vladimir break the bottle of champagne in front of the reservoir

At the foot of the reservoir, project patrons Elizabeth Arias and Vladimir Arana celebrated by breaking a bottle of champagne; speeches, music and dancing were followed by a meal served to visitors and to the six hundred members of the community. During my speech, I explained that the Peruvians' lack of access to drinking water is a great concern for people from home, and that they fully support indigenous communities in their effort to improve the situation. Madame Pierrette Meilleur

is a perfect example. The day before my departure, this 94 year old donor (her age is not a secret!) had asked me to pay her a visit in Gatineau: she wanted to donate a portion of her savings so that more Peruvians would have access to clean drinking water.

Much to the joy and satisfaction of the mothers, faucets and concrete sinks were installed, bringing water into each home. After the ceremony, I had the opportunity to interview Hilda and Estefa, both members of the water



Hilfa, a member of the drinking water committee, in front of one of the concrete sinks built for each family

management committee (or JASS). Over and over, they reminded me to transmit their gratitude to all those who have supported them from so far away.

Currently, SER is pursuing the construction of dry ecological toilets for each family. Because the water reservoir for the city of Huamanga is situated below the village, a conventional sewer system could not be installed.

First harvest at San José de Tia

Sixty experts from around the world contributed to a recent *United Nations* report, which confirms the urgent need to promote a more durable, natural and organic system of agricultural production. This report validates the decision to implement the family garden and the spray irrigation projects currently in place in three Andean villages. These endeavors have been made possible by the generous collaboration of Madame Lyne Francoeur and her family.

The first significant harvest will take place soon in the village of San José de Tia. According to a provincial city hall representative of Vilcas- hauman, this is the best economic development project in the entire region.

Glicerio happily showing us his field of habas



Inauguration in San Pedro de Lagarto



The people of Lagarto worked hard to complete their project

The project in San Pedro de Lagarto, in Amazonia, has caused me many a headache, and even insomnia! Firstly, we had to give up the idea of using gravity to transport water because of fluctuating groundwater levels in the collection area four kilometers away from the village. Once the program was reconfigured to incorporate a solar powered pump, we were confronted with insufficient solar energy to make the pump function. In

fact, the engineers from *Energia sin fronteras* (WSF) had not accounted for the dense cloud cover that persists in this part of Amazonia.

After several trials and adjustments to the solar panels, we were finally obliged to install batteries, a measure we had been determined to avoid. Since last August, the solar panels power the batteries that activate the pump. The whole village is pleased with this new system.

The water analyses that were carried out revealed another problem. In fact, Amazonian groundwater contains high levels of heavy metals such as iron and

manganese. A follow up and controls were required. A water chlorination system was put into place in conjunction with the *Centro de Salud* in Atalaya.

On August 7, I was in Lagarto to celebrate the long awaited arrival of drinking water. Melanie Michaud had the honor of being the patron of the event. For this indigenous community, it was the occasion to **look back on all of the hard work** that went into the completion of this project.

André Franche



These young people are overjoyed on inauguration day; they also participated in the work

Monthly Donation

A considerable number of donors have opted for a monthly donation. "It's much easier, says one of our contributors: no more checks, envelopes or stamps, and the receipt arrives automatically at the end of the year. Not to mention the satisfaction of helping a cherished cause month after month."

Your monthly donation can be made via a bank withdrawal or a credit card.

It's flexible: you can modify or cancel your contribution at any time simply by notifying *Wings of Hope*.

Your monthly contribution ensures a regular income flow, which enables us to better meet the needs of isolated communities in Peru.

Furthermore, our administrative fees are reduced: a larger portion of your donation goes towards improving living conditions for Peruvians.

Do not hesitate to contact us at 514-277-5111 or write at: afranche@ailesdelesperance.org

Thank-you for your support!



Pillucho: successful water collection at the bottom of the ravine

A continued presence



Lorette Désilets 1917-2015

On April 26, Madame Lorette Désilets passed away in Montréal. She supported many causes by subscribing to a charitable life annuity. Choosing to lead a simple life afforded her the joy of giving more.

In her testament, she bequeathed an important sum to *Wings of Hope*, to be added to the *Lorette Désilets Fund* she had created previously within the organization. She passed away with the **satisfaction and happiness of knowing that her support of the poor and isolated communities of Peru would continue indefinitely.**

2014-2015 Annual Report

During the fiscal year ending June 30, 2015, our income totaled **\$1,225,625**. This amount includes the interest earned from various funds (\$99,595), deposits in endowment funds (\$483,218), and the capital to create life annuities (\$160,000).

With regard to expenses,

- **\$521,042** were transferred to Peru to support projects.
- **8.16%** of our income was used for fundraising and administration.

Once again, we thank you sincerely for your continued support.

P.S. a more detailed financial report is available in French on our website under *L'Organisme*.



Noemi and Victoria, two leaders of Aussaprub in Barranca: it is with great satisfaction that we see young women such as Noemi engage in water management

ONLINE DONATION

Les Ailes de L'Espérance
Wings of Hope
Alas de Esperanza



<http://ailesdelesperance.org/en/donate/>



Zenaida Araujo awards the prize to one of the winners, Jorge L. Cayllahua

Music and song in support of the environment

For the past twenty years, journalist Zenaida Arujo and her colleagues have organized the *Festival de la cancion ayacuchoana*. Elementary, secondary and university students from the Ayacucho region of the Andes participate in this festival. One of the themes is the

environment and/or water, and the prize for the best song is a portable computer donated by *Wings of Hope*. In the fall of 2014, the festival took place in Huanta, and two students from Vilcashuman received the prize for their song entitled **AGUA**.

Water for everyone

In Diamante Azul, Cascada Unini and José Olaya



Nora prepares breakfast

On August 7, at 7 a.m., fifty members from these three Amazonian communities gathered at Diamante Azul School to coordinate the realization of their drinking water project. Most of the members are leaders in their communities or members of the drinking water committee (or JASS). The assembly was interrupted by a lovely viper, which had invited itself in and caused quite a stir amongst participants!

In Diamante Azul and Cascada Unini, the water pipes are old and in disrepair. The village of José Olaya has no infrastructure at all. Most of the inhabitants of these three villages drink water from the river, resulting in serious health problems. During the meeting, several participants expressed their concerns, and I was struck by the suffering caused by the absence of clean drinking water.

A summary project has already been

elaborated, and volunteer engineers affiliated with a Spanish organization are in the process of finalizing the project and the budget.

The water will be collected at the foot of a waterfall situated three kilometers from the neighboring village of Mision Unini. In order to bring the water to José Olaya, a water pipe will be suspended over the Machintoni River. In each of these three villages, a distribution network will bring water to all of the homes.

In total, 135 families will benefit from this drinking water project. The three villages have committed to supplying all of the unskilled labor. We have no doubt you will be happy to support their efforts and, counting on your generosity, we have allocated \$45,000 to this project.

André Franche



Transport of materials to Lagarto and Tzipani

YES, I WANT TO SUPPORT THE WINGS OF HOPE'S PROJECTS

ONE-TIME GIFT

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25\$ 50\$ 75\$ 100\$ 200\$ 500\$ Other _____ \$

By cheque payable to: Wings of Hope

By direct debit (monthly donation) please send a cheque specimen

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With your email address, we can keep you up to date on ongoing projects.

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afranche@aillesdelesperance.org
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Thank you. .