

News from the Villa

Friends of Villa Infantil

Summer 2009

The mission of the Friends of Villa Infantil is to serve the needs of the children by giving of ourselves, our time, our resources and our skills to enhance their lives and provide a safe environment and an opportunity for education, growth and development

Villa Receives Scholarships

In these times of economic hardship, Villa Infantil has been blessed to receive one year scholarships for some of the children from the Educational Foundation of the Americas, Inc. The president of the foundation, Ambassador Phillip V Sanchez has also made a personal donation for the education of one child.

The mission of the Foundation is to stimulate the quality of education in the Hispanic community of the Americas with specific emphasis on identifying and promoting model programs and/or educational institutions.

Additionally, the directors expect to foster bilingual or trilingual education that will allow this Community to develop their potential and make a significant contribution during their adult life.

Ambassador Sanchez was visiting Lakeside and learned of the Villa and its commitment to educating the children. He contacted Tom Watson and after several meetings with Madre to prepare the applications, FOVI was very pleased to learn of awards.

Madre Maria strongly believes that education is the key to a better life for the children at Villa Infantil and while there are always needs, education has always taken first place. Both the Villa and Friends of Villa Infantil wish to extend our profound thanks to the Foundation. While we still need to raise money to provide education for many of the children, these scholarships definitely give us an advantage as we look forward to the new school year.

For more information about the Foundation, please see their web site: www.fdn-americas.org.

Photo & Story Contributors

In this issue: Shirley Hale
Ellen Croog
Tom Watson
Michelle Wensley



Thank you all for your help!

Sally Pachulski
Newsletter Editor



Author Donates Proceeds

Lina Biscardi grew up in Italy, married, moved to Canada and now spends a good part of each winter here at Lakeside. She wanted her grandchildren to understand how different their lives are today from the life she has led, so she wrote her memoir which is titled *My Life, Then and Now*.

The book has been described by an online bookseller as "a touching memoir of extraordinary fortitude and insight

into human compassion, prejudice, and morality. A compelling narrative of the resourcefulness required to survive in pre-war, wartime, and post-war Italy. But most of all, it is a brutally honest look at the value of strong family ties and the sometimes harsh lessons driven by love."

Lina donates all her profits from the book to two Lakeside charities, one of which is Villa Infantil. To purchase a copy visit a Chapters in Toronto or email Lina at linasavio@rogers.com.



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From the Editor



Like many organizations here at Lakeside, FOVI is run strictly by volunteers. We have no officers and we are a group held together by the mutual desire to support Villa Infantil. My goal in creating the newsletter is to share information about the Villa, the children, our sponsors and volunteers. While ideally I would like the newsletter to go out to our supporters four times a year, at times that just isn't possible. This year trips to the States that involved lots of time and energy left me with no time to produce the newsletter until now. So here it is the middle of July and the second edition is just going out.



Michelle Wensley has generously put together the collage for Page 4. I welcome her to FOVI and look forward to her help in the future.



I hope that you enjoy this edition and can continue to support the work of the Sisters and Madre Maria.

Paz y bien,
Sally Pachulski

New Kindergarten



When school starts in August thirteen of the children will be attending a new kindergarten in Jocotopec.

Madre hopes that the new school will better prepare the children for the years ahead.



It is the responsibility of the Villa to provide the children with uniforms and supplies as required by the schools. These costs, of course, are growing as more children are at the Villa now and prices for everything seem to be on the rise. Any donation, no matter the amount, is greatly appreciated and will help defray the costs.



We're on Facebook!

Thanks to Tim Donnell, Friends of Villa Infantil now has a space on Facebook.. The network is named FOVI and if you have a Facebook account you can share the group page with your friends. Go to facebook.com and search for FOVI. You'll be helping spread the word about the Villa.

Lunch Helpers

Would you like to provide and prepare lunch for the children occasionally?

Meals are simple and the routine is pretty well established. If you would like to help out, please contact

Lisa Le by calling her at 387-761-0002 or emailing her at lisale888@gmail.com. Lisa would be happy to guide you through the process.



Needs List

Madre Maria has provided a needs list which has been posted on our website and also attached to this newsletter. Your gifts of food, cleaning products and toiletries are greatly needed and appreciated!

www.friendsofvillainfantil.org

New Mailing Address - Again!

We have once again found it necessary to change our mailing address. We are sorry for the inconvenience to our supporters. All five lines are essential for the donation to be received by the Villa:

Villa Infantil
c/o Tom Watson
827 Union Pacific Blvd
PMB 71-346
Laredo, TX 78045

Checks may be made payable to either:

Villa Infantil de Nuestra Senora de Guadalupe y Senor San Jose A.C. (This can be abbreviated as below.)

Villa Infantil de Ntra Sra de Gpe y San Jose A.C.

or:

Maria de Jesus Mendez Serrano

We regret that we cannot accept packages of any type due to the high duties imposed by customs.

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Visit our Website

Please stop by and visit our website. Feel free to send any suggestions you may have for improvement to Sally Pachulski at newsletter@friendsofvillainfantil.org. The site contains information about the villa, our newsletter and more. Visit the website at www.friendsofvillainfantil.org.

Got News?

We are always looking for material for our newsletter. Please feel free to send any story ideas or write an article about your visit to the Villa or volunteer work you might be doing either at or for the Villa. We would also love to use photos you might have from those visits.

Please send any submissions to Sally Pachulski at newsletter@friendsofvillainfantil.org. The newsletter is published quarterly.

Visiting the Villa

Normal visiting hours at the Villa are:

Monday - Friday: 10 to 12 & 4 to 6
Saturday 10 to 1:30.

No visiting hours on Sundays and holidays.

Madre and the sisters will welcome your visit but please be respectful of their time. Remember most children over the age of 4 will be in school until 1 PM during the school year.

Donations & Receipts

Friends of Villa Infantil is grateful for all donations. We thank you for understanding that we cannot issue receipts for donations that do not pass through our organization. If you would like to make a donation directly to Madre and would like a receipt from Friends of Villa Infantil, please contact either Tom Watson at Tom.casawatson@gmail.com or Michael Cook at mikecookcottingham@hotmail.com. Both Madre, Sister Pati and Sister Blanca appreciate the kindness and generosity all the sponsors have shown on their visits as they arrive with food, clothing, supplies, medical supplies, toys, donations, and lots of love, smiles and hugs for the children.

Sponsorships

Please consider sponsoring or co-sponsoring one of the children at the Villa Infantil orphanage. Your financial contribution will help provide an education and assist in assuring the general well-being of a child.

You will receive newsletters, regular updates, and photographs of the child you are sponsoring. Visiting and communicating with your child is encouraged and we will translate any correspondence you would like to share with him or her. For more information, please contact Tom Watson by email at Tom.casawatson@gmail.com

Please Join us for the Next Meeting

You are cordially invited to the next meeting of *Friends of Villa Infantil*. Please contact Shirly at shirlthegirl21085@yahoo.com for date, time and location information.

Contact Information

Sponsorships

Tom & Sallie Watson (376) 766-3396 or
e-mail Tom.casawatson@gmail.com

General Information on Villa Infantil

Shirly Hale
e-mail: shirlthegirl21085@yahoo.com

General Donations

Michael Cook (387) 763-0184 or
e-mail mikecookcottingham@hotmail.com

Fundraisers & Events

Lisa Le 387-761-0002 or
e-mail lisale888@gmail.com

Newsletter Editor/Webmaster

Sally Pachulski
newsletter@friendsofvillainfantil.org

Please make your check payable to:
Villa Infantil and send to:

Outside Mexico:

Villa Infantil
c/o Tom Watson
827 Union Pacific Blvd
PMB 71-346
Laredo, TX 78045

Within Mexico:

Villa Infantil
P.O. Box 18
45800 Jocotepec
Jalisco, Mexico

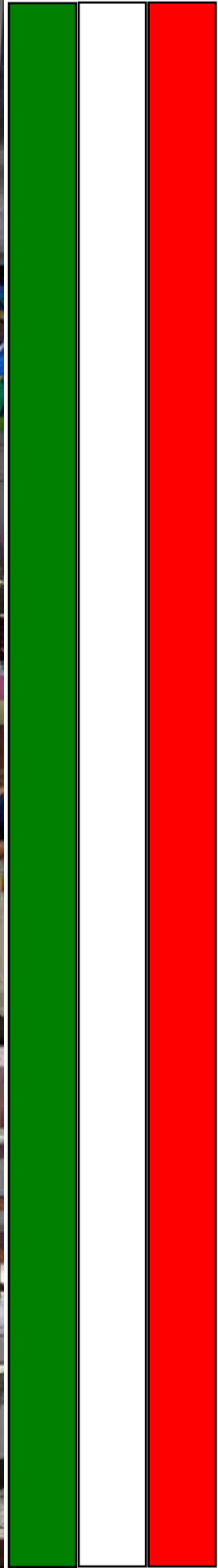
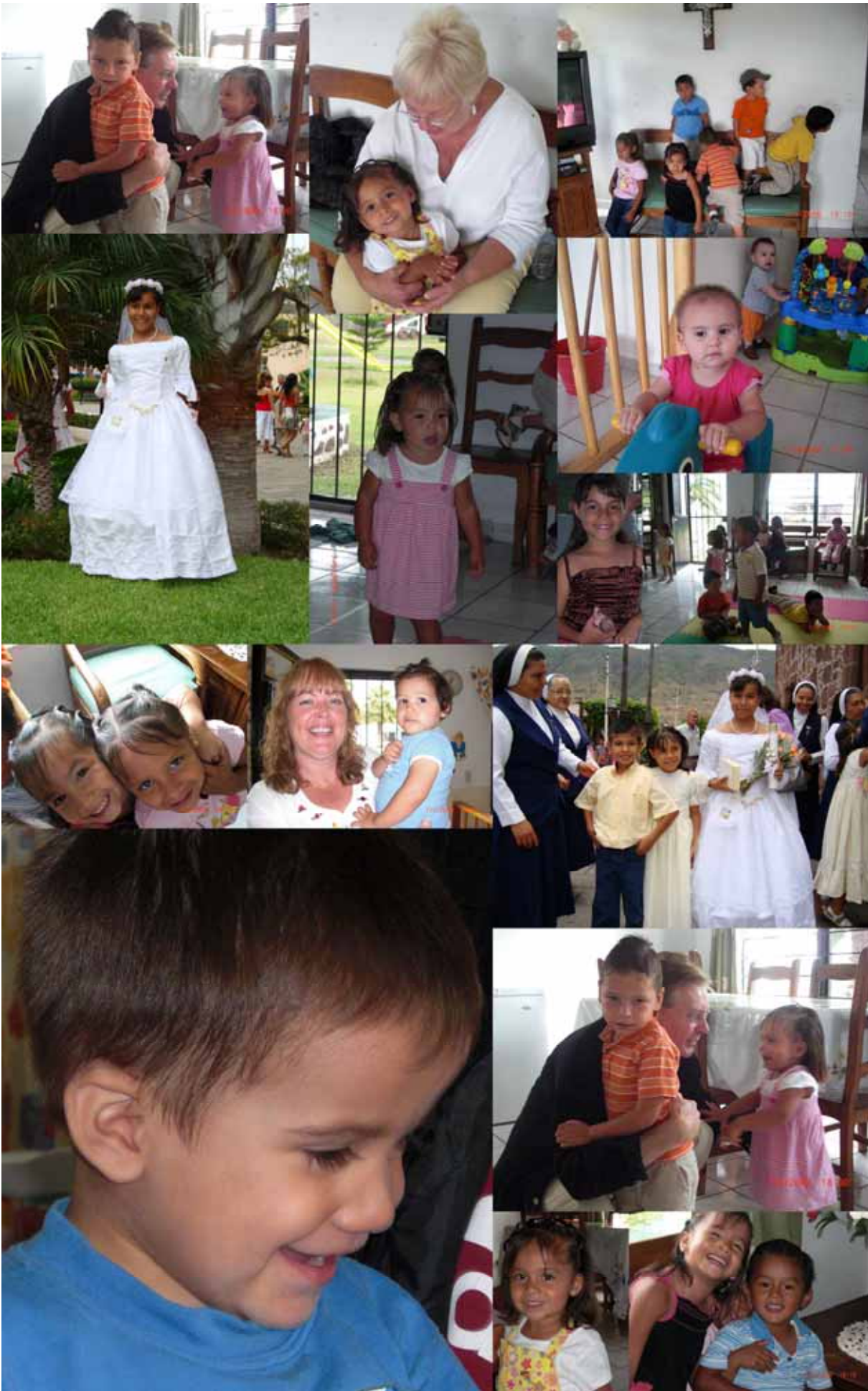
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Photo Page





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Needs List

Styling Gel	Paper Towels	Vegetable oil	Juice
Bar Soap(1-2-3)	Pine Sol	Salt	Fruits
Bath Soap	Clorox	Sugar	Vegetables
Shampoo	Fabric Softener	Evaporated milk	Cookies
Cream Rinse	Floor Cleaner	Small boxes of milk	Mayonnaise
Baby Wipes	Ajax	Cartons of milk	Ham
Diapers	Windex	Yakult Yogurt Drink	Cheese
Toilet paper	Disposable Wipes	Caltoce	Eggs
Napkins	Mop	Pancake milk	Ketchup
Light Bulbs	Broom	Honey/Syrup	Baggies 15x22
30 Gallon Garbage bags	Shoe Polish Black & White	Whole Wheat bread	Children's Tylenol
White Kitchen Garbage Bags	Vanish/Oxi-Clean	Single Serve Juices	Sterile Gauze Pads
Rifocina (Medicine)	Batrum(Medicine)		