

JAMES DEAN BYRD FOUNDATION

411 Walnut St., #4267

Green Cove Springs, Fl. 32043

www.jamesdeanbyrdfoundation.org

Escuela Bilingue Los Algarrobos Graduation



It is tradition in Ecuador to have a graduation ceremony for children in kindergarten and the Escuela Bilingue Los Algrabbos had a grand one. It was held on January 20th at the Hostal Baloo on the beach in Canoa. All twenty students and their parents attended. After receiving their cap and gown, each student signed the graduation book and then received a diploma. The ceremony was followed by food prepared by the parents and and the staff of the Baloo. (We thank Phil and the staff of the Baloo)



It has been a challenging year, but we made it through and are very excited about the 2009 school year for the Escuela Bilingue Los Algrabbos. Late in the year we were very fortunate to have Victor Angulo join our staff as Director/teacher. His experience with the Ecuadorean school system, being well known in the community and his true desire to bring the best education possible to the people of Canoa has helped tremendously.

Kathleen Capello, a resident of Quito and an expert in early childhood education, donated her time and came and evaluated our school over a week's period. Her report is a valuable tool for improving the quality of the school and we will be implementing many of her suggestions in the new year.

SCHOOL YEAR 2009-2010

For the coming school year we will be expanding to add 2nd grade. Two new classrooms are being built along with a central bathroom facility, a remodeling of the kitchen and a computer room to better handle the increased number of students. We are also expanding class size from 10 to 15 students.

Interviewing for school teachers will begin next month. We will be increasing the qualifications required of the teachers for the coming school year. To do that, we will have to increase the starting salaries. We will be looking for and interviewing a volunteer english teacher also.

FUNDING RAISING

The school serves one of the poor communities in Ecuador. It has been a terrible year for everyone in the financial market but this is one place where a small donation well help many.

Building the new classrooms and increasing teachers salaries will require increasing our fund raising efforts. Our building budget for the classrooms and bathroom is \$14,000. Our monthly operational costs will be approximately \$2,600 or \$25,000 for the year. We have increased the class size to help offset the operational expenses, but we will still have a shortfall each month. Many students require scholarships in order to attend school and we still need your donations to keep them in school.

Your small donation will go a long way in changing the life of a small child and the future of a rural town.

- A donation of \$5,000 will allow you to name a classroom (just like the sports arenas in the U.S., just a lot less money).
- For only \$25 a month we can supply a scholarship to the really needy in the community.

Please help us by sending your tax deductible donation to:

JAMES DEAN BYRD FOUNDATION, INC.

411 Walnut St, #4267

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Or go to our website www.jamesdeanbyrdfoundation.org and use your credit card with our PayPal option.



New construction, and Jim Byrd and Victor Angulo congratulate each other on a successful year.

We would like to thank all our teachers, students, volunteers, contributors, and all those that have made this a very successful first year.

Ken Wilson
President
James Dean Byrd Foundation.

For more information visit our new website at www.jamesdeanbyrdfoundaton.org