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## Washington State/Chile Partners of the Americas

# Amigos Americanos

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March 2005

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### 2005 Dues Requested

Annual dues donations are: Student-\$10, Individual-\$30, Family-\$60, Business/Professional-\$100, Corporate or Institutional-\$250. Partners is a 501(c)(3) organization, so your dues are tax-deductible. Please send your check to: Washington/Chile Partners of the Americas, P.O. Box 1017, Seattle, WA 98111-1017.

And many thanks to those who have already paid: Oren and Gay Campbell, Tim Hilliard, Barbara Houplin García, Paula Laschober, Raymond Laschober, John and Jerene Morford, Wally Pereyra (lifetime) and Susan Sola.

### March 6: Reception for Partners Travelers

On Sunday, March 6, Partners will hold an afternoon reception to hear about the experiences of recent travelers to Chile Marita Holdaway (photo gallery owner) and Byron Schenkman (musician). Both of these Washington Partners traveled to Chile last November on Partners travel grants

Location: Benham Gallery, 1216 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue in downtown Seattle.

Time: 3:00-5:30 p.m.

Activities: Marita and Byron will discuss their programs in Chile, and we'll listen to music, view a slide presentation made by Chilean photographer Mariana Matthews with poetry accompaniment, and enjoy the photo art of the gallery, including some by Latin American artists.

Wine, soft drinks, coffee and snacks will be served. All Partners members, as well as their friends and family, are invited. The reception will include a short Board meeting, which will begin around 4:30 p.m., to which all interested are invited.

### 4 Gifts for Partners: 2004 International Convention

The 2004 International Convention, held in Antigua, Guatemala, November 17-20, marked the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Partners of the Americas. In addition to inspiring speakers, such as Kathleen Kennedy Townsend and Eduardo Stein (VP of Guatemala), Partners proposed four new initiatives to celebrate our anniversary:

**Juntos Podemos (Together We Can Do It):** This is a special fund-raising campaign which has as its goal a financial contribution from each of our volunteers to Partners by June 10 of this year. A successful campaign will allow us to become less dependent on government funding and more flexible in shaping our own priorities. Some donations will be applied directly to these goals and some will be used to match funds required by outside donors. Partners is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization and all donations are tax-deductible. The suggested

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donation is \$75 but any amount is welcome. You can donate on line by going to the Partners international office website ([www.partners.net/get\\_involved/donate.htm](http://www.partners.net/get_involved/donate.htm)); by calling Luisa Villegas, Partners Coordinator of Fundraising and Communication, at 800-322-7844, extension 214; or by sending your check to Partners of the Americas, 1424 K Street NW, Suite 700, Washington, DC 20005 (Attention Luisa Villegas). A free Partners exchange plane ticket will be awarded to the first chapters, North and South, to reach 100% giving, and to those that raise the most funds by June 10.

**Partners Counts:** An effort to count and value volunteer hours to satisfy grant matching requirements. Please log your meeting, travel, planning and other volunteer hours that you give to Partners, either online at [www.partners.net](http://www.partners.net) (click on Partners Counts), or on a paper timesheet (download from same Web site). It can be done by quarters and estimates if you don't want to keep a more frequent log.

**New Members:** A goal of growing each chapter's membership by 50% this year, including recruitment of young people and achievement of more diversity.

**Rechartering:** A process each chapter goes through every three years, which includes renewal of a partnership's letter of understanding, a list of members and officers, a narrative of annual activities, and payment of annual international dues of \$100. Both Washington and Chile are rechartered for the period 2004-2007.

## Washington Partners 2004 Annual Meeting

The Washington/Chile Partners held their annual meeting for 2004 on October 23 at Barnaby's Restaurant in Tukwila. Meeting activities included an update on 2004 activities and plans for 2005, election of 2005-2006 General Board members, and presentations by Partners traveler from Chile Andrea Arjona and a traveler about to go to Chile, Marita Holdaway.

One current Board member, Sr. Yvette Mallow, was re-elected to a 2005-2006 term. One new Board member, Mariela Darnell, was also elected to the same term. Continuing Board members previously elected for the 2004-2005 term are Buck Frymier, Tim Hilliard, Paula Laschober, Paul Mocha, John Morford, Susan Sola, Jerry Thornton, Gwen Vernon, Rodrigo Yanez, and Bill Zachmann.

## First Board Meeting of 2005

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The first Board meeting of 2005, held January 13 at the home of Paula Laschober, featured a slide presentation by two members of The Nature Conservancy, Maggie Coon and Mark Wolf-Armstrong, on private land conservation efforts in Chile.

### Washington State/Chile Partners of the Americas

#### Officers & Chairs - Washington

<u>Officers</u>		<u>Phone</u>
Bill Zachmann	President	(360) 357-8728
Susan Sola	V.P.	(206) 860-7594
Paul Mocha	Secretary	(206) 762-3773
John Morford	Treasurer	(206) 523-0823
Paula Laschober	Exec. Director	(206) 363-7474

<u>Committee</u>	<u>Chair</u>	<u>Phone</u>
Arts & Culture	Mariela Darnell	(425) 396-7972
Economic Dev.	Rodrigo Yáñez	(206) 575-1650
Education	Paula Laschober	(206) 363-7474
Emergency Prep.	Bill Zachmann	(360) 357-8728
Environment	Tim Hilliard	(360) 556-6842
Health	Susan Sola	(206) 860-7594

#### Officers & Chairs - Chile

<u>Officers</u>		<u>Phone</u>
Jorge Valenzuela	President	(56-2) 223-5917
Elena Torres	V.P.	(56-2) 697-2334
Reynaldo Ruiz	Secretary	
Eduardo Conca	Treasurer	(56-2) 274-6068

<u>Committee</u>	<u>Chair</u>	<u>Phone</u>
Arts & Culture	M.T. Herrero	(56-2) 326-6243
Economic Dev.	Jorge Valenzuela	(56-2) 223-5917
	Eduardo Conca	(56-2) 274-6068
Education	Jacky Núñez	(56-2) 698-0400
Emergency Prep.	Augusta Crino	(56-2) 235-2938
Environment	Mario Peña	(56-2) 223-2205
Health	Ana Ma. Urrutia	(56-2) 204-8527
	Dr. A. Blanco	

Washington/Chile Newsletter Editor: Paula Laschober

The meeting was also a potluck to which all members were invited. Future projects were discussed and 2005 officers were elected. Officers are: Bill Zachmann, President; Susan Sola, Vice President; Paul Mocha, Secretary; and John Morford, Treasurer. Paula Laschober continues as Executive Director.

## Review of 2004 Activities

Our partnership carried out four exchanges last year, two in each direction. All were funded by Education and

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Culture Travel Exchange Grants provided to Partners by the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs of the U.S. Department of State.

**Mariana Matthews**, a well-known Chilean photographer, visited Washington mid-April to mid-May, together with an exhibit of her photographs of the Chilean temperate rain forest titled “Selva Fría: Cold Jungle.” In addition to discussing her exhibit at the Burke Museum of the University of Washington, Mariana visited several schools and universities to talk about her work with photography students, visited photo galleries and art museums, and gave a talk to Latino women at Consejo Counseling and Referral Services of Seattle (at the invitation of Partners member Rubí Romero).

The Burke Museum co-sponsored the project jointly with Partners. Burke Curator Jim Kenagy, a long-time admirer of Mariana’s work, provided the contact with the Museum and took care of the logistics of getting the exhibit mounted by Museum staff. Jim will travel to Chile later this year, to discuss a future Burke exhibit with Mariana, the Chilean Partners and other Chilean photographers and environmentalists.

Sr. Yvette Mallow hosted Mariana in her home and also administered the \$3,325 Partners Project Assistance Grant we received to frame and transport the photos and to provide an exhibit opening reception. Musicians from the Chilean Cultural Center, led by Sergio Urrutia, provided music at the reception. Barb Klein was in charge of Mariana’s itinerary and, along with other Partners, drove her to appointments. Other Washington Partners invited Mariana to enjoy many of the local sights, including the Skagit Valley Tulip Festival and the Parade of the Species in Olympia. Mariana was interviewed by local Spanish radio station El Sol, and the Spanish newspaper “El Mundo” published an article about her. Paula Laschober provided initial communication with our Chilean Partners to get the project organized, but new Arts and Culture Committee Chair Mariela Darnell took over that role prior to Mariana’s visit. On the Chilean side, the Arts and Culture Committee, chaired by María Teresa Herrero, proposed the exhibit and maintained contact with Mariana. Chilean committee members René Lara and Daniela Muller provided assistance.

Washington Partners also hosted Chilean ESL teacher and Academic Coordinator of the Chilean-North American Institute of Concepción, **Andrea Arjona**. Andrea’s home host was Paula Laschober and her institutional host was Shoreline Community College. The connection to Shoreline was provided by Partners

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member Aura Ríos Erickson who is a foreign student counselor at the school. Aura introduced Andrea to ESL teachers at Shoreline, where she was able to learn new teaching techniques to share with her Concepción colleagues, share her own ESL teaching techniques, and help out at the language lab for foreign students learning English.

Andrea’s travel to Washington was proposed by the Chilean Education and Social Development Committee, headed by Jackie Núñez, in mid-2004. The Chilean Partners sent out an announcement and request for candidates to all the Chilean-North American Institutes; Jackie, committee member Mónica Alcalde, and Paula Laschober (in Chile at the time) reviewed applications and selected Andrea as the first candidate of those proposed for a Partners exchange.

Other Washington Partners who helped arrange Andrea’s program and who invited her to local events included Barbara Houplin García and Linda Harris. Andrea also attended foreign language classes at Shoreline, as well as ESL sessions at the School of Teaching English as a Second Language and at Seattle Pacific University. The visit to SPU was arranged by committee member Linda Harris, who teaches there. Andrea arrived in Seattle in late October and was able to stay through Thanksgiving so she could experience that typical American holiday.

Two Washington travelers also went to Chile, both in November. **Marita Holdaway**, owner of the Benham Gallery in downtown Seattle, spent two weeks in Santiago participating in FotoAmérica, a month-long program of exhibits and events to showcase Chilean photographers. Marita provided a two-day workshop to photographers on how to market their work, visited many photographic exhibits and galleries, advised several photographers and gallery owners regarding the promotion and sale of photographic art, gave talks to photography students and professors at Santiago universities, and reviewed the portfolios of 30 Chilean photographers. Her program was arranged by Chilean photographer Mariana Matthews, who met her when she was in Seattle earlier in the year, with assistance from other members of the Chilean and Washington Partners Arts and Culture Committees.

Marita’s home stay was provided courtesy of Roberto Edwards, FotoAmérica director. Marita met with him and with Chilean Partners to plan a future project that would extend a program called “Bridges to Understanding” to Chile, possibly among Mapuche youth. This program links middle school students in the U.S. with their contemporaries in indigenous communities in developing countries. The students tell

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each other their stories through word and photo via an interactive on-line program.

Seattle harpsichordist and pianist, **Byron Schenkman**, spent three weeks in Chile, where he gave well-received piano concerts in Santiago, Concepción y Temuco, as well as master classes at universities in all three cities. Byron is an internationally recognized musician who performs with the Seattle Baroque Orchestra, of which he is also co-founder and former artistic director. While in Chile, he was interviewed on University of Santiago radio by Chilean Partner Elena Torres, and also by the Sociedad del Derecho del Autor (Copyright Society). In Santiago, Byron was hosted in the homes of Arts and Culture Committee chair María Teresa Herrero (who also coordinated his schedule), as well as committee member René Lara. The Partners in charge of Byron's visits to Concepción and Temuco were Mercedes Pujol and Margarita Atton, respectively. Byron's trip preparations on the Washington side of the partnership were coordinated by committee chair Mariela Darnell.

Byron had previously traveled to Chile in March 2004, at his own expense, to explore future possibilities for musical exchanges and collaboration. When he returned, he wrote the following:

"I learned about Partners of the Americas last fall after I had already planned my March trip to Santiago. I am a Seattle-based concert pianist and harpsichordist and part of my intention for the trip was to meet Chilean colleagues, to learn about the classical and early music scenes in Santiago, and to make contacts for possible future collaborations.

When I joined "Partners" I was amazed at the speed and enthusiasm with which members of the organization stepped up to help facilitate such contacts. I was also amazed at the "Partners" hospitality in Santiago: I was invited out and invited to members' homes for several delightful meals and was introduced to some very interesting people. Through "Partners" I met colleagues from the faculties of the Universidad de Chile, the Universidad Católica, and the Universidad Mayor, as well as the members of the music committee at the Chilean-Northamerican Cultural Institute, and the artistic director of the new music quintet, Ensemble Bartók-Chile. I also had the opportunity to work with talented students at the newly opened conservatory of the Universidad Mayor. Perhaps best of all, I met Luis Advis, a great Chilean composer whose work I had known for years. At his home I had the wonderful opportunity to hear him play and discuss his latest piano work. He also gave me a copy of the score which I am now studying and preparing for my own future performances. I am

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very grateful to Partners of the Americas for this stimulating and inspiring trip. And I would especially like to thank Paula Laschober, María Teresa Herrero, and Rene Lara for their initiative in making it all such a success." (April 2004)

In addition to sponsoring the professional exchanges noted above, the Washington Partners helped host the October visit of two doctors from the Cruz del Sur Rehabilitation Center of Punta Arenas. **Doctors Asterio Andrade and Juan Carlos Vélez** came to Western Washington at the invitation of the Bellingham/Punta Arenas Sister City Association, but were able to spend three days in Seattle visiting organizations such as Consejo Counseling and Referral Services, the University of Washington's Department of Rehabilitation Medicine and Collaborative Health Studies Coordinating Center of the School of Public Health, Boyer Children's Clinic and Children's Hospital and Regional Medical Center. Their program in Seattle was arranged by Health Committee chair Susan Sola and member Rubí Romero. Susan also held a potluck welcome dinner at her home, and John and Jerene Morford provided the homestay as well as sightseeing and transportation to meetings.

## Chilean Visitor Sends Thanks

My dear friends:

I want to send you these lines in order to thank you for the wonderful experience you let me share with you. I was invited to go to Seattle last October and I spent a month there. It was an incredible and unforgettable experience. I met many interesting people and I had the opportunity to visit different places. I was invited to visit Shoreline Community College where I visited different classes and all the teachers I met there were really friendly. They gave me the chance to interact with their own students and all of them made me feel as "one of the team." It was amazing to spend a month with people from different cultures.

I would like to thank the members of Partners who made this possible, specially to those who, in one way or another, made my staying there remarkably comfortable and nice. Thanks to those who sacrificed themselves spending some time with me. I'm conscious of the effort you had to make in order to make me feel comfortable ..... I'm very grateful for that. Special thanks to Barbara García, Aura Erickson and Linda Harris and all my love and gratitude to Paula Laschober for all her kindness and willingness.

Hope to hear from you again,  
Andrea Arjona Tapia  
Academic Coordinator

## Comments from Concepción on Two Exchange Projects

Mercedes Pujol, Chilean Partners Board Member and Director of the Chilean North-American Institute in Concepción sent the following e-mail to Paula Laschober (excerpts):

“Quiero a través de estas líneas agradecer toda tu preocupación para hacer que Andrea haya tenido una muy buena experiencia en Seattle. Tanto tu acogimiento como la buena disposición de quienes colaboran con Partners, como también lo bien seleccionado que estuvo su programa, permitieron que ella se integrara y conociera de lo que es la enseñanza de ESL, mucho más y mejor de lo que hubiéramos pensado. Ha regresado con nuevas ideas y proyectos que esperamos poner en práctica y eso constituye un valioso aporte a nuestra misión como institución que procura difundir la cultura de los E.E.U.U.

Hablando de difusión cultural, no puedo dejar de mencionarte la estupenda experiencia que significó la visita y aporte musical de Byron Schenkman. Además de encantador como persona, él es un músico que deja muy bien puesta a cualquier institución que represente. Tanto la Master Class que ofreció a jóvenes pianistas como su recital fueron de gran calidad y le valieron positivos comentarios. Felicitaciones por este acierto y esperamos pueda repetir su visita en un futuro cercano.

De manera que hemos finalizado nuestro año con dos intercambios exitosos con Partners; qué más podríamos desear; sólo esperar que en el futuro tengamos oportunidad de continuar reforzando los lazos que nos unen a través de experiencias tan ricas como éstas.”

[For those who need a little help with Spanish... Mercedes thanks us for the fine program we put together for Andrea Arjona; she says they expect to put into practice new ideas which she brought back and that the exchange provided a valuable contribution to the Institute, the mission of which is to improve knowledge of the culture of the U.S. With respect to Byron Schenkman's musical program, Mercedes notes that it was a magnificent experience and that both his concert and master class received very favorable comments; she hopes he can return in the near future. She ends hoping that we continue to reinforce our linkages with exchanges as outstanding as these.]

## Washington-Chile Planning

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The two chapters of our partnership spent many hours in May and June of last year crafting a project plan for approximately the next two years. The plan was submitted in mid-June to Partners in Washington, D.C. Several of the projects in the plan, specifically the exchanges described above, have been carried out. And one of the planned projects for 2005 has already been approved. This exchange will bring Chilean Partner María de los Angeles Espejo (known more commonly by her nickname, Kanque) to Washington toward the end of May. Kanque is a facilitator of participative leadership training for disabled youth in a program sponsored by the Institute of Cultural Affairs (ICA). ICA-Chile is co-owned by Partners Board member Ana Mari Urrutia, who also co-designed the training program.

ICA in Washington also conducts participative leadership training and has a summer camping component for youth called “Journeys.” Kanque will remain in Washington through early August. She will learn about the Journeys program and assist with leadership of camping trips for young people, in addition to sharing her ICA-Chile experience with educational institutions, youth organizations, ICA-Washington facilitators and, of course, Partners members.

## “Private” Partners Grant for Chilean Microenterprise

While in Chile on a Fulbright grant last year, Washington Partners Executive Director Paula Laschober was introduced to microenterprise owners Raúl Tapia and his wife Paula, who live in a low-income section of Santiago (San Bernardo) with their young daughter. They have started a successful small bakery in their home. Raúl himself is disabled and hires local disabled people to help in the business. He and his wife had baking equipment that they had scrounged and repaired themselves or purchased on installments, but they wanted to expand to produce a more popular type of bread and get their product to more clients. In order to do this they needed a certain type of oven that could cook the new bread, as well as a specially outfitted bicycle that a disabled delivery person could use. Partners tried to get them a grant to get this expansion going but was unsuccessful. Therefore, Paula Laschober of the Washington Partners and Eduardo Conca of the Chilean Partners together donated 500,000 pesos (about \$840) to move the project forward. Eduardo delivered the money to the grateful Tapia family in early January. The connection between Partners and the microenterprise owners was made thanks to Ana Mari Urrutia and her ICA co-owner Eduard Christensen; they had provided

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ICA leadership training to people of San Bernardo and consequently were familiar with their continuing activities.

## Partners Awards and Grants

Partners has limited grant funding for exchanges and projects in several areas. Information on normal ongoing funding for travel and small project grants in the areas of Agriculture and Environment, Education and Culture, Civil Society and Governance, and Partnership Development is available at [www.partners.net](http://www.partners.net), under Membership, Resources.

Special Partners Foundation grant programs with an **application deadline of March 11, 2005**, are also now open for proposals (more info at Website noted above):

Partnership Development--funding of up to \$2,000 (chapter) or \$3,500 (partnership) for activities designed to strengthen the organizational capacity of one or both chapters in a Partnership.

Drs. Homer and Maurine Venters Health Endowment Fund--one grant of up to \$750 to partially support a project in the health field.

Madelyn L. Laschober Endowment Fund for Youth, Education and Microenterprise Development--\$1,000 to partially support one or more projects in the fields listed.

Pixote Literacy Fund (established in 2004 by our own Washington Partners member Steve Murphy)--funding to provide literacy and life skills to children ages 6-16 so they may avail themselves of more opportunities for a brighter future. Grants will be made for one or more projects, up to a total of about \$5,000.

## 2004 Financial Report

General Fund expenses: Postage \$107.40, annual dues paid to Partners, Inc. \$100, Web site \$209.30, Annual Meeting \$50.83, general liability insurance \$510, miscellaneous \$92.38. Transfer of a percentage of our own annual dues to Partners, Inc., amounted to \$225. Project funds were received for the Mariana Matthews photo exhibit (\$3,325) and Andrea Arjona's visit (\$400), and expended for these purposes. Holiday salmon sales netted \$64. Membership dues contributed for the year amounted to \$350. Bank interest earned amounted to \$7.83. At year end, total funds amounted to \$4,008.51, with \$1,965.04 in the General Fund, \$2,008.47 in the chapter's Travel Fund, and \$35 accumulated to be transferred to Partners, Inc. (local dues percentage).

## Services Offered by Partners

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**Rodrigo Yáñez** offers export consultant services to Washington companies interested in exporting their products to Latin American countries. Rodrigo has been in the business of trading in specialty crops with Latin America for over 20 years. He can be contacted at: phone (206) 575-1650, fax (206) 575-1697, [ryanez@yanezintl.com](mailto:ryanez@yanezintl.com), or 16400 Southcenter Parkway, Suite 504, Seattle WA 98188. See his Web site at [www.rodrigointl.com](http://www.rodrigointl.com).

**Barbara Houplin-García** offers flights to Chile that can help Partners travelers manage costs and often meet last-minute travel needs. Contact her at Issaquah Travel, (425) 392-8900, or [bgarcia@travizon.com](mailto:bgarcia@travizon.com).

### ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

I am interested in becoming a PARTNER/renewing my membership. Please enroll me as the following:

Student-\$10	Business/Professional-\$100
Individual-\$30	Corporate/Institutions-\$250
Family -\$60	Patron-\$500 or more

Interests:

Name:

Address:

City, State, Zip:

Home Phone:

Business Phone:

Fax:

E-mail:

Membership for Year:

Date of Application:

Please mail application to: Partners of the Americas, P.O. Box 1017, Seattle, WA 98111-1017.

Partners Web site: [www.partners.net](http://www.partners.net)

WA/Chile Partners Web site: [www.washington-chile.org](http://www.washington-chile.org)

*The mission of our partnership is to build and sustain community between the people and institutions of Washington State and Chile, through the sharing of skills, knowledge, culture and friendship. All of our people-to-people programs are carried out jointly and are dedicated to providing mutual benefits to our two regions. Through projects in education, social development, health, environment, emergency management, economic development and the arts, we provide opportunities for our volunteers and supporters to promote international cooperation and understanding, as they enrich their own lives and the lives of others in our hemisphere.*

