



November 7th, 2016

Dear friends,

If you ask most people their thoughts about the U.S. relationship with Latin America, there's a good chance they'll talk about the issues they see in the mainstream press -- taco trucks, the proposed wall on Mexico's border. But what about the failed peace process in Colombia? Why did Colombians vote down a peace accord for which their President won the Nobel Prize for Peace? And in Venezuela, how much do we know about the causes of such an enormous crisis?

Just in September we:

- held a dinner-forum with Frida Berrigan who shared personal insight on non-violent, direct action to end torture and close Guantanamo Bay.
- raised more than a third of the money needed for a community-based project to protect endangered sea turtles from becoming extinct, and provide income for local Nicaraguan families.
- worked side by side with 28 Seton Hall students who helped us prep for our 70th humanitarian aid shipment on Saturday, October 15th.
- saw the first photos of the brand new truck? that the Inhijambia Street Kid program bought with \$25,000 that you helped us raise in the spring.
- Received a \$20,000 donation from the Emmaus Community to build houses for two young women who have successfully completed Inhijambia's 3 phase program, and \$500 for the turtle project.

Stay tuned because this fall we'll offer new ways to connect and learn with our community and the people of Latin America.

70th Humanitarian Aid Shipment October 15th in Plainfield, NJ

We need your muscle, money and material aid. Come work side by side with 50 or 60 others as we pack the 45' foot shipping container full of items requested by our partners. If you can't make it, please consider helping us to offset the \$10,000 it takes to ship tens of thousands of dollars in medical equipment, school supplies, furniture, sporting goods, etc. to Nicaragua.

Latin America Foreign Policy Dinner-Forum on November 12th Chatham-Summit Friends Meeting

Wrap up election week in the U.S. (election Nov 8th) and Nicaragua (election Nov 6th) with solidarity, good food and dialogue. We'll explore the new phase in Latin American policy from both U.S. and Nicaraguan perspectives.

**PeaceWorks, c/o Johnston, 1125 Woolley Ave., Union, NJ 07083
917-301-6967, peaceworks.org**

\$2000 Needed to Completely Fund the Palo de Oro Sea Turtle Project

We've raised a third of the money to fully fund the night patrols needed to protect endangered sea turtles and their eggs from August through March. Please read the included profile of sea turtle conservationist Petrona Membreño who grew up hunting sea turtles and protecting their eggs. We need about \$2000 to finish the campaign – can you help?

\$8000 New Farm Project for the Inhijambia Street Kid Program

Financial sustainability is always a challenge for small to medium size non-profit organizations. That's why we are excited that Inhijambia is finding new ways to fund their core programming. A major donor in Europe has already helped them buy a large tract of land on the outskirts of Managua. The next step is to raise money to start an industrial-scale fruit and vegetable farm whose profits will help sustain Inhijambia's work...while helping to feed the kids. Inhijambia Director Mirna Sánchez has asked us to raise \$8,000 for the farm's irrigation system and initial plant purchase. As you think ahead about your year-end giving, please keep in mind this gift that will keep giving to the most vulnerable Nicaraguan children.

Thank you for your continued support and solidarity with the people of Nicaragua and Latin America -- for your willingness to focus on building bridges-- people-to-people, *pueblo a pueblo*.

In peace,
Denis, Diane and the entire PeaceWorks Board

I'd like to contribute to the Campaign to protect Sea Turtles: \$ _____

Here's a donation to help the Inhijambia Street Kid Program's farm project: \$ _____

I'd like to contribute to the general Peaceworks Fund for aid shipments, partner support, etc.

\$50 _____, \$100 _____, \$150 _____, Other \$ _____

_____ Please add me to the PeaceWorks email list for meeting reminders and events announcements.

Name: _____ Email: _____

POLITICS, PEOPLE, AND BUILDING PEACE IN NICARAGUA

A PEACEWORKS DINNER FORUM WITH AYNN SETRIGHT

Considering the Presidential elections this past week in the United States and Nicaragua, PeaceWorks will explore the relationship between our countries. In Nicaragua, how will the husband & wife team of President Daniel Ortega and Vice President Rosario Murillo govern? What will U.S. foreign policy in Nicaragua look like in a Trump Administration? What does this all mean for the *people to people, pueblo a pueblo* work of PeaceWorks?

To help us answer these questions Nicaraguan expert Aynn Setright will join us for a live Skype conversation.

Please RSVP to Newly Preziosi at 973-543-4721 or newillwest@aol.com

Saturday November 12th, 2016

**Dinner at 6:30. Program at 7:30.
Summit-Chatham Friends Meeting,
158 Southern Blvd., Chatham, NJ.
\$10 adults. Kids free.**



In the early 1980's Aynn Setright went to Nicaragua as a volunteer for Witness for Peace. By 1985 she was driving an ambulance in Northern Nicaragua where a U.S.-sponsored war was responsible for more than 40,000 deaths and hundreds of thousands wounded. Aynn remained in Nicaragua to support refugees in 16 resettlement communities. She is now the Academic Dean for Latin American and the Caribbean for the Center for International Studies.

peaceworks.org

Nica News Blast

Quick blurbs. Opinionated pieces. Reputable sources.

Nicaragua is drifting towards dictatorship once again

Giaconda Belli, The Guardian August 24, 2016

Considering what is going on in Nicaragua, I often feel I am immersed in a twisted, magical-realist novel. Everything that was not supposed to happen again in my country is coming back...We are reliving all that I thought had been eradicated when we, the Sandinista rebels, entered Managua on 19 July 1979 and ended 45 years of Somoza dynasty.



Wife and Running Mate: A Real-Life House of Cards in Nicaragua

Frances Robles, New York Times Oct. 30, 2016

Ms. Murillo, 65, is already a de facto cabinet member, deeply involved in every aspect of the government. She is the one who gives daily news briefings about the latest earthquake or damage from an industrial fire. If a child has Zika, Ms. Murillo knows the boy's name and might just call the parents herself. She meets regularly with municipal leaders and makes it clear that decisions cannot be made without her approval. "It's not that she has as many followers as her husband, she has more," said Florencia del Carmen López, 48, a street vendor. "The men are annoyed by it. The majority of her followers are women."

In Nicaragua, a Blatantly Rigged Election

Carlos F. Chamorro, NYT Opinion Nov. 4, 2016

On Jan. 10, 1978, my father was assassinated by hit men of the Somoza regime. His death meant the end of whatever remained of Nicaragua's political arena...- Four decades later, we have gone through a tortuous cycle of revolution and counterrevolution, civil war and foreign aggression, democratic transition and, now, a return to authoritarianism. History is repeating itself as farce under the regime of Daniel Ortega.



Nicaragua vote to cement Ortega's decade-long rule

Al Jazeera, November 6th 2016

Ortega and his running mate - his wife Rosario Murillo - have nearly 70 per cent support, according to a recent poll, tapping into strong voter approval for a drop in poverty in one of the poorest countries in the Americas since he took office in 2007. "He [Ortega] is the only person who has worked for the poor and he will keep doing it because that is his essence," said Jose Vicente Pong, a 64-year-old retiree, casting his vote by the ministry of labour in Managua.



PEACEWORKS

70TH HUMANITARIAN AID SHIPMENT TO NICARAGUA OCTOBER 15TH, 2016

Tens of thousands of dollars in material aid donations. \$10,000 to cover shipping costs. Hundreds of volunteer hours. 962 boxes and large items sent to Nicaragua. Here's some of what went down on PeaceWorks 70th humanitarian aid shipment:

- *171 Boxes of Used Clothing
- *35 Boxes of Gently Used & New Shoes
- *187 Boxes of New School Supplies
- *174 Boxes of Gently Used Household items
- *28 Boxes of Medical Supplies
- *63 Wheelchairs, walkers and canes
- *171 Boxes of Office Supplies
- *34 Boxes of Sewing Supplies
- *26 Boxes of Tools
- *52 Boxes of Gently Used Toys
- *Furniture & beds for an entire Doctor's office
- *2 huge heating and cooling systems



A huge thanks to the Seton Hall SOS Program!





**AN OPPORTUNITY
TO GIFT, AND GIVE BACK!**

JOIN PEACEWORKS AT
**THE MORRISTOWN
UNITARIAN FELLOWSHIP'S**

13TH ANNUAL “GIFTS OF CONSCIENCE” HOLIDAY FAIR

Jewelry, pottery, scarves, handbags, instruments, baskets and an entire global mix of beautifully crafted, affordable gifts that your friends and family will adore and whose maker will benefit!

Crafts and coffee from Nicaragua and weavings from Guatemala's Grupo Cajolá!

Friday 12/2 6:30p-9:30p, Saturday 12/3 8:30a-4p, 12/4 8:30a-1p
21 Normandy Heights Rd., Morristown, NJ

peaceworks.org