

SERFAM NEWS

October -
December
2003

Bryce & Noreen King - Presbyterian Evangelistic Fellowship in Mexico

CENTRO EDUCATIVO 'BLAS PASCAL'

Projects... A New Style of Teaching, A New Style of Learning

Underlying our entire academic program is a teaching philosophy known as "constructivism". Basically, this philosophy attempts to help students "learn to learn" rather than the customary cycle of



lecture, memorize, reproduce and forget. An important part of this plan is the use of different teaching strategies and means of evaluation (testing). Many of our classes now incorporate a more "active" approach to learning that often involves projects. To date we've seen our students create large scale ramps and levers, scales, working microscopes, models of cells and wall size relief maps. At times it's messy, noisy and apparently chaotic, but it's been fun to watch our students enjoy learning.

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SERFAM
A.C.

WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE? Thinking Maps

Last spring Bryce had the opportunity to meet Leslie Fortier, an English teacher at Jones Community College in Laurel, MS. and a member of Woodland Presbyterian Church in Hattiesburg, MS. We had been looking for an experienced teacher to help us develop a program and train our English teachers to teach English as a Second Language (ESL). After hearing Bryce speak about this need at Woodland, Les contacted us. While visiting with Les, she showed Bryce a teaching technique called "Thinking Maps" she had been using with her remedial English students at JCC. Bryce contacted Lupita (Headmaster of CEBP) to tell her about the Maps and we decided to invite Les to come to Mérida to do a workshop with our faculty. During the summer, Les came down with a work team from her church and presented the Maps to a couple of our teachers. The next step was having her return Thanksgiving week to do a workshop with the entire faculty. Everyone is excited! The faculty will be implementing the Maps in January, Les has plans to come back in March and May with the possibility of a longer term (1-2 year) stay to supervise the use of the Maps and also to reinforce our English program. We are grateful to Woodland Pres. Church for providing the funds needed for Les to make these trips and for the purchase of the Thinking Map manuals for our staff.



Marcos, Leslie and Lupita

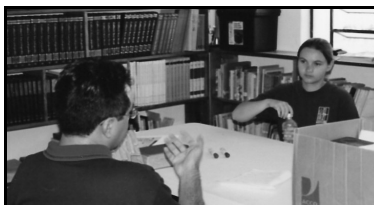
MEET THE NEW STAFF



New Faculty
 Rodrigo (Music/Computer)
 Ines (Civics),
 Mercedes (Science Lab)
 Agles (Science)



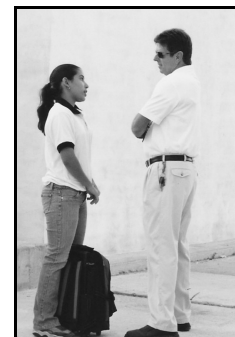
Top: Gabriela – Front Office
 Bottom: Niki -Librarian



Cleaning and Maintenance
 Griselda & Cecilia Zenteno
 Aaron & Angeles King
 Maritza Zenteno &
 Marlene Ceballos

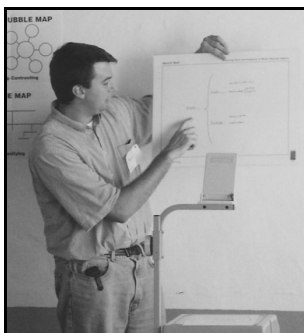
BRYCE KING: Go to the Dean!

God has a sense of humor! Bryce spent a lot of time in the dean's office during his career as a high school student. Ironically, he's now the dean and chaplain at CEBP. His day starts at the front gate greeting students with a warm smile and "buenos días". As in any school he has a few frequent clients, but overall he's been able to establish a good sense of discipline and an atmosphere that we hope will promote discipleship. Manuel Morales is his right hand man and a great help in the day to day duties and devotional times. Pray that God will raise up a Mexican man to take this position in the future leaving Bryce free to give general oversight to all of our projects and ministries.



Sofia and Bryce

PEF TEAM UPDATE: Byron Morris



Byron shares his
 "Thinking Map"

Byron continues to develop his language and teaching skills. He's been hard at work teaching our Advanced English students this year and has been participating in both our ongoing teacher development program as well as in the "Thinking Maps" Workshop. He is still thinking about pursuing a Master's Degree in some area of Education... perhaps with a view to returning here at some point to help with our long term vision of starting a couple of new schools. If you'd like to know more about what he's doing or would be interested in helping him financially to finish out this school year, please contact him at:

bmmjr@hotmail.com

"FUN"D RAISERS: A Sports Tournament and a Christmas Fair



Like all ministries, our SERFAM projects need funding. We've been excited to see the response we've had this year to our fall fund raising events. Over the long week-end of Nov. 20th (Day of the Revolution) we organized a sports tournament with men's, women's and children's soccer, mixed volleyball and a triathlon. Overall, there were approximately 200 people participating in the different sports categories and although we didn't raise as much money as we had hoped (\$1,800 pesos = \$180 US), everything went smoothly and everyone had a good time of recreation and fellowship.

This coming Saturday (Dec. 6th) we will be organizing our 2nd annual Christmas Fair. We have rented tables to venders to sell their wares, organized games of skill, have a petting zoo and all kinds of fun stuff for the kids.

SOUTHERN BELLS: from Covenant Pres. — Birmingham, AL



Katie & Lindsay

Five ladies, two teens, one husband and three children gave up family time, turkey and Thanksgiving Day to come to Mérida. During their stay here they participated in worship services at Shalom, our home church, and Puerta de Salvación, a congrega-

tion under the care of Shalom. They also performed concerts at the San Pablo Seminary, Yaldud (a Christian elementary school), the Holistic Center (a school for mentally and physically challenged children) and CEBP. In addition to this busy schedule they conducted a 3 night workshop for anyone interested in learning to ring. We were particularly excited to see the number of CEBP students who attended the workshop and surprised when the ladies donated a set of choirchimes to the school. THANKS!



Top: Worship on Sunday morning
Bottom: Handbell Workshop at Shalom



Stay tuned for more updates on the CEBP Bell Choir!

A SPECIAL THANKS TO:

CEBP Foundation Group

The Jolly Evangelistic Foundation
Southeastern Equipment Company
Sunbelt Nissan
First Pres. Church, Dothan AL
First Pres. Church, Washington NC
Wynndale Pres. Church, Terry MS
Dr. & Mr. Ken Byrd
Dr. William K. Johnson
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Knott
Mr. & Mrs. Ernie Oswalt
Dr. & Mrs. Weems Pennington
Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Smith

Student Scholarships 2003-04

Mr. Luís Canto
Ms. Dulce Canto
Mr. & Mrs. David Hoffman
Dr. & Mrs. Rubén Madera
Dr. & Mrs. Ricardo Santana
Shalom Pres. Church - Men's Group
Shalom Pres. Church - Session
Shalom Pres. Church - Youth Group

Project Development 2003-2004

Evangelical Pres. Church, Annapolis MD
Second Pres. Church, Memphis TN
Trinity Pres. Church, Charlottesville VA
Woodland Pres. Church, Hattiesburg MS

In Our Next Issue

Thinking Maps Update

Serving Others

Family Fun

Where do we go from here?

PRESBYTERIAN EVANGELISTIC FELLOWSHIP

PEF, the Presbyterian Evangelistic Fellowship, is a nonprofit faith mission whose purpose is to practice, train and equip God's people to do Biblical Evangelism, anywhere, anytime with anyone. The PEF Center in Decatur, GA houses our administrative team. The US team is spread across many states, and the International team labors in twenty-five nations and two regions beyond our domestic borders. For more information about PEF Ministries or short-term ministry opportunities, please call the PEF office at (800) 225-5733 and speak to either Laurie Miller or Peter Siaway.



SERFAM, A.C.

SERFAM, A.C., is a satellite ministry of **PEF** in Mérida, Yucatán, México and is directed by Bryce King - General Director, Manuel Glory - Treasurer, and Wilbur Madera - Secretary. As a non-profit organization, SERFAM, A.C. offers family services through the development of educational, recreational and community projects. Our primary goals are to evangelize, promote biblical values and minister to family and community needs while at the same time providing leadership training for Mexican men and women.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

We have been excited to see the many ways the Lord has provided for the financial needs of our SERFAM Projects. During the 2002-03 school year approximately 70% of our total budget was met locally through tuitions and special fund-raising projects. This year we hoped to see this increase to 75-80% but we weren't able to foresee some of the additional expenses we would incur upon adding the 12th Grade at CEBP. From our perspective, this appears to be our "make it or break it" year, financially speaking. Although we will still be close to 70% from local funding, we still need to raise an additional \$24,000.00 to meet our budget through the end of this school year.

If you would like to support any of these projects, are interested in organizing a missions trip or would simply like to visit Mérida to learn more about how you can be involved, please contact us directly at:

brycesking@yahoo.com or pefmerida@yahoo.com

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