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TO ALL MEMBERS

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Hallo everybody! Here is our first NEWSLETTER to give you some updates on our organization.

The 14th of September we're going back to Huamachuco (Peru) and we'll stay there until the 21st of October to help with anything we can at the children center. We're really looking forward to see the children again after 3 years (will we recognize them?) and to meet new children at *Marcelino*. We'll take with us all the money we collected thanks to all of you.
 THANK YOU SO MUCH!

Members of Marcelino Norge (updated 1st of September 2006):

We are now 108 members (!) in *Marcelino Norge*, most are Norwegian, but we also have Italians, Australians and Japanese!

Funds collected (updated 1st of September 2006):

(all expenses regarding bank account and web site are paid privately by Tina and Luca, there are therefore no expenses for *Marcelino Norge*)

Memberships 2006	NOK 20596	=	€ 2533
Donations	NOK 27294	=	€ 3356
Dag Soli's funeral (donations in memory of Tina's father)	NOK 31249	=	€ 3843
Recycling of plastic bottles	NOK 4146	=	€ 510
TOTAL	NOK 83285	=	€ 10242

On top of this we also received about 50 Kg. of children clothes and lots of teddy-bears from Norwegian families and we'll take all of it to Peru. We're sure children will love those presents!

How the money will be used:

It is important for us that the people working on th field in Peru decide how to use the money we collect here in Norway. Mario, Nury and all the teachers in Huamachuco know which priorities the center has and we trust their judgement. We'll get feedback on how they money will be used and all members of *Marcelino Norge* will have access to the papers documenting this.

Araceli



Huamachuco's surrounding



The *Marcelino* soccer team



Hanibal



Pamela & Mariana



The money donated in memory of Dag Soli, Tina's father, will be used to buy tools and equipment for the furniture-workshop (part of *Marcelino* in Huamachuco): this is what Dag wanted and what he decided with his family.

The childrens reality in Huamachuco:

The children of the Peruvian Andes start to work when they are 6 years old, in order to provide food for themself and younger brothers and sisters. They work 10–12 hours a day for a mere 0,5–1 €. The Peruvian state says public school is free, but in reality each family has to pay for uniforms (mandatory), books and for each of the tests children will have to undergo. That means that for the working children of Huamachuco area those expenses are way to high and they can not attend public school.

The school at Marcelino:

The whole project started 16 years ago in a backyard in Huamachuco, where children could go to play and relax. Since then the centre has grown to a multifunctional institution for about 300 children. All of the teachers working at *Marcelino* are from the community and they all know which environment the children grow up in, and which challenges they face everyday. In 2003 *Marcelino* started building a new school on a piece of land the bought a few years ago and the bulding is almost finished: classrooms, meeting rooms for teachers, library, computer room, workshops, kitchen and eating room, chapel, toilets and showers and a big backyard. In the near future a third floor will be added and that will host 5 rooms for volounteer workers or for needing people.

At *Marcelino* the children get an education and a diploma which is recognized by the Peruvian. On top of this the children get food, clothes, medical and juridical help. The teachers from *Marcelino* regularly visit the children's homes and working places to make sure the children are not abused.

What we will do during our visit at Marcelino:

When we were in Huamachuco in 2003 the new school was being built, now the building is nearly finished and we can try to realize the project we and the teachers have been talking a lot about: a big, colorfull artwork done by the children. The long wall surrounding the school will be a perfect frame for a "graffiti project" where the children will be the artist and where they will be able to express their thoughts. We will also help with daily jobs, like cleaning, building or just doing anything the center might need.

So, we're now ready to leave and we'll write another newsletter with new images as soon as we'll be back from Peru.

Thank you all for your help and support!

Talk to you soon.



Tina and Luca

MARCELINO NORGE

Diego



Birthdayparty at *Marcelino*



Marivel



Neighbours



Dinnertime al *Marcelino*



Huamachuco





Two of Marcelino Norge's members went to Peru: Anne and Per visited the children center in Peru during their trip around America. This is their feedback about the trip.

Our visit to Casa Marcelino in Huamachuco: one of the best experience of our life

We visited Casa Marcelino in February 2006 and this was one best and strongest experiences during our trip to South America.

We stayed in Huamachuco for about 4 weeks and we got the opportunity to meet both the teachers and Mario and Nury, who started the center. But most of all we met many of the children that attend to Marcelino. We spent a lot of time with them, we were playing, talking, drawing, reading and visiting the beautiful mountains of the area, with the children as guides. The children do not speak English and our Spanish was not the best either, but the language difference was never a problem: the children took care of us and thought us a lot of new words.

It is incredible how we where welcomed by this children, and how full of enrgy they were, even when some of them had to walk several hours to get to the center. They made us feel like we were part of their family.

We also had a great time with the teachers, having a lot of conversations, dinners and spending time together also outside of the center. Even with the adults we had no language problems and we were amazed on how many different things we could talk about (almost unbelievable how much a little pocket dictionary can do!).

Our visit in Huamachuco has been great and we'll bring this experience with us for the rest of our lives, remembering all these fantastic people.

And hopefully one day we'll be able to return to this unique place in the Andes. That would be great!!!

Anne & Per

Helping the children with hand crafts



Trekking to the Inca ruins at 4000 m.o.s.l.



The children dance the Saya

