

# Quarterly Newsletter June, July & August 2017



## LAVOSI Las Voces Del Silencio Events

### DIRECTOR'S REPORT: PROFESSOR ÁLVARO D LEÓN CRUZ

ISSUE #5 EDITED BY NELSON VIVAR  
CATAVIA & BRENDA ARON

Greetings from the School Director. I hope you are all very well, in every way and that you smile after arduous tasks whenever a new day dawns and after the sun sets. Time flies away, it vanishes like the wind between the branches, like the water between the fingers; but we strive to reach our goals. We are already reaching the second part of the school year. This June, we had a celebration. LAVOSI is now eight years old. There were many activities in the celebration week of June 5 to 9, but we wanted it to start on Saturday June 3, because it is the actual date of the birth of LAVOSI, for which we attended the Cathedral of Antigua Guatemala where a Holy Mass was held. As a thank you to the Lord for allowing us to reach this age ... we are still a young school, but we trust that from year to year we continue to grow and mature. Monday the 5th, was the presentation of our candidates. Five beautiful girls participated: Lilian Oralía Pamañal Ajuchan, Madeline Escarleth Sequen, Karla Dalila Tubac Sinay, Delsy Rufina Carcuz Méndez and Rosa Angelica Ixcotop Cos. They wore beautiful outfits, the first was the costume of fantasy, So much imagination and creative costumes made by the students and some with their Moms! After that are the sports outfits; All of them athletes, with soccer, tennis, fencing, cycling and soccer players' costumes. Then they wore typical Mayan clothes. They wore outfits from

different regions of the country, they were all very beautiful and well dressed. Lastly, they presented in formal attire. Pure princesses! The final vote would be on Thursday 8. What nerves they have had to wait for that day !!! On Tuesday 6, it was the Academic Act. It was just phenomenal. Many personalities attended, all important. The representative of the Minister of Education in the person of Mr. Willian Joel Patzán González was also present, Mrs. Virginia Pellecer, the Attorney for Human Rights of Sacatepéquez was also present, representatives of the Peace Corps Guatemala Administration, representatives of CasaSito Foundation, Mr. Gavin Kern, Mr. Peter Brown, Peace Corps volunteers: Len and Brenda Aron and volunteer Eli Pibernat, from Barcelona, Spain, members of the Board of Directors, special guests and the general public. Attendees were impressed to observe the Sign Language interpretation of our National Anthem of Guatemala. On Wednesday the 7th, there was a festival of small plates of hors d'oeuvres. Each student group took great pains and showed creativity, and their knowledge in culinary arts. All the dishes were exquisite. All students were winners.

On Thursday, the 8th, the expected election of our Lady LAVOSI ... After a democratic process of election, was elected as the new Miss LAVOSI, the graceful Miss MADELINE

ESCARLETH SEQUEN GARCIA, who attends the fourth grade of Primary Education. She was presented by the Honor Band and the prized school Tiara, and was officially recognized as Miss LAVOSI, 2017 - 2018. Congratulations to Madeline and her family. Then we enjoyed the traditional birthday cake. We all enjoyed that great moment. Happy birthday LAVOSI! On Friday the 9th at nine in the morning began the sporting activity. There were participating students from Colegio Tridentino, the Association Los Patojos and LAVOSI. Each school represented by two teams, one female and one male. It was a wonderful symbol of youth brotherhood, with respect and friendly competition. The activity concluded at the noon and with it c the celebration of the VIII Anniversary of our beloved School. Sincere thanks to the Directors of the schools that accepted our invitation to participate in the morning sport. A thousand thanks to all.

We also thank the Teaching Staff, Volunteers, the Foundations that support us financially to Mr. John Swinmurn and his family, collaborators, Integral Heart Foundation, Rotary Club, CasaSito, and Nursing Heart Inc. We thank all the Friends of LAVOSI. For now we continue to build our school's future and look forward to our 9th anniversary in June 2018!



### In this Bulletin:

[Report of the Director](#)  
[Teachers Report](#)  
[New developments](#)  
[Highlights](#)  
[Spotlights](#)  
[Future Events](#)  
[Donations/Donations Page](#)  
[Wish List](#)  
[Lavosi Contact List](#)

### **Primary: Teacher: Adriana Morales**

We start every day with a fine motor activity to improve our motor skills and the fluidity with which we move our hands for our communication

We also practice by squeezing pompoms, learning colors and separating them according to their color and then counting how many were by color.

We draw letters and numbers with stones and then practice with crayon. We work on measuring water to learn about quantities and motor skills to control how much water we need

We practice letters, numbers and strokes with painting

We learned the Letter M, practicing its stroke with different materials and then we learned about insects and worked fine motor skills while sticking beans to create an insect outline.



### **Science and Math Teacher: Nelson Vivar Catavi**

This quarter, students develop skills in the different classes that I teach, first create an hot air balloon demonstrating the strength of thermal energy, in mathematics a small introduction to multiplication, in science we study the operation of systems : Digestive, respiratory and circulatory making visual material of these, in addition to the Celebration of Mother's Day we made beautiful bikes.

Reinforcing also the work in group, companionship, friendship, and respect, values that are very important for a harmonious co-existence, especially for our deaf community.

### **Spanish and Social Studies: Teacher: Alvaro De Leon Espinoza**

We are teaching basic questions and answers with third and fourth grade students. Fifth and sixth elementary students learned questions and answers on the subject of interrogations in the Communication and Language class. They also learned the geography of Guatemala and the world.

Fifth and sixth elementary students investigated the civilizations of the old continent of the Egyptians, Greeks, Assyrians, Babylonians, Romans, China and among others, in Social Studies class.



Students enjoying recess after Maya College 5-10K run.

### **Classes in Story Time, Horticulture, Sewing and Cooking, Oh my!**

Students in all grades are learning how to tend a vegetable and fruit garden. We will soon enjoy eating what we have grown. We tilled, pulled weeds and watered the garden.

During story time, students enjoy listening to stories in LENSAGUA and learning to read story books themselves. Students also learned to create songs in sign language using the beat of the drum for rhythm.

The girls in the upper grades are learning the basics of hand and machine sewing. The girls are making aprons for themselves to be used in cooking classes at LAVOSI. the 5-6th graders had a competition between the boys and girls' groups in who made the best banana bread, the girls won. The 3-4th graders will make brownies. The 5-6th graders made kale salad. It was delicious. The 1-2nd graders will learn to make oatmeal raisin cookies. Each grade will learn to cook and bake once weekly. Donations of money for the cooking class will be appreciated.

### **Highlights of June, July and August:**

**Lavosi's 8<sup>th</sup> Birthday Bash**

**Eli Pibernat from Spain volunteers at Lavosi for two months**

**Panamericana University students volunteered by painting the second floor classrooms and hallways. It looked great.**

**Visitors:**

**Students from Colegio Maya spends a day playing games and socializing**  
**Students and Teacher from University Rafael Landivar**

**Claire Buxton and audiologists from, Gallaudet University and Guatemala**  
**Ron Podmore and Keny from WA state visits and donated an electric wall hand dryer**

**Heidi Blankenship from WA state visits**

and volunteers for a week, she brought educational games for the students.

### Basico

This quarter is very exciting as we collaborated with Intecap to offer a course in baking. There are 7 classes for a total of 50 hours. A teacher from Intecap taught this course with Nelson Vivar Catavia interpreting and Alvaro De Leon assisting. 15 students learned how to prepare a variety of cakes. This will help prepare them for possible bakery careers.

Male students have classes in carpentry and welding. The female students learn hand and machine sewing. All students have classes in computer skills, reading and story time. Providing more vocational skills allows them to learn different trades for their future.

We are very happy because we achieved many goals over the course of the year. We thank our donors because it allows us to provide the classes.



Students holding science kits donated by Rusty Wales and friends of Washington State

### New Developments:

#### A fundraiser for LAVOSI!

**Please save the date, Saturday, October 28 2:00 pm-6:00 pm!**

We will have an auction at LAVOSI on Saturday, October 28, 2017 at 2:00 pm to 6:00 pm. It is a fundraiser for the school.

There will be two types of auction. There will be a silent auction with items displayed and papers next to the item. People interested in the article will sign a paper next to the article and will put down how much they are bidding on the item. The next person will have to increase the offer if they want the same item and so on. The second type is to have an auctioneer who announces bidders who wish to bid on an item both in Spanish and Guatemalan Sign Language. This will be a good activity for our students to learn and participate in an auction.

If you have a new or unused item that you would like to donate to the school to be used in the auction, please bring them to LAVOSI and give to Brenda Aron, contact email is [aronbrenda50@gmail.com](mailto:aronbrenda50@gmail.com). Please include the purchase price. Be sure to donate a week before the day of the auction. We will keep it until the auction. We will have refreshments so bring your family and friends to this fun auction for a good cause. Auction Items like furniture, kitchen items, sleeping bags, and arts etc. Here is a few pictures of items for the auction.



### Day of the Dead and Halloween Party

On Tuesday, October 31, from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm we will have a party at LAVOSI to honor Guatemala's Day of the Dead and America's Halloween. This will also be a farewell party for the Peace Corps volunteers, Brenda and Len Aron as they return to the U.S. November 2017.

There will be fun activities, refreshments and drink. Parents are welcome to join us for this party. Parents, please RSVP by October 27 if you will come so we will have enough refreshments for all.



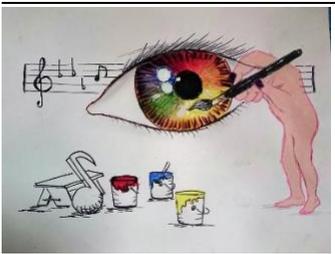
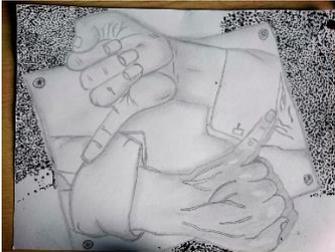
Students holding items donated by Gail Rogers



Álvaro De León with a box of donations from Jonny Archibald.

**Laboratorio de computación****Volunteer Art Teachers:**

Lavosi is very fortunate to have two excellent volunteer art teachers in Lavosi one day a week to teach art to all grades. Teachers have been very creative in teaching different art techniques for different grade levels. Students created art for Mother's Day gifts. Students also created copies of the famous "Arts of the Deaf", see photos below.

**Celebration of Mother's Day at Lavosi:**

On the 9 of May, Students and teachers planned a Mother's Day party. Students performed skits, played games, had refreshments and made gifts to give to the students' mothers. It was a precious day for all.

**Primary grade skit: The Three Little Pigs and the Big Bad Wolf****3-4th grade did a skit, "The Chicken Bus"****Students feeding their Mamas for Mother's Day fun game**

**Middle School:** It is with sad news that we have not received accreditation from the Ministry of Education for the students of middle school this year. Álvaro de León Cruz is still working hard for Basico to be accredited by June 2017 for next year. Hopefully we will succeed

for the next school year.

Meanwhile, Lavosi is in talks to establish classes with a sign language interpreter with Intecap in Antigua to offer Vocational training for middle school students.

**Volunteers at Lavosi:**

Rusty Wales of Camas, Washington, students from Basico, Jesus Lobos and Orlando set up doorbell light signalers at three Lavosi sites to make it easier for deaf students to know if someone is outside the front door. The doorbell

**Teamwork workshop with Axel Alburez, Balambe at Azotea****Servicio a la Comunidad**

LAVOSI has offered monthly workshops for Interpreters for the Deaf in Guatemala. A workshop on ethics in interpretation was held on Saturday, March 11. The workshop on Guatemalan sign language grammar was rescheduled for June 24, 2017 and will be held in ASORGUA in Guatemala City. Álvaro de León and Brenda Aron will co-present.

There will be a one-day workshop for teachers of the Deaf on Innovations in teaching and LSG grammar June 16 at the school for the deaf in Quetzaltenango.

### Spotlight on: Wendy Xar and Adriana Morales



My name is Wendy Xar. I'm a teacher's aide in Adriana's primary class.

I like to teach and help deaf children especially the youngest, I have been here in Lavosi for two months.

In this quarter we teach the alphabet, some animals, greetings, practice values and especially develop sign language for clear communication.



Sergio interviewed the new primary teacher, Adriana Morales.

What is your full name? Adriana Morales

Where did you work before? At Fundal, a school for deaf and blind children in Mixco. I taught children in the primary grades. Do you like to work in primary school in Lavosi? I like it a lot. What are your interests outside of teaching? I enjoy swimming, dancing and talking with my boyfriend.

### Donors and Sponsors

Ron Podmore  
Heidi Blankenship  
Howie Seago  
Kennedy Foundation  
Lexington School Foundation  
Nursing Heart Foundation  
Swinmurn Foundation  
Barbara Hardaway  
Barbara White  
Kent Babson  
Casasito  
Nuestros Pequeños Hermanos  
Proyecto La Esperanza  
Proyecto Ventanas Abiertas

**Thanks to all our donors and sponsors for their donations to LAVOSI**

**Our school cannot exist without your generosity**

#### Lavosi Wish List:

1. Protractors
2. Glue gun and glue tubes
3. Large bottles of Acrylic paint tubes, all colors
4. Paint for the second floor of the school
5. Liquid Silicone Bottles
6. Clocks for each classroom and learning spaces (8)
7. 1 Large toaster
8. Bean Bag Chairs 4-6 (Student Size)

9. Clay (non-drying type) in all colors
- 10 Music system with sufficient volume and lights that keep the rhythm with the music
11. Financing to add drums to the school band.
12. Sets of glue with glitter
13. Electric hand dryer for the bathroom

### Upcoming events:

- June 6: Lavosi's anniversary party at 9:00 am.
- June 17: Father's Day
- June 29: Board Meeting
- June 26-30: no school



Wendy and student, Delsy

Adriana and student, Karla



## LAVOSI LAS VOCES DEL SILENCIO: LAVOSI

Please visit our website, if you wish to support LAVOSI, please visit the page: "Who We Are"

<http://www.lavosi.org/contactus.php>

Calle Real de Jocotenango,  
Residenciales el Pedregal #3  
Jocotenango, Sacatepequez,  
Guatemala, América Central

Phone: (502) 7937-2406

or (502) 4538-7043

Email: [lavosi09@gmail.com](mailto:lavosi09@gmail.com)

For more information about our school and to donate:

<http://www.integralheartfoundation.org/lavosi.htm>

