

IN GEAR

THE NEWSLETTER OF PEDALS FOR PROGRESS

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FALL 1999
VOLUME II
ISSUE I

Spring Training in El Salvador for the "World Tour 2000"

by Eric Schenk

In preparation for my impending departure on World Tour 2000, a jet-assisted journey by bicycle to Pedals for Progress-sponsored projects across the globe, I squeezed ten days out of my schedule, packed my mountain bike along with camera gear and a duffel of lightweight clothes, and joined a small multi-national group of cyclists and environmentalists on most of a 16-day two-wheeled excursion across the Massachusetts-sized Central American nation of El Salvador. The journey, sponsored by the Salvadoran

Center for Appropriate Technology (CESTA), a PFP partner agency, tested my stamina and heat tolerance, while providing me with a first-time, first-hand opportunity to see how PFP bicycles are being used overseas, and the impact they have on poor people seeking employment and education.

El Salvador is a land of contrast. Now at peace, the country only recently emerged from 12 years of intensely-violent civil war. Blessed with spectacular geographic features, including 14 volcanos punctuating two extended mountain ranges, fertile volcanic soil, and a 200-mile Pacific

coastline, El Salvador faces a growing environmental crisis, a product in large part of the earlier political and economic conflicts. The present challenge of the country is to achieve political reconciliation, economic reconstruction, and social equity, while preserving the little that is left of the natural environment.

Fortunately, Salvadorans—judging by their reputation among other Central Americans and by the people I met over 10 days—are characterized by hard work, pragmatism, and resourcefulness. The poetically-labeled "Great March for a New Millenium Where Life Prevails" bike ride provided ample illustration of these traits. The "Great March" was designed to showcase CESTA's the sponsoring organization's many pilot programs contributing to the country's economic development and environmental rebirth.

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PfP and Rotary in Senegal!

In early 1999, PFP made its first shipment--440 bikes--to the West African coastal nation of Senegal. The recipient--the Association des Bachelieers pour L'Emploi et le Developpement (ABACED)--is a non-profit agency established in 1985 by 20 young Senegalese professionals, which manages programs in savings mobilization and credit, environmental protection, and education, particularly with disadvantaged women and youth. ABACED's new project reconditions PFP-donated bicycles, generating local employment, and provides them at low cost to urban street vendors, rural farmers producing vegetables for urban markets, and other disadvantaged microentrepreneurs. For further information contact ABACED at: asradec@syfed.refersn

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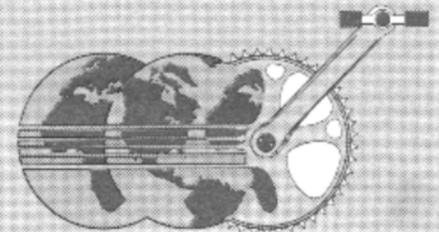
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NEW JERSEY YOUTH CORPS/AMERICORPS OF PHILLIPSBURG

Helping Pedals for Progress "Getting Things Done"

The New Jersey Youth Corps/AmeriCorps of Phillipsburg, a federal non-profit organization, is spreading its good deeds throughout Warren County and NJ. The AmeriCorps program, a domestic Peace Corps, was designed by President Clinton to provide communities across the US with positive minds and hands. Through community service, member development, and the goals of each Americorp site, we are "Getting Things Done." This year the Phillipsburg site is developing an environmental and wildlife education center; improving access to rivers and parks, securing vacant buildings and addressing the needs of civic and community based organizations.

A long time supporter, this year alone, AmeriCorps in Phillipsburg has assisted PFP in loading 2400 bikes (5 containers worth). Without the AmeriCorps volunteers, PFP/NJ could not have been nearly as successful. For more information about AmeriCorps nationally check out; www.americorps.org or www.Angelfire.com/nj2/ameriCorps/ for information about the Phillipsburg NJ site.

PFP SHIPS 25,000 BIKE!

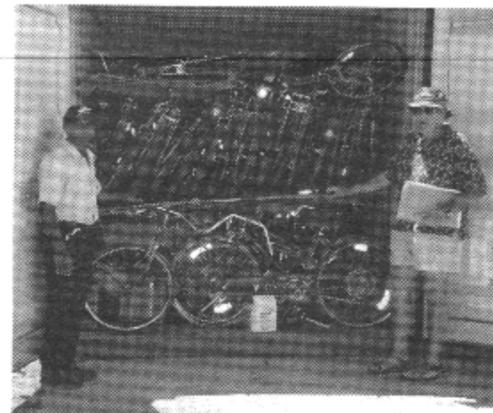
It didn't seem possible in 1991, when Dave Schweidenback and the nucleus of volunteers that became Pedals for Progress loaded their first 50 bikes into somebody else's container carrying donated items bound for Nicaragua, that a \$150,000-a-year, nationwide organization would ship 25,000 bikes before the end of the millennium. But it happened! The date: December 17, 1998. The place: Hunterdon County, New Jersey. The bike: a seat-less ten-year-old Mongoose mountain bike. The destination: a rural employment training and community development program in El Progreso, Honduras, on the Caribbean coastal plain recently inundated by Hurricane Mitch.



Bike number 25,000 being unloaded at EcoViDe

Second Container for SIPL

SIPL is a company owned by the Commonwealth Development Corporation (CDC), and sponsor of United CO-OPS. United CO-OPS, headquartered on the island of Guadalcanal, purchases foodstuffs and other consumer items in bulk and sells them at low cost through seven community stores serving 10,000 residents. SIPL/United CO-OPS is reconditioning and marketing PFP-supplied bicycles at low cost. The program, aided by the holding of a Bike Festival in June 1999, has met with much success; SIPL has requested a second PFP shipment (and as a result PFP is seeking sponsors for the Solomon Islands Program).



Bikes from PFP/Colorado arrive in Honiara

The Official Bike Lube of Pedals for Progress Since 1993

*TriFlow's unique formula
works for PFP!*

At least 27,000 of our used bicycles
were put into service world-wide
lubricated with Tri-Flow.





Bicycles and ... Sewing Machines??

What do bicycles and sewing machines have in common? Can a charity specializing in sourcing used bicycles easily get a significant number of sewing machines? These questions, and others, came up when the Monte Cristi Rotary Club in the Dominican Republic asked PFP to send sewing machines, as well as bicycles.

PFP responded positively to the Dominican request. Sewing machines, like bicycles, represent relatively simple technology capable of generating employment in low-income communities. Old sewing machines, like bicycles, exist in relative abundance in U.S. attics and other storage areas. An appeal by PFP at several New Jersey bike collections quickly yielded 17 sewing machines.

We now collect working, portable sewing machines at all PFP bike collectins.

PfP Major Active Programs 7/1/99

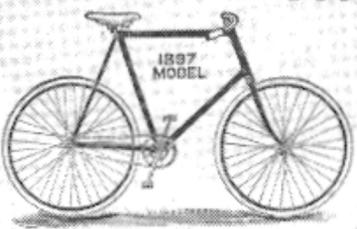
Country, City	Partner Name Type of Program	# of Bicycles Shipped (years)
Barbados, Bridgetown	Pinelands Creative Workshop Youth development/Small Enterprise	3,261 (1995-99)
Colombia, Cali	Centro de Asistencia Legal Ambiental (CELA) Bicycle Transport/Vocational Training	392 (1998)
Dominican Republic, Monti Cristi	Monte Cristi Rotary (District 4060) Transport/Small Business/Community Development	1,610 (1997-99)
El Salvador, San Salvador	Centro Salvadoreño de Tecnología Apropriada Small Business, Youth Recreation, Solid Waste Collection	2,649 (1995-99)
Ghana, Hohoe	Bicycle Youth Organization (BYO) Vocational Education, Small Business, Rural Development	369 (1998)
Honduras, San Pedro Sula	Instituto Hondureño de Educación Radial (IHER) Literacy/Small Business Development	1,385 (1997-99)
Honduras, El Progreso	Ecología, Economía, Vivienda y Desarrollo Rural Development/Appropriate Technology	1,701 (1997-99)
Madagascar, Port Dauphine	Action Sante Organization Secours (ASOS) Rural Health Care Delivery	40 (1996-98)
Mexico, Guanajuato	Desarrollo Rural de Guanajuato (DRG) Small Business Development/Rural Transportation	553 (1999)
Nicaragua, Rivas	Asociación para el Desarrollo Comunitario Community Development	3,647 (1992-99)
Nicaragua, Jinotepe	Ecotecnología (Ecotec) Community Development	1,240 (1997-99)
Nicaragua, Masaya	Masaya Sin Fronteras Community Development	2,355 (1991-98)
Senegal, Dakar	Assoc. des Bacheliers pour Emploi et le Devel. Community Development	440 (1999)
Solomon Islasnds, Honaria	Solomon Islands Plantations Limited Worker/Tradesmen Mobility	623 (1996-98)
Venezuela, Caracas	Fundación Atenea At-Risk Youth Vocational Education	411 (1998)

Other shipments between 1991 and 1998 have gone to non-profit agencies in Ecuador, Eritrea, Fiji, Haiti, Mozambique, Namibia Peru, as well as other unlisted groups in Nicaragua and Honduras.

Total Bikes Shipped through July 1, 1999: 29,437

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MILLENNIUM RIDE FOR WORLD TOUR 2000

Join Pedals for Progress and an anticipated several hundred supporters on Saturday, October 2, for a relaxing day full of fresh air and fun, cycling at your own pace along the scenic Delaware & Raritan Canal towpath of northwestern New Jersey. At the same time, support P4P and help it celebrate two milestones: our 25,000th overseas bike delivery, and the launch of the Pedals for Progress World Tour 2000 bike trek.

A menu of ride options is provided. Start and finish where you want, pack a picnic lunch and enjoy the river in full autumn blaze, or roam the charming New Jersey towns of Titusville, New Hope, Lambertville, and Stockton. We'll keep up your energy with snacks and water along the trail, but if you do tire, we'll get you back to your car. Meet your friends and Pedals for Progress volunteers for a post-ride event at the River Horse Brewery in Lambertville.

Register early and, along with the details you'll need to have a great ride, you'll get a Millennium 2000 t-shirt.

PEDALS FOR PROGRESS



Fall 1999

**Millennium Ride
October 2nd
benefits P4P and
raises support for
World Tour 2000**

Join us Saturday October 2 from 10:00am to 4:00pm for a tour on the historic Delaware and Raritan Canal Tow Path. All registered riders will receive a special Millennium Ride shirt featuring our newest graphics and Eric Schenk's WT 2000 logo.

Registration Fees

**\$25 before September 1, 1999
\$30 after September 1, 1999**

**Contact the office
to register:**

**Tel: 908-638-4811
Fax: 908-638-4860
p4padmin@mail.ptd.net**

PEDALS FOR PROGRESS



COME RIDE WITH US!

PEDALS FOR PROGRESS

MISSION STATEMENT

Vision

Pedals for Progress envisions a day when:

1. North America recycles over half of the five million used bicycles discarded each year, as well as unused parts and accessories for reuse overseas;
2. Poor people in developing countries have bicycles to get to work, obtain services and meet other needs;
3. The bicycle is an effective tool for self help in all developing countries;
4. Trade regulations enhance international commerce in bicycles and parts;
5. Policy makers in developing countries respect and support non-motorized transportation.

Mission

Our objectives are:

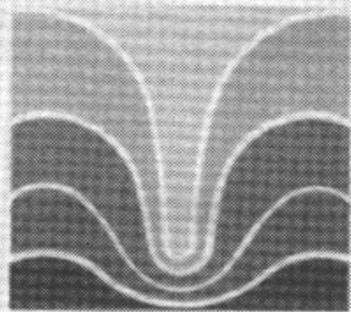
1. To enhance the productivity of low-income workers overseas where reliable, environmentally sound transportation is scarce, by supplying reconditioned bikes at low cost;
2. To promote in recipient communities the establishment of self-sustaining bicycle repair facilities, employing local people;
3. To provide leadership and innovation throughout North America for the recycling of bicycles, parts, and accessories;
4. To reduce dramatically the volume of bicycles, parts, and accessories flowing to landfills;
5. To foster environmentally sound transportation policies that encourage widespread use of bicycles worldwide;
6. To foster in the North American public an understanding of and a channel for responding to the transportation needs of the poor in developing countries.

P4P World Tour 2000

Photographer Eric Schenk has joined P4P's efforts and will be setting out on a 15,500 mile bike ride through our world-wide active programs. Eric will ride unassisted through Latin America, Africa and Oceania, carrying his gear and cameras in a trailer behind his mountain bike. The P4P/World Tour 2000's goal is to raise \$80,000 to expand our programming and to document the work we do around the globe.

See why many individual and corporate citizens as well as the New Jersey State Senate has endorsed the P4P/World Tour 2000. Check out our website: www.p4p.org for info. Also, look for recent stories and photos from the "Great March" bike tour of El Salvador as well as Eric's "Big Ride Across America" cross country ride in 1998. Contact Eric at 856-857-9289 or email him at biketrek@home.com.

First Pfp Partner in Mexico!



Desarrollo Rural de Guanajuato (DRG), a 22-year-old affiliate of the Mexican Rural Development Foundation, is Pfp's first partner in this important U.S. neighbor, the hemisphere's most populous Spanish-speaking country. In June 1999, Pfp loaded a single-container record of 553 bicycles—collected in New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Massachusetts—and shipped them to DRG, donating shipping as well as the contents.

DRG works in rural communities throughout Guanajuato, an impoverished and arid state in the central highlands northwest of Mexico City. By project's end, DRG will establish seven bicycle reconditioning and repair centers providing stable employment for bicycle mechanics and managers, while offering reliable and economical transportation to more than 1,000 low-income workers, students, health and education personnel. Guanajuato, which in the 17th century was the world's largest producer of silver and a prosperous region, has since been in economic decline.

Spring Training in El Salvador for the "World Tour 2000"

Continued from page 1

I had a chance to meet many of the people directly benefited by our bicycles. One of our cycling guides, Ricardo Ramos, has worked with CESTA for several years in differing capacities. A talented mechanic and strong rider, the 25-year-old Ricardo has risen from apprentice trainee to bike mechanic to quality control supervisor. Ricardo, joined by other CESTA mechanics, also finds time to mentor and teach bike repair skills to youths throughout the country. The money Ricardo earns at CESTA pays his tuition at the national university, where he studies computer science, and, he hopes, will enable him to gain a foothold in the professional world.

The people of El Salvador are motivated despite heavy odds, to work hard, move ahead, and retain their dignity. Throughout the journey, we repeatedly encountered machete-clad men walking to and from their cornfields, women carting water jugs, bales of firewood, and even car batteries on their heads, and children—many obviously not enrolled in school—leading cattle to graze or helping their mothers in the daily search for water, firewood, or food. Despite the dirt floors and lack of running water. Those children in school wore clean, pressed uniforms, while market women selling plastic bags of purified water alongside dusty roads wore sparkling white dresses.

However, where CESTA programs are underway, I saw hope and energy. Youth recreation, mechanic training, small business promotion, solid waste collection and recycling, environmental education, and more—all an essential part of broad-based efforts to overcome a legacy of civil war and societal polarization that diminished civil society and exacerbated environmental and economic deterioration.

The task of cleaning up and rebuilding is huge, and it will take a long time. While we can be glad that a large part of the work being done by CESTA takes place with bicycles and parts provided by Pedals for Progress, our challenge will be in assisting CESTA to expand this work to a necessary larger scale.

Get The Pfp Shirt Collection

The official "work tees" our contributing supporters and volunteers wear at the bike collections. Multi-color graphics on our natural ash-birch beefy 100% cotton shirt representing New Jersey, Washington DC, Ohio, Florida, and Massachusetts.



Send check or money order payable to:
Pedals for Progress
86 East Main St.,
High Bridge, NJ
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We have a limited supply of our 100% heavy cotton Original Blue Shirt. When these hand-drawn designs are gone, they're gone!

Get the entire Pfp Work Shirt Collection, and for a limited time we'll send you Original Blue for FREE!*

----- Order Form -----

Name _____
Address _____
City _____
Phone _____ (day) _____ (eve) _____

Please send me ____ Pfp shirts @ \$15.00 + \$3.00 P&H each.
Specify size: S,M,L,XL and specify chapter: NJ, DC, FL, MA, OH
Please send me ____ entire collection(s) @\$90 each and give me "Original Blue" for FREE *while supplies last.

Chase Manhattan Bank Sponsors Simultaneous Fall 1999 PfP Collections in Four States

by Andra Stam-Taylor

Chase Manhattan Bank is strongly committed to the communities, which it serves. As part of a comprehensive corporate philanthropy initiative, one of the ways that Chase displays this commitment is through an annual October event called "Global Days of Service (GDS)". In 1998, 13,000 Chase employees, along with their friends and family participated in 350 different projects worldwide. According to Chase Chairman Walter Shipley, "The commitment and dedication of our volunteers and their tireless energy to improve the communities in which they live and work inspires us and sets an example worth following".

I had read about Pedals for Progress, and as a Chase employee thought that a bicycle collection was an excellent tie-in with Global Days. Knowing that many GDS projects are done in conjunction with other organizations, I approached the leaders of my Church, the Church of the Holy Spirit, in Lebanon, NJ regarding the possibility of adding this collection to their long list of community service projects. The Church leaders enthusiastically approved the idea, and we decided to make this the first fall project for the Rite-13 youth group, ages 13 and 14. The Youth group was shown the video stressing the mission of the PfP and participated in the publicity by putting up posters and mailing posters to other churches. We received permission from Unity Bank in Clinton NJ to use their parking lot as the site for the collection.



On October 24th, 14 volunteers had a lot of fun with the project and collected 99 bicycles. Because of the excellent tie-in that PfP has with Chase's Global Days, an idea was sparked for the 1999 Global Days, "what if Chase had simultaneous bicycle collections in multiple locations gathering used bicycles for PfP?"

Although final plans are still being made, as of press time Chase will be having 5-7 PfP collections during Global Days in at least four different states: Delaware, Ohio, New Jersey and New York (check the PfP Website for more details). In each of the selected communities, Chase employees will organize, publicize and staff the event—not to mention donate their used bikes!

Fall '99 Bike Roundup!

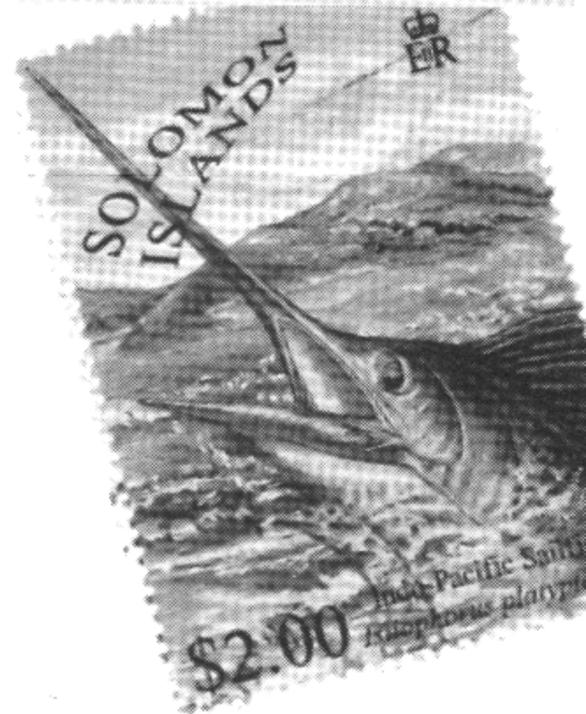
As we go to press, only a fraction of the projected 85 Fall 1999 collections are scheduled. Those confirmed include seven in cooperation with Chase Manhattan Bank (see above). For specific locations and dates of other collections in your area – mid-Atlantic region from Virginia to New York, & Ohio, please check our website (www.p4p.org) or call Eva at PfP headquarters (908-638-4811).



THANKS!

PfP Major Contributors

Air Cargo International, AmeriCorps, Chase Manhattan Foundation, Rotary International, GreenWay Leasing, Golden Rule Foundation, The Grundy Foundation, International Foundation, Johnson & Johnson Foundation, Columbia Manufacturing, New England BioLabs Foundation, Presbytery of Newton, Zebco Foundation, Public Service Gas & Electric (PSE&G), Resource Foundation, SeaLand Services, TriFlow, Seton Hall University, Records Management Inc., Systems Planning Corp and people like you.



It's Better on Bike! The CELA Bicycle Workshop-School

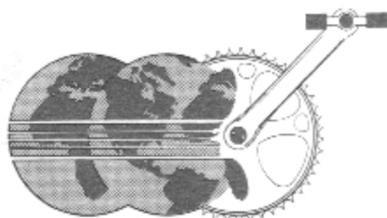
As Latin America grapples with the inter-linked challenges of poverty, urbanization, and environmental deterioration, a new generation of citizen activists is arising, within the market economies overseen by still-fragile democracies. A good example is the Centro de Asistencia Legal Ambiental (Center for Environmental Legal Aid—CELA), based in Cali, Colombia's third-largest city, which in November 1998 received a grant from Pedals for Progress, Mediterranean Shipping Company and the Friends of Colombia, of a 40-foot container of 392 used bikes, plus parts.

CELA, through the affiliate Asociación de Cicloamigos "Mi Bicicleta", has long sponsored the "It's Better on Bike" campaign. As a logical and concrete extension of this public education and advocacy program in favor of bicycle transportation, CELA established a Bicycle Workshop-School adjacent to its offices in Cali, to train youth apprentices in bicycle mechanics, repair, and assembly, and to offer bicycle sales and repair and maintenance services to the public. The sale of PfP-donated bicycles and parts generates funds to operate the training program, including salaries of the administrator/trainer and stipends for the apprentices, as well as a reserve fund to pay for subsequent PfP shipments including international freight, Customs duty and in-land transportation costs. Discounts on purchases are provided

to members of the Asociación de Cicloamigos, and preference is given to those demonstrating use of the bicycle for daily transport and as a means for generating income.

Through the summer of 1999, CELA has sold the bulk of the Pfp-donated bicycles and trained three apprentices who will shortly return to their communities to set-up their own independent businesses. CELA is engaged in discussions with other civic groups and municipalities to identify joint initiatives to build cycling infrastructure and otherwise advance the use of the bicycle as a means of transportation.

Unfortunately, Colombian customs authorities have not been as supportive of the CELA bicycle initiative as local elected officials, interpreting Colombian law to require payment by the group of upwards of \$8,000 in import duties, value-added tax, storage charges, and in-country freight from the port inland to Cali. Given the unanticipated financial burden, CELA is uncertain as In-Gear goes to press whether it will be able to pay future international shipping charges and continue receiving support from Pedals for Progress. For Pfp and its partners to succeed, governments must do their part, and remove those trade restrictions which often protect monopoly importers and are biased against the poor.



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