



Ojo de Agua

THE NEWSLETTER OF AGUA PARA LA VIDA

NUMBER 3

FEBRUARY 2012

ABOUT APLV

For 25 years Agua Para La Vida ("Water for Life" in English) has been developing drinking water and sanitation projects in rural communities of Nicaragua.

Every Project is one part drinking water, one part sanitation, one part Elath and hygiene, and one part watershed reforestation.

APLV also has a technical school (the ETAP) that prepares young people to be water technicians in the field of potable water and rural sanitation.

2012 PROJECTS

Walana El Achioté
(Río Blanco)

La Chocolata
(San Ramón)

Mongallo
(Siuna)

Two Trainings Thanks To...

Designing with EPANET:

For years APLV has been using its own design program (Neatwork) for designing the water distribution system of our projects, but there is a program that's used extensively in Nicaragua by other organizations, called Epanet.

Felipe González, who worked in ENACAL and ANA, and a member of the "Amigos de APLV", offered to come to Río Blanco and demonstrate the Epanet to the EtAP school's students.

He came February 9-10 and demonstrated Epanet to the students and two of the APLV water technicians.

Although Neatwork is more perfectly adapted to APLV's work, a familiarity with Epanet should help the students in other future employment. **Thank you Felipe González!**



Felipe impartiendo el curso sobre EPANET

...the Amigos de Agua Para La Vida

Well-drilling Machine:

In November, 2010, the Ana Campana Foundation donated to the ETAP school (Potable Water Technical School) a well-drilling machine. This is an LS-100, a small model that can drill six-inch wells up to 30 meters deep.

APLV needed some help with this because nobody knew how to use the equipment. Martha Espinoza recommended Arvin Carrion. On February 17-18, Arvin demonstrated well-drilling with the students and APLV technicians. Unfortunately we hit a rock 4 meters down that stopped the machine in its tracks. But the experience was enough to understand how to use the machine.

Thank you Arvin Carrion!



Arvin demonstrating the well-drilling machine

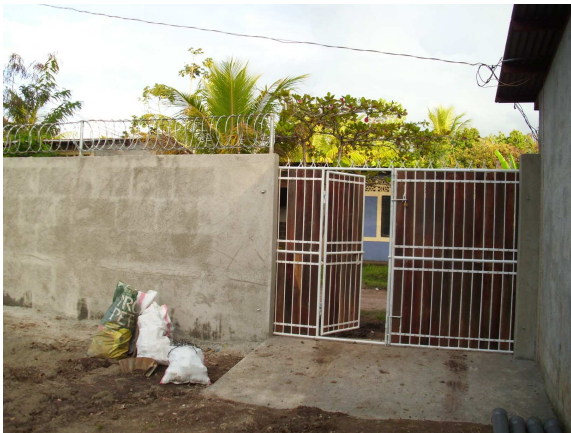
ETAP: one class is finishing... another getting ready

The students of the 5th class of the ETAP will finish their classroom studies March 30, 2012, and will begin four months of internship on field projects.

Right now they are preparing their graduation project: Each student has to do a complete design of a real project and defend it in front of the ETAP professors and the APLV Technical Director. This personal project demonstrates their design ability right before they go out in the field to actually work on a real water and sanitation project.

The ETAP has opened applications for the incoming class and we have already received more than 80 scholarship applications. In the coming months the admission and examination processes will proceed, along with the individual interviews which will be held to select the 8 students for the incoming class.

ETAP school built a new fence



The ETAP building had a wire fence what was all broken-down. It was time to improve the school's security.



With Money saved in 2010 and 2011, it was possible to construct a real fence, with a wall, wire mesh and barbed wire.

The masons of APLV did the work..

Thank you!

The Walana El Achiote Project started on February 13, 2012. This Project will be constructed by the community, a dispersed rural community of 48 familias (148 individuals). It's expected to be completed near the end of September. The lead technician is Pablo Gómez and the mason is Ramón Zamora.



Meeting of the Amig@s de APLV

On September 10, 2011, a meeting of the Amigos of APLV was held. Many of the “friends of APLV” in Nicaragua came to our office in Managua.

This allowed them to meet the staff members of APLV who travelled from Rio Blanco specially for the occasion.

We presented the history and misión of Agua Para La Vida and had a question and answer period. We were really happy with the entire event.



An article in the *Nuevo Diario*

Ms Doraldina Zeledon, a friend of APLV, promised us that she was going to write an article for the national newspaper *Nuevo Diario*.

On September 27, 2011, she came to visit the community of El Carmen and visited the office and the ETAP school in Rio Blanco.

And on November 18 the *Nuevo Diario* ran a half-page article about APLV.

Our partners

Rural Water Ventures approved funding for the **Walana El Achiote** Project in an amount of US\$55,000. **Peer Water Exchange** approved funding for latrines in the **Mongallo community** (the water portion of the Project was done in 2010) in the amount of US\$35,300.



Visits

From January 3-12 we had a visit from Randy Fay and Nancy Lewis. Randy and Nancy are part of the US Board of Directors and maintain apl.org. They visited four communities to interview community members and write about the projects for the website. They also took advantage of the time to train staff in Rio Blanco on use of the website and other topics.

Thanks, Randy and Nancy, for what you're doing for APLV.



Agenda

March 12-17: Visit of Thierry Sciari from the French foundation **Res Pública**.

March 19-23: Visit of Bill Mc Queeney and Tom Cunningham from the foundation **Rural Water Ventures**.

March 23: Meeting of the General Assembly of APLV Nicaragua.

March 30: Graduation for the ETAP students..



