



Newsletter

The Association of Former Staff Members

VOL XX, NO. 1

MAY 2009

Special Edition

Reunion in Cartagena, Colombia



HOTEL CARIBE Cartagena, Colombia Site of 2008 AFSM Reunion

C O N T E N T S

Message from the President	2	Pension Adjustments	13
Meeting in Cartagena.....	2	Report on the AFSM Nineteenth General Meeting	13
A Chiva Bus Ride.....	4	Remembering Our Colleagues	
Rosario Islands Excursion.....	5	Carlos Serrano.....	14
Reunion in Cartagena, Colombia, 2008.....	7	<i>In Memoriam</i>	15
Information on Health Insurance for Former Staff Members Residing in the USA....	13	The Back Page.....	16

Message from the President



It has been a very active time for the Association of Former PAHO/WHO Staff Members. During the past year we held a notably successful reunion in Cartagena, Colombia,

and this issue of the Newsletter is primarily devoted to that event. Those fortunate enough to participate will enjoy reading about the activities and looking at photographs of friends and colleagues. Those unable to attend will learn what they have missed and, hopefully, will decide to join us at our next gathering. Everyone will be notified once the site for our next reunion is chosen.

Improving Staff Health Insurance and maintaining Pension benefits remain our primary goals. Strengthening ties with the Administration and with other international organizations are important means by which to protect and defend the interests of all former staff whether they be AFSM members or not.

The next Newsletter will report on the global economic crisis and how it is affecting the United Nations Pension. It will also report on how United States-based PAHO employees, past and present, are dealing with Aetna's management of our WHO/PAHO health insurance coverage. And, most importantly, it will discuss this past Fall meeting in Geneva that has resulted in WHO/PAHO changes in our health benefits.

Space will also be devoted to our increasing cooperation and ties with other international organizations such as AFICS, World Bank, IMF, IDB, OAS, and AFSM-Geneva.

We on the AFSM Board send you our best and assure you that we are working hard to protect your interests and well-being.

Nancy Berinstein
President

Meeting In CARTAGENA

by Elsa Gómez Gómez

Cartagena, the strikingly beautiful 16th century walled city declared a World Heritage site by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), was host to the Third International Meeting of the Association of Former PAHO/WHO Staff Members (AFSM), held 15-19 September 2008. Speaking for myself, and I would venture to say for the other 56 participants, it was an absolutely memorable event. And I say "memorable," not simply because of the interest taken in the various topics presented and the event's impeccable level of organization, but also for the immense satisfaction of catching up with old friends, the warm reception we received from our hosts, and Cartagena's incredible beauty.

As stated in the meeting's report, which was distributed in January, the presentations and discussions addressed our priority concerns about pension issues, health insurance, the Credit Union, and involvement in the work of our PAHO/WHO. The meeting's conclusions and recommendations emphasized first and foremost the strengthening of AFSM by attracting new members; second, the importance of working with our counterparts in the United Nations system; third, the ethical imperative to support, from our different spheres, our ongoing commitment to the principles of equity, universal access, and health promotion; and finally, the urgency of taking steps to help improve communication and interaction among former PAHO staff members and with the Organization, both at Headquarters and in the countries. Particular emphasis was placed on the encouragement and strengthening of national AFSM chapters, following the example set by the host of our meeting—the Colombian chapter.

With respect to fraternity (and sorority), the words of Helena Restrepo, referring to the rationale for starting up the Colombian chapter she heads, echo the sentiments that led me to join AFSM and that overwhelmed me in Cartagena. Helena underscored the

cement that holds our Association together: the strengthening (and enjoyment) of the friendship and solidarity that unite us and our active extension of that solidarity to future retirees and the extensive community to which we belong. The academic rigor and ample documentation Helena used to make her points lent beauty, simplicity, and emotional resonance to her ideas.

The pleasure of renewing old friendships was magnified by the city's magic. Although I had visited Cartagena before—mostly for its beaches—this time I was able to enjoy the charms of *el Centro*—the old walled city—up close, and fell hopelessly in love with it: looking out over the ocean from the seawall at nightfall; the birds-eye view from La Popa monastery; the narrow cobbled streets framed with balconies dripping their bougainvillea; glimpses of magnificent colonial patios from the sidewalk; old convents aesthetically converted into luxury hotels; plazas packed with musicians, artists, and people selling fruit of every imaginable color; the impressive Fort of San Felipe and the tortuous Palace of the Inquisition steeped in the history of a bygone era; the modern fusion restaurants; the omnipresent music; and the bewitching nocturnal lighting... Fine food, ocean breezes, music, and the celebration of friendship came together in the premier event of the meeting—the dinner hosted by the PAHO/WHO Credit Union at the *Club de Pesca*.



Old Town Cartagena

Mere words are incapable of expressing the magic of that evening or the precious memories that became forever fixed in my mind.

This was the first international meeting I attended as a retiree, and it was a truly wonderful experience. I would like to congratulate the organizers, especially Germán Mora and Nancy Berinstein, for such a successful meeting. I would like to thank Julio and Omaira Burbano for their gracious hospitality, and, on behalf of AFSM, I would like to thank the PAHO/WHO Credit Union for its excellent service and that unforgettable supper by the sea. ■



Friends and colleagues at the AFSM Third International Reunion

A CHIVA BUS RIDE

by Amalia Grueso de Salazar Bucheli

Attending the meetings of PAHO retirees was a new experience for me. It was the first time I had attended, and I did so with great affection, because of the institution to which I was so intimately linked and also because it was held in one of the most beautiful cities in Colombia, the fabled Cartagena.

I first learned about PAHO during one of the trips of Dr. Abraham Horwitz to Colombia and later, when my husband joined the Organization. The wealth of memories and experiences that flooded me by the end of the welcoming session of the Third International Meeting of Former Staff Members, where camaraderie and happiness reigned at seeing such good friends again, were so beautiful and gratifying that it occurred to me that we should prolong the sense of fellowship that we experienced at the meeting.

There's nothing better than continuing that camaraderie to the music of the cumbia (a common sound in Cartagena), salsa, and folk songs and continuing the festivities by hiring one of the local tour guides to accompany us that evening on a traditional Chiva open sided bus ride through the walled city.

I could see how my comrades were carried away by the music of the Papayera who accompanied us on the bus. They sang their songs throughout the tour of the narrow 16th Century streets to the rhythm of the

maracas and washboard. That's how we stopped at the different tourist spots around the city, such as El Laguito, Boca Grande, El Centro, Castillo Grande, Manga, and Pie de la Popa. In the old city, the tour guide stopped at the historical site of Las Bóvedas. The group spontaneously danced to the music under the stars and thoroughly enjoyed our surroundings. It was spectacular to see the Plaza de San Pedro Claver, San Felipe Castle, the Plaza de Santo Domingo, and the Cerro de la Popa on this tour, which left us with happy memories and the desire to return some day.

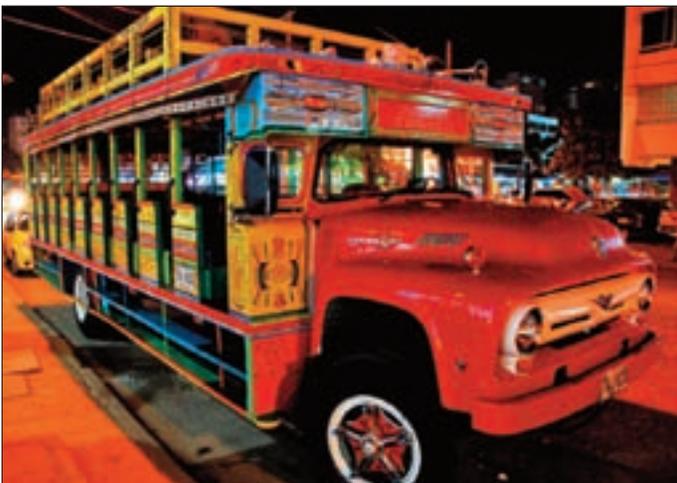
All of these impressions, together with the air that caressed our bodies during the tour while we gazed on the beauty of the colonial streets, delighted in the beat of tropical dances, and kept going with the refreshing Tres Esquinas Rum, lifted our spirits and left us with the peace of mind to face another day.

How important these meetings are! How beautiful it is for old friends to share their experiences, and how exciting it was for all of us retirees to witness the enthusiasm of Jaime Ayalde, Nancy Berinstein, Helena Restrepo and Germán Mora, among others, on the tour. There were several who could dance in one of the night spots where a musical combo was livening up the evening.

I would like to congratulate the organizers for continuing this group and making each and every one of us who have passed through PAHO feel a sense of commitment to the Organization and to believe that, in retirement, they can continue to be useful to the countries, to their people, to their plot of land, and that their experiences can yield real practices that may be of use to future generations.

I could not end without mentioning Julio Burbano and Omayra, his wife, who were extraordinary hosts, and, as we met them in Washington dancing to the beat of the cumbias, we saw them dancing not to the music but to the needs of all the participants.

We hope that this kind of event is repeated in the future and congratulate everyone who made this meeting possible. ■



A Traditional Chiva Bus

————— *Washington, 24 February 2009*



Secluded beaches - Rosario Islands

ROSARIO ISLANDS EXCURSION

by **Silvia B. Hartman de Peter**

I must confess that one of my main reasons for attending the Third International AFSM Meeting was my desire to see the walls of Cartagena from the sea—walls I had imagined so many times when reading books about pirates—and to visit the famous Rosario Islands.

As it turns out, several other attendees also shared this desire, so the day after the work of the Meeting had ended, we set out on this adventure.

We left the hotel very early, foregoing breakfast for the most part, and arrived shortly before 8:00 at a pier near the great container port of Cartagena. There were many modern yachts of various sizes and lots of people waiting around, but nobody to ask which boat was ours. Finally, after some moments of uncertainty, a kind young lady showed us to our boat, which was the smallest of them all, but equipped with a tarp to protect us from the sun, regulation blue lifejackets, and matching towels for us to dry off should we get wet from the splashing sea.

Cameras in hand, the 30 or so of us passengers (11 AFSM attendees and the rest from other parts of the world) began our adventure, each with his or her own expectations for the excursion: navigating the route of the buccaneers, snorkeling, exploring the tropical aquarium, sunbathing on the white sands, eating lobster, or discovering just what else the islands have to offer.

Immediately after casting off, we began to take in some impressive sights: large-billed pelicans, seagulls, and other marine birds fluttered around the boats or posed atop them; enormous vessels of war and tourism, and even a ship that looked like the pirate ships of yore plowed through Cartagena Bay; while the tall buildings of the modern city and the steeple towers of the colonial churches slowly faded from view.

The boat made a stop at the passenger control post and then took off again, navigating through the waves at high speed until the tall buildings in the new

part of the city gradually became mere specks on the horizon. We observed the lighthouses that for centuries had marked the boundaries of Cartagena Bay; the nearby islands with stately houses that had seen better days; modern summer resort homes; small fishing villages with their rustic thatched huts or *bohíos* and canoes; old forts that had once protected Spanish ships from attacking pirates; and small private cays with just barely enough room for a small beach house and pier. As we traveled, the water began to change from deep blue to light turquoise—absolutely beautiful!

At last we reached our destination, the Hotel San Pedro de Majagual, on Isla Grande, the largest island in the Nuestra Señora del Rosario archipelago. A cheerful welcoming committee was on the pier to meet us, including a host of anxious young people eager to be our guides and sell us their local wares. The folks there described the amenities of the hotel complex: two beaches; an aquarium with a marine mammal show; a diving school; thatched beach huts; woven hammocks; mountain bikes; canoes; eco-walking trails; and bars and restaurants nestled under leafy rubber trees with thick branches and enormous root systems.

Nancy and I, accompanied by our husbands, led the way down the path that stretches from the Hotel San Pedro to the wharf of the Cocoliso Resort. Along the way we saw enormous wasps' nests suspended from large trees with liana vines like you see in the Tarzan movies, toucans, and even "lion ants" (genus *Dorymyrmex*)—insects that burrow in the sand awaiting a meal of passing ants. Luckily, nobody was bitten.

Our two local guides, both of whom were very familiar with the ecosystem and local culture, each in a canoe with paddle in hand, invited us aboard and began paddling through narrow channels bordered by enormous mangrove trees; the aerial roots of these curious plants often formed roof-like structures on which white herons perched. We had to duck several times to avoid hitting our heads!

Finally, we arrived at the Laguna Encantada ("Enchanted Lagoon"), a large, green, quiet expanse of mirror-like water. The only sounds we could hear were the fluttering of the birds and the whisk of the paddles moving through the water; at any minute we were expecting to come upon a fairy or a princess! We learned that some duck species fly in each season from as far away as Canada.

As we left the lagoon behind, the canoes navigated along the seacoast, replete with cement

foundations that had been lifted by the strength of mangrove roots—the ruins of modern structures since abandoned. Shortly afterwards, we could make out some *bohíos*, beach houses, and hotels with suggestive names such as "Islamor," "Cocoloco," and "Paraíso," which beckoned to us as refuges and resting places from the hustle-bustle of city life. There were large traps to catch *pancoras* (a type of crayfish), *centollas* (horseshoe crabs) and other shellfish, which reminded us that we were hungry.

We got out of the canoes and onto a wobbly pier at a small beach surrounded by aquatic flowers and began walking among the tall trees of the dry forest that provided us with ample shade. We continued along the aptly named Laguna de Silencio ("Lake of Silence") and reached the downtown area of Isla Grande, a town of modest, mostly wooden, but well maintained, houses adorned with flowers and tropical plants. We arrived at a large plaza where we saw the school and businesses that support the local population. The town was strikingly similar to the small urban centers of many countries of Central America and the Caribbean. Several children passed us on the dirt roads carrying their school bags.

A poster of the Community Council of Afrodescendants welcomed us. Nearby, there was a decorative wall made of old glass bottles, reflecting the ecological conscience and creativity of the inhabitants, as well as a local artisans' kiosk, where we could not resist the temptation to buy some bags and wallets—which are quite the rage in New York—made from shiny paper cartons and braided with great skill. A beautiful young woman efficiently tended the kiosk, making sure that the artisans did not lower their prices in the hopes of selling more merchandise.

We wended through stands of palm trees, goat pastures, grasslands covered with poppies, and passed through a seemingly infinite tunnel of trees that led us back to the Laguna Encantada where we began our adventure.

We would have liked to stay on the island much longer, but the boat that had brought us here through the waves from Cartagena had arrived with an almost English punctuality (perhaps the legacy of the pirates?).

We hope to return some day. ■

————— Buenos Aires, February 2009

Reunion *Cartagena, Colombia*

September, 2008



(back row, left to right) John Molchan, Jaime Vargas, Jose Carlos Campagnaro, (front row, left to right) LuzMaria Esparza, Elsa Gómez Gómez, Gladys Bolman Mochan, Mercedes Vargas, Polymnia Campagnaro, Hortensia Saginor



2008 AFSM Board of Directors planning the reunion: (left to right) Hortensia Saginor, Gabriel Schmunis, Jaime Ayalde, Nancy Berinstein, Mario Boyer, LuzMaria Esparza, Enrique Fefer



Cesar Hermida



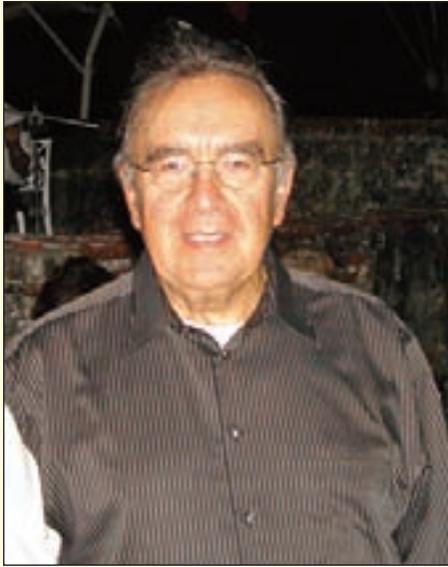
Silvia Hartman and Erick Peter



(back row) Omayra Burbano, Julio Burbano Diago, (left to right) Maricel Manfredi, Gloria Briceno, Lola Ortiz, Martha Ligia Fajardo, Mercedes Ayalde, Amalia Salazar, Luz Maria Giraldo



(back row) Jose Carlos Campagnaro, (left to right) Mercedes Vargas, Eglá Blouin, Flora Early, Nancy Berinstein, Miguel Boluda, LuzMaria Esparza



German Mora



Fortunato Vargas Tentori and Luz Rivera Giraldo



(left to right) Virgilio Escutia, Julio Burbano, Juan Jose Arrango (UNDP), Italo Barragan



(Left to right) Amy Rosenthal, German Mora, Nancy Berinstein, Herbert Rosenthal, Erick Peter



(left to right) Martha Fajardo, Gustavo Mora, Helena Restrepo, Elsa Gómez Gómez



(back row, left to right) Rafael Miranda Franco, Miguel Boluda, (front row, left to right) Luz Maria Barillas, Teresa Perilla



Mercedes and Jaime Ayalde



(left to right) Mercedes Vargas, Egla Blouin, Flora Early

Information on Health Insurance for Former Staff Members Residing in the USA

by Mario Boyer

On 1 December 2007 the Pan American Health Organization contracted with Aetna Health Benefits (AGB) for the processing of health insurance claims for medical and dental services rendered in the United States.

During the first few months of the transition period, members registered numerous complaints about errors in reimbursement and discrepancies in the administration of their claims.

During 2008 AFSM and the Financial Resources Management (FMR) Health Insurance Area (SHI) of PAHO held various meetings with representatives of Aetna in order to inform them of the difficulties that had presented themselves during this transition period, as well as to determine the steps Aetna would take to rectify the situation.

The meetings resulted in an agreement that Aetna would continue to visit PAHO for regularly scheduled meetings and that representatives from AFMS would participate along with FMR/SHI in order to monitor the administration of the claims and to ensure compliance with WHO Staff Health Insurance rules.

If AFSM claimants are required to telephone Aetna for the clarification of a problem, it is important that they always obtain the name of the Aetna individual speaking with them. If the issue is not satisfactorily resolved, the AFSM claimant should contact:

Mrs. Norma Larraga or Mrs. Giovanna Martinez at PAHO Health Insurance. Their telephone and email addresses can be found in the new AFSM Directory. ■

Pension Adjustments

by Jean Surgi

Your first pension for 2009 was somewhat smaller than the last one you received in 2008, and your second pension check was slightly smaller than the first. Here are the reasons for these two reductions:

1. Last April you received a cost-of-living increase in your pension, but the cost of your WHO health

insurance, which is a percentage of your pension, was not changed at that time. In January your insurance premium was adjusted for the 2009 year to reflect the April pension increase. This resulted in a larger insurance deduction from your pension total.

2. “Bearing in mind the need to ensure the long-term sustainability of the SHI Fund, the Joint Meeting of the SHI (held 6-10 October 2008) agreed to recommend an increase in the rates of SHI contributions and lump sums by 10% in 2009, 2% in 2010, and 2% in 2011, which the Director-General approved.”* As a result of this decision, the rate for retired staff, effective 1 March 2009, was increased from 1.5% to 1.65%, and this increase in the cost of your insurance resulted in a smaller pension amount. ■

*Quoted from a WHO Information Note

Report on the AFSM Nineteenth General Meeting

by Enrique Fefer

Familiar voices were heard at PAHO Headquarters on Thursday, 4 December 2008 as former staff, arriving for AFSM’s annual meeting, exchanged greetings and assured colleagues that “you haven’t changed since the last encounter.” Also attending were representatives from the Administration and sister organizations (International Monetary Fund, World Bank, Organization of American States, and AFICS). Gloria Khokhar, elected Chairperson by acclamation, presided over a timely agenda focused on issues relevant to retirees’ concerns over the status of their health insurance and pension benefits.

In her Report of the President, Nancy Berinstein reported significant gains in relations with the Administration, international organizations and country retirees. She detailed the support received from the Administration and the presence of AFSM in PAHO committees and meetings covering issues critical to retirees. She highlighted the formation of a Colombian chapter and successful reunion in Cartagena, as well as the difficulties in communication with retirees due to incomplete lists of addresses.

Dr. Luz Marina Barillas, representing PAHO Director Mirta Roses, acknowledged the valuable experience and institutional memory of the retirees and congratulated AFSM for its enthusiasm and positive

relationship with the Organization, She encouraged members to check PAHO's website for information on the broad range of activities underway.

Elections for four vacancies on the Board of Directors were held in accordance with the By-Laws. Nancy and Hortensia agreed to serve for another term; Carol Collado and Janice Barahona were nominated to replace Luzmaria Esparza and to complete the remaining year of Jorge Litvak's term. As there were no other candidates, all were elected by acclamation. (The Back Page of this Newsletter lists the members of the new Board and their Committee assignments.)

Administration officials provided updates on the health insurance program and the UN Pension Fund. In response to staff and retirees' concerns, Aetna has improved its service, recognizing that initially it did not fully grasp the complexity of the PAHO/WHO insurance program. Premiums will be raised for 2009 since expenses increased markedly in 2007, in part due to a large number of cases with costs of over \$50,000. To the relief of all present, the financial position of the pension fund is sound as was documented by the numbers and charts in a Power Point presentation. A cost of living increase is expected for 2009.

Ms. Patricia Ilijic reported that the Credit Union remains well capitalized and was not involved in sub-prime lending. The CU now offers insurance services as well as gift cards. Nancy, on behalf of AFSM, congratulated the CU management and staff and presented them with a plaque in recognition of their work and support to AFSM.

The participants were treated to a slide show of pictures of the Cartagena Reunion taken by Jose Carlos Campagnaro and Silvia Hartman - visual confirmation of the camaraderie that prevailed during the successful event. Nancy provided a summary of the lively social events that complemented the working sessions.

In memoriam: The assembly stood in respectful silence as the names of colleagues who passed away during the year or were only reported in 2008.

The representatives from the retiree associations of the IMF, WB and OAS found the meeting most useful since similar issues exist in their respective organizations.

Dr. Mirta Roses, PAHO Director, unable to attend the formal session, joined the group at its luncheon on the Tenth Floor. She encouraged AFSM to reinforce the spirit and values of the Organization to continue its collaboration with other international bodies. Many lingered after lunch to enjoy the companionship of their colleagues a while longer and to meet again, hopefully before the next Annual Meeting. ■

Remembering Our Colleagues

by Helena Restrepo and Jaime Ayalde

Carlos Serrano



1931-2008

We are filled with sadness at the loss of our colleague "Carlitos," as those of us who were his friends used to call him, and we miss him, first due to his long absence because of his illness, and now with his final passing. Looking back, Carlos Serrano was a truly unforgettable friend.

Carlos Vicente Serrano Remolina was a pioneer in public health, specializing in the health issues of Latin American and Caribbean youth, and his efforts in this regard have borne fruit throughout the Region. When Carlos began working in the field of adolescent health, this specialty was largely underdeveloped, perhaps because these young people are no longer children, yet not quite adults. Nevertheless, the youth of the Region had a champion in Carlos Serrano, whose tireless research and enthusiasm helped develop the specialty.

From an academic standpoint, Carlos was especially well prepared to tackle the challenges facing the Region's youth, as can be seen in his academic career.

1949-1954. Doctor of Medicine,
Universidad Nacional de Colombia

1956-1960. Graduate studies, Tulane University

1960-1962. Clinical residency in Pediatrics,
University of North Carolina

1962. PhD in Biochemistry,
University of North Carolina

Carlos was a brilliant pediatrician. After finishing medical school and his post-graduate studies in pedi-

atrics, he arrived at the new Medical School at the *Universidad del Valle* in Cali, Colombia, where he earned a reputation as one of the university's finest educators.

On 6 September 1966, Carlos began his career at the Pan American Health Organization. He was first assigned to the northeastern Brazilian city of Recife and later to Rio de Janeiro, which was the headquarters for PAHO Area V, headed at the time by the distinguished Colombian Public Health specialist Dr. Santiago Renjifo. When Carlos began his career, Rio de Janeiro was the capital of Brazil. Carlos had a 26-year career with the Organization, working in Brazil, Uruguay, and Washington, D.C.

At PAHO, Carlos was the Associate Principal Investigator for the Inter-American Study on Childhood Mortality (June 1968-1974), and worked with Dr. Ruth R. Puffer, the study's Principal Investigator. Their collaboration resulted in an expansive bibliography. Dr. Puffer, up to the time of her death at a very advanced age, was a friend, mentor, and admirer of Carlos.

During his tenure at PAHO, Carlos pioneered new fields of study, including the health of adolescents and young adults. Carlos was a mentor for many young physicians and nurses. He served as chief of the Child Development Program headquartered in Brazil, which worked closely with other countries of the Americas; he also served as coordinator of the Adolescent Health Program of the *National Initiatives on Comprehensive Adolescent Health*, financed by the Kellogg Foundation.

Carlos was his own person and a man of few words—some would say enigmatic—but he had a great warmth and fondness for his friends and colleagues, as was evident in the PAHO Working Group on Reproductive Health.

In the last years of his professional career, he returned to Cali where his teaching career had begun, and began working alongside a group of professionals at the *Universidad del Valle* in a project known as Semilla which provided technical assistance on the development of mother and child health care for the departmental health secretariats and the city of Cali. After that, Carlos joined family members in Brazil and his Cali colleagues lost touch with him.

We shall treasure the memory of Carlitos Serrano: an upstanding, decent, and loyal man in the eyes of all of us in the Organization who had the opportunity to become his friend and colleague. We offer our condolences to his family and may he rest in peace. ■

In Memoriam

DEATHS REPORTED IN 2008 AND 2009*

Helena Malagon	7 January 2008
Manickravasagar Sathianathan	5 May 2008
Carlos Serrano	22 April 2008
Donald Myers	23 April 2008
Nene Adoremos	23 May 2008
Jaime Mantilla	29 May 2008
Federico Varela	10 June 2008
Guzman Garcia Martin	2 July 2008
Severino R. Da Silva	25 July 2008
Guillermo Arroyave	18 August 2008
Ricardo L. Schwarca	19 November 2008
Miguel A. Guzman-Foresti	1 December 2008
Juan Carlos Veronelli	15 December 2008
Antonio Mena	20 December 2008
Alberto Neves	5 January 2009*
Daniel Yoli	26 January 2009*
Carlos Alfaro	9 February 2009*
Jose Norberto Dachs	9 March 2009*
Dinorah Lopez-Molina	6 de abril de 2009*

The Back Page

The AFSM Board and committee coordinators would like to know about the needs of its members. We might not be able to solve all your problems but we have resources that could be utilized. Also, we encourage your contributions to the Newsletter, either in the form of articles for publication or in comments about its contents.

To reach us, write to:

AFSM c/o PAHO
525 23rd St NW
Washington DC 20037-2895

Contact Information

Please refer to your 2009 AFSM Directory and be certain that all your personal contact information is correct. We also encourage you to provide us with your email address so that important and pertinent information can be electronically mailed to you. Any changes or additions to your address should be sent to Hortensia Saginor (AFSM) by routine mail to PAHO Headquarters in Washington DC or, preferably, by email to hortensiasagi@gmail.com



Officers

Nancy Berinstein ('11)
President
(301) 229-3162
nancy.berinstein@verizon.net

Janice A. Barahona ('09)
Vice President
(202) 362-3159
jan@barahona.com

Enrique Fefer ('10)
Secretary
(301) 340-6799
feferenr@yahoo.com

Amalia Castro Ponce ('10)
Treasurer
(202) 965-5247
pnceama@gmail.com

Members-at-large

Mario Boyer ('09)
(301) 229-9547
meboyer1966@comcast.com

Carol B. Collado ('11)
(301) 384-1212
collado@verizon.net

Elsa Gómez Gómez ('10)
(301) 656-1898
gomezels@gmail.com

Hortensia Saginor ('11)
(301) 654-7482
hortensiasagi@gmail.com
or: isaginor@aol.com

Gabriel Schmunis ('09)
(202) 966-7662
gabriel.schmunis@gmail.com

Honorary Members

Jaime Ayalde
(301) 983-0569
jayalde@aol.com

Hans Bruch
(301) 530-5450
hbruch@erols.com

Jean Surgi
(301) 762-7490
jayess1@verizon.net

Note: The term of each member of the BOD expires in December of the year in parentheses.

Membership and Sociocultural Activities

Coordinator - Hortensia Saginor
Member - Amalia Castro Ponce

Pension and Health Insurance Committee

Coordinator - Mario Boyer
Members - Jerry Hanson,
Renate Plaut, Elsa Gómez,
Carol Collado

Outreach

Coordinator - Carol Collado

Liaison with International Organizations

Coordinator - Nancy Berinstein
Members - Janice Barahona,
Elsa Gómez

Editorial Committee

Coordinator - Nancy Berinstein, a.i.
Members - Jaime Ayalde,
Mario Boyer, Enrique Fefer,
Jean Surgi

Auditor

Fredy Burgos