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September
2015

the small world foundation

EVERYONE WELL DONE!

July and August were very active months for the Small World Foundation. At the beginning of July, we had the presentation by José Gregorio Vásquez and Heike van Gils at 't Ghil in Baarle-Nassau. After that, they represented San Martin de Amacayacu and the Small World Foundation at the 16e Festival Culturalité in the French town of Premian (Languedoc-Roussillon, 17-19 juli,

1 <http://www.fildesarts.com/17-18-et-19-juillet-2015/>). The two days became a great experience with the superhandy promotion flyers in French (thanks, Lambert!). The festival theme was: "Living in a cultivated landscape". Different event organisers visited San Martin in the past and were very impressed by all activities at the time. We considered the invitation an extremely nice gesture and a good excuse to see each other again! We raised 493 euro and acquired a few new international newsletter readers!

2 On the 8th of August, it was once again time for the Farmer's Day in Alphen, organised by the Tractor Pulling Foundation (www.stta.nl). For years now, the the Small World Foundation has been in charge of keeping the toilet facilities clean here. This year, Heike van Gils could not participate herself, but the amazing volunteers were awesome also without her! It became a happy and sunny day with lots of activity and beer! That was good for the till: the result was €1520,-! STTA and volunteers: Thanks a lot! By the way, the Small World Foundation won't be present this year at the Tractor Pulling event in Alphen. Sorry, guys..

In July José Gregorio Vásquez visited milk farm "De Buuck" of the Bruurs family in Baarle-Nassau. This visit was not only special because of the impressiveness of the farm alone. It was extra special for José to know that this family would be supporting so actively all those initiatives in his indigenous community in the Colombian Amazon. On August 16th, "De Buuck" was the location for the annual Harvest Celebrations of Zuidelijke Land- en Tuinbouworganisatie (ZLTO). This year's theme was "Soil". This really connected well with San Martin's goal to get official recognition of their ancestral lands as an indigenous reserve. Tonny van Gils represented the Small World Foundation at the Harvest Celebrations and held a short presentation. The occasion collected €627,50! ZLTO, family Bruurs and everyone present: Thanks a lot!

3 During the months of June and July this year, Micheline and Dries from the Belgian city of Gent really made a great effort for San Martin's kindergarden by selling the local delicacy known as "noses" to friends and family. Eventually, they traveled to the community to visit the little kids. These just had the chance to show the best of themselves during the parade on the occasion of Colombia's Independence Day on August 7th. In total, €1280,- was raised and this will be used to give the kindergarden electricity, more cupboards and a good paint job. Dries en Micheline: Thanks a lot!

4 From the Netherlands a whole bag of toothpaste arrived for clean kids teeth in the Tuírupü kindergarden!

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ENOUGH WORK IN SAN MARTIN

Over the last few months, San Martin's environmental guard has not been idle. Together with the Amacayacu National Nature Park they even confiscated some illegally cut timber! The timber is currently held at the National Park head quarters, awaiting the corresponding legal procedure. Most probably, the timber will be used for someone's home in the community. Hopefully, the person responsible for the illegal logging won't be seduced to repeat his actions! Due to the sensitivity of the situation, no photos were taken by San Martin's environmental guard.

The group has also been working with a National Park representative to write a proposal for the Colombian Ministry of Culture. This may support the environmental guard after 2015, when the Darrell Posey Small Grant van de International Society of Ethnobiology (www.ethnobiology.net) is concluded.

In addition, lots of time is begin spent on the official agreement between the Amacayacu National Nature Park and San Martin, for a more efficient and effective conservation policy in San Martin's ancestral area.



Would you like to support the Tikuna indigenous community of San Martin together with the Small World Foundation, and stay in touch about the local developments in this remote corner of Colombia?

Please transfer 15 euro yearly (or more!) to the following bank account in the Netherlands:

Account name: Stichting SMALL WORLD FOUNDATION
SWIFT/BIC Code: RABONL2U
IBAN code: NL28 RABO 0132 7262 03

Or check out the online contribution module on: www.smallworldfoundation.org/?page_id=68

Please DON'T FORGET TO INFORM US ABOUT YOUR NAME AND EMAIL ADDRESS!!
(heike_van_gils@hotmail.com)

The contributions will be spent exclusively on the development and realization of local initiatives in San Martin de Amacayacu in the Colombian Amazon. No wages are being paid to anyone. The expenses will be mentioned as much as possible in the newsletters. For alternative contributions, please contact Heike van Gils at: heike_van_gils@hotmail.com.

For more information about this initiative, please check the website:
www.smallworldfoundation.org.