



# MORO MORO SCHOLARSHIP FUND

*Empowering the most deserving*

ALEJANDRO ESCOBAR, CHAIRMAN; GLENN H. WEAVER, TREASURER; MICHAEL VALVERDE;  
DOUG VALVERDE; GERALD HORST; PHILIP M. RUTT; & ROBERT E. LICHTY

[www.moromorfund.org](http://www.moromorfund.org)

October 14, 2010

Greetings Friends,

This has been the best year yet for the Moro Moro Scholarship Fund. As of this year, we have had 3 students graduate and find employment in their chosen fields. Please won't you consider helping the current deserving Moro Moro scholars this year?



Doctor Aida Pardo Rojas  
& colleague

## **Congratulations!**

We wish to congratulate our graduates on their dedication and hard work, made possible by your vital support. The most notable graduate is Doctor Aida Pardo Rojas. Aida has completed her internship and is now establishing a practice in the Moro Moro (Bolivia, South America) area. Agustin Robles is another graduate working in the area. Veronica Claros is our third graduate. Currently, she works in banking in Santa Cruz.

Overall, your generous contributions have supported 11 students at the Universidad Gabriel Moreno in Santa Cruz, Bolivia. We are happy that two of those students have returned to their hometown, Moro Moro, bringing their education and training with them.



Veronica Claros Vidal, banker

## **What a Bargain!**



Vilmar Pardo Medina,  
Future Teacher

Everyone appreciates a good deal. It costs about \$1500 U.S. to fully support a Moro Moro Scholar for one year. Compare that price to \$10,000-\$20,000 per year, the cost of higher education in the US. There just is not a better bargain than this Fund. Our goal is to continue to grow the Fund and provide still more of the best and brightest students in Moro Moro a chance to attend college. On behalf of the students and the board, I would like to thank you for considering a new tax-deductable donation.

Without your support a university education is a financial impossibility for each student. Only through your individual monetary gift is higher education possible for these bright, young people. Further, your gift reaches across the equator, from the US to Bolivia, sending a message of love and hope in a world so often lacking in these qualities. On behalf of the Board and the students, "Thank You!"

Please detach and send along this section with your contribution.

I would like to make a tax-deductable gift in the amount of \_\_\_\_\_ towards the build up of the endowment of the Moro Moro Scholarship Fund.

Please make check payable to "**Mennonite Foundation**", write "**Moro Moro Scholarship Fund**" on the memo line and mail to **address on back**. Thank you!

## Who Are The Current Students?



The 2010 Moro Moro Scholars

Currently we support six students. Two of those students are approaching graduation and the beginning of their professional careers. Vilmar Pardo Medina (photo front page) soon will defend his thesis in Education. A second student, Ronald Vargas Rojas, is ready to begin his last semester prior to his thesis in Financial Engineering. The photo on the left features all the current students. The saying on the wall, "Don't say that you know the world...If you don't know Moro Moro", is both typical of our father's pride in his hometown and his sense of humor.

## Daniel's Vision for Moro Moro

Eleven years ago, Daniel Valverde envisioned giving the top high school students in Moro Moro, Bolivia, his home town, the chance to attend college. Prior to the Fund, this higher education was simply not possible. In addition, he felt it was important to provide equal opportunities for men and women to attend. So each year the recipient alternates between the top male and the top female graduate. My father believed that with the right opportunity plus hard work, life could be improved in Moro Moro.

To say that Moro Moro is rural is an understatement. Nestled at 7,900 feet in the eastern foothills of the Andes mountains, the village is 8 hours by car from the Universidad Gabriel Moreno and nearest major city, Santa Cruz. Most of the residents are farmers who hopefully grow enough to eat and some to sell at market.



An oven, used to bake bread near Moro Moro

## How Does the Fund Work?

Students from the secondary school in Moro Moro are nominated based on academic performance and need. Every year, the Fund awards a scholarship to one student. The scholarship consists of tuition, books and supplies, and room and board. The Fund's liaison in Santa Cruz, Fatima Lit Eid, provides invaluable guidance and support as the students transition from rural village life to living in a major metropolitan area. Students must not only meet stringent academic and personal conduct standards, but must also agree to return to Moro Moro after graduation for a period of time to use their newly earned skills to give back to the community.



Aida and Fatima

In closing, it was wonderful to see so many of you this summer at the Donor Appreciation Picnic. Thanks to everyone, including you, who helped make the picnic possible. And as promised, our website has been updated thanks to our cousin and new webmaster, Jeremy Weber. Your ongoing support for this work has been simply overwhelming! Thank you and until next time...Many Blessings!

*Doug & Mike Valverde and The Moro Moro Scholarship Fund Board* ([dougvalverde@hotmail.com](mailto:dougvalverde@hotmail.com))

Please send contributions to:  
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