

Every day, Maria Gómez, gets up at 6am, dresses herself, eats breakfast, and prepares for the two mile walk to the nearest school. She smiles as she packs her school bag, knowing her homework is finished. She has read one of Aesop's fables, answered a dozen written questions, calculated two pages of math problems, and studied maps of Central America. She kisses her mother goodbye and runs out the door, confident that she is well prepared for a day at school. Maria's day is different from 95% of Guatemala Schoolchildren—she is one of the lucky few that has the opportunity to study with textbooks.

Thanks to the Guatemala School Textbook Program, founded by the South Gwinnett, Moses Lake, North Raleigh, and Guatemala West Rotaries in 1997-8, over 73,000 textbooks have been purchased and delivered to impoverished Guatemalan schoolchildren.



And they are paying off. Studies show that textbooks increase a student's learning by over 70%. Through the use of books, children like Maria are gaining a first-time-ever opportunity to explore the world beyond their rural towns and villages. They are receiving the quality of education necessary to help pull themselves and their communities out of poverty.

## Will you help?

We invite you to join us in this much needed WCS project during Rotary year 2001-2002.

### HOW THE PROGRAM WORKS

**Step 1:** Guatemalan Rotary Clubs work with CoEd (a Rotary partner organization) to identify candidate schools that want to begin textbook programs

**Step 2:** These schools are matched with U.S. and Canadian



Rotary clubs, who purchase them a first-ever set of textbooks. In the past, clubs have contributed anywhere from \$100 to \$3,500. These funds are then matched by the Rotary Foundation. (We file all paperwork with the foundation and keep your club posted on the progress of



Book distribution at San Pedro Ayumpuc

matching funds.)

**Step 3:** With the help of CoEd, a complete set of textbooks is purchased for each school in the vital areas of math, science, Spanish language, social studies, or other subject, whatever each school feels it needs most. All books are published in Guatemala so as to further help the country by providing scarce jobs to the urban poor.

**Step 4:** After the delivery of the textbooks, CoEd trains teachers and students in the effective use and care of books. This training is essential because most

teachers have never instructed using a book and most students have never owned a book nor do they have books in their homes.

**Step 5:** Finally, CoEd and local Rotary clubs help each school set up a rental program whereby it *rents* its books to its own students for a small fee each year. This “revolving fund” is used to purchase a new set of books when the original ones wear out. Using this self-financing cycle, the school can ensure that its book program will survive into the future.

Another benefit of the rental program is that the local communities feel that they are being given an opportunity to actively participate. This gives them the pride, confidence and dignity that comes from helping themselves.

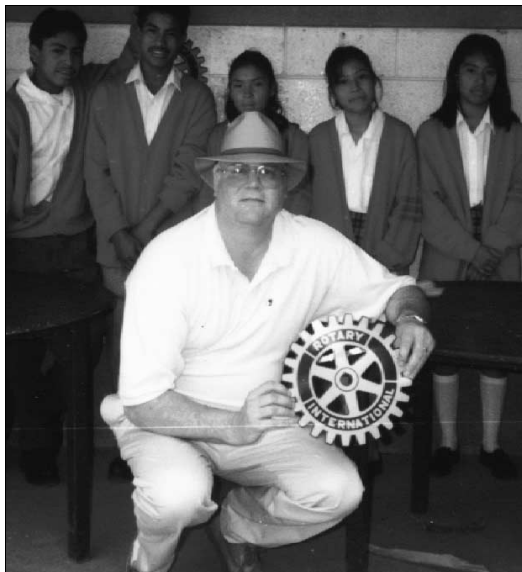
### PROJECT BENEFITS

- ◆ Strikes at the root of poverty.
- ◆ Self-sustaining.
- ◆ Empowers local people to help themselves. Not a “giveaway.”
- ◆ Engenders intercultural understanding and cooperation.
- ◆ Builds international Rotary fellowship.
- ◆ Gives thousands of schoolchildren a chance for a better life.

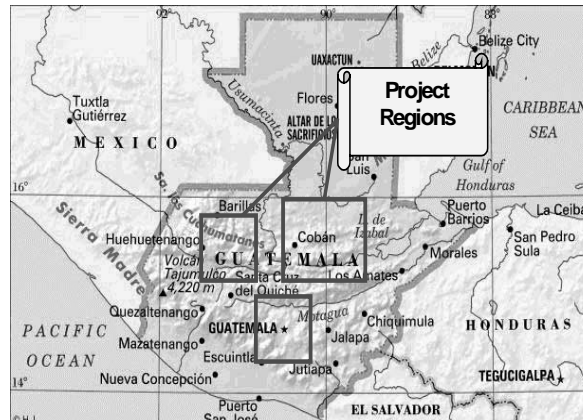
## HOW YOU CAN HELP

We are looking for Rotary clubs interested in sponsoring one or more schools for Rotary year 2001-2002. The example schools listed below give you an idea of the size and needs of our current candidate schools.

School	Students	Books Needed	Cost
Hacienda Vieja	55	221	\$1,077
Colegio Cristiano	78	312	\$1,704
Hacienda Maria	98	390	\$1,900
Presem. San Jose	104	416	\$2,027
Escuela Agricola	158	634	\$3,089
San Martin	143	572	\$3,124
Fernando Storelli	169	676	\$3,293



George Wight, President of Wapakoneta Rotary Club, during '98 textbook deliveries in Guatemala.



The School Textbook Project is being offered in regions of Guatemala where poverty is high and literacy rates are low.

## ROTARY CLUBS THAT SPONSORED SCHOOLS 1997-2001

Aberdeen, ID 5400	Monroe County, GA 6910
Adams, NY 7040	Morgan County, GA 6910
Apopka Daybreak, FL 6980	Moses Lake Sunrise, WA 5060
Atascadero, CA 5240	Moses Lake, WA 5060
Athens, GA 5910	Nederland, TX 5910
Athens West, GA 6910	New Bremen, OH 6600
Bangor, ME 7790	Niceville-Valparso, FL 6940
Bartow County, GA 6910	North Raleigh, NC 7710
Bruce, MS 6800	Northmont Rotary, OH 6670
Canton, GA 6910	Northwest Valley Sunset, AZ 5490
Cartersville, GA 6910	Othello, WA 5060
Cary-Page, NC 7710	Paramount, CA 5280
Chapel Hill-Carrboro Sunrise, NC 7710	Piqua OH 6670
Chester, SC 7750	Raleigh Downtown, NC 7710
Claremont, NH 7870	Raleigh-Millbrook, NC 7710
Clayton, NC 7710	Rockdale County, GA 6910
Coban, Guatemala 4250	Rockford, MI 6290
Coeur d'Alene, ID 5080	Rockford after hours, IL 6420
Columbia County, GA 6910	Rome Seven Hills, GA 6910
Covington, GA 6910	Roxboro, NC 7710
Creston, CANADA 5080	Royston-Franklin Springs, GA 6910
Dahlonega, GA 6910	Scottsdale Papago, AZ 5510
Dawson County, GA 6910	Salinsgrove, PA 7370
Dawson Creek, CANADA 5370	Sidney, OH 6670
Downey, CA 5280	Skidaway Island, GA 6920
Ephrata, WA 5060	Slinger-Allenton, WI 6270
Essex, VT 7850	Snellville, GA 6910
Flint, MI 6330	South Forsyth, GA 6910
Forsyth County, GA 6910	South Granville County, NC 7710
Fl. St. John, CANADA 5370	South Gwinnett, GA 6910
Grand Coulee, WA 5060	South Hall County, GA, 6910
Greenville, OH 6670	St. Laurent-Mt Royal, CANADA 7040
Griffin, GA 6910	Statesville Fourth Creek, NC 7680
Guatemala West 4250	Statesville Greater, NC 7680
Habershan Sunrise, GA 6910	Statesville, NC 7680
Hartwell, GA 6910	Sun city Del Sol, AZ 5490
Hayden Lake, ID 5080	Toccoa, GA 6910
Helen, GA 6910	Toppenish, WA 5060
Henderson Rotary, NC 7710	Tri-Lake Vernon, CANADA 5060
Hyannis, MA 7950	Troy, MI 6380
Jasper, GA 6910	Tulsa Green County, OK 6110
Kingman, AZ 5490	Tupper Lake, NY 7040
Knightsdale, NC 7710	Urbana, OH 6670
Lander, WY 5440	Vandalia, OH 6670
Lawrenceville, GA 6910	Versailles, OH 6670
Leavenworth, WA 5060	Visalia County, CA 5230
Longmont Twin Peaks, CO 5450	Wake Forest, NC 7710
Martinez-Evans, GA 6910	Warrenton, NC 7710
Medford, OR 5110	West Kootenai, ID 5080
Mendham, NJ 7470	Yonezawa, Japan 2800

## Rotary Coordinators

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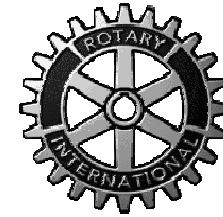
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A 20 minute video is available that describes the project in greater detail. It makes an excellent Rotary program. To receive a copy, please call (513) 731-2595 or send an e-mail to: [coed@fuse.net](mailto:coed@fuse.net)



2001  
2002

# Guatemala Textbook Project



# Join US!