1988 : THE YEAR IN REVIEW

We thought you'd like to know just what the ACAC has accomplished this past year. With your interest, we can continue to keep Central America issues in the public eye !

EDUCATIONAL EVENTS

"Violence in Central America" series of 4 public lectures on Nicaragua, El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala

John Kerry at Arlington Town Hall on Central America policy

Charlie Clements on his experience in El Salvador

OUTREACH/EDUCATION

information table on Saturday mornings at the Post Office

quarterly newsletter

booth at Town Day

participation in Memorial Day Parade

members attended workshops on El Salvador, Central America

summer video series

book discussion groups

FUND RAISING/MATERIAL AID

participation in Walk For Peace

annual garage sale

donations at Saturday table and events

donations through newsletter

sent funds to: COMADRES, Guatemalan Health Rights Organization, Nicaraguan Medical Relief, and Oats for Peace campaign

PROTEST/DEMONSTRATIONS

sign holding in Arlington on Contra aid votes

Boston Common protest of US invasion of Guatemala

Park Street Station protest of human rights violations in El Salvador

protest of Oliver North speaking at Boston College

phone tree -generating calls to Congress on Central America issues

40 members in the NECAN Rapid Response Network to protest human rights violations by telex

Oats for Peace send-off rally at Arlington Town Hall and Boston Common

editorial letters to the Advocate

ARLINGTON-TEOSINTE SISTER CITY PROJECT

won official designation from Arlington Town Council

raised funds through pledges, donations, and sale of Salvadoran crafts

collected and sent material aid

First Teosinte Delegation in April

The Sister City Project will send its first delegation of Arlingtonians to Teosinte, El Salvador, April 8-16, to meet the villagers and formally declare Arlington's support for their efforts at repopulation. Project members Nina Brew, Paul Lessin, and Jim Roettger will be joined by Mario Davila from the U.S. Interfaith Office on Accompaniment (IOA), and possibly Paul Davis, an aide to Congressman Joe Kennedy, and Peggy Bustamante, an editor of the *Arlington Advocate*.

The delegates will meet with local officials from the IOA and the Committee on National Repopulation (CNR) to receive background on the status of Teosinte and other repopulated villages and to determine specific ways Arlington can work effectively with Teosinte. They will travel to Teosinte to meet the villagers and to present them with donations of materials and money, a copy of the official resolution from the Arlington Board of Selectmen proclaiming the Sister City relationship, and letters of support from various local officials and community groups.

Arlington citizens are encouraged to send letters of support with the delegation (before April 1 please).

Following their return, the delegates will present a series of events in the community to share their experiences.

Send-off Party on March 30

A send-off party for our first delegation will be held on Thursday, March 30, and the whole town is invited. Come to the Arlington Heights United Methodist Church, 20 Westminster Ave. (at the corner of Park Ave., one block from Mass. Ave. in Arlington Heights) from 7-9 p.m., for appetizers, a classic rock band, Honduran folk singers, and to talk with the delegates.

A $5 donation is requested, all proceeds going directly to Teosinte. In addition, party guests are asked to bring clean, lightweight clothing, paper, notebooks, flashlights, small toys, letters, picture postcards, pens, crayons, and other small items for the villagers, to be carried by the delegates.

We still need help with party preparations, publicity, and cleanup. Please call Cindy at 646-1071. If you cannot come, please send a donation.

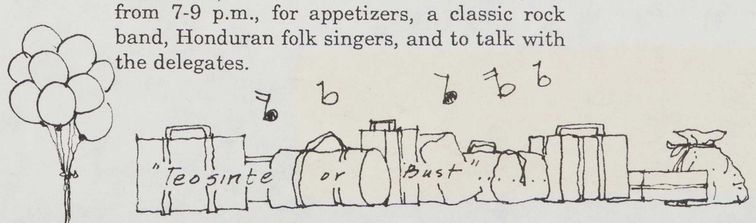
Fundraising Plan from Teosinte

This month, we received a report issued by the Teosinte vilagers along with the CNR, providing our first detailed look at Teosinte and giving us an overview of their immediate and long-term goals for rebuilding the village.

The village has already organized an agricultural project and is planning a variety of crops including yucca, potatoes, vegetables, and bananas. There are two trained community health promoters and the Catholic Church is supporting health care projects and funding supplies for the clinic.

Included in the report are proposals for: preventative health programs; road and bridge repairs; agricultural projects (tools, seed, and animals); educational programs including adult literacy; materials for pastoral work; purchase of a small truck; establishment of an illness /imprisonment emergency fund; and blankets and sleeping mats.

Arlington has raised over $3000 for Teosinte since we became a Sister City in September. From their list of needs, we can focus and refine our fundraising efforts. You can help by becoming a monthly sponsor ($5, $10, $20 each month) to provide ongoing funding for these projects, or by joining the Sister City Fundraising Committee. Please call Judi at 646-4283.



A SELF-ADDRESSED ENVELOPE IS ENCLOSED FOR YOUR DONATIONS AND LETTERS TO EL SALVADOR