

# NEWSLETTER

OF THE ASSOCIATION OF FORMER STAFF MEMBERS



VOLUME XIV NO. 4

MARCH 2004

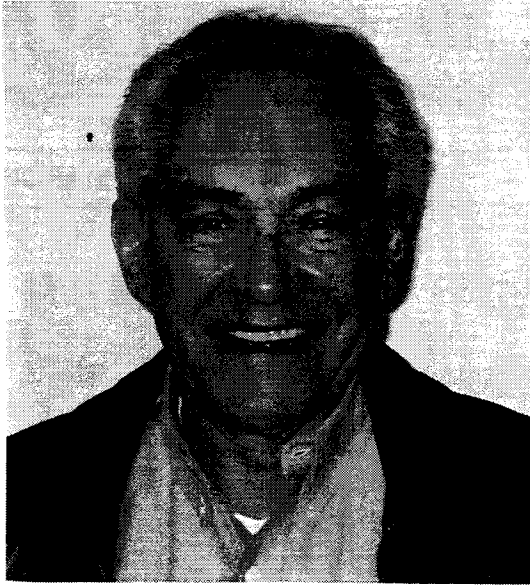


*Referendum Vote Counting by Nancy Berinstein, Luzmaría Esparza, and Hortensia Saginor  
(see page 2)*

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**AFSM BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
AND OFFICERS, 2004**



*Carlos Daza, new BOD member*

As noted in the report on the November 2003 General Meeting (below), Carlos Daza, Luzmaría Esparza, and José Teruel were elected to fill the three vacancies occurring on the Board of Directors. The Board was thus constituted as follows: Jaime Ayalde, Jan Barahona, Nancy Berinstein, Carlos Daza, Luzmaría Esparza, Maricel Manfredi, Germán Mora, Hortensia Saginor, and José Teruel.

At its first meeting in December 2003 after the election of new Board members, and as required by the By-laws, the Board voted in new officers for a one-year term, as follows:

*President:* Jaime Ayalde

*Vice President:* Jan Barahona

*Secretary:* Nancy Berinstein

*Treasurer:* Luzmaría Esparza

*Membership Coordinator:* Hortensia Saginor

*Social/Cultural Activities Coordinator:*  
Hortensia Saginor

*Field Association Activities Coordinator:*  
Germán Mora; *Committee Members:* Carlos Daza, Maricel Manfredi

*Pension Matters Coordinators:* Luzmaría Esparza, José Teruel

*Newsletter Coordinator:* Jan Barahona;  
*Editorial Committee Members:* Jaime Ayalde,

Nancy Berinstein, Carlos Daza, Amanda Ellauri, Jean Surgi

*Health and Health Insurance Committee Coordinator:* Jan Barahona; *Committee Members:* Nancy Berinstein, Carlos Daza, Luzmaría Esparza, Jerry Hanson, Marisa Manus, Jean Surgi

*Liaison with PAHO Administration:* José Teruel

*Liaison with PAHO Family Association:*  
Hortensia Saginor

*Liaison with PAHO Staff Association:* Luzmaría Esparza

*Liaison with PAHOWHO Federal Credit Union:*  
Luzmaría Esparza

**REFERENDUM**

During the Centennial Reunion, some participants proposed that the Spanish name of the Association be changed. In response to this proposal, the AFSM Board of Directors obtained approval from the XIV General Meeting of the Association to carry out a referendum, and it sent background information and ballots to all members in good standing throughout the Hemisphere. The members were given 90 days to respond.

A total of 558 ballots were mailed out to members in good standing, and 209 were returned to the Secretary of the Board, duly completed. The number of ballots received represents 37.5% of the ballots sent out to the membership, an excellent response which we fully appreciate.

The votes were distributed as follows:

United States, Puerto Rico, and Canada: 146  
Mexico, Central America, Panama, and South America: 56  
Caribbean: 6  
Europe (Spain): 1

The votes were counted by Nancy Berinstein, Secretary, in the presence of Jaime Ayalde, President; Hortensia Saginor, Membership Officer; and Luzmaría Esparza, Treasurer of the Board, with the following results:

In favor of "Ex Funcionarios": 163  
In favor of "Antiguos Funcionarios": 22  
No preference: 24

As a result, the official name of the Association in Spanish is "Asociación de Ex Funcionarios de la OPS/OMS." To avoid confusion, the acronym will remain "AFSM" in both languages.

#### **FOURTEENTH GENERAL MEETING**

The Fourteenth General Meeting of the AFSM took place on 18 November 2003 at PAHO Headquarters in Washington DC. Dr. Carissa Etienne of Dominica, the new Assistant Director of PAHO, welcomed the participants and brought greetings from the Director, Dr. Mirta Roses, who was on duty travel. In addition to AFSM members from the Washington area, Barry Whalley traveled from the Caribbean to attend. Guests included representatives from several international associations of retirees in the Washington area, including the Inter-American Development Bank, the Organization of American States, and the World Bank. Mr. Miguel Boluda, Jr., new CEO of the Credit Union, was in attendance, as was Dr. Germán Perdomo, representing the Staff Association, and Ms. Lupe Bowling, from the Health Insurance Office. Carlos García chaired the Meeting.

In accordance with the By-laws, the terms of office of three members of the nine-member Board of Directors were ending. In a unanimous vote, Luzmaría Esparza and José Teruel were reelected to the Board, and Carlos Daza was elected to fill the remaining slot. It was noted that Nancy Berinstein now fills the position of secretary vacated by Jean Surgi, and Luzmaría Esparza serves as Treasurer, having assumed the responsibilities of Nene Adoremos. Hortensia Saginor is now responsible for Membership, a position previously held by Hans Bruch, and for Social/Cultural activities.

The minutes of the 2002 General Meeting as well as the Treasurer's and Auditor's reports were accepted by acclamation, and thanks were extended to retiree Joseph Jacques Schettewi for his willingness to continue auditing AFSM records gratis. It was agreed that, in future, in addition to a financial report for the past year, a proposed budget would be submitted to the meeting for the ensuing year.

Lupe Bowling, PAHO Health Insurance Officer, answered questions about PAHO health insurance coverage. She advised retirees living in

the US to take their questions and problems directly to Blue Cross Blue Shield; if they did not get satisfaction, they should contact Norma Laáraga at the Health Insurance Office (tel: 202-974-3537 or larragan@paho.org).

Responding to a question raised by a participant, Lupe agreed to provide data showing comparative costs of care in the different WHO regions. She also explained the concept of preferred provider and why it is financially beneficial for PAHO. She noted that only those who use a preferred provider receive 100% coverage for their yearly physical examination. She mentioned that BCBS has moved to a new location in Washington. However, an arrangement has been made with the Post Office to redirect mail sent to the old address to the new address for a period of one year, which would end in July 2004. The Staff Health Insurance had just completed preparing a "Pocketbook Guideline" that would be distributed to members shortly.

Mr. Miguel Boluda, Jr., the new CEO of the Credit Union, answered members' questions and noted that the CU has a new Web page ([www.pahofcu.org](http://www.pahofcu.org)) that will facilitate home banking and provide members with information on the broad range of financial services it offers its members. The Credit Union also generously provided prizes at the meeting for a Washington area member in attendance and for field members who could not participate. Flora Early was the Washington winner; field winners were Maria Nascimento in Rio de Janeiro, Próspero Antonio García Solís in Lima, and Luis Odría in Apopka FL.

Several attendees expressed their wish to be of service to PAHO and to help further its goals. José Teruel suggested that retirees can, independently, recognize health needs in their own communities, mobilize forces, and contribute their time and knowledge.

Jaime Ayalde noted that, during the Centennial Reunion, some retirees requested that the Spanish name of the Association be changed. He asked members at the meeting for the authority to carry out a referendum, and this was approved. All members in good standing would receive background information on the name options, together with a ballot to be

returned to Washington by 16 February. The result of the referendum would be announced and the winning name implemented immediately.



*Jean Surgi, honorary BOD member*

Finally, Jean Surgi, who retired from the Board with the conclusion of her term of office, was recognized for her many years of service to the Association. She has been a very active and involved Member of the BOD for ten years, nine of those years serving as Secretary of the Board. In recognition of Jean's sustained and generous commitment to the Association and to the Board, a motion to declare her an Honorary Member of the Board of Directors was approved by acclamation.

#### **TIPS ON PENSION MATTERS ...**

Pensioners should remember that any change in primary country of residence and changes of home address within a country should be reported to the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund and to the PAHO Health Insurance system. The UNJSPF does not take action based on telephone calls, e-mails, faxes or voice messages delivered through PAHO officers. Actions are taken based on documents with original signatures. The forms are easy to obtain through the Internet. Just go to <http://www.unjspf.org> and click on "forms" in the pop-up window, or on the appropriate line of the cascade at the left of the screen,

whichever you see first. You will see a menu of forms for different purposes. Select the one that fits your needs, go to the right to the end of the line and click the language, either English or French. By clicking the language the form will open in printable mode.

The forms should be sent to:

Mr. Bernard Cochemé, Secretary  
United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund  
Room S-635  
New York, NY 10017  
United States

If you still wish to get in touch with Mr. Cochemé's office in New York, you can do so by calling 212-963-6931 during US East Coast working hours, or by sending a fax to 212-963-3146 or an e-mail to [unjspf@un.org](mailto:unjspf@un.org).

Do not forget to send your Survival Certificate to New York if you have not done so already. If you are a member of AFSM, also remember to report any change of address to us, by writing to Ms. Hortensia Saginor, AFSM c/o PAHO, 525-23rd St NW, Washington DC 20037-2895, or via e-mail to [isaginor@aol.com](mailto:isaginor@aol.com).

Finally, if you note a (minor) reduction in your monthly deposit, do not panic. When increases in cost-of-living reach a certain trigger point, a raise in pensionable entitlements comes about. Such an increase happened in April 2003, after the health insurance contributions for the year had been calculated. Higher pensions mean higher cost of health insurance. The higher cost was not accounted for during the balance of 2003, but catches up with you in 2004. Think of it as if you had received a special bonus in 2003!

#### **... AND TIPS ON HEALTH INSURANCE CLAIM PROCEDURES**

Retirees residing in the USA and Puerto Rico who send their health insurance claims directly to Care First, Blue Cross Blue Shield in Washington DC must be aware by now of its change of address. It is to be noted, however, that mail sent to their old address will continue to be rerouted to the new address by the US Postal Service for one year. This period ends in July 2004. Please start getting accustomed to the new address:

Blue Cross Blue Shield  
840 First St NE  
Washington DC 20065-5662

For BCBS medical/visual claim inquiries, call 1-800-296-0724. Press #1 for automated service or #3 to speak with a customer service representative.

For BCBS dental balances, call 1-800-203-4523.

For PharmaCare benefits and inquiries, call 1-800-777-1023.

The following tips will expedite handling of your claims and speed up reimbursement of expenses:

- Always identify your claim with your BCBS ID number. Please do not use your social security number.
- Prepare separate claims for medical, dental, or vision services
- Fill in the appropriate forms related to above services (yellow for medical claims, blue for dental claims, and white for vision/eye care claims). These forms are more important than the envelopes.

Take the time to read the rules not only in relation to entitlements but also in relation of things that you, or a close relative, must do in certain circumstances. Rule 345 comes to mind:

*Claim forms must normally be signed by the staff member. If as a consequence of a serious accident or illness staff members are not in a position to attend to their personal affairs, claims may be made by their legal personal representative or, in exceptional cases, by a person acting in a fiduciary capacity on their behalf.*

## **HEALTH AND HEALTH INSURANCE COMMITTEE**

At its December 2003 meeting, the Board of Directors decided to establish a committee to deal with health and health insurance issues of special interest to retirees. Nancy Berinsein, Carlos Daza, Luzmaría Esparza, and Jean Surgi were named to the committee, together with non-Board members Gerald Hanson and Marisa Manus. Jan Barahona was asked to

coordinate the Committee's work. At the first planning meeting of the Committee, it was decided to focus immediate attention on the upcoming Joint Meeting on Health Insurance.

*Sixth Joint (Administration/Staff) Meeting on Health Insurance (Geneva, October 2004):* This periodic meeting (held every three years) is an opportunity to evaluate the fiscal viability of the Fund and to review the Staff Health Insurance Rules. For each WHO region, the head of the regional surveillance committee and a representative appointed by the regional staff association each have a vote at the meeting. In December, members of the AFSM committee met with the PAHO regional surveillance committee to request that the PAHO/AMRO representatives pay special attention to those areas of the Rules that are of particular concern for retired staff. It offered to prepare material related to retirees' special interest areas.

*Facilitating the Formation of Interest Groups:* The Committee decided to develop the suggestion made by a participant in the Annual Meeting last November and to serve as an intermediary and facilitator for retirees with similar health problems or insurance concerns. Members who would like to be available to others who might ask for a contact with similar experience should contact any of the members of the Committee.

## **PAHO/WHO FEDERAL CREDIT UNION**

The PAHO/WHO FCU Annual Meeting will take place on 21 April 2004, at 4:00 pm in the PAHO Main Council Chamber. Raffle tickets will be handed out from 3:30 pm to 4:00 pm at the meeting.

The Credit Union has a nine-member Board of Directors and a three-member Credit Committee, elected by the members as part of the official proceedings of the Annual Meetings. The Credit Union also has a five-member Supervisory Committee elected by the Board of Directors.

If you live in the Metro Area or are visiting Washington DC on 21 April, please attend the Annual Meeting and vote for the candidate of your preference.

## **NUTRITIOUS FOOD FOR A HEALTHY LIFE: THE SALMON SAGA**

by Carlos Hernán Daza\*

Diet is a major factor linked to a wide range of infectious and noncommunicable diseases. Alongside economic development, nutritional deficiencies are being replaced by diseases of lifestyle, the so-called man-induced illnesses, in which the "affluent" diet plays a key role.

People consuming such a diet typically have a high intake of fat (especially saturated fats) and simple refined sugars, and a relatively low intake of complex carbohydrates (from starchy fiber-containing foods), which is associated with an increasing incidence of chronic diseases and premature death.

Evidence suggests that premature death and disability should be largely preventable by changes in diet and other aspects of lifestyle. There is data confirming that coronary heart disease, stroke, several cancers, diabetes, oral disease, cirrhosis of the liver, gallstones, obesity, and some musculoskeletal diseases are preventable. Thus, within the framework of health promotion the role of diet and healthy nutrition cannot be overestimated (1).

The prospects are promising for the use of omega-3 polyunsaturated fatty acids, contained mainly in seafood - particularly fatty fish such as salmon - in the prevention of chronic noncommunicable diseases. Fish oil, containing a large amount of polyunsaturated fatty acids, reduces plasma triglyceride levels and increases clotting time. Epidemiological data suggest that the consumption of one or two servings of fish per week is associated with lower risk of coronary heart disease.

Intensive research is underway on omega-3 polyunsaturated fatty acids for the treatment of different inflammatory and autoimmune diseases (for instance, rheumatoid arthritis, diabetes, and psoriasis).

The above said, mainly noting the positive effects of salmon consumption in the prevention of some chronic diseases, let us review the stance of those who are actively calling consumers' attention to the potential health risks of salmon, particularly farmed salmon because of organochlorine contamination (2).

The production and consumption of farmed salmon has increased by a factor of 40 during the past two decades. Salmon from farms in northern Europe, North America, and Chile are now widely available year-round at relatively low prices. The annual global production of farmed salmon has risen from 24,000 to over 1 million metric tons during the same period.

The health benefits of eating fish such as salmon have been well documented. However, salmon are relatively fatty carnivorous fish that feed high in the food web, and as such they bioaccumulate contaminants. The potential risks of eating contaminated farmed salmon have not been well evaluated.

The large differences between the farmed and wild salmon contaminant concentrations are most likely a function of their diet. Farmed salmon are fed a concentrated feed high in fish oils and fish meal, which is obtained primarily from small pelagic fishes.

Fish that are not contaminated are a healthy food, high in nutrients, such as omega-3 polyunsaturated fatty acids, that are known to have a variety of beneficial human health effects. However, the study suggests that consumption of farmed salmon may result in exposure to a variety of persistent bioaccumulative contaminants with the potential for health risks.

The survey reported in *Science* by Ronald A. Hites et al (2) compared the level of organochlorine contaminants, including PCBs (polychlorinated biphenyls) and dioxins, in farmed versus wild salmon collected from around the world. Most organochlorine substances analyzed in the study showed a significantly higher level of contamination in farmed than in wild salmon.

This study is the largest conducted so far, in particular relating to the direct comparison of farmed and wild salmon. The specific results reported for dioxins and PCBs are well within the range of previous studies. Dioxins and dioxin-like compounds are important substances that can affect human health. They are persistent environmental pollutants that enrich via the food chain.

Dioxins and PCBs are associated with industrial discharges, including discharges into the sea, and ocean fish have varying levels of these substances, often directly related to the proximity of their habitat to discharge areas. The level in farmed fish normally reflects the contamination level of the feed used, which was also shown in the above-mentioned study by the detection of dioxins and PCBs in commercial fish feed (3).

WHO, in collaboration with FAO, has considered dioxins and dioxin-like compounds on several occasions and has established a Provisional Tolerable Monthly Intake (PTMI) of 70 picograms of dioxins and dioxin-like PCBs.

When evaluating standard diets in different parts of the world the results indicated that the estimated intakes of these chemicals approach or exceed this PTMI. Based on the mean contamination levels reported, eating one or two portions per week of farmed salmon would result in a monthly intake below this level. However, an overall dietary risk assessment would require inclusion of other dietary sources of dioxins and dioxin-like PCBs.

To address these risks, several steps have been taken to reduce or eliminate emissions of dioxins, dioxin-like PCBs, and other related persistent organic pollutants (often referred to as POPs). To monitor reduction in human exposure, WHO and UNEP carry out a monitoring program for POPs in breast milk. A steady decline in levels has been observed since 1980 for most countries.

In regard to food contamination, the FAO/WHO Codex Alimentarius Commission is developing a draft code of practice for dioxins and dioxin-like PCBs in food, which identifies source-directed measures to reduce their presence in food, including fish, and a position for possible regulatory measures, such as limits in food and feed.

The results of this new study in salmon (2) and other studies should be used to maintain the focus on reducing the exposure of humans to dioxins and dioxin-like PCBs. Specifically, efforts to reduce the level of such substances in animals used for human consumption should be actively supported, in particular source-

directed measures such as reduction of contamination levels in animal feed.

FAO and WHO consider fish to be an important component of a nutritious diet, and that the risk of consuming contaminated fish must be weighed in view of the beneficial nutritive effects of fish. FAO and WHO plan to develop general guidance for such risk-benefit considerations, using the contamination of fish for case studies.

In the meantime, consumers should be advised on label reading to identify the source of the product (farmed or wild salmon and country of origin) and to understand the pros and cons of salmon consumption, but not to avoid its inclusion in a healthy diet.

At this time, the benefits of salmon consumption seem to outweigh the potential risks from contamination with organochlorine products (i.e., various hydrocarbon pesticides, such as DDT, that contain chlorine), and this is by far the most important consideration in making sound decisions regarding food for a healthy life.

### References

1. Daza, C. H. Opening remarks. International conference on the health effects of omega-3 polyunsaturated fatty acids in seafood. Washington DC USA, 20-23 March 1990.
2. Global Assessment of Organic Contaminants in Farmed Salmon. *Science*, 9 January 2004, Vol. 303.
3. PCBs and Dioxins in Salmon. Organochlorine Contamination of Salmon. WHO News Release, 20 January 2004.

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\* Carlos H. Daza is a medical doctor of the National University of Colombia (1954) with Masters Degrees in Nutrition Sciences (1962) and Public Health (1963) from Columbia University, New York City. He was a staff member of the Pan American Health Organization for 27 years, with duty stations in several countries. His last assignment was that of Coordinator of PAHO's Food and Nutrition Program in Washington DC. In November 2003, during the XXIII Latin American Congress, the Latin American Society of Nutrition awarded him the title of Member Emeritus based on his outstanding scientific and professional achievements and his contributions to the Society.

## CENTENNIAL REUNION

As part of the celebration of the 100th anniversary of PAHO, the Board of Directors of the AFSM held the Centennial Reunion, known as the "PAHO Forever Symposium," in 2002, which was well-attended by members from 18 countries.

It was the organizers' intention to encourage a personal recounting of events at PAHO, at least for the past 50 years, when the Reunion's participants were not only eye witnesses but the makers of its history.

The Reunion was also an opportunity to get together with friends and colleagues and reiterate our support for the AFSM and discuss new directions for it.

Eighty members responded to the invitation, registering and indicating that they would attend. We ended up with a little over 30, who showed great resilience in the face of the circumstances that preceded and transpired at the event.

The Board of Directors offered to provide participants with an audiovisual and written record of their attendance. It has partially done so through the notes and photos published in last year's bulletins.

However, we have not fulfilled our commitment entirely, since in place of this note, we would have preferred to send you a copy of the video that was made, along with the minutes containing the presentations and speeches at the symposium "PAHO, Then and Now," held on Tuesday, 3 December.

The spirit of someone well-known to you has been with us ... we have spent more time than we anticipated ... the video, which could have had better sound, was not good ... the transcriptions of the presentations that we commissioned from a highly recommended secretary were not what we would have hoped ...

Thus, we ask a little patience and your participation in revising and finishing the presentations that some of you made at the Reunion, so that we can send all the participants, and others who expressed an interest, copies of both the video and the transcriptions as a record of this event, which was really a milestone in the history of the AFSM.

Looking at it optimistically, we are using the Reunion and the ensuing circumstances that kept us from keeping our promises as a model for a second reunion, which should take place before the fifth anniversary of the first.

## BOOK REVIEW: 120 DAYS IN DEEP HIDING – OUTWITTING THE IRAQIS IN OCCUPIED KUWAIT

Author: Dr. Robert E. Morris  
ISBN 1-4010-6584-8  
Publisher: Xlibris, Philadelphia PA  
Pages: 304

*Reviewed by George Gillespie*

This book by a former PAHO staff member commences following his departure from the Organization. After taking a Master's Degree at Harvard University, this former US Naval Dental Officer, decorated in Vietnam for his bravery and humanitarian work, was recruited by the government of the State of Kuwait to assist in the development and planning of oral health programs in that country. This particular story unfolds with the arrival of the Iraqi army on the morning of 2 August 1990 after he had been in the country for only three years. It witnesses the actual invasion and takeover of the capital city, explains the subsequent actions, and leads one through the fears and horrors of being a virtual captive in a state taken over by a ruthless dictatorship.

Captured, quickly escaping, then forced into hiding because he was a westerner and an American citizen, the author relates the story of how he and acquaintances and friends resisted attempts by Iraqis to discover their hideout. It outlines inventive and ingenious measures used by them in their quest for survival, despite the fact that the head of the Iraqi Intelligence Unit was located in the building in which they were living. The needs for food and sustenance are identified as well as the complicated relationships between groups of disparate individuals enclosed within a confined space. Fears of detection by Iraqi guards or informers were constant, and it describes the procedures needed to maintain mental health and stability under such circumstances. It reveals unlikely friendships that managed to secure their survival and details of looting, rape and murder conducted by the conquerors.



Fear of betrayal was constant. Dr. Morris reveals the attempts to escape by the author and others and the results of such attempts. The book reflects on the anguish of isolation, the separation from family, the recollection of long-suppressed memories of the Vietnam War, and the relative impotence of national authorities and organizations to act in cases when citizens are trapped within a hostile regime. Despite this they developed innovative approaches and eventually were able to contact the US media. The story reflects ingenuity and moral strength that eventually leads to a daring, inventive, and ultimately successful escape.

This paperback is available from: Xlibris, 436 Walnut St, Philadelphia PA 19106-3703, tel: 1-888-795-4274, at an approximate price of US\$23.00.

It can also be obtained on-line through [www.xlibris.com](http://www.xlibris.com), [amazon.com](http://amazon.com), [barnesandnoble.com](http://barnesandnoble.com) or through a special order from a bookstore.

#### **IN MEMORIAM**

Savic, Dragutin	17 March 2003
Paterson, Helen	5 Nov 2003
Quiñónez, José Ramon	22 Dec 2003
Pendleton, Charles M.	23 Dec 2003
García Solís, Próspero Antonio	25 Dec 2003
Quirós, Angel	6 Jan 2004
Spirit, David	25 Jan 2004

#### **REMEMBERING COLLEAGUES**

##### **Jorge Rosselot Vicuña (1918-2003)**

*by Jaime Ayalde*

This 9 April marks the first anniversary of the death of Dr. Jorge Rosselot Vicuña.

From 1965 to 1969, Dr. Rosselot worked for PAHO/WHO in several countries as an adviser, serving in Washington, D.C. between 1969 and 1978 as Regional Adviser for the Americas in Maternal and Child and Family Health. It was precisely during that period that I had the pleasure of meeting him and enjoying his warmth and openness. Many years have passed since Jorge and his charming wife, Mariana Flórez de Rosselot, received affectionate farewells from friends and colleagues, when they said goodbye to Washington to

return to Chile at the end of his mission at PAHO. I never saw him again, but his image lives on in my memory as if it were yesterday, a yesterday 26 years ago!



*Jorge Rosselot Vicuña*

Jorge held a prestigious place in medicine in his native country of Chile, and his professional activities have been highlighted in publications such as *Vida Médica*, *Revista Chilena de Pediatría*, and *Pediatría al Día*, which mention that he completed his secondary education at the Liceo Alemán in Santiago, graduating in Humanities in 1933, and that at the early age of 15 he was admitted to the Pontifical Catholic University to study medicine, receiving his medical degree from the University of Chile in 1943. He was a prominent pediatrician and professor of pediatrics at the University of Chile and the Catholic University, occupying the Dr. Julio Meneghello chair. He was Director of the Center for Training and Research in Maternal and Child Health (CAIMI), where he designed research projects and made a significant contribution to the study of hydration.

When his mission at PAHO ended, he moved to Montevideo to serve as Health Adviser to the Inter-American Children's Institute. On returning to Chile he collaborated with the Ministry of Health on several projects, served as Professor of Public Health at the University

of Chile, and became involved in the activities of the professional association at the Medical School.

Dr. Rosselot published more than 200 articles in scientific journals on topics related to the social dimensions of pediatrics and public health; he authored or collaborated on several textbooks on pediatrics, nutrition, and public health and, until the end of his life, contributed to each issue of the *Revista Vida Médica* of the Medical School of Chile. He received numerous awards, the last of which was the Medal of Honor at the commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the creation of the National Health Services in 2002.

On 9 April 2003 the earthly existence of Dr. Jorge Rosselot Vicuña came to an end. During his funeral mass, the priest said that, although Dr. Rosselot never had children of his own, his children are the thousands of Latin American children that benefited from his work, his ideas, and his efforts on behalf of children and maternal and child health.

### **Jesse Joseph Torres**

*by his daughter Anna Marie Murphy*

A long-time librarian with PAHO, Jesse Torres died on 24 November in Washington DC after a brief illness. He was 84 years old. Mr. Torres graduated from Loras College, in Dubuque IA in 1943. In 1951, he earned a degree in library science from Catholic University. He worked as a librarian in the Washington DC office of PAHO from 1949 until 1979. After retiring, he became a bibliographer of writings by and about the Franciscan Order in the New World, for the Academy of American Franciscan History, in Potomac MD.

Together with Mary B. Torres, his wife of 53 years, he raised six children: Anna Marie Murphy, of Medfield MA; Carmen Torres, of Arlington MA; Martha Fell (deceased); Elena Carroll, of Alexandria VA; Laura Thompson, of Taos, NM; and Matthew Torres, of Catonsville MD. In addition to his wife and children, Mr. Torres leaves behind eight grandchildren; a sister, Sally Gallo, of Williamsburg IA; and a brother, Isop Torres, of Mason City IA.

**PICTURES FROM THE GENERAL MEETING / LUNCHEON**



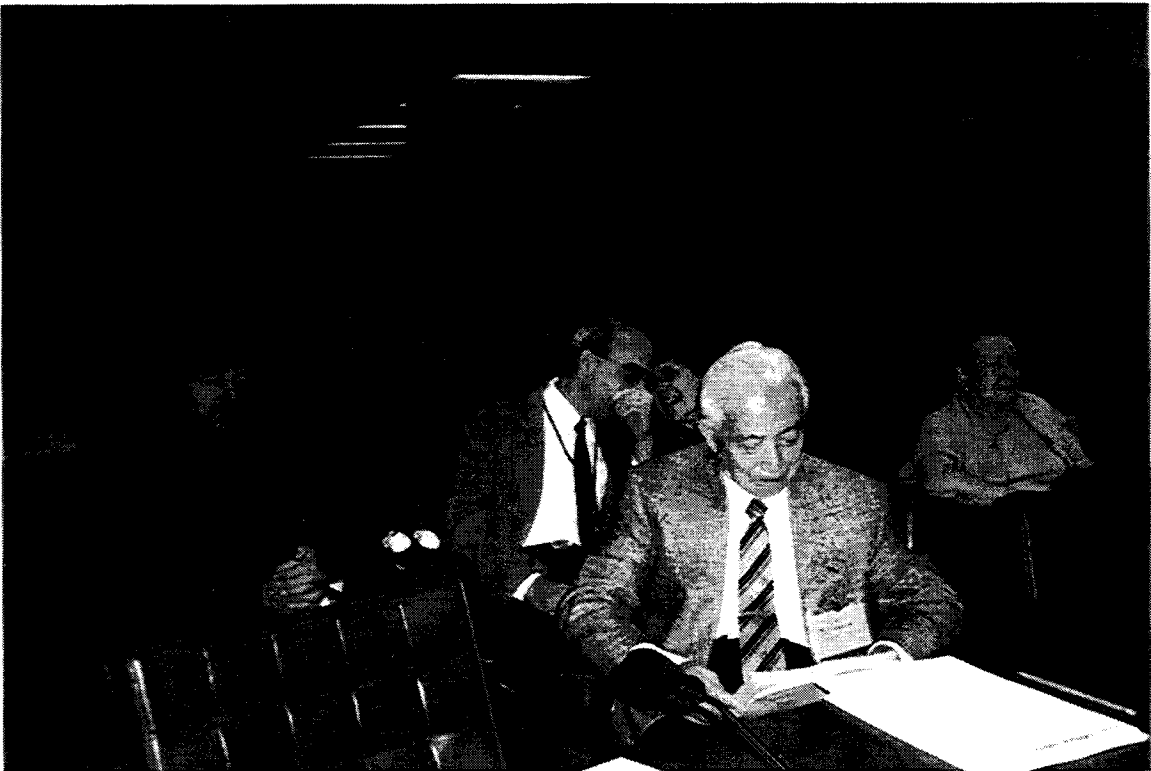
Dr. Carissa Etienne, AD,  
Jaime Ayalde



General Meeting chaired  
by Carlos García



Betty Lockett, Jose Teruel



Kuang Chi Liang



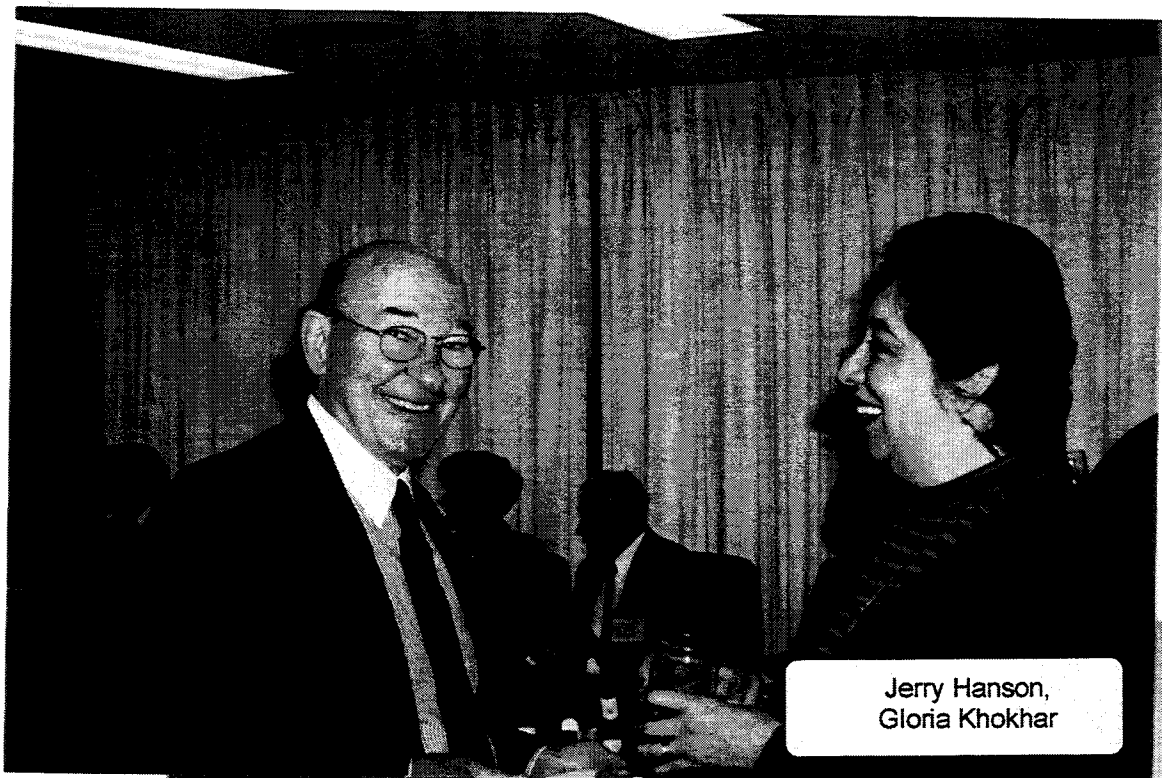
Jose Teruel, German  
Mora, Teresita Josey,  
Flora Early



Meche Lorenzana,  
Jose Teruel,  
Elsa Ochoa



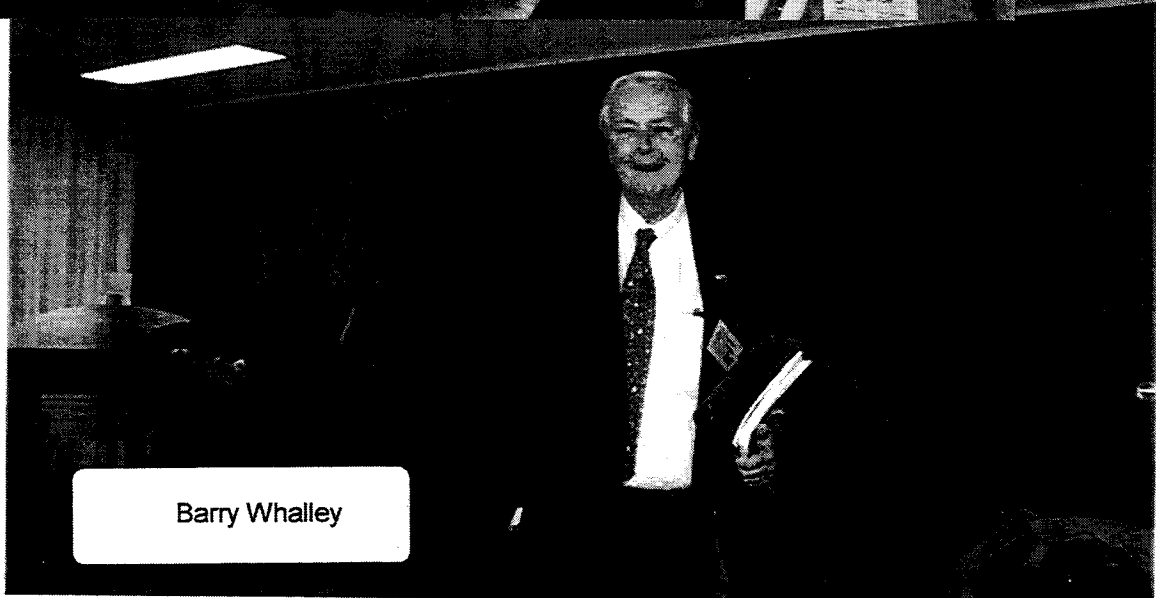
Augusto Vallenas,  
Joe Heid



Jerry Hanson,  
Gloria Khokhar



Dr. Carissa Etienne, AD,  
Alejandra Espinal,  
Xavier Simón. World Bank



Barry Whalley



Jose Teruel, German Mora, Teresita Josey, Flora Early



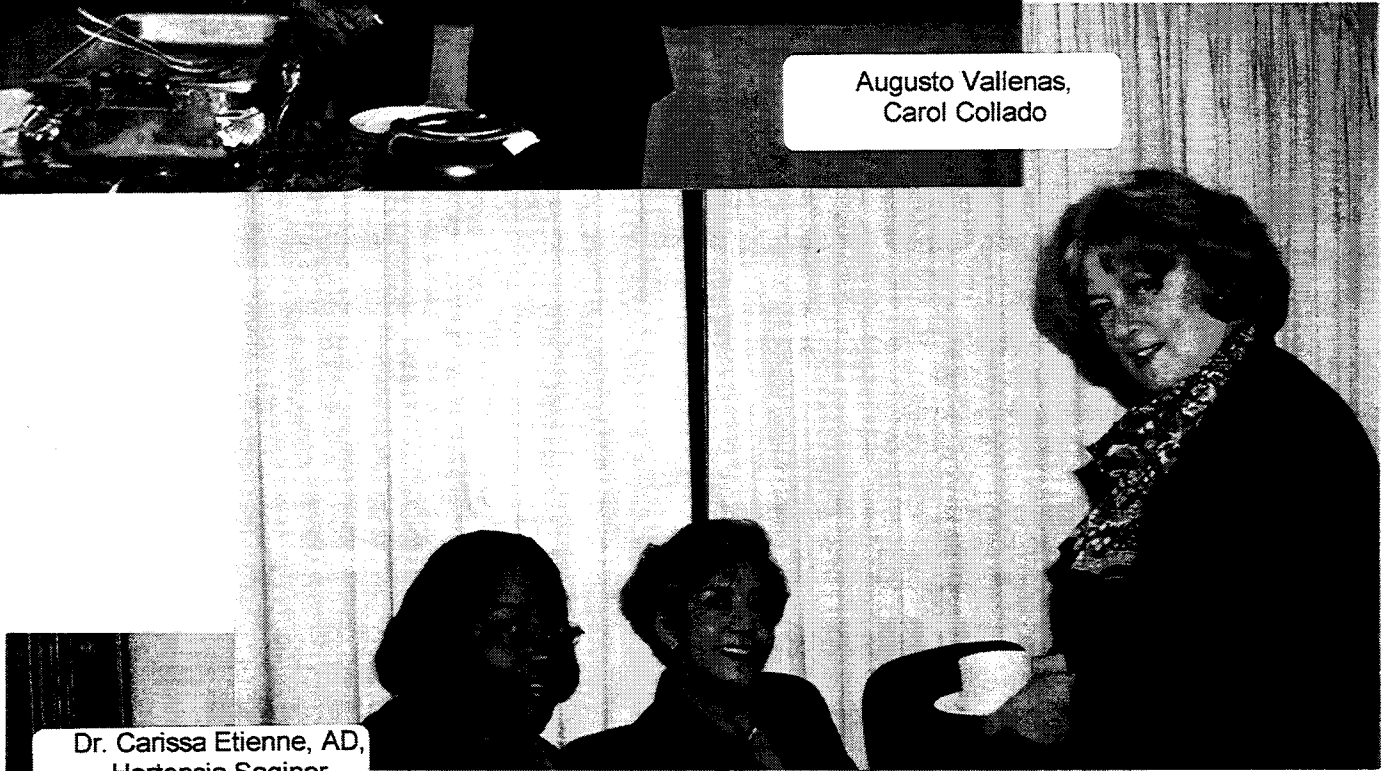
Meche Lorenzana, Jose Teruel, Elsa Ochoa



Augusto Vallenas, Joe Heid



Augusto Valienas,  
Carol Collado



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AFSM would like to know about the needs of its members. We might not be able to solve all your problems, but we have many experts and resources that could be utilized. We might either help in some way or refer you to the right source.

We would also like to have your input to the Newsletter, either in the form of articles for publication or in comments on the content: What kinds of articles do you like? Are there some that should be eliminated? Are we missing something that should be included?

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