Dear friends,

This month we celebrate the feast of Our Lady of Charity, Patroness of Cuba. A letter from P. Juan Rumin Dominguez, Rector of La Ermita de la Caridad in Miami explains how the image arrived in Miami, 50 years ago this month. Please note information about celebrations in different parts of the U.S. in Her honor. Enjoy a very special poem made by Gloria Cano, a Pedro Pan mother, to our Virgencita. And please join us, as we pray together to our "Virgencita de la Caridad" to protect our beloved country and all of us her children.

Don't miss other important information about Operation Pedro Pan Exhibit at the Green Library at FIU, Maidique Campus, Christina Diaz Gonzalez in her Presentations (September 7th and 8th) at both FIU campuses in Miami, Fl., and our next breakfast on September 17th.

Our annual reunion is almost here, information about the weekend of Events will be released in the next few days.....Don't miss it!

Save the date, November 18th to 20th, 2011 to celebrate with us the closure of our 50th Year Anniversary.

Love,

Carmencita Romanach

OPERATION PEDRO PAN GROUP, INC. (OPPG)

A National Charitable Organization

www.pedropan.org
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September 2, 2011

Pedro Pan News



PLEGARIA A NUESTRA SRA. DE LA CARIDAD DEL COBRE, PATRONA DE CUBA

Por Gloria Cano

(Madre de cuatro Pedro Panes que vivieron en Mariana Home en Wichita, Kansas: Tony, Mercedes, Gloria y Cristina (QEPD) Casas.

Virgen María,

Reina y Madre nuestra de la Caridad, humilde balsera, quisiste arribar a tierras cubanas, bregando en la mar para acompañar en la cruel tempestad a miles de hermanos, sin patria, ni hogar, a tierras extrañas para allí sembrar su moral, sus valores, y su dignidad.

A niños sin padres que se embarcarían, a tantas familias que se dividían, y a aquellos que en tu isla querida de Cuba beberían su Cáliz de tanta amargura, de tanta desgracia y de tanta maldad.

A todos quisiste tenderle las manos, sin olvidar a ninguno de tus hijos cubanos.

Tu bien lo sabías, oh bella cirinea, que en aguas del Golfo subía la marea; las lluvias de lágrimas que miles vertían, y hasta nuestras playas llegaste a llevar a tus hijos, por tierra, por aire y por mar.

En la vasta historia de la humanidad, jamás ha existido un éxodo igual. Que el mundo lo sepa, grite Cuba entera, La Virgen María en balsa de madera, el ocho de septiembre, su fecha natal, Gentil Marinera, llego por la mar.

¡Salva a Cuba Señora, que esta prisionera! Tú que en Santo Amor nos trajiste a Jesús, ¡Ayúdanos, oh Madre, a llevar nuestra Cruz!!

Our Lady of Charity/Miami

Letter to Our Lady of Charity's children:

In a few days we will be celebrating the feast honoring Our Mother and Patroness, Our Lady of Charity (Caridad del Cobre). This is a celebration that gathers thousands of Her children, including everyone who lives in Cuba, The United States of America or any other place in the world, who feel loved and protected by our Mother, our beloved "Cachita". This is a celebration of faith and love to honor the Virgin Mary, Mother of God, who guides us to Jesus, the Lord. This is a very special celebration, since we are commemorating the 50th anniversary of the arrival in Miami of the image of Our Lady who we venerate at the Ermita.

The image once belonged to the Guanabo Parrish in Havana, and used to visit Tarara every year on the 6th of September, returning by sea to Guanabo on the 7th, and from there to Campo Florido where they celebrated Her traditional day of September 8th. They say it was a very emotional sight, to watch the ocean procession through the Havana coast. This image had been sculpted a few years before, in 1947, through a request from Father Armando Jimenez Rebollar, Guanabo's Pastor. While living in exile, and realizing the faith of his people, Father Jimenez Rebollar did everything possible to bring to Miami his beloved image.

This image had been hidden in the Italian Embassy, and was delivered to Elvira Jovane de Zayas, who was in charge of Business Negotiations in the Embassy of Panama in Havana She asked Mr. Luis Gutierrez Areces, who had been living at the Embassy for the last six months, to bring the image to Miami.

On September 8, 1961, more than thirty thousand exiled Cubans living in Miami, started to get ready to celebrate the Holy Mass at the Miami Stadium. No one imagined that the image of Our Lady of Charity would be arriving from Cuba that same day, much less that She would be presiding this celebration, presenting Her children to the Church that welcomed them. As Msgr. Agustín Román reminds us many times, it was the first time that Her feast was celebrated in Miami by such a multitude, and to this day we have never failed to venerate the Cuban Patron, also Co-Patron of the Archdioceses of Miami. This year we expect many people to attend the

Novena of Our Lady of Charity that will take effect at the Ermita. This year, like fifty years before, thousands of Our Lady's children will get together once again on September 8th to honor the Mother of our Cuban people with joy and faith.

Please come with your family and friends: Charity unites us. May God bless you abundantly, and may Our Lady of Charity cover us with Her love. Amen.

P. Juan Rumin Dominguez Rector

Vigil to Our Lady of Charity

Wednesday, September 7, 2011

8:00 pm – Vigil to Our Lady of Charity with the "Coral Cubana" and participation of musicians and artists who honor Our Lady of Charity each year.

Place: Ermita de la Caridad, Miami, Fl

Solemn Mass in Honor of Our Lady of Charity

Thursday, September 8, 2011

University of Miami – Bank United Center
1245 Dauer Drive

Coral Gables, FL 33146

- 5:00 pm Our Lady of Charity leaves the Shrine
- 6:00 pm UM doors open
- 6:30 pm Rosary
- 7:00 pm Our Lady of Charity arrives at UM
- 8:00 pm Solemn Mass

OPPG DONATION

Operation Pedro Pan Group Inc. donated two boxes of 8 x 10 matted prints of Our Lady of Charity to la Ermita de la Caridad National Shrine for their upcoming anniversary celebration, courtesy of Pedro Pan brother, Melvin Noriega.

Our Lady of Charity/California

Please note that the priest celebrating this Mass, Fr. Antonio Marti, is a Pedro Pan...



Our Lady of Charity/Maryland

A Mass for "Our Lady of Charity" will be celebrated in the Maryland area.

Place: Holy Family Catholic Church, 826 West Central Ave., Davidsonville, MD 21035

Date: Saturday, September 10th, 2011

Time: 6:30 pm

After Mass, a get together is being organized by Pedro Pan Misha Callahan. For more information, please contact her at:

443 995 7121 or esolmisha@hotmail.com

Our Lady of Charity/Tampa

A Mass for "Our Lady of Charity" will be celebrated in Central Florida area and dedicated to the Pedro Pan community.

Place: Incarnation Catholic Church, 5124 Gateway Dr., Tampa, Fl 33615

phone: 813 885 7861

Date: Saturday, September 10th, 2011

Time: 7:00 pm

For more information contact Pedro Pan Caruca Quevedo

at carucaquevedo@aol.com

Our Lady of Charity/Leon, Spain



Two brothers, Hugo and Pedro Pan Jesus (Jay) Castano, have recently donated a framed picture of Our Lady of Charity to the town's Church in Polvoredo, Leon. Their father was born in this beautiful town and Hugo and Jay, donated the image of "la Virgencita" in his memory, to commemorate the 400 Anniversary of Our lady of Charity as Patroness of Cuba. What a thoughtful way to celebrate this anniversary, thank you!

This Exhibit at Florida International University is a "must see" for all Pedro Pan.

It will be on display during the month of September, 2011

Place: Green Library Gallery (second floor), FIU (Maidique Campus)

11200 SW 8th St., Miami, Fl 33199

305 348 2461

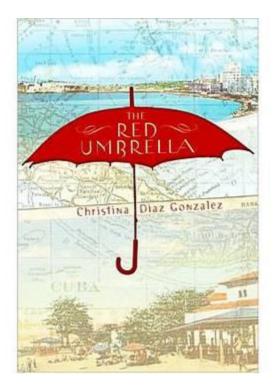
Hours of Operation:

Monday-Thursday: 7:30 am to 1 am

Friday: 7:30 am to 10 pm

Saturday: 8 am to 8 pm, Sunday: 10 am to 1 pm

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THE RED UMBRELLA

Christina Diaz Gonzalez will be at the following locations and times to talk to FIU students about her book The Red Umbrella.

The Red Umbrella has been chosen as the Common Read for all incoming Freshmen students at FIU this year.

All Pedro Pan are welcome to attend.....

and share with the students during the Presentations.

Christina continues being our best Pedro Pan Ambassador....everywhere she goes!

MAIDIQUE CAMPUS:

Place: FIU Ballrooms, 11200 SW 8th St., Miami, Fl

Date: Wednesday, September 7th, 2011.

Time: noon

BISCAYNE CAMPUS:

Place: Wolfe University Center Auditorium, 3000 NE 151 St., North Miami, Fl

Date: Thursday, September 8th, 2011.

Time: 2 p.m.

Atlanta Pedro Pan

The Reunion has been moved to the second week this month due to

Labor day weekend plans.

The Reunion will be held on September 11, 2011

at:

Mojitos Cuban American Bistro 35 S. Peachtree St. Norcross, Ga 30071

There will be an art gallery tour after lunch, courtesy of Mario Petrirena.

All Pedro Pan and their children are welcome to come....

Lunch at 1 p.m. (requires RSVP)

Please RSVP to:

Emy Botet at ebotet@yahoo.com 404 775 0440

If you are visiting Atlanta.....just drop by and meet this fun group of Pedro Pan that live in Atlanta.

CALIFORNIA PEDRO PAN

Don't miss this opportunity! This is a great fun day for all in the family.....

Dear Pedro Pan Brothers and Sisters:

Save the Date Saturday September 24, 2011 Spend the day with

Cuban Kids from the 60's Exodus - Pedro Pan of California.

Join us for our 6th annual reunion at



Hacienda Don Francisco
Details to follow in the coming weeks!
Save the Date Saturday September 24, 2011



Until we meet again!
The Cuban Kids Working Group
CubanKid60Exodus@aol.com

ALBUQUERQUE PEDRO PAN

The Albuquerque Pedro Pan are planning a Reunion for 2012!!!!!

They want to find all Pedro Pan who went to Albuquerque.....

Contact us at members@pedropan.org

or Ernesto Perez at: gallo46@bellsouth.net

MAY 18, 19, 20 2012

Looking for Pedro Pan

ATTENTION:

Betty Gonzalez Penton is trying to locate Pedro Pan from Central Tuinucu for a get together next summer.

If you have any information or comments send them to: members@pedropan.org

Correction Notice:

In our August 2011 Newsletter, a photo was posted with the following statement under it: "Chicago Pedro Pan/ Our new Trustee from Chicago, Fernando Collado, organized a Chicago Pedro Pan reunion this week end."

It has been brought to our attention that the photo that we posted was not of a Pedro Pan reunion.

Saturday, September 17 at 10 AM - Breakfast

Place: La Casona Restaurant, Miami

Saturday, October 15 at 10 AM - Breakfast

Place: La Casona Restaurant, Miami

Friday, November 18, Conference-History of Operation Pedro Pan/Fiesta Cubana Cocktail Party.

Place: Miami Beach Resort and Spa, Miami Beach, Fl

Saturday, November 19 - Thanksgiving Dinner-Dance

Place: Miami Beach Resort and Spa, Miami Beach, Fl

Sunday, November 20 at 3 PM- Thanksgiving Mass

Place: Inmaculada/LaSalle High School, Miami, Fl

Saturday, December 17 at 10 AM - Breakfast

Place: La Casona Restaurant, Miami

<u>Tuesday, December 20, at 7 PM- Memorial Mass for Msgr. Bryan O. Walsh</u>

Place: St. Michael Catholic Church, Miami

Operation Pedro Pan Group, Inc

A National Charitable Organization of the former Children of Pedro Pan 161 Madeira Avenue, Suite 61 Coral Gables, FL. 33134 - (305) 554-7196

> members@pedropan.org www.pedropan.org http://www.facebook.com/OPPGI