



September 24, 2008

Hola Casa Xalteva Friends

Welcome to the first Casa Xalteva Newsletter, where you can read about what is going on down here in Granada, while you get on with your lives all over the world.

LET'S GET ON WITH IT THEN

It was a very good summer here in Granada: Hot, dry, and FULL. We were stuffed from June-August, including a three week program with the University of New Mexico.

We hosted groups from the French International high school of San Francisco and Highlands University of northern New Mexico. But the summer has ended. Granada's August Festival completed with a small running of the bulls- and the Independence Day celebration, on September 15, has passed. We have officially entered the brief low season, with universities and highschoools in session, and look forward to begin our large project: replacing the main roof before the year ends.

UPDATES/NEWS

Here is a quick roundup of things happening here now.

New Blog

We launched a blog a few months ago to allow for quick updates on Casa Xalteva, Granada, and Nicaragua in general. It has enjoyed a small hiatus, but is back in action. It will now be bilingual, with Juan Carlos making posts as well.

[Go to blog](#)

Facebook Group It seems like everyone is using Facebook these days, including most of our students. So, it only makes sense that we now have a Facebook group. Join it and you can share photos, videos, and wall posts. We also used it recently to notify members about a volunteer opportunity on our roof project.

[Go to Facebook](#)



Construction/Expansion In June we finished up with construction on the back portion of Casa Xalteva. We now have a second floor and two new classrooms. Also, there is a small second floor balcony, a new bathroom, and two bedrooms. See the blog for some coverage of the project!
[Go to blog post...](#)

New Website on the Way We are currently working on a new website we should be up and running by the end of the year. The content has been developed a little more and the look will be a little more professional. It will have some added functions including online registration, online payment, and online donations.

Library All those awesome books that so many of our students are impressed with have finally been organized alphabetically and by subject. They can be borrowed during students' visits. We are always looking for new/used books about anything and everything to increase this community resource! Any donations will be eagerly accepted.



Roof Project We hope to start this massive project in the next few weeks to get it done before the rains return. We have already spoken with numerous contractors and conscripted volunteers to help, but we are still trying to raise the necessary funds. A more detailed email about the Roof Project will be sent shortly!
[Go to blog page about the project](#)



Children's Program Especially for those who were here a few years ago, our Children's Program has grown to 11: Isamara, Luis, Pedro, Oscar, Luis, Migdonio, Josue, Fares, Franklin, Judene, Jose Ramon. The picture shows them after a candy-hunt in Parque Xalteva. Thanks to Jeannie Falls for donating the candy!
[See more candy-hunt pictures](#)

Thanks for reading! Please keep your eyes out for future newsletters.

Sincerely,
--Casa Xalteva Crew