

Report of the President, FL-Colombia Partners. 9/24/16

Our chartering Process with the National Office of Partners of the Americas has been completed. Thank you to John Shoch for organizing the 501(c)3 paperwork, Thanks to all who worked n the annual report, and everyone who helped shape our annual plan and new Bylaws.

Nury Penagos was recognized as receiving the Life Changer Service Award. The POA national Chapter was not willing to sponsor her trip without an associated visit to FL. The communication was mixed on whether it was a good time for Nury to leave work or to visit FL, so I requested she consider a visit in 2017 (perhaps February). A February 2017 visit will fold in nicely with Stetson activities that we can plan for her. I would like people to begin thinking very pointedly about how we can give her an amazing experience. The downside of this plan is that Nury will not receive the award (POA national will not mail it, but it unclear if the recognition on the partners connect webpage will be removed.

I have managed to get authorized as the administrator of the Partners Connect Website. We need to be sure that our members are getting registered there to keep our charter active.

I have asked for the following items to be included on the agenda for the September 2016 meeting.

- Most important, we need to make clear and announce that we are going to hold elections at our Qtrly meeting (scheduled Dec 3rd) for the officers as articulated in our New Bylaws (taking effect 2017). I think it would be good to go ahead an begin taking nominations and expressions of interest. We want to be sure that all in our membership are aware of the opportunities to serve.
- Also, we need to nail down the details for the visits from Barranquilla.
- Also, I would like John to provide some clarification about what is going on in Bogota.
- Also, I would like to make routine our collection of the volunteer work that people do. I propose circulating a sign in sheet each meeting to keep track of this.
- Also, what do we intend to do about Nury's Life Changer Service Award? And can we go ahead and start making plans for her visit in 2017 (I think February).