

## Romania—Casa Mea Back to School

### How I Spent My Summer Vacation

By Ana Maria (translated version)

I had the best summer ever! Andreea (our administrator's wife) spent much of the summer with us. It was so fun to have her here. She is a teacher but she is also the best French hair braider ever. Each time she came she did our hair. Here is a sample of her artistic hair creations. All of us girls loved our French braids.



All of us kids worked in the garden this spring and summer. We had a lot of rain so mainly the weeds took over. But we still had some vegetables from the garden. Us girls learned how to make pickles from Simona, our caregiver. We made many jars of pickles but since we all love them, they were gone before the fall arrived!

But the best part of the summer was that we got a new van. Because of the van, we could all go on a holiday together. We took a weekend off and went to the mountains and a town where there was a planetarium. It was so much fun to see the planetarium and to hike and picnic in the mountains. We stayed with Razvan (our administrator) and his wife Andreea in their apartment. The girls got to sleep in the bedroom but the boys had to sleep on the floor in the living room.

It was a great summer! But now I am looking forward to being back in school with my friends!



On vacation in the mountains



Girls making pickles

# The Romanian American Scholars' Club

## HOORAY!

Finally our school is furnished, staffed, and up and running. We are so fortunate to have a young woman, Erin, from the US who has volunteered to be our English teacher for the next six months. She will be teaching English to our children, children from the community, and local adults. Already, our children are speaking some English! Our homework teacher is a young woman who teaches English in our local school. She will take charge of the Homework Club for our children as well as the local children. We are hopeful that our school program will raise funds for Casa Mea so that eventually Casa Mea may become self-sustaining. We are forever grateful for those of you who have financially and emotionally supported the development of our school. We could not have done this without your help!

*Casa Mea's Volunteer English Teacher in Small Classroom*



*Our Large Classroom*



# Mi Casita Guatemala

## WAITING, WAITING, WAITING!

Our home in Santa Catarina is all set to go but we cannot accept babies yet because child protective services is still investigating our home and our documents. Meanwhile, abandoned babies wait in the hospital until we are cleared to open. We are asking Santa to bring us babies for Christmas, if not before!

Mi Casita is collaborating with Tessa's organization called Tess Unlimited. Her charity cares for the children prior to surgery, provides the surgeries these children need, and provides the follow-up care for them. Tessa has been in Guatemala many years and we are looking forward to working with her and her charity for the benefit of these children.



*Tessa with baby in need of a loving home*

# TO OUR CURRENT AND POTENTIAL SUPPORTERS

By Melanie Clark



*Michael and Melanie with the children*

This fall my husband and I visited Casa Mea Romania. These children are wonderful and deserve our support. For many of them Casa Mea is the only home they have known. The children have bonded with each other and are like siblings. Without our help, they would be returned to the orphanage. We cannot possibly abandon these children to the orphanage yet again.

Late summer and early fall are rough times financially for Casa Mea. With the majority of contributions occurring in early to late winter, no matter how hard we try to stretch the funds, this time of year is very tight for us. I am very committed to the ongoing success of Casa Mea and the children who rely on us and call Casa Mea home. I have just contributed \$1,000 and am asking you to help if you can.

By Jan Calos

We are in the process of setting up our home, Mi Casita, in Guatemala for abandoned cleft lip and palate babies. Although our funds are stretched to the limit, we are undertaking this endeavor in Guatemala because we believe it is the right thing to do. These children deserve a loving home and a chance. I too have just donated \$1000 and am asking you to help if you can.



*Abandoned baby in need of a home*

## Good Neighbor Program



Tom Thumb/Randall's Grocery Stores have a Good Neighbor Program. By completing the enclosed form with Casa Mea's charity number of 13061, 1% of all of your purchases will be sent to Casa Mea. This is a way to raise funds without having to even think about it. If you shop at these stores, please complete the form and take it to your store's courtesy counter. How much easier and painless can donating be?

**ALL OF US AT CASA MEA ARE COMMITTED TO THESE CHILDREN. WE CANNOT ABANDONED THEM YET AGAIN. THEREFORE, THEY HAVE BECOME OUR RESPONSIBILITY AS IF THEY WERE OUR OWN CHILDREN. WE HOPE YOU FEEL THE SAME WAY!**

To send your financial gift to Casa Mea...

- By Check: Payable to **Casa Mea** at 6705 Shadow Crest Drive, Plano, TX 75093
- By Credit Card: Donate online by clicking [HERE](#) or visit [www.casamea.org](http://www.casamea.org) and click on "Make a Donation"
- Other Donations: Contact Jan at 612-227-3239 or email [jan@casamea.org](mailto:jan@casamea.org) to arrange for a monthly automatic bank withdrawal, donation of appreciated stock, or other type of financial donation.

All contributions to Casa Mea are tax-deductible. Thank you!