

NEWSLETTER

BREITLING BEACH CLEAN UP



On the 10th January Urumepa and the Breitling Co. Organizedd a beach clean up in Punta del Este. Breitling Co. is committed with the protection of the marine environment, and the event was a success. Many representants from the Company where present, together with the Urumepa BOD.

An informative chat preceded the clean up, and all children and grown ups were interested and showed enthusiasm engaging the activity.

MOTIVATIONAL CONFERENCE

On February 16, Urumepa participated of a series of informative chats in Rocha, Las Carcavas;and had the opportunity of sharing the activities taken place during the year, and the ones planned for the future. The response was excelent, and the audience got involved with our purpose, schedulling more chats in local schools.



GREEN HYDROGEN

On February 25, Urumepa organized an informative conference about the Renewable Energies and Green Hydrogen. This took place at the Manantiales Location in Maldonado, and the speaker was the specialist in the subject, Engineer Fernando Schaich.



PR23

On February 28, and March 1 and 2, Urumepa was a part of the International Conference on Risk Prevention and Natural Disasters, which took place at the Enjoy Conrad Hotel in Punta del Este.



WINTER SHELTER SOLIDARITY CAMPAIGN

As from May, we are receiving donations (winter clothes, blankets etc) at the Maria Tsakos Foundation (Bv. Artigas 1138) from 12 pm to 7 pm.

This campaign will be extended through out the winter season in order to help the most needed.



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“EARTH DAY”. “ECO POT” PROJECT



On April 22, commemorating Earth Day, Urumepa hosted 14 students from the Midlands School of Florida, together with parents and some volunteers. Teachers and students travelled for the occasion from the city of Florida, and had a chance to get to know the Maria Tsakos Foundation. We invited representants from another environmental ong, who was interested in the childrens project.

We started with a brief introduction regarding Urumepa’s activities and objectives.

Then, the students proudly presented their “Eco pot” project, which consists in reusing plastic bottles transforming them into pots for hydroponic crops. The idea is to visit other schools with this students, and have them teaching other children in order to reproduce their project. After the presentation Urumepa invited everybody to share some snacks and juices.



HOME FEST

From the 4th to the 7th of May, the “Home Fest” Exposition took place at the Antel Arena.

Urumepa had a stand decorated with recycled plastic and fishermen nets. Many people signed as volunteers once they heard about our activities. Urumepa had the chance to give 2 presentations; one regarding our objectives and future projects by Pilar Lacalle, and the other one regarding the hot issue of green hydrogen, by the Engineer Fernando Schaich.



WINTER SHELTER SOLIDARITY CAMPAIGN

On May 16, the first big donation was taken place. We took the collected winter clothes to the neighbourhood Marconi. El 16 de mayo se realizó la primera entrega de abrigo para el barrio Marconi.



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VISIT TO STA. BERNANDITA SCHOOL



On May 16 we visited the Santa Bernardita School at the barrio Casabo. This school is part of the Sophia Foundation, and has extra curricular activities regarding the environment.

We listened to the environmental projects of 5th and 6th graders, and decided to organize a Stream Clean Up on the “Arroyo Miguelete”, which is quite conaminated.

VISIT TO THE LICEO JUBILAR

On May 18th, Pilar Lacalle and Fernanda Stewart visited the Jubilar Highschool, in order to promote Urumepas activities and to help the institution with their fund raising in order to get more scholarships for the students that cant afford thei studies.

On the 25th of May, Urumepa was invited to talk about renewable energies and green hydrogen at the directorio del Partido Nacional. We also had a chance to promote our activities and added many volunteers.

URUMEPA'S PRESENTATION AT THE NATIONAL PARTY

2ND VISIT TO SANTA BERNARDITA SCHOOL



On the 1st of June, Pablo Quezada (vice president of Urumepa) visited the school, and walked with the students towards the contaminated Miguelete Stream. The activity was a success, after the clean up, the students interviewed Pablo for an environmental documentary they are working on. The project consists on a diagnosis and proposals for a change.



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The students were very involved because most of them live on the area, and want to have a cleaner environment in general. Their commitment is contagious.

The students also told us about a trash collector for the sea that they are working on. It is based on many youtube videos about the subject, and want to adapt this solution to their reality.

This project will be presented on the “Sustainable Expo” at Urumepas stand on the 8th of June

CLEAN UP DAY AT THE “ESTACADA YACHT CLUB” BAY AND BEACH

On the 3rd of June, 35 volunteers got together at “Estacada Yacht and Fishing club”. We had some Scouts and children from the sailing school participating too.

The day began with an informative chat about Urumepe and the importance of the involvement of the community when it comes to taking care of our environment. We stated the relevance of being part of the solution.

After Pablo s introduction, two teams were formed and given a task.

One of them participated in the beach clean up, and the other on the bay clean up on board of some fishermen boats.

As a result of both clean ups, more than 300 kgs of garbage was collected. Most of it from under the water. The fishermen nets came out with much more plastic than fishes...

The local sailing school also got engaged in the activity, and later we all had a beautiful meal at the club. In spite of the dreadful evidence of the plastic contamination, everybody was happy to help and signed as volunteers for future activities





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INTERNATIONAL ENVIRONMENT DAY CELEBRATION.



On June the 5th, as a commemoration of the international day of the environment, Urumepa and the Midlands School from Florida presented their “Eco Pot” project at the Floridas Municipality. There was local press present and the children were very enthusiastic.

On the same day, Urumepa gave an introductory chat on Green Hydrogen to the employees of the Christophersen Group.

PARTICIPATION AT THE SUSTAINABLE EXPO

Urumepa participated at the “Expo Sostenible”, organized by the Environmental Ministry. It took place from the 8th to the 11th of June. We had a beautiful stand decorated with sea animals made of recycled plastic bottles and old fisherman nets; and where able to share with many students our objectives and mission. More than 400 children signed as volunteers for future clean ups and activities



On the first day of the Expo, the Midlands School students gave a presentation on our stand, explaining their project Eco Pot. Later they visited another school (Woodlands School)with Pilar, where they got to teach younger students how to recycle plastic bottles and give them a second life as pots for hydroponia.



The experience of children teaching children was fantastic!

On the 9th of June, the Sta Bernardita School presented on Urumepas stand at the Expo, their sea clean up project. There was press present and it was an incredible experience for them. They got to meet people from the Panda foundation and the UTEC institute, exchanging ideas and organizing activities together. Quite a productive day for everybody.



The young students from the UTEC received a proposal from Urumepa in order to participate in

the Darwin 200 project. They were very excited about the possibility of becoming a Young Darwin Leader, so two of them decided to postulate as candidates for the project, in which





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Urumepa is the local partner. (There is a local partner in every country visited by the Darwin 200 ship).

On Saturday our stand was visited by the President of Uruguay, Luis Lacalle Pou.

ENVIRONMENT CINEMA FESTIVAL “CAMINA”



On August the 2nd, Urumepa participated on the premier of a sequence of movies about environmental issues that took place at the Montevideo Shopping Movie Cinema.

María Fernanda Cea and Pablo Quezada, represented our BOD.

URUMEPA PARTICIPATED IN THE ANNUAL ENVIRONMENTAL EXPOSITION AT THE STA BERNARDITA SCHOOL



On the 22nd August, Pilar Lacalle and Pablo Quezada represented Urumepa at the annual expo where the students of different grades presented different environmental projects. One of the projects was the one in which the students worked hand in hand with Urumepa regarding the clean up of the Miguelete Stream.

On the 11th of September, the first green hydrogen forum took place.

Pilar Lacalle participated both days, and it was a great opportunity to meet experts on renewable energies and to learn about the opportunities of developing renewable energies in our country.

It was interesting to learn from the German experience and its applicability in our country.

FIRST FORUM ON GREEN HYDROGEN



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BEACH CLEAN UP ON “ARROYO CARRASCO WITH METLIFE COMPANY EMPLOYEES

On September 14th, Urumepa organized a beach clean up preceded by an informative chat regarding the importance of getting involved as a community in the environmental protection. 26 employees and 2 managers of the Metlife insurance company participated and were happy to be part of the solution. After the clean up, refreshments were served under the Urumepa gazebo.



INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON “GREEN HYDROGEN AND CLIMATE RESILIENCY” ORGANIZED BY URUMEPA AND OAS

On the 19th of September, Urumepa together with the OAS (Organization of the American States) organized a conference on Green Hydrogen and Climate Resiliency at the OAS building.

We had speakers from Chile, Spain, Germany, Argentina and Uruguay. This Conference was sponsored by the Christophersen Group and the collaboration of the PNUMA, IICA, URUGUAY XXI, and BUQUEBUS.





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INTERMEPA STEERING COMMITTEE

On September 25th, all the Mepas participated on a zoom meeting, in which every one of us shared the latest activities and our future projects.

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NATIONAL HERITAGE DAY AT URUMEPA



On October 7th, Urumepa received visitors at our office in the Maria Tsakos Foundation building. We commemorated the National Heritage Day, and shared with many interested people pictures, documents, experiences and information about our activities with schools, the conferences we attend and organize and the many workshops we have participated in all regarding our mission and objective; the protection of the marine environment.

BEACH CLEAN UP WITH THE CLIPPER RACE TRIPULANTS IN PUNTA DEL ESTE

On the 18th October, Urumepa organized together with the Punta del Este Yacht Club, a beach clean up inviting the tripulants of the different ships racing the Clipper Race.

After the clean up, we participated at a kermesse in order to raise funds for UNICEF.



200 TREES PLANTED BY URUMEPA AND METLIFE

On the 19th of October we organized a plantation day together with the Metlife Insurance Company. 36 employees of the company collaborated in the plantation of autoctonous species by the Maldonado River.



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WISTA INTERNATIONAL ANNUAL MEETING 2023 - PARTICIPATION OF URUMEPA

From the 25th to the 27th of October, WISTA International celebrated its annual meeting and congress in Montevideo, at the Radisson Victoria Plaza Hotel.

Urumepe was invited to be part of the section “Greener Future”, and shared our mission, vision and objectives.

BEACH CLEAN UP WITH WOODLANDS SCHOOL STUDENTS.

On the 26th October Urumepe organized a beach clean up with young students than call themselves the “penguin guardians”.The showed much concern about the future of sea animals and the beach contamination.

The children were very enthusiastic about helping and making a difference.





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VIII ENERGY WEEK ORGANIZED BY THE LATINAMERICAN ENERGY ORGANIZATION – (OLADE)

From the 6th to the 10th of November, Urumepe participated on the Latin American Energy Organization celebrated the 8th “Energy Week” together with the Ministries of Environment, Industry, Energy and the Interamerican Development Bank (IDB). This year the event will be held together with the First Investment Forum in Latin America organized by IRENA.

THE ONG URUMEPE IS THE LOCAL PARTNER OF THE DARWIN200 PROJECT

The Darwin 200 project is a planetary conservation initiative which consists of replicating Charles Darwin’s voyage aboard HIMS Beagle two centuries ago, travelling in a similar ship called the Oosterschelde. The aim is to create 200 exceptional conservational young leaders from different nationalities, sharing the information and projects with schools all over the world.



Urumepe was chosen as the local ong partner of the project, and from the 14th to the 25th November, our vicepresident Pablo Quezada was on board the ship together with a marine biologist from the Blue Sea ong. They worked on a recently discovered coral area on Uruguayan sea. They were able to explore the area and study the habitat and the degree of contamination together with the local species.

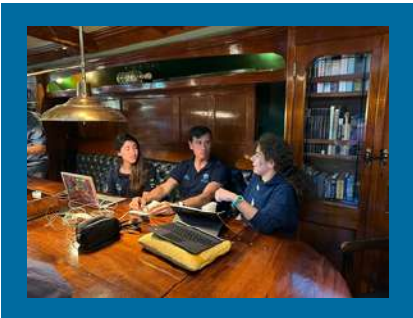


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URUMEPa DESIGNATED TUTOR OF A YOUNG DARWIN LEADER AS PART OF THE DARWIN200 PROJECT

From the 24th November to the 3rd December, Pilar and Pablo tutored and supervised the young Darwin leader assigned to work on the project of plastic contamination on the River Plate and its afluentes. Our young leader is from Turkey, her name is Rumeysa, and is 20 years old.

Rumeysa showed passion and enthusiasm from the start. It was an intense week of field work and studying the stats. We visited the main streams that contaminate the River Plate, and registered all our work in order to deliver a well finished job.



WRITER LUIS GALLO GIVES LECTURE ON CHARLES DARWIN



On the 27th November, at the Yacht Club in Punta del Este, writer Luis Gallo talked about his book on Darwin, and gave a lecture to the Darwin 200 tripulation. Pilar translated simultaneously to the english speakers. Mr Gallo talked about his novel Simioinglés, based on Darwins voyage.

On Friday of the same week, he lectured on Charles Darwin to 90 public school students who were fascinated by his knowledge on the subject.



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PABLO QUEZADA INTERVIEWED BY VIVA RADIO

On november the 27, Pablo Quezada (representing Urumepa) and Agustin Loureiro (Mar Azul), were interviewed regarding their experience onboard the Oosterschelde.



They narrated their trip and talked about both ONGs and the commitment with the environment and our work as ONG partners with the Young Darwin Leaders.

URUMEPA WAS A JURY FOR THE “GOOD IDEAS TO COMBAT PLASTIC POLLUTION” CONTEST, ORGANIZED BY THE ORT UNIVERSITY

he UN, through its environmental programme PNUMA, together with the ORT University organized a contest in order to choose the best proposal amongst "good ideas to deal with the plastic contamination". The participants were 5th and 6th graders both from public and private institutions or equivalent in the technological baccalaureate UTU.





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Urumepa's Director, Pilar Lacalle, together with Alberto Pacheco Capella (PNUMA Director) and Marisa Cirillo (Executive Director of Cempre ONG) were members of the jury.

The winners were Sofía Epherre and Agustín Correa. They presented a project titled "Transforming trash into treasures". The proposal consisted of inoculating some mushrooms strains into the trash disposals. These mushrooms are specially designed for the plastic degradation. The project includes investigation areas and mushroom production, as well as training programmes and employment opportunities as a funding resource.



Pilar Lacalle, together with Alberto Pacheco Capella (PNUMA Director)