

Greetings EWB-Valpo Alumni and Friends,

As you can see, this newsletter has undergone major changes since its first edition. We are greatly appreciative of all the comments and feedback we have received from you, and continuously encourage your critiques because we are always striving to improve.

Our goal with this newsletter is to keep you informed on what we are up to, as well as form a network of connections to assist us in our projects. In addition to keeping you updated on the “Inside Scoop” here on campus, we would love to hear about what you all have accomplished since graduation. If you know of other people who would like to receive this information, have any tips or tricks that you think could be useful to our organization, or would like to help us out in any way, please, don’t hesitate to contact us at [ewbvalpo.webmaster@gmail.com](mailto:ewbvalpo.webmaster@gmail.com). We are truly grateful for your continuous support!

Sincerely,  
EWB-Valpo

## BACKGROUND ON OUR COMMUNITY

EWB-Valpo is working with a rural village in Nicaragua to help rehabilitate their water distribution system. The community is a small village on the east side of Ometepe Island at the base of the volcano Maderas. Most of its inhabitants work as subsistence farmers and live on less than one dollar a day income.

At their request, EWB-Valpo is working toward building a secondary water storage tank and replacing part of the distribution system with new pipes. Out of the more than 220 homes in the village, more than twenty do not receive running water. The existing water storage tank, though stable and functioning, overflows at night, wasting valuable water. EWB-Valpo is working to determine the reasons pipes are bursting and, if possible, develop a maintenance plan to prevent future damage. We aim to address all of our village’s concerns. In addition to these goals, EWB-Valpo is pursuing opportunities in installing a filtration system at the request of the town’s water committee, collecting water quality data, and installing valves throughout the piping system. At the conclusion of this project, the piped water system should provide adequate storage, use water efficiently, and serve every home in the village.



Volcano Concepción on Ometepe Island in Nicaragua

### Advisors

**Chief Advisor:**

Professor Daniel Blood

**Health and Safety Advisor:**

Professor Amy Corey

**Business Advisor:**

Professor Coleen Wilder

**Public Relations Advisor:**

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**Professional Advisor:**

Bob Andrews

### Executive Board

**President:**

Seth Strelow (Civil Engineer–Junior)

**President Elect:**

Jacob Yager (Mechanical Engineer–Sophomore)

**Projects Leader:**

Gabriel Valencia (Mechanical Engineer–Sophomore)

**Finance Team Leader:**

Kristen Klippert (Business–Sophomore)

**Public Relations Leader:**

Khalid Zaki (Civil Engineer–Junior)

**Secretary:**

Jack Hoeniges (Mechanical Engineer–Sophomore)

### Chairs

**Technical Chair:**

Lars Anderson (Civil Engineer–Junior)

**Fundraising Chair:**

John Peshorn (Civil Engineer–Freshman)

**Grant Writing Chair:**

Stephen Freund (Physics–Junior)

**Recruitment Chair:**

Pall Baggot (Business–Freshman)

**Webmaster Chair:**

Krista Stribling (Civil Engineer–Freshman)

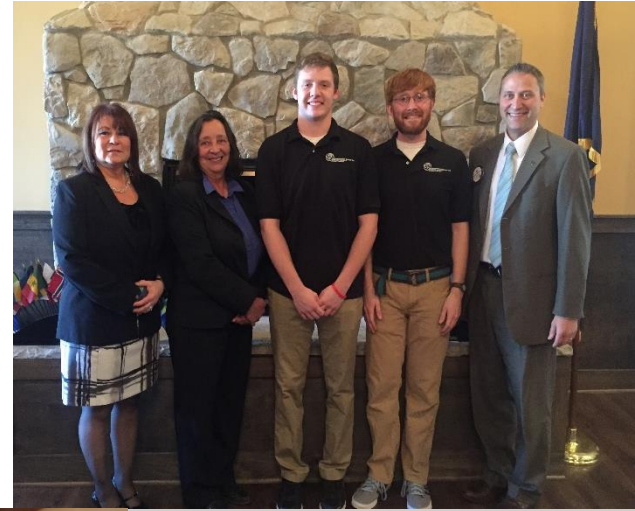
**Health and Safety Chair:**

Kelsey Fader (Nursing–Junior)

Emily Knippenberg (Nursing–Junior)

# ROTARY CLUBS OF MUNSTER AND VALPARAISO OFFER GRANT OF OVER \$60,000

In late April, President Seth Strelow and Fundraising Chair John Penshorn presented to a board of about 80 Rotary members in hopes that their hard work would result in significant funding for the Valpo-EWB chapter. Their efforts were successful in earning a grant worth \$68,747 for future projects. These funds will be used for both ongoing projects in Nicaragua, and recent opportunities arising in Haiti.



## EWB MEMBERS TRAVEL TO HAITI OVER THEIR SPRING BREAK

Twelve students from Valparaiso University (many of them EWB members) visited an orphanage called *Pwoje Espwa* (Project Hope) in Les Cayes, Haiti for 5 days during spring break, accompanied by EWB advisor, Professor Daniel Blood. During their stay they taught 100 Haitian students about electricity, environmental science, aerodynamics, chemical reactions, and dynamics. They also donated laptops and a 3D printer for the Haitian students, and taught a few select students how to design and print gears, screws, and kitchen utensils. The trip was an incredible cultural experience for the students, and EWB-Valpo hopes that this will be the first of many projects to come in Haiti.



## SPOTLIGHT ON BOB YAMTICH



Bob Yamtich was one of the “Founding Fathers” of Valparaiso’s Engineers Without Borders chapter. He graduated in 2003 with a Civil Engineering degree, before EWB-Valpo officially came into existence, but without his hard work and dedication, our chapter may not exist. Yamtich has taken a non-traditional route post-graduation, and currently works as a Marriage and Family Therapist specializing in Non-Violent Communication. He currently lives and works in Arkansas with his wife and newborn baby.



Know of another EWB alumni deserving of the “Spotlight”? Desire to get your own, or your company’s name out to fellow graduates? Contact Krista Stribling at [ewbvalpo.webmaster@gmail.com](mailto:ewbvalpo.webmaster@gmail.com)