



The Voice

Newsletter of the American Society of Jalisco, A.C.
September 2009 Edition

The American Society of Jalisco, A.C.
La Sociedad Americana de Jalisco
A.C.

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The cost of ads and announcements in The Voice is a donation to AmSoc of \$25 pesos per month for members, or \$50 for non-members.

President's Gift

Everybody knows by now about President Obama's visit for the NAFTA Summit Conference.

One interesting event for local residents occurred during the special supper of the three leaders in Hospicio Cabañas, President Obama admired a napkin ring—part of the Petatillo dinnerware used for the meal—and president Calderon subsequently presented him with a complete set of the Tonalteca pottery.



Petatillo is made by Tonalá artisan José Bernabe Campechano and is named for the delicate crosshatching of very fine lines. Due to the labor-intensive process and the resulting high selling prices, very few artisans undertake this work - remember this when looking at possibly purchasing petatillo. A complete set of dinnerware can cost up to \$15,000 dollars.

José Bernabe Campechano is a true master of petatillo pottery. His work is not found in the local stores. Petatillo is one of the most beautiful manifestations of Mexican pottery and is rarely seen in public markets.

Barnabe has been producing *petatillo* ceramics for 40 years and is a member of a family that has cultivated this art for four generations. Now, he is passing his art down to his children.

He has perfected the use of the wheel, the kiln, and the design, but injects his own creativity to decide the form and design his piece shall take. In his workshop, he uses black, white,

beige and red clays as well as special enamels, some of which he prepares himself. The paints and pigments are made of mixtures of colorants from the soil and are applied with fine brushes of animal hair (which he also makes). Sometimes he uses Japanese brushes.

The process of decorating the pottery is lengthy with two separate firings, and it requires great skill and knowledge of the forms and materials used.



Bernabe produces sets of dishes, vases, pitchers and a multitude of individual decorative items. The traditional colors are black, red and white although Bernabe and his sons have included colors such as green and blue, making his work unique.

Bernabe has received numerous awards and prizes over the years for his creative work. He is featured in the landmark book, "Great Masters of Mexican Folk Art."

Contact information:
Hidalgo #83 Centro, Tonalá
333 683 0040 or 333 683 0877

September Lunch Menus

Thursday, September 3

Zucchini soup, meat rolls stuffed with ham and cheese, bread pudding.

Thursday, September 10

Vegetable soup, club sandwich, ice-cream

Thursday, September 17

Tomato soup, beef Stroganoff, banana pudding

Thursday, September 24

Spinach soup, Brisket sandwich, peach "sorbetes"

Guadalajara Outings

*Wondering what to do next weekend?
Why not go to the zoo?*

Did you know that Guadalajara has one of the finest zoos in Latin America?

Zoologico Guadalajara, which covers thirty-four hectares, of re-forested land, opened in 1988.

It is an important ecological centre, which helps with the preservation and reproduction of several endangered species.



At the entrance of the zoo are famous sculptures of monkeys by the renowned world artist Sergio Bustamante.

Attactions:

Animals native to Mexico—such as coyotes, bears, deer, insects, birds and snakes—live here along with two thousand other species, including Iranian wolves, hippopotamuses, monkeys, ostriches, llamas and more.

The Herpetarium is the largest reptile house in Latin America and includes all kinds of arachnids, tortoises, fish, snakes and lizards.

Aviaries of exotic birds, including the golden eagle.



Aquarium of rare and fascinating aquatic creatures.

The Nocturnario is a place that houses nocturnal animals like raccoons, owls and more.

The Selva Tropical shows animals from the tropical rainforest region.

Safari Masai Mara displays animals from the African savannah.



White tiger family

Food concessions are available, should you need a snack.

No juice, fruits, or food may be brought onto the site, although visitors may carry water.

**Address: Paseo del Zoológico 600, off Calz. Independencia, Zona Huentitán, Guadalajara, Phone: 33/3674-4488
www.zooguadalajara.com.mx**



Faustina's birthday

Admission (in pesos):

Zoo entrance \$51, kids and seniors \$28

Package tour \$117 adults /\$70 kids & seniors. Entrance fee includes the aquarium, the train, and the safari.

Train (30 mins.) \$22 per person

Safari (by bus) \$28 adults, \$15 kids

Parking \$34 all day.

Quotes of the Month

The smaller the mind the greater the conceit.

Aesop

El joven conoce las reglas; el viejo, las excepciones

Oliver Wendell Holmes

Democracy is a process by which the people are free to choose the man who will get the blame.

Laurence J. Peter

We are all in the gutter, but some of us are looking at the stars.

Oscar Wilde

Peace Corps in Mexico

Contributed by Will Prescott

The U.S. Peace Corps was created during the administration of John F. Kennedy nearly 50 years ago. It is still going strong with volunteers in 74 countries. However, until recently there was no Peace Corps in Mexico. The delay was probably related to Mexico's historical distrust of US intentions.

The agreement for the Peace Corps to send volunteers to Mexico, was signed in 2003, although the first Peace Corps volunteers did not arrive in Mexico until 2004. This September an 8th group of volunteers will arrive.

The Mexican Peace Corps programs differ from those in other countries in two major ways. Usually, the Peace Corps enters into a bilateral agreement at the level of the State Department of the two countries. In Mexico, the arrangement is formalized at a lower level. The Peace Corps has agreements with two Mexican agencies: Secretaría de Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales (SEMARNAT) and Consejo Nacional de Ciencia y Tecnología (CONACYT).

The second difference between the Peace Corps in Mexico and in other countries is the kinds of volunteers that are recruited and their assignments. Volunteers in Mexico are required to have an advanced degree or years of experience in environmental science, business, education, or information technology. As a consequence, the volunteers tend to be somewhat older than the average Peace Corps volunteer.

They are assigned to work with a department of SEMAR-NAT or CONACYT. Although the Mexico program differs in some ways, the goals are the same: to transfer technological skills to the host country, to give people in the host country experience with people from the U.S., and to give people from the U.S. experience with people from the host country.

There are five Peace Corps Volunteers working in Guadalajara. Two work at the CON-ACYT center,

Centro de Investigación y Asistencia en Tecnología y Diseño del Estado de Jalisco (CIATEJ), near Normalista and Alcalde, two at Comision Nacional Forestal (CONAFOR) located near Vallarta and Periferico and the fifth at Bosque la Primavera in Concentro.

The volunteers at CIATEJ work on water and air quality issues. Two volunteers in Guadalajara have business advisory roles, one at CONAFOR and one at Bosque La Primavera. I work at CONAFOR assisting them with mathematical modeling of forest data, computer software development, and web pages. There is also a volunteer in Ciudad Guzman working in the Volcan de Colima park and one at the Sierra de Quila park in Tecolotlan. All of us "perform other duties as assigned".



Will with Huichol friend

Volunteers serve in Mexico, and elsewhere, for two years, although there is an option to extend for an additional year or two. The two years of service are preceded by three months of language and cultural training at the Peace Corps Mexico headquarters in Queretaro, Mexico. They have a staff of around 20 people that develop the programs with the Mexican agencies, take care of arrangements for volunteers, and handle the training.

Currently there are around fifty volunteers total in Mexico, some in or near Apodaca, Ciudad Guzman, Ciudad Valles, Guadalajara, Jalpan, Leon, Monterrey, Pachuca, Pedro Escobedo, Perote, Puebla, Queretaro, Saltillo, San Blas, San Luis de la Paz, San Luis Potosi, Tecolotlan, Tehuacan, Tepic, Tlaxcala, and Uruapan.

September Activities

Saturday, September 5th

Labor Day Holiday Barbecue

Come and have fun on the last holiday of the summer!

Menu

BBQ chicken, potato salad and dessert.
Enjoy music, good conversation
and just plain fun!

**Make your reservations early
as tickets are selling fast!**

Tickets:

members \$90 pesos, guest \$110, children
under 12 \$50, day of the event \$150

Saturday, September 12th

AMSOC and the English Speaking Toast-masters (NECC) are hosting our premier eBOWLING TOURNAMENT

What is eBOWLING? A virtual bowling game using Wii and television. Yes, you actually bowl as if you were in a bowling alley!. You do not have to be an expert to win! In our test run, a non bowler was the winner! So, come and join the fun.

From 8:30p.m. to ?

There will also be music, dancing and other games. An entry fee to enter the tournament of \$20. The winning team takes all.

Regular admission: only \$40 pesos.

Saturday, 19th September

Mexican Independence Fiesta

AMSOC, English Speaking Toastmasters
and English Conversation Groups
are hosting our first

Mexican Independence party
Come join the festivities and enjoy
Pozole with all the trimmings,

**Mariachi (and other styles) Music
dancing, games,** and good company.

Festivities begin 8:30 p.m. and going
until...? If you wish, wear your favorite
Mexican dress style, many of us will.

Admission \$70 pesos.

Contribute to The Voice

Now that we have so many Mexican members of AmSoc, I would like to make this a more bilingual publication. We would welcome ads, announcements and articles of interest to our members and from the Mexican community. If you have something to say or something to sell, send it to me in an email, or leave it at the desk. My email address is on the front page.

*Ahora tenemos muchos socios
Mexicanos en La Sociedad Americana y*

yo quiero, que esta publicación sea más bilingüe, nosotros le damos la bienvenida a artículos de interés para nuestros socios y anuncios de la comunidad Mexicana, Si tienes algo que decir o algo que vender, envíame la información por correo electrónico (E-mail) o déjalo en el escritorio de la sociedad.

*Mi correo electrónico esta, en la portada de la revista, mucha gracias.
Editora*

Humor

For weeks a six-year-old boy kept telling his first-grade teacher about the baby brother or sister that was expected at his house.

One day the mother allowed the boy to feel the movements of the unborn child. The six-year old was obviously impressed, but made no comment. Furthermore, he stopped telling his teacher about the impending event.

The teacher finally took the boy aside and asked, "Tommy, whatever became of that baby you were expecting at home?"

Tommy burst into tears and confessed, "I think Mommy ate it!"

Health News

The healing power of tea

The humble cuppa tea contains a wealth of nutrients which have been found to help boost the body's defenses against serious illness, keeping us healthy and even young. Here is a guide to the scientifically proved health benefits of some of the most popular teas:

Black (regular) tea: Protects Against Heart Disease Packed with antioxidant polyphenols to destroy harmful free radicals and boost your body's resistance to infection, black tea also has about half the caffeine of fresh coffee.

Earl Grey: Good Digestive Aid The bergamot oil with which Earl Grey is flavored is thought to help digestion because it stimulates production of stomach enzymes, helping to break down food.

Green tea: Boosts the Immune System. Because green tea is rolled and dried rather than fermented, like black tea is, it retains more nutrients and has a higher antioxidant immune-boosting, anti-aging effect. Research

has found that green tea can help prevent a whole range of diseases, including diabetes and cancer of the stomach, prostate, and lungs. It can also help reduce cholesterol levels and appears to give more effective protection against Alzheimer's than black tea.

(Note: tea contains caffeine. Ed.)

Herbal Teas: Healing and Soothing
Herbal teas have a wide range of health benefits.

Mint tea (hierbabuena) for example, stimulates production of digestive juices and can ease the discomfort of irritable bowel syndrome and aid digestion. Clean-tasting.

Chamomile tea (manzanilla) can help soothe the nerves and relax the muscles, so is a good nighttime drink.

Adapted from *Tea Bliss* by Theresa Cheung (Conari Press, 2007).

Ads – Anuncios

Salud Integral

Physiotherapy • Massage Therapy
Stress Management
Rehabilitation

Sciatica • Sprains

Reflexology • Bioenergetics

Pain Management

Post-surgery Therapy

Rehabilitación post-cirugía

Masaje relajamiento

Manejo del dolor

Reflexología • Depilación laser

**Terapeuta: Leticia (Leti)
Rodriguez**

Tel: 044-333-103-2528

San Francisco 3332, Chapalita

Memorial Society Update

An increase to \$400 pesos for AmSoc members & \$500 pesos for non-AmSoc members has been approved by the committee effective August 1, 2009.

The revised office hours for the Memorial Society Desk are **Wednesday, between 9:30 am - 11:30 am**
Jim Watkins

Bilingual Service & Information Comprehensive help for visitors and newcomers to Mexico

- * Help with government agencies *
- * Rental or purchase of property *
- * General maintenance and repairs *

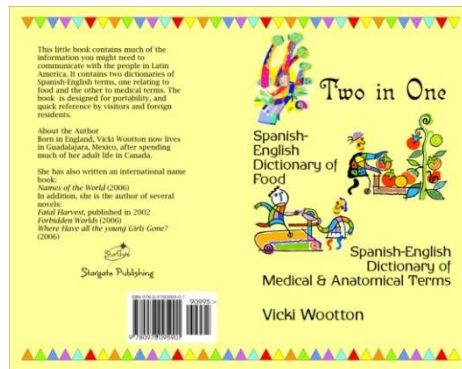
Carlos Ruiz Checa

Tel. 3659-8017
cel. 044-33-6806-4719, or
044-33-3153-9888

Email: caruche@hotmail.com
www.caruche.com

Two in One: Spanish-English Dictionary of Food & Medical Terms

by Vicki Wootton



On sale at AmSoc for \$80 pesos
A percentage of sales is donated to AmSoc

EMME

Please note that the address of EMME has changed.

They are now located at López Mateos 50, Col. Vallarta Norte (close to la Minerva). Tel. 3618-0600



New headquarters

Thanks to Carlos Ruiz Checa for the information and photo.

Toastmasters

The *New Effective Communication Club* is a public speaking club that focuses on developing speaking skills and leadership. We meet every week from 1 to 3 pm. We currently have 27 members and are strong and growing. Membership is open to anyone who has an interest in public speaking and speaks a conversational level of English. Prospective members should be able to attend the majority of meetings on Saturdays as attendance is a crucial part of developing good communication and leadership skills.

For more information about Toastmasters activities contact our VP Public Relations, Gustavo Aragon email: Distrito34tm@hotmail.com

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Weekly Calendar of Activities

| | |
|-----------|---|
| Monday | Breakfast 9:00 am Aerobics 9:30 am |
| Tuesday | Breakfast 9:00 am |
| Wednesday | Breakfast 9:00 am Aerobics 9:30 |
| Thursday | Breakfast 9:00 am Lunch 12:30 pm Games afternoon |
| Friday | Breakfast 9:00 am Aerobics 9:30 am Social 7:00 p.m. |
| Saturday | Breakfast 9:00 English group 1:00 Toastmasters 1:00 |

Some additions to DVD library

The Maltese Falcon - Humphrey Bogart

China Town - Jack Nicolson

Star Trek 2009

The Godfather 1 - Marlon Brando

African Queen - Bogart and Hepburn

All the President's Men - Dustin Hoffman, Robert Redford

Bridge on the River Kwai - Alec Guinness

**LIVE MUSIC
FOR YOUR NEXT PARTY-FIESTA!!!**
Mariachi
Rancheras
Cumbia
Latin Dance Music
Mexican Folk Ballads
Latin Pop Music



Ricardo Gonzalez
Music for the Heart
Interpreting Mexico's Great Singers!



**Invite Ricardo for
Your Next Party!!!**

1 Hour US\$100
2 Hours US\$175
3 Hours US\$225
(Fees for la Zona Metropolitana)

Call him today!!! Evening Hours: 3144-6704
Ricardo Sings Anywhere in Jalisco!!!