
The Voice

April 2014

The American Society of Jalisco S.A. ã La Sociedad
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April Events

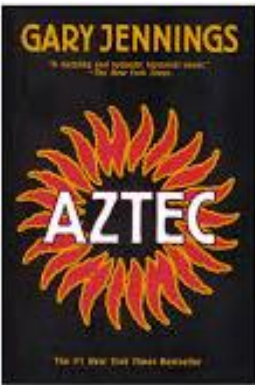
Photography Club

The AmSoc photo club will meet on April 6th at 10:30. Members are asked to bring any pictures that they would like to have included in a display at AmSoc. Contact Gail Early if you have any questions

Book Club

April 17, 2014 at 10:00 am

Book: Aztec by Gary Jennings



Told in the words of Mixtli-Dark Cloud, *Aztec* reveals the very depths of Aztec civilization from the peak and feather-banner splendor of the Aztec Capital of Tenochtitlan to the arrival of Hernán Cortés and his conquistadores, and their destruction of the Aztec empire. The story of Mixtli is the story of the Aztecs themselves. A film (TBA) set in this period will be shown at 2

p.m. Contact franklyn1@prodigy.net.mx

Spring and Earth Day Celebration



Thursday the 10th of April

Menu: Salad, Barbecued Ribs or Chicken, Corn, Mashed Potatoes and Dessert

Tickets \$120 pesos.

A Taste of AmSoc

To participate bring an entrée or dessert to fit the April themes: entrées - vegetarian or oriental

Dessert - fresh tropical fruit

Tuesday, April 8th.

11:30 a.m. set-up

12:00 noon lunch

Upcoming Events

Mother's Day celebration is planned for Thursday the 8th of May. The menu is salad, chicken breast stuffed with mushrooms, spinach and dessert. The price is \$130 pesos.

Father's Day luncheon is planned for Thursday June 12th. The menu will consist of meat loaf or chicken breast, apple sauce, corn bread and lemon pie for dessert. The cost is \$120 pesos.

Inside

Board minutes	4
Cooking Club	4
Health	5
Library corner	2
Quotations	2
Recipe – Chicken Marsala	5
Risk takers (Cam Esser)	3
Robot reporter	5
St. Patrick's Day photos	2
Wacky animal laws	5



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Members: \$30/m. \$300/an.

Non-Members: \$50/m. \$500/an.

Half-page one-time ad \$100

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Saint Patrick's Day & AmSoc's Birthday Celebration



Photos above © 2014 Carlos Ruiz Checa

Photos below © Jerry Dankner

Library Corner

By the library volunteers

Did you know that the AmSoc library has thousands of books? These range from biographies to travel books, science fiction to action adventure, classic fiction and non-fiction, and on and on. You may also find most of the recent bestsellers here too.

And let's not forget the movies that members may check out as well. Many TV series are also available.

AmSoc is a volunteer organization. The books you see in the library are all donated by members and friends. They are cared for by volunteers. When you check out your books and movies, you do so on an honor system, listing the books and movies on a file card at the desk and then crossing them off when you return the items.

The volunteers at the desk can help you to use the library effectively. The library volunteers are knowledgeable about many of the books. If you haven't tried the library before, try it now and disappear into another world—whether it is the world and time of famous men or women, or a novel set in a part of the world you have never visited, or that never existed.



Above right: Saturday English

Quotations

One reason I don't drink is that I want to know when I am having a good time.

Nancy Astor

"My country, right or wrong," is a thing that no patriot would think of saying except in a desperate case. It is like saying, "My mother, drunk or sober."

G. K. Chesterton

No matter how busy you may think you are, you must find time for reading, or surrender yourself to self-chosen ignorance.

Confucius

Imagination is the one weapon in the war against reality.

Jules de Gaultier

Español

El que tiene un amigo verdadero puede decir que tiene dos almas.

Arturo Graf



The Risk Takers

Stella Viae Reunion 2014 by Cam Esser

Are you one of those who don't go to school reunions? Maybe you think you won't recognize anyone, or have much in common to talk about. Or it could be a real hassle making all the arrangements. Perhaps you would rather not talk about your history since then, or you don't feel you will fit in with your more "successful" schoolmates. You may think too many of them have stayed put, and you have gone beyond that circle of former classmates.

I ponder this as I sit in my living room in Guadalajara after returning from the 52nd anniversary of graduation from a convent school I attended in Rome, Italy from 1961 to 1962. We were twenty-five girls, all chosen from the nine countries where my order of nuns had schools. We were mostly seventeen and eighteen-year olds, a few a couple of years older. We came from Spain, Mexico, the United States, Canada, Ireland, England, India, Argentina and Pakistan. We were either bi- or tri-lingual, except for the monolingual Americans!

The lack of a common language didn't prevent us from talking, however, and talk we did ... about our families, our way of life, our complaints about our "restrictions", our boyfriends back home, our parents and siblings, Italian men, shopping, drinking wine, weekend trips by bus to not-to-be-missed near-by towns and the majestic glories of Rome and Vatican City.

On the other hand, we got to see the not-to-be-missed *faraway* sites of Venice, Florence, Naples, Capri, Geneva and Munich thanks to our head mistress, Mother Catherine, who, by God's truly appreciated intervention, was wonderfully an American who allowed us many liberties (but with parental permission) to go on our own by train or car during the holidays.

And with Mother Catherine's permission, that is how Loli, the beauty from Barcelona, met and eventually marry, Livio the handsome Italian. They met on the balcony of Stella Viae, our school. She and a few of the girls were looking at passersby when Livio, walking with college friends, glanced up and saw her. Then he and his friends started talking to them in Italian. She was statuesque like Sophia Loren and he had a likeness to Marcello Mastroianni. Venus had struck. The next day Livio came to introduce himself and asked Mother Catherine's permission to go out with Loli. She allowed Loli to go out with him during the day on one condition: the two roommates of Loli had to be their chaperones. This continued week after week. He took her to meet his family, then to meet the priests at his school who attested to his fine qualities. Then, after only four months with us, Loli had to return home. She left and

never came back to Stella Viae. The romance, however, continued. They wrote, they visited, they separated, they reconciled, and five years later, they married. She moved to Rome. They had three beautiful children.

After graduation, five of the remaining twenty-four girls entered the convent (eventually three of them left). We went to college and to work, lived through women's liberation, married, had children, divorced, remarried, were widowed, became grandparents, got older. Three of us died. By the time of the first reunion in 1992, only some of us had seen one another through travels.

Enter the internet era. The next twenty-two years saw four more reunions. Neither Loli nor Carlota, my Spanish roommate, ever attended.

Through serendipity and social media, we finally found them. The date of the 52nd and latest reunion in Cuernavaca conflicted with Loli's travel plans to Brazil to visit cousins. Carlota promised to come from Spain with her daughter but at the last minute, changed her mind. No explanation was given, just "It's complicated."

I was particularly looking forward to seeing Carlota. She spoke French and Spanish in Rome while I spoke no Spanish and a little French. Over the span of years I had become proficient in Spanish. Once I knew her address, we were able to communicate in a common language.

A week before, Loli persuaded her husband to postpone Brazil and go to our reunion. News of her and Livio's attendance was exhilarating to those of us who regularly attended.

When Loli and Livio walked into the dining room where we were gathered, the whole room echoed with our exclamations of joy. Loli had softened over the years as had Livio, now a matured, greying husband. They were quickly swept up as long-lost friends. They moved among our spouses and us as part of the family. When the "sisterhood" met for a four-hour session halfway through the event, we burst with eagerly traded news of our co-joined lives.

Of course even eight days in that Mexican town were not enough to cover it all. Three of us now have life-threatening illnesses. We've come to where we can see the other side of the mountain as we enter into our seventies, and some of our husbands, into their eighties.

As we parted I thanked Loli and Livio and told them how much I admired their willingness to enter into a new world, which it would have been so easy for them to decline, but they chose not to. I confided that we were all enriched by getting to know them again. I came away feeling those were their exact sentiments, too. We seemed to know that opening the door to the unknown rather than closing it has a way of rewarding those who are willing to take the risk.



AmSoc Board Meeting Minutes

March 18, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 10:30 AM with a quorum in attendance.

Present:

Ann Whiting, Jerry Dankner, Diane Golz, John Griffin, Bruce Newby, David Ruiz, Regis Soileau, Alejandra Vielma, Jim Watkins and Joan White with guests Cam and Cliff Esser.

Treasurer's Report:

John reported that the maintenance needs were revised; however, ceiling repair is required and will cost about John reported that the maintenance needs were revised; however, ceiling repair is required and will cost about \$3,000 pesos. He also noted that our cash reserves are down a little, but are sufficient. The treasurer's report was reviewed and accepted by unanimous vote.

Committee Reports:

The St. Patrick's Day and AMSOC birthday event was successful with 52 attendees.

Old Business:

1. Jerry took a photo of some of the Saturday English language volunteers and sent a note to Vicki for the Voice and Sean for the Guadalajara Reporter. David will provide a more complete article in Spanish for the Mural.
2. David will get an estimate for translation of our modified constitution (accepted by member votes during the last election) and after it's translated Ann will get it notarized.
3. The integration of our sound system remains continues to be deferred.
4. Food cost analysis is pending; awaiting information from Lupita when she has time.

New Business:

Doors have been left unlocked several times and a stranger entered several weeks ago and appeared to be "casing" the facility. We will do an analysis of our needs for a better security system, spearheaded by John, which will look into replacing doors, putting bars on windows and security cameras.

It was agreed that if someone prepays for an event and notifies AmSoc that they are unable to attend, they will receive a refund if we are sold out and are able to sell their ticket to someone else.

Event Schedule:

1. Our Mother's Day celebration is planned for Thursday the 8th of May. The menu is salad, chicken breast stuffed with mushrooms, spinach and dessert. The price is \$130 pesos.
2. Our Spring and Earth Day Celebration is planned for Thursday the 10th of April. The menu consists of Salad, Bar-B-Que Ribs or Chicken, Corn, Mashed Potatoes and Dessert, with a cost of \$120 pesos.

3. Our Father's Day luncheon is planned for Thursday June 12th. The menu will consist of meat loaf or chicken breast, apple sauce, corn bread and lemon pie for dessert. The cost is \$120 pesos.

The meeting adjourned at 11:10 AM.

A New Cooking Club Is Starting in Guadalajara

Tastes of AmSoc



Do you like to cook?

Do you crave a taste you remember from home?

Would you like to meet others who share your passion?

A group of people who enjoy cooking have formed a club to meet once a month for a pot-luck extravaganza! Members will prepare and share entrees and desserts based on an established theme.

Some of our members might be gourmet cooks, some might not. We welcome all levels of culinary skills. The dishes are not judged ... we just want to cook, eat, talk about food ... and enjoy one another's company.

Gatherings are held the 2nd Tuesday of each month at the American Society of Jalisco (AmSoc) 3332 San Francisco Avenue, Colonia Chapalita.

Questions and/or reservations can be sent to tasteofamsoc@gmail.com. You may also contact Gail - 333 968-66072, or Terry - 331 955-2469

Tastes of AmSoc's Upcoming Schedule

Month	Entree	Dessert
April	Vegetarian	Tropical Fruit
May	Main Dish Salads and Cold Soups	Puddings
June	Italian	Pies and Tarts
July	BBQ	Blue Ribbon Country Fair Deserts
August	Pork	Cakes
September	Comfort Food, German, Cooking w/wine and alcohol	Berry Desserts
October	Brunch & Mexican	Muffins, Sweet Breads, Coffee Cakes
November	Crock Pot, Stews and Hot Soups	Cheesecakes

Robot reporter

The (UK) Guardian newspaper recently tried automated reporting, although its experiment was somewhat haphazard.

They gave a developer one day to come up with GUARBOT¹, which they then assigned to write an article about the health-food staple quinoa. Here's what their electronic partner came up with:

"The crime-ridden family of quinoa has taken US by storm this month. According to Peru, New York has confirmed that quinoa is more story than anything else they've ever seen. Quotes from top Yotam Ottolenghi² eaters suggest that "crop" is currently clear top, possibly more than ground black pepper. Experts say both Salt and University need to traditionally grow to strengthen a common solution. Finally, it is worth slightly rattling that this article was peeled until it made sense."

¹ Guarbot: Robot reporter—among other things; it could also be a robot security guard. The word hasn't reached the dictionary yet.

² Israeli-born cookery writer.

Recipe: Chicken Marsala

Ingredients

- 4 boneless, skinless chicken breast halves
- 1/4 cup all-purpose flour
- salt and pepper to taste
- 1 tablespoon dried oregano
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 3/4 cup butter
- 3 cups sliced Portobello mushrooms
- 3/4 cup sun-dried tomatoes
- 1/2 cup packed fresh spinach
- 1 cup Marsala wine



Directions

Place chicken breasts between two pieces of wax paper, and pound to 1/4 inch thick with a meat mallet. Dust chicken with flour, salt, pepper and oregano.

In a skillet, fry chicken in olive oil over medium heat. Cook until done, turning to cook evenly. Set aside, and keep warm.

In the same pan, melt the butter over medium heat; add mushrooms, sun-dried tomatoes, and Marsala wine. Cook for approximately 10 minutes, stirring occasionally. Mix in spinach, and cook for about 2 minutes. Serve over chicken.

Source: <http://allrecipes.com>

Health

I found this item right after I acquired the sumptuous recipe above and thought it might take some of the guilt out of trying it. Vicki

A new study from Australia finds that people aged 65 and over with a body mass index in the overweight range live longer and suggests perhaps the World Health Organization guidelines on BMI (body-mass index) may not be suitable for older people.

Caryl Nowson, professor of nutrition and aging at Deakin University in Melbourne, reports that her studies indicate that people aged 65 and over, being overweight is not associated with an increased risk of death, and that "it is those sitting at the lower end of the normal range that need to be monitored, as older people with BMIs less than 23 are at increased risk of dying."

Loneliness

Medical News Today recently reported a study that found extreme loneliness is a risk factor for premature death in seniors. The University of Chicago research found loneliness was tied to a 14% higher risk of death making it nearly as potent as disadvantaged socioeconomic status, which carries a 19% increased risk of early death.

Wacky Animal Laws

In Idaho, you may not fish while riding a camel.

In Connecticut, dogs with tattoos must be reported to authorities.

In Iowa, horses are not allowed to nibble/chew on fire hydrants.

In California, animals cannot mate within 500 yards of a church or school.

In Arizona, it is against the law to let your donkey sleep in a bathtub.

In Maryland, it is now against the law to bring your pet lion to the theater with you.

In Alaska, it is against the law to push a live moose out of a flying plane.

In Nebraska, it is against the law to hunt whales.

In Kentucky, you cannot release a feral pig into the wild.

Source: <http://www.care2.com>



Salud Integral

Ubicación: Club de AmSoc
San Francisco 3332 Chapalita

Stress Management Physiotherapy
Massage Therapy Rehabilitation
Sciatica · Sprains · Reflexology
Bioenergetics

Pain management · Post-surgery therapy
Rehabilitación post-cirugía

Masaje relajamiento Manejo del dolor
Reflexología · Depilación laser

Emergency house calls
Terapeuta

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