



# The Voice



The American Society of Jalisco A.C.  
Avenida San Francisco 3332, Chapalita,  
Guadalajara, Jalisco, Mexico



La Sociedad Americana de Jalisco A.C.  
Tel: (33) 3121-2395 • Email: [amsoc@megared.net](mailto:amsoc@megared.net)  
Website: [amsocguadalajara.org](http://amsocguadalajara.org)

November 2016

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## To Autumn - by William Blake (1783)

O Autumn, laden with fruit, and stain'd  
 With the blood of the grape, pass not, but sit  
 Beneath my shady roof; there thou may'st rest,  
 And tune thy jolly voice to my fresh pipe,  
 And all the daughters of the year shall dance!  
 Sing now the lusty song of fruits and flowers.

The narrow bud opens her beauties to  
 The sun, and love runs in her thrilling veins;  
 Blossoms hang round the brows of Morning, and  
 Flourish down the bright cheek of modest Eve,  
 Till clust'ring Summer breaks forth into singing,  
 And feather'd clouds strew flowers round her head.

The spirits of the air live in the smells  
 Of fruit; and Joy, with pinions light, roves round  
 The gardens, or sits singing in the trees."  
 Thus sang the jolly Autumn as he sat,  
 Then rose, girded himself, and o'er the bleak  
 Hills fled from our sight; but left his golden load.

## 2016 AmSoc Events Schedule Review

**November 3:** Lunch at AmSoc! Shephard's Pie and free birthday cake.

**November 8:** Want to know who will be the next President of the U.S.? Beginning at 7:30 PM, join us for an evening of trepidation and/or elation as we watch the voting results come in. Bring a snack to share. The bar will be opened for purchasing your favorite drinks.

**November 15:** Board Meeting has been changed from the 8th to the 15th. Anyone interested in the decision making of AmSoc is welcome.

**November 17:** The book club will discuss *The Inheritance of Loss* by Kiran Desai. All welcome!

**November 24:** Our Traditional Thanksgiving Feast! The meal will include turkey, gravy, mashed potatoes, sweet potato/apple compote, cranberry sauce, green beans, and pumpkin pie. The cost is \$220 pesos and \$110 pesos for children 12 and under. Tickets are available now!

**December 15:** A Down Home Christmas Feast



## Links

We now have a [Facebook page](#)! Join us for conversation, information, education, communication, and contribution!

Also take a look at our October 18th tour of [Club Chapalita](#).

## Spanish/English Oddities

by Bette Drummond

This month's column is about commonly misused words. We have all done it, so don't cringe as you read this. And, just because something is in common usage, does not make it correct. Keep in mind that this column is not a tool for you to correct other people's English.

The most misused, especially by educated people, is the reflexive pronoun, 'myself.' "If you want more information, please call John or myself." First a word about what a reflexive pronoun is and how it functions. A reflexive pronoun reflects back (refers) to the subject of the sentence. This means that the noun (or pronoun) that is the subject of the sentence MUST be the same person or thing as the reflexive pronoun later in the sentence. "I want to do it myself." "The door seemed to close itself." In the sample sentence of wrong usage, the subject of the sentence is 'you' and the reflexive pronoun is 'myself' which does NOT reflect (refer) back to 'you.' It is possible that originally people thought using 'I' or 'me' was too self-centered and decided that 'myself' was softer and less pushy, who knows?! Nevertheless, the sentence should be read "If you want more information please call John or me." One of my favorite authors, whose vocabulary is extensive and whose writing style is unusually fine, misuses 'myself.' This shows how pervasive this error is.



to ---- two ---- too (just written, as they all sound the same)

Lose ---- (has a 'z' sound for the 's') to not win or to misplace something (verb). Example: She ate less so that she could lose weight. Loose ---- (has an 's' sound for the 's') unbound or not tight (adjective).

fewer ---- a smaller number (adjective), countable. Example: There were fewer bottles filled than originally planned. Less ---- a smaller amount (adjective), uncountable. Example: These bottles had less liquid than the prior shipment.

may ---- can is also a common error. "Can you come to my house tomorrow?" is using the word 'can' correctly. It is referring to the ability to come to my house tomorrow. However, "Can I have a cupcake before supper?" is an incorrect use of the word can, since you obviously have the ability to do

that. Asking permission to do something needs the permission word, 'may.' "May I have a cupcake before supper?" (And obviously, mom says, "no").

capitol ---- capital (just written, they both sound the same). Capitol meaning seat of government as in "Lincoln is the Capitol of Nebraska." Capital can mean 'most important' as in "The sentence started with a capital letter." Also, capital can mean 'wealth used to create more wealth' as in "She had \$10,000 to invest."

Come up with your own list of misused words, but be sure to check online to ensure that you are correct. 😊

## Encounter

by Phyllis Miller as transcribed by Teri Saya

*My mother was a writer. I was heartbroken when she passed in 2000 and still am. But, I was extremely happy to inherit her box of literature. It has taken me this long to finally begin to transcribe and publish her stories. She was prolific, and so the box was quite large, and heavy. Here is one of the many that I would like to share.... It is a true story....*

September 1954, the little town was at its most beautiful in the early morning, with its meticulously manicured lawns and shrubbery and its immaculate streets. Everything sparkled! It was an exciting place to a twenty-year-old girl beginning her search for adventure and romance.

I took a breath of crisp autumn air, gave my "poodle" hair cut a pat, and listened with satisfaction to the staccato of my high heels on the glittering sidewalk.

As I marched briskly up Camden Drive on the way to my new job, the tantalizing fragrances of fresh Danish and hot chocolate brought me to an abrupt halt in front of an enchanting little bakery. I stood for a moment, looking in at the enticing pastries, but then became aware of my reflection in the window. The sight of the sophisticated "new me" and the willowy figure, which I was finding increasingly hard to keep, changed my mind.

Resisting temptation, I turned quickly away and suddenly found myself standing nose to nose with a pudgy little man wearing a wrinkled sports shirt and baggy trousers. Excusing myself, I stepped out of his way. Our eyes met for an instant and then we went our separate ways.

Encounter, continued on page 3...

Encounter, from page 2....

*He wants to kill me!* Something shouted inside my brain. *Nonsense!* I rationalized to myself. Never the less, I was stunned by an unexplainable terror of this little man. I turned and watched him ambling benignly down the street, but the horror he had aroused in me was still there. Impulsively I scurried, like a frightened child, to the safety of the crowded trolley station.

Still grappling with my irrational fears, I climbed numbly aboard the streetcar and found a seat. He was not handsome, I puzzled. In fact, he was rather unpleasant looking, but certainly not unpleasant enough to trigger the wild emotions that had overwhelmed me. Even more disturbing was an incredible conviction that I knew **him....intimately!**

He had shown no sign of recognition when our eyes met, and yet I was haunted by vague memories of dark places we had visited together, unspeakable secrets we had shared, but where? When? My mind groped blindly for answers that remained just out of reach.

Still shaken by the experience, I nearly missed my stop. And, through my confusion, I **heard the conductor call out, "Laurel Street!" Laurel, Laurel, Lau, Lor....of course!**

*Why hadn't I known him immediately?* I chuckled to myself as I stepped from the trolley. Strange how even the most familiar face can go unrecognized when its owner is found outside of his customary surroundings. *Still*, I thought, *It isn't possible.* But of course it was, for this was Beverly Hills and I had just encountered the menacing, monstrous villain with whom I had indeed shared many hours in dark places, watching his big, round eyes fill the screen.....Mr. Peter Lorre. 😊



**FREE READ!** "The Gringa Files" is now available for Kindle.

[Download](#) for free, gratis, frei, gratuit, bure.

November 1 to November 5.

A short, interesting read and much needed reviews.

## Don't Take it Personally

Thank you Klyf Harrison for contributing this piece from "Practical Tips for Productive Living" by Marc and Angel Chernoff:

**Like you, I'm only human, and I still take things personally sometimes when I'm in the heat of the moment. So I've implemented a simple strategy to support the practice of watching my response, as I've outlined above. In a nutshell, I proactively remind myself NOT to take things personally. Anytime I catch myself doing so, I pause and read the following mantras to myself. Then I take some fresh deep breaths...**

1. **You can't take things too personally, even if it seems personal.** Rarely do people do things because of you. They do things because of them.

2. You may not be able control all the things people say and do to you, but you can decide not to be reduced by them.

3. There is a huge amount of freedom that comes **to you when you detach from other people's beliefs** and behaviors. The way people treat you is their problem, how you react is yours.

4. Take constructive criticism seriously, but not personally. Listen, and then operate with your own intuition and wisdom as your guide.

And of course, if you're struggling with either of these points, know that you are not alone. Many of us are right there with you, working hard to feel better, think more clearly, and live a life free of headaches and heartache. 😊

### Slogan

**Congratulations to Patricia Dygula for contributing a slogan to the Clinton campaign!**

She wrote to the Hillary Headquarters this email:

**Trump's platform is based on the premise that the United States is in the gutter. This big lie appeals to the disgruntled.**

**The truth is that the United States is the greatest country on the planet. Hillary's slogan should be: "America is great. Together, let's make it greater!"**

Three days later, while watching CNN, Patricia was surprised to see Hillary Clinton use this very slogan.

The Oktoberfest / Halloween Celebration Photos - October 27, 2016



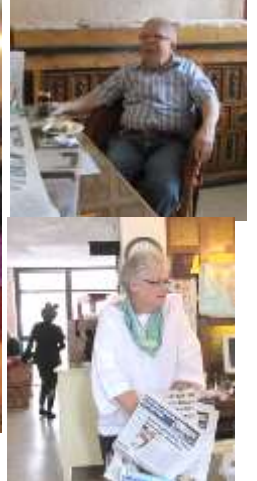
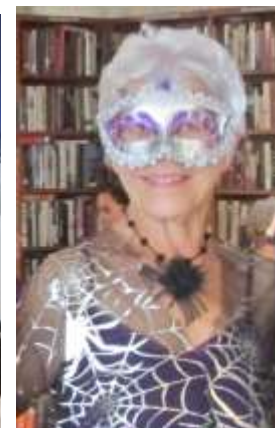
Snacks!



German sausages, potato salad and sauerkraut



...and apple pie ala mode!



## AmSoc Board Meeting Minutes October 18, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 10:30 a.m. with a quorum present. In attendance were Board members Ann Whiting, Regis Soileau, Cam Esser, Cliff Esser, Frank Rodriguez, and Karen Ashby. Also attending were Ioan Rotarescu and Marion Leith.



**Treasurer's Report:** No report presented.

**Committee Reports:** The Mexican Independence Day celebration had 38 attendees and was profitable.

**Old Business:**

1. The amended constitution is in process.
2. Nominations for the 2017 Board of Directors were discussed. Thank you to Marion Leith and Maria Soileau who have volunteered to be on the Board.

**New Business:**

1. The Thanksgiving dinner will be held on Thursday, November 24, 2016. The meal includes turkey, gravy, mashed potatoes, sweet potato/apple compote, cranberry sauce, green beans, and pumpkin pie. The cost is \$220MX per ticket and \$110MX for children 12 and under.
2. Monday, November 21 is a Mexican Holiday and a day off.
3. The coffee payment box will be renamed to Donation. Cliff reminded the Board that volunteer workers are not obliged to pay for their cup(s) of coffee but donations are always appreciated.
4. The Junior League will be using a second room on the same floor and plans on increasing their donation accordingly.
5. There will be no formal November 8th election night get-together but Cliff and Cam will be at the American Society for those who wish to stop in.
6. No flu shots will be offered this year.
7. Regis will contact Javier to make a barrel grill to replace the large grill being sold.
8. Cam will notify Elite Legacy Education (a real estate company) that we will not be able to advertise their real estate events as we only advertise charities and club associated information on our website.
9. Members of AmSoc will be touring the Chapalita Club after the Board meeting today. Thank you, Ioan, for setting up this tour with contact Lupita Ríos. Gail Early had the opportunity to check out the

club with her granddaughters earlier this month and Cam read her very positive comments to the Board. Of note: there is no registration fee and the monthly fee is only \$480MX with no contract for those 60 and older, the facility is very child and guest friendly, has a variety of classes including Zumba and water aerobics (small extra charges for these), and is clean and modern.

10. The Board books will be audited at the end of 2016.
11. The next board meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 8, 2016 at 10:30 a.m.
12. The board meeting adjourned at 11:17 a.m. 😊



**Do you currently feel like this when you attempt to speak Spanish or another language?**





I can help you get from embarrassed to confident, from missing out to making connections and deeper relationships, from a shy observer to proud participant with my Language Confidence Coaching Program using proven hypnosis to help you to change your thought patterns/remove blocks around learning the foreign language.

You only need about 30 minutes per day!  
You will be part of a structured program in a supportive group AND have FUN!



Call or email Sophia Davis cel: 33 1214 8918 mexisophi@gmail.com

# November 2016

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

		1 <b>All Saints Day</b>	2	3 AmSoc Lunch  12:30 - 1:30 <b>Shephard's Pie!</b>	4	5 English classes 12 to 2
6 Daylight savings time ends AA Meeting 11:00 am	7 Light Exercise 10 am AA meeting 6 pm	8  7:30 PM at the clubhouse AA meeting 6 pm	9 Light Exercise 10 am AA meeting 6 pm	10 AmSoc Lunch  12:30 - 1:30	11 <b>Veteran's Day (US)</b> <b>Remembrance Day (CAN)</b> AA meeting 6 pm	12 English classes 12 to 2
13 AA Meeting 11:00 am	14  Full Moon Light Exercise 10 am AA meeting 6 pm	15  Board Meeting 10:30 AA meeting 6 pm	16 Light Exercise 10 am AA meeting 6 pm Cancer & Health Support Group 1 pm	17 AmSoc Lunch  12:30 - 1:30	18 AA meeting 6 pm	19 English classes 12 to 2
20 AA Meeting 11:00 am	21 <b>Dia festivo de la revolucion!</b> Light Exercise 10 am AA meeting 6 pm	22 AA meeting 6 pm	23 Light Exercise 10 am AA meeting 6 pm	24  Thanksgiving <b>Feast at the club!</b>	25 AA meeting 6 pm	26 English classes 12 to 2
27 AA meeting 11 am	28 Light Exercise 10 am AA meeting 6 pm	29  New Moon AA meeting 6 pm	30 <b>San Andres</b> Light Exercise 10 am AA meeting 6 pm Cancer & Health Support Group 1 pm			