



The Voice



The American Society of Jalisco S.A.

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March 2015

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2015 Events Schedule (so far)

March 9 - Our first ever Out & About DAY TRIP to the Hot Springs @ San Juan Cosala

March 10 - American Cooking Club Potluck

March 19 - St. Patrick's Day Luncheon & AmSoc's 70th birthday celebration!

April 16 - Combined Easter and Earth Day celebration.

May 14 - Parent's Day Celebration

June 11 - The Ice Cream Social

July 4 - US Independence Day celebration

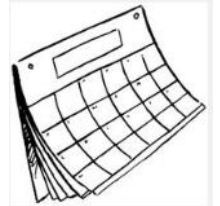
August 13 - The Ice Cream Social

September 17 - Mexican Independence Day celebration

October 29 - Halloween celebration

November 26 - Thanksgiving celebration

December 19 - Christmas Posada (subject to change)



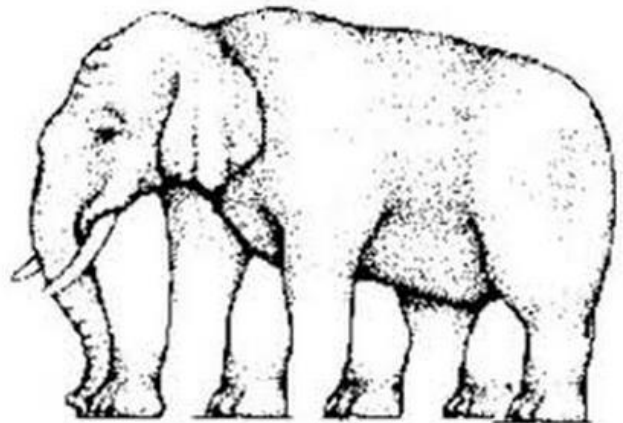
ADORABLE PUPPIES!

FOR SALE - Purebred Schnauzer puppies.
Born 2/11/15, will be ready to adopt in mid-March.

\$1,500 pesos each



Contact Bette Drummond
(33) 3379-7960
After March 9th



How many legs does this elephant have?

What's Happening with the Amsoc Cooking Group?

1. We have changed our name from "Tastes of Amsoc" to "The American Cooking Club"
2. Our membership has grown to 19 participants since the club started one year ago.
3. Guests are invited to sample foods prepared by the members for that month's theme.

The February meeting featured "Your Favorite Recipe"



Doug's Champagne Chicken with Mushrooms

A dish worthy of a Five Star restaurant!

Everyone raved about the spinach stuffed chicken he served a few weeks ago at the Thursday lunch....which paled in comparison to this!



ARE YOU DROOLING YET?

Coming up in March - **COMFORT FOOD**

Food that gives emotional comfort to the one eating it, these tend to be favorite foods of childhood, or linked to a person, place or time with which the food has a positive association.

Fix your favorite dish of "comfort food" and join us on Tuesday March 10th at 12:00 for our monthly potluck. Or, drop in as a visitor to sample the members' favorite comfort foods for just \$60 pesos.

The food club was started to provide an opportunity for people that love cooking and/or eating to join together and share their passion. There is no formal judging or award points. Our main goal is to build a "community" based on a common interest. Our secondary goal is to equally support both Amsoc and local charitable organizations through financial donations collected through membership dues and guest fees.

Contact Gail for additional information 2400-7639 or 33 3968 - 6070

Recipe of the Month

Avocado Pesto Pasta

Ingredients:

- 3 cups chopped basil leaves
- 3 cups hot water from pot of cooked pasta
- 2 Tablespoons chopped garlic
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 large ripe avocado, pitted and diced
- 2-3 Tablespoons pinions (pine nuts)



Directions:

- Put the basil leaves and 1 cup of hot pasta water in blender. Blend until smooth
- Add diced avocado, garlic, and salt. Blend. Add a little more hot water if needed.
- Add pinions. Blend. Add a little more hot water until you get a nice smooth consistency.
- Pour over cooked al dente spinach or egg pasta and mix in. Season with salt and pepper to taste. You can add some fresh steamed summer squash and cherry tomatoes for an easy summer dinner entre.



Can't find your lids? Hang them on a towel rack.

Out & About

Mark your calendar Monday, March 9th for our first DAY TRIP to the Hot Springs @ San Juan Cosala. Imagine sitting in a swirling pool of warm water loaded with skin softening minerals. Large umbrellas suspended over the thermal pools protect you from the sun and gentle breezes off the lake keep you comfortable. Dunk into the regular swimming pool to cool off, or enter the steam hut to rid your body of toxins. Wrap a towel around yourself and walk a few feet to the pool side restaurant for a delightful meal. A variety of Massages are also available at an additional cost.

Cars will be departing from The American Society around 9:00 am and returning in the late afternoon or early evening; depending on traffic. A \$30.00 peso contribution toward gas will be appreciated.

You may opt to visit one of the two spas at our destination. Please note: most of us are not very comfortable with how we look in a swimsuit. But, since we are going on Monday there will probably be few guests at the hot springs....and their bodies will probably look just like ours. Throw caution to the wind and join us!



[Thermal Cosala Adults Only Hot Springs](#)

Entrance fee to Thermal Hot Springs is approximately \$400 pesos, (a discount is possible depending on the number of attendees)



[Balneario family spa with an adults only section](#)

Balneario Family Spa will cost approximately \$220 pesos

Call now to reserve your spot, once the cars are full no additional reservations can be accepted. Gail 2400 7639 or cell 33 3968 6072

Library Corner

by Library Volunteers



Horse Whisperer by Nicholas Evans, a New York Times bestseller in 1995, arrived in a bag of donated books recently. This 20 year old book is worth a read, or a re-read as the case may be. A reviewer at The Times (London) characterizes the book as “this five-handkerchief weepie”, and this still holds true today. US magazine’s review states “It’s the intimate relationship between the horse and his handlers that gives this novel its power.” The back cover entices us by saying “A child wounded in Body and Spirit; a horse driven mad by pain; a woman fighting to save them both; and the man who is their only hope.” This is a book for horse lovers, romance lovers, and those who like to enjoy emotional experiences vicariously. The book is on the new arrivals shelf, and the now-famous movie (which unfortunately has an ending different than the book) is available near the reception desk. And remember to support your AmSoc library by donating no-longer-needed books that are in good shape.



Inspirational Spock Quotes

This last Friday morning, Leonard Nimoy died in his home, and the world got a little bit darker.

For over 50 years, Nimoy donned his iconic Vulcan ears and made us laugh, cry, and think. Here are some of Spock’s most memorable lines about friendship, humanity, and the quest for knowledge.

“Insufficient facts always invite danger.”

“You may find that having is not so nearly pleasing a thing as wanting. It is not logical, but it is often true.”

“The needs of the many outweigh the needs of the few.”

“They like you very much, but they are not the hell your whales.”

“When you eliminate the impossible, whatever remains, however improbable, must be the truth.”

“In critical moments, men sometimes see exactly what they wish to see.”

“Live long and prosper.”

“I have been and always shall be, your friend.”



Spanish/English Oddities

by Bette Drummond

Last month I started this column with the following, and it bears repeating. Do you have problems with false cognates? Most of us do, and the explanations are almost as confusing as the words themselves. False cognates are words that seem alike in both languages, but do not mean the same thing.



The first false cognate we will look at this month is asesinar. Yes, it does mean assassinate, though in English we only use with public figures, usually political figures, but in Spanish, it is routinely used for any murder, even that of a homeless person. There are other words in Spanish that mean "kill" such as matar and delito de homicidio (crime of homicide), which you will see in newspapers when writer wants to avoid repeating the same word over and over, but the most commonly used word is asesinar. As a side note, committing suicide has a variety of words in Spanish: suicidarse (to suicide), matarse (to kill oneself), privarse de la vida (to deprive oneself of life), arremeter contra su existencia (attack against ones existence), escapar por la puerta falsa (to escape by a false door), and cortarse la existencia (cut off ones existence).

Introducir seems to mean the same as introduce in English. However, in English we use introduce most often to mean introducing one person to another or to a group of people. In Spanish the words for that are conocer or presentar. Introducir in Spanish is used in the sense of adding something, "She introduced basil into a common recipe." "The killer introduced poison into the evening meal." So, when you want to say that you have met someone (in Spanish), remember to say "Conocí Nancy ayer." And to actually introduce someone in Spanish, you can say, "Me gustaría presentar a mi amiga, Ana." Yes, in English we might say "She introduced basil into a common recipe." But that is more formal than most English speakers in this hemisphere would say it.

The final one this month is a minor confusion for those of us shopping in local markets. If you've ever looked for crackers, you know, those things we put in soups or put cheese and peanut butter on? you may have given up. But do not lose hope, they are in the cookie aisle. Crackers are considered to be cookies (galletas.) To those of us who think cookies are sweet, this is a bit of a shock. 😊

FREE Spanish Lessons!

by Teri Saya

For those of us who cannot afford a private Spanish tutor, here is an excellent solution. At the International House Guadalajara they "Teach Teachers to Teach," (Try saying that five times fast.) And there is a program where they need students for their teachers-in-training to practice on. Let me explain...

I was contacted by the Director of Studies, Ana Caballero, of the Teacher Training Course for Spanish as a Second Language. She was looking for English speaking people that wanted to learn Spanish (For Free!) I have been here over a year and I'm still struggling with learning the language, so I jumped at the chance. I made an appointment and met Ana at the International House. She gave me a quick evaluation and placed me in the elementary course. This course was scheduled in the evening from 6 to 8pm twice a week.

There were about ten teachers-in-training present, either to observe or teach students. Each teacher would have a certain amount of time to instruct the students with their own curriculum while they were evaluated by Ana.

I loved it! And learned a lot! They were patient when I didn't understand and took the time to explain until I did. The classes were innovative, informative and fun. I truly enjoyed going! 😊



Me with my teachers (minus a couple) on the last day of the course. What a wonderful group of people!

If you are interested in joining up for **free Spanish lessons**, contact Ana Caballero at The International House Guadalajara at (33) 3615-4040 or e-mail her at ana.caballero@ihmexico.com



Teri Saya

AmSoc Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, February 10, 2015

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

Present: Ann Whiting, Jerry Dankner, Gail Early, Cam Esser, Cliff Esser, Diane Golz, John Griffin, Fred Hanna, Doug Mattoon, Bruce Newby, David Ruiz and Regis Soileau.

Treasurer's Report: Some money was transferred from our reserves to cover January expenses, which are always high plus the new front gate and door, including a high security lock. Thank you John for managing the installation of the attractive and secure new entry.

Committee Reports:

♣ Our Super Bowl event had 22 attendees. Thanks to all who helped.

♣ The 2015 Thursday menus have been defined by the menu committee. We are pleased to report that Thursday luncheon attendance has improved, which is a positive result of the significant efforts of our menu committee. We also wish to thank Doug Mattoon for the delicious stuffed chicken meal the first Thursday of February.

Old Business:

♣ A meeting of interested parties was held in late January to discuss plans for improving our web site. David presented methods for modernizing and improving the site. A presentation to the board is tentatively planned for our next meeting.

♣ The purchase of a barbeque smoker is still under consideration and continues being investigated due to the last price quotation being significantly higher than originally understood.

New Business:

♥ Due to the additional January expenses, donations to charities that we had planned for January have been deferred.

♥ We ask all of our members to help us comply with the requirement for separation of garbage (organic and inorganic in Chapalita.)

♥ Salaries for Lupita and Rocio have increase in accordance with Mexican law.

♥ There was a water pump problem during our Super Bowl event, for which a temporary fix was made. We will need to clean the aljibe (cistern), including cutting out roots and other repairs; with plans to do so towards the end of February or in early March.

Meeting adjourned at 11:00 am.

Next board meeting will be March 10, 2015

For the Fun of it!

Fractured Breakfast: Good morning! I give you a breakfast food's name in fractured form. You write in the correct name.

Example: saw
sedges=sausages. NO PUNCTUATION!
Spelling counts....GO!



1. Hex spin a deck?

Answer:

2. Frisk wheezed ore ridge Jews?

Answer:

3. Bulging woof full swift strobe buries?

Answer:

4. Fringe dozed?

Answer:

5. Oboe love serial?

Answer:

6. Chris spay kin?

Answer:

7. She's psalm lit?

Answer:

8. Hatched rounds?

Answer:

9. Ovary sea yeggs?

Was this too easy? Think you got them right?

Answers to Fractured Breakfast are at



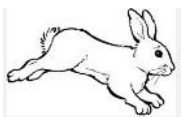







<http://www.amsocguadalajara.org/Voice/puzzle2.htm>

Fleeting Words



I'm sleeping..... Then my mind turns over and my eyes open to the darkness. It all comes to me! The things I wanted to write down. Quickly, I reach for the notepad that I keep on the nightstand. It's not there! Many words are going through my head like a parade passing by. Their perfect! Exactly what I have been wanting to write down! I pull back the blanket and quietly get out of bed. The words are fading! No time for slippers! I head for the office where my laptop sits. It has fallen asleep! Waiting for the thing to cycle itself awake, I find a pen and paper. I begin scribbling furiously as the tail end of that beautiful word parade slips from my brain. The computer chirps cheerily, as if to say, "ok, I'm ready!" I open the word processor program. And, what I have written on the paper makes no sense....Damn! Missed it again! I stare at the nonsensical words on the paper and decide to go back to bed. This time I make sure there is a notepad and pen on the nightstand. Maybe, just maybe, those fleeting words will come back to me. ~ Teri Saya ~

March Calendar of Events

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5 Luncheon @ AmSoc 12:00  Full Moon 	6	7
8 Daylight Savings Time  Spring Forward (United States & Canada)	9 Out & About Day Trip to the hot springs at San Juan Cosala (leaving AmSoc @ 9 am)	10 The American Cooking Club Potluck 12:00 "Comfort Food"	11	12 Luncheon @ AmSoc 12:00 	13	14
15	16 Dia de Benito Juárez (mx)	17 St. Patrick's Day! 	18	19 St. Patrick's Day Luncheon 12:00  AmSoc's 70th Birthday Celebration!	20 New Moon  First Day of Spring! 	21 Natalicio de Benito Juárez (mx)
22	23	24	25	26 Luncheon @ AmSoc 12:00 	27	28
29 <i>Palm Sunday</i> 	30	31	A	P	R	L