



# The Voice

Newsletter of the American Society of Jalisco, A.C.

November 2009 Edition

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

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Thanksgiving Photos©  
Carlos Ruiz Checa

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

## Christmas 2009

### Posada



Thursday,  
Dec. 17 at 1pm Bar  
opens at 12:30 pm.



### Menu

Roast Pork, Salad and Desert

Entertainment by the Salvation Army  
Children's Choir (Hogar de los Niños)

Tickets: \$175 reserved, \$195 at the door



## Thanksgiving Celebration

Around 110 people attended the American Society Thanksgiving celebration on Thursday. The food was excellent and beautifully presented, thanks to over a week of preparation by volunteers and AmSoc staff.



Betty Drummond and Delmy Romero

Among the volunteers we have to thank are Cliff and Cam Esser; Louise Mattos, who not only did a lot of work herself, but also brought her maid Gloria to help in the kitchen. Other contributors were Regis Soileau, Chuck Parsons, Jim Watkins, Dalton Lancaster, and Stan Kroprowski. Rocío's daughter, Carla was also a great help. Special thanks go to Rocío Huerta and Lupita Elizondo, who endured long hours in the kitchen, and Al Klob, who ably and patiently managed the bar. Thanks to Carlos for the photography.

Thanks to Bruce Newby and David Ruiz who donated a holiday basket and bottle of tequila respectively.



John Griffin, Tim Welch, David York  
and Jackson Carter

Prize winners in the draws were Kathleen Brennan, who won a bottle of tequila; Martha Garcia, a bottle of wine; and Dalton Lancaster, a holiday basket. Dalton very generously returned the basket to be raffled with the proceeds to go to Lupita and Rocío. Coty Collins was the lucky bidder at \$300 pesos.



Regis, Cliff and Cam

Elvira Klob, shown below with Al, won the fifty/fifty raffle, about \$1000 pesos.



## Departing Friends

Thanksgiving wasn't an entirely joyful occasions at AmSoc as we were saying goodbye to some dear friends. Jack and Alice Sinon who left for their new home in Norfolk, Virginia this weekend. They will be deeply missed by everyone who has had the pleasure of knowing them during their annual visits to Guadalajara. Let's hope they will still be able to pay us a visit from time to time.



*Jack and Alice receive a certificate of appreciation for their long-time friendship and support of The American Society.*

## How did it originate?

### Uncle Sam

The American icon Uncle Sam was in fact based on a real man, albeit a beardless one.

Samuel Wilson, a businessman from Troy, New York, provided the army with beef and pork in barrels during the War of 1812. The barrels were prominently labeled "U.S." for the United States, but it was jokingly said that the letters stood for "Uncle Sam." Soon, Uncle Sam was used as shorthand for the federal government.

## Legend of Santa Claus

Saint Nicholas was born to a wealthy Christian family in Patara (near Myra in what is now Turkey) around 280 AD. He was so kind and pious that he helped anyone who came his way and soon many legends about his good deeds became popular.

Later, he became the Bishop of Myra. He had inherited a large property, which he used from time to time to help the poor and the sick. He traveled anonymously in the night to ensure that all of his parishioners were well fed and happy.

Later, he became popular as the protector and the patron saint of children. His feast is celebrated on the anniversary of his death, December 6..

His popularity kept growing and by the Renaissance, he was the most popular saint in Europe. Even when Protestants discouraged the veneration of saints, St. Nicholas continued



to enjoy his status and positive reputation and remained one with Christmas forever.

The name Santa Claus originated in America. It comes from the Dutch *Sinterklaas*, which came to the New World by the Dutch settlers in New York.

His current image of a jolly fat man with a beard evolved during the 19<sup>th</sup> century. Many people believe, erroneously, that his red and white outfit was invented by Coca Cola. However, the company did use the image in its advertising in the 1930s.



## Remember the Cat-lady

This is the traditional season of giving and I can think of no more worthy recipients of our gifts than Barbara Murray and the Humane Society. Barbara devotes her life and personal resources to rescuing and giving a home to abandoned and abused cats. She provides a clean, safe, and healthy environment for them, as well paying for veterinary service when needed. At times, she has as many as twelve cats living in her sanctuary, and never refuses to receive a cat in need.

When I spoke to her on Thursday, she mentioned that the price of cat food and other supplies are increasing steadily, and she only gives them the best.

I have been to Barbara's house and seen how well she takes care of the cats, and the affection they receive from her, but it is a big burden for one person. Let's help her.

Cash donations are preferable. All donors receive a Humane Society receipt. There is a young, long-hair white female named *Cassy* available for adoption, although Barbara grows so attached to her animals; she finds it very hard to part with any of them. *Vicki Wootton*

**Please leave donations at AmSoc where they will be passed on to Barbara.**

## What you should know about visiting and living in Mexico

### Immigration

Immigration is under the oversight of the National Institute of Immigration - Instituto Nacional de Migración (INM)

In Mexico, there are 3 distinct immigration statuses. They are:

- **No Inmigrante** (Non immigrant) FM3 VISA - some short term visits of a non immigrant nature are not issued an FM3, these conditions are stipulated in the Law of Population.
- **Inmigrante** (Immigrant) FM2
- **Inmigrado** (Immigrated person) Permanent resident.

**FM3 Visa** - A Non immigrant - is person who enters the country temporarily, for several days or several years for various reasons, but without the intention of residing permanently in Mexico.

The NON IMMIGRANT Visa is issued in eleven different categories, most, except for short term visits, require the application for an FM3 VISA, and these are stipulated in the Law of Population, which are as follows:

1. **Tourist:** This category grants a simple paper Visa and does not require applying for an FM3. Tourist is a person who enters the country for recreation, health, artistic, cultural or sports activities - activities that are not profitable or compensated. This permit is issued for a maximum of six months and is *NOT* renewable.
2. **Trans migrant:** is the person in transit to another country who travels through Mexico for up to 30 days, this permit is *NOT* renewable.
3. **Visitor:** is the foreigner who enters Mexico for a specific profitable or non profitable activity and is granted for up to one year.
4. **Minister** of a religious group or association: is renewable every year for five years.
5. **Political asylum:** This is for the foreigner who enters Mexico to protect his/her "liberty or life from political persecution.
6. **Refugee:** This is for the foreigner that enters Mexico to protect his/her "life, safety, or liberty.
7. **Student:** a Non immigrant Visa must change to an immigrant visa if he/she want to practice the profession in Mexico.
8. **Distinguished visitor:** Is the foreign scientist or humanist of international prestige.
9. **Local visitor:** is the foreigner authorized for visiting maritime ports or border cities for less than 3 days.
10. **Temporary visitor:** Are all foreigners for up to a 30 days stay when landing at maritime ports or airports.
11. **journalist**

#### INMIGRANTE (IMMIGRANT) Visa FM2

An immigrant is the foreigner who enters Mexico legally for the purpose of remaining permanently in the country, until he obtains the status of *Inmigrado* (Immigrated person or permanent resident). This status requires applying for an FM2 Visa. The FM2 Visa is extended (refrendo) every year for five years. At the end of five years, the foreigner can apply for another FM2 visa or request a Declaration as an Immigrated Person (Declaratoria de Inmigrado) Once the status of 'INMIGRADO' is granted, the foreigner can live and be involved in any legal activity in Mexico. This status is permanent and does not require further renewals or extensions. There are 9 categories of immigrant visa (FM2); they are as follows:

1. **Independent income.**
2. **Investors.**
3. **Professional.**
4. **Positions of confidence.**
5. **Scientist.**
6. **Technician.**
7. **Family members.**
8. **Artists and athletes.**

#### 9. Assimilated persons.

For expansions of these categories go to [http://www.mexicanlaws.com/newsletter\\_june\\_2006.htm](http://www.mexicanlaws.com/newsletter_june_2006.htm)

#### INMIGRADO - IMMIGRATED PERSON

The FM2 Visa is extended (refrendo) every year until completing five years. At the end of five years, the foreigner can apply for another FM2 visa or request a "**Declaration as an Immigrated Person**" (Declaratoria de Inmigrado). Once the status of *inmigrado* is granted, the foreigner can live and be involved in any legal activity in Mexico. This status is permanent and does not require further renewals or extensions. The person with this status can request Naturalization from the Secretary of Foreign Relations or stay with this status permanently.

Thanks to Frank Raimo for suggesting this site: <http://www.mexicanlaws.com>

A word of warning: no matter how carefully you prepare your application, there will always be some else required.

## Quotes of the Month

*Grandchildren are God's reward for not killing your children*  
Jack Nibecker

*Wisdom is what's left after we've run out of personal opinions.*

Cullen Hightower

*Life isn't about how to survive the storm, but how to dance in the rain!*

Anonymous

*La alegría no se demuestra, se vive. Nos reconciliar con nuestro presente y con nuestro pasado, haciéndonos contentos de ser lo que somos, de vivir con los que nos encontramos y donde nos encontramos.*

Colombero

## Guadalajara Outings

### El Museo de Paleontología

Av. Dr. R. Michel # 520 Esq. Calz. González Gallo,  
Guadalajara,

3619-7043/3619-5560/3619-657

The Museo de Paleontología de Guadalajara is located in the southeast corner of Parque Agua Azul. This is a lovely museum with an extensive collection of exhibits.

At the museum entrance there is an awesome colour mural illustrating prehistoric life. All exhibits are displayed attractively, but the *pièce de resistance* is a transparent walkway over Ice Age elements such as saber-tooth tigers.



Towards the exit there is an upstairs room containing an interactive computer display of famous Egyptian sites such as the Great Pyramids of Giza and the Temple of Karnak at Luxor. Use a joystick to "walk" around in these impressive Egyptian surroundings.

There is a small entrance fee. Hours are 10:00 am to 6:00 pm Tuesdays to Saturdays and 11:00 am to 6:00 pm Sundays. © Pauline Van Havere

Admisión: \$14.00 visita al museo y parque Agua Azul; \$ 8.50, adultos; \$7.50, niños y estudiantes c/credencia



Chuck Parsons with friends, Celia (L) and Alba

## Ads – Anuncios

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

## Bilingual Service & Information

Comprehensive help for visitors and newcomers to Mexico

Assistance with government agencies  
Rental or purchase of property  
General maintenance and repairs  
Moving furniture

**Carlos Ruiz Checa**

\*AmSoc Member

**Tel. 3659-8017**

**cells. 044-33-3806-4719**

**044-33-3153-9888**

Email: caruche@hotmail.com

www.caruche.com

## The Memorial Society

*The Memorial Society office hours are **Mondays** between **9:30 am- 12:00 pm**. Be sure to bring your current FM-2 or FM-3 along with your Passport to either enroll or make any changes.*  
Jim Watkins

## 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 (Lety) Rodriguez**

**Tel: 044-333-103-2528**

**San Francisco 3332, Chapalita**

**For Sale:** Automatic Washing Machine \$800 pesos - Vicki

## Recovery Corner

**Friends of Bill W. AA Group** has moved their meetings into the main AmSoc building from the Parrot Cage. Meeting times are the same: Monday, Wednesday & Friday from **6:00 PM - 7:00 PM**.

**Lunch and a Meeting AA Group** now meets at Mexicaltzingo 1238 esq. Pavo in Centro on Tuesday, **Thursday & Saturdays from 12 - 1:00 PM**. The location is 1-1/2 blocks from the Mexicaltzingo light rail [Tren] station, between La Paz & Ninos Heroes

## Weekly Activities Calendar

Monday Aerobics 8:30 am

Tuesday Coffee with friends

Wednesday Aerobics 8:30

Thursday Lunch 12 – 1 pm Games until 4:00 pm

Friday Aerobics 8:30 am

Social 7:00 p.m.

Saturday English group 1:00

Toastmasters 1:00

## Over-eaters Anonymous

12-step program for compulsive eating. The group is self-supporting from member contributions. No fees or dues. Meetings are upstairs in Louise Mattos's office.

Every Saturday 11 a.m. – 12 noon

Contact: Daryl 33-3507-4746

**Season's Greetings!**

**¡Feliz Navidad!**

