



The Voice

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

June 2010 Edition

Celebrating 65th years of activities in Guadalajara

Mother's and Father's Day

**The American Society of Jalisco,
A.C.**

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Jalisco A.C.**

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Contents

| | |
|---------------------|-----|
| Activities calendar | 4 |
| Announcements | 4 |
| Egg recipe | 3 |
| Recommendation | 3 |
| Supplement | |
| Mexican Economy | 5-6 |
| Quotations | 3 |
| Vancouver | 2 |
| What is Blu-reay? | 3 |

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Announcements and Notices:

*Members, \$25 peso per month
donation to AmSoc
Non-members \$50 pesos/m*

Photos © Carlos Ruiz Checa and
Vicki Wootton

On Saturday, May 23, more than fifty people of all ages turned up to celebrate what we should probably call "Parent's Day". As always, Lupita and Rocío, assisted by Carmen Gill, prepared a fine lunch which included Barbecued Ribs and Chicken Breasts. Special thanks to Regis Soileau, who greeted the guests; Millie Fields and Judy Becker, who sold raffle tickets; Jane Shugart, for helping serve the food; and Al Klob, for looking after the Bar.



*Royce Wheeler with her daughter, Rachel, her
two grandchildren and a friend*



Joan White and Laura Alejandra Vielma



Jim Armstrong and friend

A quick trip to Vancouver

Vicki

When you enter the Vancouver International arrivals terminal for the first time be prepared for a delightful surprise. It is awesome in the true meaning of the word. The entrance area has been transformed into a life-size diorama of British Columbian wildlife, scenery, and native artifacts, complete with flowing streams, wild plants and the recorded sounds of native birds and animals. The theme continues throughout the arrivals area so there is always something to look at while waiting for baggage, customs and immigration. It is probably the most beautiful air terminal in the Americas, if not the world. The terminal received a major facelift for the 2010 Winter Olympics

I went to Vancouver to attend the commencement ceremony of my daughter Lesley who was receiving her Master's Degree in Education at the University of British Columbia.



V.Wootton

During our stay, we had perfect spring weather, sunny every day, except the day we toured downtown Vancouver, when an ocean fog rolled in. Everything was very green and the air was sparkling clean. We saw a lot of the countryside outside Vancouver, the Fraser Valley, because my daughter lives 50 km from the city.

Two days after we arrived, I received the news that my mother had died the night before. We were having a family reunion when I got the news, so I was able to give everyone the news.

Carlos

I enjoyed my trip to Canada very much. I traveled on buses, trolley-buses and trains, which were always on time and are clean and comfortable. The bus drivers are very courteous. One time we got on a bus and found we didn't have the correct change, but the driver said it was OK, we could pay when we got to the train station.

Once, I saw an eagle with the white head from the highway. The weather was beautiful and sunny all the time. Only one day of eight was overcast. The Canadian people were very kind and nice to me. I feel they are proud of their country.

The city is clean with no litter or billboards to spoil the natural beauty. I saw only a little graffiti. I hope they will be able to keep it this way. I was impressed by the amount of

greenery in the city and the white-capped mountains all around it.

I enjoyed meeting Vicki's family who were very friendly and hospitable. They made me feel like one of the family.



Family reunion. The babies are my great grandchildren; at the back are my ex-husband (his wife is behind me), my eldest son and my daughter, my son Larry is at the right. The rest are my grandchildren and their boy/girl-friends



The rhododendron garden at Stanley Park

What is Blu-ray?

Vicki Wootton

Blu-ray is an optical disc medium for storing high definition data such as videos and computer games. The name *Blu-ray Disc* derives from the blue-violet laser used to read the disc. While a standard DVD uses a 650 nanometer red laser, the Blu-ray Disc uses a shorter wavelength, a 405 nm blue-violet laser, which allows it to store almost ten times as much data as a DVD.

The storage disc is the same size as a DVD, although it can hold a great deal more data. Discs are currently being sold in 100 and 200 gigabyte sizes, although the specification is open-ended and the upper theoretical storage limit is unclear. Blu-ray has advanced to a position that makes regular and HD (High-Density) DVDs virtually obsolete.

In 2008, Toshiba, the main company that supported HD-DVD, conceded the format war for optical high-definition discs had ended. Shortly after, it released its own Blu-ray disc player.

The Blu-ray Disc was developed by the Blu-ray Disc Association, a group representing makers of consumer electronics, computer hardware, and motion pictures. As of June 2009, more than 1,500 Blu-ray Disc titles were available in Australia and the United Kingdom, with 2,500 in Japan, the United States and Canada.

The first BD-ROM (Blu-ray Disc) players were shipped in mid-June 2006 and the first Blu-ray Disc titles were released on June 20 the same year. The first audio-only release was made in March 2008. The first mass-market Blu-ray Disc rewritable drive for the PC was released by Sony in July 2006. It recorded both single and dual-layer BD-Rs and BD-REs and had a suggested retail price of US \$699.

Many chain stores and video stores dropped HD-DVDs from their inventory at the beginning of 2008. Blu-ray had clearly won the market. (*This sounds like the Betamax-VCR competition in the early eighties.*)

Wanting to protect the disc from surface damage, manufacturers decided that using a cartridge to protect the disc would increase the price of an already expensive medium, so hard-coating of the pickup surface was chosen instead. TDK was the first company to develop a working scratch-protection coating for the discs. Other manufacturers, including Blu-ray Discs, Panasonic, and Sony, soon followed with their own hard coatings.

Blu-ray Disc software sales in the United States and Canada reached 177.2 millions in 2009.

Blu-ray players currently (June 2010) range in price from around \$180 to \$450 US. Movie discs cost between about \$8 and \$45. Amazon currently lists about 3,000 movie titles.

It looks as if the DVD is on its way out and Blu-ray is the video technology of the future, so if you are contemplating buying a new video player or computer video disc drive, you would probably be wise to opt for Blu-ray.

This information was compiled from several sources, primarily Wikipedia, also www.blu-ray.com and Amazon.
VW

Quotations

Nothing provokes people more than acting from the highest virtues.
J.G. Ballard

Thanks to the Interstate Highway System, it is now possible to travel from coast to coast without seeing anything.
Charles Kuralt

Therefore search and see if there is not some place where you may invest your humanity.
Albert Schweitzer

Mira a la derecha y a la izquierda del tiempo, y que tu corazón aprenda a estar tranquilo.
García Lorca

New immigration laws and procedures

On April 30th the immigration laws and procedure changed. You now apply for your FM3 on the internet. If you are a computer expert and fluent in Spanish legal jargon you will have no problem.

If you are not, like me, you can avoid more grey hair by simply calling Carlos Ruiz Checa. Carlos has been dealing with immigration for decades and is also very experienced with computers. In addition, he has been able to keep up with other IMPROVEMENTS that have already been made. I have known Carlos for more than ten years and can highly recommend him for this and many other types of work.

We used to do our own FM3s, but the new system had me completely baffled, so we hired Carlos to help us.

WALTER JANUSZKO

Recipe Healthy Poached Eggs

Ingredients

Chopped vegetables - choose several from list:

Onions, mushrooms, zucchini, tomatoes, cooked potatoes, garlic, cooked beans, bell peppers.

2-3 tbs cooking oil

Eggs (1 or 2 for each person); Grated cheese

Directions

Heat oil in stick-proof pan (suitable size for number of servings). Sauté the chopped onions and mushrooms, then add the other vegetables. Lower the heat, cover the pan and cook for 3-5 minutes. Make a nest in the center of the vegetables by moving them toward the edge of the pan and break the eggs in the nest. Sprinkle with grated cheese then cover the pan and simmer over low heat until everything is cooked as you like it. The steam from the vegetables cooks the eggs.

This is a very tasty way to cook eggs and much healthier than fried eggs with bacon and sausages.



Announcements



Salud Integral Club de AmSoc

Physiotherapy • Massage Therapy
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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

Ride Wanted

Could anyone give me a ride to AmSoc on Thursdays? I am having trouble walking and have been unable go to the club for a while. I will pay for gas. If not, does anyone want to share a taxi from the city center?
Vicki: 3647-6232

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Carlos Ruiz Checa

*Member of AmSoc

Tel. 3659-8017
cells. 044-33-3806-4719
044-33-3153-9888

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

Over-eaters Anonymous

12-step program for compulsive eating. The group is self-supporting from member contributions. No fees or dues. Meetings are held in the library every Saturday 11 a.m. - 12 noon

Contact: Daryl 33-3507-4746

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 & Niños Heroes

Weekly Calendar

| | |
|-----------|--|
| Monday | Breakfast 9:00 Aerobics 8:30 a.m. AA Meeting 6:00 p.m. |
| Tuesday | Breakfast 9:00 a.m. Breakfast 9:00 |
| Wednesday | Aerobics 8:30 a.m. AA Meeting 6:00 p.m. |
| Thursday | Breakfast 9:00 a.m. Lunch 12:30 p.m. Games until 4:00 |
| Friday | Breakfast 9:00 Aerobics 8:30 a.m. AA Meeting 6:00 p.m. |
| Saturday | Breakfast 9:00 a.m. Overeaters Anonymous 11:00 a.m. English conversation group 1:00p.m. Toastmasters 1 p.m. |

Cirugía Plástica

Dr. Rodrigo Navarro

Equipo de cirugía plástica

Cirugía Oral

Odontología Cosmética

Consultas

Bilingual English/Spanish

Mobil: 044-33-1285-5124

IMPLANTES - LIPO - LASER

*AmSoc Member

SUPPLEMENT

THE NEW GLOBAL ECONOMIC REALITY

By Charles Simpson and is reprinted here with his permission. He can be reached at info@mexinvestnow.com

First: A reality check on Mexico

Mexico is in a unique position to reap many of the benefits of the decline of the US economy. In order to not violate NAFTA and other agreements the U.S.A. cannot use direct protectionism, so it is content to allow the media to play this protectionist role. The U.S. media - over the last year - has portrayed Mexico as being on the brink of economic collapse and civil war. The Mexican people are either beheaded, kidnapped, poor, corrupt, or narco-traffickers. The American news media was particularly aggressive in the weeks leading up to spring break. The main reason for this is money. During that two-week period, over 120,000 young American citizens poured into Mexico and left behind hundreds of millions of dollars.

Let's look at the reality of the massive drug and corruption problem, kidnappings, murders and money. The U.S. Secretary of State Clinton was clear in her honest assessment of the problem. "Our insatiable demand for illegal drugs fuels the drug trade. Our inability to prevent the weapons from being illegally smuggled across the border to arm these criminals causes the deaths of police officers, soldiers and civilians," Clinton said. The other large illegal business that is smuggled into the U.S.A. that no one likes to talk about is Human Traffic for prostitution. This "business" is globally now competing with drugs in terms of profits.

It is critical to understand, however that the horrific violence in Mexico is over 95% confined to the three transshipping cities for these two businesses, Tijuana, Nogales, and Juarez. The Mexican government is so serious about fighting this, that they have committed over 30,000 soldiers to these borders towns. There was a thoughtful article written by a professor at the University of Juarez. He was reminded of the Prohibition years in the U.S.A. and compared Juarez to Chicago when Al Capone was conducting his reign of terror capped off with The Saint Valentine's Day Massacre. During these years, just like Juarez today, 99% of the citizens went about their daily lives and attended classes, went to the movies, restaurants, and parks.

Is there corruption in Mexico? YES. Is there an equal amount of corruption related to this business in the U.S.A.? YES. When you have a pair of illegal businesses that generate over \$300,000,000,000 in sales you will find massive corruption. Make no mistake about the Mexican Drug Cartel; these "businessmen" are 100 times more sophisticated than the bumbling bootleggers during Prohibition. They form profitable alliances all over the U.S.A. They do cost benefit analysis of their business much better than the US automobile industry. They have found over the years that the cost of bribing U.S. and Mexican Border Guards and the transportation costs of moving marijuana from Sinaloa to California cut significantly into profits. That is why over the past 5-7 years they have been growing marijuana in State and Federal Parks and BLM land all across America. From a business standpoint, this is a

tremendous cost savings on several levels. Let's look at California as an example as one of the largest consumers. When you have \$14.2 billion of Marijuana grown and consumed in one state, there is savings on transportation, less loss of product due to confiscation and an overall reduction cost of bribery with law enforcement and parks service people. Another great savings is the benefit to their employees. The penalties in Mexico for growing range from 5-15 years. The penalties in California, on average are 18 months, and out in 8 months. The same economic principles are now being applied to the methamphetamine factories.

FOX News continues to scare people with its focus on kidnapping. There are kidnappings in Mexico. The concentration of kidnappings has been in Mexico City, among the very rich and the three aforementioned border Cities. With the exception of Mexico City, the number one city for kidnappings among NAFTA countries is Phoenix, Arizona with over 359 in 2008. The Phoenix Police estimate that twice that number of kidnappings goes unreported, because like Mexico 99% of these crimes were directly related to drug and human traffic. Phoenix, unfortunately, is geographically profitable transshipping location. Mexicans, just like 99% of U.S. Citizens during prohibition, go about their daily lives all over the country. They get up, go to school or work and live their lives untouched by the border town violence.

These same protectionist news sources have misled the public as to the real danger from the swine flu in Mexico and temporary devastated the tourism business. As of May 27 2009 there have been 87 deaths in Mexico from the swine flu. During those same five months there have been 36 murdered school children in Chicago. By their logic, if 87 deaths from the swine flu in Mexico warrants canceling flights and cruise ships to Mexico, then close all roads and highways in the USA because of record 43,359 automobile related deaths in the USA in 2008.

What is just getting underway is what many are calling the "*Largest southern migration to Mexico of people and real estate assets since the Civil War*" A significant percentage of the Baby Boomers have been doing the research and are making the life changing decision to move out of the U.S.A. The number one retirement destination in the world is Mexico. There are already over 2,000,000 US and Canadian property owners in Mexico. The most conservative number of American and Canadian Baby Boomers who are on their way to owning property in Mexico for full or part time living in the next 15 years is over 6,000,000. Do the math on 6,000,000 people buying a \$300,000 house or condo and you will understand why the U.S. Government is trying to tax this massive shift of money to Mexico through H.R. 3056. The U.S. government calls this "The Tax Collection Responsibility Act of 2007." Those who will have to pay it are calling this the EXIT TAX.

Mexico: A better economic choice than China

Another large exodus from the U.S.A is high paying skilled jobs. The job shift in automobile sector, both car and parts manufacturing, is already known by most investors. In the last few months as John Deere and Caterpillar have been laying off thousands of workers in the U.S.A., and hiring equal numbers in Mexico. The most recent industry that is making the shift is the aerospace manufacturers. In the city of Zacatecas there is currently a \$210 million aerospace facility being built. With the 11 U.S. companies moving there, it is estimated to provide over 200,000 new high paying jobs in the coming years. One of the main factors for the shift in job south to Mexico instead of China is realistic analysis of total production, labor and delivery costs. While the labor costs in China are 40% less on average, the overall transportation costs and inherent risks of a long distance supply chain, and quality control issues, gives Mexico a distinct financial advantage.

Mexico's real economic future

Mexico has avoided completely the subprime problem that has devastated the U.S. banking industry. The Mexican banks are healthy and profitable. Mexico has a growing and very healthy middle and upper middle class. The very recent introduction of residential financing has Mexico in a unique position of having over 90% of current homeowners owning their house outright. U.S. banks are competing for the Mexican, Canadian and American cross border loan business. It is and will continue to be a very safe and very profitable business. These same banks that were loaning in a reckless manner have learned their lesson and are loaning here the old fashioned way. They require a minimum of a 680 credit score, 30% down payment, and verifiable income that can support the loan. The Baby Boomers market here is between \$200,000 and \$600,000. With the continuing demand inside the Bay of Banderas, that price point, in the coming years, will disappear. This is the reason the Mexican government is spending billions of dollars on more infrastructure north along the coast all the way up to Mazatlan.

The other major area where America has become overpriced is in the field of health care. This massive shift of revenues is estimated to add 5-7% to Mexico's GDP. The name for this "business" is Medical Tourism. In Mexico today there are over 56 world class hospitals being built to keep up with this business.

Mexico is currently sitting on a cash surplus and an almost balanced budget. After that it became clear to many investors around the world what Mexicans already knew: that Mexico had been able to avoid the worst of the U.S. economic devastation.

According to oil traders, Mexico's Pemex wisely, as the price of oil shot to \$147 a barrel, put in place an investment strategy that hinged on oil trading in the range of \$38-\$60 a barrel. Since the beginning of 2009 Mexico has been collecting revenues on hedged positions that give them \$90-\$110 per barrel today. Mexico's recent and under reported oil discovery in the Palaeo Channels of

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Chicontepec has placed it third in the world for oil reserves, right behind Canada and Saudi Arabia.

The following is a quote from Rosalind Wilson, President of the Canadian Chamber of Commerce on March 19, 2009. "The strength of the Mexican economic system makes the country a favorite destination for Canadian investment."

Apply conservative medium and long term investment strategies without emotion. The demand for full and part time living by American and Canadian Baby Boomers is evident throughout the country. The top two choice locations are ocean front, and ocean view. The third overall choice, which is less expensive, is inland in one of the many beautiful colonial towns or small cities.

Mexico, with the world's 13th largest GDP, is no longer a Third World Country, but rather a fast growing, economically secure state, as the most recent five-year history of its financial markets when compared to the U.S.A.'s financial markets suggests.

Dow Jones Averages:

| | | | | |
|------------|--------|----------|-------|----------|
| May 2004 | 10,200 | May 2009 | 8,200 | 20% Loss |
| In 5 Years | | | | |

Mexican Bolsa

| | | | | |
|------------|--------|----------|--------|-----------|
| May 2004 | 10,000 | May 2009 | 23,000 | 130% Gain |
| In 5 Years | | | | |

This interesting article was provided by Carlos Ruiz Checa