

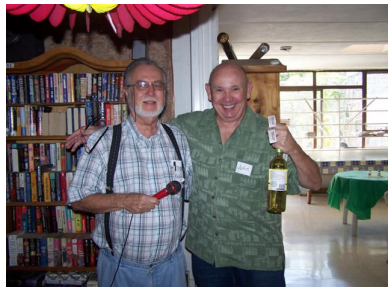
The Voice

Newsletter of the American Society of Jalisco



Events

Mexican Independence Day and Labor Day Celebration



October 2011 Edition

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

**La Sociedad Americana
de Jalisco A.C.**

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Halloween

A joint Toastmasters/AMSOC event on Saturday the 29th of October
Doors will open at 7:30 PM

A potluck supper will be served
and the AMSOC bar will be open

Costumes are optional with a contest
for the best costume to be decided.

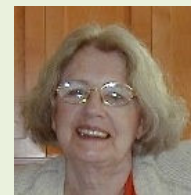
There is a fee of \$25 to enter the contest and sweeten the pot

The winner of the best single costume and
the winners of the best couple will split the pot

Tickets at the door \$60 pesos

Private security will be provided for this event.

The evening will be rounded off with games, music, dancing



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Independence Party in Guadalajara

By Pauline de Havere

This year I decided to "Be a Tourist in My Own Town" and spend the night downtown here in Guadalajara to enjoy the Independence Festivities. The Holiday Inn on Juarez, just a block and a half from the Plaza, seemed like a good idea. I was impressed as soon as I walked in the door! It was a beautiful lobby and the staff was very kind and attentive.

I was guided up to my room by a chap who gave me my seminar on the wall screen. This is not simply a TV screen! Oh no, no, no! It is also your computer screen *and* your *smart room control system*. I love gadgetry so I was delighted. I was titillated to hear the little English voice saying: "Curtains are closing" when I pressed the window button. I opened and closed them several times. Ditto with the Do Not Disturb sign. Did I mention that I love gadgetry?

The room was wonderfully spacious with wrought iron tables and marble countertops. The bathroom was a marvel of mirror and marble. I unpacked my toothbrush and had a little siesta before supper. The second floor restaurant has tables overlooking the street so my dinner entertainment was watching the police block off the street and set up guard posts everywhere. They were determined to avoid incidents.

I enjoyed a leisurely dinner then relaxed in my room before heading to the Plaza. There were people, people, people - everywhere! But everyone was in a party mood so it was not at all intimidating. They had a line of security checks strung across Avenida Alcalde. However they were very well staffed so there was hardly any delay getting through.

I managed to snake my way through the crowds and wedge myself in a spot under one of the arches on the southeast side of the Plaza. That's as close as I could get to the balcony where the State governor would be giving the annual *Grito*.

The anticipation mounted as the minutes ticked by. Finally the dignitaries walked out onto the balcony. I couldn't hear all the words but traditional choruses of "Viva", and "Viva Mexico" were shouted out with great enthusiasm by the crowd. It was thrilling and inspiring to be in the midst of it all.

As soon as that was over I fought my way east, out from underneath the covered archway, to the crowd-filled street running in front of the Palacio de Gobierno. I had high hopes for a good fireworks display. It wasn't just a good display, it was a GREAT display. (Aside from gadgetry, I love an impressive fire-works display.)

I don't know how long it would take for all the spectators to make their way home but all I had to do was walk a block and a half back to my palatial hotel room. It was a great experience and felt like a lovely mini-vacation.



Quotations

The third-rate mind is only happy when it is thinking with the majority. The second-rate mind is only happy when it is thinking with the minority. The first-rate mind is only happy when it is thinking.
A. A. Milne

Why does the Air Force need expensive new bombers? Have the people we've been bombing over the years been complaining?
George Wallace

The paradox of love is that the more you give of it, the more you have.
VW

Si una persona se comporta con rectitud aunque nadie la vea, a eso se le llama integridad.
Anónimo

Humorous quote

I have opinions of my own -- strong opinions -- but I don't always agree with them
George W. Bush

Humor

Why some people shouldn't be allowed to travel (stories from real travel agents!)

A client called in inquiring about a package to Hawaii. After going over all the cost info, she asked, "Would it be cheaper to fly to California and then take the train to Hawaii?"

I got a call from a woman who wanted to go to Cape Town. I started to explain the length of the flight and the passport information when she interrupted me with "I'm not trying to make you look stupid, but Cape Town is in Massachusetts." Without trying to make her look like the stupid one, I calmly explained, "Cape Cod is in Massachusetts, Cape town is in Africa." Her response: *click!*

A man called, furious about a Florida package we did. I asked what was wrong with the vacation in Orlando. He said he was expecting an ocean-view room. I tried to explain that is not possible, since Orlando is in the middle of the state. He replied, "Don't lie to me. I looked on the map and Florida is a very thin state."

I got a call from a man who asked, "Is it possible to see England from Canada?" I said, "No." He said "But they look so close on the map."

Another man called and asked if he could rent a car in Dallas. When I pulled up the reservation, I noticed he had a 1-hour layover in Dallas. When I asked him why he wanted to rent a car, he said, "I heard Dallas was a big airport, and I need a car to drive between the gates to save time."

A woman called and asked, "Do airlines put your physical description on your bag so they know whose luggage belongs to whom?" I said, "No, why do you ask?" She replied, "Well, when I checked in with the airline, they put a tag on my luggage that said FAT, and I'm overweight, is there any connection?" After putting her on hold for a minute while I "looked into it" (I was actually laughing) I came back and explained the city code for Fresno is FAT, and that the airline was just putting a destination tag on her luggage.

I just got off the phone with a man who asked, "How do I know which plane to get on?" I asked him what exactly he meant, which he replied, "I was told my flight number is 823, but none of these darn planes have numbers on them."

A woman called and said, "I need to fly to Pepsi-cola on one of those computer planes." I asked if she meant to fly to Pensacola on a commuter plane. She said, "Yeah, whatever."

A businessman called and had a question about the documents he needed in order to fly to China. After a lengthy discussion about passports, I reminded him he needed a

visa. "Oh no I don't, I've been to China many times and never had to have one of those." I double-checked and sure enough, his stay required a visa. When I told him this he said, "Look, I've been to China four times and every time they have accepted my American Express."

AMSOC BOARD MEETING MINUTES

September, 2011

Loretta Eisbrenner is recovering from her surgery at the Sun Haven nursing home, located at 592 Tizoc, between Lopez Mateos and Tepeyac (closer to Tepeyac), visiting hours from 10 AM to 6 PM and telephone numbers 3121-2771 and 312-2781. Loretta's cell phone number is 33-1674-5109.

Present:

Ann Whiting, Bruce Newby, John Griffin, Regis Soileau, Jim Armstrong, Jim Watkins and Jerry Dankner. Guest: Klif Harrison.

The meeting was called to order at 10:40 am with a quorum in attendance.

Treasurer's report:

The report was reviewed and approved by unanimous vote.

Committee Reports:

The Labor Day/Mexican Grito celebration was held on the 10th, with 55 attendees and was very successful.

Old Business:

Maintenance: Skylight resealing is done. Library ceiling repair, an extractor for the kitchen and reparation of the window in the library are pending.

New Business:

1. The MAMA dinner dance is scheduled for Saturday October 1. As usual AMSOC will purchase a \$750 peso ticket to support this charity.
2. Private security will be provided for the Halloween event.
3. Klif Harrison has generously offered to name the AMSOC as his heir. It was unanimously approved that AMSOC will pay for his will during the month of September.

Event Schedule:

1. Halloween will continue to be a joint Toastmasters/AMSOC event. Doors will open at 7:30 PM on Saturday night, the 29th of October. A pot luck with the AMSOC bar open for purchase of drinks is planned. Costumes are optional with a contest for the best costume to be decided.
2. The Thanksgiving celebration will be held on Thursday the 24th of November.
3. The annual Christmas posada remains to be scheduled in coordination with the orphanage.

The meeting adjourned at 11:05 AM.

Submitted by Jerry Dankner

Retiring gracefully.

As long as you're working, you stay young. George Burns

It's enthusiasm, not apathy, that makes the world go 'round.
Tony Alessandra,

Many people give up when they retire from their regular jobs and end up vegetating. But we're not like that, are we? Admittedly, it can be hard to adjust to being unable to do

ones accustomed work. Some people slump into depression. I think one of the hardest things to accept is being out of work after a lifetime of employment. Most of us feel we still have a few good working years left and something to contribute, while others dive happily into their new lives of planned leisure.

I'm addressing these comments to those who do not enjoy retirement with its accompanying feelings of uselessness and abandonment, and those people whose planned leisure was not as satisfying as they'd thought it would be.

I loved my work—I even told my last boss that my work was my life—the more mentally challenging it was, the more I enjoyed it. But the day finally came when I had to quit. Actually, the aforementioned boss threw me out, literally. He got so angry with me one day when I refused to do some accounting I felt wasn't ethical that he screamed at me, "If you don't get out now, I'll throw you out bodily!" To a woman old enough to be his mother yet! That was the end of my wide-ranging career.

But I didn't despair. I'd already started writing and had finished one novel before this happened, so I had something to fall back on. But not having a paying job meant giving up my beautiful apartment next to Stanley Park in Vancouver's West End, which I could no longer afford, but hey, I could manage.

Trying to live on a pension in Vancouver was still very challenging—rents are among the highest in North America—so I looked around for something more affordable and ended up in Guadalajara. I still have my job, actually several jobs. The main one is writing—I'm a compulsive writer—I love it, but if I get stuck or am tired of it, I can design stuff, websites, brochures, and books, etc...

Anyone can create a job for him or herself. All it takes is a little inspiration and some imagination. Age has nothing to do with it. The first step is to think about what do you really love doing—and please don't say watching TV. If nothing comes to mind, look around you and see what *needs* to be done. Perhaps you could pass on your own skills to someone else, teach somebody how to knit or bake, or show someone how to install electrical wiring, for example. You can't have passed through life without learning something useful, can you? Start a class, organize weekly expeditions. Volunteer work is another option: helping poor people to get enough nutrition, clothing needy children and helping them with school supplies. Of course, there's AmSoc! They're always crying out for volunteers, at least they were when I was a volunteer.

Once you've decided what your job is going to be, you have to take it seriously. You can't go to work in your pajamas. I have a routine that I follow every day, preparing to go to work. I start with breakfast and a little inspirational reading then I check the online news and email. After that I wash the breakfast dishes, have a shower, dress, and make the bed. Now I'm ready for work. Doing a few chores before starting work allows me think about what I'm going to do that day.

There are many AmSoc members who are an inspiration to us all; their activities make them interesting and a joy to know. Wouldn't it be fun to join them?

Message from FATCA

Dear Americans Abroad,

Due to very high participation on our September 20th FATCA Webinar and the many respondents who said that presenta-

tion time was inconvenient; we will host another live webinar presentation on FATCA (Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act) law on Tuesday, September 27th.

FATCA begins to be implemented in 2011 and has major implications for all Americans with financial assets held outside the United States. The FACTA law imposes a new and more onerous foreign asset tax-reporting regime on US citizens and foreign financial institutions. Self-reporting will now be matched against electronic reporting provided by all non-US financial institutions on all of their US citizen/resident clients. The implications of this legislation, and the peril created for Americans abroad who fail to act to ensure compliance are dramatic. Please join us on Tuesday, September 27th for a short presentation followed by Q&A to discuss this critical issue. RSVP by responding to this email and you will then receive a link to join the call.

Sincerely,

David Kuenzi david.kuenzi@thunfinancial.com

Notices and Announcements

AmSoc Book Club

October's meeting will be at 10:00 a.m.
Thursday October 20.

Everyone is welcome to attend whether or not you are a member or have read the book of the month, which is *The Boy Who Harnessed the Wind* by William Kamkwamba. This is the true story of a poor 14-year-old African boy who sets out against all odds to create a windmill to produce power that will help his family rise above famine and poverty. It's an inspiring story of ingenuity, perseverance, and courage. There is no movie.

Weekly Calendar

Monday, Wednesday & Friday

Light Exercise 10 a.m. - 11 a.m.
AA Meeting 6 p.m.

Tuesday

Toastmasters 7 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Wednesday

Beginner's Spanish 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Thursday

Lunch 12:30 p.m.
Games 11-4

Saturday

Overeaters Anon. 11 a.m.
English conversation 2 p.m. - 4 p.m.
Toastmasters 10:30 - 12:30

English speaking Dentist

Dra. Olga C. Sanchez Vergara

Cleaning \$450p

Filling \$550

X-Ray \$70

Crown \$1,200

Calle Juan Alvarez 672

2½ blocks east of Federalismo

Tel: 614-3890 - Cell: 044-33-1220-2715

Recovery Corner

Over-Eaters Anonymous

A 12-step program for compulsive eating. The group is self-supporting from member contributions. No fees or dues. Meetings are held in the AmSoc library every Saturday 11 a.m. - 12 noon. Contact: Daryl 33-3507-4746

Alcoholics Anonymous - Chapalita

Friends of Bill W. AA Group have their meetings in the main AmSoc building. Monday, Wednesday & Friday from 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM.

Alcoholics Anonymous - Centro GDL

Lunch and a meeting (open) AA group meetings at Mexicaltzingo 1238 corner of Pavo (downtown) 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.



Born and trained in the U.S.

Dr. Rodrigo Navarro

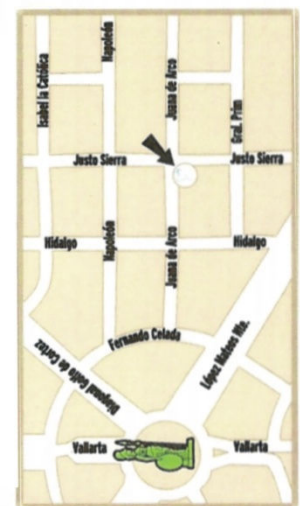
Cirugía Oral
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Implantes

Mobil: 04433-1285-5124

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Justo Sierra 2811, esquina con Juana de Arco

PREVIA CITA



Readers' comments and contributions welcome!

Salud Integral

Ubicación: Club de AmSoc

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: Leticia (Lety) Rodriguez

Tel: 044-333-103-2528

San Francisco 3332

Chapalita