



Newsletter

Friends of México Website: www.mazinfo.com/fom

E-mail: fom@mazinfo.com

Letter From the Editor

It is my pleasure to welcome you all to the July 2006 Friends of Mexico General Meeting! I just wanted to take this opportunity to introduce to you our guest speaker this month. He is a good friend of mine and my husband. I bet the majority of you enjoy Mazatlan's seafood cuisine as much as I do! Whether you are going out to eat seafood or are staying in to cook it, there are a few important things to remember to prevent food intoxication and to overall enjoy! Ing. Yoshii will be giving us some helpful hints today. I'd also like to add that if any of you have any comments or suggestions for the FOM newsletter, please don't hesitate to contact me at 916-5781 or e-mail rebeccacaven@gmail.com. Thank you and enjoy the meeting!

Rebecca Caven
FOM Newsletter Editor

Ing Eduardo Yoshii

Eduardo Yoshii was born in Mexico City in 1973. His family moved to Mazatlan in the late 70's to start a Fishing processing plant.

He attended ICO and continued his studies at Tech of Monterrey where he majored as an Engineer in Food Industries.

He worked in Japan in the fish processing industries for 5 years where he met his wife, Chika, who now lives in Mazatlan with their 2 kids.

He is a strong lover of Mazatlan and with his family run one of the most important fish processing factories in Mazatlan.

If you have any further questions for Eduardo you can email him at edoyoshii@hotmail.com.

Friends of Mexico
General Meeting Agenda
July 11, 2006

1. Call to order
 2. Guest Speaker – Ing. Eduardo Yoshii Kasuga
 3. Introduction of new Vice President
 4. Approval of July 1, 2006 Treasurers Report
- Committee Reports:
- 1 – Foundation – Jacque Demmer
Mary Carlson – Josefina Ortiz School Champion
 - 2 – Events – Susan Silva (Bruce George)
 - 3 – Discount Services – Fr. Jim Story (Henri Jarrat)
 - 4 – Membership – Fr. Jim Story (Bob Ryckman)
 - 5 – Volunteer Coordinator – Jerry Lippman
 - 6 – Member Services – Fr. Jim Story
5. Announcements
 6. Drawing
 7. Adjournment

Friends of Mexico Statement of Purpose

To be a non-profit organization of Mazatlan providing community services and promoting better understanding among Mexicans and non-Mexicans.

To accomplish this purpose we will:

- Offer activities, information and services to the members of Friends of Mexico, and
- Contribute to the local community by providing educational opportunities to those in need.

Friends of Mexico Board Members

President: Majid Mir 913-2369 majid@mimir.net

Secretary: Murry Page
982-2139 murry_page@yahoo.com

Treasurer:
Susan Silva 983-3769 mazsilva@mzt.megared.net.mx

Foundation:
Jacque Demmer 981-1786 demmaz@prodigy.net.mx

Membership:
Robert Ryckman 916-1350 theryckmans@msn.com

Newsletter:
Rebecca Caven 916-5781 rebeccacaven@gmail.com

Member Services:
Fr. Jim Story 105-5026 jstoryn@netscape.net

Discount Services:
Henri Jarrat 988-0526 hjarrat@aol.com

Events Coordinator:
Bruce George 984-5400 beej99@hotmail.com

Volunteer Coordinator
Jerry Lippman lippman970@hotmail.com

Continuing Education
Trish Kenison 9881359 patkenison@yahoo.com

CONSULATE NUMBERS

U.S. Consulate Agency in Mazatlan:

Patty Fletcher de Arteaga
Tel/Fax: 916-5889 mazagent@maz.megared.net.mx

Canadian Consulate Office in Mazatlan:

Wendy Osuna 913-7320 Fax: 914-6655

A complete list of Friends of Mexico 'by-laws' can be found on our website at: maazinifo.com/fom

Minutes of

Friends of Mexico

General Membership Meeting

June 13, 2006

A quorum having been established the President, Majid Mir, called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M. Students from the 5th grade at Josefina Osuna attended the meeting. In lieu of a speaker for this meeting the students performed several folkloric dances for the membership. They also sang songs in English that they had learned from our volunteers.

After their performance Majid Mir pointed out to the members that the focus of the organization was on service to the members and contributing to the educational needs of underprivileged children in Mazatlan. He then reviewed the various ways in which the organization provides services to its members. He then discussed ways in which members could help Friends of Mexico. He noted there was a need for volunteers, including an advertising coordinator and well as members who would be willing to contribute stories for the newsletter. Finally he noted that forty-nine percent (49%) of the Foundation Committee's expenses last year were for supplies.

Majid Mir stated that the Treasurer's Report was published in the newsletter and asked if everyone had reviewed it. Gladys Kreib moved that the Treasurer's Report be approved, as submitted. The motion was seconded and approved.

Jacque Demmer then gave the report of the Foundation Committee, a copy of which was published in the monthly newsletter. Susan Silva gave the Events Committee Report in the absence of Bruce George. She said that the plans for the trip to Patzcuaro, scheduled for October 31, 2006, through November 5, 2006, were being finalized and the members would be notified via email within the next week of the details. She also noted that the annual 4th of July and Canada Day celebration would be held at the Emporio Hotel beginning at noon on July 4, 2006.

In the absence of Henri Jarrat, Majid Mir gave the Discount Services Committee Report and stated that new medical services had been added to the program and they were listed in the newsletter. Lynn Hopkins gave the Membership Committee Re-

port in the absence of Bob Ryckman. She stated that three (3) renewals had been obtained at the meeting.

Announcements were then made. At the conclusion of the regular drawing, upon motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 11:45 A.M.

Respectfully submitted

Murry Page, Secretary

Friends of Mexico
Summary of
Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting
June 6, 2006

The following Board members were present in person: Majid Mir, Jacque Demmer, Susan Silva, and Murry Page. Bruce George was present by proxy, a copy of which is attached to the minutes. Robert Ryckman was absent. The following were also in attendance: Fr. Jim Story and Lynne Hopkins, who held the proxy for Bruce George.

After the meeting that held on May 2, 2006, the bylaws of Friends of Mexico were reviewed and it was determined that a quorum was not present at that meeting. The proxy submitted by Robert Ryckman was not signed and therefore was not valid and the bylaws require five (5) directors to be present either in person or by proxy and only three (3) directors were present. Susan Silva moved that all actions taken at the inquorate meeting held on May 2, 2006, be ratified. The motion was seconded and it was unanimously approved.

Jacque Demmer then gave the Foundation Committee Report, a copy of which is attached. She noted that fifth (5th) grade students from Josefina Osuna would be providing entertainment at the June general membership meeting. There will be approximately thirty (30) students in attendance. Jacque Demmer moved that Friends of Mexico pay

for the children's transportation and breakfast while at the meeting and that payment be made from the Administrative Account. The motion was seconded and it was unanimously approved. She then advised the Board Tom Whitmore had donated Six Thousand Pesos (\$6,000.00) to the Foundation and that Kattie and Ted Carney had donated US\$1,000 to the Foundation with the written stipulation that the Chair, Jacque Demmer, have absolute discretion as to the expenditure of the funds.

Susan Silva then gave the Treasurer's Report, a copy of which is attached. She discussed the conversion of the manual system that has been used to Microsoft Money. She stated that all records beginning with the year 2000 would be placed in the Money software program and the conversion should be completed within the next week. Murry Page moved that at the completion of the conversion the accountant for Friends of Mexico reconcile the balances shown on the Money software program with the balances shown on the manual reports. The motion was seconded and it was unanimously approved.

Fr. Jim Story gave the Membership Report for Bob Ryckman in his absence and stated that ten (10) new members had joined during the month bringing the total membership to 467. Jacque Demmer noted that following the Board's guideline for granting lifetime memberships; one should be given to Kattie and Ted Carney in light of their US\$1,000 donation. Accordingly, Jacque Demmer moved that Kattie and Ted Carney be given a lifetime membership in Friends of Mexico. The motion was seconded and it was unanimously approved. Fr. Jim Story then gave the Member Services Report and stated he was still working on the Survival book.

The status of planning the various trips for the members was then discussed. Susan Silva stated that the trip to Patzcuaro should be finalized within the week and she maybe able to provide the membership the details of the

trip at the June meeting. It was recognized that a deposit would be required from members indicating a desire to attend. The establishment of a PayPal account to handle deposits was discussed and Majid Mir agreed investigate that option. Susan Silva also noted that she is considering two (2) trips to Tonalá this season. One trip would be for those who are primarily interested in shopping and a second one for those who are more interested in tours, etc.

Lynne Hopkins then gave a brief presentation on possible medical insurance coverage for members of Friends of Mexico. A copy of the proposal submitted to the Board is attached. The Board asked questions about the proposal and requested she proceed with the investigation and obtain a translation of the benefits, deductibles, etc. and report back to the Board at a special called meeting for that purpose.

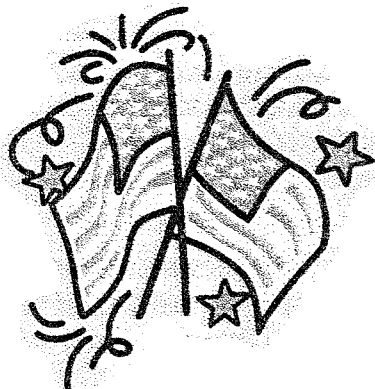
In conclusion it was noted that the July Board meeting falls on the 4th of July. After discussion it was determined that the July Board meeting would take place on July 5, 2006. There being no further business to come before the meeting up motion duly made and seconded the meeting adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Murry Page

Secretary

Happy 4th of July



Friends of México

Foundation Committee Meeting

Thursday, June 29, 2006

Attending: Jacque Demmer, Rebecca Caven, Mary Carlson, Lynne Hopkins de Hernández & Lee Story

School reports:

Sor Juana – Lynne: 6th grade graduation plans have been firmed up, with 26 students participating & moving onto secundaria school. The air conditioners will be installed prior to the start of school in August. Supplies for the next school year are ready to be ordered.

Venadillo-Lee: Lynne & Lee delivered a soccer ball & African safari slide show to the director. Electricity has been installed in 3 classrooms so that the enciclomedia equipment can be used. 6th grade graduation was on Wednesday, June 28th, attended by Jacque, Tom Whitmore, Lynne & Lee. School supplies are ready to be ordered for the next school year. Per Jacque, an estimate for the windows for 3 classrooms has to be selected and submitted to the Buenestar office for review.

Josefina-Mary: The class that performed at the June general meeting gave her appreciation notes. The FOM will be represented at their graduation ceremony by Ann Murphy and Ann Kennedy who took gifts for each graduate.

Vincente Guererro-Jacque: The work/paint day at the school is postponed for a few months. FOM will be represented at their graduation.

Thanks to Lynne Hopkins Hernandez and Lee Story for setting up FOM member participation at every one of “our schools” as well as having a little gift for each and every graduate.

Hogar-Jacque: Supplies will be provided for next school year.

En Busca-Jacque: She’s overseeing the purchase of equipment from a private donation.

Aquarium-Jacque: They have been paid for the students that have toured the Aquarium.

Continued on page 5

General business:

Lynne presented a replenishment list for first aid kits.

This will be given to the Champions with a request to have each director check for needed supplies for their first aid box at the beginning of the school year in August.

Lynne suggested that bi lingual dictionaries be provided to all 5th & 6th graders..

Lynne to research appropriate pencil sharpeners for the classrooms.

Jacque has ordered the Polo shirts for Sor Juana School as well as some for FOM. She has also ordered T-Shirts with the FOM logo on them. She is going to request at the board meeting that in the fall of 2006 each Champion and ESL teacher be given a FOM T-shirt in appreciation for their contribution to FOM and to the kids at the schools.

She is also going to ask that the board set up a discretionary fund for the Foundation Committee and the Events Committee.

Respectfully submitted by Lee Story
Foundation Committee Secretary

FRIENDS OF MEXICO

Monthly Treasurers Report

JULY 1, 2006

Executive Summary

BALANCE IN ACCOUNTS AS OF JULY 1, 2006	\$392,395.96
FOUNDATION RESERVE FOR 2006	\$198,960.10
TOTAL BALANCE	\$193,435.86

oo

Monthly Activities

Administrative Account Balance-06/01/06	\$ 10,000.00
This month Income	\$ 400.00
This month Expenses	(\$ 1,765.00)
Transfer to Foundation Account	(\$ -0-)
Administrative Account Balance- 07/01/06	\$ 8,635.00

Foundation Account Balance – 06/01/06	\$ 378,774.96
This month Income	\$ 20,424.00

Transfer from Administrative Account	\$ -0-
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This month Expenses	(\$ 15,438.00)
Foundation Account Balance- 07/01/06	\$ 383,760.96
Total FOM Accounts Balance	\$ 392,395.96

oo

Respectfully Submitted

Note: All totals are in Pesos

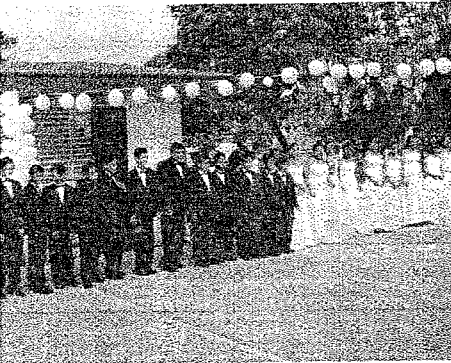
Susan Harp Silva

MUCHAS GRACIAS!

The Foundation would like to thank the following people for their donation.

- DOUG AKIN**
- ANNE MURPHY**
- ANN KENNEDY**

Sor Juana Inez de la Cruz



The 6th grade graduating boys and girls



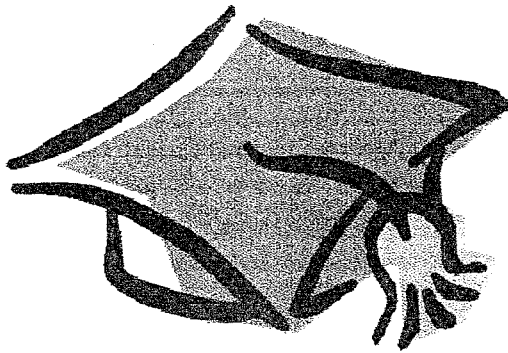
The top students grades 1-6 with FOM members



Dancing the Waltz

Jose Felipe Valle

"Venadillo"



Vicente Guerrero



A youngster performs as a geisha



Pledging the Flag and singing an- them at Venadillo



The graduating 6th graders line up at Vicente Guerrero



The Waltz at Vicente Guerrero

A Heartfelt Note of Appreciation Given at Graduation:

Muy buenas días, Langan saludos
 Mi nombre es: Gerson Hernandez Osuna
 y me es un honor, por decir unas
 palabras, de parte alguna por haberlo que
 es esta mi segunda casa, he vivido
 hasta a mis grandes amigos, mis muy
 queridos maestros y directores.
 Pero sobre todo, a un gran grupo de personas
 muy, por muy especiales
 que son ustedes siendo de los amigos
 que me han ayudado, siendo de mi
 necesidad, sin comprar el mismo dinero
 pero con un corazón mucho más grande
 que no siendo de palabras, por comprar
 zapatos, pantalones, camisas y hasta celebraciones. Por que realmente
 puedo pagarlos? no existe ningún precio a lo que
 los puedo decir muchas gracias de toda corazón
 y Dios, termino mi carta
 y ser un buen ser humano, por que en ellos
 ellos han el fruto de su trabajo. Muchas gracias
 YACKIE D, muchas gracias YACKIE D y también a
 Hopkins de y pero sobre todo a mis padres
 y que Dios los bendiga a todos
 los tiene en mi corazón

A Very Good Morning to you All,
 My name is Gerson Hernandez Osuna
 and I have been given the honor of
 saying a few words with much happi-
 ness - about all that I have experienced
 here in my ssecond home with my
 good friends and beloved teachers and
 administrators? Above all I would
 like to address a special group of peo-
 ple: the Friends of Mexico...without
 even being my family, or neighbors
 and not even being of my nationality,
 without sharing the same language and
 yet you have huge hearts... and not
 even being our parents you buy us
 shoes, pants, shirts and even socks. In
 what form can I repay you? There
 does not exist a price, I can only say
 thank you very much from the bottom
 of my heart to you, and above all to
 God. I will finish my schooling, be a
 good human being so that I can show
 you the fruit of your labor and kind-
 ness. Thank you very much to Jacque
 Demmer, to Jackie Peterson and also
 to Lynn Hopkins Hernandez and
 above all to my parents. May God
 Bless you all. I will carry you in my
 heart always.

Thank You

English Teachers!

We had a great year teaching English in all of our schools. All the students really enjoyed learning English and the school principals have requested more classes in the upcoming year. If you would like to teach, contact Lynn Hopkins at 914-3928.

Today in this letter I tell you teacher:

Mary, with all my heart I give sincere thanks to you for having given us English classes. I hope that all you have given us will return to you.

Really teacher, many but many thanks for all your support, affection, enthusiasm and love - all such a gift to us.

Also thank you for giving us the opportunity to go to sing at that beautiful place (Los Zarapes) which was for me like a dream come true.

In my name and the name of my classmates, we give you thanks. Have a good trip and we hope you return soon. (Perla)

Gracias

Hoy en esta carta le digo a usted ficher: Maria que con toda mi carazon le doy los mas sinceras gracias por habernos enseñado los clases de ingles. Espero que el dia del favor que nos hizo se le regrese a usted.

Deveras ficher muchas pero muchas gracias por toda su apoyo, carino, entusiasmo y amor que usted sin darnos nos regalo.

Ha tambien gracias por haberme dado la oportunidad de ir a cantar a ese lugar tan bonito que es para mi como un sueño hecho realidad.

En nombre mio y en el de mis compañeros le damos las gracias y le deseamos un feliz viaje y esperamos que vuelva pronto.

Por ser tan linda y cariñosa a y especio con todos nosotros gracias.

I LOVE YOU
TEACHER.

Perla Jasmin Gonzalez Torres

And Don't Forget....

Outgoing mail to the USA is collected at the back table.

FOM has a blood donor list. Call Susan Silva - 983-3769, Jacque Demmer - 981-1786 or Jim Story - 105-5026, to sign up or if in need.

Gisela Garcia is the person to call if you are shut-in and in need of some companionship or you know someone who is. She'll visit you at the hospital or in your home. Call 982-8958.

A Foreign Residents phone directory is available at the back desk for 25 pesos. If you want to be included in this directory, email

www.maztravel.com/maz/phones/signup.html.

Call Trish Kenison 988-1359 patkenison@yahoo.com if you are interested in taking Spanish classes - all levels.

Register with your consulate on-line when you arrive and leave. US at www.usembassymexico.gov and Canada at www.voyage.gc.ca.

Forms are also available at the back table.

Advertising Directory Announcement

Interested in helping out with the Friends of Mexico Newsletter? We need somebody to help out with the advertising directory. The volunteer position consists of contacting current advertisers, going to the businesses every three months to collect t dues and to ensure that the ads are in electronic format. If you are interested please contact Rebecca Caven at 916-5781. Thanks!

