



Friends of Mexico, A.C.

Newsletter



Amigos de Mexico, A.C.

A non-profit organization of Mazatlan providing community services and promoting better understanding among all nationalities

www.friendsofmexicoac.org

Email: fom@mazinfo.com

5 Pesos

Welcome New Members

Name	From	Mos. in Maz
Ahern, John	Idaho USA	3
Ankeny, Beverly		
Arrendondo-Reyes, Diego		12
Biagi, Patricia	Minnesota USA	2
Boyer, Valerie	Montana USA	
Burton, Joyce	Pennsylvania USA	6
Caruso, Karen	BC Canada	2
Caruso, Peter	BC Canada	2
Copland, Helen	Alberta Canada	3
Dixon, Albert	California USA	
Dixon, Joyce	California USA	
Faith, Dorothy		
Faith, Monroe "Moe"		
Ferrier, Kent	Washington USA	6
Gessleman, Brenda	Alberta Canada	3
Gonzales, Nancy	Colorado USA	1
Griffin, Carol		12
Griffin, "Rob"		12
Harkin, Kathy	So. Dakota USA	2
Jacobs, Bruce	BC Canada	5
Jacobs, Opal	BC Canada	5
Knockwood, Ilene	N. Brunswick	5
Leggatt, Kirby	BC Canada	3
Leggett, Shirley	BC Canada	3
Lingares, Joe	California, USA	
Nitschke, Sharon	Alberta, Canada	5
Paddack, Larry	Colorado, USA	6
Reitenour, Robert	Oregon, USA	8
Reynolds, Bob	Montana, USA	6
Reynolds, Pam	Montana, USA	6
Roberts, Janet	Wisconsin, USA	3
Robertson, Georgina	BC Canada	6
Robertson, James	BC Canada	6
Rolph, Joe	Washington, USA	12
Shepard, Carolina	Kansas, USA	3
Valdez, Juan Carlos	Sinaloa, MX	12
Vandenberg, Debbie	Washington, USA	5
Vallely, Wendy	Alberta, Canada	6



Bev's Story From The Trenches



It was our first day of class. Boy, were my husband and I apprehensive.... The professor, a nice man named Jose, asked if we minded if he went for a doctor's appointment. We said of course not!! This was not a good move on the first day. As we moved towards our class thirty-one smiling faces greeted us. I know these children were anxious to learn. After a while, we found it a little hard to keep things calm in the class with our "perfectly" prepared projects. So we decided to start singing to get rid of any excess energies. That was fine, but they did not want to stop... Then, I had the bright idea to add a sticker to their name cards. After the first few stickers were handed out, we were mobbed! Little did we know that stickers were a sign of importance, a status symbol, especially a star on a student's forehead. Wow, what a morning we had. We made it through and felt a little overwhelmed at first. Being the real troupers that we are, we said we would figure out a new plan of attack for the following week... Yes, we hid the stickers until the end of any class. The teacher now takes part in each class enthusiastically and the ABC song appears to be our class theme song. We receive so many welcoming hugs and handshakes each week. We both realize that we gain so much more than we give.

By Bev and Eddy Kreutzer

Events Calendar
February 13 – March 12
FEBRUARY 13 - 28



14: Valentine's Day
 17: First Annual FOM Golf Tourney



19: Washington's Birthday
 23-28: Carnaval
 24: Flag Day
 25: Volunteer Coffee

February Birthdays – Happy Birthday!

- 01 Evert, "Trish"
- 02 Enos, Denise
Koob, Ray
Maier, Lynn
Terrana, Charles
- 03 Swanson, Wayne
- 04 Milbach, Sandra
- 05 Driedger, "Dot"
Horwood, Adele
Moulton, Mary Ann
Vandiver, Sandi
- 06 Dalton, Rod
Reese, Orland
- 08 Horwood, Bill
Krakie, George
- 09 Wideriksen, Wanda
- 10 Berry, Knute
Melze, Elaine
- 11 Geissler, Norma
Schoeggl, Martin
Willms, Ed
- 12 Aalmo, Kaye
- 13 Poses, Edward
- 14 Sieber, Peggy
- 16 Blackburn, Gail Edith
Dorsey, Joyce
- 17 Gosselin, Eugene
Kreib, Gladys
Loman, Helen
- 18 Azulay, Joan
Coombs, Allen
- 19 Buhler, Jerry
Uzick, Bernice
- 21 Cornish, Dennis
Kuntz, Betty
- 22 Meharry, Collen

MARCH 1 – 12

02-07: Copper Canyon Tour

09: 1st of 4 Cooking Classes
 11: Daylight Saving Time starts

March Birthdays – Happy Birthday!

- 02 Davis, Ellen
Edwards, Kathy
- 03 Corley, Jennifer
- 04 Donnelly, Betti
- 05 Phillips, Judy
Taylor, Kathy
- 06 Brown, Lucille
- 07 Morgan, John
Sorrie, Sharon
- 08 Hall, Pat
- 10 Reeh, Hazel
- 11 Story, Lee
- 12 Villalobos, Rudy

Carnaval is an official Mexican holiday that kicks off a five-day celebration of the libido before the Catholic lent. Beginning the weekend before Lent, Carnaval is celebrated exuberantly with parades, floats and dancing in the streets. Carnaval is equivalent to Mardi Gras in New Orleans. The festival of Carnaval is celebrated as a last indulgence of carnal pleasures that Catholics must give up for 40 days of fasting during Lent, from Ash Wednesday to Easter Sunday. In fact, the word Carnaval is derived from Latin, meaning take away or goodbye to flesh, and strict Catholics will give up meat eating during Lent. The wearing of masks during Carnaval is said to be a pagan practice as protection from evil spirits, but most likely evolved as a way to participate fully in the celebration with some anonymity.

Flag Day. This Mexican national holiday honors the Mexican flag. *Banks will be closed and some businesses.*



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Volunteer's Corner

CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS!!!

We need volunteer's for the following:


FEB. 17th First Annual Golf Tournament at El Cid (monitor holes for prizes, Registration, etc.

FEB. 25th Volunteer's Coffee (See notice in newsletter). COME to hear what Committee Chairperson's can use your help with.

MARCH 12-15 School Eye Exams with USA team of ophthalmologists. If you have experience fitting eyeglasses, assisting with exams, we need you..

MARCH 18th WINE AND CHEESE Fund Raiser. Need 8 attendees each hour to serve. Meet new friends, then get to know them the rest of the time.

MARCH-APRIL Arts/Crafts people to make gifts for our schools 6th grade graduating students. Should be a fun day. **Forms for Volunteer Opportunities available on the tables and with Greeters.**



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Haircut	Av Camaron Sabalo
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And more	9132925

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Outstanding is how you always came through,
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Trustworthy in the project you take,
Eager to assist FOM in achieving their goal
Effective in the way you fulfilled your role.
Radiating personalities that shine like the stars,
Special and wonderful . . .
That's what Volunteers are!



Mazatlan Realty

Jim Seaholm
Heriberto Frias No. 1501 Centro Historico
Telephono (669) 981-0066 Cell 044-669-446-1494
www.mazatlanrealty.com

FOUNDATION REPORT

FEBRUARY 13, 2007

The committee members met on Wednesday the January 31st.

On January 24th the Office of Tourism for the State of Sinaloa, and Lissy Bernal called a press conference regarding the Friends of Mexico Foundation. As a result of this conference there were articles in the Noroeste, Debate and El Sol newspapers, a report on the evening news. The Mazatlan Interactive magazine is doing a feature article about the Friends of Mexico Foundation. We are hoping that this good press will be helpful in raising donations for the year 2007.

Sor Juana: Lee Story and Lynne Hernandez: scholarship money for the secondary students will be paid at the beginning of each month rather than at the end. The incentive program for February will be for class attendance. The classroom with the best attendance will receive a prize. The parents association purchased paint and painted the outside of the school last week. It's looking very good and they are very pleased with the results.

Jose Felipe Valle: Marg Deane took several bags of clothing and boxes of household goods to the school for a "garage sale" to help raise funds to pay for the patio cover. On Friday Feb. 2nd representatives from the school and the Foundation met at the office of Bienestar Social to pay for their part of the construction of the cover.

Vicente Guerrero: The U.S. Naval destroyer, USS John Paul Jones was in Mazatlan with some school supplies to donate. ENS McCarty and 3 Navy volunteers delivered the supplies to Vicente Guerrero School. It was a quite an event! The kids were so thrilled to be receiving some pens, pencils, and notebooks, they cheered. The navy personnel were very impressed with the school and how much the kids appreciated the supplies and they hope to expand this program. The Champions reported that even though the school professes to have drinking water available for the kids...there never is any. For an approximately. \$400.00 pesos a filter can be purchased delivered and installed by volunteers from the Vineyard. The committee is researching the purchase of 2 filters as a pilot project at this school. If it is successful, we'll discuss the possibility of installing the filters at all of the schools.

Josefina Osuna Perez Morning Session:

On January 25th a reporter and camera man from Televisa Television, and Lissy Bernal from the State Office of Tourism visited Josefina Osuna Perez School to film our volunteer

members teaching English at this school. The film was to air on Televisa and we were told that might qualify to be aired on national news. The two 6th grade morning classes have been to the Aquarium. FOM sponsors part of their entrance fee.

Josefina Osuna Perez Afternoon Session: Jackie Peterson requested that the committee help with the purchase of cabinets for the teachers in the 12 classrooms. She is going to find out how much is needed and the committee with help if possible.

Hogar: Susan Silva said that there has been a request for FOM to pick up ½ semester scholarships for 4 boys from Fr. Tovar's Hogar San Pablo who are attending the Felton Trade School. She will have more details later.

En Busca de una Sonrisa: The metal doors, windows and electrical fixtures have been installed in the second story addition and the classrooms are in use. All the lights in the classrooms and the lights outside have been installed and are in working order. The next project is tile for the classroom floors. We are shopping around for a good price. Members of Las Canoas trailer park are going to help with completing another classroom as the school anticipates a large increase in attendance due to a new subdivision in their area.

All of the champions are going to check with the teachers at each school to see what school supplies might be needed for the remainder of the year and check to see if supplies are needed for the first aid kits we gave them last year.

Since the **ESL curriculum** is in its infancy, at the end of this season it will be reviewed and revised. Therefore it was decided that it is not yet ready to be shared. Once fine tuned, the committee would be willing to share it.

The annual brunch with the directors was a success. The Champions had a chance to speak with the directors one on one and the directors had a chance to share their ideas and suggestions. We learned that there is an afternoon session at Vicente Guerrero School in which students also have needs that could be served with FOM support, if possible in the future. Profesora Osuna oversees a total of 100 federally supported primary schools, and she expressed her profound thanks to the members of FOM for the support Sor Juana School has received over the years. She also mentioned that if our program expands once again, she has an extremely needy school of some 600 students in the Colonia Urias that would welcome our assistance Hector Pena announced that Jose Felipe Valle in Venedillo is on the list to have its patio cover constructed in 2007, and we hope to see Vicente Guerrero's parent's group raise sufficient funding to also qualify in 2007.

Respectfully submitted by

Jacque Demmer

BLOOD DONOR INFORMATION

by Lynne Hernandez

In January of 2007 several of us had the opportunity and challenge to find 12 units of blood and two platelet donors for a member awaiting surgery in Ciudad Obregón.

This challenge succeeded because it truly was a team effort. We contacted FOM members, members from the Mexican Army, local businesses, friends of friends, and one of the local churches to get potential donors to go to either IMSS or Divina Providencia to fill the request. The unsung heroes in this effort were folks such as the químico Daniel Ledon at Divina Providencia who was always willing to find a way to make it work, the housekeeper of one FOM member who went to the Army with her son to request donors and came back with four willing and healthy young men, one FOM member who despite her age and inability to speak Spanish managed to donate blood thru the IMSS system here in Mazatlan, and the local business owners who talked with their younger employees and encouraged them to donate. To all of those people who donated and all of those who attempted to give blood at IMSS and Divina Providencia but couldn't, we give you a hearty GRACIAS for helping to make this a successful endeavor.

What we discovered in the process is that México has age limits for donors, ranging from 50-65, depending upon each individual blood bank's regulations. For most of us as "mature" FOM members we are over the age limit.

Last month's newsletter briefly mentioned a blood bank being established in Culiacán for Sinaloa, this may happen some time in the future so we thought, let's rely upon that blood bank for needs in Mazatlan. Perhaps that dream will become a reality in the next 5 years, but it isn't available to residents living in Mazatlan at this time.

Based upon our experience with this challenge we have identified some general observations:

1) In México, and specifically in Mazatlán, there is no central source for blood (blood bank); it is the responsibility of family to find blood donors and to

get them tested, have blood drawn, and transport the blood if necessary.

2) Each request for blood donations is initiated by a written order from a doctor.

3) Different requirements for donors exist within México, and within Mazatlán; these requirements are established by each individual blood bank.

4) We found that México does not freeze blood to store it, thus, a donated unit of refrigerated blood has a shelf life of 36 days.

5) The public system, IMSS, does not charge for the testing, drawing, storing and packing blood. The private hospitals do, and that cost varies here in Mazatlán from 3,000 pesos per unit to 1,500 pesos per unit.

6) The IMSS system requires that donors provide official proof of identification such as passport, IFE card, etc.

7) The majority of Mexicans are type O, the majority of Canadians and United States folks are type A.

8) Donors must wait 45 days in between donations.

9) If anticipating surgery—line up donors and potential donors EARLY.

10) There is a blood packing and transportation protocol, which must be followed if the blood is leaving one hospital and going to another.

11) Patients have the option to self-donate, but remember it's a limited quantity, and the shelf life is only 36 days.

12) The process and requirements for blood donations is not the same as it is in Canada and the United States and the culture for massive blood draws in anticipation of peak use is not familiar here in México.

FOM's Board of Directors has determined that it is time to review it's current list of potential blood donors, establish a protocol for the next emergency request, and has appointed a work group to complete this task in the very near future.

Mazatlan IS Paradise
A book for Visitors and Residents
Charles Hall
Author

Balboa #108-B
Fracc. El Dorado
Mazatlan, Sinaloa, Mexico
Phone: 913-1143
E-mail: chall@prodigy.net.mx
Novel: The Whale Spirit
Commander, Mazatlan American Legion

NEW LIBRARY AND COMPUTER LAB FOR JOSE FELIPE VALLE SCHOOL

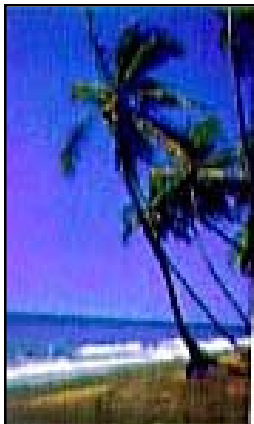
A memorial library and computer lab is being established at Escuela Jose Felipe Valle en colonia El Venadillo in memory of Bernard Niessen, a snow bird resident of Mazatlan for the past 21 years. Ben was a diligent supporter of Friends of Mexico education program. Anyone wishing to participate in any way... a financial donation, donate computer equipment, or suitable books in English or Spanish, please contact Margaret Deane Niessen at 913-3620

Attention Homeowners

Tax Bills are ready for you to pick-up. There are three locations: For those who own homes in the: Golden Zone and North Av. Camaron Sabalo, look for the awning, table & chairs behind Burger King parking lot. El Centro & Centro Historico, Pallos Kawa on Av Miguel Aleman.

You will need last years tax bill or the Clave Catastral number. There is a 10% discount if paid before February 28. If you have a current FM3 or FM2 Visa, you are eligible for a 50% reduction in your house taxes.

Where to pay? Take the bill and your FM3 or FM2 to any of the following locations, Santander, Banorte and Scotiabank-Inverlat banks, Jumapam outlets or City Hall.



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Spanish Classes Offered

The University of Sinaloa, Mazatlan invited members of FOM to an open house to announce the beginning of Spanish classes for English speakers. There are two levels of classes, beginning and intermediate.

- Registration for classes was Feb. 13, they will allow you to registered and begin classes on Feb. 14. To assess your level of spanish, Diana Osuna will be available to suggest the class that would be best for you. The cost of the course \$1,000.00 for a 60 hour course.
 - Classes are on a daily basis.
 - Beginners 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm
 - Intermediate 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm
- Some extra class activities will be included. There will be a minimum of 10 (ten) students to start a class. Should you have further questions, feel free to contact us.

Gilberto Rios Zamora, Academic Coordinator
CEI- Mazatlan
669-985-16-08 / 669-982-55-98 Ext. 105 U.A.S.

Local news of interest

The port was closed to small craft on Jan. 23, as a result of waves over a meter high and winds with gusts 50 kilometers an hour. Also, the cruise ship Oosterdam, which was supposed to dock at 8:00 a.m., had to wait 3 hours because of the weather.

On the same note, there has been extensive erosion of beaches from The Inn at Mazatlan north to Cerritos on Jan. 23 as well.

For those of us who live in Centro, there was an armed robbery on the street in broad daylight (10:34 a.m.) at Ninos Heroes and Sixto Osuna.

Jumapam announced that their most recent study has detected around 20 discharges of greases and toxic chemicals in quantities sufficient to cause harm to the public and ecosystem. The areas most affected are: Rafael Buelna, La Quinta Chapalita, Urias, and the fishing wharf.

The reconstruction of the lookout on Centenario (Cerro de la Vigia) has been halted because someone stole the heavy machinery from the site.

**Minutes of Friends of Mexico
General Membership Meeting
December 12, 2006**

A quorum having been established, Majid Mir, the President, called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M.

Majid Mir reminded the members that the Annual Business Meeting would be held on Tuesday, January 9, 2007, at the Vineyard church. He discussed the items that would be on the agenda for that meeting, including the election of officers and committee chairs.

Majid Mir then told the members that Friends of Mexico was offering a group health insurance plan to its members. Although Friends of Mexico is not endorsing the health insurance plan being offered, it is using the organization as a group in order to obtain for the members a better premium rate. The plan is being offered by Plan Seguro and representatives of the company are located at the back of the room to answer any questions members may have.

Majid Mir introduced Salvador Herrera Espinosa, a professional photographer. Mr. Espinosa presented a slide show of his photography, which included photographs of flora and fauna located throughout the State of Sinaloa,

which he had taken over the past four years.

Majid Mir then told the members the annual Christmas party would be held at Los Zarapes on December 21st. He introduced Stella Bell who gave the details of the party.

Majid Mir asked if there was a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report, as published in the newsletter. Jackie Peterson moved that the report be approved. The motion was seconded and it was approved.

Jacque Demmer gave the report of the Foundation Committee, as copy of which was published in the newsletter. Jacque Demmer thanked Frances and Henri Jarrat for the air conditioners for Sor Juana School, Katie and Ted Carney for the Christmas gifts to the students at En Busca, and Lizzy Bernal for the books she had donated to Friends of Mexico.

Susan Silva then gave the report of the Events Committee. She said the trip to Tonalá would take place from January 19th to January 22nd. The cost is \$1,800 pesos per person. Seats are limited so decisions need to be made soon. Susan Silva also noted that a sign up sheet was available for the upcoming trip to Copper Canyon. Finally, she stated that Friends of Mexico would have its first golf tournament to be held in February and that details would be made available shortly.

Henri Jarrat gave a brief report on the Discount Services Program and then Fr. Jim Story gave the report of the Membership Committee noting that we had fifteen (15) guests present at the meeting; that ninety-eight (98) members had renewed their memberships during the month and that sixty-six (66) new members had joined, which brought the membership to over six hundred (600).

Majid Mir announced that Bruce George had resigned as Chair of the Events Committee and that the vacancy would be filled at the elections to be held in January. Jerry Lippman announced that the American Legion was having its annual fund raising dinner on January 11, 2007, at that he had tickets that members could purchase. Finally, Chuck Hall announced that his revised and updated book *Mazatlan is Paradise* is available for purchase. The minutes be approved, as published in the newsletter. The motion was seconded and it was approved.

After the drawing Majid Mir asked if someone want to make a motion to approve the minutes of the November membership meeting. Angel Weeks moved that the minutes

Continued On Next Page

**Miguel Omar Gil
Gomez M.D.**

- ADULTS AND KIDS
- GENERAL CHECK-UP
- HOUSE CALLS

HOURS: MONDAY THRU FRIDAY:
16:30 TO 19:30 HOURS.

SATURDAY: 10:00 TO 13:00 HOURS.

English Spoken and References

EMERGENCIES: 986-6899

Office: (669) 986-6122
986-6684

Cell: 044-669-122-0473

migueldgilmd@hotmail.com

Av. Jesus Kumate (in front of SAM's Club)
Plaza las Conchas, Local Num 17
Fracc. Las Cruces, Mazatlan, Sinaloa

be approved as published in the newsletter. The motion was seconded and approved.

It was then moved that the meeting be adjourned. The motion was seconded and approved and the meeting was adjourned at 10:50 A.M.

Respectfully submitted Murry Page, Secretary

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**Friends of Mexico
Minutes of Board of Directors Meeting
January 2, 2007**

(Summary Only – A complete copy is available on the back table)

The following Board members were present in person: Majid Mir, Diane Hulen, Susan Silva, Jacque Demmer, Fr. Jim Story, and Murry Page.

A quorum having been established, the President, Majid Mir, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Jacque Demmer moved that the minutes of the September 2006 meeting be approved as submitted. The motion was seconded and it was approved. Jacque noted that it was Lynne Hopkins de Hernandez who requested that our members be surveyed regarding their interest in a portion of a local paper being printed in English. She then moved that the minutes of the November 2006 meeting be approved, as corrected. The motion was seconded and it was approved. A typographical error was noted in the minutes of the December 2006 meeting. Fr. Jim Story moved that the minutes of the December 2006 be approved, as corrected. The motion was seconded and it was approved.

Jacque Demmer reported that the deadline for the schools to have their money for the patio/activity area covers had been extended until January 15th, but that Jose Felipe Valle was the only school that would make the deadline.

The orientation meeting for new board members, to be held on January 16th, was then discussed. Majid Mir distributed a draft of the proposed agenda. A discussion followed. Majid Mir asked everyone to give him their input by Tuesday, January 9th, and that he would email everyone the results. Susan Silva then gave the Treasurer’s Report. Jacque Demmer then gave the report of the Foundation Committee, a copy of which is attached. Fr. Jim Story then gave the report of the Membership Committee, a copy of which is attached. Susan Silva gave the report for the Events Committee and said that January 19th – 22nd trip to Tonalá

was full and that 42 people were going, as of today. She also noted that plans for the trip to Copper Canyon were being finalized. The trip would take place approximately February 22nd. She said that if she could finalize the details prior to the membership meeting next week, she would have a sign up sheet for the members.

Diane Hulen gave the report of the Nominating Committee and said that, as if today, the following people were being nominated for the position indicated:

- Vice President – Rudy Villalobos
- Treasurer – George Keats, Susan Silva, and Bob Story
- Chairman of the Events Committee – Stella Bell
- Chairman of the Membership Committee – Gayle Carmichael and Fr. Jim Story.

Susan Silva moved that Friends of Mexico retain the accounting services of Jaime Osuna of Osuna y Associates for all accounting and financial matters arising on or after January 1, 2007. The motion was seconded and it was approved.

The board then discussed the election process and procedures for the elections to be held on January 9th. Finally, the board reviewed the bylaws, as they pertain to committees. Jacque Demmer stated that for the year 2007 the Foundation Committee was comprised of Majid Mir, Susan Silva, and herself, as the three members from the Board, and Marg Dean, Lee Story, Lynne Hopkins de Hernandez, and Mary Carlson, as the four non-board members.

There being no further business to come before the meeting up motion duly made and seconded the meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted, Murry Page Secretary

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The First Annual Friends of Mexico Golf Tournament

All proceeds go to support the education of over 1,300 under privileged children in Mazatlan.

Date: Saturday February 17
Sign in: 9:30 - 10:30 a.m. Shotgun Start 11:00
Place: El Cid Golf & Country Club S.A. de C.V.
Entry Fee: \$400.00 pesos, Includes:

- Complimentary El Cid Green Fees (Thanks El Cid!)
- Standard Cart fees apply
- Cerveza provided on the course during the tournament
- Awards Dinner after tournament (For non golfers we are selling Dinner-only tickets for \$200 pesos)
- Award Dinner starts at 4:30 p.m.

Lots of fun and prizes to be had!
Limited to the first 128 people -- so sign up now!



4 Person Teams, Best Ball Scramble format
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Prizes to include gift certificates from local restaurants, gift shops and lodging at El Cid Resorts.

Tickets on Sale NOW at:

- El Cid Pro Shop -- 913-3333 Contact Martha Herrera
- Copper Gallery -- 913-0029 Camaron Sabalo across from Clinica Balboa
- Downtown Library -- 982-3036
- Mar Rosa Trailer Park -- 044-669-159-3912 Bruce and Opal Jacobs
- Diana Mir -- 913-2369

Floods

By Lila Denton

Excerpt from *El Día Que Tembló en Mazatlán* by Enrique Vega Ayala

A good part of Mazatlán is built over land reclaimed from the sea. The history of the city is a story of reclamation and terraces, by which were created habitable spaces.

The first inhabitants populated the lower parts of Icebox Hill. As the city grew, it moved toward Olas Altas and Playa Sur, made possible by the dike which held back the water of Olas Altas from Playa Sur. The reference point for where the tide opened, a channel between Olas Altas and Playa Sur in the early days of the city, would be the stretch of the street now called Rigo Lewis (previously Circunvalacion) where it meets Aleman and the Malecon. Chroniclers of the time recounted that high tide reached all the way to where the Plaza de la Republica is now located. The oldest plans of the city, conserved in the Municipal Archives, show that in 1842 the beach at Playa Sur started at Libertad Street, one block from Plaza Machado. According to newspaper accounts, during a hurricane in the 1870's, before the Malecon had been built, the tide from Olas Altas reached up to Venus street (where the military hospital is located today), by a stream on the current day Sixto Osuna,.

The heights of the sidewalks on many of the streets of the Historical District are there for a reason. They are products of the natural path of the water from the hills produced by the torrential rains in the rainy season. From time immemorial, Cocos (Aguiles Serdan), Benito Juarez, Carnaval, Tacuba (Heriberto Frias), and Principal (Belisario Dominquez) were the natural runoff routes from Icebox Hill to the sea at Playa Sur. However; with the reclamation of land at Playa Sur and the construction of Aleman, the water had no place to go. The lowest part of the zone, from Angel Flores to Aleman, was flooded for hours each time it was lashed by a squall. A solution was designed to combat nature: Roosevelt Street. Never again would the water flow from Olas Altas. As stated before, this is where the water entered to flood the city. Certainly the rain sewers under Roosevelt Street attempted to take care of the flood waters, but were

unable to keep up with the surge of water during tropical storms. Meanwhile the occupants of the area could only watch the water level rise in the streets time after time to the top of the sidewalk tiles or the walls of the facades, watching as the water gushed up and ran into their houses.




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Venustiano Carranza #4

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CASA

Etnika
Arts • Crafts • Nature

MIGUEL AND HELENE

SIXTO OSUNA No. 50
CENTRO HISTORICO

Speakers

Arq. Salvador Reynosa (jumapam) (Water supply from the municipality)

Arq. Héctor Peña (Dir. de Bienestar Social del Ayuntamiento (municipality) of Mazatlan.

One will be speaking about the development of Mazatlan and the other one about the work that his office do and how have the Foundation of FOM and the municipality have worked together in the past.

Our speaker of March is Walfre Ibarra, realtor, to speak about real estate.

<p>Gary's Kitchen Gringo Breakfasts & Lunches</p> <p>Chicken Fried Steak Biscuits & Gravy French Dip Sandwich BLT's and Daily Specials</p> <p>Olas Altas 166C</p>		<p>Belmar Hotel</p>
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Friends of Mexico Board Members

President	Majid Mir
Vice President	Tom Whitmore
Secretary	Murry Page
Treasurer	Susan Silva
Events Chair	Stella Bell
Foundation Chair	Jacque Demmer
Membership Chair	Fr. Jim Story

Board Appointed Coordinators

Continuing Ed.	Trish Kenison
Discount Svcs.	Henri Jarrat
Membership Svcs.	open
Volunteer Coor.	Gayle Villalobos
Newsletter Editor	Sharon Laird

Mazatlan Consulate Numbers

US Consulate	Patti Fletcher de Arteaga
Canadian Consulate	Wendy Osuna

FOM Monthly Treasurers Report Executive Summary

Balance in Accounts as of 2/1/07

Petty Cash	\$500.00
Administrative Account	48,898.00
Foundation Account	<u>347,163.69</u>
TOTAL BALANCE	\$396,561.69
Foundation Reserve - 2007 - \$347,163.69	\$396,561.69

Monthly Activities

Administrative Account Balance - 12/31/06	\$42,575.00
This Months Income	10,700.00
This Months Expenses	(3,477.00)
Transfer to Foundation Account	<u>(900.00)</u>
Administrative Account Balance -1/31/07	48,898.00

Foundation Account Balance - 12/31/06	\$328,030.19
This Months Income	55,529.50
Transfer from Administrative Account	900.00
This Months Expenses	<u>(37,296.00)</u>
Foundation Account Balance 1/31/07	347,163.69
Petty Cash Balance 12/31/06	500.00
Petty Cash Balance 1/31/07	500.00
Total FOM Accounts Balance	<u>\$396,561.69</u>

Respectfully Submitted
Susan Harp Silva

NOTE: All totals are in Pesos



Jill's Story From The Trenches

In my sixth grade class at El Venadillo one boy, Jesus, would draw a heart on every paper he finished; sometimes with love words in Spanish accompanying it. I found it very touching. The curriculum which has been developed is very good, enabling non Spanish speakers to present lessons understandable and beneficial for the particular skill to be acquired whether it is a familiarity of the alphabet, numbers, colors, shapes, etc.

However, it is not absolutely necessary to follow it verbatim if the teacher wants to add games, songs or motivational handouts to facilitate learning. For the most part the students are well behaved and enthusiastic. The regular classroom teacher stays in the room during the hour in order to help with any discipline or questions which might arise. As a volunteer experience this has been very rewarding for me and I would strongly urge others to consider helping out as either a teacher or assistant at one of the public schools in which Friends of Mexico contributes its services. By Jill Ferrier

Judy's Story From The Trenches

Last year was our first year teaching English as a Second Language at Sor Juana School, 4th grade. After teaching for about four or five weeks, we were headed for the door at the end of class when I heard a young boy's voice. "Teacher," he called, "I love you." If that didn't make all the effort worthwhile, I don't know what will.

By Judy Wolfberg

Heather's Place

Sabalo Country Club, across from Oceano Palace

**WATCH FOR THESE GREAT
PRETENDERS**

Rod Stewart Feb. 2, 3, 4, 9, 10, 11

Garth Brooks Feb. 23, 24, 25,
Mar. 2, 3, 4

Elvis Mar. 9, 10, 11, 16, 17, 18

Call 914-2999 to Reserve Your Table

Simply the best of both worlds -- Fabulous Mexican and North American cuisine.
Your Mazatlan home of COMFORT FOOD! Plus the BEST breakfasts in Mazatlan.

PLUS Our Regulars:

n Tuesday Nights Soft Jazz
Ignacio & Maria Teresa

n Wednesday Nights, Los Amigos
60's & 70's acoustic guitars & vocals
Chris, Wally & Greg

n Thursday Nights, Award Winning
Country Western Star
Dick Damron

Carnaval February 2007

Schedule of Events

Date/Time	Event	Location
01/11am	Winner of the Antonio Lopez Saenz Prize For Painting	Angela Peralta
02/ 6pm	Final computation of the votes	Plazuela Machado
03/ 7pm	Election of the Queens	Plazuela Republica
06/ 8pm	An Evening of the Arts	Angela Peralta
08/ 6pm	Exhibition of art works	
	Showing the winner of the Lopez Saenz Prize for Painting	Next to Sam's
08/ 8pm	Carnaval Fair opens	Angela Peralta
15/ 6pm	Coronation of the King of Joy	Fishermans Mnt
15/ 8pm	Inauguration of the Carnaval Food Fair	Angela Peralta
16/8:30pm	Juegos Florales (Flower Games)	
	Coronation Pageant	Teodoro Mariscal Stadeium
17/6:30pm	Queen of Carnaval Coronation Pageant	Teodoro Mariscal Stadeium
17/ 8pm	Bad Humor burned in effigy	OlasAltas
17/10:30pm	Ship-to-Shore Fireworks battle	OlasAltas
18/5:30pm	First Carnaval Parade	Avenida del Mar
19/10am	Children's Ball	Hotel Playa
Maz		
19/6:30pm	Coronation of the Child Queen	Teodoro Mariscal Stadeium
19/ 9pm	Fantasy in the Old Port Fireworks	Avenida del Mar
19/10:30pm	Coronation of the International Queen of thePacific	Muralla Sports Club
20/ 4pm	Second Carnaval Parade	Avenida del Mar

CARLOS & LUCIA'S

restaurant bar & grill

BREAKFAST LUNCH DINNER



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MOJITOS &
MARGARITAS**




**MEXICAN CUBAN
CUISINE**

**SHRIMP
FISH
BEEF
PORK
CHICKEN
BEST RIBS IN TOWN**

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SALADS**



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Meet Stella Bell, Events Chairman

STELLA BELL retired to Mazatlan in 1995 with her late husband, Dick Scott Langdon. In 2000 they opened the #1 Olas Altas Art Gallery. Stella now spends her summers on Orcas Island in Washington State.

Stella is a native Texan and began her dance career at age 14 with the Chicago Opera Company. At age 16 she danced in the Corps de Ballet at Radio City Music Hall in New York City. Upon graduation from high school, she received a Dance

Scholarship to Juilliard, majoring in Choreography.

Her career spanned 60 years. She founded the Jersey Shore Civic Ballet and the Pacific Light Opera Theatre in California. Stella has taught all forms of dance in France, Saudi Arabia, Mexico and several American universities. In the fifties she worked with all the major stars, including Frank Sinatra, Martin & Lewis and Tony Bennett. In Las Vegas and Hollywood she choreographed or booked dancers for Carol Burnett, Juliet Prowse and Charlie Rich, to name a few.

Welcome

New Board Members

Meet TOM WHITMORE, Vice President

TOM WHITMORE was born in Evanston IL, grew up in the Quad Cities (Rock Island, Moline, East Moline, Silvis IL and Davenport, Bettendorf IA. Went to college at Dartmouth, law school at Michigan & University of Cal. Practiced law in Chicago. Moved here in 2002.

When Pigs Fly

Breakfast
Biscuits & Gravy
\$29 pesos & up

lunch
BBQ pork sandwich
\$44 pesos & up

Dinner
Steak, Shrimp, or Ribs
\$99 pesos ea.

Pacifico, & Corona Beer 12 pesos Margaritas 19 pesos
Bloody Marys 19 pesos

Sunday Brunch Buffet 9am - 1pm

Tuesday-Saturday
8 am - 11 pm

Sunday
9 am - 10 pm

*Come with the Beautiful
Sunsets off the ocean*

You can find us on the ocean, 1 km. South of Valentinos
music on some nights







Featuring Grand Master Artists of Mexico, Pottery, Copper, Pewter, Oil Paintings, Glassware, Handy Crafts from throughout Mexico.

We continue to bring in new and different items from throughout Mexico.

On Olas Altas at the Historic Belmar Hotel



Look For Our **NEW** Location

Av. Camaron Sabalo-through the iron gates to the back in the shopping center below El Patio

**Same Great Food
Same Great People**

Friends of México Newsletter Ad Price List

Business Card (2 1/4" x 3 5/8")	\$150 P
Half Column (4 1/2" x 3 5/8")	\$225 P
One Column (9" x 3 5/8")	\$300 P
Half Page (4 1/2" x 7 1/2")	\$450 P
Full Page	\$750 P

Prices are **PREPAID** for a three month ad. Please provide camera ready art. If we design the ad, price doubles for the first three month advertising period. Changes in ad during any three month period incur charges.

**Deadline for Newsletter is
Thursday at Noon before
the general meeting.
No Exceptions!**



FRIENDS OF MEXICO ANNUAL WINE AND CHEESE PARTY



MARCH 18, 2007 2 PM TO 5 PM

at

\$120 PESOS

CASA de LEYENDAS

Silent Auction
&
Raffle

Venustiano Carranza #4 *

Ticket Sales at

February & March Membership Meetings

Copper Gallery

Mazatlan Membership Library

* * *

Limited to 200 Attendees

***Ticket Sales end on
March 13 at
Membership
Meeting***



*Directions: Casa de Leyendas located across from the Mazatlan Membership Library, just off the Olas Altas Malecon behind Puerto Viejo, the corner of Sixto Osuna & Venustiano Carranza

Important Notices

FOM Board Implements New Policy Regarding Announcements at General Meetings Effective February 2007

Membership meeting announcements at Friends of Mexico's meetings will be limited to subjects that affect our members as a group, or the community at large. Announcements that provide information about particular services and products, e.g., books, clothes, restaurants, etc., will no longer be allowed.

If someone has a product or service about which they would like to inform our membership, they are advised to place an advertisement in the Friends of Mexico Newsletter. Advertising can be placed at extremely reasonable rates by contacting Sharon Laird the Chair of the Newsletter Committee at fomnews@yahoo.com.

At each monthly meeting we will have set up at the back of the room a table for those that wish to have an announcement made within these guidelines. There will be a form to complete that will give the "who, what, when, and where" for the announcement. The person wishing to have the announcement made can provide the volunteer with additional information, as needed.

At the end of the meeting the volunteer will make all announcements on behalf of those submitting requests. At the end of each announcement the volunteer will ask the person making the request to stand and direct all questions members may have to that person after the close of the meeting. Exceptions will be handled on a case by case basis and approved by the board before a waiver is granted. Lynne Hernandez will be acting as the volunteer to handle the announcements

Be sure to return your name badges at the end of every meeting!!

SPECIAL THANK YOU! Many of you have responded with donations for the medicine and nutrition boxes sent regularly to the mission hospital in Creel, Chihuahua. This is our second year and we are doing well. The Tarahumara children are helped the most with our efforts. So thanks again for the assistance. Contact profbrenda@yahoo.com regarding donations and information.

Volunteers Coffee

Sunday February 25 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm
Rooftop Cocktail Lounge at Freeman Hotel
(No Host Bar)

Olas Altas #79 between Sixto Osuna & M. Aleman in El Centro

If you have an interest in volunteering this is your opportunity to meet and gather information from the following Committees: Foundation, Membership, Tours & Social Events, Newsletter & Website.

R.S.V.P. Ph. 981-0383
Stella Bell Email: stellabell_choreo@yahoo.com

COPPER CANYON TOUR

March 2nd thru March 7th

\$6,800 pesos per person

Contact Susan Silva 983-3769

or Email:

mazsilva@mzt.megared.net.mx

The Foundation would like to thank the following people for their donations

The Columbine Unity Center of Colorado

The crew of the USS John Paul Jones Destroyer
Loretta Gallacci & the Mazatlan Reading Library

Bea Garay Walter and Janet Schau
Gail Hanlon Ann Reese Thomas Huerta

El Quelite Day Trip

scheduled March 23rd for 80 people. Leave El Cid Club House return at 3 p.m. \$400 peses. Trip includes English speaking guide, tour of El Quelite, cock farm, bakery, old farm house, Ulama game, horse dancing, plus lunch. Sign up and tickets at back of room.

Cooking Classes

scheduled to begin March 9th for 4 Fridays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., \$150 peses plus food. Class limited to 8, instructor will be Lila Denton. Contact patkenison@yahoo.com