

Friends of Mexico, A. C.

# Newsletter



Amigos de México, A. C.

*"Promoting acceptance among all nationalities"*

May 2006

Friends of México Website: [www.mazinfo.com/fom](http://www.mazinfo.com/fom)

E-mail: [fom@mazinfo.com](mailto:fom@mazinfo.com)

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Greetings fellow members:

I hope all of you have had a great April. For those of you that left in April to go back to your homes up North, I hope all your travels went well and that you have now settled in your home away from Mazatlan. I have heard from a few of our friends up North that have been grouching about the unsettled weather that is typical for April and May. Just hang in there and remember the old saying "April showers bring May flowers"!

Those of us that are lucky enough to still be here in Mazatlan have enjoyed an absolutely perfect April weather wise. The days have been bright and breezy and the evenings and nights have been pleasantly cool, with not a hint of humidity yet. You know I often wonder if there is another place in the world that has as consistent and predictably good weather as Mazatlan does from mid-November through mid-June?

With the passage of Semana Santa and Bike Week in Mazatlan it is as if the city has taken a deep breath and the heartbeat of the city has slowed down a palpable number of beats. Traffic is much more bearable except in Zona Dorada on days that the cruise ships are in. Most of the restaurants are now much easier to get into and if you are a golf aficionado, then you will be jealous to know that the golf courses are wide open. The only thing that seems to be accelerating at this time of the year in Mazatlan is the pace of construction. I just noticed the other day that they are now beginning construction for a Toyota dealership across from the Sam's Club.

The board of directors has been busy planning for the

upcoming season. We are busy planning trips and social events for the next season. We are working to fulfill one of our two statements of purpose namely **"Offer activities, information & services to the members of the organization"**. In order to accomplish this, we hope to bring you an exciting and fun filled season of trips and events beginning in November 2006. Stay tuned for an announcement soon on an exciting trip to a World Heritage event in Patzcuaro Michoacan amongst others.

Of course our other statement of purpose is the driving force behind Friends of Mexico: **"Contribute to the local community by providing educational opportunities to those in need"**. The board of directors is working hard with the Foundation team to plan for the best and most effective use of your donations to help the needy school children of Mazatlan. We recently met with the Directors of the four main schools that receive your donations (Sor Juana, Venadillo, Josefina and Vincente Guerrero). The purpose of this meeting was to assess the needs of the schools for the school year to come. The meeting was very successful!

It is important for you to know that because of the nature and timing of school expenses, there is a lag between the time that we raise donations (most effectively done when all of you are in Mazatlan) and the time that the bulk of the money is spent (at the start of the new school year in August when very few members are in Mazatlan). It is not that different than what you experience when you are saving throughout the year to pay your tax bill or a big vacation. If you looked at your bank balance, the balance will keep growing for 11 months of the year and will then sud-

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## 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](mailto:majid@mimir.net)

### Secretary:

Murry Page 982-2139 [murry\\_page@yahoo.com](mailto:murry_page@yahoo.com)

### Treasurer:

Susan Siilva 983-3769 [mazsilva@mzt.megared.net.mx](mailto:mazsilva@mzt.megared.net.mx)

### Foundation:

Jacque Demmer 981-1786 [demmaz@prodigy.net.mx](mailto:demmaz@prodigy.net.mx)

### Membership:

Robert Ryckman 916-1350 [theryckmans@msn.com](mailto:theryckmans@msn.com)

### Newsletter:

Rebecca Caven 916-5781 [rebeccacaven@gmail.com](mailto:rebeccacaven@gmail.com)

### Member Services:

Fr. Jim Story 105-5026 [jstoryn@netscape.net](mailto:jstoryn@netscape.net)

### Web Page:

Kim Peters 916-7794 [mkpeters@prodigy.net.mx](mailto:mkpeters@prodigy.net.mx)

### Discount Services:

Henri Jarrat 988-0526 [hjarrat@aol.com](mailto:hjarrat@aol.com)

### Events Coordinator:

Bruce George 984-5400 [beej99@hotmail.com](mailto:beej99@hotmail.com)

### Volunteer Coordinator

Jerry Lippman [lippman970@hotmail.com](mailto:lippman970@hotmail.com)

### Continuing Education

Trish Kenison 9881359 [patkenison@yahoo.com](mailto:patkenison@yahoo.com)

### Radio:

Jack/Val Moreau 913-2615 [jackandval@hotmail.com](mailto:jackandval@hotmail.com)

## CONSULATE NUMBERS

### U.S. Consulate Agency in Mazatlan:

Patty Fletcher de Arteaga

Tel/Fax: 916-5889

[mazagent@maz.megared.net.mx](mailto: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](http://maazinifo.com/fom)*

## FOR ART LOVERS AND THEATER GOERS...

The cultural arm of the Municipality of Mazatlan, formerly known as Difusion Cultural, was merged with Codetur (the Carnaval Mazatlan organizing committee) when current Mayor Alejandro Higuera took office in January of 2005.

Raul Rico was named to head up the new municipal entity, called CULTURA (a Spanish acronym standing for Culture, Tourism and Art).

Rico is in overall charge of the Angela Peralta Theater, the next-door Municipal Center for the Arts, and all aspects of Carnaval Mazatlan.

The CULTURA offices are located on Avenida Aleman, almost at the corner of Belisario Dominguez, and at times tickets for cultural events are sold at that office as well as at the box office of the Angela Peralta Theater. (Tel. no. 982-4447)

Since there are often last-minute changes in the program schedule for the theater, it's a good idea to check the CULTURA website whenever you want to know what's coming up. The information is given in both Spanish and English (**Thanks to one of our FOM members Jackie Peterson**)

[www.culturamazatlan.com.mx](http://www.culturamazatlan.com.mx)



# WHY FOM MAINTAINS A BLOOD DONOR LIST

*By Father Jim Story*

The question has been asked as to why we need to have a Blood Donor List for the Friends of México. In México, and here in Mazatlán there is NO storage facility for blood and so when there is a need for blood at any of the hospitals, a call goes out to the community for prospective donors and then the screening process begins.

Friends of México have for the past several years maintains a donor list from which we have been called upon many times by the community when a blood need has occurred. We have been able to provide donors for those who have been both Ex-pats and local Mexican people in need of blood. This is a service for our members and the community at large.

There are certain restrictions that apply to donors. There is an age limit which in an emergency is waived. There are certain medications that preclude donors as well as some diseases that a donor may have had sometime in the past. This information is

noted at the time of screening and so we need a large pool to draw from in order to get the best available donors when needed.

When a call for a certain blood type is received by the chairperson of member services, the list of donors for that type of blood is accessed and those people, if they are in Mazatlán, are called. They then go to Sharp Hospital and are screened. We have been very fortunate that we have been able to find donors within an hour every time we have been requested to provide needed blood.

In addition to the FOM donor list, the local residents directory which is published by Henry Laxin maintains a list of donors and many of us are on the list also. If you are not, please consider do that as well. This is a community service that is life saving and in an emergency, sometimes the difference between life and death. If you are not on the FOM donor list, be sure to sign up with member services at the meeting. If you do not know your blood type, you can get that done at Sharp Hospital.

**REMEMBER – YOUR BLOOD CAN SAVE A LIFE!**

## FRIENDS OF MEXICO Monthly Treasurers Report MAY 1, 2006

### Executive Summary

<b>BALANCE IN ACCOUNTS AS OF MAY 1, 2006</b>	<b>\$405,593.96</b>
<b>FOUNDATION RESERVE FOR 2006</b>	<b>\$231,384.10</b>
<b>TOTAL BALANCE</b>	<b>\$174,209.88</b>

### Monthly Activities

<b>Administrative Account Balance-04/01/06</b>	<b>\$ 10,000.00</b>
<b>This month Income</b>	<b>\$ 1,000.00</b>
<b>This month Expenses</b>	<b>( \$ -0- )</b>
<b>Transfer to Foundation Account</b>	<b>\$ 1,000.00 )</b>
<b>Administrative Account Balance- 05/01/06</b>	<b>\$ 10,000.00</b>
<b>Foundation Account Balance – 04/01/06</b>	<b>\$ 392,695.01</b>
<b>This month Income</b>	<b>\$ 2,698.95</b>
<b>Transfer from Administrative Account</b>	<b>\$ 1,000.00</b>
<b>This month Expenses</b>	<b>( \$ 800.00 )</b>
<b>Foundation Account Balance- 05/01/06</b>	<b>\$ 395,593.96</b>
<b>Total FOM Accounts Balance</b>	<b>\$ 405,593.96</b>

**Respectfully Submitted**  
**Note: All totals are in Pesos**  
**Susan Harp Silva**

## Friends of Mexico General Meeting Agenda May 9, 2006

1. Call to order
2. Remarks from the President
3. Approval of April 2006 Treasurer's report
4. Presentation of Guest Speaker:  
     Jose Antonio Cevallos – Director of Construction Marina Mazatlan
5. Performance Incentives @ Sor Juana
6. Committee Reports
  - a. Foundation – Jacque Demmer
  - b. Events – Susan Silva (Bruce George)
  - c. Discount Services – Henri Jar-rat
  - d. Membership – Fr. Jim Story (Robert Ryckman)
  - e. Volunteer Coordinator – Jerry Lippman
  - f. Member Service – Jim Story
7. Announcements
8. Drawing
9. Adjournment

**FRIENDS OF MEXICO BOARD MEETING  
MAY 2, 2006**

Due to the fact that there was not a quorum present, the meeting was relocated to the home of Majid Mir so that Bob Rykman could email a proxy to Rebecca Caven.

In attendance: Majid, Rebecca, Fr. Jim and Jacque, Susan Silva by proxy and Bob Ryckkman by proxy. A quorum was established as Fr. Jim had a proxy from Susan Silva and Rebecca had a proxy from Bob Ryckman.

The minutes from the previous meeting were read, and approved with the following with changes. On page 5 paragraph 5... "She also noted that Friends of Mexico had contributed thirty percent (30%) to the cost of windows for *Jose Felipe Valle*, while the city contributed the balance." This sentence needs to be changed to: She also noted that Friends of Mexico had contributed thirty percent (30%) to the cost of the windows for *Josefina Osuna Perez*, while the city contributed the balance.

MOTION: Fr. Jim made a motion to accept the minutes as corrected.

Majid seconded the motion.

Motion approved.

Juan Antonio Cevallos the Director of Construction at Marina Mazatlan will be the guest speaker at the May 9<sup>th</sup> general meeting. Majid will confirm the details with Jeannette Sasrasin who will be bringing him to the meeting.

Fr. Jim will stop by Los Zarapes to remind them that will be there on the 9<sup>th</sup> and that we would like to have access again to their electronic equipment. Lynne Hopkins and Lee Story are going to speak at the meeting about their success with special incentive programs at Sor Juana.

Susan Silva and Rebecca Caven will host the FOM board and general meetings during Majids absence. Due to the absence of Susan and Bruce the progress of converting FOM financial to MSN Money, and the discussion of future FOM trips, activities and events were postponed. Since the majority of the planning for these trips is completed, the board is going to ask that volunteers from our membership sign on to spear head the finalizing of each trip. (Providing information at the meeting about the trip, tickets sales, etc.) Then this responsibility can be

handled by several different members rather than fall on the shoulders of one or two people.

The team for selection of guest speakers for the General meeting will meet this Thursday afternoon, May 4.

MOTION: Majid made a motion that board members host a monthly party for new members. This party will take place at the home of a board member, with expenses for wine, beer and snacks not to exceed \$750.00 pesos per month.

Fr. Jim seconded the motion

Motion approved.

Majid is going to work on forming a National Charitable Organization outreach program.

Membership: Fr. Jim will be taking over this responsibility while Bob Ryckman is out of the country. He showed the board a fabulous new membership card that will have the members name printed on the card as well as the expiration date. The cards will also be laminated. These cards are very professional in appearance and will cost the organization \$.01 U.S. to laminate.

The procedure for providing these new cards to our members: if a member is planning to renew their membership for 2007, or a new member wishing to join FOM will contact Fr. Jim before the August general meeting, or before any of the following monthly meetings, he will prepare that members card in advance and have it available at the General Meeting. If advanced notice is not possible, the new membership card will be available within the next 2 days.

MOTION: Fr. Jim made a motion to create a new laminated membership card for all FOM members as of August 2006.

Seconded by Majid

Motion approved

MOTION: Jacque made a motion that not more than \$15,000.00 pesos be spent to purchase two like new 2 ton air conditioners for the 2 classrooms at Sor Juana school that have the new Enciclomedia equipment.

Seconded by Majid

Motion approved

MOTION: Jacque made a motion that any funds Henri Jarrat raised for secundaria scholarships be matched by the Foundation.

Motion seconded by Fr. Jim

Motion approved

MOTION: Jacque made a motion that \$3,000.00 pesos be spent to supply electricity to the 3 classrooms at Jose Felipe Valle, (El Venadillo) that have the Enciclomedia program.

Motion seconded by Rebecca

Motion approved.

MOTION: Jacque made a motion that \$14,500.00 pesos be spent to purchase uniforms and school supplies for the students at En Busca de una Sonrisa. Majid noted that this commitment is for the school year beginning in August of 06 only.

Motion seconded by Majid

Motion approved

MOTION: Jacque made a motion that FOM administration fund pay for the directors breakfast at Playa Mazatlan on Thursday May 4<sup>th</sup>. Not to exceed \$1,000.00 pesos.

Seconded by Fr. Jim

Motion approved.

On behalf of Mary Carlson, Jacque requested the boards permission for one of the 5<sup>th</sup> grade classes at Josefina Osuna Perez school attend the June FOM General meeting to sing some of the songs that Mary and other FOM volunteer ELS teachers have taught the students.

Jacque presented the board members with an accounting of the Foundations expenditures to date per school, as well as accounts payable and other committed expenses for May.

She told the board that she had done some research on an idea submitted by a member that FOM obtain a Pay Pal account. Majid is going to do further research on this idea.

FR. Jim presented the members services report. He is still updating the Profeco section, but the food item translation section is completed. He thanked Tom Whitmore and Lynne Hopkins for their assistance.

Discount Services: Purple Onion has made a request to be back on the FOM discount directory. Since all previous misunderstanding has been cleared up, they will once again be accepting your membership card for a discount. Please remember: SPECIALS are NOT included in the discounts program provided to our members.

Web site update: Fr. Jim will update the site until a new manager volunteers to do this.

Jerry Lipman reports that the Fen Shui program on May 10<sup>th</sup> has been cancelled.

Newsletter: Rebecca is adding more member interest information to the newsletter ie. updates on arts and cultural events, information about the new requirement for renewing your Mazatlan driver's license, etc.

The need for an updated FOM brochure was discussed. Fr. Jim will chair this effort.

The length of the general meeting was discussed, as well as the fact that when a guest speaker is schedule to speak at a specific time, we need to honor this schedule by interrupting the agenda when necessary.

Meeting adjourned by Majid.

## Meet a Fellow Member



**Bernice Uzick is from New Jersey and has been visiting Mazatlan yearly since 2003. She and her husband bought a condominium at Costa Bona and they love the weather here.**

# Muchas Gracias!

Kate Sutphin

Ken & Donna O'Brien

Miki Freitas

Lee Toney

June Waters

Lynda Fleming: school supplies

denly shrink when you pay your bill. The FOM Foundation account balance reported to you monthly in this newsletter rises and falls due to this same phenomenon.

To make sure that we can fulfill our statement of purpose effectively, we need your help. You can help us by volunteering a little of your time while you are in Mazatlan. We have a variety of volunteer opportunities available that require very little time. Here are a few volunteer opportunities:

<b>Volunteer Position</b>	<b>Brief Position Description</b>	<b>Estimated Time Requirement</b>
Advertising Coordinator	Responsible for contacting businesses that place ads and obtaining ad content etc.	3-4 Hours Per Month
Event Coordinator	Assist Events Director with organizing and hosting a single event such as a dinner or a cocktail party for members	10-12 Hours One time Commitment
Newsletter Columnist	Contribute monthly column of interest to expat community in Mazatlan	1-2 Hours per month
Trip Coordinator	Work with Events Director to organize a single trip for members (Free trip for Coordinator)	12 – 24 Hours. Spent over two to three months
School Champion	Visit school and maintain contact with school teachers and director to determine needs and deliver supplies etc.	3 – 4 hours Per month

To volunteer for any of these positions, or for others that I did not even list, please contact me at [majid@mmir.net](mailto:majid@mmir.net). You can also call me at 913-2369 in Mazatlan or 813-569-0795 from the US or Canada. We even have opportunities for you to volunteer remotely while you are enjoying the cooler climes!

I remain optimistic about strengthening Friends of Mexico and making it a much more vibrant part of your lives in Mazatlan. How far and how fast we get there will depend a great deal on your level of support and participation.

Have a great May!

## **MEXICAN DRIVER'S LICENSES FOR FOREIGNERS**

*By Fr. Jim Story*

For those of us who have or are planning on acquiring a Mexican driver's license here in Mazatlán the government has recently introduced a change in the requirements for foreigners obtaining or renewing Mexican driver's licenses.

To obtain a Mexican Driver's License, the information is in the Survival Guide and requires, attending a class, have a letter from Sharp Hospital with you

blood type, taking both a written and actual driving test. The license is issued to foreigners with an FM2 or FM3 for a period of two years and is renewable.

Foreigners are now required in addition to the above and upon renewing their license to produce a letter from a national stating the foreigner is an upstanding and law-abiding citizen. (A sample copy is given at the end of this article.) and the following documents:

(if renewing) your present license  
a copy of an electric or phone bill showing your cur-

rent Mazatlán address  
a copy of your current FM3 or FM2  
a letter stating you are an upstanding and law-abiding citizen  
a copy of the credential of the person writing the above letter (CREDENCIAL DE ELECTOR) the voter's card  
you must also show your current foreign driver's license and pay the fee of 280 pesos.

Blank form letters for the Mexican National to complete for you are available at the member services table. Following is the sample of that letter which was generously provided by Martha Armenta.

Mazatlán, Sin.,

a 3 de Abril de 2006.

A QUIEN CORRESPONDA:

Por medio de la presente me permito recomendar a ustedes al Sr. Juan Doe, a ciudadano norteamericano residente de Mazatlán, a quien conozco desde hace varios años como una persona honorable y de conducta intachable.

El Sr. Juan Doe está actualmente solicitando su licencia de manejo y les pido de la manera mas atenta que atiendan su solicitud, quedando a sus órdenes en el domicilio y teléfono abajo indicados para cualquier aclaración.

ATENTAMENTE

Suzie Q. Citizen  
Eloy Cavazos 569  
El Toreo  
Mazatlán, Sin. 82120  
Tel. 985-34-97

## THE VENADOS SEASON TICKETS ON SALE NOW

Many of our members are avid fans of baseball in the U.S. or Canada. However if you have never been to baseball game here in Mazatlan then you are missing some excellent entertainment! And I am just talking about the people watching! Throw in some MLB class baseball and you have the makings of a great night out. If you are an avid baseball fan or just into people watching then you might consider a Venados season ticket. A season ticket purchased through the end of May will cost you \$1450 pesos, in June and July \$1820 pesos and starting in August \$2345 pesos. A \$200peso deposit will freeze the price and you can pay the balance between now and mid September.

A season ticket entitles you to a reserved seat at the 33 home games. And should the home team make it to the playoffs (they have won the Championship of the league the last two years in row) you are guaranteed to get the same seats that you held during the season. You can buy more expensive season tickets that include reserved parking or for box seats and there is an offer that includes any home playoff games if the Venados make it to the playoffs. The problem with the last offer is that you will lose almost \$1500 pesos if the Venados do not make it to the playoffs!

If you like baseball and a fun high energy environment then I highly recommend the Venados to you. The season begins around mid October and playoffs are through late January. Of course you can always buy single game tickets at the stadium the day of the game or at the Venados office located at Avenida Manuel Gutierrez Najera No. 821. Telephone number is 981-1710.

## Discount Services Update

Hi everybody,

Thanks to the help and suggestions of our members, we have added this month two more businesses to our Directory. Please lets WELCOME:

**PURPLE ONION** 15% CASH - 10% CREDIT  
CAMARON SABALO ACROSS FROM LUNA PALACE  
913-20-82

**ESCULA PRIMARIA RURAL ESTATEL –  
PROF. JOSE FELIPE VAL**

On Monday, April 24<sup>th</sup>, Lynne Hernandez and I visited the school Jose Felipe Valle (Venadillo) and spent several hours with Salvador Felix Reyes, the Director. We discussed a number of items which addressed the needs of the children for the remainder of this school year and also projected some of the needs for next school year which will begin in September.

Salvador was excited for the upcoming meeting of the Directors of the schools which FOM assists and said that May 4 would be best for him – he is looking forward to this event. He is in favor of the three year plan to project their needs and provide a clearer vision for FOM on how we can best assist the learning of the students at this school.

He explained that the parents' group has exhausted their funds for this school year in the work which was done to complete the baños and repair the security fences around the perimeter of the school. The next monies that will be coming into the school from the parents will be the registration fees in September.

Lilliana, one of the schoolchildren, came running up to me when we arrived at the school and gave me a great big hug. I did not realize that she even knew who I am. She was given enough batteries for her hearing aides to last until June. She will need batteries for the summer months.

We spent time discussing the Encyclomedia program and its impact on Venadillo. The teachers are spending each Friday and Saturday in training sessions learning how to use the equipment and learning the curriculum that comes with it. They have the equipment for the 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 6<sup>th</sup> grades at the school now; however, it is NOT operational because there is NO electricity in the three classrooms which have been designated for the program. (This item was discussed at the Board meeting and FOM has approved to pay for the electricity in the three classrooms.)

Olga's new glasses have not arrived yet (these needed special preparation due to the thickness of the lenses which are required). We told Salvador we would check on the progress of these glasses.

Salvador was very pleased to announce that **ALL of the 6<sup>th</sup> grade students** will be going to

*secundario* this next year. He said that most students who are held back will happen between 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grades and he knows of NO dropouts from the 6<sup>th</sup> grade for the fall.

We have ESL teachers lined up for both the fall and winter semesters to teach our English classes in ALL grades. This is due to the fine efforts of Marge Deane and her recruiting these fine people before they left for the summer.

We can be very proud that through your generous donations FOM has made a great impact, not only on the school, but on the entire community. Many children who could otherwise not attend school, are now obtaining an education thanks to you! The pride of parents, students, and staff is abundantly evident in the change in the appearance of the school this year and the enthusiasm of the students that we saw today.

Marge and I thank you for the privilege of serving as Champions to Jose Valle – We also want to thank Lynne Hernandez for her assistance in translating our English into Spanish for Salvador and his staff. We have enjoyed the experience so far and look forward to the coming season.

Respectfully submitted,  
Father Jim Story+

**Minutes of  
Friends of Mexico  
General Membership Meeting  
April 11, 2006**

A quorum having been established the President, Majid Mir, called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M. 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 stated that a goal this year would be expanding the number of children served. He also noted that the board of directors had its annual retreat the day before and addressed the issues facing Friends of Mexico.

Majid Mir 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 an advertising coordinator and well as members who would be willing to contribute stories for the newsletter. There is also a need for an events/trip coordinator and a contributor for the Survival Guide that is cur-

rently being written. Finally he noted that there is a need for School Champions for the schools we support.

Majid Mir discussed the timing of the organization's income and expenses. He pointed out that although the majority of the income was generated during the high season, the vast majority of the expenses we incurred in August in anticipation of the new school year. Therefore, although it may look like we have plenty of money when looking at an income statement in January or February, those funds will be needed when the expenses are incurred in the summer.

Majid Mir stated that the Treasurer's Report was published in the newsletter and asked if everyone had reviewed it. Ed Poses moved that the Treasurer's Report be approved, as submitted. Bruce George seconded the motion and it was passed.

Jacque Demmer introduced to the membership Lissy Bernal, Coordinator of Tourism for the State of Sinaloa. In recognition of her service to Friends of Mexico Jacque Demmer presented her with a plaque. Lissy Bernal thanked Friends of Mexico for the inspiration it had been to her and requested any input the members may have.

Majid Mir then presented a plaque and a lifetime membership to Sharon and Glen Sorrie for their support of Friends of Mexico especially their efforts for the Wine and Cheese Party held last month.

Jacque Demmer then gave the report of the Foundation Committee. She noted that Friends of Mexico's pilot class at Sor Juana would be graduating in July. The exact date is not yet known. She stated how impressive the enciclopedia presentation had been at Sor Juana. Needed information is still being gathered on providing air conditioners for the school. Jacque Demmer thanked Susan Silva for assisting in the purchase of the shoes for the boys at Hogar San Pablo. She also advised the members that through the efforts of the Lions Club of Detroit and Friends of Mexico, especially Dr. Michael Mathews, over 1,000 students had been provided eye exams and glasses, if needed. Finally, she reminded the members that April 30<sup>th</sup> is the Day of the Child. It will be celebrated on Friday, April 28<sup>th</sup> and encouraged the members to join the fiestas at the supported schools.

Bruce George gave the Events Committee Report. He stated a sign up sheet was at the back tables for those who were interested in taking a tour of Pacifico Brewery. The exact date would be decided

after the interest of the members was shown, but it would be within the next two weeks. Bruce George advised the members that the timing of the tides during the past month had prohibited scheduling a trip to the petroglyphs, but that it would be done next season. Finally, he stated that by August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2006, all trips and events would be finalized so that the members would have plenty of advance notice prior to the start of the season.

Bob Ryckman gave the Membership Committee Report. He stated that nine (9) new members had joined today and introduced those new members. He noted that as of today Friends of Mexico had four hundred fifty-three (453) members. Finally, he said that volunteers were needed for the Membership Committee.

Jerry Lippman then gave the Volunteer Committee Report. He stated had spoken to Cate Crawford, the daughter of member Lou Crawford, about giving a presentation on Feng Shui. He gave her credentials and said she would be speaking at Los Zarapes at 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, May 10<sup>th</sup>. Coffee and juice would be provided at a cost of \$30.00. There is no charge for the presentation.

Fr. Jim Story gave the Member Services Committee Report and noted that mail for the States and Canada would be accepted at the back tables. He also pointed out the 'sign in' and 'sign out' sheets for the American and Canadian consulates were also at the back table.

Majid Mir then introduced Dr. Marco A. Alvarez-Arrazola. He gave an interesting presentation on the need for preventative medicine through the use of imaging and screening medical technology.

Announcements were then made. Nancy Blakeslee announced that there would be a meeting of Amigos de Los Animales on April 22<sup>nd</sup> at Canucks at 7:00 p.m. Finally, Majid Mir recognized those members who volunteer to be English teachers at the schools we support.

At the conclusion of the regular drawing, upon motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 11:15 A.M.

Respectfully submitted  
Murry Page, Secretary

## Foundation Committee Meeting 4/27/06

Mr. A's Restaurant 9AM – 8 in attendance – Jacque Demmer, Majid Mir, Susan Silva, Lee Story, Bruce George, Jim Story, Rebecca Caven

Felton – Susan Silva: We have 6 scholarships candidates. Their names will be given to Susan on Monday.

Sor Juana – Lynne: **Recommendation:** Purchase two slightly used 2 ton air conditioners for approx. \$11,000 pesos [note: new units are \$9,500 each]. 25 6th graders are graduating – 11 girls & 14 boys. 11 of the sixth graders have attended Sor Juana for all 6 grades & enjoyed the FOM's help. Henri occasionally receives donations & indicated that he wishes the money to be used for secundaria scholarships. Lee suggested that it be held till an amount of \$2,500.00 pesos is attained, which is the amount given to keep a student in school for one year. **Recommendation:** FOM match any donations that Henri receives.

Jose Felipe Valle/Venadillo – Jim Story: see report – **Recommendation:** \$3,000 for electrical material to supply a 3 wire, grounded system to 3 classrooms that have the encyclomedia equipment. Fr. Jim and Majid will research a project to provide security & ventilation to the encyclomedia equipment in these 3 classrooms.

Vincente Guerrero – Jacque: 15 cubettas of paint will be purchased to paint the classrooms and outside of this school. Possibly organize a work day between parents, teachers and volunteer FOM members to paint the classrooms.

Hogar – Susan: The dinner that Cliff & Lena Brown organized was successful. Lee & Lena Brown delivered clothes, school supplies & sports equipment

En Busca De Una Sonrisa – Jacque: **Recommend:** FOM purchase uniforms & school supplies in the amount \$250.00 pesos per child.

Casa de Leyendas gift certificate – Jacque: Present to Quintero family of En Busca de Una Sonrisa

Lee Story Foundation Secretary