

VOLUME 42, JULY, 2022
VOLUMEN 42, JULIO, 2022

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Mission & Vision

—Our mission is to promote the active participation of Lakeside’s inhabitants to improve their quality of life lakeside.

— Our vision is a future where all Lakeside residents continually have a role in enriching the community’s quality of life, vitality and prosperity through the exchange of knowledge, expertise, culture, heritage & language.

—*Nuestra Misión es promover la activa participación de los residentes de la Ribera de Chapala, para mejorar la calidad de vida en la comunidad.*

— *Nuestra Visión es un futuro donde todos los residentes de La Ribera participen continuamente en mejorar la calidad de vida, vitalidad y prosperidad de la comunidad a través del intercambio de conocimiento, experiencia, cultura, patrimonio y lenguaje.*

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The magazine’s name, Conecciones -Connections in English-reflects its purpose, which is to enable the Lake Chapala Society to connect with its community./ *El nombre de la revista Conecciones refleja su propósito, favorecer la conexión de The Lake Chapala Society con la comunidad.*

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Conecciones welcomes submissions of articles from Lakeside authors We reserve the right to edit as necessary. Submissions should be in MS Word 600 words, and should be directed to

submissions@lakechapalasociety.com. Advertisement inquiries should be directed to ventas@lakechapalasociety.com.

Conecciones agradece el envío de artículos. Nos reservamos el derecho de editarlos si es necesario. Los envíos deben ser en MS Word de 600 palabras, y deben dirigirse a submissions@lakechapalasociety.com. Las solicitudes de publicidad deben dirigirse a ventas@lakechapalasociety.com.

All prices include free design work. All ads/ad information must be submitted by the 10th of the month for inclusion in the next month’s magazine. Send to ventas@lakechapalasociety.com / *Todos los precios incluyen el trabajo de diseño gratuito. Todos los anuncios/información de anuncios deben ser enviados antes del día 10 del mes para su inclusión en la revista del mes siguiente. Enviar a ventas@lakechapalasociety.com*

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COVER: Paul Hart

President's Message

Dear members and friends:

During what is usually looked at as our slow season here at Lakeside, The Lake Chapala Society has been extremely busy getting things back into shape and planning for a great season ahead. I have been working on obligations I have had north of the border and I am thankful for the tremendous commitment and efforts of the team we have at LCS that not only keep things going, but are developing some great new efforts that we will be undertaking as we move through the year. Some of our bus trips have restarted, Alfredo has some great programs in the works and we are working on great collaborations with the local Tech School. Some Board and Committee members have been working hard on Campus strategic reviews and planning, and a committee is coming together to focus on customer service and enhancing the LCS experience for our members.

Now that I am back at Lakeside, I am about to restart the Concerts in the Park series and will have our initial concert on July 17, with shows at 3:00 and 6:00. The Three Tenors Vallarta debuted in Ajijic last year to an audience full of praise and rave reviews. Audiences love this trio. Featuring music of the internationally popular vocal groups Il Divo and Il Volo, the show stars Freddy Oteló, Venezuela, Armando Chakam, Colima, and Pedro Islas, Mexico City singing exquisite interpretations of many familiar contemporary and operatic ballads in English, Spanish, and Italian in the beautiful open-air gardens of The Lake Chapala Society. Tickets are available at the LCS office. I would also like to announce that I am working in collaborations with the President of the Lakeside Little Theater, Brian Mattes on Concerts at the Lake. More information will be coming out on this soon.

During this time we have also suffered the loss of one of our long time committed volunteers, Emile Badawy. Emile has been a key part of our financial committee and operations at the organization for many years. He also worked closely with other organizations here at Lakeside and operated Tres Leones B&B which accommodated many Expats as they came to explore Lakeside. This organization and many others will certainly miss the tremendous efforts of Emile over so many years. His contributions to Lakeside have been numerous and generous. We send his family and friends our best thoughts.

One of the things about someone's passing is that it reminds all of the importance of life and emergency planning. LCS has been listed as a beneficiary in several wills lately. We are certainly appreciative to those who want to show their appreciation for the difference LCS makes in our community here at Lakeside. We have learned a lot in this process and I was reminded that September in Mexico is considered Will month, where professionals offer their services at a discounted rate to get your affairs in order. September is rapidly approaching and now may be the best time to do some advance planning and preparation. The laws in Mexico can be very different than how things are handled north of the border. We have learned first hand how important it is to have everything very carefully detailed in your Will. It is best to prepare for this process and think carefully about what you would like to leave as your legacy. No matter how much you have, it makes sense to insure that what you leave is handled with respect and in a way that honors your wishes. Lots of money and resources can be wasted that would be put to better use if you carefully prepare for your wishes to be met to the fullest possibility. In Mexico, if you die without a will, or your will can't be found, and no one is aware of your wishes or how to proceed, or if you die without a Will, the Mexican government will be responsible for liquidating your assets. This could easily result in something that doesn't follow your wishes. If you do not have family members here, this becomes even more complex. If you desire to help a local service organization that is in a position to help many in the community, you want to make sure this is clearly detailed in your Will. The Lake Chapala Society can help you find resources to insure things are taken care of. Our Post Life and Emergency Registry has been a valuable tool to many. It is probably one of our least used and most valuable services that we offer. We encourage you to click on these links to learn more.

Being Prepared for Life and Death Lakeside
Post Life / Emergency Registry

Steve Balfour
President
The Lake Chapala Society

Mensaje del Presidente

Estimados miembros y amigos:

Durante lo que usualmente se ve como nuestra temporada lenta aquí en la zona de la Ribera de Chapala, Lake Chapala Society ha estado extremadamente ocupada poniendo las cosas en forma y planeando para una gran temporada por delante. He estado trabajando en las obligaciones que tenía al norte de la frontera y estoy agradecido por el tremendo compromiso y los esfuerzos del equipo que tenemos en LCS que no sólo mantienen las cosas en marcha, sino que están desarrollando algunos nuevos esfuerzos que vamos a llevar a cabo a medida que avanzamos en el año. Nuestros viajes en autobús se han reanudado, Alfredo esta desarrollando algunos grandes programas y estamos trabajando en colaboraciones con el Tecnológico. Algunos miembros de la Junta y del Comité han estado trabajando duro en las revisiones estratégicas del Campus y la planificación, y un comité se está reuniendo para centrarse en el servicio al cliente y mejorar la experiencia de LCS para nuestros miembros.

Ahora que estoy de vuelta en Ajijic, estoy a punto de reiniciar la serie de Conciertos en el Parque y tendremos nuestro concierto inicial el 17 de julio, con espectáculos a las 3:00 y 6:00. Los Tres Tenores Vallarta debutó en Ajijic el año pasado a un público lleno de elogios. El público adora a este trío. Con música de los grupos vocales internacionalmente populares Il Divo e Il Volo, el espectáculo está protagonizado por Freddy Oteló, de Venezuela, Armando Chakam, de Colima, y Pedro Islas, de la Ciudad de México, que cantan exquisitas interpretaciones de muchas baladas contemporáneas y operísticas conocidas en inglés, español e italiano en los hermosos jardines al aire libre de The Lake Chapala Society. Los boletos están disponibles en la oficina de LCS. También me gustaría anunciar que estoy trabajando en colaboración con el Presidente del Lakeside Little Theater, Brian Mattes on Conciertos en el Lago. Pronto habrá más información al respecto.

Durante este tiempo también hemos sufrido la pérdida de uno de nuestros voluntarios desde hace mucho tiempo, Emile Badawy. Emile fue una parte clave de nuestro comité financiero y de las operaciones de la organización durante muchos años. También trabajó estrechamente con otras organizaciones aquí en Lakeside y operó Tres Leones B&B que alojó a muchos expatriados cuando vinieron a explorar Lakeside. Esta organización y muchas otras echarán de menos los enormes esfuerzos de Emile durante tantos años. Sus contribuciones a Lakeside han sido numerosas y generosas. Enviamos a su familia y amigos nuestros mejores pensamientos.

Una de las cosas que tiene el fallecimiento de alguien es que nos recuerda a todos la importancia de la vida y de la planificación de emergencias. Últimamente, LCS ha figurado como beneficiario en varios testamentos. Estamos ciertamente agradecidos a aquellos que quieren mostrar su aprecio por la diferencia que LCS hace en nuestra comunidad aquí en Lakeside. Hemos aprendido mucho en este proceso y recuerden que septiembre en México es considerado el mes de los testamentos, donde los notarios ofrecen un precio de descuento para poner sus asuntos en orden. Septiembre se acerca rápidamente y ahora puede ser el mejor momento para hacer una planificación y preparación anticipada. Las leyes en México pueden ser muy diferentes de cómo se manejan las cosas al norte de la frontera. Hemos aprendido de primera mano lo importante que es tener todo cuidadosamente detallado en su testamento. Es mejor prepararse para este proceso y pensar cuidadosamente en lo que le gustaría dejar como su legado. No importa cuánto tenga, tiene sentido asegurarse de que lo que deja se maneja con respeto y de una manera que honra sus deseos. Se pueden malgastar mucho dinero y recursos que se aprovecharían mejor si se prepara cuidadosamente para que sus deseos se cumplan al máximo. En México, si usted muere sin un testamento, o su testamento no puede ser encontrado, y nadie está al tanto de sus deseos o de cómo proceder, el gobierno mexicano será responsable de liquidar sus bienes. Esto podría fácilmente resultar en algo que no siga sus deseos. Si usted desea ayudar a una organización de servicio local que está en condiciones de ayudar a muchos en la comunidad, usted quiere asegurarse de que esto se detalla claramente en su testamento. Lake Chapala Society puede ayudarle a encontrar recursos para asegurar que las cosas sean atendidas. Nuestro Registro Post Vida y Emergencia ha sido una herramienta valiosa para muchos. Es probablemente uno de nuestros servicios menos utilizados y más valiosos que ofrecemos. Le animamos a hacer clic en estos enlaces para obtener más información.

Being Prepared for Life and Death Lakeside
Post Life / Emergency Registry

Steve Balfour
Presidente
The Lake Chapala Society

First Person Singular

One Night in Lah-Lah Land

By Jim Garrow

It all started around ten o'clock on a late November evening at Adelita's, a very relaxed, open air café filled with 60s music, 60s something people and funky atmosphere. Rock Bottom was working the crowd hard that night. It was their second set, Van Morrison, Neil Young, Leonard Cohen, all good stuff from the 60s and 70s. I'd had my share of dancing, wine and welcome back hellos, having arrived from Canada the previous day. I decided to take my leave and walk home savoring my first real night back in lah-lah land with its quirky sounds, body perfect temperatures and crystal clear skies.

Café Adelita is in San Antonio, a small, simple village situated on the north shore of Lake Chapala in Mexico, about thirty minutes walking distance from the next village of Ajijic, where I have a home and spend my winters. So off I headed, past the imposing white, parroquia church with its brightly lit blue cross high in the sky, turning left at the corner toward home. I felt great; healthy, happy and at peace. The night sky was spectacular; stars well defined, the new moon hanging in the western sky, crested against Venus and Mars. On route I tested my limited Spanish with the few locals still sitting out in the evening air.

"Buenas noches. buenas noches señor".

"De nada', con permiso, que tenga buen noches". Ah, it was all coming back.

I was now on the outskirts of San Antonio, making good time in spite of my ancient sandals and the loosely packed, uneven cobblestone road. Wherever possible I used the gutter for walking; it was smooth, wide enough for one, and kept me on track on evenings like this. My mind was brought back to the present when I saw in the far distance what seemed to be water glistening across the entire road. A minute or so later water was confirmed and deep enough that only the odd cobblestone just barely broke surface, like a water turtle's nose catching air.

My sandals and I were in trouble.

Now I know of the rainy season at Lakeside, June to October, and the flooding that can come with it. I'd heard that the lake was up at least three feet, maybe four. A waterside restaurant had to move location because of the rise. Lakeside parking lots were underwater. Lower roads had been washed out in spots by natural arroyos. This must be one of them. Not to worry. As luck would have it, just to the right of the flooded area was an enclosed soccer stadium, which stretched northward to the next road home. I'd go through the gate, into the stadium and take the higher road.

I knew that stadium, or thought I did, having watched a game there the previous season. The gate was closed tight by a lock and chain. I gave the lock a 'Hail Mary' yank and what do you know, it was just pretending. Luck was on my side tonight. So in I went, up into the stands, along the full length of a row, through another gate, along a fence line, into a small enclosure and out onto the playing field. I looked around, fences everywhere. It was eerily quiet and dark now and I felt quite alone. I returned to the stands and to the confusion of fencing, alleyways and gates, hoping to find another passage to the north. But more darkness, more silence. Time was passing. I got to thinking; this would be a perfect place for druggies to hang out. Maybe that's why the first gate was unlocked. I could see the headlines: "Unidentified Male Snowbird found in Local Soccer Field"; Drugs, Robbery Suspected". My first real night in lah-lah land was turning ugly.

Just about then, my Adelita beers caught up to me and I decided to take advantage of the location. As I was zipping up, too quickly I suppose, the zipper handle and clasp came off in my hand, leaving me wide open. Revised headlines, "Drugs, Robbery, Sex Suspected". I beat a hasty retreat to the comfort of the glistening cobblestones, checked the depth of water closely and took what had become the lesser of two risks, managing to ford the stream, open pants and all, by hopping daintily from cobblestone to cobblestone. I'm glad there were no witnesses. I walked the rest of the way home, sober and focused.

One night in lah-lah land. I hope there will be many more.



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Come to a FREE consultation for LCS members every second Monday of each month.

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Criminal attorney

www.lakechapalasociety.com

Our 8th Annual LCS Children's Summer Art Camp is Back!

By Danielle Pagé

After having to shut down for two years, we are thrilled to announce that our long-running Children's Summer Art Camp is back! On each of five days, starting on Monday, July 25th from 10 am to 12 pm, about 85 children will get the chance to participate.

We'll be offering the kids workshops in: mosaics, drawing and painting, embroidery, watercolour, making dream catchers, acrylic painting, terra cotta modelling, abstract art, and aluminum art. Kids will get to explore a variety of art media, experience different materials, learn new skills, and be able to work on fun and creative projects.

We hope you can volunteer to help us at Art Camp or to donate art supplies for our children to use. If so, please contact Danielle Pagé by email at childrensart@lakechapasociety.com with details about how you can help, or any art supplies you are willing to give to the kids. The types of art supplies needed by our young artists include: acrylic paints, brushes, canvas boards, watercolour paper, watercolour paints, and other art materials.

Without the help of our many generous volunteers, this annual project would not be possible. Coordinated by the LCS Children's Art Program, over 35 volunteers help by sharing their enthusiasm, experience, and skills with the kids. They're continuing Neill James' legacy of art outreach and instruction to the local community.

For this year's Art Camp, our workshop leaders are: Javier Zaragoza and Jesús López Vega (Children's Art Program

graduates); Robina Nicol, Kathryn Thaggard, Johannes Bjorner, Elvira Zuñiga, Juan Ramón Soto, Lori Polanco, and Maria Vega.

Please come to LCS on Saturday, July 30th, to say hello, meet the kids, and buy some of their art. This Open House will feature an Art Sale in which kids' art made during the Art Camp will be available to buy. We'll also be selling the popular Children's Art Cards. As always, when it comes to these sales events – the kids get a cut of the profits.

Kids don't always have confidence in themselves, but selling something they created makes them feel proud of their accomplishment. It also provides an excellent opportunity for teaching about entrepreneurship and finance. At the next Saturday art class (August 6), the kids will be paid the money they earned from the art sale, and will also receive a Certificate of Merit.

If you know of a child aged 8 or older who would like to attend Art Camp, please bring them to one of our regular Saturday classes from 10 to 12, where they can pre-register for Art Camp. We welcome any children aged 8 and up to register on a first-come first-served basis.

The Children's Art Program is a free weekly Saturday morning art class for local kids, held throughout the year regardless of the weather. It's at the LCS South Campus, near the lake entrance. COVID concerns have caused our art classes to focus on children aged 10 and older. However, we'll be expanding our program after Art Camp to include children aged 8 and up. All kids have to wear face-masks while they're at Art Camp and at Saturday classes.

The Children's Art Program is a cornerstone of the outreach programs provided by LCS to the Mexican community. In addition, LCS also offers a Spanish-language library, ESL instruction, a student financial aid program, and computer courses.



Hane Pearl
Gallery

Art and Activities Center

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¡Vuelve nuestro 8º campamento anual de arte para niños y niñas de LCS!

Por Danielle Pagé



Después de haber tenido que cerrar durante dos años, estamos emocionados de anunciar que nuestro Campamento de Arte de Verano para Niños está de vuelta. En cada uno de los cinco días, comenzando el lunes 25 de julio de 10 a 12 horas, unos 85 infantes tendrán la oportunidad de participar.

Ofreceremos talleres de: mosaicos, dibujo y pintura, bordado, acuarela, elaboración de atrapasueños, pintura acrílica, modelado en terracota, arte abstracto y arte en aluminio. Así, los participantes podrán explorar una variedad de medios de arte, experimentar con diferentes materiales, aprender nuevas habilidades, y ser capaces de trabajar en proyectos divertidos y creativos.

Esperamos que puedas ofrecerte como voluntario para ayudarnos en el campamento de arte o para donar material artístico para que nuestros asistentes lo utilicen. Si es así, póngase en contacto con Danielle Pagé por correo electrónico en: childrensart@lakechapasociety.com con detalles sobre cómo puede ayudar, o cualquier material de arte que esté dispuesto a dar. Los tipos de

suministros de arte que necesitan nuestros jóvenes artistas incluyen: pinturas acrílicas, pinceles, tableros de lona, papel de acuarela, pinturas de acuarela y otros materiales de arte.

Sin la ayuda de nuestros numerosos y generosos voluntarios, este proyecto anual no sería posible. Coordinados por el Programa de Arte Infantil de LCS, más de 35 voluntarios ayudan compartiendo su entusiasmo, experiencia y habilidades con los niños. Continúan el legado de Neill James de divulgación e instrucción artística a la comunidad local.

Para el Campamento de Arte de este año, nuestros líderes de taller son: Javier Zaragoza y Jesús López Vega (graduados del Programa de Arte para Niños); Robina Nicol, Kathryn Thaggard, Johannes Bjorner, Elvira Zuñiga, Juan Ramón Soto, Lori Polanco y Maria Vega.

Por favor, ven a LCS el sábado 30 de julio para saludar, conocer a los niños y niñas, comprar algunas de sus obras. En esta jornada de puertas abiertas habrá una venta de arte en la que se podrá comprar el arte realizado

por los participantes durante el campamento de arte. También venderemos las populares tarjetas de arte para niños. Como siempre, cuando se trata de estos eventos de venta, ellos reciben una parte de los beneficios.

Los niños y niñas no siempre tienen confianza en sí mismos, pero vender algo que han creado les hace sentirse orgullosos de su logro. También es una excelente oportunidad para enseñarles sobre el espíritu empresarial y las finanzas. En la siguiente clase de arte del sábado (6 de agosto), los niños y niñas recibirán el dinero que hayan ganado con la venta de arte, y también recibirán un Certificado de Mérito.

Si conoce a un menor de 8 años o más que quiera asistir al Campamento de Arte, tráelo a una de nuestras clases regulares de los sábados de 10 a 12, donde podrá preinscribirse en el Campamento de Arte. Los pequeños de 8 años o más pueden inscribirse por orden de llegada.

El Programa de Arte para Niños es una clase de arte semanal y gratuita para los niños y niñas de la localidad, que se celebra durante todo el año, independientemente del tiempo. Es en el Campus Sur de LCS, cerca de la entrada del lago. La preocupación por el COVID ha hecho que nuestras clases de arte se centren en niños de 10 años o más. Sin embargo, vamos a ampliar nuestro programa después del Campamento de Arte para incluir a los pequeños de 8 años en adelante. Todos los niños tienen que llevar cubre bocas mientras estén en el Campamento de Arte y en las clases de los sábados.

El Programa de Arte para Niños es una piedra angular de los programas de alcance que ofrece LCS a la comunidad mexicana. Además, LCS también ofrece una biblioteca en español, instrucción de ESL, un programa de ayuda financiera para estudiantes y cursos de computación.

Flavors of Chihuahua

By ¡Ah Chihuahua!

Burritos, a small pack full of flavor, created in Ciudad Juárez

THE BURRITO, is the popular border dish, that's a common go-to alternative for breakfast, lunch, dinner or between meals snack. Don't underestimate the power of a good Burrito; an effortless bite onto the right thickness soft flour tortilla followed by the strong presence of a rich filling... both at the right temperature land in mouth to take you to heaven with flavor and different textures.

During the Mexican Revolution (circa 1910) a man named Juan Méndez sold food accompanied by tortillas and to keep everything warm, he began to use the tortillas to cover and wrap the food. Mr. Méndez used a donkey to transport his business venture, soon people begin to say "Here comes the burrito" ... and just like that, the name stuck.

Burritos Tony

At the end of the 50's, Antonio Arqueta and his wife started selling burritos on a bicycle, the demand for his great burritos grew so fast that soon he had to upgrade to a van, and in 1957, he opened his restaurant as BURRITOS TONY, on Gregorio M. Solis Street in Ciudad Juárez.

Anatomy of the perfect Burrito!

8 inches long... and as wide as your hand can hold, hand-kneaded flour tortilla; the secret is the hand that integrates the flour, water, butter, yeast and salt and leaves the



ball of dough ready to be "punched" and passed to the griddle that must be at the right temperature for the tortilla to brown correctly.

Savory filling "whatever you have on hand" but be wise with the portion. not too much that obliges and impossible bite and not too little that you only taste the tortilla

Ciudad Juárez holds the Guinness World Record for the World's Largest Burrito in 1994:

MARGARITA, One cocktail many versions about its origin

The Margarita cocktail is such a crowd pleaser that has surpassed the borders of México and nowadays it is served in restaurants and bars around the globe. With such fame there are several bars, bartenders and places that claim its creation... Ciudad Juárez is one of them, but not "just one more".

Legend has it, that during the US Prohibition Ciudad Juárez, honoring the Mexican hospitality, became a hotspot for Americans to travel, have fun and quench their thirst, and it was during those years; that the Kentucky Bar opened its doors and immediately became a favourite. Celebrities, from Marilyn Monroe to Liz Taylor were regulars here and loved the festive vibe of the bar and the city.

One sweet day, some decades later, a regular costumer asked the bartender to create a brand-new cocktail for his wife named Margarita. The Tequila combined with the right balance of sweet and acidity was fantastic, festive and screamed Mexico: Tequila + Salt + Fresh Squeezed Lime. The Margarita was born and it became an immediate sensation.

Over the years clients requests increased the popularity of the cocktail and people from all over the world traveled to Ciudad Juárez to taste The Original Margarita at the Kentucky Bar on Juárez Street.



Sabores de Chihuahua

By ¡Ah Chihuahua!

Burritos, Un pequeño paquete lleno de sabor, creado en Ciudad Juárez.

EL BURRITO, es el popular plato fronterizo, una alternativa habitual para el desayuno, la comida, la cena o un tentempié entre horas. No subestimes el poder de un buen Burrito; un bocado sin esfuerzo en la tortilla de harina suave del grosor adecuado seguido de la fuerte presencia de un rico relleno... ambos a la temperatura adecuada aterrizan en la boca para llevarte al cielo con sabor y texturas diferentes.

Durante la Revolución Mexicana (alrededor de 1910) un hombre llamado Juan Méndez vendía comida acompañada de tortillas y para mantener todo caliente, comenzó a utilizar las tortillas para cubrir y envolver la comida. El Sr. Méndez utilizaba un burro para transportar su negocio, pronto la gente empezó a decir "Ahí viene el burrito"... y así, el nombre se quedó.

Burritos Tony, a finales de los años 50, Antonio Arqueta y su esposa empezaron a vender burritos en una bicicleta, la demanda de sus estupendos burritos creció tan rápido que pronto tuvo que cambiar a una camioneta, y en 1957, abrió su restaurante como BURRITOS TONY, en la calle Gregorio M. Solís de Ciudad Juárez.

Anatomía del Burrito perfecto, 8 pulgadas de largo.... y tan ancho como tu mano pueda sostenerlo, tortilla de harina amasada a mano; El secreto es la mano que integra la harina, el agua, la mantequilla, la levadura y la sal y deja la bola de masa lista para ser "pinchada" y pasar a la plancha que debe estar a la temperatura adecuada para que la tortilla se dore correctamente.

- Relleno salado

"lo que tengas a mano" pero sé prudente con la porción. no demasiado que obligue a un bocado imposible y no demasiado poco que sólo se saboree la tortilla

Ciudad Juárez tiene el Récord Guinness del Burrito más grande del mundo en 1994:

Margarita, Un cóctel con muchas versiones sobre su origen.

El cóctel Margarita es un éxito de público que ha sobrepasado las fronteras de México y hoy en día se sirve en restaurantes y bares de todo el mundo. Con tal fama son varios los bares, cantineros y lugares que reclaman su creación... Ciudad Juárez



es uno de ellos, pero no "uno más". Cuenta la leyenda que, durante la Ley Seca en Estados Unidos, Ciudad Juárez, haciendo honor a la hospitalidad mexicana, se convirtió en un punto de encuentro para que los estadounidenses viajaran, se divirtieran y saciaran su sed, fue durante esos años cuando el Kentucky Bar abrió sus puertas y se convirtió inmediatamente en uno de los favoritos; celebridades desde Marilyn Monroe hasta Liz Taylor eran asiduas a este lugar, les encantaba el ambiente festivo del bar y de la ciudad.



Un dulce día, algunas décadas más tarde, un cliente habitual pidió al barman que creara un nuevo cóctel para su mujer llamada Margarita. El tequila combinado con el equilibrio adecuado de dulce y acidez era fantástico, festivo y gritaba México: Tequila + Sal + Lima fresca exprimida. La Margarita nació y se convirtió en una sensación inmediata.

Con el paso de los años las peticiones de los clientes aumentaron la popularidad del cóctel y gente de todo el mundo viajaba a Ciudad Juárez para probar La Margarita Original en el Bar Kentucky de la calle Juárez.

¡Salud!



Post Life Planning for Pets

What Will Happen to My Pets When I Die?

Lake Chapala is a pet lover's paradise. Expats are arriving here in record numbers. What they find are abundant resources for their animals—dog walkers, dog schools, dog training, mountains for hiking, lake and malecon for walks. We sometimes bring our pets with us and we also adopt pets here in record numbers. The need for homes for dogs and cats is readily apparent as rescue organizations promote animals for adoption through many Facebook groups. Plus, we find animals on the street and bring them home. And animals find us. They show up at our gate or at our feet. We foster an animal while we look for its forever home; but then we bond, fall in love and become a “foster fail” or we might rather say we receive a “foster gift.”

With all of these animals bringing us joy and enriching our lives, we have an important and serious consideration to make. We are an older demographic and we may have animals who will outlive us. How do we insure their well-being when we are gone? We have likely been present for the end of life of many a beloved pet. Now our pets are going to lose us. How can we plan for them in the best possible way to secure a good life for them as ours ebbs and finishes. To quote Loretta Downs who gives talks and workshops here on death and dying: “It’s your life story. Give it a good ending.” I contend that part of our good ending in our life story is planning well for our pets.

Post Life Planning for Pets emerged as a program here at Lakeside two years ago. Its primary mission is



to raise awareness about the need to plan for our pets. Once we are aware that we need and want to create this plan, we can spring into action with assistance from this program as needed. Some examples of plans might be: a neighbor or friend loves you and your animal and agrees to be its forever home when you are gone. Or, there might be a friend or relative in the States who will step in. If there is no one identified to take your animals, another kind of plan is available through Bone Voyage Dog Rescue.

A good solid plan involves a statement about who will take the animal or who will help find a forever home. It involves having a local contact person who knows the plan and has a written copy. It has a written statement about how the plan will be funded and how funds are accessed. It is always a written plan, a copy included with our own end of life documents and a copy with the contact person.

Let’s not leave the fate of our beloved animals up to chance. They can bring joy and companion-

ship to another person and, along with that gift they give, they can be cared for again with love and kind attention, with soft beds and squeaky toys, with good food, and invigorating walks.

Step up and put a plan in place, your own and one for your animal too!! The animals, your loved ones, and the community will thank you.

Brochures about Post Life Planning for Pets are available at local veterinarians, pet stores, and LCS.

A class about Post Life Planning for Pets is being scheduled at LCS in July 6th, you can enroll on the LCS Office.

For assistance creating your own animal plan, contact juanitacrampton@gmail.com



¿Qué pasará con mis mascotas cuando yo muera?



El Lago de Chapala es un paraíso para los amantes de las mascotas. Los extranjeros están llegando aquí en un número récord. Se encuentran con abundantes recursos para sus animales- paseadores de perros, escuelas de perros, entrenamiento de perros, montañas para hacer senderismo, el lago y el malecón para paseos. A veces traemos a nuestras mascotas y también adoptamos mascotas aquí en un número récord. La necesidad de hogares para perros y gatos es evidente, ya que las organizaciones de rescate promueven la adopción de animales a través de muchos grupos de Facebook. Además, encontramos animales en la calle y los llevamos a casa. Y los animales nos encuentran a nosotros. Aparecen en nuestra puerta o a nuestros pies. Acogemos a un animal mientras le buscamos un hogar definitivo; pero luego nos vinculamos, nos enamoramos y nos convertimos en un “fracaso de acogida” o más bien podríamos decir que recibimos un “regalo de acogida”.

Con todos estos animales que nos aportan alegría y enriquecen nuestras vidas, tenemos que hacer una consideración importante y seria. Somos un grupo demográfico de edad avanzada y es posible que tengamos animales que nos sobrevivan. ¿Cómo aseguramos su bienestar cuando ya no estemos? Es probable que hayamos asistido al final de la vida de muchas mascotas queridas. Ahora nuestras mascotas nos van a perder. ¿Cómo podemos planificar para ellos de la mejor manera posible para asegurarles una buena vida cuando ya no estemos? Citando a Loretta Downs, que da charlas y talleres aquí sobre la muerte y el morir: “Es la historia de tu vida. Dale un buen final”. Sostengo que parte de nuestro buen final en la historia de nuestra vida es planificar bien para nuestras mascotas.

El programa Post Life Planning for Pets surgió aquí en Lakeside hace dos años. Su misión principal es concientizar sobre la necesidad de planificar para nuestras mascotas. Una vez que seamos conscientes de que necesitamos y queremos crear este plan, podemos pasar a la acción. Algunos ejemplos de planes pueden ser: un vecino o un amigo que acepta ser su hogar para siempre cuando usted no esté. O bien, puede haber un amigo o pariente en Estados Unidos que se haga cargo. Si no hay nadie identificado para acoger a sus animales, existe otro tipo de plan a través de Bone Voyage Dog Rescue.

Un buen plan sólido implica una declaración sobre quién se llevará al animal o quién ayudará a encontrar un hogar definitivo. Implica tener una persona de contacto local que conozca el plan y tenga una copia escrita. Tiene una declaración escrita sobre cómo se financiará el plan y cómo se accede a los fondos. Siempre es un plan escrito, una copia incluida con nuestros propios documentos de fin de vida y una copia con la persona de contacto.

No dejemos el destino de nuestros queridos animales al azar. Pueden aportar alegría y compañía a otra persona y, junto con ese regalo que dan, se les puede volver a cuidar con amor y atención amable, con camas blandas y juguetes chirriantes, con buena comida y paseos estimulantes.

Da un paso adelante y pon en marcha un plan, ¡el tuyo y el de tu animal también! Los animales, tus seres queridos y la comunidad te lo agradecerán.

Los folletos sobre la planificación posterior a la vida para las mascotas están disponibles en los veterinarios locales, las tiendas de mascotas y LCS.

Una clase, en inglés, sobre la Planificación Post Vida para Mascotas está siendo programada en LCS para el 6 de julio, si te interesa, te puedes inscribir en la oficina de LCS.

Para obtener ayuda en la creación de su propio plan para animales, póngase en contacto con juanitacrampton@gmail.com

Moda Mexicana

By Marianne Carlson



Feria Maestros del Arte was cancelled in 2020 and 2021 due to Covid-19. Finding our rhythm again for the 2022 Feria has been difficult, in part, due to loss of coordinators and volunteers, as well as the challenge of dealing with funding issues for this year's 20th Anniversary event — during Covid, much of our start-up funds were used to help artisans struggling without sales during the pandemic.

Moda Mexicana is yet another Feria fashion show that have become known for focusing on combining traditional and modern clothing, textiles and jewelry — combinations for timeless fashion trends. The fashion show will take place July 15 at the Lake Chapala Society in Ajijic.

Coordinator Lupita Campbell will be showcasing the work of Lakeside designers Alma Gutiérrez and Fiaga. She has modeled at Feria fashion shows in the past and when she approached us about putting on another show, we quickly accepted her proposal.

Lupita was born in Chihuahua, México, but moved to the U.S. when she was seven-years old, growing up in Mesa, Arizona. A model herself until her early forties, she has worked the catwalk, modeled for print work as well as television commercials. Lupita moved into real estate until 2014 when she was invited by friends to visit Ajijic — she loved it. During her visit, she met Chuck, a Canadian, and they married in late 2015.

Lupita loves being involved with Lakeside's charities and plans on continuing contributing as much of her time as possible. She is the first Mexican national to coordinate a Feria Fashion Show and she has put together a unique and exciting event. Local Mexican designers' will be presenting their designer clothing — Alma Gutiérrez and Fiaga. Gabriela Sánchez, jewelry designer from Guadalajara, will be outfitting the models with her unique jewelry and Lupita Zepeda, also a Guadalajara resident, will be providing rebozos that complete each different look.

Gabriela Sánchez' designs are not charms; they are from sculptural limited edition jewelry collections. Most of her work is one-of-a-kind that captivates and is easily recognized



as Gabriela's superior work. She has graciously offered to show her work at all past Feria fashion shows.

Presenting her creations will be local designer Alma Gutiérrez. Her showroom is in San Antonio Tlayacapan — "I design clothes for mature women, not young girls." Born and raised in Monterrey, she has been designing since she was 13-years old. Alma also offers consulting services — sometimes customers need help putting an outfit together.

Also showcasing their designs, will be Fiaga. On the local scene for over 30 years, this is a small family business creating designer clothing from high-quality natural fabrics — they specialize in alterations. Fiaga has two more stores in San Miguel de Allende, Guanajuato.

Lupita Zepeda of Guadalajara, has always felt the love of Mexico through rebozos. She shares her unique style with the world and wears "the skin of Mexico" (rebozos) with pride. In addition to setting a trend in clothing and magnifying a traditional accessory, she also supports many families throughout the country through sales of their rebozos.

The proceeds from Moda Mexicana will go to this year's Feria Maestros del Arte's start-up money. If you have never been to the Feria, this year is the year to begin a love affair with the incredibly diverse folk art of Mexico. The best of the best are invited from all over Mexico to exhibit and sell their work over the 3-day event. For more information, contact feriamestros@gmail.com or 331 098 4850 WhatsApp/cell-phone.



Moda Mexicana

Por Marianne Carlson

La Feria Maestros del Arte fue cancelada en 2020 y 2021 debido a Covid-19. Retomar nuestro ritmo para la Feria de 2022 ha sido difícil, en parte, debido a la pérdida de coordinadores y voluntarios, así como el reto de hacer frente a las cuestiones de financiamiento para el evento del 20 aniversario de este año - durante Covid, gran parte de nuestros fondos iniciales se utilizaron para ayudar a los artesanos que luchaban por sobrevivir sin ventas durante la pandemia.

Moda Mexicana es otro de los desfiles de la Feria que se han dado a conocer por centrarse en la combinación de ropa, textiles y joyas tradicionales y modernas, combinaciones que permiten crear tendencias de moda atemporales. El desfile de moda tendrá lugar el 15 de julio en Lake Chapala Society. En Ajijic.

La coordinadora Lupita Campbell mostrará el trabajo de las diseñadoras de la Ribera, Alma Gutiérrez y Fiaga. Ella ha modelado en los desfiles de la Feria en el pasado y cuando se acercó a nosotros para organizar este espectáculo, rápidamente aceptamos su propuesta.

Lupita nació en Chihuahua, México, pero se trasladó a los Estados Unidos cuando tenía siete años y creció en Mesa, Arizona. Ha sido modelo hasta los cuarenta años, y ha trabajado en la pasarela, en trabajos impresos y en anuncios de televisión. Lupita se dedicó a los bienes raíces hasta 2014, cuando fue invitada por unos amigos a visitar Ajijic - le encantó. Durante su visita, conoció a Chuck, un canadiense, y se casaron a finales de 2015.

A Lupita le encanta estar involucrada con las organizaciones benéficas de la zona y planea seguir contribuyendo con todo el tiempo posible. Es la primera mexicana que coordina un desfile de moda de la Feria y ha organizado un evento único y emocionante. Los diseñadores mexicanos locales presentarán su ropa de diseño - Alma Gutiérrez y Fiaga. Gabriela Sánchez, diseñadora de joyas de Guadalajara, equipará a las modelos con sus joyas únicas y Lupita Zepeda, también residente en Chapala, proporcionará los rebozos que completan cada look diferente.

Los diseños de Gabriela Sánchez pertenecen a colecciones de joyería escultórica de edición limitada. La mayoría de sus trabajos son únicos que cautivan y son fácilmente reconocidos como el trabajo superior de Gabriela. Ella se ha ofrecido amablemente a mostrar su trabajo en todos los pasados desfiles de la Feria.

La diseñadora local Alma Gutiérrez presentará sus creaciones. Su showroom está en San Antonio Tlayacapan - "Diseño ropa para mujeres maduras, no para niñas". Nacida y criada en Monterrey, diseña desde los 13 años. Alma también ofrece servicios de consultoría - a veces los clientes necesitan ayuda para armar un atuendo.

También expondrá sus diseños Fiaga. Con más de 30 años en la escena local, esta es una pequeña empresa familiar que crea ropa de diseño a partir de tejidos naturales de alta calidad - se especializan en alteraciones. Fiaga tiene dos tiendas más en San Miguel de Allende, Guanajuato

Lupita Zepeda, de Guadalajara, siempre ha sentido el amor por México a través de los rebozos. Ella comparte su estilo único con el mundo y lleva "la piel de México" (rebozos) con orgullo. Además de marcar una tendencia en la vestimenta y magnificar un accesorio tradicional, también apoya a muchas familias de todo el país a través de la venta de sus rebozos.

Las ganancias de Moda Mexicana se destinarán al dinero inicial de la Feria Maestros del Arte de este año. Si nunca has estado en la Feria, este año es el indicado para comenzar un romance con el increíblemente diverso arte popular de México. Se invita a lo mejor de lo mejor de todo México para que exponga y venda sus obras durante los tres días que dura el evento. Para más información, póngase en contacto con feriamaestros@gmail.com o 331 098 4850 WhatsApp/celular.



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We're Going Birding

By John and Rosemary Keeling



concrete bridge over a water course. Here we look for Marsh Wrens and Common Yellowthroats at the water's edge and Yellow-headed Blackbirds in the reed beds. Go another kilometer and suddenly you can see clear across the lake with good views of many birds along the sandy banks – Mexican Ducks, Fulvous Whistling Ducks, Neotropic Cormorants and American Avocets. Here you can see American White Pelicans almost year-round, since many of the one-year-old pelicans stay here for the summer instead of flying back up to the US and Canada to perform their community service of helping with the upbringing of the next generation. Pelicans nest on rocky islands to reduce the threats of deadly interference by wolves, foxes and humans and caring for the youngsters is a shared communal activity.

On the west side of Ajijic all of the streets leading down to the lake from the carretera offer good birding. One place that we visit frequently is 'La Christina'. The walking is easy. There are big trees through which many birds pass. One special avocado tree sometimes hosts three different Oriole species including the Black-backed Oriole which is only found in Mexico. In the trees we look for Bewick's Wrens, Western Tanagers and Curve-billed Thrashers. At the lake edge you can see American Coots, Black-crowned Night Herons and Great Egrets. If you walk along the shore you will see, on the lawns of the estates, the brightly colored Vermilion Flycatchers and the Rufous-backed Robins, which are another 'only in Mexico' bird species.

One of the advantages of experience is that many of the birds that we "find" are heard on the basis of a dis-

For us 'birding' is an excuse to get out into the fresh air, to admire the countryside, and to get away from crowds. Each time we go out we are hoping to see a species we have never seen before or a species which is new to our area. For us, a good birding day is one where we enjoy beautiful scenery and also see a good variety of birds. The better locations usually combine water areas with fields or forests.

We have our preferred spots where we have found a lot of bird species in the past. Our very favorite area is called the Rosa Amarilla Loop. It is on top of the hills on the south side of the lake. (See directions at the end of the article). Here you are really in the country; outsiders have little reason to visit here. Only the Coke trucks come through regularly. First you come to pasture land with cows and cow barns. Milk buckets can be seen on the roadside for collection. You may see a boy leading a donkey loaded with milk churns. You hear the distinctive call of the yellow fronted Eastern Meadowlark in the grass fields and sometimes Greater Roadrunners. We always look for the White-tailed Hawks and Ravens circling overhead. Go further and you pass through the village of Rosa Amarilla before the road descends giving you marvelous views to the distant hills of Mazamitla. Then the road follows the edge of a sizable dam where we see long-legged Black-necked Stilts and Wood Storks feeding in the shallows. In the villages we look under the eaves of the houses for Cliff Swallow nests which have side entrance holes. The people here are friendly. It's a poor area and many of the locals have worked for a while in the States and they like to show you that they know some English. Sometimes people will stop and ask if perhaps you are looking for sources of gravel for construction or to buy land.

Another favorite birding location of ours is the Lake Cajititlan Marsh. We go here because there is nowhere along the length of lake Chapala that offers such a complete selection of water and shore birds in one place. If you follow the driving instructions below, you will be driving down a gravel road with colorful Streak-backed Orioles in the pink-pepper trees and Canyon Towhees crossing your path. After a kilometer (a half mile) you cross a flat

tinctive call rather than being sighted visually. Birds automatically learn how to hide safely in any type of tree or shrub, so the ability to identify birds by call is a valuable asset for any birder. We have recorded 350 species here at Lake Chapala of which at least 50 are rarely seen. To find out about the local birding group and the monthly bird walks and trips, visit their website chapalabirders.org. Finally, remember that birds are most active in the first three hours of the day, so that is when we go birding.

How to get to these places:

The Rosa Amarilla Loop: (One hour from Ajijic). Take the road to Mazamitla. After Tuxcueca you start ascending. Take the first left after you reach the very top of the hill. This road forms a loop which will bring you back to the Mazamitla highway.

Lake Cajititlan Marsh: (30 minutes from Ajijic). Follow the Chapala – Guadalajara highway past Ixtlahuacan. After the MacroLibramiento overpass you must look for the first ‘Retorno’ to do a U-turn, then take the first right at the famous ‘Los Milagros de Dalila’ restaurant following the signs to San Juan Evangelista. Drive only 5 km (3 mi.) and turn right on a gravel road and start birding. Go two more kilometers (1 mi.) to get to the best birding spot with a view across the lake.



Ladder-Backed Woodpecker/
Carpinterillo Mexicano

La Christina’ Road, located 4 km (2.5 mi.) west of Calle Colon, the main street of Ajijic. Turn down to the lake where the sign says ‘Hacienda La Cristina’. Follow the road to the lake and park.

John and Rosemary Keeling run the local birding group Lake Chapala Birders. If you would like to receive their monthly newsletter detailing bird walks and trips, just drop a note to chapalabirders@yahoo.com.



Felipe González
Attorney at Law



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ACTIVITIES & EVENTS

Pull Out

Office & Library Hours: Monday to Saturday 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Grounds open: Lakeside Gate: Monday to Friday 8:30 a.m. - 11:30 p.m.
Main Gate: Monday to Friday 9:00 a.m. - 3 p.m. | Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 2 p.m.

***Open to the Public (S) Sign up (C) Member card (M) LCS members only**

LESSONS (M)

| | |
|--|--|
| Beginners Chess for Seniors | M 1:30-2:30 |
| Bordado Artístico (Spanish) | M+W+F 4-6 |
| Children's Art | SAT 10-12 Invitation only |
| Dance Fitness | M 10-11 |
| Exercise | M+W+F 9-9:50 |
| Gentle Yoga & Body Awareness | W 10-10:50 |
| Hurachess Club* | SAT 12-1* |
| Intermediate Hatha Yoga | T+TH 2-3:30 |
| Introduction to Spanish (S) | T 5,12,19 July, 12:30-2 Cost |
| Introduction to Lakeside | 8 July, Zoom 9-12 11 July Campus 9-12 |
| Line Dancing, gail@doughertynet.com | T + TH 10-11:15 |
| Mudlarks Pottery Open Studios | M+F 10-2 |
| NIA/Joy of Movement | F 10-11 |
| Stretch & Balance, | T+TH 8:45-9:45 harry_bertram@hotmail.com |
| Spanish in Action classes (español en acción) | See LCS website or in the office for more info |
| Spanish a la carta Online program, | See LCS website/more info |
| Tai Chi for Elders | M+W+F 11-11:50 |
| Tech Help via Email | lcs.tech.training@gmail.com |
| Write to a Prompt Writers' Group | TH 10-12 |

LIBRARIES (M)

| | |
|---|------------|
| Book + DVD Libraries | M-SAT 10-2 |
| Books on Tape & Library of Congress Talking Books. To order books on-line, you must use a computer or a tablet/iPad. It is not possible to order using a cell phone. Go to lakechapalasociety.com & select libraries/English. | |

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES (M)

| | |
|--|---|
| American Man Jongg | TH 10-1 |
| Discussion Group | W 12-1:30 |
| English/Spanish Conversation* Open to public | Sat 12-1:30* |
| Everyday Mindfulness | 11, 25 July Zoom 10:30-12, July 18 Campus 10:30-12 |
| Game Group | TH 1-4 |
| HOT Science Zoom, hotsciencelcs@gmail.com | T 1:45 |
| Scrabble | F 11:30-1:30 |
| Tournament Scrabble | T 12-1:50 |

HEALTH INSURANCE*

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Hospital San Antonio | TH 10-12 |
| IMSS & Immigration Services | M+T 10-1 |
| Call for Appointment 333-157-9472 No sign up | |
| Lakeside Insurance | T+TH 11-2 |

| | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Shiatsu Chair Massage | 2nd & 4rd TH 10-12 |
| Appointment only, call 331-604-0971 | |

HEALTH & LEGAL SERVICES*

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Becerra Immigration | TH 10:30-12:30 |
| Intercam Banking Services | M-F 10-1 |
| Audiology- hearing care specialists | M+W+F 10-3 Call for appointment 332-945-3267 |
| Optometrist Claravision (S) | TH 9-4; Call for appointment 331-411-1178 |
| Skin Cancer Screening (S) | 2+4 W 10-12; Call for appointment 333-408-0951 |
| Solbes & Solbes | 2nd Monday 10-12 |

SERVICE & SUPPORT GROUPS *

| | |
|---|---|
| Al-Anon (Spanish) | M 6-7:30, W 5:30-7:30 |
| ASA Board Meeting | Last W, 10:30-12 |
| Caregivers of Spouses with Dementia (Support Group) | T 11:30-1:30 |
| Diabetes Support Group | Zoom, 1st F 11:00 welchk4diabetes@gmail.com |
| Information Desk | M-Sat 10-2 |
| Lakeside AA | M+TH 4-5 |
| Needle Pushers | T 10-11:45 |
| Open Circle | Sun 10:30-11:30 |
| Toastmasters | M 7-9 |
| Overeaters Anonymous | W 3-4 |

NEW ACTIVITIES:

- US Voter Registration**
Mondays 10-1 Blue Umbrella Patio & Fridays, July 8, 22 from 11-1 Blue Umbrella Patio
Democrats Abroad Lakeside will aid U.S. citizens in obtaining information and registering for ballots to vote in the November elections. Open to all U.S. citizens.
Laurie Devine, lauriedevine52@gmail.com, Democrats Abroad lakeside.

- Mudlarks Pottery Introduction to Ceramics**
is postponed until further notice.

www.lakechapalasociety.com



EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS



Creative Writing Workshop

By Rachel McMillen

Tuesday & Thursday,
Jul 19, 21, 26, 28, Aug 2, 4, 9 & 11
1:00 - 3:00 pm

LCS members: \$980
Regular price: \$1,180

Introduction to Spanish

By Inez Dyer

Tuesday, August 02, 09 & 16
12:30 to 2:00 pm

LCS members: \$380
Regular price: \$494

3-session class. The instructor will introduce learners to Spanish pronunciation, some vocabulary and social protocols.



Getting your Jalisco driver's license without losing your mind

By Alfredo Pérez

Monday, August 01

LCS members: \$500
Regular price: \$650

2:00 to 3:45 pm Class

Thursday, August 11 visit to Secretaría de Transporte (test).
Early in the morning.

Mexican Manners

By Alfredo Pérez

Wednesday, August 03
10:00 to 12:30 pm

LCS members: \$400
Regular price: \$520

Introduction to Lakeside

By Rachel McMillen

In person LCS members: \$600
Regular price: \$780
Friday, August 08 at 9 am to 12 pm

Online LCS members: \$500
Regular price: \$680

Friday, August 12 at 9 am to 12 pm
Are you planning to move to Chapala Lakeside or have you just moved? Welcome to Mexico!



Financial management for ex-pats.

By Ted Rogers

Wednesday & Thursday
Aug 29, Sept 01, 05, 08 & 12
1:00 - 2:00 pm

LCS members: \$500
Regular price: \$650

5-session class. Living in another country with a somewhat different economic management than in our country of origin, a growing inflation, a different currency, among other things, makes us reflect on what strategies are appropriate for our own lives in the local financial sphere.

In this five-session class, we will learn, relearn and create a better idea of what to do in our new home.

El viaje a México - Simulator - Spanish conversation

Neri Navarro / Phil Rylett

Saturday, August 27
10:00 - 1:00 pm

LCS members: \$300
Regular price: \$390

Welcome to Journey into Mexico where you will need all your Spanish to complete this trip.

The Journey into Mexico is a simulation of arriving at the Mexico/US border and also preparing a trip to Mexico City.

Travel through our border zone experiencing realistic travel-oriented situations while conversing with native Spanish speakers.

Visit the bank, pharmacy, restaurant and go through immigration and customs.

You'll soon be ready to travel anywhere your Spanish takes you!

This is an activity for anyone who wants to practice their Spanish in a semi-controlled environment while having fun.

You will discover that you actually know more Spanish than you think.

We will provide the necessary materials to participate.

Enrollment at LCS Office
Monday through Saturday
from 10:00 am - 2 pm
LakeChapalaSociety.com
LCS MEMBERS ONLY
Registration requires payment.
There is no refund.



A DOCTOR'S APPOINTMENT

Beginners - Intermediate

August 03 & 10, 10:00 to 11:20 am by Zoom

One of the most important communication situations is talking about health. Although there are many bilingual doctors in the area, we must be prepared to be able to talk about our symptoms and illnesses, as well as follow the doctor's advice. In this class we will review vocabulary and phrases for talking about our health.

-ITO, -ITA: MORE THAN JUST "A LITTLE", "A SMALL"

Intermediate - Advanced

August 03 & 10, 12:00 to 1:20 pm by Zoom

Diminutives are in all Mexican Spanish words, but does it mean that everything in Mexico is small? You will be surprised to learn about the extensive use of diminutives and their relationship to culture, politeness and their connection to indigenous languages.

GIVING ADVICE AND SUGGESTIONS IN SPANISH

Intermediate - Advanced

August 17 & 24, 10:00 to 11:20 am by Zoom

We will learn how to give advice and suggestions in a friendly, polite and considerate way, through different examples and exercises.

GIVING INSTRUCTIONS AT THE KITCHEN

Intermediate

August 17 & 24, 12:00 to 1:20 pm by Zoom

In this class, we are going to practice with some Mexican cooking recipes: we will review the vocabulary of utensils, foods and some useful verbs for cooking.

Classes are on Wednesday 2-session class only.

Price per each 2-session class: \$240 pesos

No refunds, unless LCS cancels the class.

Classes only for members. No waiting list.

Classes are online. We use Zoom.

The link for the class will be sent 24 hours before the class.

Library Updates

Shelving adjustments/Featured Picks

All Library regulars are noticing adjustments to the shelving in the fiction rooms. A significant effort is being made to get books up off of the lowest shelves - many of us can't get down that far and back up again. In order to accomplish this, we have begun pulling duplicate copies of books and books that haven't been read in the past 5 years off the shelves to create more space.

One result is that we have been able to move the Large Print collection into the first room along the west wall freeing up a full two-sided shelving unit in the middle room. In June we were able to shuffle the books in the middle room - there are still some lower shelves in use - but we're working on relieving them, too.

You will also have noticed that the first shelving unit on the west wall of the paperback room is being put to new use. We plan to use this unit to highlight selections from our collection on a revolving basis. June was Pride Month and we featured books relating to LGBT issues and books with LGBT themes and/or authors.

Beginning in July we are going to begin to feature favorite books and authors chosen by our volunteer staff . . . and by YOU, our booklovers. This will offer you a chance to see what is being enjoyed by your librarians and by other patrons. When you return a book to the library that you especially enjoyed - please let us know and we'll shelve it where it can be seen and considered by others. If there is an author you feel needs special attention, let us know and we can add a selection or two to the "Featured Picks" shelf. These can be fiction or nonfiction titles - books that you want others to consider.

We expect this shelf to be pretty fluid - books going on and then being checked out, and likely returned to their usual location. And, from time to time, we will feature special themes or genres. So, keep an eye on it. There will be treasures you might otherwise miss.



**JULY
3RD**

Benjamin Franklin
Presented by Steve Nousen

**JULY
10TH**



Feria Maestros del Arte
Presented by Marianne Carlson



**JULY
17TH**

Ancient Knowledge for Modern Times
Presented by Rachel McMillen



**JULY
24TH**



Niños Incapacitados
Presented by Lydia Bodin



**JULY
31ST**

Poco a Poco
Presented by Patricia Moran

**SUNDAY MORNING
10:30 IN THE GARDEN AT
LAKE CHAPALA SOCIETY**

CHECK THE SCHEDULE AND MAKE YOUR RESERVATION
WWW.OPENCIRCLEAJIJIC.ORG

AUGUST 23RD AT 8AM

SHOPPING TRIP

Bed, Bath and Beyond, city market, Plaza Patria Mall.

On this trip you will have the opportunity to visit Bed, Bath and Beyond, City Market, the Mac Store, Liverpool, various clothing stores, shoes, luggage, electronics, glasses, makeup and more, and of course, have lunch at your leisure. Let's go shopping!

AUGUST 19TH AT 8AM

MERCADO DE ABASTOS

At the Market you can find a big variety of vegetables, fruits, spices, some imports from Asia/Europe, kitchenware, grains and seeds, chili peppers of many kinds, and either at the end or beginning of shopping you will be able to enjoy tacos, carne asada, Asian food, etc.

Do not forget to bring your cooler.



**LCS-Member: \$550 plp
Regular price: \$715 plp**



The Bus will depart promptly at 8:00 am from the sculpture in La Floresta.

The last date to register is August 13 at 1:30 pm. You can register at the LCS office or at www.LakeChapalaSociety.com | Limited seats.



PROGRAMA PRO

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- For Events (fundraising activities)
- Clinics, where we meet with the families
- Administrative roles & the Organization

www.programaninos.com

Volunteers are paid

in Six Figures

S-M-I-L-E-S



Vamos a observar aves

Por John y Rosemary Keeling

Para nosotros, observar aves es una excusa para salir al aire libre, admirar el campo y alejarnos de las multitudes. Cada vez que salimos esperamos ver una especie que nunca hayamos visto antes o una especie que sea nueva en nuestra zona. Para nosotros, un buen día de observación de aves es aquel en el que disfrutamos de un hermoso paisaje y también vemos una buena variedad de aves. Los mejores lugares suelen combinar zonas de agua con campos o bosques.

Tenemos nuestros lugares preferidos donde hemos encontrado muchas especies de aves en el pasado. Nuestra zona favorita se llama Rosa Amarilla. Está en la cima de las colinas en el lado sur del lago. (Ver direcciones al final del artículo). Aquí se está realmente en el campo; los forasteros tienen pocas razones para visitarlo. Sólo los camiones de Coca-Cola pasan regularmente. Primero se llega a unos pastos con vacas y establos. Se pueden ver cubos de leche en el borde de la carretera. Se puede ver a un niño conduciendo un burro cargado de lecheras. En los campos de hierba se oye el característico canto de la alondra oriental de frente amarilla y, a veces, el de los correcaminos. Siempre buscamos los halcones de cola blanca y los cuervos que sobrevuelan. Siga adelante y pase por el pueblo de Rosa Amarilla antes de que el camino descendiendo dé maravillosas vistas a las distantes colinas de Mazamitla. Luego el camino sigue el borde de una presa considerable donde vemos cigüeñas de cuello negro y cigüeñas de madera alimentándose en los bajíos. En los pueblos buscamos bajo los aleros de las casas los nidos de las golondrinas que tienen agujeros de entrada laterales. La gente de aquí es amable. Es una zona pobre y muchos de los lugareños



Black-Bellied Whistling Duck/Pijije

han trabajado durante un tiempo en Estados Unidos y les gusta demostrar que saben algo de inglés. A veces la gente se detiene y pregunta si tal vez está buscando fuentes de grava para la construcción o para comprar tierras.

Otro de nuestros lugares favoritos para observar aves es el pantano del lago Cajititlán. Vamos aquí porque no hay ningún lugar a lo largo del lago de Chapala que ofrezca una selección tan completa de aves acuáticas y costeras en un solo lugar. Si usted sigue las instrucciones al final del artículo se encontrará conduciendo por un camino de grava con coloridos Streak-backed Orioles en los árboles de color rosa-pimienta y Canyon Towhees cruzando su camino. Después de un kilómetro se cruza un puente plano de hormigón sobre un canal. Aquí buscamos chochines de los pantanos y currucas comunes en la orilla del agua y mirlos de cabeza amarilla en los cañaverales. Si avanzamos un kilómetro más, de repente podemos ver claramente el lago con buenas vistas de muchas aves a lo largo de las orillas arenosas: patos mexicanos, patos silbadores, cormoranes neotropicales y avocetas amer-

icanas. Aquí se pueden ver pelícanos blancos americanos casi todo el año, ya que muchos de los pelícanos de un año de edad se quedan aquí durante el verano en lugar de volar de vuelta a los EE.UU. y Canadá para realizar su servicio comunitario de ayudar a la crianza de la siguiente generación. Los pelícanos anidan en islas rocosas para reducir las amenazas de interferencia mortal de lobos, zorros y humanos, y el cuidado de las crías es una actividad comunitaria compartida.

En el lado oeste de Ajijic, todas las calles que bajan al lago desde la carretera ofrecen una buena observación de aves. Un lugar que visitamos con frecuencia es 'La Cristina'. El paseo es fácil. Hay grandes árboles por los que pasan muchas aves. Un árbol de aguacate especial a veces alberga tres especies diferentes de Orioles incluyendo el Oriol de espalda negra que sólo se encuentra en México. En los árboles buscamos a los chochines de Bewick, a las tangaras occidentales y a los tordos de pico curvo. En la orilla del lago se pueden ver fochas americanas, garzas reales y garcetas reales. Si camina a lo largo de la orilla verá, en los céspedes

de las fincas, a los coloridos papamoscas bermellones y a los petirrojos de espalda rufo, que son otra especie de ave “sólo en México”.

Una de las ventajas de la experiencia es que muchos de los pájaros que “encontramos” se oyen en base a una llamada distintiva en lugar de ser vistos visualmente. Los pájaros aprenden automáticamente a esconderse con seguridad en cualquier tipo de árbol o arbusto, por lo que la capacidad de identificar a los pájaros por su llamado es un activo valioso para cualquier observador de aves. Hemos registrado 350 especies aquí en el Lago de Chapala, de las cuales al menos 50 se ven raramente. Para conocer el grupo local de observación de aves y los paseos y excursiones mensuales, visite su sitio web chapalabirders.org. Por último, recuerde que las aves son más activas en las primeras tres horas del día, por lo que es cuando salimos a observarlas.

Cómo llegar a estos lugares:

El Circuito Rosa Amarilla: (A una hora de Ajijic). Toma la carretera a Mazamitla. Después de Tuxcueca se empieza a ascender. Tome la primera a la izquierda después de llegar a la cima del cerro. Este camino forma un bucle que le llevará de vuelta a la carretera de Mazamitla.

Ciénaga de Cajititlán: (a 30 minutos de Ajijic). Sigue la carretera Chapala - Guadalajara pasando por Ixtlahuacan. Después del paso a desnivel del MacroLibramiento debes buscar el primer ‘Retorno’ para dar vuelta en U, luego toma



la primera a la derecha en el famoso restaurante ‘Los Milagros de Dalila’ siguiendo los señalamientos hacia San Juan Evangelista. Conduzca sólo 5 kilómetros y gire a la derecha en un camino de grava y comience a observar aves. Siga dos kilómetros más para llegar al mejor punto de observación de aves con vistas al lago.

El camino ‘La Cristina’, situado a 4 km al oeste de la calle Colón, la calle principal de Ajijic. Gire hacia el lago donde el letrero dice ‘Hacienda La Cristina’. Siga el camino hasta el lago y estacionese.

John y Rosemary Keeling dirigen el grupo local de observación de aves Lake Chapala Birders. Si quieres recibir su boletín mensual con detalles de paseos y viajes de observación de aves, envía un correo a chapalabirders@yahoo.com.

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Bethany Putnam, New President *Ajijic Society of the Arts*

By Margaret Porter



Creativity, service to others, and finding joy in the moment are all wrapped up in a quiet, affable Ajijic resident named Bethany Anne Putnam. On February 7 of this year, Putnam was elected president of the Ajijic Society of the Arts. Since then, the new leader and her constituents are pursuing a new vision for the area art association.

"I had seen the good things that the ASA was doing, so I joined," Putnam explains. "After attending meetings for several years, I gave the presidency a lot of thought, and realized here was an opportunity to be of service and do what I can to make something better. And it dealt with art!" Her face beams bright at the thought. "I really enjoy spending time with artists, learning about their process and inspiration. Being involved on this level allows me to be supportive and encouraging to a wide range of artists."

Putnam brings a background of charity management and volunteer coordination to her new role, not to mention a background in hotel and inn management, catering, personal cheffing, and real estate marketing. The new leader of ASA has an artist's temperament shaped by her professional and personal life. Bethany has learned that service to others in ways that are relevant to them can be a powerful force for good.

Creativity came into play in her professional life by trusting her ideas, asking others to help shape them, then concen-

trating on implementation while demonstrating a willingness to change what's not working. Her most amazing accomplishment was a disaster relief nonprofit she created after wicked tornados had torn up some communities in Oklahoma where she had friends and family. "I pulled together twelve volunteers and was able to get the entire trip funded by corporate sponsors. We were on the ground for a week and all of the funds we raised were given to two families we met and assisted. It was very rewarding." Soon thereafter, she was hired as the Disaster Consultant in New York on Day 10 of the 9/11 disaster, working under the auspices of St. Paul's Chapel at Ground Zero. "It's something I'll never forget, attending to the first responders by providing a place of respite and hospitality in a time of great unknowns." Putnam worked there for six weeks.

Because ASA's membership has largely been comprised of foreign-community artists, Putnam and her constituents saw an opportunity for the organization to become more inclusive. "We had so few Mexican artists as members, so the first thing we did was a major outreach to them that continues today." Holding meetings in both English and Spanish was key to making local artists feel welcome. "We have already grown the membership by 20 percent since February 7, both Mexican artists and longtime foreign-community artists who are excited about what we're doing and want to be a part of it."

ASA's annual calendar of activities was always popular, but basic marketing principles say that to 'keep it interesting,' any business or nonprofit needs to shake itself up and create new and different experiences for patrons. This is now a major focus.

"We welcome artists who work in the classic mediums, while encouraging new members who work in the non-traditional. We are setting some new standards and guidelines for our events and exhibitions, and are embracing modern technology and social media to promote our members."

Putnam cites the fact that promoting art and artists is a little like restaurant food – sometime you get only one shot to make a first impression. "So it has to be your best work. The association's professional website will serve as a resource for the whole community." Ajijic and its sister towns on the shores of Lake Chapala play an important role in the arts community and Putnam hopes that by becoming a stronger base for the artists, ASA can contribute to this area growing as a destination art center.

"Transparency is also very important to us. So we are doing all we can to include the membership in any changes, from the concept to the research to implementation. Members continue to step up and want to be more involved, which is very exciting."

Concurrently, ASA is pursuing new ideas on outreach programs for talented young artists, such as weekend workshops and materials funding. ASA will continue its support of LCS's Children's Art Program, while also seeking out additional arts programs that are cropping up throughout the neighborhoods of the various Lakeside communities.

"I'm glad I ran for the presidency. It would be dishonest for me to say it hasn't already been challenging. But the results from some of our new ideas, and the solid input I'm getting from both long-term and support from new members are cheering. So, I remain excited about the future," Putnam says.

Her eyes sparkle gently. "I just love being of service for something this important in everyone's life. Art!"

Bethany Putnam, nueva presidenta de *Ajijic Society of the Arts*

Por Margaret Porter



Creatividad, servicio a los demás y la búsqueda de la alegría definen a Bethany Anne Putnam, una tranquila y afable residente de Ajijic. El 7 de febrero de este año, Putnam fue elegida presidenta de la Ajijic Society of the Arts (ASA). Desde entonces, la nueva dirigente y sus integrantes persiguen una nueva visión para la asociación artística de la zona.

“Había visto las cosas buenas que hacía la ASA, así que me uní”, explica Putnam. “Después de asistir a las reuniones durante varios años, pensé mucho en la presidencia y me di cuenta de que aquí había una oportunidad de servir y hacer lo que pudiera para mejorar algo. Y se trataba de arte”. Su rostro se ilumina al pensar en ello. “Me gusta mucho pasar tiempo con los artistas, conocer su proceso y su inspiración. Participar a este nivel me permite apoyar y animar a una amplia gama de artistas”.

Putnam aporta a su nuevo cargo su experiencia en la gestión de organizaciones benéficas y la coordinación de voluntarios, por no hablar de su experiencia en la gestión de hoteles y posadas, la restauración, el catering personal y el marketing inmobiliario. La nueva líder de ASA tiene un temperamento de artista formado por su vida profesional y personal. Bethany ha aprendido que el servicio a los demás es una poderosa fuerza para el bien.

La creatividad entró en juego en su vida profesional confiando en sus ideas, pidiendo a los demás que le ayuden a darles forma y concentrándose después en su aplicación, al tiempo que demuestra su voluntad de cambiar lo que no funciona. Su logro más asombroso fue una organización sin ánimo de lucro de ayuda en caso de catástrofe que creó después de que unos intensos tornados destruyeran algunas comunidades de Oklahoma donde tenía amigos y familiares. “Reuní a doce voluntarios y conseguí que todo el viaje fuera financiado por patrocinadores corporativos. Estuvimos una semana sobre el terreno y todos los fondos que recaudamos se entregaron a dos familias que conocimos y a las que ayudamos. Fue muy gratificante”. Poco después, fue contratada como asesora de catástrofes en Nueva York el décimo día del atentado del 11 de septiembre, trabajando bajo los auspicios de la Capilla de San Pablo en la Zona Cero. “Es algo que nunca olvidaré, atender a los primeros intervinientes proporcionándoles un lugar de respiro y hospitalidad en un momento de grandes incógnitas”. Putnam trabajó allí durante seis semanas.

Debido a que la membresía de ASA ha estado compuesta en gran parte por artistas de comunidades extranjeras, Putnam y sus integrantes vieron una oportunidad para que la organización fuera más inclusiva. “Teníamos muy pocos artistas mexicanos como miembros, así que lo primero que hicimos fue un gran acercamiento a ellos que continúa hoy”. Celebrar las reuniones tanto en inglés como en español fue clave para que los artistas locales se sintieran bienvenidos. “Desde el 7 de febrero ya hemos aumentado el número de miembros en un 20 por ciento, tanto de artistas mexicanos como de artistas de la comunidad extranjera de toda la vida que están entusiasmados con lo que hacemos y quieren formar parte de ello”.

El calendario anual de actividades de ASA siempre ha sido popular, pero los principios básicos del marketing dicen que para “mantener el interés”, cualquier empresa o entidad sin ánimo de lucro debe agitarse y crear experiencias nuevas y diferentes para los clientes. Este es ahora uno de los principales objetivos.

“Damos la bienvenida a los artistas que trabajan en los medios clásicos, al tiempo que animamos a los nuevos miembros que trabajan en los medios no tradicionales. Estamos estableciendo nuevas normas y directrices para nuestros eventos y exposiciones, y estamos adoptando la tecnología moderna y las redes sociales para promocionar a nuestros miembros”.

Putnam cita el hecho de que la promoción del arte y los artistas es un poco como la comida de un restaurante: a veces sólo tienes una oportunidad para causar una primera impresión. “Así que tiene que ser tu mejor trabajo”. El sitio web profesional de la asociación servirá como recurso para toda la comunidad”. Ajijic y sus pueblos hermanos a orillas del lago de Chapala desempeñan un papel importante en la comunidad artística y Putnam espera que, al convertirse en una base más sólida para los artistas, la ASA pueda contribuir a que esta zona crezca como centro artístico de destino.

“La transparencia también es muy importante para nosotros. Por eso hacemos todo lo posible para incluir a los miembros en cualquier cambio, desde el concepto hasta la investigación y la ejecución. Los miembros siguen dando un paso adelante y quieren participar más, lo cual es muy emocionante”.

Al mismo tiempo, ASA está buscando nuevas ideas sobre programas de divulgación para jóvenes artistas con talento, como talleres de fin de semana y financiación de materiales. ASA continuará apoyando el Programa de Arte Infantil de LCS, a la vez que buscará otros programas artísticos que están surgiendo en los barrios de las distintas comunidades de Lakeside.

“Me alegro de haberme presentado a la presidencia. Sería deshonesto por mi parte decir que no ha sido ya un reto. Pero los resultados de algunas de nuestras nuevas ideas y las sólidas aportaciones que estoy recibiendo tanto de los miembros de mucho tiempo como del apoyo de los nuevos son alentadores. Así que sigo entusiasmada con el futuro”, dice Putnam.

Sus ojos brillan suavemente. “Me encanta estar al servicio de algo tan importante en la vida de todos. El arte”.

How well do you know Ajijic?

By Greg Custer

The Lake Chapala Society's home village is one of the oldest in western Mexico (founded by the Spanish in 1531). It's also Mexico's newest Pueblo Mágico. But that's hardly the whole tale. The next time you visit the Plaza, stroll to the lakefront, or gather at your favorite watering hole, reflect on how our village in the sun has been a magnet for humans for thousands and thousands of years.

It all started very, very long ago. Lake Chapala was formed some 12 million years ago and today gathers precious water in its giant tectonic plate rift. Archaeologists tell us there is evidence of human occupation dating back 13,000 years. Nomads hunted along the Lake Chapala lakeshore for game, including woolly mammoths that roamed across a string of lakes in what are today the states of Jalisco, Michoacan and Mexico. The lake's rising and falling level over the last 70 years has afforded scientists access to ancient bones and hunting tools. You can see these at the Cultural Center Gonzalez Gallo in Chapala.

A theme you'll see over and over here is water. Ajijic is a Nahuatl word which means "place where the water bubbles up". In fact, it's just up Calle Colon that a natural spring flowed to the lake. Until the 1940's village women washed clothes here.

For a Colonial-era town, we have surprisingly few structures from three hundred years of Spanish rule. You can count them on one hand. How many can you name?

There are also dozens of abandoned gold mines on the hills above Ajijic and to the West. Gold was found first in 1856 and by 1885 there were 35 gold and silver mines. A company called the Quien Sabe Mining Company was founded in 1906. Then came labor strikes, the Mexican Revolution and a lot of land titles changing hands.

Today we better understand how this humble settlement grew, and how a colorful collection of characters left their imprint in ways both positive and negative. Non-Mexicans started having impacts in Ajijic in the 1930's. Author Tony Burton and his new book *Foreign Footprints in Ajijic* shows us how the census of 1930 indicates one (one!) foreign-born resident of Ajijic.

We have come here with a mix of intentions; the "Reformers" and the "Stay Quiet" cohorts. This has generated some multicultural conflicts, but also many lauded partnerships and a communal coexistence from decades living side by side.

As a result of Ajijic mentions in foreign press in the 1950's, waves of newcomers descended on the village – beatniks, bohemians, and hippies brought sex, drugs and rock 'n roll, not always to the resident's liking. The town we stroll and



bump through has names for the "barrios" (neighborhoods) we live in. The Lake Chapala Society grounds, for example are in the San Gaspar barrio. How many can you name?

Until the mid-20th century, Ajijic was a grid of about five blocks by five blocks. 24-hour electricity didn't arrive until the 1950s, along with a "respectable" road from Chapala. Before this time, almost all arrivals were by boat or horseback. Bisecting Ajijic's eastern entrance is the Camino Real, for centuries the only path from Chapala. The land route was dubbed the "Ho Chi Minh Trail" by expats. The Carretera we all traverse was a "bypass" around the village center.

Serious growth started in the 1970's, as neighborhoods like La Floresta were developed. This is also when hillside streets and homes became common, as the city's population grew to 6,857 by 1980.

Murals by the town's native sons and daughters portray a pre-Hispanic ritual that was practiced in early May. People would gather to plead for and celebrate the coming rainy season. Our rain- and river-filled lake has supported fishermen for thousands of years. In fact, Ajijic's 18th century Parroquia San Andres Apostol is dedicated to the Saint of fishermen.

We can all fall into routines and routes that confirm what we know about Ajijic. But thanks to historians and the vivid memories of our Mexican neighbors and friends, the Ajijic story goes far beyond your favorite coffee shop, art gallery, or cantina. It's a fascinating tale.

Greg has lived in Ajijic since 2015 and worked over 40 years in Mexico tourism.



¿Qué tan bien conoces Ajijic?

Por Greg Custer

El pueblo natal de Lake Chapala Society es uno de los más antiguos del oeste de México (fundado por los españoles en 1531). También es el Pueblo Mágico más reciente de México. Pero eso no es todo. La próxima vez que visite la plaza, pasee por la orilla del lago o se reúna en su cafetería favorita, reflexione sobre cómo nuestro pueblo bajo el sol ha sido un imán para los humanos durante miles y miles de años.

Todo comenzó hace mucho, mucho tiempo. El lago de Chapala se formó hace unos 12 millones de años y hoy acumula agua preciosa en su gigantesca grieta de placas tectónicas. Los arqueólogos nos dicen que hay pruebas de ocupación humana que se remontan a 13,000 años. Los nómadas cazaban a lo largo de la orilla del lago de Chapala en busca de animales de caza, incluidos los mamuts lanudos que vagaban por una cadena de lagos en lo que hoy son los estados de Jalisco, Michoacán y México. La subida y bajada del nivel del lago en los últimos 70 años ha permitido a los científicos acceder a antiguos huesos y herramientas de caza. Puede verlos en el Centro Cultural González Gallo de Chapala.

Un tema que verá una y otra vez aquí es el agua. Ajijic es un nombre en náhuatl que significa "lugar donde el agua burbujea". De hecho, es justo arriba de la calle Colón donde un manantial natural fluía hacia el lago. Hasta los años 40, las mujeres del pueblo lavaban la ropa aquí.

Para ser un pueblo de la época colonial, tenemos sorprendentemente pocas estructuras de trescientos años de dominio español. Se pueden contar con una mano. ¿Cuántas puede nombrar?

También hay docenas de minas de oro abandonadas en las colinas sobre Ajijic y al oeste. El oro se encontró por primera vez en 1856 y en 1885 había 35 minas de oro y plata. En 1906 se fundó una empresa Minera. Luego vinieron las huelgas laborales, la Revolución Mexicana y un montón de títulos de propiedad que cambiaron de manos.

Hoy entendemos mejor cómo creció este humilde asentamiento, y cómo una colorida colección de personajes dejó su huella en formas tanto positivas como negativas. Los no mexicanos comenzaron a tener impacto en Ajijic es la década de 1930. El autor Tony Burton y su nuevo libro *Foreign Footprints in Ajijic* nos muestra cómo el censo de 1930 indica un (¡uno!) residente de Ajijic nacido en el extranjero.

Hemos llegado aquí con una mezcla de intenciones; los "reformistas" y las cohortes de "quedarse quietos". Esto ha generado algunos conflictos multiculturales, pero también muchas alabanzas y una convivencia comunitaria de décadas de convivencia.

A raíz de las menciones de Ajijic en la prensa extranjera en los años 50, llegaron al pueblo oleadas de recién llegados: beatniks, bohemios y hippies trajeron sexo, drogas y rock 'n roll, no siempre del agrado de los residentes. El pueblo por el que paseamos y tropezamos tiene nombres para los "barrios" en los que vivimos. Los terrenos de la Lake Chapala Society, por ejemplo, están en el barrio de San Gaspar. ¿Cuántos puedes nombrar?

Hasta mediados del siglo XX, Ajijic era una cuadrícula de unas cinco manzanas por cinco manzanas. La electricidad de 24 horas no llegó hasta la década de 1950, junto con una carretera "respetable" desde Chapala. Antes de esta época, casi todas las llegadas se hacían en barco o a caballo. La entrada oriental de

Ajijic está atravesada por el Camino Real, que durante siglos fue el único camino desde Chapala. La ruta terrestre fue apodada por los expatriados como el "Camino de Ho Chi Mihn". La Carretera que todos atravesamos era una "circunvalación" alrededor del centro del pueblo.

El crecimiento serio comenzó en la década de 1970, cuando se desarrollaron barrios como La Floresta. También fue entonces cuando las calles y casas en las laderas se hicieron comunes, ya que la población de la ciudad creció hasta los 6,857 habitantes en 1980.

Los murales realizados por los nativos de la ciudad retratan un ritual prehispánico que se practicaba a principios de mayo. La gente se reunía para pedir y celebrar la llegada de la temporada de lluvias. Nuestro lago, lleno de lluvia y ríos, ha servido de sustento a los pescadores durante miles de años. De hecho, la Parroquia San Andrés Apóstol de Ajijic, del siglo XVIII, está dedicada al Santo de los pescadores.

Todos podemos caer en rutinas y rutas que confirman lo que sabemos de Ajijic. Pero gracias a los historiadores y a los vívidos recuerdos de nuestros vecinos y amigos mexicanos, la historia de Ajijic va mucho más allá de su cafetería, galería de arte o cantina favorita. Es una historia fascinante.

##

Greg ha vivido en Ajijic desde 2015 y ha trabajado más de 40 años en el turismo de México.

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Experiencing life as a **SNOWBIRD!**

by Larry Barnhardt



Snowbird is a term that describes people, mainly retirees, who move from Canada and the northern tier of the US to spend part of the year in the southern tier of the US states or south of the Mexican border. The primary reason is to live in a warm year-round climate, thus avoiding shoveling snow, enduring freezing temperatures, deadly driving conditions, slipping on ice, and limited daylight. But snowbirding offers so much more. In addition to warmer weather, snowbirds experience multiple sets of friends and enjoy entirely different lifestyles while maintaining time for family. The downside of snowbirding is dealing with mail, paying bills, maintaining multiple households, and health insurance.

In 2007, my wife (Glorine) and I retired early and wanted to extend the lifestyle we enjoyed while working. We were both educators, loved traveling, spending time with family and friends, and enjoyed the outdoors, including camping, boating, biking, and downhill skiing. We had a 30' motorhome, which we used for tailgating, extended weekend get-aways, and summer vacations.

While we loved the slopes, we did not like freezing weather, so we did what all snowbirds do, search for retirement communities in warmer locations. Hot destinations included Florida, Arizona, southern Texas, and California, but thanks to AARP, we learned of another hotspot called Lake Chapala. And that was where we spent our first winter in retirement. We learned about and fell in love with the "Cs" of Chapala--climate, culture, charm, cost of living, companionship, and charities. As a result, Lake Chapala is where we have spent six weeks to 6 months each year for the past fifteen years. Within two years of retirement, we sold our home in Boise, Idaho, and upgraded to a 40' diesel pusher that we used to explore the scenic roads of the US and Canada during the summer months. In the winters, we

rented vacation homes in or near Ajijic for ten years before buying a small villa in El Parque.

Regardless of where snowbirds chose to settle, they contribute significantly to the local economy with housing (renting or buying), shopping, entertainment, eating out, and hiring housekeepers and gardeners. By snowbirding in Ajijic, we took advantage of the cost of living and could keep these expenses much lower. In addition, most retirement communities offer endless opportunities for socializing. Because so many international retirees live at Lakeside, it is easy to find like-minded friends to enjoy activities like dancing, kayaking, hiking, biking, book clubs, writing groups, art classes, discussion groups, playing cards, golf, and so on.

An advantage of snowbirding in Mexico is immersing ourselves in a unique culture with a different language and ancient ruins that date back to 1200 B.C. Along with our time in Ajijic, we have toured Tequila, the Monarch Butterflies, Copper Canyon, and colonial cities of Guanajuato, Zacatecas, San Cristobal las Casas and ocean resorts of Puerto Vallarta and Cancun.

Many snowbirds spread their wings volunteering, which provides a greater sense of purpose. Giving back allowed us to make a difference by offering our existing skill sets and an opportunity to learn new ones. In addition to helping at churches and condominium boards, more than 80 non-profit charitable organizations reside along Lakeside. Glorine started volunteering as soon as we arrived in 2007 and helped create programs at LCS over the years, including the Career Day Project and the Reaching Out Program. Just as COVID hit, she and two other women started a new non-profit charity called Food-Bank Lakeside. About four years ago, I jumped into volunteering and helped create LCS 2.0 and am currently working on updating their Campus Master Plan.

Snowbirding is not for everyone, but for those who are adventuresome, it can be an incredible, fun-filled, and transformative experience. Warmer weather is just the beginning!

¡Experimentando la vida como un SNOWBIRD!

by Larry Barnhardt

Snowbird es un término que describe a las personas, principalmente jubiladas, que se trasladan desde Canadá y la zona norte de EE.UU. para pasar parte del año en la zona sur de los estados de EE.UU. o al sur de la frontera con México. La razón principal es vivir en un clima cálido durante todo el año, evitando así tener que palear la nieve, soportar temperaturas gélidas, condiciones de conducción mortales, resbalar en el hielo y una luz diurna limitada. Pero el snowbirding ofrece mucho más. Además de un clima más cálido, los “snowbirders” tienen varios grupos de amigos y disfrutan de estilos de vida totalmente diferentes, sin dejar de tener tiempo para la familia. La desventaja de vivir en la nieve es que hay que ocuparse del correo, el pago de las facturas, el mantenimiento de varios hogares y el seguro médico.

En 2007, mi mujer (Glorine) y yo nos jubilamos anticipadamente y quisimos prolongar el estilo de vida que disfrutábamos mientras trabajábamos. Los dos éramos educadores, nos encantaba viajar, pasar tiempo con la familia y los amigos, disfrutábamos del aire libre, incluyendo salir a acampar, navegar, ciclismo y el esquí alpino. Teníamos una casa rodante de 9 metros, que utilizábamos para ir de compras, escapadas de fin de semana y vacaciones de verano.

Aunque nos encantaban las carreteras, no nos gustaba el clima gélido, así que hicimos lo que hacen todos los pájaros de nieve: buscar comunidades de jubilados en lugares más cálidos. Entre los destinos más populares se encontraban Florida, Arizona, el sur de Texas y California, pero gracias a AARP (comunidad enfocada en gente adulta), nos enteramos de la existencia de otro lugar de interés llamado Lago Chapala. Y allí fue donde pasamos nuestro primer invierno de jubilados. Conocimos y nos enamoramos de las “C” de Chapala: clima, cultura, carisma, costo de vida, compañerismo y comunidad. Como resultado, el Lago de Chapala es donde hemos pasado de seis semanas a 6 meses cada año durante los últimos quince años. A

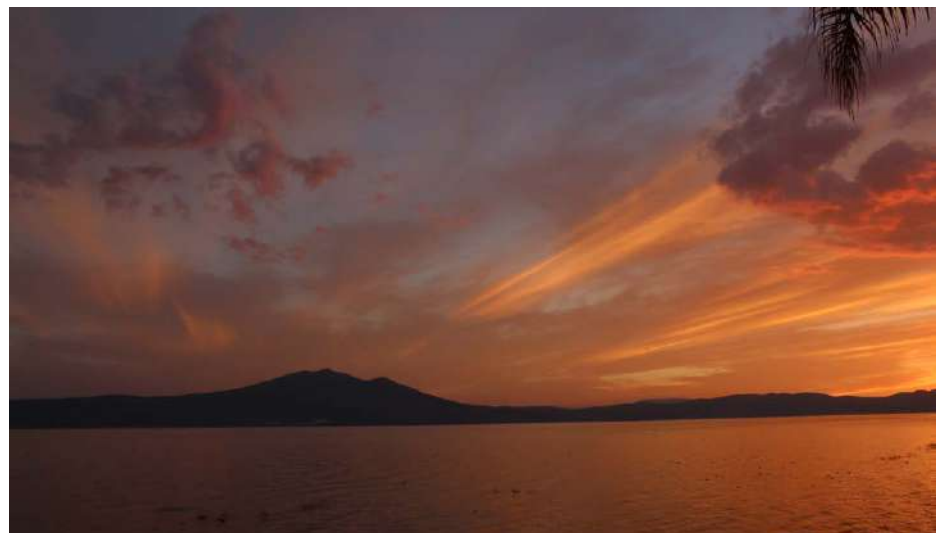
los dos años de jubilados, vendimos nuestra casa en Boise, Idaho, y conseguimos una casa rodante de diesel de 10 metros que utilizamos para explorar las carreteras escénicas de los Estados Unidos y Canadá durante los meses de verano. En los inviernos, alquilamos casas de vacaciones en o cerca de Ajijic durante diez años antes de comprar una pequeña villa en El Parque.

Independientemente del lugar en el que se asienten los snowbirds, contribuyen de forma significativa a la economía local con el alojamiento (alquiler o compra), las compras, el entretenimiento, la comida y la contratación de servicios para casa y jardineros. Al residir en Ajijic, aprovechamos el costo de la vida y pudimos mantener estos gastos mucho más bajos. Además, la mayoría de las comunidades de jubilados ofrecen un sinnúmero de oportunidades para socializar. Debido a que muchos jubilados internacionales viven en Lakeside, es fácil encontrar amigos con ideas afines para disfrutar de actividades como el baile, el kayak, el senderismo, el ciclismo, los clubes de lectura, los grupos de escritura, las clases de arte, los grupos de discusión, el juego de cartas, el golf, etc.

Una de las ventajas de hacer snowbirding en México es sumergirnos en una cultura única, con un idioma diferente y ruinas antiguas que se remontan al año 1200 A.C. Además de nuestra estancia en Ajijic, hemos visitado Tequila, las Mariposas Monarca, las Barrancas del Cobre y las ciudades coloniales de Guanajuato, Zacatecas, San Cristóbal las Casas y los centros turísticos oceánicos de Puerto Vallarta y Cancún.

Muchos snowbirds extienden sus alas como voluntarios, lo que proporciona un mayor sentido de propósito. Devolver la ayuda nos permitió marcar la diferencia ofreciendo nuestras habilidades existentes y una oportunidad para aprender otras nuevas. Además de ayudar en las iglesias y en las juntas directivas de los condominios, más de 80 organizaciones benéficas sin ánimo de lucro residen en Lakeside. Glorine empezó a trabajar como voluntaria nada más llegar en 2007 y ayudó a crear programas en LCS a lo largo de los años, como el proyecto Career Day y el Reaching Out Program. Justo cuando llegó COVID, ella y otras dos mujeres crearon una nueva organización benéfica sin ánimo de lucro llamada FoodBank Lakeside. Hace unos cuatro años, me lancé al voluntariado y ayudé a crear LCS 2.0 y actualmente estoy trabajando en la actualización de su Plan Maestro del Campus.

El snowbirding no es para todo el mundo, pero para aquellos que son aventureros, puede ser una experiencia increíble, llena de diversión y transformadora. ¡El clima más cálido es sólo el comienzo!



A Mennonite Madeleine

By Harriet Hart



When I learned that our itinerary of Mexico's Copper Canyon included visiting a Mennonite colony, I was apathetic. I couldn't have cared less. I grew up among Mennonites in Southern Manitoba.

When I attended Silver Plains School, a one-room schoolhouse that had once been a church, the student body consisted of five Holdeman Mennonites (who are very conservative), three Métis (the result of French and aboriginal pairings) and two WASPS.

In grade one I shared a two-seater wooden desk with Lorraine Rempel who wore shapeless homemade cotton dresses, but sported a set of blonde braids so thick and intriguing that my six-year-old self was overcome by temptation. One recess I let down Lorraine's hair just so I could see what it looked like. Mrs. Rempel, her own braids coiled beneath a black skull cap, descended on our school the next day and to my astonishment, it was Miss Murray, our teacher, who was in trouble, while I went unpunished.

My contact with Mennonites went beyond elementary school. In Morris Collegiate my first love was Kenny Kehler, whose poor overworked mother had eight children. The Kehlers attended one of the seven churches the town boasted; at least three of them were Mennonite sects. As social convener of Morris Collegiate, I was told that the school graduation dance had to be held off-site in the Legion Hall, so the Mennonite parents would not be offended.

Our modest home library included a hard cover edition of a history of the Mennonites titled *In Search of Utopia* which my father read so he could understand our nearest neighbors better. My mother's kitchen shelf had a copy of the Mennonite Treasury of Recipes with cookies called Dattelkuchen and Berliner Pfaster. It is one of the few mementos of her I still possess.

Steinbach is a prosperous Manitoba town known for its car dealerships: Penner Dodge and J.R. Friesen & Sons Ford were pioneers when it came to car sales. My Grandpa bought one of the first cars ever sold by the Dodge dealership back in 1927; twenty-five years later I rode with him in a parade celebrating their success and honoring their early patrons. This seems ironic since the traditional Mennonites, like their Amish cousins,

eschew motorized vehicles and travel by horse and buggy. By the time I got my driver's license, Steinbach had earned the nickname car city; even local Winnipeggers drove out to purchase their cars from the town's honest, hard-working and prosperous merchants.

And now, here I was in northern Mexico, riding a tour bus approaching the small city of Cuauhtémoc. When I heard Martin, our guide saying: "*Here's the best place to buy an SUV or a pick-up truck,*" I paid attention. The wide highway leading into town was lined with car dealerships and businesses selling farm implements, John Deere Tractors and combines. How peculiar yet familiar, I thought. Businesses had names like Manitoba Ventanas y Puertas.

Where am I? I wondered. Is this a bad dream?

We stopped at the Museo y Centro Cultural Mennonita.

"My name is Tony and I come from Altona, Manitoba" a fresh faced, virginal young man said by way of introduction.

"My name is Harriet and I come from Morris (which is 30 miles away)," I piped up. Tony was thrilled to meet someone from so close to his birthplace.

"This colony is called Manitoba," Tony continued, "because the original 5,000 settlers came from there back in 1922." He explained why they left Canada and settled over 2,000 miles to the south. The government had passed legislation forcing Mennonite children to attend public school, which the elders feared would corrupt them. Their schools taught the Bible in German and little else.

The original 5000 immigrants to Mexico obeyed the Biblical injunction to go forth and multiply and without intermarrying with their Mexican neighbors swelled their numbers to over 50,000 in just 8 decades. The colony's museum held familiar objects: a wood stove and cream separator, iron bedsteads and tin canisters. Marcel Proust bit into a Madeleine cookie and wrote *In Remembrance of Things Past* and here I stood in the museum's gift shop, eating a ginger cookie and experiencing a flood of memories flowing as fast as the Red River in spring.

The Manitoba Mennonite colony in the state of Chihuahua is like Steinbach

South with its wide streets, its ostentatious homes, its flowerbeds and John Deere tractors. A woman in a shapeless cotton dress was planting red geraniums in a wooden wheelbarrow outside the museum as we left. Blonde men in denim overalls carrying black tin lunch buckets were leaving the cheese factory as their shift ended.

My fellow travelers were asking Tony about Mennonite beliefs. "*It's pretty straightforward. We believe in adult baptism, and we don't believe in going to war,*" explained Tony.

"Why are there so many different churches?"

"Some of us are more liberal than others. It's more about how to live than what to believe. Here in Chihuahua we can drive cars, dress in modern clothes. The really traditional folks have moved away...some to South America."

I had recently read *Irma Voth* by Steinbach native Miriam Toews, a novel about a young Mexican Mennonite whose patriarchal father drove her out the door, down the road and onto the nearest bus to Mexico City and a freedom. I had many questions myself like: What goes on behind these fancy doors? How are women treated? Why are Manitoba Mennonites much more assimilated into mainstream culture than Mexican ones? Were the elders right? Does integration into the public educational system blur cultural and religious differences?

But most of all, I wonder whatever happened to Lorraine Rempel? Did she escape like the heroine in *Irma Voth*, or did she spend her life sewing and mending, baking ginger cookies, planting geraniums and bearing children? I hope she got to let her hair down one more time, but somehow I doubt it.

Una Magdalena Menonita

Por Harriet Hart

Cuando me enteré de que nuestro itinerario por las Barrancas del Cobre de México incluía la visita a una colonia menonita, me sentí apática. No podría haberme importado menos. Crecí entre menonitas en el sur de Manitoba.

Cuando asistí a la escuela Silver Plains, una escuela de una sola aula que había sido una iglesia, el alumnado estaba formado por cinco menonitas holdeman (muy conservadores), tres mestizos (fruto del emparejamiento entre franceses y aborígenes) y dos WASPS.

En el primer curso compartía un pupitre de madera de dos plazas con Lorraine Rempel, que llevaba vestidos de algodón caseros sin forma, pero lucía unas trenzas rubias tan gruesas e intrigantes para mis seis años. En un recreo le solté el pelo a Lorraine para ver cómo era. La señora Rempel, con sus propias trenzas enroscadas bajo un gorro negro de calavera, vino a nuestra escuela al día siguiente y, para mi asombro, fue la señorita Murray, nuestra profesora, la que tuvo problemas, mientras que yo quedé impune.

Mi contacto con los menonitas fue más allá de la escuela primaria. En el Morris Collegiate, mi primer amor fue Kenny Kehler, cuya pobre y agobiada madre tenía ocho hijos. Los Kehler asistían a una de las siete iglesias que tenía el pueblo; al menos tres de ellas eran de la secta menonita. Como convocante social del Morris Collegiate, me dijeron que el baile de graduación del colegio tenía que celebrarse fuera del recinto, en el Legion Hall, para que los padres menonitas no se sintieran ofendidos.

Nuestra modesta biblioteca doméstica incluía una edición de tapa dura de una historia de los menonitas titulada *En busca de la utopía*, que mi padre leía para poder entender mejor a nuestros vecinos más cercanos. En la estantería de la cocina de mi madre había un ejemplar del *Tesoro Menonita de Recetas con galletas llamadas Dattelkuchen y Berliner Pfaster*. Es uno de los pocos recuerdos de ella que aún conservo.

Steinbach es una próspera ciudad de Manitoba conocida por sus concesionarios de automóviles: Penner Dodge y J.R. Friesen & Sons Ford fueron pioneros en la venta de coches. Mi abuelo compró uno de los primeros coches que vendió el concesionario Dodge en 1927; veinticinco años después, participé con él en un desfile para celebrar su éxito y honrar a sus primeros clientes. Esto parece irónico, ya que los menonitas tradicionales, al igual

que sus primos amish, evitan los vehículos motorizados y viajan en carros de caballos. Cuando saqué mi licencia de manejar, Steinbach se había ganado el apodo de ciudad del automóvil; incluso los habitantes de Winnipeg salían a comprar sus coches a los honestos, trabajadores y prósperos comerciantes de la ciudad.

Y ahora, aquí estaba yo, en el norte de México, montada en un autobús turístico que se acercaba a la pequeña ciudad de Cuauhtémoc. Cuando escuché a Martín, nuestro guía, decir: “Aquí está el mejor lugar para comprar un todoterreno o una camioneta”, presté atención. La amplia carretera que lleva a la ciudad estaba llena de concesionarios de coches y negocios que vendían aperos de labranza, tractores John Deere y cosechadoras. Qué peculiar y a la vez familiar, pensé. Los negocios tenían nombres como *Manitoba Ventanas y Puertas*.

¿Dónde estoy? me pregunté. ¿Es un mal sueño?

Paramos en el Museo y Centro Cultural Menonita.

“Me llamo Tony y vengo de Altona, Manitoba”, dijo a modo de presentación un joven de rostro fresco y virginal.

“Me llamo Harriet y vengo de Morris (que está a 50 kilómetros de distancia)”, dije yo. Tony estaba encantado de conocer a alguien de tan cerca de su lugar de nacimiento.

“Esta colonia se llama Manitoba”, continuó Tony, “porque los 5,000 colonos originales vinieron de allí en 1922”. Explicó por qué abandonaron Canadá y se instalaron a más de 3,000 kilómetros al sur. El gobierno había aprobado una ley que obligaba a los niños menonitas a asistir a la escuela pública, lo que los ancianos temían que los corrompiera. Sus escuelas enseñaban la Biblia en alemán y poco más.

Los 5,000 inmigrantes originales que llegaron a México obedecieron el mandato bíblico de salir y multiplicarse y, sin casarse con sus vecinos mexicanos, aumentaron su número a más de 50,000 en sólo 8 décadas. En el museo de la colonia había objetos familiares: una estufa de leña y un separador de crema, somieres de hierro y botes de hojalata. Marcel Proust mordió una galleta Madeleine y escribió “In Remembrance of Things Past”,



y aquí estaba yo, en la tienda de regalos del museo, comiendo una galleta de jengibre y experimentando un torrente de recuerdos que fluye tan rápido como el río Rojo en primavera.

La colonia menonita de Manitoba, en el estado de Chihuahua, es como Steinbach Sur, con sus calles anchas, sus casas ostentosas, sus parterres y sus tractores John Deere. Una mujer con un vestido de algodón sin forma estaba plantando geranios rojos en una carretilla de madera fuera del museo cuando nos fuimos. Unos hombres rubios con monos vaqueros que llevaban cubos negros de lata para el almuerzo salían de la fábrica de queso al terminar su turno.

Mis compañeros de viaje le preguntaron a Tony sobre las creencias menonitas. “Es bastante sencillo. Creemos en el bautismo de adultos y no creemos en ir a la guerra”, explicó Tony.

“¿Por qué hay tantas iglesias diferentes?”

“Algunos son más liberales que otros. Se trata más de cómo vivir que de qué creer. Aquí en Chihuahua podemos conducir coches, vestimos con ropa moderna. La gente realmente tradicional se ha ido... algunos a Sudamérica”.

Hace poco leí Irma Voth, de Miriam Toews, oriunda de Steinbach, una novela sobre una joven menonita mexicana cuyo padre patriarcal la hizo salir por la puerta, bajar por la carretera y subir al autobús más cercano a Ciudad de México y a la libertad. Yo misma me hice muchas preguntas como ¿Qué ocurre detrás de esas puertas tan elegantes? ¿Cómo se trata a las mujeres? ¿Por qué los menonitas de Manitoba están mucho más asimilados a la cultura dominante que los mexicanos? ¿Tenían razón los ancianos? ¿La integración en el sistema educativo público difumina las diferencias culturales y religiosas?

Pero, sobre todo, me pregunto qué pasó con Lorraine Rempel. ¿Escapó como la heroína de Irma Voth, o se pasó la vida cosiendo y remendando, horneando galletas de jengibre, plantando geranios y teniendo hijos? Espero que pueda soltarse la melena una vez más, pero lo dudo.

Binge Watching

By Dorrie Dixon

Binge watching. Many of us do it, some of us feel guilty about doing it, but how many of us can accurately define it? Wikipedia certainly can. To them, binge watching is “the practice of watching entertainment or informational content, usually a television show, for a prolonged time.” But what is a “prolonged” time?

In a survey conducted back in 2014, 73% of viewers said binge watching was watching two to six episodes of the same TV show in one sitting. Some researchers (yes, there are people studying this subject) think the definition should be expanded to include “the accelerated consumption of an entire season (or seasons) of a show, one episode at a time, over several days.” I confess that just last week my husband and I watched the entirety of *The Lincoln Lawyer* over three evenings.

Is bingeing an addiction? Probably, but the jury is still out on whether it’s a harmless or harmful one. It can impact sleep cycles, energy levels and degrees of social engagement. I am prepared to stick my neck out on this topic. I think it’s a great way to watch television. I frequently put Netflix on the list of blessings in my life. They (along with Amazon Prime and Hulu) are responsible for this phenomenon. Television networks used to issue shows one week at a time and then Netflix and the others I mentioned decided, why not do so all at once and let the viewers decide how they want to enjoy their programming.

I got hooked on *The Good Wife* back in 2009. It was my “first”. For seven seasons, and 156 episodes, I watched actress Julianna Margulies transform her character, Alicia Florrick, from the stay-at-home, dutiful politician’s wife to a kick ass lawyer. The characters were well portrayed, and it took its viewers into another world. And that’s one of the advantages of binge watching. You become immersed in a different reality (which came in handy during the COVID lockdown).

Here are my personal top ten favorites:

Justified. No one looks better in jeans and cowboy boots than Timothy Olyphant as Raylon Givens (the good guy) and no one is more compelling than Walter Goggins as villainous Boyd Crowder.

Downton Abbey. It needs no description.

The Black List. James Spader, a little older, balder and paunchier than in *Sex, Lies and Videotape*, meting out rough justice. Satisfying.

Sex Ed. Gillian Anderson as a sex therapist whose teenage, inexperienced son follows her good example, dispensing sexual advice for profit in the toilets of Moordale Secondary School.

Longmire. Sheriff Walt Longmire and his sidekick Henry Standing Bear get the bad guys episode after episode.



The Crown. Queen Elizabeth goes from blushing bride to steadfast monarch, facing down the likes of Winston Churchill.

Ted Lasso. American football coach Ted accepts a job as a soccer coach in England and is supposed to lose, but is so positive the team succeeds despite his ignorance of how to play the game.

Fleabag a sexually active and free spirited young woman whose seduction of a priest is delightful.

Bosch. Renegade detective Harry Bosch solves homicides in Hollywood, almost a character in its own right in this police drama.

Ozark. Dull accountant launders money for a drug cartel and unleashes a monster, his wife, Wendy, whose moral slide is fascinating.

What different worlds we enter when we binge watch. From the coalmines of Kentucky to the streets of Los Angeles, from Buckingham Palace to Absaroka County, Wyoming, from Washington, D.C. to the Ozarks, we are immersed in these different settings and cultures.

The locale is secondary to the motley crew of characters we grow to love: US marshals, arch criminals, FBI agents and even an aspiring teenage sex therapist. Most are driven by a personal sense of justice: Marshal Givens shoots the criminals he knows are guilty, and so does the FBI’s most wanted man, Raymond Reddington. Revenge can be, and often is, sweet.

After spending so many hours with these characters, when the series ends (and they all do, with the possible exception of *Grey’s Anatomy*), we go into temporary mourning. We miss them. Of course, it is always possible to watch a series twice.

Just in case you think I’m only in this for the cheap thrills, my current bingeing is of a higher caliber. I’m watching *Secrets of the Museum* and learning about the curators and collections of the Victoria and Albert Museum in London. I’ve always loved the V&A and now I love it even more.

So— go on a binge. But watch out — you’ll be totally hooked!

The Lake Chapala Society Summer Fest

Festivals contribute immensely to feelings of social cohesion. They create a community. Many such celebrations focus on cultural or ethnic topics and seek to inform community members of their traditions. They involve them by sharing stories and experiences and setting templates for maintaining unity among families.

Festivals teach us to forget enmity, embrace one another and create a bond of love, an environment of cultural harmony. They relieve us from the monotony of life. When the time of the festival comes, the aura changes, and good willing flourishes all around.

For many years now, we have celebrated festivals. They help us connect with our roots, culture, and origin and preserve it. The Lake Chapala Society hosts its 6th annual music fest on July 9 from 2.30 to 6.30 pm. After 2

covid years requiring masking, distancing, and compulsory hand washing, it's time to boogie to the Latin and Rock and Roll sounds of Traficantes and Gargamol.

Two well-known and loved local restaurants, the Smoke House and La Paceaña will sell their specialties which range from brisket plates to delicious fish tacos to sustain your appetites and an ice cream vendor to take care of that sweet tooth. A cash bar offering from Margaritas Wine, beer, sodas, and water are available to quench your thirst and round out a perfect afternoon.

We invite you to celebrate life. Come dance with us while summer reminds us of harvest time, which symbolizes the joy of being alive. Let's come together for the sole purpose of celebration and happiness.



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Dance to the music of TRAFICANTES ROCK'N LATIN & GARGAMEL

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Smoke House RESTAURANT & BAR
PAZ VINO Y LICORES
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Tickets available at the Lake Chapala Society Office 10:00 am - 2:00 pm Monday through Saturday, or at LakeChapalaSociety.com

Sandals: Not Just a Thing of the Past

By Harriet Hart

Whether you swear by Birkenstocks or prefer Mephistos, love your Crocs or are happy to sport a pair of no name dollar store flip flops, whatever your brand or budget, I bet you own at least one pair of sandals. Beach sandals, sports sandals, or dressy evening sandals with wedge or high heels, made from leather or rubber or plastic, whatever the style, or the material, sandals are a type of footwear with a long, proud history.

The sandal dates back over 10,000 years and was worn everywhere across the globe. The oldest example we have is made from sagebrush bark and was uncovered in what is now the state of Oregon. Papyrus, leather and wooden ones were worn in ancient Egypt, Greece and Rome. The Greek god Hermes and the Roman god Mercury both wore winged sandals to deliver their messages.

Jesus wore sandals. In the Bible, John the Baptist refers to them: “Someone stronger than I am is coming after me, the lace of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie.” (Mathew 3:11) An old pair belonging to Jesus is a relic of the Catholic Church and was given to someone named Pepin the Short by Pope Stephen 11 in around 752 AD.

A modern company, Jerusalem Sandals, offers copies “constructed from the finest leather that molds to your feet”. I checked them out online at JerusalemSandals.com and must say they are rather trendy, sporting great Biblical names like Amos, Barnabas and Peter.

Recently, thanks to climate change and the melting of the earth’s ice cover, a pair of discarded Roman sandals was found in the mountains of Norway. Between 300 and 1500 AD the Vikings and other medieval travelers traversed the Lendbreen ice patch at an altitude of 6,600 feet. One hiker left his shoes behind. Amusingly the archeologists speculate they were worn out and

thrown away, but I like to imagine this Viking limping along, blisters forming on his feet, and finally, in a temper tantrum, tossing the offending shoes into the bushes. (I once threw a pair out on a hot day sightseeing in London, so I know what this particular Viking was going through). His discards can now be seen in the Museum of Cultural History in Oslo, Norway. Mine are in a land fill.

A publication titled Footwear News (I’m not joking) lists the top nine shoe museums in the world, beginning with The Bata Shoe Museum in Toronto. Its oldest pair is 4,500-year-old Egyptian funerary sandals. Sons in Belgium displays 1500 pairs, including early 20th century thick soled sandals from the Amazon basin and a Namibian tribal chief’s that he swapped for a pair of Nikes!

But forget about the proud history of sandals, worn by Egyptian pharaohs and African tribal chieftains and Judean prophets, how about the sandal of today? According to Google, the most popular in 2022 are fisherman, platform, mules, clogs, and slides made by the likes of Chanel and Fendi and yes, Birkenstock. But skip on-line shopping and head out on the road in Mexico.

At Lakeside we’re only a bus ride away from the city of Leon, the “unofficial footwear capital of North America” which produces more shoes annually than any other city on the continent. Even better, and much closer to home, is the village of Concepción de Buenos Aires, where renowned artists Salvador, Fernando and Jesus Cisneros create huaraches, Mexico’s own contribution to the style. Hand made by softening tanned leather in oil and water overnight and then weaving it onto a leather sole, each pair are custom made to fit the client’s foot and those lucky enough to own a pair made by the Cisneros say they are attractive, comfortable and durable. The good news is the family will be attending this year’s Feria Maestros del Arte in November.

But it’s summer now, it’s hot, and walking barefoot on the cobblestones or while strolling the malecons of Lakeside is not recommended, so let’s pay tribute to the traditional sandals of Mexico and switch to huaraches (if you don’t already own a pair) or add a new pair to your collection. Why wait till November? Take a trip to Concepción de Buenos Aires now. It’s a short drive, to a charming village, and you can grab lunch after your fitting (or go birding like the authors of our cover story).





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