



INTERNATIONAL FRIENDSHIP CLUB
Edificio Parian del Puente # 13 (upstairs)
Libertad corner of Miramar, El Centro,
Puerto Vallarta
Hours 9 am - 2 pm
Tel: (322)-222-5466
from the US/Canada 1-514-418-2123
www.IFCVallarta.com
Email: info@ifcvallarta.com
ADMINISTRATOR - Josué Santiago



WHO WE ARE

The International Friendship Club was founded in 1987. Today there are members from the USA, Canada, Mexico, Europe and many other countries. The Club is a volunteer organization operated totally without personal gain and has been granted Registered Charitable Status by the Mexican Government. The club is operated on a Committee-Structure basis.

The International Friendship Club has 3 mandates: to solicit and distribute funds and materials in response to the humanitarian needs of our community; to promote friendship through social and cultural activities; and to help organize and unite our community.

General meetings are held the second Tuesday of every month at the IFC clubhouse. Everyone is welcome!



President's Message

Let me extend a hearty "Bienvenidos and Welcome" to IFC members and friends alike as we begin a new season of activities and initiatives.

Elsewhere in this newsletter you will find updates on some of the many activities up ahead. The IFC is an all volunteer organization and your participation is what makes the difference. I invite you to find your special interest and be an active member.

We're delighted to have a strengthened and expanded offering of Tours this season, which serve as are key fundraising program to raise money for Cleft Palate Clinics and our other charitable outreach. Be sure to join us on a Tour early this season and to spread the word!

Our previous Spanish teacher, Zuri Aguirre, had to relocate for family reasons, but we are excited to introduce you to our new Spanish teacher, Marcella Castellanos. Classes begin later November and I am sure you will enjoy Marcella's creative talent and energy.

As we transition to high season, I want to report that it was a busy summer as well. In fact, the notion of a "low season" is fast fading as the Puerto Vallarta region continues to grow. The needs are year round and the IFC is here to respond.

In May the IFC participated in another successful Altruism Festival, one of the largest gatherings in the region to support local charities. We also hosted two Cleft Palate Clinics over the summer, one in June and again in September, benefiting many local families with children in need of reconstructive surgeries and follow up therapies.

Christmas in July was a successful social gathering and fundraiser that provided a nice get together for those who spend most or all of the year in town. We also met with local charities and heard of their plans for the coming year as we consider further philanthropic initiatives funded by the Club.

Popular social events such as bridge classes and games, social hour, and movie nights are all being scheduled, along with community service activities and fundraisers, health talks and other presentations. There are a number of other new initiatives you will hear about in coming weeks and months.

Drop in at the office, open 9-2 Monday to Friday, or drop me an email at dangrippo@yahoo.com. Let us know how you would like to participate in making this a great year for the IFC and the larger community we are privileged to serve!

Dan Grippo
President

IFC Tours for Vallarta

TWO GREAT TOURS UNITE

To Serve One Great Cause —

People in Need in Puerto Vallarta!

Recent changes on the charitable front made it possible for two great Home Tours programs that in the past had been run separately by PEACE and by the IFC to come together to serve the Cleft Palate Surgeries and other local charities funded by the IFC.

This year the IFC will be offering three tours each week. The Home Tours will now be offered on Tuesdays and Wednesdays beginning November 19th through April 9th (no tour Christmas or New Year's weeks). Beginning December 5th, the Botanical Gardens/Zoo Tours will be offered weekly on Thursdays.

Tours will depart from our new beachfront location at Sea Monkey Restaurant on Aquiles Serdan across from Molina de Agua condominiums.

With an inventory of over 60 homes, the Home Tours promise to be bigger and better than ever this year. The Garden/Zoo Tours are the perfect family outing with something for everyone. Tour funds support the IFC Cleft Palate program in addition to other local charitable programs so come and enjoy the fun while at the same time helping those in need!

For further information on both tours, please visit our new web site at www.ifctoursforvallarta.com. You can also follow us on Facebook at IFC Tours for Vallarta.

If you think you might like to help out with the home

tours this season, the following are a few volunteer positions still open.

Sponsorships: Volunteers needed to approach local businesses about the possibility of sponsoring various overhead costs. Must have knowledge of or be willing to learn about the club's charitable programs, details of the tours, facturas/donativos, etc.

Concierge flyer distribution: Volunteers needed to drop off flyers with hotel concierges (a list will be provided and can be broken down into different areas).

Home Greeter: Must have car. Volunteer needed on Tuesdays during tour season to go ahead of the tour by 10 minutes to be sure each home being shown is open and ready for our arrival. Hours are 10:15 am to about 1:00 pm.

Tour Greeter: 2 volunteers needed on Tuesday and/or Wednesday 9:00 - 10:30 am to help bring guests in to our reception area/ticket sales desk as they arrive and to direct guests from our old departure point to our new one.

Home Acquisitions: Volunteers needed to canvas various areas from the marina to Mismaloya for possible new homes to show on the tours, to contact local real estate agents/rental managers about homes and to do walk thru's of potential new homes.

If you like working with people and would like more information on any of these positions, contact Home Tour Director Vicky Mason at ifctoursforvallarta@yahoo.com Adelante juntos!

Vicky Mason

IFC Home Tour Director

John Lockington

IFC Botanical Gardens and Zoo Tour Director



GARDEN STUDIO APARTMENT FOR RENT

in a new home *Private entrance *Fully furnished

*Maid service *All utilities paid

*Close to Mega, the stadium, bus and cab stops, 10 minute walk to the Malecon

\$550 a month

Call jeana 222 6726

Christ Church by the Sea

Worldwide Anglican Communion

Services Sunday 10:00 a.m.

English-Traditional Holy Communion

All Faiths Welcome

Questions? Call Father Jack Wehrs

322-209-0895 cell: 044-322-229-1129

www.christchurchbythesea.org - www.iglesiacristodelmar.org



Open 7 days a week
Mid-December thru Mid-April

Vallarta Botanical Gardens

9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

- Palm Gardens • Rose Garden
- Tree Fern Grotto • Orchid House
- Jungle Trails • Tropical Bird Watching
- Agave Gardens • Mexican Wildflowers
- Carnivorous Plants • Restaurant

www.vbgardens.org

24 Km South of town (on Hwy 200)

OLD TOWN BEACHFRONT CONDO

FOR SALE BY OWNER

PLAZA DORADA CONDOMINIUMS #506

3 BR/3BA. TOTALLY REMODELED - \$495,000

CALL EARL @ 222-4512 or 1-810-231-1720 (USA)

or email - - - earlcarole@gmail.com

www.puertovallartabeachcondos.com

OFFICERS OF THE CLUB

PRESIDENT

Dan Grippio 293-4019
dangrippio@yahoo.com
Vonage: 312-637-9629
Skype: mexdanskype

VICE PRESIDENT - Administration

T. J. Hartung 299-1542
tjhartung@gmail.com Cell: 322-108-8721
Magic Jack: 503-278-8079

VICE PRESIDENT - Operations

Mandy MacLeay Cell: 322-111-9838
mandylussier@yahoo.com
Magic Jack: 514-418-3686

VICE PRESIDENT - Management Facilities

Fred Forbes Cell: 322-171-8537
fwf1943@gmail.com
Magic Jack: 506-800-1230

VICE PRESIDENT - Events

Linda Mellor Cell: 322-151-1090
tialinda@live.com

TREASURER

Michel Montagano 223-5921
michaelmontagano@videotron.ca
Magic Jack: 514-500-9517

RECORDING SECRETARY

(position open)

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

Ann Yusaitis 209-0898
ayusaitis@aol.com Cell: 322-158-0103
Vonage: 201-654-4511

EXECUTIVE AT LARGE

Tom Hibbs 222-1719
tomhibbs@hotmail.com

ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

COMMUNITY SERVICES

{Position open}

Assistant: Susan Davalos 178-2781
pedroysusan@hotmail.com Cell: 322-111-5115

EDUCATION

Mel Bornstein 221-5659
barmelsouth@pvnet.com.mx
Magic Jack: 224-565-9578
US: 1-847-209-1448

BAR & FACILITIES

Fred Forbes Cell: 322-171-8537
fwf1943@gmail.com

TOURS

John Lockington
Vicky Mason

MEDICAL

April Miton Cell: 322-136-6136
themitonspv@gmail.com
Mary Carmen Bernal Pickup 329-298-2211
marycarmen.bernal@gmail.com

MEMBERSHIP

Beverly La Beau

NEWSLETTER & Web Master

T. J. Hartung 299-1542
webmaster@ifcvallarta.com Cell: 322-108-8721
Magic Jack: 503-278-8079

PUBLICITY

Janie Blank 222-0503
communications@ifcvallarta.com
Vonage: 650-204-9603

PHOTOGRAPHER

Bob Davidson Cell: 322-138-1507
bobd@davidsoninc.com

New Spanish Teacher

Marcella Castellanos - born of Mexican parents, has been living in Puerto Vallarta for 5 years. She grew up in a Spanish-speaking household in central California, and is a graduate of San Francisco State University. She loves people, travel and all things health and wellness related. She dances salsa and does yoga in her spare time, walks her dog Mambo and is a strong advocate for human and animal rights. Marcella is very excited about helping people enrich their Mexican experience with a better command of the Spanish language.



R & Rosita Glass Gallery
Quality Silver, Glass, Black Clay
Pottery, and Alebrijas (wood carvings)
Calle Jose Clemente Orozco, Local 6B,
in Comercial Comercial Villas Vallarta
(322) 293-4864

BEYOND VALLARTA TOURS

IS READY TO TRAVEL.... are you? 2014 Tours to:

*** TEQUILA & TALA * MORELIA & PATZCUARO**
*** CHIAPAS FOR SEMANA SANTA * ZACATECAS**

contact Jeana:

beyondvallarta@live.com

web: beyondvallartatours.com

322 222 6726

IFC Publicity

This season is getting off to an exciting start! We have already held a Cleft Palate Clinic and I submitted an article and pictures to the PV Mirror that appeared in the October 12 edition.

With our Home Tours moving to Tuesday and Wednesday and adding the Botanical Gardens and Zoo Tour every Thursday this year there will be a lot to publicize. This year tours will depart from the Sea Monkey Restaurant so we need to make sure everyone is aware of that as well.

We also have a new Tours website: IFCtoursforvallarta.com. We hope that this will give us greater visibility and make it easier to book a tour online. This should enable the IFC to raise more money than ever before to support our Cleft Palate Program and other charitable endeavors in the PV area.

We also will continue to get the word out about our wonderful Club and all of the activities that take place in our clubhouse. Our membership continues to increase and we count on all of you to be ambassadors for the IFC. We challenge each of you to bring in one new member this season! The price remains the best buy in town at \$600 pesos for a couple of \$350 pesos for a single. As all of you know it can pay for itself with reduced admissions and restaurant and preferred merchant discounts.

For the past few seasons the IFC has had a very active Social Committee and we will also be publicizing the social events that Linda Mellor has on tap for the season. The PV Mirror is an excellent resource for upcoming events and we hope to post event pictures and coverage in the Tribune. So try and pick up the papers weekly. The Tourist Office on the square and the Saturday Market usually have copies.

We are looking for someone who will post to the IFC Vallarta Facebook page a few times a week. If you can help me out with that please let me know.

Right now I am working from Columbus, Ohio but I am looking forward to seeing all of you in Vallarta the beginning of January!
Janie Albright Blank



New Preferred Merchants

While many of you were enjoying the summers months in the north, activities here in Puerto Vallarta continued. Among those activities was the continued search for quality merchants to appear on our Preferred Merchants list.

We also made a minor change to the list. Some merchants are now identified as Preferred Merchants PLUS – Those who give IFC members a discount of 15% or more. You will find the PLUS designation on the Preferred Merchants List on the IFC web site, www.ifcvallarta.com, which is always the most up-to-date list of Preferred Merchants.

New merchants that have signed up in the past few months are:

Bachas Mexican Restaurant – In the marina, just a few doors east of the lighthouse. Tex-Mex style food, free guacamole made at the table, and half orders for those on a diet or with small appetites.

Bravos Restaurant – Across the street and a few doors over from the Lions Club on Francisco I. Madera (#263). The owner used to be the manager of the River Café, and a restaurant in Canada. Open for dinner with reasonable prices.

The Swedes Bar and Bistro – Food with Swedish appeal. Located on Olas Altas at the corner of Pulpito (Pulpito 154), they offer 15% off meals and drinks to IFC members. (Does not include special offers and happy hour.)

La Coleccion – Located next to the Lions Club on Francisco I. Madera (#272), this is a delightful place to wander through and select decorator items for your home, office, or as a gift for friends or relatives.

Ocean Friendly Whale Watching Tours – Tickets must be purchased in advance and in cash only. Tickets can be purchased at their sales office (in Centro Comercial Villas Vallarta, on Avenida Siqueiros, Local A1) or at the PCC market on Saturdays.

R & Rosita Glass Gallery – Objects made of glass. Also quality Silver, Black Clay pottery and Alebrijes (wood carvings). Located in Centro Comercial Villas Vallarta, Local 6B, on Calle Jose Clemente Orozco.

Vallarta Botanical Gardens – The gardens is giving IFC members 10% off a regular membership to the gardens, which gives you several benefits including 10% off meals at the restaurant, and 10% off purchases at the gift shop.

We are continuing to look for merchants to add to our list, for the benefit of our members. If you have a favorite place, ask if they would like to be an IFC preferred merchant. Contact the club and someone will visit them with the sign up form and additional information.