



FROM THE PRESIDENT

Mandy MacLeay

We are yet again closing a full season. This year, thanks to our members and their generosity we have been able to bring to you a variety of activities and events that many of you took full advantage of. In addition to the funds they have generated, they have helped keep your club a vibrant, interesting place to come to and to maintain its role in the fabric of the community. We will continue to work in this direction with your help.

As part of our fundraising goals we have been selected again this year as participant to the Altruism Festival, a huge event gathering many charitable organizations such as ours. This year it will take place on May 2nd, at the Marriott, and tickets are \$300 pesos. We hope that our long term resident members will help us achieve our goal and purchase their tickets at the office. This program was the brain child of Kelly Trainor, our US Consul in Puerto Vallarta and has been ongoing for 6 years. Thanks Kelly.

I wish to take this opportunity to thank the many less visible members that donate their time to help our club, whether it is in silent or in more predominant roles, their help is always valued.

I thank Janie Albright Blank for the wonderful article she has written this year and Bob Davidson for the pictures that have so eloquently completed the story.

My many thanks to Fred Forbes who seems to always have the energy to do more, what can I say but many thanks on behalf of us all.

We have also been blessed with great help this year at the front desk with many volunteers who take such pride in the work they do and bring assistance to Josue through our season.

I wish you all a great summer and will be glad to see you all again in November.

FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT

Time Flies When You Are Having Fun

William M. Le Beau - VP

Hard to believe that high season is coming to an end and that next year we will be drafting a new slate of officers to be elected in March 2011. Please be thinking about how you can help your club and feel free to talk with any of the current officers about their positions. We will be establishing a committee early next season to begin the process of establishing a slate to keep the club moving forward. We will need new people for most all of the elected positions, so think about it over the summer.

We also want to thank all of those who have worked hard this year to make the IFC a success. Thanks to all of you for pitching in where you could.

INTERNATIONAL FRIENDSHIP CLUB
Edificio Parian del Puente # 13 (upstairs)
Libertad corner of Miramar, El Centro,
Puerto Vallarta
Hours 9 am - 1 pm
Tel: (322)-222-5466
from the US/Canada 1-310-844-7411
www.ifcpv.com
Email: ifcvallarta@gmail.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!



Visit our web site for up-to-date information on events at the clubhouse

www.ifcpv.com

Click on "Coming Events" for the latest information, schedules and prices., Something happening almost every day to entertain you, educate you, or help you get acquainted with new friends

IFC helps improve Educational Facilities

You can never start too early when it comes to educating the children. Upgrading school facilities in our local kindergartens and primary schools is important starting point in providing an atmosphere conducive to learning.

On Tuesday, February 16, 2010 a special ceremony was held at the Emilio Zapata Jardín de Niños or kindergarten located at the corner of Lazaro Cardenas and Olas Altas in the Zona Romantica. A ribbon cutting ceremony was held and a plaque on the school wall was presented to commemorate the improvements made to the playground.



The improvements were: building a cover for the protection of the children from the sun and rain, the installation of new playground equipment such as slides, see-saw and swings, still to come is the addition of artificial turf to be added to the area.

The funds for this project were provided by the International Friendship Club (IFC). The celebration was held by the school and attended by the Principal, Maestra Conchita Bañuelos, teachers, students and parents. In addition, the Superintendent of the



kindergarten section for Jalisco, Teresa Garcia Urena, and for Puerto Vallarta, Evangelina Gonzalez Cervantes, was in attendance. The school installed a wall plaque thanking the IFC and Mel Bornstein, the Chairman of the Education Committee, was on site to accept their thanks and to cut the ribbon for the opening of the improved play facilities.



The IFC is also involved in funding two other school projects in the area recently. In Mismaloya, the IFC funded a project at the Manuel Lopez Cotilla Primary School to install



new window frames and screens to protect the children from mosquitoes as well as purchasing a new bookcase for the school. In Boca de Tomatlan, a new kitchen was installed in the Alicia Rodriguez Jardin de Niños so that children can now enjoy a warm lunch at school.

OFFICERS OF THE CLUB

PRESIDENT

Mandy MacLeay 044-322-111-9838
mandylussier@yahoo.com

VICE PRESIDENT

Bill Lebeau 044-322-125-2121
wmlb52@hotmail.com

TREASURER

Ira Horowitz 223-1521 ext. 159 044-322-157-6251
irahorowitz@yahoo.com

RECORDING SECRETARY

Linda Horowitz 223-1521 ext. 159
Lindahorowitz2@yahoo.com

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

Helen M. Powell 299-1542 044-322-131-7559
senoraelena1@yahoo.com

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

COMMUNITY SERVICES

Susan Davalos 299-5204 044-322-111-5115
pedroysusan@hotmail.com

EDUCATION

Mel Bornstein 221-5659 044-322-149-9988
barmelsouth@pvnet.com.mx

FACILITIES

Fred Forbes 044-322-171-8537
fforbes1@rogers.com
Angus MacLeay 044-322-100-0725
amacleay1970@yahoo.ca

FUNDRAISING

Position open

HOME TOURS

Mike McGee 221 5681
Mcm7_44@yahoo.com

MEDICAL

Patricia Mendez 01-329-298-1767
Casatranquilla@gmail.com 044-322-728-7519

MEMBERSHIP

Barbara Bornstein 221-5659 044-322-149-9988
barmelsouth@pvnet.com.mx

NEWSLETTER

T. J. Hartung 299-1542 044-322-108-8721
tjhartung@gmail.com

PUBLICITY

Don Gallery 222-3722
donpat@prodigy.net.mx

BAR

Fred Forbes 044-322-171-8537
Fforbes1@rogers.com

Medical Update

SUSAN HARRIE DAVALOS

The next cleft palate surgeries are scheduled for May 5 and 6. That is the Wednesday and Thursday immediately following the FESTIVAL DE ALTRUISMO. That is on Sunday at 6pm at the Marriott Hotel and is the best priced extravaganza of the year!

Please join us for an evening of fun and food. IFC has tickets for 300 pesos and they are 400 pesos at the door. All money goes to charity, many of the charities that we assist. The IFC is an integral part of the community. We will be receiving an equal portion of the monies to use during the dry summer months to come.

I would like to briefly speak about a situation that has occurred in one of our clients of many years. Joel Enrique has been a part of our program for many years. He had a severe burn to his face when he was very young. He has not had surgery for 8 or 9 years while we waited for his face to stop growing. He came only for an exam by Dr Fuentes. I have watched him grow into a fine young man. His family of 5 is poor and he has contributed to the family's income for several years now. I believe he is 19 years old. It was finally time this last program for a revision of his scar. He has had complications post-op and has had to make several trips to Guadalajara by bus for follow up. He has paid his trips. He needs surgery in Guadalajara soon and must wear a special collar to ease the pain and stretch the skin so it will be better for this next surgery. Dr Fuentes is in Guadalajara and has been seeing him. We wish the best for young Joel Enrique. I will let you know what becomes of him in future newsletters. We would like the surgeries to all come out well!

At times, the poor nutrition and lack of protein in the daily diet contributes to complications not usually seen in the places we come from. Please continue to help us help others. Plan now to be an active part of the next high season in the IFC. JUST DO IT!!!!



New Members 2010

We extend a warm welcome to our new members that we joined us since our last Newsletter print out on Jan 26, 2010.

Valerie Birkel	Reno, Nevada, USA
Sherryl Cehovet	N/A
Frances Chapman	Vermillion, Ohio, USA
Katrina Corrigan	McGregor, Ontario, CND
Eric Davies	Liverpool, England
Robert Dow	Markdale, Ontario, CND
Alan Dver	N/A
B.J. Etchepare	N/A
Elaine Fram	Halifax, Nova Scotia, CND
Sherry Frisch	St. Paul, MN, USA
Douglas and Karen Gillespie	Winnipeg, Manitoba, CND
Al Goldspiel	San Francisco, CA, USA
Marilyn Hall and Ron Clinton	Rockwall, Texas, USA
Pat Hardy	Dryden, Ontario, CND
Monika Hilson	Vancouver, BC, CND
Marilyn Khan	Minneapolis, Mn, USA
Jack and Susan Kirkpatrick	Seattle, WA, USA
Liliane Laberge	Laval, Quebec, CND
Jeannine MacLaren	Thorhill, Ontario, CND
Jerry Majerus	N/A
Danielle Martin	Montreal, Quebec, CND
Carl McKeone	Chicago, IL, USA
Joan and Bob Montenegro	Dayton, Ohio, USA
Suzanne Nield	Windsor, Ontario, CND
Joyce and Henry Piche	Flushing, Michigan, USA
Luisa Serrano	Davis, California, USA
David Kamp and Judy Snow	Portland, OR, USA
Bonnie and Glen Spangler	PA, USA
Judith V. Swindle	Chicago, IL, USA
William J. Swindle	New Buffalo, MI, USA
Beverley Turnbull	British Columbia, CND
Roger Uscila	Milwaukee, WI, USA
Louise Wright	Brighton, Ontario, CND
William and Camelia Wylie	Mississauga, Ontario, CND

We also wish to thank all of our members that have renewed their membership this year. With your support we can continue our commitment to you and to the community

Kelly Trainor de O, the USA Consular agent, will be in the IFC Clubhouse the first Wednesday of the month (9:00 am to 11:00 am) to assist you with all your passport needs or any other information you may require. For further information: consularagentpvr@prodigy.net.mx.

So this is the last newsletter of the year and the season is winding down. We have a few thoughts to leave you with as you go north. I know there are some of you who don't go north so you all can just call me anytime with your input and good ideas.

Our last Cleft Palate surgery program was Feb 3-5. We had 6 patients for surgery including: 2 new babies for closing their lips; a boy 11 for repair of a fistula that had opened in his palate; a boy 11 who was having the 3rd surgery in the series to form his ear; Rosa, a cleft palate kid who has grown into a young lady now, had a graft in her nasal septum; and Joel Enrique, a burned kid had a skin graft on his chin and neck.

When you get in the mood for a terrific seafood lunch please try 8 Tostados in the marina...behind Collage. They have joined the small but growing group of Vallarta businesses who are supporting our cleft palate surgery program. 8 Tostados is donating the lunch on Wed. for the medical team after they arrive in Vallarta and before we go to the hospital to see 60 - 80 kids and their families. We also want to recognize and thank Daiquiri Dick's for their continued support for over 20 years donating dinner for the group every Wednesday night of the program, that's 4 times a year, folks, and they never fail to make us totally warm and welcome. Andale's restaurant sends us a beautiful and tasty breakfast to the hospital on Thursday mornings so the team can eat before going into surgery and coffee service is by Gringo's Books & Coffee of Bucarias.

Joel Enrique is the burned kid that we have sent to the Wisconsin Alliance for Fire Safety summer camp for burn kids for 4 years. He now attends as camp counselor. The WAFS, through Dan and Mary Gengler, has given a scholarship to Joel for English classes for the last 2 years. Joel's surgery for the skin graft in Feb. didn't turn out as well as we would have wanted so Dr Fuentes is doing it over again at the hospital in Guadalajara. Joel and his family are paying a greatly reduced rate to the hospital and, of course, Dr. Fuentes is donating his services. The club is helping with transportation to and from Guadalajara several times and a special collar he will need during the recuperation.

Another of our cleft palate kids is receiving national recognition as a cyclist. Emmanuel Sahagún is 16 yrs old and has won more medals that he can wear at one time. In the 9th Santorini State Cup race he took 2nd place in a field of 50 cyclists. He competed in the Fluvial Vallarta race this year in two categories and placed 1st and 2nd. Emmanuel is asking for some help. He would like to have a carbon bike, a uniform, and a pair of shoes. He has given me a website at which we can see his heart's desire. www.teknobike.com and says we can find it in the "chechar en ofertas" page...that means on sale. The bike will cost between \$18,000 and \$25,000 pesos. The lycra suit will cost around \$700 pesos, helmet \$900 pesos and the shoes \$1,500 pesos. He is very conscious of the help the club has given him over the years

with his many surgeries. But he is twice blessed in having parents that have always been very conscientious in their care of him both medically and socially. They are very supportive of his participation in and passion for the sport but simply don't have the resources to take him to the next level. At this time, he uses a bike that is shared by the team members. Emmanuel has been invited to participate in the National Junior Olymics and hopes to wear a jersey sporting "El Club Internacional de la Amistad de Pto Vta" I understand the club can't commit to carry the entire load in this and I am fervently hoping that some of you out there see an opportunity to make a personal contribution to this young man's dream. He has compiled a list of the races he has participated in and the prizes he has won and it is impressive. I will translate it and have it ready for anyone that wants to know more about this outstanding young athlete.

Our next cleft palate surgery program will be May 5-7 so if you are in town you are welcome to come to the hospital with us and work with the kids. Call me at 329-298-1767 or our Volunteer Coordinator at 329-298-0380.

As you are collecting donations during the summer keep us in mind. The wish list in on the website...and all of that is still current. Your favorite orthodontist can gather up supplies for our orthodontist here to use with our patients. We are waiting for some artificial bone grafting material with the unlikely name of "gortex" - we have 2 patients that are waiting for small bone grafts to the maxila. Write me if you have any sources out there in the world and I can be exactly specific.

Thank you all for your continued support again this year.
PATRICIA MENDEZ

