

## President's Message

Hola y saludos! Here we are in the midst of another "high season" at least in terms of IFC activities, tourism, and beautiful weather! Whether you are in town for a short while or full time, we welcome your participation and thank you for supporting the IFC's many activities and outreach programs.

In addition to popular ongoing activities such as Spanish classes, bridge classes and social bridge, Monday night movies, Friday evening social hour, and lectures, we are busy developing new programs this year.

A new Education Committee is in the process of taking on the considerable legacy left by Mel Bornstein. We are also pleased to announce a new English Outreach program just getting underway. Please see our E-Newsletters for more details on these efforts.

We also have some new charitable giving plans in development, included plans for expanded dental care and outreach to a wider number of local charities. Details are discussed in our E-Newsletters and also at our monthly general meetings, to which members and visitors alike are welcome. General meetings are usually scheduled for the second Tuesday of the month, typically with a social hour at 6:00 p.m. and the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Our principal program that funds Cleft Palate clinics and surgeries as well as charitable outreach is of course IFC Tours, and they are in full swing. This year we have three weekly tours from which to choose—Tuesday and Wednesday Home Tours, and a Thursday Botanical Gardens/Zoo Tour (all entrance fees included with your ticket). Our departure point, Sea Monkey Restaurant, offers a great \$50 peso breakfast option before tours, and IFC members also get a \$50 peso discount on their own ticket. So how about inviting a friend or visitor on a Tour this season? They'll thank you and so will those whom the IFC is able to help because of your support.

Thank you for your membership support, your financial support, your friendly outreach, your creative ideas, and your hands-on, roll-up-your-sleeves volunteer support. Without you this organization—your organization—would not be able to fulfill its volunteer mission!

All best wishes for a wonderful season,

Dan Grippo  
President



**INTERNATIONAL FRIENDSHIP CLUB**  
**Edificio Parian del Puente # 13 (upstairs)**  
**Libertad corner of Miramar, El Centro,**  
**Puerto Vallarta**  
**Hours 9 am - 2 pm, Mon. - Fri.**  
**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!



**HAPPY HOLIDAYS from The Botanical Gardens and the Animals at the Puerto Vallarta Zoo.**

Why not start the new year by coming on our IFC tour on Thursdays which visits the Zoo where you can feed all the animals, and then on to the Botanical Gardens where you can feed yourself.

It's a fun day that starts at 10am and returns at 3pm

All admissions are included in the price of 450 pesos for adults and 250 pesos for children 10 and under. Remember, IFC members receive 50 pesos off tickets for themselves. Purchase your tickets in the office or at the Sea Monkey restaurant on the day of the tour.

For more information, go to our NEW web site ([www.ifctoursforvallarta.com](http://www.ifctoursforvallarta.com)).

John Lockington

## Treasurer's report

for the year ended May 31, 2013

As was the case in prior years, the club continues to be in a very healthy financial position. It has cash on hand as at May 31, 2013 of \$1,401,821 pesos. Of this amount, \$115,850 pesos is payable to Altruism which amount was paid back during the month of June leaving a net cash balance of \$1,285,971. This is \$196,441 pesos higher than last year's balance of \$1,089,530 pesos. These high cash balances have been consistent for several years, as a result the club is looking at different options to increase our support to other worthwhile accredited charitable organizations.

Income was higher than plan by \$32,380 pesos mainly due to donations which were higher than plan by \$182,683 offset by Home tours which were under plan by \$32,140 pesos, and by clubhouse income which was under plan by \$99,090 pesos. For last year, although club house income was budgeted at \$124,500 pesos the actual amount achieved was \$234,215 which higher level was not achieved this year. This was mainly due to lower movie receipts because of the change of the day of the presentation and lower revenues for certain event fundraisers.

Expenses were \$8,410 pesos above plan, but fairly close to plan.

Charitable support costs were \$132,461 below plan which reinforces our obligation to increase our community services as stated above.

The budget to actual schedule is attached for the fiscal year June 1, 2012 to May 31, 2013.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael Montagano

Treasurer



## IMPORTANT MEMBER MESSAGE

Due to new restrictions that are intended to reduce SPAM, in order for you to continue to receive eNewsletters and other important updates from the International Friendship Club, you MUST do the steps listed below:

1. Go to the club's web site ([www.ifcvallarta.com](http://www.ifcvallarta.com))
2. Click on "Members - 2013/14" in the left column
3. Locate your name in the members list, and click on it

4. Click on the words "Join Here"
  5. Follow instructions to fill in the required fields.
  6. Remember to click "save" at the bottom of the page.
- It's just that simple.

If the words "Join Here" do not appear, you have already done this and will continue to receive IFC information.

T. J. Hartung

IFC Web Master

## IFC Budget-to-Actual Final Financial Statement

- June 1, 2012- May 31, 2013 (all values in pesos)

	BUDGET	ACTUAL	difference
<b>INCOME</b>			
Bazar (net)	3700	4000	300
Club house income (net)	246,000	146,910	-99,090
Home tours south (net)	508,000	475,860	-32,140
Interest income	20,100	19,515	-585
Membership dues	123,100	112,102	-10,998
Tour Sales	15,500	7,710	-7,790
Donations	106,500	289,183	182,683
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$1,022,900</b>	<b>\$1,055,280</b>	<b>\$32,380</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Administration			
Rent	131,196	140,441	9,245
Salary + benefits	117,000	117,689	689
Hacienda Tax	17,500	16,768	-732
Audit & Accounting	65,000	47,038	-17,962
Other	88,900	106,070	17,170
<b>TOTAL ADMIN</b>	<b>\$419,596</b>	<b>\$428,006</b>	<b>\$8,410</b>
Community aid	192,000	105,177	-86,823
Cleft Palate	200,000	244,332	44,332
Patrocino (Medical emergency)	25,000	4,000	-21,000
<b>TOTAL Medical</b>	<b>225,000</b>	<b>248,332</b>	<b>23,332</b>
Education Programs	\$100,000	\$39,030	\$-60,970
School capital expenditures		8,000	
School supplies			
<b>TOTAL Chartable expenses</b>	<b>\$525,000</b>	<b>\$392,539</b>	<b>\$-132,461</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$894,196</b>	<b>\$820,545</b>	<b>\$-124,051</b>
<b>NET</b>	<b>\$128,704</b>	<b>\$234,735</b>	<b>\$106,031</b>
Opening Cash *	1,076,358	1,074,038	-2,320
<b>NET</b>	<b>128,704</b>	<b>234,735</b>	<b>106,031</b>
Closing Cash	\$1,106,662	\$1,308,773	\$202,111
Plus amount due to Altruism		115,850	
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$1,424,623</b>	
Less prior year's adjustment		-23,000	
<b>Actual per balance sheet</b>		<b>\$1,401,623</b>	

\* includes savings account

## 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](http://www.christchurchbythesea.org) - [www.iglesiacrisedelmar.org](http://www.iglesiacrisedelmar.org)

## OFFICERS OF THE CLUB

### PRESIDENT

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### VICE PRESIDENT - Administration

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### VICE PRESIDENT - Events

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### VICE PRESIDENT - Management Facilities

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### TREASURER

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### RECORDING SECRETARY

Tom Hibbs (pro-tem)

### CORRESPONDING SECRETARY

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### EXECUTIVE AT LARGE

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## ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

### COMMUNITY SERVICES

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### EDUCATION

{Position open}

### BAR & FACILITIES

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### TOURS

John Lockington, Chair  
[fctoursforvallarta@yahoo.com](mailto:fctoursforvallarta@yahoo.com)  
 Vicky Mason, Home Tours

### MEDICAL

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 Mary Carmen Bernal Pickup 329-298-2211  
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### MEMBERSHIP

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 Janet Blacklidge, Co-Chair

### NEWSLETTER & WEB MASTER

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 Magic Jack: 503-278-8079

### PUBLICITY

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 Vonage: 650-204-9603  
 Mike McGee, Co-Chair, Social Media 221 5681  
[Mcm7\\_44@yahoo.com](mailto:Mcm7_44@yahoo.com)



## R & Rosita Glass Gallery

### Artisan-Crafted Silver Jewelry

Glass, Black Clay Pottery, and Alebrijas (wood carvings)

Calle Jose Clemente Orozco, Local 6B,  
 in Comercial Villas Vallarta  
 (322) 293-4864

## Emergency Medical Evacuation

*The Air Rescue Card*

**40% Discount for IFC Members**

Contact: Mike Altman

[MikeAltman@PV-Health.com](mailto:MikeAltman@PV-Health.com)

US: (949) 720-1663 \*\*\* MX: (322) 221-5128



**Vallarta Botanical Gardens**

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

24 Km south of town (on Hwy 200)

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

[www.vbgardens.org](http://www.vbgardens.org)

**Beyond Vallarta**

tours beyond the ordinary

[www.beyondvallartatours.com](http://www.beyondvallartatours.com)

MX: 322.222.6726 | [beyondvallarta@live.com](mailto:beyondvallarta@live.com)



## Cleft Palate

Since meeting with the CMQ hospital, it looks like four (maybe even five) clinics will take place next year: March, May, July, and October have been scheduled.

We may have to change our surgical dates to Fridays as the hospital is working with the government to also lend space for surgeries through Seguro Social. This would mean consult days would be Thursdays, surgeries would be on Fridays and discharge would be Saturdays. I am in contact with the doctors to confirm that this will work for them

We have a new family in Bucerias ready to join our program. Bill and I are staying in very close contact with this family as they need a lot of support. We have taken them up to the dentist a couple of times already but right now, it is important that we work with them to help fatten up baby José. He is very underweight and the family is struggling.

We have provided them with special needs bottles and cans of formula. We are keeping in touch with them at least once a week so that, hopefully, the baby will be ready for his first surgery in March.

April Minton

## Community Service

Community service is in the business of giving hope.

While the IFC has limits on how much we can help, for most charities that help kids - we have a hard time saying "no". The goal is to help...one time helps...a few times help...some local Mexican charities (after proving to have all their legal papers in order), IFC can help each month or help to reach a goal.

Dan, our new president has made community service one his priorities.

IFC has long been known as an umbrella of help to many of the Puerto Vallarta charities.

Dan and I have been working since last June on locating new grassroots organizations. Over the next couple of months we will be visiting and doing needs assessments on the organizations we have found. We want to bring hope to those who are in service to kids.

We'll update you as we travel the back roads of Puerto Vallarta. If you can assist, please be in touch through my contact information.

Susan Davalos



## Publicity

The IFC seems to be growing and thriving. My role as IFC Publicity Chair is to make sure we get the word out to the media on our many activities. Since the last newsletter Mike McGee has joined the publicity team to post frequently to our IFC Vallarta Facebook page. We try and post a link on FB to the newspapers that run an IFC article I have submitted. This is a quick way for Facebook users to read the local papers and especially see our IFC publicity. If you are new to Facebook or are not yet our friend you can find us as: IFC Vallarta.

Right now you can find various articles and mentions of the IFC in the PV Mirror, Vallarta Tribune, Banderasnews.com, PVguide.org, PVangels.com, VallartaToday.com and Puerto Vallarta's official website: visitpuertovallarta.com.

Janie Albright Blank

## Membership

We wanted to encourage everyone to please renew your membership for 2014 if you have not done so already. The cost is a minimal \$350 pesos for an individual and \$600 pesos for a couple. This can be done online through our web site using PayPal, at the Farmers Market on Saturdays in the Paradise Community Center or the IFC Clubhouse. The fee is easily offset by all of the savings available by frequenting our preferred merchants to enjoy their generous discounts for IFC members or through participation in many of our activities.

Once a member, we invite you to participate in the many social activities offered, including dinners on special occasions, Friday night social hour at the Clubhouse or various classes offered. When there, take a chance and say hi to someone new and you will find a lot of new friends.

I am also looking for someone to promote memberships Thursday morning from 9-10 am at the Sea Monkey before the Zoo/Botanical Garden tour departs. It is another way to meet people and help others join in on the fun.

Beverly Le Beau

## SOCIAL EVENTS

More information on our web site:

([www.ifcvallarta.com](http://www.ifcvallarta.com) – Activities Calendar), or contact our office.

### MONDAY

Bridge Classes - 9-12 - Hosted by Murray Beer

Monday Night at the IFC Movies - 7 pm - Hosted by Fred Forbes

### THURSDAY

Bunco at the Sea Monkey - 11 am - Hosted by Jo Ann & Mary Ann

### FRIDAY

Social Bridge - 2-5 pm - Hosted by Tom Hibbs

Friday Evening Social - 5-6 pm - Hosted by Fred Forbes