

VOLUME 36, JANUARY, 2022
VOLUMEN 36, ENERO, 2022

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GRATIS

CONEXIONES

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Urban Sketchers Bocetistas de Ajijic

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PUBLICACIÓN

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The Lake Chapala Society

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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Conecciones Team

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.*

Publisher / Editorial: Lake Chapala Society

Editor-in-Chief / Editor en Jefe: Luis F. Pacheco

Department External Editor / Depto. de Edición Externo: Harriet Hart

Department Editor / Internal / Depto. de Edición Interno: Diana Ayala

Art & Design / Arte y Diseño: Domitzu Medrano B.

Production Manager / Director de producción: Marianne Carlson

Translations / Traducciones: Diana Ayala y Neri Navarro

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.

Propuestas de artículos para la revista Conecciones. Nos reservamos el derecho de editar según sea necesario. Las consultas deben dirigirse a editor@lakechapalasociety.com. Las consultas sobre publicidad deben dirigirse a ventas@lakechapalasociety.com.

All prices include free design work except business card ads. All ads/ad information must be submitted by the 10th of the month for inclusion in the next month's magazine. Send to sales@lakechapalasociety.com / *Todos los precios incluyen el trabajo de diseño gratuito, excepto los anuncios de tarjetas de presentación. 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*

Conecciones Advertising Prices / Precios de los Anuncios

	Cost / Precio	with/ con IVA
Back cover / Contraportada (8.5 x 11" / 22 x 28 cm)	\$4,620	\$5,359.20
Inside front & back cover / Contraportada interna (8.5 x 11" / 22 x 28 cm)	\$4,100	\$4,756.00
Full page / Página completa (8 x 10.5" / 20 x 27 cm)	\$3,360	\$3,897.60
1/2 page / 1/2 página (5.25 x 8" / 13 x 20 cm)	\$1,950	\$2,262.00
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1/8 page-business card / 1/8 página-tarjeta de presentación (3.25 x 2" / 8 x 5 cm)	\$ 370	\$ 429.20

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COVER: Urban Sketchers Ajijic

Celebrating the end of 2021 is something many of us have been waiting a while for. It is not that we have wanted to wish time away, but more about wanting to move on to what is next. It is sort of a rite of passage to use this time to reflect back on the things that we have accomplished before we move fully into that which is ahead.

As I look back, like many I am sure, I reflect not on a calendar year but on the "COVID period". Somehow making that one block of time makes the reflections more valuable.

Over these past 21 months — together — we have been through so much. The world truly has changed. The way we travel, the way we interact with others and greet one another. Work (or volunteerism) and social interactions have all changed. Many things have changed forever.

For us as humans that is awkward. Most people, (by nature) resist change. But change is inevitable. None of us has the same body, the same habits or the same environment we had decades ago. So why do we resist change so much? Possibly because our brains are wired to look for areas of comfort, to focus on our own interests and change offers uncertainty and the fear of loss and concern about how that change will impact us.

For an organization, change is an absolute necessity. If we only did what we have always done, the only outcome would be deterioration of our gardens, grounds, programs, and the organization as a whole. COVID has only put a spotlight on the need to progress.

Prior to COVID, the focus was on membership fees as the major source of our income. For years there was not the willingness to increase the budget for the desperately needed maintenance costs to keep our buildings from crumbling away and to address major liability and risk elements that demanded our attention. This all at the same time as we were about to enter the space of COVID, something none of us was prepared for.

These conditions presented an amazing challenge for us. The challenges include:

- Major damage to our large Neill James Patio pavers. A project that is still desperate for repair.
- The veranda of the Neill James house had a roof that was within months of caving in on people.
- The trees throughout the campus were neglected, with several facing serious conditions.
- The roots of the major Neill James tree, where Neil's ashes are buried, continue to create great damage to the house, bench, patio and adjacent areas.
- These roots also have caused great issues with the Koi pond that still needs to be addressed.
- Our iconic library faced serious loss of books as a result of water damage to the roof and walls.
- Rain water damage in walls has caused problems throughout the campus.
- Outdated electrical, water and sewerage systems continue to be a big challenge. We have not had hot water on campus for years.
- Bathrooms need updating.

- Computers are years outdated and the software that we operate on is a major part of customer service issues.
- Walkways throughout the entire campus offer serious risk with cracks and uneven levels.

I only mention some of these serious challenges, not to sound negative, but as a realist. And to ensure our members that these are things we take seriously and are committed to resolving.

Last year we made some great progress on a number of these issues and deferred maintenance projects are continuing. We took advantage of the months that our campus was closed or partially operating and worked through one project after another. Our campus committee is also in the process of documenting all the conditions and challenges we face in order to establish priorities, timelines and budgets for moving forward.

Last year we ended the year \$200,000 pesos in the negative. To some this may not sound like a major point. But there is only one thing that prevented us from a debt of \$2,400,000-(\$2.4 million). If we had stayed on that path, we absolutely would have had to close our gates permanently somewhere between June and September last year. To me, that was a scary thought and something as President I take very seriously.

This forced us to change our business model, to put a focus on fundraising. This was awkward and uncomfortable for many. And there just wasn't the time or space to fully help people transition through and understand the need for this change. (Though I continue to be available to anyone who would like to have this conversation).

The most wonderful and promising part of the past 21 months has been to see the number of people who open their hearts, their arms and their wallets to, not only keep our gates open, but to insure that our collaboration between Expats and the Mexican communities grows.

There are literally hundreds of Mexican families that are better off because the Lake Chapala Society is here making a difference in the community, their lives and the lives of their family.

Yes, there very much is a silver lining in what we have gone through over these 21 months. That silver lining is the compassion that you provide, that makes all this possible.

We will continue to plow through the many maintenance issues on campus, but the biggest growth is in the difference WE ALL make working together and building on the LCS 2.0 long-range plan that is committed to extending our legacy as an oasis for personal enrichment, socialization and collaboration throughout all communities in this region of Lakeside.

Can we continue to count on you?

There may be some more hurdles to pass, but I just know there is a bountiful world ahead for all who care to travel this path with us.

Very best wishes for an amazing 2022!

Steve Balfour
Your President,
The Lake Chapala Society

Mensaje del Presidente

Celebrar el final de 2021 es algo que muchos de nosotros hemos estado esperando. No es que hayamos querido desear que el tiempo se vaya, sino más bien queremos pasar a lo que sigue. Es una especie de derecho de paso para utilizar este tiempo para reflexionar sobre las cosas que hemos logrado antes de entrar de lleno en lo que está por venir.

Cuando miro hacia atrás, al igual que muchos, estoy seguro de que no reflexiono sobre un año natural, sino sobre el “período COVID”. De alguna manera, verlo como ese bloque de tiempo hace que las reflexiones sean más valiosas.

En estos últimos 21 meses - juntos - hemos pasado por muchas cosas. El mundo ha cambiado de verdad. La forma en que viajamos, la forma en que nos relacionamos con los demás y nos saludamos. El trabajo (o el voluntariado) y las interacciones sociales han cambiado. Muchas cosas han cambiado para siempre.

Para nosotros, como humanos, eso es incómodo. La mayoría de la gente, (por naturaleza) se resiste al cambio. Pero el cambio es inevitable. Ninguno de nosotros tiene el mismo cuerpo, los mismos hábitos o el mismo entorno que tenía hace décadas. Entonces, ¿por qué nos resistimos tanto al cambio? Posiblemente porque nuestros cerebros buscan áreas de confort, para centrarse en nuestros propios intereses y el cambio ofrece incertidumbre, el miedo a la pérdida y la preocupación sobre cómo nos afectará ese cambio.

Para una organización, el cambio es una necesidad absoluta. Si sólo hiciéramos lo que siempre hemos hecho, el único resultado sería el deterioro de nuestros jardines, terrenos, programas, la organización en su conjunto. COVID no ha hecho más que poner de relieve la necesidad de progresar.

Antes de COVID, las cuotas de los socios eran la principal fuente de ingresos. Durante años no hubo voluntad de aumentar el presupuesto para mantenimiento que se necesitaban desesperadamente y evitar que nuestros edificios se desmoronaran, para abordar los principales elementos de responsabilidad y riesgo que exigían nuestra atención. Todo ello al mismo tiempo que estábamos a punto de entrar en el espacio de COVID. Algo para lo que ninguno de nosotros estaba preparado.

Estas condiciones supusieron un reto increíble para nosotros. Los desafíos incluyen:

- » Daños importantes en el área de adoquín del Patio Neill James. Un proyecto que aún está desesperado por ser reparado.
- » La veranda de la casa Neill James tenía un techo que estaba a meses de derrumbarse sobre la gente.
- » Los árboles en todo el campus estaban descuidados, con varios enfrentando serias condiciones y peligros.
- » Las raíces del árbol principal del patio Neill James, donde están enterradas las cenizas de Neil, siguen creando grandes daños en la casa, la banca, el patio y las zonas adyacentes, estas raíces también han causado grandes problemas con el estanque de los koi, que todavía debe ser abordado.
- » Nuestra emblemática biblioteca ha sufrido graves pérdidas de libros como consecuencia de los daños causados por el agua en el techo y las paredes.
- » Los daños causados por el agua de lluvia en las paredes han causado problemas en todo el campus.
- » Los sistemas eléctricos, agua y alcantarillado obsoletos siguen siendo un gran reto. Hace años que no tenemos agua caliente en el campus.
- » Los baños necesitan ser actualizados.

» Las computadoras están anticuados desde hace años y el software con el que funcionamos es una parte importante de los problemas de servicio al cliente.

» Los andadores de todo el campus presentan graves riesgos con grietas y niveles irregulares.

Sólo menciono algunos de estos graves desafíos, no para sonar negativo, sino como realista. Y para asegurar a nuestros miembros que son cosas que nos tomamos en serio y que nos comprometemos a resolver.

El año pasado hicimos grandes progresos en varios de estos problemas y los proyectos de mantenimiento diferido continúan. Aprovechamos los meses en que nuestro campus estuvo cerrado o parcialmente operativo y trabajamos en un proyecto tras otro. Nuestro comité del campus también está en el proceso de documentar todas las condiciones y los desafíos que enfrentamos con el fin de establecer prioridades, plazos y presupuestos para seguir adelante.

El año pasado terminamos el año con \$200,000 pesos en negativo. Para algunos esto puede no parecer un punto importante. Pero hay una sola cosa que nos impidió una deuda de \$2,400,000 -(2.4 millones). Si hubiéramos seguido por ese camino, habríamos tenido que cerrar definitivamente nuestras puertas en algún momento entre junio y septiembre del año pasado. Para mí, eso era un pensamiento aterrador y algo que, como Presidente, me tomo muy en serio.

Esto nos obligó a cambiar nuestro modelo de negocio, a centrarnos en la recaudación de fondos. Esto fue incómodo para muchos. Y no había tiempo ni espacio para ayudar a la gente a entender la necesidad de este cambio. (Aunque sigo estando a disposición de quien quiera tener esta conversación).

La parte más maravillosa y prometedora de los últimos 21 meses ha sido ver el número de personas que abren sus corazones, sus brazos y sus carteras, no sólo para mantener nuestras puertas abiertas, sino para asegurar que nuestra colaboración entre extranjeros y las comunidades mexicanas crezcan.

Hay literalmente cientos de familias mexicanas que están mejor porque Lake Chapala Society está aquí haciendo una diferencia en la comunidad, sus vidas y las vidas de su familia.

Sí, hay un resquicio de esperanza en todo lo que hemos pasado durante estos 21 meses. Ese resquicio de esperanza es la compasión que ustedes proporcionan, que hace que todo esto sea posible.

Continuaremos navegando a través de los muchos problemas de mantenimiento en el campus, pero el mayor crecimiento está en la diferencia que TODOS hacemos trabajando juntos y construyendo en el plan de largo alcance LCS 2.0 que se compromete a - extender nuestro legado como un oasis para el enriquecimiento personal, la socialización y la colaboración en todas las comunidades de esta región de Lakeside.

¿Podemos seguir contando con ustedes?

Puede que haya algunos obstáculos más que superar, pero sé que hay un mundo abundante por delante para todos los que quieran recorrer este camino con nosotros.

¡Mis mejores deseos para un increíble 2022!

Steve Balfour, Su Presidente,
Lake Chapala Society.



-HAPPY-
BIRTHDAY

Conecciones Turns 3

By Harriet Hart

The first issue of *Conecciones* was published in January 2019 as a print magazine (also available online at the LCS website), the brainchild of two local magazine veterans, Marianne Carlson and me, Harriet Hart. Marianne had been editor of two publications, *The Lake Chapala Review* and the *American Legion's Roll Call*. I had written for both, plus the *Ojo del Lago*.

All but the *Ojo del Lago* were out of print in the fall of 2018, not because they were poor publications, but because it's difficult (and expensive) to keep a print magazine going. It takes a dynamic sales representative who can convince local businesses and organizations to advertise, plus a team of committed individuals to solicit and write articles, design and layout the product, and readers eager to find out what's going on in their community.

Marianne and I approached former LCS Executive Director Terry Vidal with our idea, and a sample of what the magazine might look like. LCS, we argued, needed one to enhance its profile at Lakeside, communicate regularly with its members, and, in keeping with its mission statement, to promote the active participation of Lakesides' inhabitants "to improve the quality of life lakeside." The LCS Board gave the go-ahead.

Fourteen print issues later, COVID struck and with it came the problems our entire community faced: gates and doors were closed, restrictions imposed. With businesses shut down and readers advised to stay home, it seemed prudent to stop the presses and limit publication to online editions.

Things have now returned to a new normal and *Conecciones* will appear in print, at least for January, February and March 2022. We realize that 2021 was confusing for our readers with five print issues, and six issues online only.

We have featured the covers of all 12 2021 issues on this January 2022 issue, so you can see at a glance, what you might have missed last year. The topics for the 12 cover stories, in order of appearance are:

- » *Conecciones*, The Magazine
- » The Founding of Guadalajara
- » Women in Folk Art
- » *Mihicihualli* (Goddess of the Lake)
- » Teaching: A Profile of Javier Zaragoza
- » Love for Everyone: the LGBTQ Community
- » Chapala's 20th Century Properties
- » Cruz Roja: Renal Health Care Facilities
- » How to Prepare for an Emergency
- » Indigenous Nations

» A Defense of Sensory Heritage (The Sounds of Lakeside)

» *Pueblos Magicos* in Jalisco.

All of these were informative and entertaining, addressing history, art, culture, the environment and folklore.

It would be dishonest if I didn't say how important I think it is that *Conecciones* appears in print every month. "A magazine, even in this age of electronic everything, everywhere, is a marvelous invention," writes Graydon Carter, the editor of *Vanity Fair*. "Magazines aren't going away anytime soon," Carter goes on to assure us. "They have survived radio, movies and television. And they have, so far, not perished at the altar of the Internet."

In September 2017, *Freeport Press* surveyed 1000 readers and discovered that the majority of respondents (over 70%) prefer print magazines to digital ones and gave many reasons why. Magazines are tangible things. You can hold them in your hands, take them along to the coffee shop, put bookmarks in your favorite sections, cut out articles, and store back copies forever. Readers enjoy the physical act of opening a magazine, turning the pages, looking closely at the illustrations and ads, then laying it down, knowing it will be there, waiting for them to pick it back up again when the mood strikes.

Reading a magazine is more relaxing than reading online. People get tired of sitting at computers and looking at screens. Those surveyed said that print information is easier to retain and retrieve, and that there is something seductive about the combination of words and images on the printed page.

Carter believes that in order for a publication to succeed, it has to have a point. Our intention for *Conecciones* is clear. We intend to promote and celebrate the Lake Chapala Society, the lakeside community, its people and all the activities that make life here special. The editorial team is excited to be part of such an initiative. We believe in this community and that this magazine will showcase the work of the talented writers, photographers and artists who live in our midst.

We invite you to get excited, too. Pick this issue up, find a favorite chair, lean back, relax and explore Lakeside. Remember that newspapers can tell you about the entire world, but magazines bundle up your corner of that world and deliver it to you in an affordable, transportable, lendable, and recyclable package.

Happy Birthday *Conecciones*.



*Feliz
Cumpleaños*

Conecciones cumple tres años

Por Harriet Hart



El primer número de Conecciones se publicó en enero de 2019 como una revista impresa (también disponible en línea en el sitio web de LCS), la idea de dos veteranas de revistas locales, Marianne Carlson y yo, Harriet Hart. Marianne había sido editora de dos publicaciones, The Lake Chapala Review y Roll Call de la Legión Americana. Yo había escrito para ambas, además del Ojo del Lago.

Todas, excepto el Ojo del Lago, estaban fuera de circulación en el otoño de 2018, no porque fueran publicaciones pobres, sino porque es difícil (y caro) mantener una revista impresa. Se necesita un representante de ventas dinámico que pueda convencer a las empresas y organizaciones locales de que se anuncien, además de un equipo de personas comprometidas que soliciten y escriban artículos, diseñen y maqueten el producto, y lectores deseosos de enterarse de lo que sucede en su comunidad.

Marianne y yo nos pusimos en contacto con el antiguo director ejecutivo de LCS, Terry Vidal, para presentarle nuestra idea y una muestra de cómo podría ser la revista. LCS, argumentamos, necesitaba una para mejorar su perfil en Lakeside, comunicarse regularmente con sus miembros y, en consonancia con su declaración de objetivos, “promover la participación activa de los habitantes de Lakeside para mejorar la calidad de vida a orillas del lago”. La Junta Directiva de LCS dio el visto bueno.

Catorce números impresos después, el COVID llegó y con él los problemas a los que se enfrentaba toda nuestra comunidad: se cerraron puertas y se impusieron restricciones. Con los negocios cerrados y los lectores aconsejados de quedarse en casa, pareció prudente parar las prensas y limitar la publicación a las ediciones en línea.

Ahora las cosas han vuelto a la normalidad y Conecciones aparecerá en papel, al menos durante los meses de enero, febrero y marzo de 2022. Somos conscientes de que el año 2021 fue confuso para nuestros lectores con cinco números impresos y siete números sólo en línea.

Hemos incluido las portadas de los doce números de 2021 en este número de enero de 2022, para que puedan ver de un vistazo lo que se perdieron el año pasado. Los temas de las doce portadas, por orden de aparición, fueron:

- » Conecciones, La Revista
- » La fundación de Guadalajara
- » La mujer en el arte popular
- » Mihicihualli (Diosa del Lago)
- » La enseñanza: un perfil de Javier Zaragoza
- » Amor para todos: la comunidad LGBTQ
- » Propiedades del siglo XX en Chapala
- » Cruz Roja: Centros de salud renal
- » Cómo prepararse para una emergencia
- » Naciones indígenas
- » Una defensa del patrimonio sensorial (Los sonidos de la Ribera)
- » Pueblos Mágicos de Jalisco.

Todos ellos fueron informativos y entretenidos, abordando la historia, el arte, la cultura, el medio ambiente y el folclore.

Sería deshonesto si no dijera lo importante que me parece que Conecciones aparezca impresa cada mes. “Una revista, incluso en esta época en la que todo es electrónico y está en todas partes, es un invento maravilloso”, escribe Graydon Carter, editor de Vanity Fair. “Las revistas no van a desaparecer pronto”, continúa asegurando Carter.

“Han sobrevivido a la radio, al cine y a la televisión. Y, de momento, no han perecido en el altar de Internet”.

En septiembre de 2017, Freeport Press realizó una encuesta a 1,000 lectores y descubrió que la mayoría de los encuestados (más del 70%) prefiere las revistas impresas a las digitales y dio muchas razones para ello. Las revistas son cosas tangibles. Puedes tenerlas en las manos, llevártelas a la cafetería, poner marcadores en tus secciones favoritas, recortar artículos y guardar ejemplares atrasados para siempre. Los lectores disfrutaban del acto físico de abrir una revista, pasar las páginas, mirar de cerca las ilustraciones y los anuncios, y luego dejarla en el suelo, sabiendo que estará ahí, esperando a que la vuelvan a coger cuando les apetezca.

Leer una revista es más relajante que leer en línea. La gente se cansa de estar sentada frente al ordenador y de mirar las pantallas. Los encuestados afirman que la información impresa es más fácil de retener y recuperar, y que hay algo seductor en la combinación de palabras e imágenes en la página impresa.

Carter cree que para que una publicación tenga éxito, debe tener un sentido. Nuestra intención con Conecciones es clara. Pretendemos promover y celebrar a Lake Chapala Society, la comunidad lacustre, su gente y todas las actividades que hacen que la vida aquí sea especial. El equipo editorial está entusiasmado por formar parte de una iniciativa de este tipo. Creemos en esta comunidad y en que esta revista mostrará el trabajo de los talentosos escritores, fotógrafos y artistas que viven entre nosotros.

Te invitamos a que tú también te emociones. Tómate este número, búscate tu sillón favorito, recuéstate, relájate y explora Lakeside. Recuerda que los periódicos pueden contarte el mundo entero, pero las revistas recogen tu rincón de ese mundo y te lo entregan en un paquete asequible, transportable, prestable y reciclable.

Feliz cumpleaños Conecciones.



*** WANTED ***

Call for Submissions and Volunteers

Since January 2019, LCS has published a magazine titled *Conecciones*, to reflect the ongoing positive cultural exchange between the foreign and Mexican communities living at lakeside and to highlight the contributions and efforts of the Lake Chapala Society to the quality of life of our residents.

Conecciones showcases the writing, artwork and photography of the talented and creative people in our community. We publish feature articles, short fiction, poetry and personal essays and strive for the highest literary standards. Our aim is to be informative and pertinent.

If you are interested in helping LCS publish this quality magazine, let Volunteer Coordinator Barbara Marchant at LCS know. We need writers, photographers, and sales representatives.

A Delight to the Senses

By **Diana Ayala**

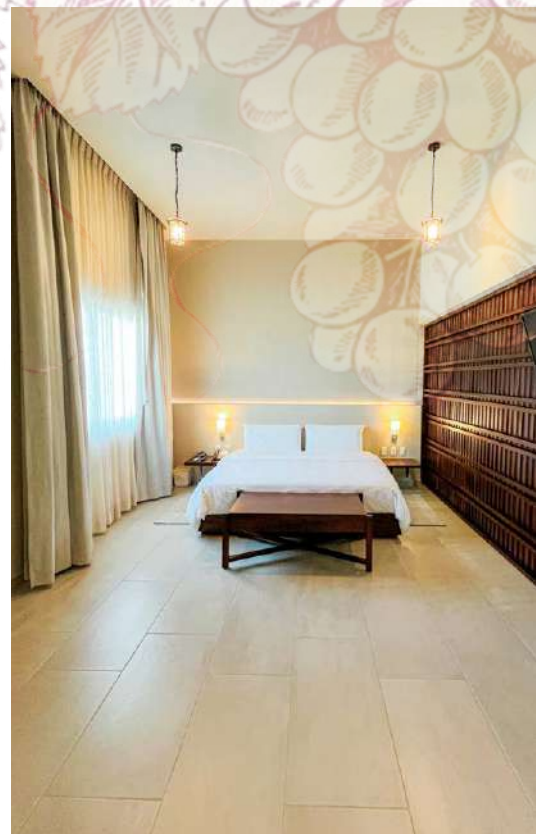
The Ribera de Chapala offers diverse landscapes that delight our senses, and lately we have seen the arrival of vineyards in the area. One of the most recent options to enjoy one of them is Quinta Fabiana, which is located just after Jocotepec and is a small paradise.

They have a vineyard with an expanse of 2,000 square meters housing 500 vitis vinefera Syrha varietal plants, brought directly from Spain. The house winemaker is in charge of the development and growth of the grape crops. He has the experience and knowledge for the creation of the house wine.

Fabiana, Vintage 2015, 100% Carignan red wine, with ripe red fruit aromatics, shows ripe tannins, and possesses nobility on the palate with astringency and balanced acidity. Aged in oak barrels.

Fabiana White Wine, Vintage 2017, is a delicate white wine, full-bodied and fresh on the palate. Light notes of guava and green apple on the nose. Slightly acidic on the palate with citrus notes of grapefruit and lime, a faithful expression of the 100% Palomino variety.

From January 13 to 16, the grape harvest will take place, where you can taste different wines from the area. There will be activities such as grape picking and grape treading. And while there, one can enjoy the signature food of chefs Josue Sierra and Daniel Fragnals, whose creations include breaded shrimp in coffee and cookies,



Thursday 13 to Sunday 16 January

Includes

Glass of wine

Tasting of our invited wine houses

Vineyard tour

Shuttle

Live DJ music from 2pm

SAVE YOUR PLACE!

📞 33 32 18 51 32

📍 Quinta Fabiana

WWW.QUINTAFABIANA.COM



with yellow mole, made with passion fruit, mango, pineapple, apple chili and Middle Eastern spices; accompanied with cilantro salad and candied onions. Or you can try the grilled octopus, with dairy sauce, butter, citrus, oriental sauces and chipotle chili. Both options are an explosion of flavor on the palate.

The hotel has seven rooms in the style of Mexican haciendas, with a heated pool and spa, making it the perfect place for a short getaway.

If you want to attend the grape harvest, they will provide a transportation service from the Lake Chapala Society. For more information call (33) 3 218 5132 or 376 690 6740; to make a reservation contact: reservaciones@quintafabiana.com or cflores@quintafabiana.com



Un deleite a los sentidos Por Diana Ayala

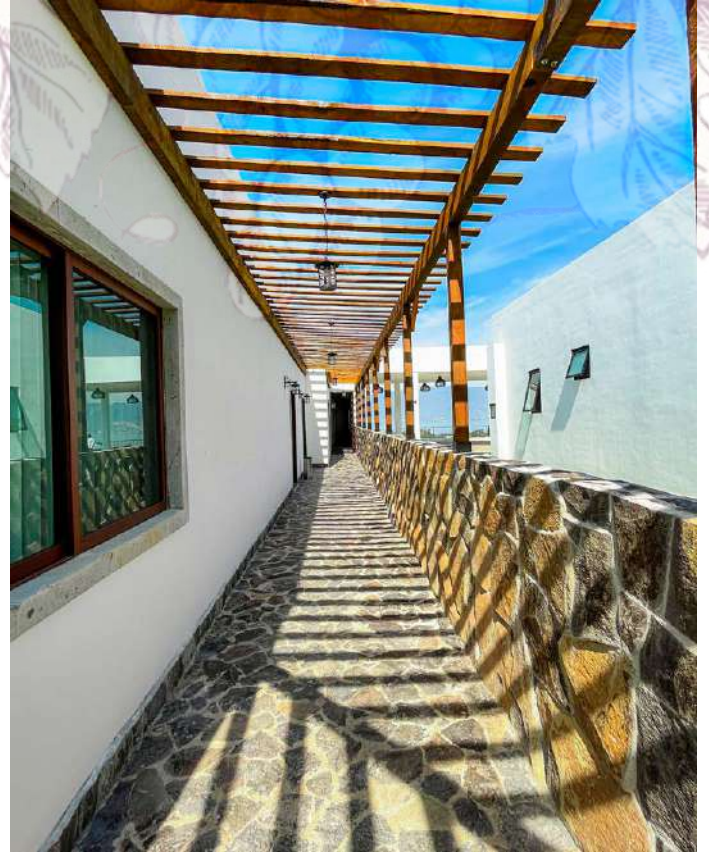
La Ribera de Chapala nos ofrece diversos paisajes que deleitan nuestros sentidos y últimamente hemos visto llegar a la zona los viñedos; una de las más recientes opciones para disfrutarlos es Quinta Fabiana, la cual se encuentra poco después de Jocotepec y es un pequeño paraíso.



Tienen un viñedo con una extensión de 2,000m² alojando 500 plantas de vitis vinefera varietal Syrha, traídas directamente de España. El enólogo de la casa es el encargado del desarrollo y buen crecimiento de las cosechas de uvas. El cual tienen la experiencia y conocimientos para la elaboración del vino de la casa.

Vino Tinto Fabiana, Cosecha 2015, Vino tinto 100% Carignan, con aromática a frutos rojos maduros, fiel expresión de una varietal de temporal. Muestra taninos maduros, nobleza al paladar con astringencia y acidez balanceada. Añejado en barrica de roble.

Vino Blanco Fabiana, Cosecha 2017, Vino blanco delicado, de buen cuerpo y fresco paladar. En nariz notas ligeras de guayaba y manzana verde. En boca ligeramente ácido con notas cítricas de toronja y lima, fiel expresión de la varietal 100% palomino.



Del 13 al 16 de enero llevarán a cabo la vendimia, donde se podrán degustar distintos vinos, se tendrán actividades de pizza y pisado de uvas. Y ya estando ahí, disfrutar la comida de autor de sus chef Josue Sierra y Daniel Fraginalls, que tienen entre sus creaciones unos camarones empanizados en café y galleta, con mole amarillo, elaborado con maracuyá, mango, piña, chile manzano y especias de medio oriente; acompañado con ensalada de cilantro y cebollitas confitadas. El pulpo sarandeado a las brasas, con salsa de receta secreta, o el Ossobuco de Ternera. Todas las opciones son toda una explosión de sabor al paladar.

El hotel cuenta con 7 habitaciones bajo el concepto de haciendas de México, tiene alberca con calefacción, spa, haciéndolo el lugar perfecto para una pequeña escapada. Si quieres asistir a la vendimia, tendrán servicio de transporte, mayores informes:

(33) 32185132 o al 376 690 6740
reservaciones@quintafabiana.com
cflores@quintafabiana.com





'Have Hammer Will Travel' Helping Women and Girls Too

By Carol L. Bowman

Many Lakeside residents have heard of, 'Have Hammer Will Travel' (HHWT) or have driven by its woodworking shop next to *Todo Bueno Consignment Store* in Riberas del Pilar. Few, however, understand the reach of this legal Mexican charity's helping arm that uses woodworking as a vehicle for teaching students who need additional supports. I visited the facility, spoke with Board President, Michel Ouimet and Treasurer/Officer of Philanthropy/Major Gifts, H. Wayne Renz, and interacted with the students, to learn the inspiring story of this volunteer organization. "We don't teach carpentry," Michel noted. "We teach valuable life skills that can permanently change the course of lives. Students learn commitment, structure, time management, accountability, confidence and the joy of completing a woodworking project. Each student must make two of every birdhouse, quilt rack, etc. One gets sold in the *Todo Bueno* shop for program revenue, and the student keeps the other one or sells it for extra money, which brings incentive and pride," explained Michel.

In 2009, the original *Hope House Project* based at a home for abused boys in Ixtualacan de Membrillos, became 'Have Hammer Will Travel' and moved to the Lake Chapala Society grounds in Ajijic. The LCS board offered space for woodworking classes free of charge in exchange for carpentry repairs needed on the LCS campus. Wayne said HHWT owes LCS extreme gratitude because without this expat organization's generosity, the program could never have expanded and developed to the point it has today.

Over the past 12 years, the positive mission of HHWT and its three levels of mastery has serviced over 500 students, many who have achieved phenomenal accomplishments. Level 1 — basic, safe use of hand tools, career path consideration and development of interpersonal skills for youngsters 10-14. Level II — Intermediate woodworking skills needed for entry level employment for 15 + year-olds and Level III — skilled carpentry experience geared toward professional employment for those 21 and above. All are designed to assist low income families.

Meeting average monthly financial obligations of \$88,000 pesos through 100% donations has proved to be an almost insurmountable challenge at times. Operational expenses of facility rent, salary for a maestro carpentry instructor, materials, on site utilities, plus student scholarships to *CONALEP Tech* require a steady influx of cash. "COVID nearly ruined us," lamented Wayne. "We were basically shut-down from March, 2020 until September, 2021, without donations or income rev-

enues from *Todo Bueno Consignment Store*, which in affiliation with the St. Andrews Anglican Church Outreach Program, helps to keep HHWT solvent."

Wayne has enlisted sources of additional financial support through *Global Giving* (www.globalgiving.org), matching funds from local Rotary, and the incredibly important idea of legacy donations.

September, 2021 saw a new dawn when the program reopened post pandemic. Reduced class size, with lessons taught in Spanish instead of English, allows instructors to individualize each student's



progress toward their own goals. Michel introduced an exciting class to empower women and girls toward more confidence in themselves, to learn how to use small, hand-tools safely and to improve their ability to handle repairs within their own homes. Mentoring, hands-on vocational training and computer aided design (CAD) instruction will help women and girls achieve a level of economic security they lack within the Mexican community.

I met with four of these novice students and enthusiasm for the class spilled from them. In just three months, they all have more confidence in themselves and in working with tools safely. They love coming to class and are excited about their projects and their futures. Cynthia wants to make a rocking chair for her daughter; Laura is thinking about opening a business. Cuahutli has been able to make simple repairs in her house, while Eva, a teenager, dreams of making her own desk so she has a proper place to do her school work.

Wayne and Michel offered a story which captured the complete scope of what is possible through HHWT. Alerted that three boys at *Mama Cleo's Boys' Home* did not have beds, HHWT volunteers set out to rectify that situation. The boys came to the workshop, learned how to design a three-tier bunk bed using CAD computer software, then measured, cut and sanded the interlocking wooden boards to scale, for easy assembly. The Rotary stepped up and purchased new pillows, mattresses, sheets and blankets. On Christmas Eve, Wayne, Michel and other volunteers delivered the three-tier bunk bed to *Mama Cleo's*. That night, the boys snuggled in their new bunks, knowing they had designed it and had used woodworking skills to complete it.

So donate your time as a volunteer either at the HHWT school or *Todo Bueno Consignment Store*, donate your money through direct payment of cash or check, sponsor a student by paying for a year's tuition of 7200 pesos, support the organization through *Global Giving*, Lake Chapala Charities or create a legacy donation in your Mexican Will. Go to www.havehammer.org for more information. But above all, 'permanently change the course of someone's life for the better' and you will ultimately also change your own.

Have Hammer Will Travel Ayudando mujeres y niñas también.

Por Carol L. Bowman



Muchos residentes de la Ribera han oído hablar de 'Have Hammer Will Travel' (HHWT) o han pasado por su taller de carpintería al lado de la tienda de consignación Todo Bueno en Riberas del Pilar. Sin embargo, pocos entienden el objetivo de esta asociación sin fines de lucro mexicana, que utiliza la carpintería como vehículo para enseñar y apoyar. Visité las instalaciones, hablé con el Presidente de la Junta Directiva, Michel Ouimet y el Tesorero/Oficial de Filantropía/Donaciones Mayores, H. Wayne Renz, e interactué con los estudiantes, para conocer la inspiradora historia de esta organización de voluntarios.

“No enseñamos carpintería”, señaló Michel. “Enseñamos habilidades para la vida que pueden cambiar permanentemente el curso de sus vidas. Los alumnos aprenden compromiso, estructura, gestión del tiempo, responsabilidad, confianza y la alegría de completar un proyecto de carpintería. Cada estudiante debe hacer dos piezas de cada una; entre casa para pájaros, estante para edredones, etc. Una se vende en la tienda de Todo Bueno para obtener ingresos del programa, y el estudiante se queda con la otra o la vende para obtener dinero extra, lo que supone un incentivo y un orgullo”, explica Michel.

En 2009, el proyecto original de la Casa de la Esperanza, con sede en un hogar para niños maltratados en Ixthualacan de Membrillos, se convirtió en “Have Hammer Will Travel” y se trasladó a los terrenos de Lake de Chapala en Ajijic. La junta directiva de LCS ofreció un espacio para las clases de carpintería de forma gratuita a cambio de las reparaciones de carpintería necesarias en el campus de LCS. Wayne dijo que HHWT le debe una gratitud extrema a LCS porque sin la generosidad de esta organización de expatriados, el programa nunca podría haberse expandido y desarrollado hasta el punto que tiene hoy.

En los últimos 12 años, la misión positiva de HHWT y sus tres niveles de dominio han servido a más de 500 estudiantes, muchos de los cuales han alcanzado logros fenomenales. Nivel 1 - uso básico y seguro de las herramientas de mano, consideración de la trayectoria profesional y desarrollo de habilidades interpersonales para jóvenes de 10 a 14 años. Nivel II - habilidades intermedias de carpintería necesarios para el empleo de nivel de entrada para 15 + años y el nivel III - experiencia de carpintería especializada orientada hacia el empleo profesional para los 21 y más. Todos están diseñados para ayudar a las familias de bajos ingresos.

Cumplir con las obligaciones financieras mensuales promedio de \$88,000 pesos a través de donaciones ha demostrado ser un desafío casi insuperable a veces. Los gastos operativos de la renta de las instalaciones, el salario del maestro carpintero, los materiales, los servicios públicos en el sitio, además de las becas para los estudiantes del CONALEP Tech, requieren un flujo constante de efectivo. “COVID casi nos arruina”, se lamenta Wayne. “Básicamente estuvimos cerrados desde marzo de 2020 hasta septiembre de 2021, sin donaciones ni ingresos de la tienda de consignación Todo Bueno, la cual tiene apoyo de la Iglesia Anglicana de San Andrés, y ayuda a mantener la solvencia de HHWT”.

Wayne ha conseguido fuentes de apoyo financiero adicional a través de Global Giving (www.globalgiving.org), fondos de contrapartida del Rotary local y las donaciones de legado.

En septiembre de 2021 se produjo un nuevo amanecer cuando el programa volvió a abrirse. La reducción del tamaño de las clases, con lecciones impartidas en español en lugar de inglés, permite a los instructores individualizar el progreso de cada estudiante hacia sus propios objetivos. Michel introdujo una clase emocionante para empoderar a las mujeres y las niñas hacia una mayor confianza en sí mismas, para aprender a utilizar pequeñas herramientas manuales de forma segura y para mejorar su capacidad de manejar las reparaciones dentro de sus propios hogares. La tutoría, la formación profesional práctica y la enseñanza del diseño asistido por ordenador (CAD) ayudarán a las mujeres y niñas a alcanzar un nivel de seguridad económica del que muchas veces carecen en la comunidad mexicana.

Me reuní con cuatro de estas estudiantes principiantes y el entusiasmo por la clase brotó de ellas. En sólo tres meses, todas tienen más confianza en sí mismas y en el trabajo con herramientas de forma segura. Les encanta venir a clase y están entusiasmadas con sus proyectos y su futuro. Cynthia quiere hacer una mecedora para su hija; Laura está pensando en abrir un negocio. Cuahutli ha sido capaz de hacer reparaciones sencillas en su casa, mientras que Eva, una adolescente, sueña con hacer su propio escritorio para tener un lugar adecuado para hacer sus trabajos escolares.

Wayne y Michel me compartieron una historia que capta el alcance completo de lo que es posible a través de HHWT. Alertados de que tres chicos del Hogar de Niños de Mama Cleo no tenían camas, los voluntarios de HHWT se propusieron rectificar esa situación. Los chicos acudieron al taller, aprendieron a diseñar una litera de tres niveles utilizando un programa informático de CAD, y luego midieron, cortaron y lijaron las tablas de madera entrelazadas a escala, para facilitar el montaje. Los rotarios se encargaron de comprar almohadas, colchones, sábanas y mantas nuevas. La víspera de Navidad, Wayne, Michel y otros voluntarios entregaron la litera de tres niveles a Mama Cleo. Esa noche, los niños se acurrucaron en sus nuevas literas, sabiendo que ellos las habían diseñado y que habían utilizado sus conocimientos de carpintería para completarlas.

Así que dona tu tiempo como voluntario ya sea en la escuela HHWT o en la Tienda de Consignación Todo Bueno, dona tu dinero a través de un pago directo en efectivo o cheque, apadrina a un estudiante pagando un año de colegiatura de \$7,200 pesos, apoya a la organización a través de Global Giving, Lake Chapala Charities o crea un legado de donación en tu testamento mexicano. Visita www.havehammer.org para obtener más información. Pero, sobre todo, “cambia permanentemente el curso de la vida de alguien para mejor” y en última instancia también cambiarás la tuya.



Pat Apt, an Artist for Social Justice

By Barbara Hildt

Pat Apt is a Lakeside artist with much to say with the images she creates. Her life journey is as interesting as her many works of art.

When the youngest of her four children entered nursery school, Pat was finally able to follow her passion for creativity, studying art at the University of Southern Missouri. “When I made my first print, I knew I was a printmaker,” Pat recalled. “I didn’t decide to become an artist. I suddenly realized I am an artist.”

With her children grown, in 1992 Pat knew it was time to leave her home on the coast of Maine and to set off alone in her van in search of a new home and adventures in Mexico. She was headed to San Miguel de Allende, but a “wrong turn” brought her to El Parque, the trailer park that was in San Antonio Tlayacapan, Jalisco.

Pat discovered a new co-op being formed called CABA, Centro Ajijic de Bellas Artes, and she created her art studio there. She became friends with many of the wonderful local Mexican artists. Later she created her studio-gallery, Conejo en la Luna, (Rabbit in the Moon) near the Lake Chapala Society. There Pat spent most days painting and making prints in her studio, pausing to engage with those who ventured into her gallery. She appreciates her time alone with her creative muses and she also loves spending time with people, especially those who appreciate art.

“My art is about communicating with the viewers,” Pat exclaims. “I create images to examine ideas and feelings, not to sell art and make money. I am successful if a viewer is moved by one of my images.”

Pat appreciates the natural beauty on the shores of Lake Chapala. Sometimes it inspires her to make beautiful images of pastoral scenes. More often, she feels moved to create images that express her feelings about social in-



justices, as in her print of a homeless mother with three small children living in their car and her print depicting kids in cages and entitled “Border Lullaby.”

Pat wondered why Mexicans would relate to some of her images inspired by social injustices

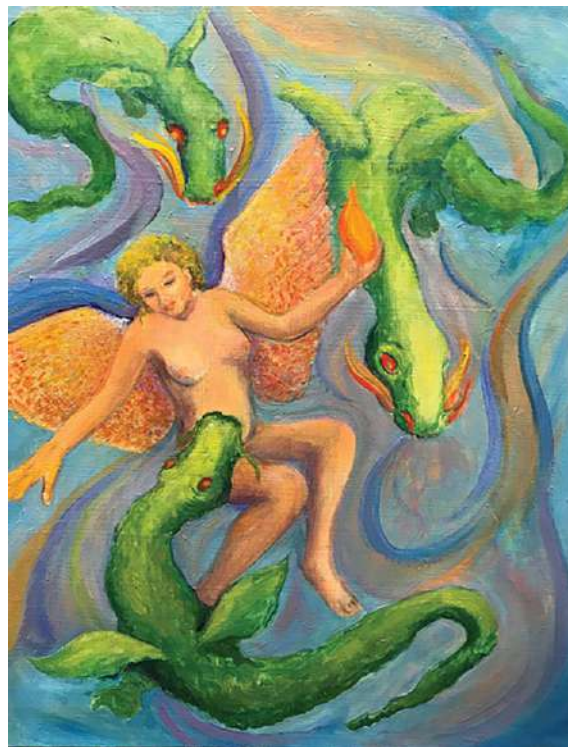
In her native US., when she witnessed a Mexican man with tears streaming down his cheeks as he viewed her image of the homeless mother, she asked him why he was so moved and he said, “This is the way life is, not just in America.”

Pat’s creative process doesn’t begin with an image in her head. “All the knowing is in my hands. When I put a pencil or charcoal to paper or some paint on a canvas, the images emerge and evolve,” Pat explains.

During COVID, Pat has been inspired to create images that express more about our collective evolution as humans. “COVID is a time to go within to examine our ourselves and injustices in our lives,” she says.

Pat’s colorful painting of a nude female angel surrounded by three dragons is a depiction of a being confronting unresolved issues, as we all have and need to acknowledge. “We’re all dancing with our dragons,” she says. The angels in Pat’s paintings are not religious symbols, she explains. “They are positive forces of the universe.” Another painting with four angels holding the planet earth conveys Pat’s belief that everyone and everything in the universe is connected. “We are all part of one great organism.”

In the nearly 30 years Pat has lived in Ajijic, she has had exhibitions of her remarkable art in other Mexican cities including Guadalajara, Zacatecas, and Pátzcuaro. To arrange a visit to Pat Apt’s new studio in Chapala, one may contact her at patapt22@hotmail.com





Pat Apt, una artista por la justicia social.

Por Barbara Hildt

Pat Apt es una artista de Lakeside que tiene mucho que decir con las imágenes que crea. Su vida es tan interesante como sus numerosas obras de arte.

Cuando el menor de sus cuatro hijos entró en la guardería, Pat pudo finalmente seguir su pasión por la creatividad, estudiando arte en la Universidad del Sur de Missouri. “Cuando hice mi primer grabado, supe que era grabadora”, recuerda Pat. “No decidí convertirme en artista. De repente me di cuenta de que soy una artista”.

Con sus hijos crecidos, en 1992 Pat supo que era el momento de dejar su casa en la costa de Maine y partir sola en su remolque en busca de un nuevo hogar y aventuras en México. Se dirigía a San Miguel de Allende, pero un “giro equivocado” la llevó a El Parque, el lugar de remolques que estaba en San Antonio Tlayacapan, Jalisco.

Pat descubrió una nueva cooperativa que se estaba formando llamada CABA, Centro Ajijic de Bellas Artes, y creó su estudio de arte allí. Se hizo amiga de muchos de los maravillosos artistas mexicanos locales. Más tarde creó su estudio-galería, Conejo en la Luna, cerca de Lake Chapala Society. Allí Pat pasaba la mayor parte de los días pintando y haciendo grabados en su estudio, haciendo una pausa para conversar con los que se aventuraban a entrar en su galería. Aprecia su tiempo a solas con sus musas creativas y también le encanta pasar tiempo con la gente, especialmente con aquellos que aprecian el arte.

“Mi arte consiste en comunicarse con los espectadores”, exclama Pat. “Creo imágenes para examinar ideas y sentimientos, no para vender arte y ganar dinero. Tengo éxito si un espectador se emociona con una de mis imágenes”.

Pat aprecia la belleza natural de las orillas del lago de Chapala. A veces la inspira a hacer bellas imágenes de escenas pastorales. A menudo, se siente movida a crear imágenes que expresan sus sentimientos sobre las injusticias sociales, como en su impresión de una madre sin hogar con tres niños pequeños que viven en su coche y su impresión que representa a los niños



en jaulas y que se titula “Canción de cuna de la frontera.”

Pat se preguntó por qué los mexicanos se relacionarían con algunas de sus imágenes inspiradas en las injusticias sociales en su país natal, Estados Unidos. Cuando vio a un mexicano con lágrimas en las mejillas al ver su imagen de la madre sin hogar. Ella le preguntó por qué estaba tan conmovido y él respondió: “Así es la vida, no sólo en Estados Unidos”.

El proceso creativo de Pat no comienza con una imagen en su cabeza. “Todo el conocimiento está en mis manos. Cuando pongo un lápiz o un carboncillo sobre el papel o algo de pintura sobre un lienzo, las imágenes surgen y evolucionan”, explica Pat.

Durante COVID, Pat se ha inspirado para crear imágenes que expresen más sobre nuestra evolución colectiva como humanos. “COVID es un momento para ir a nuestro interior y examinarnos a nosotros mismos y a nuestras vidas”, dice.

El colorido cuadro de Pat de un ángel femenino desnudo rodeado de tres dragones es una representación de un ser que se enfrenta a problemas no resueltos, como todos tenemos y necesitamos reconocer. “Todos bailamos con nuestros dragones”, dice. Los ángeles de los cuadros de Pat no son símbolos religiosos, explica. “Son fuerzas positivas del universo”. Otro cuadro con cuatro ángeles que sostienen el planeta

Tierra transmite la creencia de Pat de que todos y todo en el universo están conectados. “Todos formamos parte de un gran organismo”.

En los casi 30 años que Pat ha vivido en Ajijic, ha realizado exposiciones de su extraordinario arte en otras ciudades mexicanas, como Guadalajara, Zacatecas y Pátzcuaro. Para concertar una visita al nuevo estudio de Pat Apt en Chapala, se puede contactar con ella en patapt22@hotmail.com



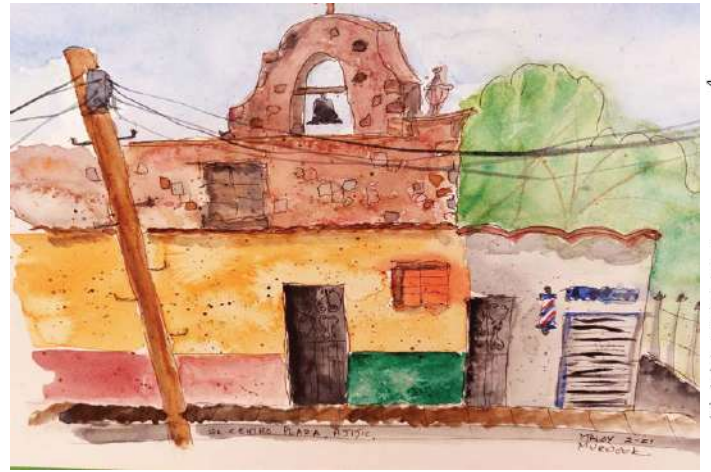
Urban Sketchers *Ajijic*

Show the world one drawing
at a time!

By Steve Parker

Living in the Lake Chapala area, one soon finds there are countless ways to be involved in the community. How about dancing, singing, exercising, writing, sewing, discussing, language classes and even pottery making?. You name it and it is offered. Urban Sketchers Ajijic is a hidden gem and another wonderful way to celebrate the beauty and heritage of our community.

Beginning in 2019, a number of artistic minded individuals, some who had been with Urban Sketchers groups around the world, were anxious to pick up their sketchpads. Ajijic sketchers gather at a chosen destination, fan out to sketch a specific area in the community, ready to enjoy an hour and forty-five minutes creating their



artistic sketches. After the sketching period the group re-convenes to what is called a “throwdown” where their sketches are enjoyed by the entire group. The sketches are then photographed and put on the Urban Sketchers Ajijic Facebook page to share with friends and other sketchers groups around the world. The framework of the group has been established by Urban Sketchers National Organization, but more about that later.

If you are hesitant, perhaps thinking you are not creative enough for the group, fear not. Peter Shandera, one of the Urban Sketcher administrators, emphasizes Urban Sketchers Ajijic is about the experience of focusing on the beauty of the community and doing your best to record and enjoy the act. There are all levels of skills, and the purpose is to have a great sketching experience with like-minded individuals.

Sketchers use pencil, pen and ink, marker, watercolor and even I pads. Members are always welcome to share tips and techniques at the non-judgmental throwdown. After the throwdown, discussions continue at a get together for a light dinner at a local establishment. Even when members of the group return to their homes in the US and Canada, they can access several photographs and contribute their creations to the Facebook Page. Co-administrators Tom Gray and Elaine Frenett aid in selecting the locations, notifying members, and choosing the place for the throwdown and restaurant.

Here is a history of Urban Sketchers:

Urban Sketchers is a global community of artists who practice drawing on location in cities, towns and villages they live in or travel to. A quick search on YouTube will show you a multitude of sites and groups around the world. The Urban Sketchers movement was started in 2007 by journalist Gabriel Campanario. Campanario is a Spanish journalist and illustrator living in Seattle who works for the Seattle Times. He encouraged artists to submit drawings and sketches for publication.



Soon more and more artists began to submit and share their drawings online. Campanario started a group to support and promote journalistic drawing depicting real life as it happens in front of the artist. Urban Sketchers was born and grew in the United States and soon around the world. The organization's task is to raise the artistic, storytelling and educational value of location drawing, promoting its practice and connecting people around the world who sketch on location where they live and travel. For more information about Urban Sketchers, you can check out these YouTube videos:

**Urban Sketching Essentials Part 1 |
Intro & Basics | Strathmore
Urban Sketching Series Pt 1 | Some basics**

How to Get Started with Urban Sketching - YouTube

To find out more, I decided to attend one of Urban Sketchers gatherings. On the Facebook page Tom Gray provided a map where members could go, just north of the carretera on Galeana. Upon arriving I found about 15 individuals scattered over several blocks finding their subject matter. The artists sat on lawn chairs, some on the curbs and one even stood. Some were working in pencil, pen and ink and watercolors. I was curious to know what prompted them to join the group. There were almost as many responses as members.

- » “Being around like thinking artists”.
- » “Enjoying the challenge of completing a sketch in a timed format.”
- » “ Seeing and recording the real Ajijic neighborhoods” .
- » “Developing my drawing skills”.
- » “Learning from other members of the group”
- » “Appreciating the non-judgmental and encouragement attitudes of the other members of the group”.

Staying around for the “Throwdown” at 4:30, the group reconvened and found a spot on a driveway and placed their creations on display. Comments were en-



couraging, some offering suggestions to be tried in the future, but most enjoyed looking for ways to improve on their own talent and techniques.

Urban Sketchers welcomes new artists to the program. Visit the webpage and ask to become a member. There is no cost, so grab your art supplies and look forward to the comradery you receive as you draw Ajijic, showing the world one drawing at a time.

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Jalisco 45920
Phone 376 766 4055

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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. - 1:30 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 ** US Citizens (S) Sign up (C) Member card (M) LCS members only

LESSONS (M)

Basic Principles of Drawing/Painting T 9-11
Email jorge.garcia003@gmail.com

Bordado Artístico (Spanish) M+W+F 4-6

Breathwork & Bodywork Exercise T 11:30-12:30

Children's Art SAT 10-12 Invitation only

Exercise M+W+F 9-9:50

Hurachess Club* SAT 12-1*

Intermediate Hatha Yoga T+TH 2-3:30

Intro to Lakeside Zoom Jan 14 9-12

Introduction to Lakeside Jan 10 9-12

Introduction to Spanish (S) 11, 18, 25 January, 12-1:30. Cost

Line Dancing, redheadinmexico@gmail.com T + TH 10-11:15

Low Impact Cardio Walk Aerobics M+W 10-11

Mah Jongg for Beginners M+TH Jan 10, 13, 17, 20

Mudlarks Pottery Introduction to Ceramics (S) M+F 11-1
Limited to 3 people. Cost + registration

Mudlarks Pottery Open Studios (S) M+F 10-2

NIA Fitness F 10-11

Scottish Country Dancing TH 11:30-1:30

Stretch & Balance, T+TH 8:45-9:45
harry_bertram@hotmail.com

Spanish in Action classes See LCS website or in
(español en acción) the office for more info

Spanish a la carta Online program, See LCS website/more info.

Tech Help via Email lcs.tech.training@gmail.com

Write to a Prompt Writers' Group TH 10-12

LIBRARIES (M)

Book Library M-Sat 10-1:30

DVD, 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)

Bridge4Fun T+F 1-4:30

Discussion Group W 12-1:30

English/Spanish Conversation* Open to public Sat 12-1:30*

Everyday Mindfulness Zoom, barbarahildt@gmail.com M 10:00

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*

Cruz Roja Table T 12-1:30, F 10-12

Hospital San Antonio TH 10-12

IMSS & Immigration Services M+T 10-1
Call for Appointment 333-157-9472 No sign up

La Pueblita 2nd & 4th T 10-12

Lakeside Insurance T+TH 11-2

Shiatsu Chair Massage 1st+3rd 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

Optometrist Claravision (S) TH 9-4
Call for appointment 331-411-1178

Skin Cancer Screening (S) Sign up in LCS office

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

Dementia Support Group T 11:30-1:30

Diabetes Support Group Zoom, 1st F 11:00
welchk4diabetes@gmail.com

Information Desk M-Sat 10-1:30

Lakeside AA M+TH 4-5

Needle Pushers T 10-11:45

Open Circle Sun 10:30-11:30

Pueblo Magico M 6-9

Toastmasters M 7-9

NEW ACTIVITIES:

- Breathwork & Bodywork Exercise: Tuesdays, 11:30-12:30, SC Patio. First 30 minutes focuses on pressure points and breathwork and the second 30 minutes on ground-based movements, self-massage, kinetic movement. Mats required for the second 30 minutes. Instructor John Paul Gagliano, jp.gagliano@gmail.com. LCS members only.
- Shiatsu Chair Massage: 1st & 3rd Thursdays, 10-12, Pond Patio. Free 10-minute massage for LCS Members only. Appointments required. Call David at 331-604-0971 for appointment time. Massage focuses on back, spine, neck, shoulders, arms and hands.
David Herrera Lara, masajes5e@yahoo.com.mx.
- Cruz Roja Table: Tuesdays, 12-1:30, Fridays 10-12, Blue Umbrella Patio. Information on Cruz Roja services available. Emergency kits for medical and health information available for sale. Colleen Beery, 415-717-6062, colleenbeery@gmail.com
- NIA Fitness/Joy of Movement: F 10-11. SC Patio. Non-impact dance activity combining aspects of dance and martial arts, and yoga movements. Susan Michie, sgm150@gmail.com
- American National Mah Jongg League Beginners Class taught in four 2-hour consecutive classes requiring attendance for all four classes. Monday & Thursday, January 10, 13, 17, 20, 12:30-2:30 Ken Gosh Pavilion. LCS members only.. Limited to 12 attendees.. Email Kim at kdkovach@yahoo.com. Kim Kovach, 332-070-7189



EDUCACIONAL PROGRAM

DRIVER'S LICENSE

ALFREDO PÉREZ

Fee: \$400 Monday, from 2 to 3:30 pm

We will provide you with the necessary knowledge to obtain a new license or to renew it. Material will be sent over email previous to the class.

Jan 03 class & Thursday, Jan 13 visit
to Secretaría de Transporte (test).
Early in the morning.

MEXICAN MANNERS

ALFREDO PÉREZ Wednesday, Jan 05

Fee: \$350 from 10am to 12:30 pm

Learn why the behaviour of your new neighbors differs from your own. Our intention it help you understand cultural differences and promote real and positive coexistence.

TRADITIONAL HOT BEVERAGES

ANA MORENO Thursday, Jan 6

Fee: \$400 from 12:30 To 2:30PM

Winter, with its cool temperature, gives us the opportunity to enjoy and feel at home, with hot and delicious drinks that delight everyone who tries them. Let's learn how to make traditional ones to share.

INTRODUCTION TO LAKESIDE

RACHEL MCMILLEN

In person \$600 Monday, Jan 10. 9am to 12pm

Online \$400 Friday, Jan 14. 9am to 12pm

Where exactly is Lakeside, Lakeside Communities, Ajijic Village, Fiestas and LCS. Health & Medical, Eating Out - Eating In, Money - Banks & ATM's, Churches, Entertainment & Recreation, Transportation, Accommodation & Utilities. There's always a world to know.

MEXICAN WINTER FRUITS

ANA MORENO Tuesday, Jan 11

Fee: \$400 from 11am to 12:30pm

Let us introduce you to the Mexican winter fruits, how Mexicans eat them, recipes, flavors, aromas, etc. Come and enjoy a trip to the warmest heart of Mexican winter and its flavors.

ADVANCE CARE PLANNING WORKSHOP ON LIVING WELL AND DYING WELL IN LAKESIDE

LORETA DOWNS Wednesday, Feb 09

Fee: \$300 & 16 from 10am to 12 pm

This 2-part, advanced care planning workshop gives you information on Mexican healthcare directives, wills, and the LCS document along with guidance and motivation to complete and register your document as part of your total advance care planning process.

HOLY MOLE!

ANA MORENO Wednesday, Feb 9

Fee: \$520 from 12 to 2pm

Join in this celebration, let's learn about the origins of mole and their variants. Let's prepare 3 types of mole you can make at home and celebrate.

BEANS, BEANS THE MUSICAL FRUIT!

ANA MORENO Thursday, Feb 10

Fee: \$500 from 12:30 to 2:30pm

Learn to prepare charro, drunken, red, fried, piggy and "with morisqueta" beans, what accompanies them and how to serve them! - Toot, Toot! See you there.

CORN TORTILLA

ANA MORENO Wednesday, Feb 16

Fee: \$400 from 12 to 2pm

We will prepare corn tortillas and other homemade delicacies from the dough. This includes the fillings, side dishes and traditional sauces that accompany them. We will not only taste them, but we will learn from their history and why they are so important to the local culture.

JOURNEY OF A TRAVELER

BETTY STEINHAUER

Free Entrance **Wednesday and Monday**
January 12, 17, 19, 24, 26 and 31
From 10am to 12pm

For 6 sessions to explore and discuss together the REGIONS of the world and its CULTURE through the eyes of a TRAVELLER .

Betty Steinhauer is a traveler and is homeless by choice. "8 years ago I sold everything, packed up my life in Canada and started to travel the world with a difference, learning from every person that I met and every challenging situation I found myself in.

INTRODUCTION TO SPANISH

INEZ DYER **Tuesday, Dec 07, 14 & 21**
Fee: \$350 **From 12 noon to 1:30 pm**

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

Enrollment at LCS Office or LakeChapalaSociety.com
MEMBERS ONLY. Registration requires payment. There is no refund.
We will follow COVID protocols with no exception.



SUNDAY MORNING
10:30 IN THE GARDEN AT
LAKE CHAPALA SOCIETY
GATE OPENS AT 9:30 AM

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

Presentations are subject to change
During this period, we recommend bringing a hat and bottled water, and please remove containers upon departure.
Use of mask it's mandatory and temperature checks on entry.

ATTENTION BIBLIOPHILES

As some of you may have figured out, the library is going through some staffing and procedural changes under a new manager. All of our library workers are volunteers and work in the library because of their love of books and reading. So if you have problems or complaints, please be patient and tolerant as new volunteers come onstream.

For those of you who wonder why I have retired from my 10-year position as manager of the library, I am sorry to have to tell you that at present I am acting as caregiver for my husband, Frank, who is battling terminal cancer. This has been a difficult fall for us, and at present we don't know how long this whole process will last. I hope that at some time in the future, I will be able to return as a volunteer in the library, but I have to say, I am enjoying being retired!

So this is a short column this month. I want to wish all our library volunteers and members who have loved and used our great library a very HAPPY NEW YEAR and good health in the year ahead. And here's a thought to make it a happier new year: forget all your New Year's resolutions. I don't know who thought they are a good idea, but all my life I have considered them an exercise in futility, setting you up for failure. Do you honestly know anyone who has ever fulfilled a New Year's resolution? So be kind to yourself, treat yourself well, and enjoy the rest of the time you have here at lakeside, be it long or short.

NAMASTE

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. Only 10 seats available per class.

Classes are online. We use Zoom. The link for the class will be sent 24 hours before the class.



POR VS PARA

Intermediate.
Jan 12 & 19
12:00 to 1:20 pm

Prepositions help us to connect words in our language and, in addition, they complete the meaning of what we say.

In these two classes we will practice with two polemic prepositions: POR and PARA. Through exercises and games you will be able to identify their functions and use them appropriately in a sentence.

WHERE TO EMPHASIZE WORDS

Beginners - Intermediate
Jan 12 & 19
10:00 to 11:20 am

Although in Spanish there are words that carry a written accent, it may seem difficult to pronounce a word that you have never seen before. To get to this in a fluent way, it is necessary to know and practice some rules of accentuation and the division of syllables in Spanish: in this two-session course you will learn step by step how to identify the tonic syllable of a word, that is, the syllable of emphasis.

NOUNS IN SPANISH

Beginners
Jan 26 & Feb 02
10:00 to 11:20 am

Do words have gender, why, and is there a problem if I say "la baño"? For beginners, the topic of gendered nouns is very important: as time goes by, it is more difficult to unlearn what has already been learned. Let's review the basic rules and practice with simple sentences (even everyday sentences), and get to know some examples where the meaning changes if it is a masculine or feminine word.

IMPROVE YOUR PRONUNCIATION X, G

Beginners - intermediate
Jan 26 & Feb 02
12:00 to 1:20 pm

Although there are many differences in pronunciation between English and Spanish, this does not have to be an obstacle for students of Spanish as a foreign language. It is true that we would all like to speak like a native, and it is possible if we first learn to listen and to relate to these sounds as if they were new to us. In these sessions, we will practice the pronunciation of Spanish consonant sounds and their graphic representations.

ESPAÑOL EN ACCIÓN

Por la Profa. Dolores Alicia Ordóñez Pinter

1A 10 weeks long
JAN 10TH TO MAR 24TH
Monday and Thursday - 10am to 12pm. Gazebo

1B 7 weeks long
JAN 11TH TO FEB 25TH
Tuesday and Friday - 10am to 12pm. Gazebo

2A 7 weeks long
JAN 10TH TO FEB 24TH
Monday and Thursday - 3 to 5pm. Wilkes

2B 7 weeks long
JAN 10TH TO FEB 28TH
Monday and Thursday - 12:30 to 2:30pm. Gazebo

3A 7 weeks long
JAN 11TH TO FEB 25TH
Tuesday and Friday - 12:30 to 2:30pm. Wilkes

We will follow Covid protocols.

Thank you Smiles for **YOU!!**



We want to wish all of you
The Best of the Season!

Our children and their families appreciate all that you have done and we sincerely *Thank you* for your continuing support.



With much appreciation,
The Board of Directors

**A Simple Smile.....
it means so much!!**

ARTÍCULO DE PORTADA



“Bocetistas” Urbanos Ajijic . . . ;

Enseña al mundo un dibujo
a la vez!

By Steve Parker

Viviendo en la zona del Lago de Chapala, uno pronto descubre que hay innumerables maneras de participar en la comunidad. Que tal bailar, cantar, hacer ejercicio, escribir, coser, discutir, clases de idiomas e incluso hacer cerámica. Lo que sea, se ofrece. *Bocetistas* urbanos Ajijic es una joya escondida y otra forma maravillosa de celebrar la belleza y el patrimonio de nuestra comunidad.

A partir de 2019, un número de individuos de mente artística, algunos de los cuales habían estado con grupos de Urban Sketchers en todo el mundo, estaban ansiosos por recoger sus libretas para bocetos.

Los *bocetistas* de Ajijic se reúnen en un destino elegido, se despliegan para dibujar un área específica de la comunidad, listos para disfrutar de una hora y cuarenta y cinco minutos creando sus bocetos artísticos. Una vez finalizado el periodo de dibujo, el grupo se reúne de nuevo para realizar lo que se denomina un “throwdown”, en el que todo el grupo disfruta de sus dibujos. Los bocetos se fotografían y se ponen en la página de Facebook de Urban Sketchers Ajijic para compartirlos con amigos y otros grupos de dibujantes de todo el mundo.

El marco del grupo ha sido establecido por la Organización Nacional de Urban Sketchers, pero más sobre eso después.

Si tienes dudas, quizás pensando que no eres lo suficientemente creativo para el grupo, no temas. Peter Shandera, uno de los administradores de *Bocetistas* urbanos, enfatiza que el grupo se trata de la experiencia sobre enfocarse en la belleza de la comunidad y hacer lo mejor posible para registrar y disfrutar el acto. Hay todos los niveles de habi-

lidades, y el propósito es tener una gran experiencia de dibujo con personas de ideas afines.

Los dibujantes utilizan lápiz, pluma, tinta, rotulador, acuarela e incluso blocs de notas. Los miembros son siempre bienvenidos a compartir, sin prejuicios, consejos y técnicas en las charlas. Después de la reunión, los debates continúan en una cena ligera en un establecimiento local. Incluso cuando los miembros del grupo re-



gresan a sus hogares en Estados Unidos y Canadá, pueden acceder a varias fotografías y contribuir con sus creaciones a la página de Facebook. Los coadministradores Tom Gray y Elaine Frennet ayudan a seleccionar los lugares, a notificar a los miembros.

Un poco de historia sobre Urban Sketchers

Urban Sketchers es una comunidad mundial de artistas que practican el dibujo in situ en ciudades, pueblos y aldeas donde viven o viajan. Una rápida búsqueda en YouTube le mostrará una multitud de sitios y grupos en todo el mundo. El movimiento Urban Sketchers fue iniciado en 2007 por el periodista Gabriel Campanario. Campanario es un periodista e ilustrador español que vive en Seattle y trabaja



para el Seattle Times. Animó a los artistas a presentar dibujos y bocetos para su publicación.

Pronto más y más artistas comenzaron a enviar y compartir sus dibujos en línea. Campanario creó un grupo para apoyar y promover el dibujo periodístico que retrata la vida real tal y como sucede delante del artista. Urban Sketchers nació y creció en Estados Unidos y pronto en todo el mundo. La tarea de la organización es elevar el valor artístico, narrativo y educativo del dibujo en exteriores, promoviendo su práctica y conectando a personas de todo el mundo que dibujan en el lugar donde viven y viajan. Para más información sobre Urban Sketchers, puedes consultar estos vídeos de YouTube:

**Urban Sketching Essentials Part 1 |
Intro & Basics | Strathmore
Urban Sketching Series Pt 1 |
Algunos fundamentos**

Cómo iniciarse en el Urban Sketching - YouTube

Para saber más, decidí asistir a una de las reuniones de Urban Sketchers. En la página de Facebook Tom Gray proporcionó un mapa donde los miembros podían ir, justo al norte de la Carretera en Galena. Al llegar me encontré con unos 15 individuos dispersos por varias manzanas buscando su tema. Los artistas estaban sentados en sillas de jardín, algunos en los bordillos y uno incluso de pie. Algunos trabajaban con lápiz, tinta o acuarela. Tenía curiosidad por saber qué les había impulsado a unirse al grupo. Hubo casi tantas respuestas como miembros.

- » “Estar rodeado de artistas que piensan igual”
- » “Disfrutar del reto de completar un boceto en un formato cronometrado”.
- » “ Ver y registrar los verdaderos barrios de Ajijic”
- » “Desarrollar mis habilidades de dibujo”
- » “Aprender de otros miembros del grupo”
- » “Apreciar la actitud de no juzgar y animar a los otros miembros del grupo”

Para el “Throwdown” a las 4:30, el grupo se reunió de nuevo, encontró un lugar en un camino de entrada y colocó sus creaciones en exhibición. Los comentarios fueron alentadores, algunos ofrecieron sugerencias para probar en el futuro, pero la mayoría disfrutó buscando formas de mejorar su propio talento y técnicas.

Bocetistas urbanos da la bienvenida a nuevos artistas al programa. Visita la página de Facebook y pide ser miembro. No hay costo, así que toma tus materiales de arte y espera la camaradería que recibes mientras dibujas Ajijic, mostrando al mundo un dibujo a la vez.



**Moving to Lake Chapala
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* Your discount is equal to 5% or \$500 USD, whichever is less. To receive the discount and have us make the donation to LCS, use discount code: LCS. Expires December 31, 2023



City Hall work plan for the collection of property tax 2022 (Predial)

At the City Hall building on Madero street, starting **January 3, from 9:00 a.m. to 3 p.m.**; there will be 4 boxes for the collection of property taxes. (Predial) There will be chairs in the lobby for the taxpayer's convenience. The requirement for payment is to bring your previous receipt or your property tax account number; you may pay in cash, debit, credit card or cashier's check payable to: Municipio de Chapala.

We will have a coffee and tea bar at the taxpayers' service while they wait for their turn to pay.

The following Fraccionamientos / Condominiums, managed the mobile cashier, with a schedule of 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Payments will be received in cash and checks made out to Municipio de Chapala. Check with your Fraccionamiento/Condominium to find out when the mobile cashier will visit your area.

**LA FLORESTA
CHULA VISTA NORTE
CIELO VISTA
CUMBRES
NUEVO CHAPALA
LOMAS DEL LAGO
RIVIERA ALTA
SAN JUAN DE LAS COLINAS
SABINOS
VENTANAS RESIDENCIAL
ARROYO ALTO 2DA. SECCIÓN**

Discounts: in the months of **January and February the discount will be 15%**, in **March and April will have 5%** discount and for seniors who own a property in their name are entitled to a 50% discount, for properties with a tax value of \$800,000 or less.

The Messages of the Bells

By Judy King

It takes new residents a while to be come accustomed to the normal noises in village churches. Beyond the sounds that are unable to ignore, booming skyrockets, braying *burros*, and rollicking bands with the persistent percussion and tuba, are the only slightly less noticeable loudspeaker trucks selling seasonal produce and buying used scrap metals. The message broadcast of the bleating gas trucks takes practice to decipher, with it's practical bleating message, "Haaaaaaaaayyyyyyy Gaaaaaaaaaaaaaas."



each Lakeside village during that town's annual fiesta for the patron saint.

New bells and systems: The *Templo de San Andrés* (Ajijic's main church) installed three beautiful new brass, copper and silver alloy bells two years ago. Instead of ropes or mallets, the trio of new bells ring by being turned over and over with an electrical hydraulic system. The calls to Mass and *clamores*, are still sounded by hand with the ropes attached to the old bells. Only Sunday's parish high Mass and special church events are

Soon after these novel sounds become part of a newcomer's day-to-day routine, he or she begin to note that the ever present church bells chime in different rhythms and patterns. Easiest to recognize and remember are the patterns of telling time by the bells. All through the day and night, the bells are the clock of the village.

Telling time by the bells: At 15 minutes past the hour, there is a single "ding-dong." At half past, the bells call out "ding-dong, ding-dong;" at 45 minutes past the hour, there are three sets of chimes. To announce the new hour, the bells repeat "ding-dong" four times, then there are the number of chimes to match the hour.

The tones and patterns of the church bells do more than announce the time of day, they also call villagers to Mass and spread the news of the day.

Call to Mass: The first call is 30 minutes before Mass — a single stroke of the bell, a pause, then 15-30 chimes, a pause, and a final single stroke. Fifteen minutes later, the pattern repeats, but with two chimes at the beginning and end of the pattern. As Mass is beginning, the third call is heralded by three single chimes in the pattern.

Death: When the priest receives the notice of a death in the parish, the bells toll the *clamores*. This is a solemn pattern of three tones* a higher note, a lower tone and the higher pitched bell again. The three chimes are slowly repeated. The *clamores* sound again at the end of the funeral Mass when the body leaves the church for interment in the cemetery.

Pilgrimages: When a group of pilgrims (*peregrinos*) approaches the church at the completion of a religious procession young boys climb into the tower to ring all of the bells joyously with clappers or mallets for five to 10 minutes. You'll see this old tradition in

announced with the new bells.

You'll note that the chiming of the time continues all night, but the sound is softer during the wee hours. Stirring from slumber in the middle of the night, village residents go back to sleep reassured by the muted chiming. It is a century's old signal. All is well.

Enjoy 30% better speech understanding
mejor comprensión de las palabras

Carlos Alonso Flores M.D. (Licensed Audiologist)
Médico Especialista en Audición Certificado
Ced. Esp. 10394596 UNAM
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Chapala MED
Libramiento Chapala-Ajijic
132 int. 21
Plaza Interlago
Tel (376) 766 5126/ (376) 766 4435

Clínica Luvare
Av. Paseo de la Arboleda 950
Colonia Jardines del Bosque,
Gdl, JAL.
Tel (33) 3122 2257/ (33) 3122 2266

The strategic project of Cardinal Culture of the Ministry of Culture of Jalisco (SC) proposes to decentralize cultural and artistic life in the state, through the establishment of five Cardinal Stations.

One of the Cardinal Culture venues is located in the municipality of Chapala, in the *Auditorio de la Ribera*. Since 2020, a remodeling and reactivation project has been underway at this site to take advantage of the spaces through aesthetic and functional improvements that will allow it to become a cultural center in optimal condition and to develop diverse cultural activities and events within it.

The complex where the auditorium is located will be the headquarters of the *Estación Cardinal de la Ribera* and will allow the space to evolve not only in a material aspect, but also in matters of the organization of the activities carried out there.

The project began in 2020 and is planned to be finished in 2022 with a budget of \$58.5 million pesos; within the infrastructure works, all the existing areas in the auditorium were preserved, with changes that allow developing underutilized spaces and expanding rooms; the fronts were modified to make them more accessible, aesthetic and harmonious with the environ-



ment and nature of the place.

This year, a person will be appointed to head the Cardinal Station to serve as a liaison with the regional sector and to facilitate the fulfillment of the objectives of the Cardinal Station in the region:

1. To generate a direct channel that increases the level of linkage; favors the participation of the artistic community and provides access to administrative processes from different points of the state.
2. To decentralize spaces of consumption and access to culture; standardize quality programming outside the Guadalajara Metropolitan Area.
3. To strengthen regional capacities for self-management.
4. To establish the cultural identity of the different regions.

During the construction of this station, the SC has shown openness to dialogue, holding meetings on different occasions with the community to clarify doubts about the work and to receive and channel requests.

To follow these actions closely, please follow the social net-

works:

<https://www.facebook.com/CCGonzalezGallo>

<https://www.facebook.com/CulturaJalisco>

We thank SC for the information and photos.

Estación Cardinal de la Ribera.

By Diana Ayala



El proyecto estratégico de Cultura Cardinal de la Secretaría de Cultura de Jalisco (SC) propone descentralizar la vida cultural y artística en el Estado, por medio de la habilitación de cinco Estaciones Cardinales.

Una de las sedes de Cultura Cardinal se ubica en el municipio de Chapala, en el Auditorio de la Ribera. En este sitio se lleva a cabo desde 2020 un proyecto de remodelación y reactivación para el aprovechamiento de los espacios a través de mejoras estéticas y funcionales que permitan convertirlo en un centro cultural en óptimas condiciones y desarrollar diversas actividades y eventos culturales.

El complejo donde está el auditorio, será sede de la Estación Cardinal de la Ribera y permitirá que el espacio evolucione no sólo en aspectos materiales, sino en cuestiones de organización de las actividades ahí realizadas.

El proyecto empezó en 2020 y se planea termine en 2022 con un presupuesto de 58.5 millones de pesos; dentro de los trabajos de infraestructura se conservaron todas las áreas ya existentes en el auditorio, con cambios que permiten revivir espacios subutilizados y ampliar salones; se modificaron los frentes para hacerlos más accesibles, estéticos y armoniosos con el entorno y naturaleza del lugar.



En este año se designará a una persona que estará al frente de la Estación Cardinal que funja como enlace de vinculación con el sector de la región y que facilite cumplir con los objetivos de la Estación Cardinal de la región:

Generar un canal directo que aumente el nivel de vinculación; favorezca la participación de la comunidad artística y el acceso a los procesos administrativos desde los distintos puntos del estado.

Descentralizar espacios de consumo y acceso a la cultura; estandarizar una programación de calidad fuera del Área Metropolitana de Guadalajara.

Fortalecer las capacidades regionales para la autogestión.

Posicionar la identidad cultural de las diversas regiones.

Durante la construcción de esta estación, la SC ha mostrado apertura al diálogo, realizando reuniones en distintas ocasiones con la comunidad, para aclarar dudas sobre los trabajos, recibir y canalizar peticiones.

Para seguir de cerca estas acciones pueden seguir las redes sociales:

<https://www.facebook.com/CCGonzalezGallo>

<https://www.facebook.com/CulturaJalisco>

Agradecemos a SC por la información y fotos.


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 Av Guadalupe 156, Chapalita,
44500 Guadalajara, Jal.

 www.benjaminmooremexico.com

www.takechapasociety.com

Why be an expat? Why choose Lake Chapala?

By Blue

Over the past century, as early as 1921, famous writers and artists such as D.H. Lawrence author of *The Plumed Serpent*, Tennessee Williams, author of *A Streetcar Named Desire*, and Neil James, author of *Dust on My Heart* and benefactor of the Lake Chapala Society, and even the famous “Russian” ballerina (La Rusa, who was actually born in New York) discovered Lake Chapala. They chose to live and work here because of the beauty, peace and culture of the Mexican people.

Fast forward a couple of decades. Still pre-Internet and pre-email. The word about Lake Chapala spread through letters and books written about the area. More artists and writers came from the United States, Canada and even some from Europe. The Old Posada became the place to meet. There was only one phone in Ajijic and when expats didn't show up for morning coffee and mail, someone would go to their home to check that they were okay. (Read more about early Ajijic in Neil James book, *Dust on My Heart*.)

In the late 90s, more people discovered the area. They could stay in touch with their families back home more easily and there was an international airport nearby. Judy King and I started an on-line magazine called *Living at Lake Chapala* and there was another one named “MexicoConnect” started by David McCloughlin. The word spread. Today, if you Google “Lake Chapala” you'll get 1,480,000 hits.

As I researched my first book, *Midlife Mavericks: Women reinventing their lives in Mexico*, published in 2000, I interviewed 39 women who moved to Lake Chapala. Their reasons fell mostly into three categories:

- » Those who had fallen on hard times and needed to find a less expensive place to live.
- » Those who were looking for a simpler, less stressful, more joyful life.
- » Those I called “Indiana Joans” who were looking for adventure and excitement.

In 2014, I published a second book titled *Baby Boomers: Reinvent Your Retirement in Mexico*. At that time, I interviewed couples and singles, straight and gay, who had decided on the expat life. They wanted to follow their passions and make a difference in the community. In the Forward by Dr. David Truly, who consulted with governments and developers on the needs of the aging baby boomers, he wrote:

“For some (baby boomers), the decision to move to Mexico is a way to follow their dreams; for others it is an escape from a life they have either outgrown or prefer to forget. For all, it is a chance to recreate or reinvent themselves and sometimes, in the process, significantly impact the lives of others.”

In a recently published book entitled *On the Fun Side of the Wall*, author Travis Scott Luther presented three hypotheses, based on extensive research, for reasons expats move to Mexico. “First, U.S. boomers choose Mexico primarily due to their future financial concerns. Second, Boomers move to Mexico to escape age discrimination and the limiting stereotypes they perceive in the United States. Third, Boomers move

to Mexico in search of authentic communities that they no longer believe exist in the United States.

“The Boomers in the U.S. feel discriminated against. They don't see people who look like they do in the media; they have difficulty finding jobs after age 55; they feel they are not treated with respect and concern in many senior facilities.”

In speaking with expats who have moved to Lakeside from the U.S. in the last five years, their reasons have also included politics, terrorism, divisiveness, prejudice, climate change and the COVID pandemic. And, as many can now work from their homes, regardless of country, younger people are arriving and bringing children with them as well.

So why Lake Chapala?

Although this may seem like preaching to the choir, The Access Lake Chapala team has summed up, in their view, the best reasons for choosing Lake Chapala:

- » International airport 45 minutes away
- » Great inexpensive medical and dental care
- » Second best climate in the world
- » Wonderful Mexican culture
- » Fresh fruits and vegetables every day at markets
- » Very low cost of living
- » Traditional *fiestas* and carnivals
- » Inexpensive gardeners and housekeeping
- » Inexpensive and quality assisted care facilities
- » International community
- » Learning Spanish is not obligatory
- » Great restaurants
- » Many local and expat friends
- » Lower taxes and utilities
- » Only a three-month rainy season
- » Many activities, groups and events
- » Lake Chapala Society
- » Mexico's second largest city is only 45 minutes away

They expound on each of these reasons in their recent posting by Evelyn Walker at <https://www.accesslakechapala.com/guide/chapala-living/>.

Although many Lakesiders would prefer to close the door behind them, it's not possible.

According to Forbes, “We're now seeing the ‘Great Retirement,’ a silver tsunami of Baby Boomers leaving the workforce . . . and a recent survey from Coventry showed that over 75% of the respondents are planning to retire early. The effects of the pandemic made older people reflect on what is really important to them. A large percentage has come to the realization that they'll be happier and live a more fulfilling life by leaving their jobs.”

It doesn't take a rocket scientist to understand that this tsunami, along with the fact that retirement savings will need to stretch for a longer period of time, and to realize that more folks will be looking at less expensive places to choose for their retirement.

Traffic be damned!

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A New Mexican Folk-Art Form is Born

By Marianne Carlson

Manuel de la Peña has studied art since he was very young — drawing, painting, sculpture. He began developing his style and technique and participated in art competitions winning prizes in the children and youth painting categories, then went on to study fine arts at *Guadalajara CEDART* José Clemente Orozco. He apprenticed with regional renowned painters and from there, his artistic exploration began until he achieved the artistic abilities he has developed today.

Manuel likes to work with paper because of Mexico's history with this art form, from pre-Hispanic to contemporary times. Inspired by the long history in Mexico of *papel picado*, he generates new concepts mixing them with different artistic techniques. Layer upon layer of beautifully cut designs, one over the other, create an art form never before seen in Mexico. The entire creative process is entirely done by hand, from planning, to cutting of the pieces, the coloration and presentation framed — each piece is 100% handmade in Mexico.

His latest innovation is using grana de *cochineal* (a small insect that lives on cactus and yields a bright red when squashed). It is highly valued and used by rug weavers, however, Manuel has again taken an age-old technique and incorporated it into his new art form.

Manuel's grandfather drew and wrote poetry. Other family members involved in the arts are Paco de la Peña/artist and cultural promoter (uncle),



Jorge de la Peña/sculptor (uncle), Margarita de la Peña/natural media artist (aunt), Enrique Aguayo de la Peña/water-colorist (uncle). His is a personal exploration of techniques, but he has plans to share his knowledge by teaching others.

Manuel also recreates *chanques* (masks) as they were called by the Aztecs. These masks are a lost Mexican art. They are legendary creatures in Mexican folklore conceived of as small, sprite-like beings and elemental forces and guardians of nature. By tradition, these beings would attack intruders, frightening them so that their soul would abandon their body, which the *chanques* enclosed in the depth of the land. If the victim did not recover their soul through a specific ritual, he or she would become ill and die soon after.

In some contemporary legends, *chaneques* are described as children with the face of old men or women, that make people go astray for three to seven days, after which the victims cannot recall anything that happened . . . although it is thought that they are taken by the *chaneques* to their home in the Underworld, of which the entrance is a *dray kapok* tree.

Feria Maestros del Arte invited Manuel to participate in 2019 and he sold out. Since then, he continues amazing art lovers with his talent and unique designs. You can see his current work for sale at www.feriamaestros2.com. We believe Manuel has a very bright future in the world of art.



Nace una nueva forma de arte popular mexicano

Por Marianne Carlson

Manuel de la Peña ha estudiado arte desde muy joven: dibujo, pintura y escultura. Comenzó a desarrollar su estilo y técnica y a participar en concursos de arte ganando premios en las categorías de pintura infantil y juvenil, para después estudiar Bellas Artes en el CEDART José Clemente Orozco de Guadalajara. Fue aprendiz de pintores de renombre en la región y a partir de ahí comenzó su exploración artística hasta alcanzar las habilidades plásticas que hoy ha desarrollado.

A Manuel le gusta trabajar con papel por la tradición histórica que tiene México con esta forma de arte, desde la época prehispánica hasta la contemporánea. Su inspiración viene de la importancia del papel picado en México, luego genera nuevos conceptos mezclándolos con diferentes técnicas artísticas. Capa tras capa de diseños bellamente cortados, uno sobre otro, crean una forma de arte nunca antes vista en México. Todo el proceso creativo se hace completamente a mano, desde la planificación, hasta el corte de las piezas, la coloración y la presentación enmarcada - cada pieza es 100% hecha a mano en México.

Su última innovación es el uso de la grana de cochinilla (un pequeño insecto que vive en los cactus y que da un rojo brillante cuando se aplasta). Es muy apreciada y utilizada por los tejedores de alfombras, sin embargo, Manuel ha retomado esta técnica milenaria y la ha incorporado a su propia obra.

El abuelo de Manuel dibujaba y escribía poesía. Otros miembros de la familia involucrados en el arte son Paco de la Peña/artista y promotor cultural (tío), Jorge de la Peña/escultor (tío), Margarita de la Peña/artista de medios naturales (tía), Enrique Aguayo de la Peña/acuarelista (tío). La suya es una exploración personal de técnicas, pero tiene planes de compartir sus conocimientos enseñando a otros.

Manuel también recrea máscaras de chaneques, como los

llamaban los aztecas. Estas máscaras son un arte mexicano perdido. Los chaneques son criaturas legendarias del folclore mexicano concebidas como pequeños seres parecidos a los duendes y fuerzas elementales y guardianes de la naturaleza. Según la tradición, estos seres atacaban a los intrusos, asustándolos para que su alma abandonara su cuerpo, que los chaneques encerraban en la profundidad de la tierra. Si la víctima no recuperaba su alma mediante un ritual específico, enfermaba y moría poco después.

En algunas leyendas contemporáneas, los chaneques son descritos como niños con cara de ancianos o mujeres, que hacen que las personas se extravíen por tres o siete días, después de los cuales las víctimas no pueden recordar nada de lo sucedido . . . aunque se cree que son llevados por los chaneques a su hogar en el inframundo, cuya entrada es una ceiba seca.

La Feria Maestros del Arte invitó a Manuel a participar en 2019 y agotó las entradas. Desde entonces, sigue asombrando a los amantes del arte con su talento y diseños únicos. Puedes ver su obra actual a la venta en www.feria-maestros2.com. Estamos convencidos de que Manuel tiene un futuro muy brillante en el mundo del arte.



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A Primer on Pets

By Diana Hunt

“Most important in owning a pet is responsibility,” according to Lakeside veterinarian Laura Medina. “Every animal deserves to be treated well and with respect. We need to share our world with them. We are part of the world, and they are part of us. We need to give them a home, heart, food and love. Not tied up to a tree. If people cannot take responsibility, I don’t think it is a good idea to have a pet.”

Laura Medina, DVM (in Mexico it is MVZ), is from Guadalajara, but she has been visiting Lakeside for many years because she has an aunt who lives here. She met Juan Diego, married, and moved here to help him run Galo de Allende, a goat farm near Mezcala.

“In vet school we learned about all animals, not just dogs and cats but exotic animals like reptiles, birds, even zoo animals. I started my practice with cats but then discovered big animals like goats (because of our goat farm) and cows,” Laura explained.

She started to build a practice around cows, but it wasn’t too long before she found they were too big for her, so she decided to concentrate on family pets like dogs and cats.

“Soon I realized I really, really liked dogs and cats,” she continued. “In January, I am going to start my Masters in Internal Medicine for cats and dogs. After that, I am interested in getting licensed in acupuncture and other alternative therapies.”

Laura volunteers her expertise several days a week at the Ranch, she helps with Bone Voyage and MexiMutt in Chapala, plus she runs her own traveling clinic. This gives her a wide range of experience and insight into the world of pets in Lakeside.

Which make better pets — rescue dogs or dogs bred to sell?

“First of all, the more mix you have the more adaptable they are,” she smiled. “We had a guy from the shelter, he wanted to know exactly the breed of his dog, and I said that would be a challenge because a Mexican Purebred is 2%

Pomeranian, 3% Chihuahua, 5% German shepherd, and so on,” she laughed.

“Rescues are very adaptable, they know you very fast,” Laura continued. “I think that they adapt faster than a breed dog — why? Because they need to adapt to survive. They are so aware of their surroundings. At first, they might be afraid of you, but when you treat them well they are well behaved. They know we will help them, they allow you to help them. They are so grateful when we finally find a home for them. They show you their love, their gratitude, because you changed their lives.”

While Laura does not work with shelter cats, from personal experience she says the same is true for cats. “We have four rescue cats in our house and the best one ever is blind,” she explained. “We found her when she was a couple of weeks old — all her face was burned, including her eyes. We removed the eyes because they were painful. At that time. I was working for another doctor and we were thinking we would have to put her down — nobody wants a cat who is totally blind. So I said, ‘Okay, I will keep it’. She has turned out to be the best cat. She loves to visit the goats; at home she hunts, she climbs trees, she takes on my other cats and even my dog, so she is the boss. They can adapt to any situation. They want to survive, to have a life. They enjoy life.”

More foreigners either adopt or buy pets than locals, but that in part is because they have more time than the Mexican people who live and work here. “To have a pet, it takes time and effort,” Laura said. “But we have more Mexicans who really want to adopt, and now it is a fashion to have a Mexican Purebred because everybody wants a dog who is healthy — they are kind, unique dogs. Now, people are more conscious about adopting and in spaying or neutering their animals. These animals deserve a forever home.”

If you have or know of a pet who has a compelling story, please let us know. The pet can have paws, claws, scales, feathers or hooves. Write a short one-paragraph description of the pet’s circumstances along with contact information and send it to submissions@lakechapasociety.com



Amanda Wheeler



Guía para tener una mascota

Por Diana Hunt

“Lo más importante de tener una mascota es la responsabilidad”, según la veterinaria de la Ribera, Laura Medina. “Todo animal merece ser atendido bien y con respeto. Tenemos que compartir nuestro mundo con ellos. Somos parte del mundo y ellos son parte de nosotros. Tenemos que darles un hogar, un corazón, comida y amor. No atarlos a un árbol. Si la gente no puede asumir la responsabilidad, no creo que sea una buena idea tener una mascota”.

Laura Medina, MVZ, es originaria de Guadalajara, pero lleva muchos años visitando Lakeside porque tiene una tía que vive aquí. Conoció a Juan Diego, se casó y se mudó aquí para ayudarle a dirigir Galo de Allende, una granja de cabras cerca de Mezcala.

“En la facultad de veterinaria aprendimos sobre todos los animales, no sólo sobre perros y gatos, sino sobre animales exóticos como reptiles, aves, incluso animales de zoológico. Empecé a practicar con gatos, pero luego descubrí los animales grandes, como las cabras (por nuestra granja de cabras) y las vacas”, explica Laura.

Empezó a desarrollar su consulta en torno a las vacas, pero no tardó en descubrir que eran demasiado grandes para ella, así que decidió concentrarse en los animales domésticos, como los perros y los gatos.

“Pronto me di cuenta de que me gustaban mucho los perros y los gatos”, continuó. “En enero, voy a empezar mi maestría en medicina interna para perros y gatos. Después de eso, estoy interesada en obtener la licenciatura en acupuntura y otras terapias alternativas.”

Laura ofrece su experiencia como voluntaria varios días a la semana en el Rancho, ayuda con Bone Voyage y MexiMutt en Chapala, además de dirigir su propia clínica itinerante. Esto le da una amplia gama de experiencia y visión en el mundo de las mascotas en la Ribera.

¿Qué mascotas son mejores?

¿perros de rescate o perros de raza para vender?

“En primer lugar, cuanto más mezcla tengas, más adaptables son”, sonríe. “Había un muchacho del refugio que quería saber exactamente la raza de su perro, y le dije que eso sería un reto porque un xoloitzcuintle es 2% pomerania, 3% chihuahua, 5% pastor alemán, y así sucesivamente”, se rió.

“Los perros rescatados son muy adaptables, te conocen muy rápido”, continuó Laura. “Creo que se adaptan más rápido que un perro de raza, ¿por qué? Porque necesitan adaptarse para sobrevivir. Son muy conscientes de su entorno. Al principio, te pueden tener miedo, pero cuando los tratas bien se comportan bien. Saben que les vas a ayudar y permiten que les ayudes. Se muestran muy agradecidos cuando por fin les encontramos un hogar. Te demuestran su amor y su gratitud, porque les has cambiado la vida”.

Aunque Laura no trabaja con gatos provenientes de refugios, por experiencia personal dice que lo mismo ocurre con los gatos. “Tenemos cuatro gatos rescatados en nuestra casa y la mejor de todos es cieguita”, explica. “La encontramos cuando tenía un par de semanas: tenía toda la cara quemada, incluidos los ojos; se los tuvimos que quitar porque le dolían. En aquella época, yo trabajaba para otro médico y pensábamos que tendríamos que sacrificarla: nadie quiere un gato totalmente ciego. Así que dije: ‘Bueno, pues, me la quedo’. Resultó ser la mejor gatita. Le encanta visitar a las cabras; en casa le gusta cazar, se sube a los árboles, se la pasa molestando a mis otros gatos e incluso a mi perro, así que es la jefa. Se adaptan a cualquier situación. Quieren sobrevivir, tener una vida. Disfrutan de la vida”.

Los extranjeros adoptan o compran mascotas más que los locales, pero eso en parte se debe a que tienen más tiempo que los mexicanos que viven y trabajan aquí. “Para tener una mascota, se necesita tiempo y esfuerzo”, dijo Laura. “Pero tenemos más mexicanos que realmente quieren adoptar y, aunque ahora es una moda tener un xoloitzcuintle -porque todo el mundo quiere un perro que sea sano; son perros amables y únicos-, la gente está más consciente de adoptar y en esterilizar a sus animales. Estos animales merecen un hogar para siempre”.

Si tiene o conoce una mascota que tenga una historia conmovedora, háganoslo saber. La mascota puede tener patas, garras, escamas, plumas o pezuñas. Escriba una breve descripción de un párrafo de las circunstancias de la mascota junto con la información de contacto y envíela a submissions@lakechapasociety.com



Harriet Hart with Trotsky

WRITINGS FROM WILKES

These writings are from the LCS Wilkes Center, or Biblioteca, a beehive of activity, Galeana 18 in Ajijic, two blocks from the LCS main campus. For 20 years, a cadre of volunteers have taught ESL to the Mexican Community, gratis. There are several levels of study. Volunteer teacher and author Carol Bowman recently asked her Level 4 students to try their hands at creative writing. We are proud to announce that Writings from the Wilkes will become a regular feature of this magazine. We will not edit these pieces as a way of demonstrating how much progress these talented, hard working students have made.

Brief History of a House

By Laura Vargas



This year, I will turn sixty-years old. My story begins when my owners, a young couple from Guadalajara, were looking for a place to rest and be in contact with nature. A single visit to Lake Chapala, the largest lake in Mexico, was enough for them to decide that this would be the place where they would build their weekend home; for them and their growing family that would reach 12 members.

They found the perfect place west of San Juan Cosalá, then a small and friendly town, dedicated mainly to fishing and corn growing. They chose a piece of land next to the lake and a few meters from the newly built highway that connected and communicates with the municipality of Chapala with Jocotepec.

That's where I was born. I was built the way they build in Mexico, thinking in decades, the soil being sandy, required my foundation to be concrete and stone, my walls of solid mud brick and the roofs of steel beams with brick and concrete. My owners didn't want complex designs or fancy finishes: safety and durability before everything else.

When I was finished being built, in addition to the chairs, tables, beds, mattresses and so on, the bicycles, balls, rackets, swings, the sailboat, the boat, fishing rods began to arrive . . . and the happiness was absolute.

Every weekend. I waited for them and it was always the same ritual: girls, boys everywhere, playing soccer and

water skiing. I watched in amazement the arrival of the seasons: the falling of the leaves from the trees, the arrival of the ducks from Canada, the greening of the hills, the ever-changing level of Lake Chapala and kids being kids. Those weekends and holidays passed-by in a flash. In 1978, the strong waves knocked down my retaining wall. I have also been through three landslides and on several occasions, I had to endure the visit of thieves.

Many things have happened in the last 60 years, the children grew up, and little by little, I stopped seeing them. They became architects, engineers, doctors and dentists, with their own families, interests and different horizons.

And after so long without hearing the laughter of children and being alone, one of those little children I saw growing up came back to me, but not alone; he came back with a wife, three children and a baby in his arms and again the joy returned, the laughter, the games, the balls. Again, I could see a family grow as people, as siblings, as children, as parents.

Not only did I see them in their best moments, I also saw them in their worst, but as they did with me, they got up stone by stone to move forward, and that was when I realized that my owners, that young couple that built me, had educated their children well, they had made them strong, brave, capable, persevering, responsible, among many other things that they instilled in them. That couple not only built me, but they built a great family, a family that struggled to move forward.

My owners have long since left this paradise for another, better one.

As for me, I have some arteriosclerosis in my pipes and some calcification in my walls and structure. Nothing serious. Besides, I can't complain, because I have the best neighbors in the world; on one side, the amazingly beautiful Lake Chapala, and on the other side, the magnificent mountain.

What will happen in this new year? Who can know? But . . . as my owners used to say; everything is providential.



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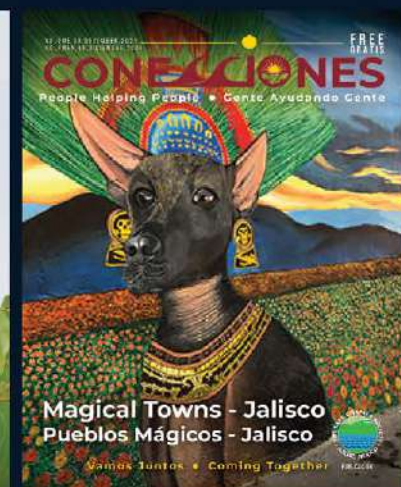
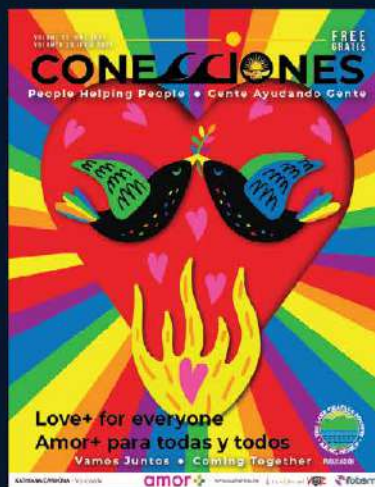
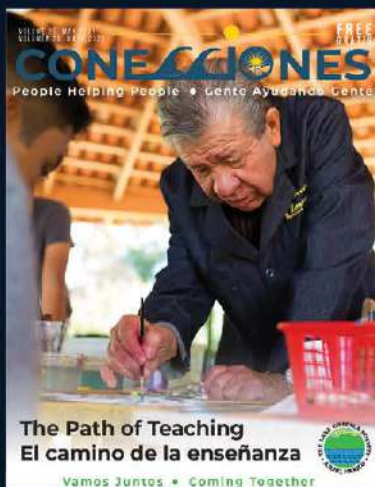
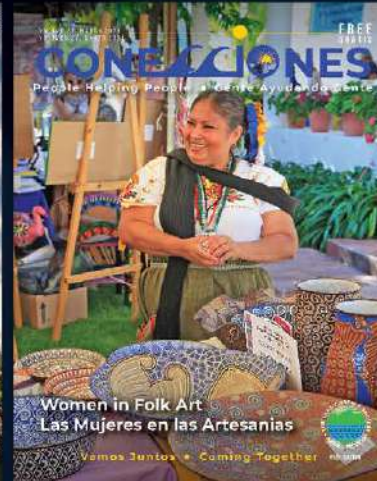
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