



President's Message

On Christmas day I was at home with friends and we were trying to remember the name of a local artist to no avail. After a few attempts, I remembered that I had a copy of the IFC Cookbook that contained beautiful reproductions of paintings from local artists and found the artist's name we were thinking about.

As I continued looking at the opening contents I recognized many names of the collaborators to this mammoth undertaking in 1991. We are often asked why "The International Friendship Club" and there on page 9 was the explanation.

"International - because its membership encompasses citizens of the world, who by some good fortune find themselves either visiting or living in the 'paradise' called Puerto Vallarta. Friendship - because not only does the IFC promote friendship with the people of the community of Puerto Vallarta, but among the members themselves. Our members are people with diverse backgrounds and experiences who have lived all over the world, but all have the common bond of never wanting to stop growing, learning and sharing."

I am pleased to say that since its inception in 1987 we have followed the principles under which the Club was created.

Puerto Vallarta is growing and with it many more groups since then have come in and followed in our footsteps with their own twist and ideas making Puerto Vallarta a more and more vibrant town to explore, discover and learn in.

Friendship and camaraderie is the key to give and receive in our little corner of paradise.

I wish you all a very Happy New Year.

Mandy MacLeay
President

N.B. The cookbook is out of print and no further copies are available, sorry.

INTERNATIONAL FRIENDSHIP CLUB
Edificio Parian del Puente # 13 (upstairs)
Libertad corner of Miramar, El Centro,
Puerto Vallarta
Hours 9 am - 4 pm
Tel: (322)-222-5466
from the US/Canada 1-514-418-2123
www.IFCVallarta.com
Email: info@ifcvallarta.com
ADMINISTRATOR - Josué Santiago



WHO WE ARE

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

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

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



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



Facilities & Bar

I am looking forward to a great season at the IFC. We have many exciting new events that will be happening at the club and hope that these will be well attended by our members and their friends. Coming up as well, is the need for new volunteers and positions that will soon be available within the club. If you feel that you have something to offer with new ideas or a new direction, we would love to hear from you. A rewarding experience to help put smiles on children's faces that otherwise would not happen without the contributions that our members make for these many programs and events done by the IFC.

Please join us for our Wednesday night movies at the clubhouse, with a great line up - first movie on January 9th called "Open Range" with Robert Duval and Kevin Costner. As always popcorn is free and a cash bar is available for refreshments.

Also every Friday night join us for our social hour, now from 5 to 6:30. After the social, I choose a good restaurant that is on our discount list where you can continue the evening with a great meal and great company and conversation.

I look forward to seeing and meeting the many new members arriving at the club this season where Friendship is our Motto.

Fred Forbes

VP Facilities & Bar Manager



Elections to be held in March 2013

Hard to believe that high season is upon us once again and we will be drafting a new slate of officers to be elected in March 2013. Please be thinking about how you can help your Club and feel free to talk with any of the current officers about their positions if you are interested in stepping up. We will be establishing a Nominating Committee to begin the process of nominating a slate to keep the club moving forward. We will need new people for many of the elected positions, so please give consideration to how you can help.



OFFICERS OF THE CLUB

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PUBLICITY please contact Don Gallery
Publicity co-chair Janie Blank 222-0503
communications@ifcvallarta.com

PHOTOGRAPHER Bob Davidson Cell: 322-164-0146
bobd@davidsoninc.com

IFC Home Tours

After a break for the holidays, Home Tours resume its two day a week schedule on Wednesday and Thursdays, starting January 9, 2013. Fortunately, we have exceeded our numbers for November and December when compared to 2011. Each week we visit four outstanding casas. The contribution per person is \$450 pesos. You can go online at pvhometours.com to make advance bookings. Restaurante La Albufera on Aquiles Serdan #242 continues to be our gracious host for the tours. On the day of the tour, tickets are on sale beginning at 9 a.m. The first bus departs at 10:30 a.m. If you have purchased advance tickets, please try to arrive by 10 a.m.

The proceeds from the tours fund a number of Puerto Vallarta charities, primarily our Cleft Palate Surgical Program and other in house Educational and Community Service Programs. It also provides assistance to Becas Vallarta, the Refugio Infantil Santa Esperanza (R.I.S.E), the Los Mangos Biblioteca, Santa Barbara Clinic Rehab and the Salvation Army, among others. All the work is accomplished by volunteer club members dedicated to contributing to our long established goals of a giving a helping hand to the less fortunate children of Puerto Vallarta and its surrounding areas.

We are always looking for volunteers, especially those who can help with distributing posters and flyers to the hotels and businesses around town. If you have any questions, please contact me.

Mike McGee
Home Tour Director
322-221-5681

Botanical Gardens and Zoo!!

This special trip will visit the **Botanical Gardens** and the **Zoo**, hence the name BoZo. Be sure to bring your camera, comfortable walking shoes, sunscreen and insect repellent.

The tour will depart promptly at 9:30 A.M. from La Albufera Restaurant at Aquiles Serdan and I. Vallarta. (The same location for the Home Tours)

The tour will head first to the gorgeous Vallarta Botanical Gardens. The Botanical Gardens first opened in 2004 and has added and improved each year, gaining international attention for its 20 acres containing hundreds of native tropical plants such as orchids, anthuriums, agaves, cactus, fruit trees and more. The pathways through the jungle are not to be missed. There is also a guided tour available.

Lunch and beverages are available at the garden's restaurant.

From the Botanical Gardens the bus tour will head to the Puerto Vallarta Zoo in Mismaloya where they will spend two hours exploring the grounds and seeing over 100 species of birds, mammals and reptiles that live there. The zoo has only been open since 2005 so many people have yet to visit and see the many species native to this area as well as those from other continents. The zoo allows hand-feeding of some species so you are in for a great experience.

Return to La Albufera is scheduled for about 4:30 P.M.

The cost for this day long excursion is just 450 pesos. The tour will seat a limited number of guests so get your tickets in advance at the IFC Clubhouse, or get them on www.ifcvallarta.com or www.pvhometours.com thru PayPal.

Place your ad HERE!!!

3.5 inches x 1.5 inches

100 pesos per issue
250 pesos for 3 issues

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

Vallarta Botanical Gardens

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

24 Km South of town (on Hwy 200)

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

www.vbgardens.org

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Christ Church by the Sea

Worldwide Anglican Communion
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English-Traditional Holy Communion
All Faiths Welcome

Questions? Call Father Jack Wehrs
322-209-0895 cell: 044-322-229-1129
www.christchurchbythesea.org - www.iglesiacristodelmar.org

Upcoming Social Events

On Monday the 21st of January we will once again be having our Scavenger Hunt. This year we will be starting at the Oceano restaurant on the Malecon and discovering new things in El Centro. Plan to come out and have some fun. Then enjoy lunch with a great view of the Bay.

We will meet at the Oceano Restaurant on the Malecon across from the Cheeky Monkey at 11 AM. This year you can submit your own team of four or we will partner you up with someone else who doesn't have a team. Max four per team.

There will be prizes for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place teams.

Cost for this day of fun is \$250 pesos per person which includes buffet lunch and tip. There is limited seating at the restaurant so get your tickets in advance at the IFC Clubhouse, or get them on www.ifcvallarta.com (Special Events) thru PayPal.

Valentine's Day

Valentine's Day is just around the corner and the planning has already begun to make this a special night. This well attended event is always a favorite with IFC members. As soon as the date and location are confirmed, you can get your tickets in advance at the IFC Clubhouse, or get them on www.ifcvallarta.com (Special Events) thru PayPal.

St. Patrick's Day

St. Patrick's Day is just a couple of months away and the planning is already in progress. This is another well attended IFC event, and this one will be VERY special. We are planning a Dinner Theater, directed by a well known local theater director and playwright. As soon as the date and location are confirmed, you can get your tickets in advance at the IFC Clubhouse, or get them on www.ifcvallarta.com (Special Events) thru PayPal.

Linda Mellor Event Co-ordinator

RENEW NOW!

Renew your IFC Membership from the comfort of your home or office.

1. Go to www.ifcvallarta.com
2. Click on "Membership" about half way down in the left column
3. Scroll down to the bottom of the page, select your membership type (single or Couple)
4. Enter the member's name(s) and click on "Buy Now". This will take you to the Paypal Payment site where you can pay for your membership with a credit card or from your Paypal Account (if you have one).

It's that easy!

WELCOME to our new members

Dan Adams
Frank & Sharon Allen
Kurt Buchholz
Deanna Daneri
Jim & Mary DeVaney
Bill & Maria Drury
Bud Ellison
Jim & Gale Feindel
Ellen Fenton
Blake Forrest
John Gruhn
Michael Harris
Bob Hartye
Robert Howell
Ken & Maureen Krulitski
Linda Kulber
Dianne Kvisle
Jim Law
Paul & Lynn Lieberman
Bruce & Susan MacGregor
Diana Mann
James R. Martin
Frank K. Meyer
Shirley Miles-Watanabe
Madeline Perlow
Elroy Quenroe
Barbara Rainville
Lee & Connie Reiter
Elly Rohrer
Marsha Ryle
Paul S. Sachs
Patricia Sandquist
Bill & Jane Saywell
Frank & Pam Sullivan
Bill & Pauline Trachtenberg
James Waite
Hilda Walsh
Ayn Woodruff
Colette Zarry

How many new members have you met?



"Let our New Year's resolution be this: we will be there for one another as fellow members of humanity, in the finest sense of the word."

-- Goran Persson