



# SPRING FIESTA



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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9TH

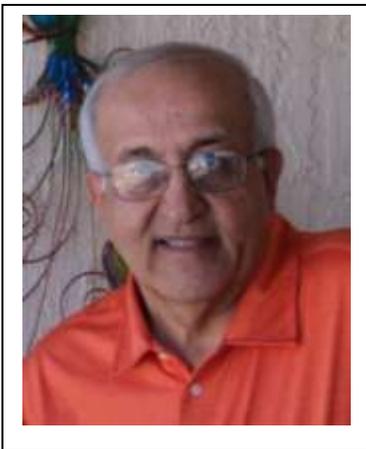
5 PM

Beardsley Park - Ramadas 2 & 3

**LA CELEBRACIÓN DE PRIMAVERA**

Watch for details about reservations

## MEET ONE OF OUR NEW TEACHERS



**JIM (JAIME) KHAMI**

The gift of fluency in languages is not common. Those who have it are envied and admired. One of our club's newest teachers, Jim (Jaime) Khami, certainly is gifted in this way.

Jim was born in Baghdad, Iraq. When he was three, he immigrated to America with his parents and older brother and began a new life in Michigan. "My heritage and mother tongue are Chaldean. Chaldeans are a fairly small group of Roman Catholic Christians living in an overwhelmingly Muslim country. You could say I learned English as a

*second language since I didn't begin speaking it until kindergarten in Detroit. I studied Latin in high school, and Italian in college, where I learned to read, write and speak Italian with a fairly good Italian accent, and finally Spanish in my junior year in college. Spanish is my strongest foreign language...*"

Jaime spent three months in Mexico working on a community project and acquired a deep appreciation of the language, Mexican culture and heritage. He continued to study Spanish on his own and acquired sufficient

fluency to teach it in high school for three years. Jaime visited Mexico and Spain several times with his students. Years later, he went to law school and practiced law in Michigan for 26 years before permanently retiring to Sun City West with his wife, Diane in December, 2013.

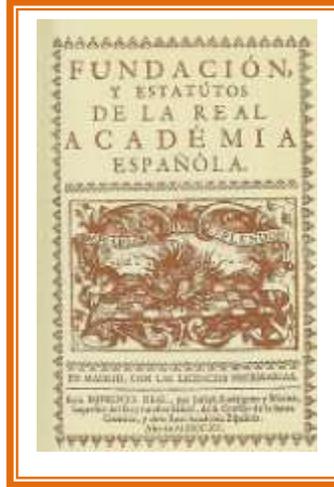
Although Jaime has many other interests (carpentry, golf, opera), he professes to place teaching Spanish through the Club on a high priority.

**iBienvenido, Jaime!**

## La Real Academia Celebra Sus 300 Años

Para celebrar sus 300 años de existencia, la Real Academia de la lengua española, publicará su diccionario académico en el 2014. En esta edición se oficializa la entrada de las palabras: tuit, tuiteo, tuitero, bloguero, chat, chatear, SMS, tableta. -Gloria Mamola

Three hundred years ago in Madrid, Don Juan Manuel Fernández Pacheco, the Marquis of Villena, gathered a group of eight determined men in order to create a dictionary of the Spanish language, founding an academy "to be composed of honorable individuals capable of examining and discerning the errors that have distorted the Spanish language due to the introduction of words that are heathenish and improper for use by honorable people." This meeting would end up being so fruitful that now, centuries later, the institution is celebrating its 300<sup>th</sup> anniversary.



The members of the Academy, (known as *Números*) are elected for life by the other academicians. Each academician holds a seat labeled with a letter from the Spanish alphabet; upper- and lower-case letters are separate seats.

In 1994, the RAE ruled that the Spanish consonants "CH" (ché) and "LL" (elle) would hence be alphabetized under "C" and under "L", respectively, and not as separate, discrete letters, as in the past.

Visit the Academy's website: <http://www.rae.es/> where you will find five different dictionaries.

### MEXICO: THE ROYAL TOUR

- What:** The exciting film: México: The Royal Tour  
**When:** Thursday, March 6, 2014, 6 – 7:30 p.m.  
**Where:** R. H. Johnson Lecture Hall (next to the Village Store)  
**Who:** Open to all SCW residents (non-club members welcome)

This groundbreaking film, produced and hosted by Peter Greenberg and shown on PBS, shows México in a way no visitor has seen the country before — through the eyes of ex-President Felipe Calderón as the guide. This film is a personal, fast-paced, non-stop adventure, journeying deep inside México to extraordinary areas, and includes experiences that aren't found in any guidebook. Come and enjoy an arm-chair journey and bring a friend. A donation of \$1.00 is requested at the door.

-Tiffany Coleman

***i Qué vengan todos!***

### More **Friday** Mini-Sessions!

March 14- 28 - 9-11 am. Reflexive Verbs and Pronouns: in the Mesquite Room in Beardsley. Recommended for Hi Beginner and Intermediate level; \$3 material fee. No need to pre-register. Joan Novy, facilitator

Apr 4 -25 - 9-11 am. Reading and Conversing in Spanish: In the Mesquite Room in Beardsley. Open to students of all levels who want to improve their understanding of spoken Spanish and their own speaking abilities. Classes will be held almost entirely in Spanish; \$3 material fee. No need to pre-register. Jaime Khami, facilitator

## DO YOU BUSUU?

Busuu is an online community for learning languages. It is named after a language apparently spoken by only eight people in Cameroon. Originally based in Madrid, Spain, Busuu has recently moved to London. They currently teach twelve languages: English, German, French, Italian, Spanish, Portuguese, Russian, Polish, Turkish, Arabic, Japanese and Chinese. Basic membership is free, but by paying a small monthly fee you can become a "Premium" member and have access to more learning material (mainly grammar).

For each language there are 150 learning units covering diverse topic areas and the most important grammar points. The content is image- and sound-based. You can listen to key vocabulary, example phrases and dialogs narrated by professional voice artists speaking in their own language.

Each learning unit consists of vocabulary, reading comprehension, a writing exercise (which you submit and is corrected by native speakers), and busuutalk in which you can practice your language skills by talking with native speakers around the world. Finally there is a review (test!) to check what you have learned.

Learning a language is much quicker if you notice the difference between the way that you use the language and the way native speakers use it. This is the secret of busuu's success. Native speakers all over the world become your friends. You can chat with them, learn from their corrections of your posts and finally teach them your own language. So log on to [www.busuu.com](http://www.busuu.com) and have fun learning the language of your choice.

-Tess Lindsay



## Votación Histórica del Senado: 'Dream Act' para niños inmigrantes

Washington State Wire: February 2, 2014

On Friday, the Washington State Senate swallowed hard and took one of the toughest votes of the last few years – for a measure that provides public college financial aid for the children of illegal immigrants. The Senate voted 35-10 for the measure it prefers to call the 'Real Hope Act.' It is different than previous versions, commonly called the 'Dream Act,' because this bill actually provides money to make the program a reality. Senate Bill 6523 provides some \$5 million for college financial aid programs for immigrant students, enough to finance college-need grants for some 800 to 1,200.

Washington will become the 17th state to pass a version of the Dream Act. It will be the fourth state, along with California, Texas and New Mexico, to extend student aid to undocumented students. Arizona, Georgia and Indiana prohibit undocumented students from receiving in-state rates, while Alabama and South Carolina prohibit undocumented students from enrolling in post-secondary institutions, according to the National Conference of State Legislators.

How do you say "Seahawks quarterback" in Spanish? Mariscal de campo de los Seahawk.



Courtesy of Keith Rauch