

SPANISH CLUB NEWS...



DECEMBER, 2017

Volume 5, Issue 4

NOVEMBER FIESTA ANOTHER BIG HIT! (-editor)

Time after time, Jo K. and committee show our members how to enjoy themselves! The November 17 Fiesta at the Shuffle Board Room at the Johnson Rec Center was no exception.

The evening's general meeting and celebration with friends was topped off by a potluck of tapas (defined as "small Spanish food items or snacks").

But, Dear Friends, these many dozens of offerings brought by the guests were nothing small or snacky! Just another fine evening, brought to us courtesy of great volunteers from the SCW Spanish Club.

As we left the room, I noticed the sign which stated, "**CAPACITY 145**". Either we move the Fiesta to Phoenix Stadium next year or bail Jo out of the Rec Center Jail!

-photos by Tom Williams



*Smiles
and
Sump-
tuous
Fare!*



The Mission of the Spanish Club is to learn the language and appreciate the Hispanic Culture through classes, cultural events, fiestas and travel.

(Tom Williams photos)

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GUEST APPEARANCE...

One of the Club's favorite members surprised the Fiesta guests with a return visit from Washington state! Joann Novy, former teacher and founder of this newsletter, was greeted by hugs and a rousing round of applause. One would have thought that Larry Fitzgerald, star receiver of the Cardinals, had walked into the room! So good to see you again, Joan. We appreciated your visit. (sorry, no photo available)



(veteran) member John O'Donnell and Barbara



Linda and Wendell Harris, both new members!

New member Ted Yao with secretary Jim Dodson



President Maureen thanking volunteers and welcoming new members

New member Rhonda Heikkinen with Gayle Hohl



ONE HUNDRED ATTEND FALL WELCOME/REGISTRATION

Though the Spanish Club was a bit *short-handed*, without many of its Canadian and stateside snowbirds, the October 12, 2017, was well attended.

It provided for a *welcome back* for returnees and a *welcome to the Club* for new members. Classes were the main focus of the meeting agenda.

EDITOR'S CORNER...

WEBSITE IS THE *BACKBONE* OF THE SPANISH CLUB!

Oh Worthy Club Member, our website representative has outdone herself. Margaret has assembled as fine a site as you will find short of North Korea. Her volunteerism shows brilliantly.

It is easy to excuse ourselves from visiting Spanish.scwclubs.com ...after all... ballgames, other clubs, cell phones, visitors and organizational activities of all sorts (did I mention cell phones?) can get in our way. You may find answer to questions you haven't dared ask. And there is no multiple choice test when you finish. Believe me, the website will knock your socks off.

Checking there last week I found detailed biographies of our Spanish Club teaching staff. It reads like a college faculty bulletin! And much more...

So pour yourself a cup of coffee some morning and take a look... or with an adult beverage (some evening). And don't be surprised about your socks.

(Setting your computer at 150% of page size makes newsletter reading easier.)

PRESIDENT MAUREEN'S MESSAGE...



Fall has been vibrant in the Spanish Club. As a result of registrations in October, we welcome about 40 new members, bringing our membership to 220, and we have added yet another class to meet the growing demand for

beginning Spanish. We had a full house at the November fiesta. The tapas were delicious, and it was a great opportunity to catch up with friends and meet new members. Plans are proceeding for a trip to Peru and an immersion program in Playa del Carmen this spring. Mexican Train and book club afternoons are also underway.

There were almost 50 people at movie night in November, and the film, *Landfill Harmonic*, brought many of us, both men and women, to tears. And it was a documentary! This film might warrant another showing in future. Pam Watson has done a wonderful job of organizing movie night, but she is stepping down. We are fortunate, however, that Stephen Hohl has stepped up to take over that responsibility. We look forward to many more movies.

I am pleased to make some other announcements as well. John Anderson has agreed to be the photographer at our club events. Donna Howard and Eileen Heaston will take responsibility for volunteer coordination. Mike Marrah will provide support on our website. Debbie Beall will manage the bulletin board in Tish Iwaszuk's absence this winter. We look forward to working with them.

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CLUB FEATURES EXCEPTIONALLY QUALIFIED TEACHERS!



Left to right: Gloria M., Eleine G., Joyce L., Wendie S., Mary Ann J, Maralee R., Jim K, Catherine T., Bill P. (not pictured: Brenda M, Rosemary B)

Our instructors enjoy making Spanish come alive for their students.

Eleine Greene studied Spanish in college and traveled extensively in Mexico and Spain.

MaryAnn Jasken, a second-language teacher/trainer, studied the Spanish language and culture in Mexico.

Jim Khami, an attorney and Spanish teacher, has traveled in Mexico and Spain. Joyce Lusty taught Spanish, ESL, and math; she lived over ten years in South America.

Gloria Mamola was raised in Colombia, South America, and became a US citizen in 2008.

Brenda Melcher taught high school Spanish and traveled with students to Spain and Mexico.

Bill Price taught high school Spanish, helped publish Spanish textbooks, and traveled throughout the Spanish-speaking world.

Maralee Reiner has used Spanish in her work, travel and studies for almost 60 years.

Wendie Schumacher worked as a Spanish teacher, translator, and bilingual consultant.

Catherine Thayer, former Nevada Deputy Attorney General, studied Spanish and attended the University of Madrid.

Rosemary Bossert is degreed in Spanish, certified in ESL and Bilingual Education. She has traveled extensively throughout the Spanish speaking world, including Cuba.

(See our website for complete autobiographies. Thanks, Margaret Rauch)

New beginning level (no past language experience) Spanish class starts January 12. To register for this class, email instructor Rosemary Bossert at rcbossert@att.net. For other inquiries and information, call or email Tish: 360-620-7634

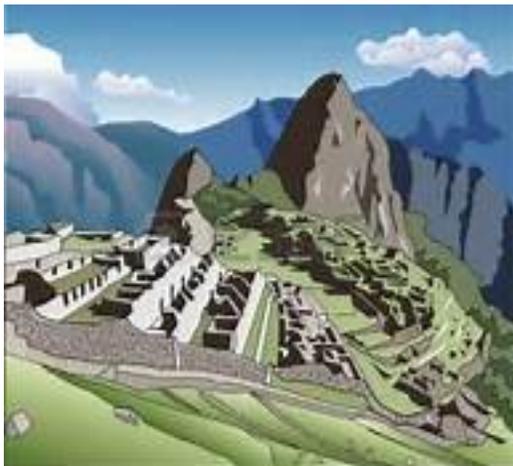
tish@iwazuk.com. Visit spanish.scwclubs.com (just click on "classes")



SPANISH CLUB EMBRACING EXPANDED EMPHASIS-PERU PREPARES FOR CLUB VISIT! -editor

Along with an impressive slate of classes, memorable fiestas, opportunities for cultural events and great Spanish related movies and games, travel coordinator Jim Khami is moving forward with *travel* plans for our Club. And what plans they are!

Since the Board added Spanish related travel to our Club mission statement, Jim has been very busy. The Spanish Club encourages travel consistent with the Club's mission, part of which is *to explore the Spanish language and Hispanic history, culture and traditions*. With this in mind, an up-coming trip to Peru is being planned. More info? Jim Khami. Check our website (scroll to "travel") or jimkhami@gmail.com



NEW VOLUNTEERS WELCOMED NOVEMBER 17

Noting the large number of 2017-18 volunteers who came forward at the Fall Membership Meeting, President Maureen and Teacher Representative Mary Ann hosted a home-baked muffin "thank you" and informational meeting in the Mesquite Room.

The session included introduction of Club officers and Board, and presented opportunities for participation in assisting Club success. Especially appreciated were many volunteers who were *new* members.

The muffins weren't bad, either.

**HOLIDAY FIESTA
COMING SOON...
DECEMBER 8TH****



This is a highlight event- Check our website, and don't you dare miss it!

FOOD FOR THOUGHT, recent research has shown that, not only do we learn new *words* when we study a second language, we may learn new ways of approaching our traditional method of *thinking!*
(thanks, Bob Mittendorf)

Yet Another Opportunity...



SPANISH IMMERSION PROGRAM PLAYA DEL CARMEN, MEXICO, spring 2018

The Spanish Club will be offering an immersion program in Playa del Carmen, Mexico. Playa del Carmen is 40 miles south of Cancún on the Yucatán Peninsula.

The trip is being arranged by Eleine Greene, who also teaches Spanish with the Spanish Club on Mondays.

Small group classes are taught in outdoor thatched-roof cabanas. Subjects include grammar, conversation and Mexican culture. There are 3 classes per morning, each about 55 minutes long. In the afternoons the school offers optional cultural experiences such as cooking, dance, Mayan culture and history, and a city tour. The program also includes a trip to Tulum (Mayan Ruins), as well as to Chichen-Itza.

Playa del Carmen attracts people from all over the world because of its relaxed tropical atmosphere and beautiful beaches. Playa is a great place to enjoy the cultural and historic richness of Mexico and the Mayan people.

The trip is also a great way to get to know other Spanish Club members in a relaxed and social atmosphere.

Contact: Eleine Greene:

ecgreenerainbow@yahoo.com

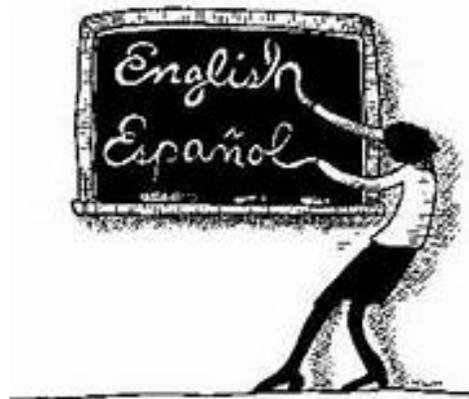
541-912-2280

NEED CLUB BULLETIN BOARD SPACE?

The word is that **smaller is better!** There is a space crisis, according to publicity chairperson Tish Iwaszuk. Check with her for more information if you have posters/announcements to display.
360-620-7634 tish@iwaszuk.com

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE (cont'd from page 2)

The election of next year's officers will take place at the holiday fiesta on December 8th. There is an excellent slate of candidates and I hope you will be there to welcome them. I have enjoyed being your president and am confident that you will be well served by the leadership around the board table next year.
Maureen



“Alas, the rains have come to refresh the ancient trees of Babylon...

(like our new members refresh our Club!)

CLUB MEMBERS VISIT “THE DAY OF THE DEAD” (and live to tell about it)



On Saturday, October 28th, several members of the Spanish Club traveled to the Mesa Arts Center to learn about and enjoy the celebration of Dia De Los Muertos (the Day of the Dead). The celebration was much like a street fair with vendors, artistic displays and dancers. The focus of the displays was colorful altars, created to remember deceased relatives and loved ones. Many aspects of this tradition stem from the Aztec culture.

NOTE-

Stay informed! All past newsletters are on our website Spanish.scwclubs.com.

Last week I talked with a SCW history Club secretary. Since they hire an independent company to mail their state quarterly newsletter, the company keeps track of the number of those which are opened. Sadly, for that club, about 1/3 remain *unopened* each issue.

A special *thanks* to Margaret R. and Jan G. for bailing out the editor each edition with their fine proof-reading skills!



The act of preparing an altar by placing photographs, flowers, candles and favorite foods and drink of the loved one provides a time to transform grief into acceptance. The living invite the spirits of the family to return home for a few hours of laughter, tears and memories. Flowers, symbolizing the brevity of life, are fashioned into garlands, wreaths and crosses to decorate the altar and the grave. A candle is lit for each dead family member and one extra so that no one is left out. The candles, which represent hope and faith, burn during the night, so that there is no darkness. Once the fear of death has been defeated, the clutch she has on the hearts and minds of the living is lessened once and for all. Death's morbid side is buried under music and remembrances. While skeletons laugh, Mexico celebrates life in its embrace of death. (thanks, Paul V.)

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CLUB BOARD OF DIRECTORS

meets once a month. Members are welcome. See calendar in this issue.

Maureen Ball, president
Paul Voorhees, vice president
Jim Dodson, acting secretary
Olivette Miller, treasurer
Jo Keitges, Fiesta coordinator
Tish Iwaszuk and Mary Ann Jasken, members-at-large
Margaret Rauch, public relations and web assistant
Others, Dave Porter, tech advisor
Jim Jasken, newsletter editor (sugarbushwordshop@hotmail.com)
John Anderson, photographer



VIDEO AVAILABLE...

Several of us have seen the 10 minute dvd slide show on our Copper Canyon trip this last March. If you'd like a copy, please send Olivette Miller \$5, and a copy will be created for you.

¿Has oído el caso de ese fugitivo que secuestró un autobús de turistas japoneses?

-Have you heard about the case of that fugitive who held hostage a busload of Japanese tourists?

La policía tiene 5.000 fotos suyas.

-The police have 5,000 pictures of him.



The Mexican Train game has really caught on with the Club. The next session will be January 16 (1-3) in the Chicory Room. Fred and Arline to do great job of hosting. It is a simple enough game so that even a Newsletter editor can play.

Our contact person is **Arline Foster** (new number) 406-534-1611 or fosterhealth@bresnan.net



Don't miss the
Holiday Fiesta
December 8th!
See you there-



Club Members enjoying Mexican Train, even throwing in a few Spanish words and, at some tables, "lingo"!
-Arline F. photo

Bulletin Boards, Debbie Beall, Tish(tish@iwaszuk.com)
Website, Margaret(rauch38@centurylink.net)

2018 CALENDAR ANNOUNCED

January 8	9:00am	<u>Winter classes begin</u>
January 10	3:00pm	<u>Book club will meet</u> (check website for details)
January 16	1:00pm	<u>Spanish board games</u>
January 19	7:00pm	<u>Movie night</u>
February 14	3:00pm	<u>Book club</u>
February 16	5:00pm	<u>Valentine Fiesta</u>
February 20	1:00pm	<u>Spanish board games</u>
February 23	7:00pm	<u>Movie night</u>
March 14	3:00pm	<u>Book club</u>
March 20	1:00pm	<u>Spanish bd games</u>
March 23	7:00pm	<u>Movie night</u>
April 11	3:00pm	<u>Book club</u>
April 13		<u>*Winter classes, final day</u>
April 13	5:00pm	Fiesta Friday
June 1	9:00am	<u>*Summer classes begin</u>
July 27		<u>*Summer classes, final day</u>
October 19	9:00am	<u>Fall general mtg</u>
October 22	9:00am	<u>* Fall classes begin</u>
October 26	7:00pm	<u>Movie night</u>
November 9	5:00pm	<u>Fall Fiesta</u>
November 16	7:00pm	<u>Movie night</u>
November 20	1:00pm	<u>Spanish bd games</u>
December	(TBA)	<u>Holiday Fiesta</u>
December 21		<u>Fall classes, final day</u>

SCHEDULE NOTE...

*Gloria's Thursday conversation class has been booked in the Chicory Room year-round, but has the same holiday break in December/January as other classes.

- Doctor, doctor, me he roto el brazo en varios sitios. *Doctor, doctor, I have broken my arm in several places.*"

- Pues yo de usted no volvería a esos sitios. *"Well, if I were you, I wouldn't go back to those places."*



WOULD YOU LIKE TO TUTOR STUDENTS IN ENGLISH? (another meaningful opportunity to *make a difference*)

Are you interested in tutoring adults who want to learn or improve their English? Dysart Community Center in nearby El Mirage is a non-profit organization dedicated to providing health and educational resources to local families who need them.

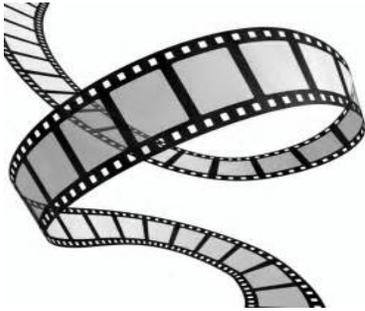
It runs adult programs geared to help them learn skills they need to go on to higher education or obtain greater employment. Chief among those programs is English language instruction, and it is heavily dependent on volunteer tutors.

If you are interested in volunteering as a tutor, contact Susie Ratley, the Centre's Adult Education Director, susier@dysartcommunitycenter.org (623) 974-4156.

(Many studies show that the road to better lives for those seeking improvement is *education*. It sounds as if these potential students really can be helped along the success pathway. More power to them (and you if you volunteer!) –ed.

Newsletter: sugarbushwordshop@hotmail.com

Website: Spanish.scwclubs.com



MOVIE NIGHT COMING...

Watch for details of the January 19 Spanish movie night. Our November flick saw nearly 50 attendees!

Enjoy an evening with Spanish Club members...

EDITOR RISKS CENSORSHIP (or worse), BUT TELLS ALL

As editor of the Club newsletter, I mostly stay on top of what's going on from week to week. I clandestinely confabulate with committee chair people, directors, and even get an audience with the president once in a while. Many of our friends belong to the Spanish Club.

What's so exciting for me is that this is a *movin' Club!* Our Spanish group is growing in membership, growing in activity options, in volunteerism, curriculum and growing in travel itineraries.

And to top it all off, we are at or near capacity in most activities and classes. That, after new classes and other options are steadily added.

We just don't see this kind of *dynamics* in many groups.

I, for one, am enjoying the ride.

BOOK CLUB STUDIES... THE QUEEN OF WATER



The November 8 Spanish Book Club spawned a lively discussion. (The books and the discussion are in English.) From Left to right: Paul V., Mary Ann J., Maureen B., Joan A., Jo K., Jackie B.

Recently added members are:
Tish I., Lauren J., and Wendell H.



Si no hay Dios, ¿quién cambia el agua en el tanque?

