

# SPANISH CLUB NEWS...



April, 2018

Volume 6 - Issue 2

## If you can't find anything that interests you here, ask a responsible person to call 911.

### IN THIS ISSUE...

- New officers, leaders, take charge
- President's Column
- Significant curriculum changes
- Who's going where (with whom)?
- Summer Classes announced
- Enjoy John Anderson's photos of Club activities
- Somewhat more-

▣ **Set your screen at 150% for best viewing**



WHAT'S GOTTEN INTO THESE SOPHISTICATED TEACHERS?  
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WHY ARE THESE CLUBBERS LAUGHING? (P. 10)



NO THROWING  
POPCORN!

(P.11)





## GOOD BYE AZ, HELLO PERU!

The Peru travelers have been planning and preparing for their upcoming trip since last November. Six Club members and one member-guest living in Tucson have been busy reading, emailing, and sharing important information. The group met several times to discuss the Trafalgar itinerary, watch videos of Lima, Cusco, the Sacred Valley, and Machu Picchu. They discussed security recommendations, packing list, local cuisine and currency questions and altitude concerns.

**Jacque Mazour** has been very instrumental in helping the others by sharing her special knowledge from working in the SCW library. Jacque prepared a reading list of books about Peru and Machu Picchu that are available at the library and arranged a special session where the group participated in a virtual reality experience of Machu Picchu. She also provided copies of travel information from Fodor's Travel Guide to share with everyone.

Though many in the group are veteran travelers to Spanish-speaking countries, this is their first excursion to South America. **Gloria Mamola** and her sister **Esperanza** grew up in neighboring Colombia. Even for Gloria and Esperanza this will be their first time in Peru. To say that all are excited and looking forward to a trip below the equator with Club friends is an understatement.

All 7 took a commercial shuttle and departed Sky Harbor at 5:00 p.m. on Friday March 23 for the short flight to Dallas, then a 7-hour "red-eye" flight to Lima. Their return to Phoenix will be Easter Sunday, April 1, with loads of experiences to share with their Spanish Club friends in class and at the April 13 Spring Fiesta.

The annual trips to Spanish-speaking countries are a wonderful way to learn about not only other cultures who share the Spanish language, but to develop lasting friendships with neighbors. Check the club website regularly to see where we're headed next! **-Jim Khami (See page 8 for last week's photos from Lima!)**

## **Playa del Carmen, Mexico, Will Welcome Members April 15**

**Eleine Greene** and a group of Spanish Club members will soon fly out of Sky Harbor for an immersion program which features learning the language, studying the culture, shopping and sightseeing some very special locations including Chichen Itza! The guest lodging will be walking distance from the school.

We will feature a trip report in our next newsletter. Watch for it. (-editor)

### **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE...**

Our Valentine Fiesta was held February 16<sup>th</sup>, and by all measures a great success. The food was excellent and the entertainment outstanding. Some said the best ever fiesta entertainment. The West Valley Jazztet provided background music for dinner, and an outstanding musical program thereafter. If you read the card at each table, you know this wasn't any pick up band, but serious musicians who have performed internationally and for Broadway shows and famous musical groups. Then we were treated to the performance of a 'Sevillano', the traditional dance of Seville, by **Sara Gonzales**, a native of Seville, who was visiting **Ed and Ellen Zacko** of the Jazztet. Sara says you can replicate the hand movements of the Sevillano with these clues: (1) reach up with your hand to pick a fruit off the tree, turning your wrist to dislodge the fruit; (2) move the fruit toward your mouth as though you were going to eat it; and (3) keep moving your hand downward as though you are going to throw the fruit away, turning your wrist to release the imaginary fruit. Great evening!

Fiesta de Primavera- Our Spring Fiesta will be held starting at 5 PM on April 13<sup>th</sup> at the Beardsley Ramadas #1, #2 and #3. The menu will be a taco bar with all the fixings and dessert. The fiesta will be free for members. It will primarily be a social event and include our usual short business meeting. There are picnic tables for everyone, but feel free to bring your lawn chairs and any favorite beverage. More details will be forthcoming.

Changes in Spanish Language Class Administration- After consultation with the teachers, the Spanish Club Board of Directors recently approved some changes in how we administer our language classes to help ease the workload, which in the recent past has been accomplished by one person – **Mary Ann Jasken**. The Board also decided to begin class scheduling in the Spring for Summer and Fall terms. This will help ensure student class needs are met with the available teaching staff and classroom space.

In addition to the Teacher Representative, a Language Class Administrator (LCA) and a Student Advisor position have been created. The LCA will handle primarily administrative tasks such as coordinating the language class program with the Board, developing class rosters, and ordering textbooks. The Teacher's Representative will continue to handle academic issues, such as class curriculum and representing teachers' interests to the LCA and the Board. The SA will assist students with placement and provide other assistance as required. I have appointed **Donna Howard** to the Language Class Administrator position, and **Brenda Melcher** to the Student Advisor position. Both have extensive experience in these areas. **MaryAnn Jasken** will continue as the Teacher's Representative. Together, this team will very likely further improve the program, which has already gained a significant reputation within the chartered clubs. **-President Paul**

**TENATIVE CLUB MEETING SCHEDULED: OCTOBER 11,  
2018, 9 am, SHUFFLEBOARD ROOM**

## **SOME SPANISH CLUB MEMBERS RELISH THEIR SUMMERS AT A COOLER “UNIVERSITY” SETTING (-editor)**

Whatever might be on your *bucket list* for the heat of Sun City West summers, have you considered an option that many have tried, a senior summer program at a university? Many rave about their summer experiences there, whether it be in the *North Country* or the *High Country*.

Two of the most commonly chosen destinations are Utah State, (Ogden, Utah), or the University of Minnesota (Duluth Campus). Both hold informational meetings in our City to promote their programs. Easy to find are their websites, as well.

Mary Ann and I speak well of our Duluth experience last summer. The ten-week program, costing about \$2500, included several Lake Superior experiences, as well as a couple of picnics. There were optional weekly get-togethers for the seniors who attended.

The program accommodations were two bedrooms with two beds each, a living room and a kitchen. Laundry facilities were located in the building. Meal plans were available. At least six couples from Sun City West attended Duluth program last summer.

Our university experience was highlighted by a doe and her three fawns, the little youngsters nursing most days on the woodland encircled lawn just outside our window. Duluth is a busy inland port, early center of the American Fur Trade, and features endless natural beauty.

Another plan to possibly consider is the Utah experience. We've heard good reports from there, as well.



\*\*\*CITYSCAPE (above)

\*\*\*DULUTH 1903 ARIEL LIFT  
BRIDGE IS GATE TO THE HARBOR  
(at right)



**WHO WERE THE QUEEN AND KING AT THE FEBRUARY VALENTINE'S FIESTA? ( Here are a few nominees...)**



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



## Club Officers & Chairs 2018

Paul Voorhees, President  
Lee Howard, Vice-President  
Olivette Miller, Treasurer  
Jim Dodson, Secretary  
Tish Iwaszuk, Member-at-large  
Dianne Heisner, Public Relations  
Jo Keitges, Fiesta Chair  
Donna Howard, Language Class  
Administrator  
MaryAnn Jasken, Teacher Representative  
Brenda Melcher, Student Advisor  
Jim Jasken, Newsletter Editor

Jim Jasken, Newsletter Editor  
Arline Foster, Mexican Train  
Stephen Hohl, Movie Night  
Paul Voorhees, Book Club  
Jim Khami, Travel Coordinator  
Dave Porter, Tech Support  
Karen Brown, Cooking Classes  
John Anderson, Photographer  
Jan Gameros, Proof-reader  
Margaret Rauch, Proof-reader and  
Website

### **“MEXICAN TRAIN” PROVIDES NEW FRIENDS, FRIENDLY CHALLENGES!**

**Fred** and **Arline Foster** ramp up the action every month for the Club Mexican Train Session. You are always welcome to join for some wholesome *non-violent* competition. Well, so far, any way. Watch for autumn details!



## CLUB ANNOUNCES SUMMER SCHEDULE

Some of our Spanish Club's most popular teachers will offer some fine summer options.

DESTINOS is an introductory Spanish program that deals with grammatical concepts, vocabulary and culture. **Eilene Greene** will be in charge every Wednesday, June 27- August 1.

**Gloria Mamola** will offer a social conversational class where only Spanish is spoken. It will be an on-going class every Thursday.

Using the Fun Books, levels one and two will be the basis for **Bill Price's Friday** conversation class. No homework or books required for this one.

No pre-registration needed for any of the classes. You must be a Spanish Club member to participate in the classes. All will meet from 9 to 11 at the Chicory Room.

## NOTICE...

A nominating committee will soon be formed to identify candidates for the 2019 Spanish Club Board of Directors. While all positions are open to all members, we will be looking for candidates for at least Treasurer, Secretary and Vice-President. If you would like to be a part of our leadership team, email **Paul Voorhees** at [ropavo@gmail.com](mailto:ropavo@gmail.com).

MORE FROM LIMA...from page 2

## SCW SPANISH CLUB MEMBERS SPEND PALM SUNDAY 2018 IN PERU-

Club travel director **Jim Khami** sent along these photos last week from Lima and Cusco...

### SUNDAY SUNSHINE



### VISITING THE MARKET IN LIMA



(con'd p.12)

Jim Khami photos

## YOU ARE OFFICIALLY INVITED...LET'S CELEBRATE!

The Spanish Club has been a source of great activities this year for members-book club, movie nights, Mexican Train, community service, cooking classes, fiestas, entertainment, travel, enjoying exceptional classes, and deepening of new and existing friendships. To thank everyone for your support, the Board invites you to the Spring Fiesta in Beardsley Park on **Friday, April 13**. Each member can invite one guest and you don't even have to bring a food item to share!

Please respond to **Olivette Miller** by telephone, email, or regular mail no later than **Monday, April 9** with the names of those in your party. See website for more details.

It will be a wonderful end to a wonderful year. Thank you to everyone who has participated in making the Spanish Club the most exciting club in Sun City West! -Fiesta Chair, **Jo Keitges**

### MIGHT YOU HAVE FORGOTTEN TO ORDER YOUR NAME TAG?

If you'd like to order an optional Spanish Club magnetic name badge (as in the sample below), **email: Jamie Phillip at the address below, reference order #258768, provide the name(s) to be inscribed on the badge and the shipping address**. You will then be sent an email invoice to pay on line. The cost for each badge is \$8.35, including shipping.

**Jamie Phillip** | Customer Service & Sales [\(888\) 445-7601](tel:8884457601) | [jamie@bestnamebadges.com](mailto:jamie@bestnamebadges.com)

They measure 1.25" X 3".



## VENEZUELAN AREPA FEATURED AT CLUB COOKING CLASS!

Karen Brown's home was the place. Keka Wessman was the chef, and (as it turned out), Fred Foster was the luckiest guy in town.

On March 7, Native Venezuelan, Keka Wessman (Spanish teacher *extraordinaire*), shared her Arepa recipe with eighteen Spanish Club ladies and one lucky fellow.

Amidst plenty of good fun, the South American faire was discussed, mixed, formed, baked and sampled. And there was plenty of good cheer!

Here is a look at their special session. Watch for announcements of possible upcoming classes. Since kitchen sizes are limited, attendance is by reservation.

Might McDonalds be considering a "McArepa"? (-ed.)

(Photos by Pam Watson)



Hostess Karen!



## **EDITOR'S CORNER, (of compliments and complainers)**

Have you noticed the people our Spanish Club has brought together? I don't mean just numbers in Spanish classes, cooking classes, trips, or the movies and games. I mean the welding of *great* relationships, the spawning of social gatherings and even some "serious" relationships! What a great bunch of friends Mary Ann and I now have who have come through our Club activities.

Have you seen the new guy on the block, focusing and snapping at Club members? That's **John Anderson**, new club photographer, and are we ever pleased! See some of his nice work in this issue.

Those who have stepped forward to volunteer are the skeleton of our dynamic Club; they are the horses that pull our wagon. See updated list in this edition.

Occasionally I hear that our volunteers have had to field complaints about their special work for our organization. And some of these complaints are *not* something *earned* by our very willing volunteers. Inform yourself. Know that a Fiesta meal has other expenses (like a national quality professional jazz band) before you complain that the meal downtown would be \$3 less. Rephrase that negative complaint into a positive suggestion, or better yet, come forward to help promote understanding and opportunities. There is plenty of room for diplomatic advice. Positive comments are our volunteers only pay.

**-JIM J.**

## **IMPROVE YOUR SPANISH WHILE BEING ENTERTAINED!**

Be sure to enjoy the next Spanish Movie Night, hosted by **Stephen Hohl** and **Gayle Gorder**. Know that they are constantly on the lookout for the best in sub-titled Spanish-related films. Popcorn optional.

### **Spanish Club Featured Film "Cinco De Mayo: La Batalla," March 23<sup>rd</sup> (English Subtitled film)**

This film chronicles the story of Mexico's Battle of Puebla, the most important battle in Mexico's history. Cinco de Mayo has its roots in the French occupation of Mexico, which took place in the aftermath of the 1858–61 Reform War. The Reform War pitted Liberals (who believed in separation of church and state, and freedom of religion) against the Conservatives (who favored a tight bond between the Roman Catholic Church and the Mexican State). These wars nearly bankrupted the Mexican Treasury. On July 17, 1861, Mexican President Benito Juárez issued a moratorium in which all foreign debt payments would be suspended for two years. France, at the time ruled by Napoleon III, decided to use the opportunity to establish an empire in Mexico that would favor French interests.

The Mexicans defeated a much-better-equipped French army. "This battle was significant in that the 4,000 Mexican soldiers were greatly outnumbered by the well-equipped French army of 8,000 that had not been defeated for almost 50 years. Second, since the Battle of Puebla, no country in the [Americas](#) has subsequently been invaded by any other [European](#) military force.



Two Club members, two Natives, a tourist, a llama and (Are you kidding?) three-quarters of a sheep...Cusco, Peru



“Who needs a dog when you can have a llama?” asks Tour Director Jim Khama



Last Monday night's accommodations  
- Jim Khama photos