



Club News & Views

Leer es soñar con los ojos abiertos.

(Reading is dreaming with open eyes.)

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This Edition Is a Salute to You Who Read and/or Discuss a Good Book!

Thank you for sharing Spanish-related book reviews and recommended lists with us. Note that Club Español has an active book discussion group currently meeting. Books are a big part of our Spanish Club activities.

No matter your method of enjoying a good book, in this issue we salute all you who have the *reading habit*. As Groucho Marx once quipped, "*I find television very educating. Every time someone turns on the set I go in the other room and read a book.*" -ed



Or I'll Dress You In Mourning By Dominique la Pierre and Larry Collins

Or I'll Dress You In Mourning is the biography of Manuel Benitez, an impoverished young boy who grew up in Spain during the Spanish Civil War of 1939 and his subsequent rise to become the most famous *matador* in Spain, *El Cordobes*.

Mourning is much more than the biography of a single man, it is also a look into the history and the psychology of Spain, the war, the Franco regime, and its effect on the population. All is told through the medium of the *Corrida* (bull fight) and the life of *El Cordobes*.

In order to truly understand the mentality and personality of Spain, one must first "understand the bulls" and the *Corrida*. To become a famous *Torero* (he becomes the *Matador* only at the moment of the kill) is the singular dream of every young Spanish male and today, even some women as well. In those days, it was the only way out of poverty.

I lived in Spain from 1983 to 1985, just 10 years after the end of the Franco regime when Spain was just beginning to "redefine herself" once again. *Mourning* did more to put me in touch with Spain and understand its people than any other book I have since encountered. I reread it every so often and after all these years, it still resonates with the soul of Spain. "Don't cry Angelita. Tonight, I'll buy you a house, or I'll dress you in mourning." -Ed Zacko

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



Editor's Column -Jim Jasken

This Edition Is a Salute to You Who Read and/or Discuss a Good Book!

Eight years ago I listened to Larry McMurtry (LONESOME DOVE series) tell an audience of writers that the era of the hardbound book was dying, that e-books (the Kindle was rather new at the time) would dominate the future of reading. But as I talk to CLUB ESPAÑOL members I find that, like me, cuddling a good bound book is like holding a good friend.

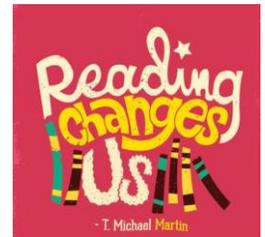
Our December newsletter theme will be *SPANISH FOOD!* We'd appreciate your sharing a unique or favorite recipe, or a Spanish food experience! Expect to receive the December edition late in the month. Content submission deadline is December 10. (sugarbushwordshop@hotmail.com)



Paul Vorhees and Jo Keitges Lead Book Club Efforts!

¡Hola Amigos! Welcome to the Club Español Book Club! Here are the details so far:

* December 7th- <u>Winter in Madrid</u> by Sansom (Paul Voorhees' house 20443 No. Meadowood Drive)	*March 8th- <u>Havana Real</u> by Yoani Sanchez
*January 11th- <u>Sacred Well</u> by A. May	*April 12th- <u>Motorcycle Diaries</u> by Guevera
*February 8th- <u>The Last Queen</u> by Gortner	



The club would meet on the second Wednesday in the months of January through April. The only different date is in December. The suggested questions for the book would be e-mailed to the club members before each get-together and additional questions could be submitted by all as they are reading the book.

The meetings will be from 3:00 p.m. until approximately 4:30, with light refreshments available. Please let me know if you can participate, and are willing to host a meeting.

¡Hasta la vista! Paul (ropava@gmail.com)

La meta del Club Español es el aprendizaje del idioma y el aprecio de la cultura hispana a través de clases, eventos culturales y fiestas.

"Snowbirds" a La Inversa

Conozco algunos "Snowbirds" americanos que han decidido vivir en Arizona a tiempo completo y han renunciado sus casas del verano en el Norte. No obstante, hace mucho calor durante el verano en Arizona. Entonces, estos residentes de SCW necesitan un refugio del calor. ¿Cómo los llamarías a la inversa? Sugiero "pollo volado" (flier chicken). Si usted tiene un término mejor en inglés o en español, se puede ganar un premio. Enviar sus ideas inteligentes a colleen.parrish@rogers.com. Los jueces serán imparciales ex "Snowbirds". El ganador del premio será anunciado en la fiesta próxima.

English summary: If northerners who winter in Arizona are "Snowbirds," what do you call the opposite – those who live in Arizona but flee north to get relief in the hot summer months? I suggest "flier chickens." If you have a better expression, send it to: colleen.parrish@rogers.com. The prize for the best suggestion will be announced at the next fiesta. Judges are impartial former "Snowbirds." **-Colleen Parrish**



The Influence of Arabic on the Development of Castilian (Spanish)

By Jim Khami

En los casi ocho siglos de dominio de los moros en la Península Ibérica, una gran cantidad de palabras árabes entraron en el léxico castellano, especialmente palabras que tenían que ver con la guerra, administración civil, construcción, agricultura, medicina, y las matemáticas de los moros.

In the nearly eight centuries of domination by the Moors in the Iberian Peninsula, a large number of Arabic words entered into the Castilian lexicon, especially words that had to do with war, civil administration, construction, agriculture, medicine, and mathematics of the Moors.

As a general rule, most of the words that begin with the prefix "al" were adopted from Arabic during the Moorish occupation. In Spanish the definite article has several forms: *el, la, los, las*, while in Arabic there is only one: ("*al*") which is used for all genders and numbers. In addition, the Arabic article "*al*" is written attached to the name to which it refers, although at times the "l" is not pronounced.

Mozarabs (Spanish-speaking Christians who lived in territories under Muslim control) adopted a large number of Arabic words which they needed in the management and organization of society, for trade, and for industry. This was because Arabic was the language of administration and it was necessary to indicate with new words things that were introduced or developed in Al-Andalus--the Iberian territory dominated by the Moors.

It was the custom of the Mozarabs, when they took words or terms borrowed from Arabic, to also take the definite article "*al*" as part of the word. For example: *al-qadi* (alcalde), *al-maghzan* (almacén), *al-quba* (alcoba), "*al-qasr*" (alcázar), *al-jabra* (algebra), *al-kuhl* (alcohol). Sometimes the letter "l" of the Arabic article totally assimilates with the letter that follows, doubling that letter. This was the result when those words became Spanish, as in *al-zeitun* (which is pronounced *azeitun*) and which gave the words *aceituna* and *aceite*; *al-ruz* (which is pronounced *arroz*) and which gave the word *arroz*. Other words retain the "l" in the written form but lose the "l" sound when pronounced. Examples: *al-diwan*, which is written with the "l" but pronounced "adwan" and which gave "aduana" (customshouse); *al-zafrán*, pronounced "azafran" both in Arabic and also in Spanish ("saffron").

Maybe after mastering Spanish you might be ready for Arabic. What do you think?

Club Members Respond with a Large Volume of Content

Oh, Loyal Readers, your responses to our request for interesting content for this periodic tome has been nothing short of overwhelming! And good stuff, too! We pledge our best efforts to include as much content as possible, given the parameters of space and time.

Please realize that some submitted pieces may require condensation, others proof-reading. In either case, we will do our best to keep the "flavor" of the original work. If two similar articles are submitted, we will use only one. Some submissions, which are not time-sensitive, may be published in a later issue. Thank you for being *active* members! -eds.

Jim Jasken sugarbushwordshop@hotmail.com and Joan Novy jbnovyaz@gmail.com



In The Time of Butterflies by Julia Alvarez (a Review)

This is historical fiction based on the following:

On November 25, 1960, the bodies of three beautiful sisters were found near their wrecked Jeep at the bottom of a 150-foot cliff on the north coast of the Dominican Republic. The official state newspaper reported their deaths as accidental. It did not mention that a fourth sister still lived. Nor did it state that the sisters were among the leading opponents of Gen. Rafael Trujillo's dictatorship. It didn't have to. Everybody knew of *Las Mariposas* (The Butterflies.)



In this extraordinary novel, the voices of all four sisters—Minerva, Patria, María Teresa, and the survivor, Dedé—speak across the decades to tell their own stories, from hair ribbons and secret crushes to gunrunning and prison torture, and to describe the everyday horrors of life under Trujillo's rule. Through the art and magic of Julia Alvarez's imagination, the martyred Butterflies live again in this novel of courage and love, and the human cost of political oppression.

This is a book you won't want to put down. In spite of the horror of the times, these four women cling to hope and life. It's an inspiring story of courage and one you are likely to remember long after you finish the last page.

-Mary Ann Jasken

Latin Reading List

(Phoenix Library Staff Picks)

A taco testimony : meditations on family, food and culture
by Chavez, Denise.

The Madonnas of Echo Park : a novel
by Skyhorse, Brando.

The Aguero sisters
by Garcia, Cristina, 1958-

This Is How You Lose Her
by Diaz, Junot, 1968-

Daughter of fortune : a novel
by Allende, Isabel.

Harvest of empire : a history of Latinos in America
by Gonzalez, Juan.

Frontera dreams : a Hector Belascoaran Shayne detective novel
by Taibo, Paco Ignacio, II, 1949-

The House on Mango Street
by Cisneros, Sandra.

How the Garcia girls lost their accents
by Alvarez, Julia.



Full Slate of Classes – But Still Room for You!

Spanish class attendance is looking very healthy. You might remember three years ago when we needed to justify having as much space as we did for classes. It truly shouldn't have been a problem at that time. It was a matter of faulty reporting....and it most certainly isn't a problem now. At this moment, we have every room filled.

Our Spanish 1 beginners' class was filled to capacity at 28 members the first day. With 12 people signed up for a waiting list, we opened a 2nd beginners' class on Tuesdays! **Mary Ann Jasken** will teach that class until **Rosemary Bossert** returns in January. There is still room for beginners in this class.

Most of the other classes have about 15 members. You're welcome in those classes as well. Simply go on our website at <http://spanish.scwclubs.com> and use the placement guide to determine the best class for you.

Remember, your brain needs to be exercised just as your body does in order to stay strong and healthy.

-Mary Ann Jasken

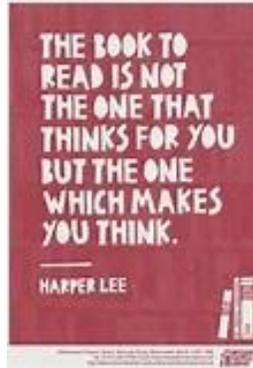
We Welcome New Teacher Eleine Greene!

In Spanish my name is Elena. I started studying Spanish when I was in college. I have enjoyed Spanish and have studied it a lot. I have travelled in Mexico and Spain. I went to Spain this spring with the Spanish Club.

I am from the State of Oregon. My husband and I live in Oregon in the summer, and live here the rest of the year.

(Eleine teaches a basic level class which involves reading and speaking. Her students are reading the book *El Viaje de Su Vida*, an entertaining book written in the present tense.)

(-ed)



A Tapa Hopper is Not an Ancient Costa Rican Dance Step

Neither is it a cricket-like bug that feeds on the *tapadonius agave*, nor a Mexican bass fishing lure.

If you are new to our Club, or amongst the unfortunate who missed the **Tapa Hopper Fiesta** event, I will try to explain. A *tapa hopper* is a scene whose individual parts add up to more than the sum of its whole. It is a place where one can find acid reflux next to a platter of soothing cream cheese tapas; or wash down pepper-fire with hot coffee or cool Chardonnay. Best of all, Tapa Hopper is an attitude of celebration!

I was reminded of the 1956 Jim Lowe hit song "THE GREEN DOOR" when I saw bowlers and other non-Spanish Clubbers peer through the windows and doorway during our **Fiesta** event:

"Don't know what they're doin', But they laugh a lot behind the green door

Wish they'd let me in, So I could find out what's behind the green door...

...All I want to do is join the happy crowd behind the green door..."

It is only at **Club Español (Sun City West Style)**, that you will experience it...We are so indebted to **Jo Keitges (623-215-2072)** and helpers for a superb evening! There were several items left after the fiesta: a long-woven bread basket, a small white Corelle bowl, and a small silver ladle. (-ed)

Sun City West Library

Want to expand your Spanish? Our Sun City West library is a useful source of information. For books go to the Spanish section 468.2. You will find a variety of beginning to advanced textbooks, dictionaries and fiction books. Reading the Spanish version of Little Red Riding Hood is fun!

You can also access the library resources through their website: scwlibrary.com.

When the home page appears, click on "Online Catalog".

In the "Find" box type "Books in Spanish" or "Films in Spanish. Then click "Keyword."

The list of books or movies with descriptions appears. You'll find many books that you'll enjoy!



