

Espresso!

The Morning Grind

December 5, 2007, Issue 23



Club President: Suzie Downing

Dist. 5110 DG: Tim Bewley

RI President: Wilfrid J. Wilkinson

Programs & Greeters

Dec 5: No Meeting

Dec 7: Holiday Party @ Hanson Inn
Potluck. 6:30 - 8:30pm

Dec 12: Cornerstone

Greeter: Don Studier

Dec 19: Judy, Historical Cemeteries

Greeter: Karen Brockett

Dec 26: No meeting?

New from Cofradia

Sent: Saturday, December 01,
2007 2:11 PM

Okay – I walk out our “front door” yesterday, and the little meat market (and I do mean little) was open. The guy was out in the back of his pick-up truck cutting up the meat. Ladies were waiting in line. I so wanted to take a photo – but decided against it. A little further down the block someone had their horse tied up in a space, cars were on either side of it. It appeared that the horse was “parked” just like the cars. A little girl just came by the door selling oranges.

Earlier this week we visited two Rotary club meetings. One was in the town of Mansanillo. Three people were at the meeting – all 3 ex-patriots. Two of them were members. The other one had not been inducted yet. One of the woman had just been bitten by a scorpion (yes, we have seen 3 so far) on her shoulder, had gone to the hospital for 2 hours worth of IV anti-venom, and then came to the meeting.

(continued page 2 Cofradia)

Special Issue II-More from the Kibby's

This issue contains two correspondences from the Kibby's who have been in Mexico as volunteers with the Project Amigo.

Sent: Monday, November 26, 2007
1:08 PM

We have now been one week in our new home. The weather continues to be very pleasant at this 4,000 foot altitude. We are trying to get out and walk every morning.

Last evening we were out for a walk and even ran into someone that we “knew.” Well, he is one of the Mexican workers on Project Amigo. It is fun to run into people that you have already met. The kids are so friendly, and some even venture some English. The other night Hal and I and a woman from Seattle were walking back to our place and 3 guys said, “Good night” in perfect English. I don't think they know that probably “Good evening” would have been the more proper words to use. Never mind. People are so friendly with a smile, nod, wave of their hand or “buenas dias” or “buenas tardes” it is difficult to picture ourselves greeting people as we walk down the streets of Corvallis. If I waved at a man on the street and said, “Hi,” in Corvallis, don't you think they would think I was weird?

I thought I heard a group of men singing the other morning, and realized that it was the “song” of all the roosters that are around. You don't see them so much, you just hear them, and there are so many, it does sound like a men's choir (Glenn – would this be of interest to you?) ha, ha.

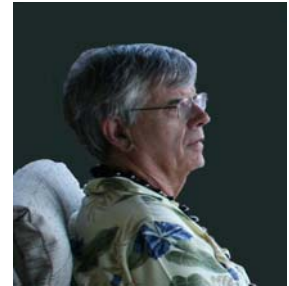
We had a course called Tequila 101 the other night – a little bit of a tasting as well as a power point presentation of the growing of the plant, harvesting, and then making of Tequila. Really quite interesting.

Today saw a pick-up load of chickens on their way to somewhere – thought of John Jenks.

Lots of small tortilla factories around – some tortillas made on home stoves. “Factories” is a very loosely used term. Anyway, they wrap up packages of tortillas, place them in sort of a refrigerator box that we would take camping or on a picnic. Then they put the containers in the back of the pick-ups or on the back of a scooter and then deliver them to restaurants or places who want to buy them. Yesterday in a restaurant the desserts were brought in by a couple who provides desserts – they are not made in the restaurant. And, today at noon at the little local “joint” that we have been using, it cost me a whole \$1.60 for lunch. Someone else ordered a Coke. The place was out of Coke so they went nextdoor to the little grocery store and bought it and served it to our friend.

This morning on a walk, very clear morning, seeing the very small dairy farms – maybe 8 cows or so (reminiscent in a strange way of our time in Switzerland) – beautiful wildflowers, and then the volcano “blew” again. Steam, only. A really spectacular sight.

(continued page 2, Project Amigo)



Project Amigo continued

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Submission Deadline:
 Noon- Monday

Hal is having a siesta (He really gets into "when in Rome, do as the Romans do."), and I am sitting in our kitchen/diningroom with the windows wide open, looking into the garden in our private courtyard, and a cat sitting in the window looking out onto the cobblestone street. While the cobblestones make a place look "quaint," they are sort of the devil to walk on and drive on. We actually did drive to the big city of Colima to look at a small dorm (which is a house) that houses 12 of the Project Amigo students who are attending the university. They come from very rural poor areas, so live in Colima during the week and go home on the weekends. Very nice young women who are so appreciative of everything. They come from very poor and disadvantaged backgrounds to pursue their studies. Some of their families are not happy they are doing this as they are now taken away from the work pool for the farm, restaurant or whatever. But these girls will really make something of themselves and for their families. It just takes time.

Well, that's about it from here. Hal and I are just reminded even looking out our window how lucky we (and all of you!) truly are to be blessed with the opportunities and things that we have.

Francie



Upcoming

Club Holiday Party

Dec 7: Hanson Inn. 6:30 – 8:30pm

Entertainment: Bret Godfrey
 will be bringing a group to regale us
 with song.

Attire: Whatever you'll be
 comfortable in!

Contact: Janice Muir

December Birthdays

Bill Francis - Dec 11

Karen Brockett - Dec 25

Cofradia continued

You wouldn't have caught me at the meeting. I probably would have gone home! The issues they talked about were increased crime in their town which is a very big port and trash littering the streets. They were also involved in a project to buy a washer and dryer, some shower benches, and other items needed for an elderly home. There was no "official" program; basically the meeting was a round table give and take discussion of what they saw as problems facing their town. There was black billowing smoke in the harbor when we arrived, and they theorized there had been a huge cocaine bust and that this cocaine was now literally going up in smoke. We never did find out if that was the truth.

("New from Cofradia" to be continued next week.)

Places To Do Make-Ups

Tuesday: Philomath Rotary Club @ United Methodist Church, 11:45am.

After Five Rotary Club @ Iovino's Restaurant, 5:15pm

Thursday: Corvallis Rotary Club @ Corvallis Country Club, 11:45am

Friday: Rotary Club of Greater Corvallis @ Corvallis Country Club, 12:00 noon

On the Web: www.rotary5450.org/edu