

F A L L 2 0 1 2

Los Colores del Caracol

Los Residentes de la Peninsula Caracol, A.C.



Courtesy of Jim and Nidza Busse

City of Guaymas Trash Collection Resumes Oct. 1st

Trash collection resumed October 1 in San Carlos and on the Caracol Peninsula following a standoff between the City of Guaymas and PASA over nonpayment for services.

In late August, PASA suspended garbage collection in nearly 60 colonias (neighborhoods) to demand the payment of 11 million pesos owed it since Mexico's elections in July.

Following nearly 50 days without waste collection in some colonias, the company accepted Guaymas Mayor Otto Claussen's assurances that the bill would be paid by the city.

However, PASA has warned that service may be suspended again if the local government does not pay its bills on time. The Caracol Association board has prepared contingency plans for trash collection in the event of a future stoppage.

All Hallow's Eve South of the Border

October 31st on the Caracol saw a constant flow of children and families until well after sundown—another indication that Halloween is alive and well south of the border. Donning monster masks, homeowners Jim and Nidza Busse doled out sweet treats to eager masqueraders at the entry gate to their ridgetop home until nearly 7 p.m.

In the European Catholic tradition, October 31st is All Hallow's Eve or Halloween, November 1st—All Saints Day, and November 2nd—All Souls Day or the Day of the Dead, a time to recall departed loved ones.

In Mexico, these three days have become a mix of indigenous Aztec, European and modern Mexican and American traditions with small platforms or *altars de muertos* dedicated to loved ones' memories, all night vigils in cemeteries with some families picnicking and even playing favorite songs of the departed, and *cempasuchiles*, yellowish orange marigolds adorning paths and gravesites.

Save the Date!

**Welcome Back
Potluck Mixer**
Nov. 10, 2012

Hosted by Jerry & Flo Lebo at 410 Abulon from 2-5 p.m. All are welcome!

**Upcoming Board
Meetings**

Nov. 14, 2012
Dec. 12, 2012

Monthly meetings are held on Wednesdays at Tequila's at 10 a.m.

**Christmas Boat
Parade**

Dec. 24, 2012

The boat parade begins at sunset and proceeds from the marina to Bahia San Francisco



Caracol Website is Revamped

Based on feedback obtained during meetings of the Caracol Neighborhood Committee, the Caracol Association web site has been updated. Many thanks go to Christa Thomas, principal at IronSEO, who was instrumental in incorporating the new look and feel of the site.

Thanks go also to the members of the committee: Janet Peiffer, Grace Sutton, Billie Stevens, Dick Lanning, Beverly Winstrom, Debbie Geisler and Barbara Anderson. The Board hopes this tool will help the Caracol community to stay connected, engaged and involved in the issues affecting the Caracol quality of life.

For this purpose, the website also has a bulletin board, where all residents can participate by posting their comments, ideas and contributions to the community.

By-Laws Are Under Revision

The Board of Directors is revising the existing by-laws in an effort to update, clarify and reflect current practices. The by-laws document was created in 1993, around the time the Association became a civil entity. After 20 years, a revision is much overdue.

To revise the by-laws, the Board is having weekly meetings on Wednesdays at 10 a.m. at Tequila's Restaurant in the Marina. All residents are welcome to participate.

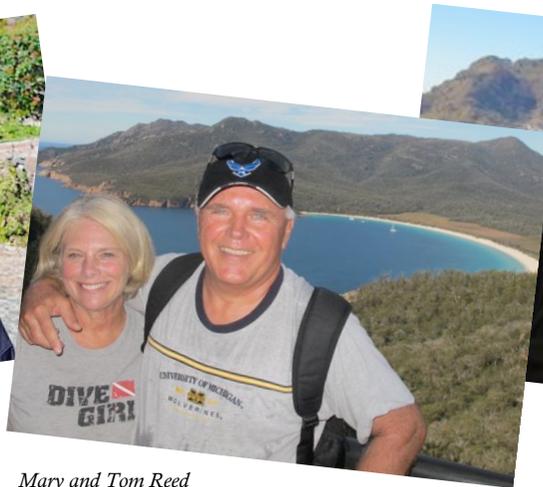
Once all the information is collected, a summary will be prepared and presented to the Board for review, comments and approval.

Upon approval, the document will be translated into Spanish and submitted to a local legal representative, who, in turn, will convert it into a revised legal document. The plans are to submit the document to the General Assembly for final approval and incorporation.





Jorge Guzman



Mary and Tom Reed



Robb and Holly Charles

Bienvenidos to New Residents on the Caracol

A warm welcome to new homeowners on the Caracol, including Jorge Guzman (Lot #342) from Mexico City, D.F.; Mary and Tom Reed (Lot #356) of Tucson, Arizona; Holly and Robb Charles (Lot #425) of Nevada; and Matthew McKenzie (Lot #450) of Arizona (no picture

available). Tom is offering a beer to anyone who can guess where the photo of Tom with his wife was taken. Please help us identify and welcome newcomers to our community. Welcome packets are now available, complete with helpful tips for living in San Carlos.



El Pan de Muerto

Set out on the altars for loved ones during the “Day of the Dead”, this bread is formed into bone-like shapes

Before beginning, bring all ingredients to room temperature (except for the water which should be very warm). In a large bowl, mix together butter, sugar, anise, salt and ½ c. of the flour.

In a separate bowl, combine the eggs and the water. Add the egg/water mixture to the first mixture and add in another ½ c. of the flour. Next, add in the yeast and another ½ c. of flour. Continue to add the flour 1 c. at a time until a soft dough forms.

Knead on a floured surface for about 1 minute. Cover with a slightly damp dishcloth and let rise in a warm area for 1½ hours. Bring out the dough and punch it down. Remove about 1/4 of it, and use it to make bone shapes to drape across the loaf (see below.) Or divide the dough into smaller pieces to create other bone shapes. Let the shaped dough rise for 1 more hour.

Bake in a 350 degree oven for 30 minutes for smaller loaves and up to 45 minutes for larger loaves.

Ingredients:

- ½ c. butter
- 1 1/4 c. water
- 6 c. flour
- 2 packets dry yeast
- 1 t. salt
- 3 t. whole anise seed
- 2 T. orange zest
- 3/4 c. sugar
- 4 large eggs

Glaze:

- Boil ¾ c. sugar and ½ c. orange juice. Spread over dough before baking.
- Sprinkle additional sugar, if desired over the glaze.

Know Your Neighbors Betty Armstrong

Originally from Ashland, Oregon, home of the world famous Summer Shakespeare Festival, Betty Armstrong and her late husband, “Army,” were childhood friends. As a young adult with a journalism degree from the University of Denver, Betty had accepted a position with CBS in New York, thinking she’d pursue a career in broadcasting. But she ended up returning to Denver after receiving a better offer—to become Army’s wife in 1943.

Following Army’s military service in World War II, Betty and Army continued to live in the Mile High City for another two decades, until they decided to invest in several restaurants, including a Village Inn, in Boise, Idaho, where they moved in 1964.

When they finally decided to retire, they knew they wanted to return to the ocean of their childhood. In search of the perfect retirement home, they first tested the waters by visiting the Hawaiian Islands. But the distance from their children, Rex and Alexis, and their families proved to be too great.

On the recommendation of friends, Betty and Army next decided to check out San Carlos in February of 1973.

At the time, there were few homes and even fewer roads in the community. However, they met Jim Lancaster who was building on the Caracol Peninsula. He showed them around, and they ended up purchasing the first lot sold on the west side of the peninsula.

With a perfect view of the Tetas and the Sea of Cortez, they moved into their new home in 1975, and then they immediately bought a boat, the *Blue Dolphin*. Betty recalls this era in their lives with great affection. The fishing was great; they could catch fish right in front of her home. “Not today,” she says. “Now you have to go out about 20 miles” to catch anything of significance, she laments.

She also remembers that San Carlos had a very active



social scene in the 1970s and 80s—with breakfast and dinner parties at La Posada, beach and boat parties in Cotton Cove, and the occasional “chubasco,” a monsoon rainstorm that would sometimes knock out the fledgling infrastructure.

During these years, Betty and Army got to know Mexico well by travelling around the republic, “Something I would not do now,” Betty admits.

However, the lively social scene and the incredible fishing and sightseeing more than made up for the location’s remoteness and its lack of televisions and telephones and the other conveniences of the bigger cities that they’d grown accustomed to pre-retirement.

In 1979, Army served as the second president of the Caracol homeowners’ association, which had approximately 30 members at the time. Meanwhile, Betty acted as both the treasurer and secretary.

During these years, the association dealt with infrastructure issues, particularly water and sewer problems. They also had the ongoing challenge of maintaining the cobblestone roads and beautification of the area.

“The community of San Carlos can thank Carl and me for not having a whore house in the area”

Betty also recalls in particular one episode “around 1985” on the Caracol that brought the whole San Carlos community together.

Betty and a neighbor, Carl Morton, had heard that a multiple-apartment home at the bottom of the Caracol had been purchased by an individual from Nogales. Rumor had it that the new owner intended to set up a bordello. Allegedly, this individual operated the same type of business in Nogales.

Alarmed by the rumors, Betty and Carl mobilized the community, ultimately holding a meeting in the conference room of La Posada to mobilize a petition in an effort to prevent the reputation of the community from being besmirched.

According to Betty, the petition was signed by all the attendees, which included the majority of people residing in San Carlos at the time. The petition was presented to and accepted by the Governor of Sonora in Hermosillo. Apparently, the Governor then took it upon himself to contact the individual and dissuade him from proceeding with his plans.

Following a long battle with cancer, Army passed away in 1994. Now 92, Betty lives in San Carlos full-time. She has a wonderful network of friends here with whom she plays cards, lunches and socializes. She's also an avid Sudoku player, so stop by and visit with her if you fancy a bit of intellectual stimulation.



Caracol light post map showing lights on, out or missing. The map is given to the Guaymas Municipio to assist them with repairs.

It's Never Too Late to Pay Your Dues!

The Caracol will be better for it! The Association accepts US or Mexican checks, cash, credit cards or PayPal (USD or Pesos). All fees are based upon the US dollar, so the peso equivalent is subject to change based upon the current exchange rate:

Membership or Qualified Donor		
Lot - Built	\$350.00 USD	4,500 Pesos
Lot - Empty	\$100.00 USD	1,300 Pesos

Additionally, the Association accepts donations. If you wish, you can specify that your donation be applied for maintenance only. We also accept installment payments. For payments, call George Sutton at 226-1756 or visit him at Lot 428, or go to the website.



2012 Caracol Association Board of Directors

Jim Straw, President
Lot 590 226-1484

Gil Martinez, Vice-President (Fluent Spanish)
Lot 643 226-1442

Jan Ambrose, Secretary
Lot 528 226-0656

George Sutton, Treasurer (Speaks Spanish)
Lot 428 226-1758;

Delia Ingram, Speaker (Fluent Spanish)
Lot 421 226-0247

Mike Makoid, Speaker
Lot 510 226-1595

Paulette Penner, Speaker
Lot 409 226-1965

Emergency Contacts

Rescate (medical emergencies or fires) 24-hour: 226-0911
Office: 226-0101

Clinica San Carlos (Dr. Canale): 226-0062

Police: 226-1400
Electricity (CFE): 071
Water (CEA): 226-1310



Los Residentes de la Peninsula Caracol, A.C.
P.O. Box 444
85506 San Carlos, Sonora
Mexico

441 N. Grand Ave., #7-470
Tucson, AZ 85621
USA