

May 2011

President's Letter

Dear Members:

It is May already and our big event is coming up shortly, "A Night at the Museum". This will feature 10 restaurants serving a wide variety of bocas, free flowing wine and sodas, an exciting Columbian band that will be fun for listening and dancing, guided tours of the museum, a silent auction and a small live auction. This will all be in the sculpture garden of the museum under a big tent. This is going to be a really great evening with many things going on. The Museo de Arte Costarricense in Sabana Park will feature new and exciting exhibits. This is a great opportunity to visit a

historic building built in the late 1930's as the first international airport of Costa Rica.

Our last meeting was at the Costa Rican-North American Cultural Center in Los Yoses. It was a very interesting meeting about "Kids Saving the Rainforest", a group from Manuel Antonio.

Happy Mother's Day!!!! May 8th is Mother's Day in North America. Mothers living in Costa Rica have the unique opportunity to celebrate mother's day twice a year.

Pat MacKinnon

A Night at the Museum Saturday, May 14, 2011



The recently renovated Museum of Costa Rican Art is opening its doors for the Women's Club! The landmark building, international airport terminal in La Sabana, was inaugurated in 1940. Gather a group of friends and come join us! Enjoy guided tours of the museum, delicious bocas from local restaurants, music by Al Galope, a Columbian band, for listening and dancing (see page 3 for details), silent and live auctions (see pages 2 and 3 for a list of the auction items).

One hundred percent of funds raised will be devoted to our charity projects.

Tickets are on sale from Board and Advisory Committee members at a cost of ¢20,000. Contact Margie Arias at 2268-0975 (margieawccr@gmail.com) or Jeannine Hurd at 2239-8619 (gregoryhurd@racsa.co.cr) for ticket sellers in your area.

The **NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM EVENTS COMMITTEE** is actively seeking volunteers to sell event tickets and to assist on May 14th. Please contact Margie Arias at 2268-0975 (margieawccr@gmail.com) or Cindy Marshall at 2244-3330 (cindyparis2000@yahoo.com).

Take a look at some of the limitless variety of prizes we have gathered for our

May 14th Event - A Night at The Museum:

Restaurants Dinners for 2 from:

Tin Ho (value \$50)
L'Olivo (value \$60)
Hotel Bougainvillea Restaurant (value \$60)
Hotel Casa Antigua Restaurant (value \$40)
Ristorante Il Padrino (value \$40)
Sash Restaurant (value \$40)
La Esquina de Buenos Aires (value \$60)
Don Wang Restaurant (value \$40)
La Casona de Mi Tierra (value \$30)
Finca Rosa Blanca (value \$120)
Restaurante Jürgen's (value \$50)
Il Ritorno (value \$60)
Le Chandelier (value \$150)
Hotel Holiday Inn Aurola (value \$100)
Bell'Italia (value \$50)
Kafé Cereza (value \$50)
Muse Restaurant – Beacon Hotel (value \$100)
Chancay (value \$70)
Don Fernando (value \$50)
Ali Baba Bar-Restaurante (value \$50)
El Rincón
Tutti Li

Hotel packages for getaways:

Villa Alegre Bed and Breakfast 2 nights (value \$350)
Hotel Mono Azul 2 nights deluxe room (value \$150)
Vista del Valle 2 nights (value \$310)
La Selva Verde Lodge – 2 nights (value \$250)
La Quinta de Sarapiquí – 2 nights (value \$250)
Hotel Punta Islita (value \$700)
Hotel Capitán Suizo (value \$280)
Hacienda Barú Lodge (value \$170)
Hotel Playa Bejuco (value \$200)
Marriott Hotel (value \$500)

Other fabulous prizes for your “bidding” pleasure:

2 Nature Air plane tickets (value \$400)
2 United Round Trip tickets to USA (value \$2000)
Painting by Maya Menon
Wall Hanging made by Silvia Tandlich
7" Portable Digital TV (value \$100)
Assortment of Lekkerland cheeses (value \$100)
Assortment of Sibú Chocolates (value \$90)
Pearl Medallion (value \$80) &

Tiger Eye and Pearls Asymmetric composition (value \$130) from L.E.S. Accesorios
 Italian gastronomical basket (value \$50)
 Sibú Chocolates Gift Pack (value \$50)
 One free course of cooking (24 hrs.class time) at Culinary Trainer School (value \$200)
 Necklace by Emilia Rodriguez
 Table with hand painted tiles (value \$120)
 Yoga and Walking Tour Package (value \$62)
 1 ½ hr. Aromatherapy Massage session (value \$55)
 3 Night Stay in a Beach House (value \$225)
 Jewelry by Ana Gutiérrez
 2 Night Stay in a Beach House (value \$800)
 2 Private Pilates Sessions at Pilates Fitness Studio (value \$90)
 One Tarta de Frutas for 8 from Pasteleria Chez Christophe (value \$26)

And More to Come!

Sponsor Restaurants & Catering Services providing delicious bocas:

Aya Sofia
 Bagelman's
 Beso
 Café Moro
 Deli-Arte
 Muro-Ji
 MYA
 Saga
 Tin Jo
 Dos Pinos
 Coffee by Coopedota

AL GALOPE, A COLUMBIAN BAND -- performs music from the Colombian/Venezuelan Llanos (YAH-nos) or plains, a geographically and culturally unique area of Latin America. This music has evolved over the last 500 years from the blending of indigenous music styles of nomadic Indians, and the string instruments and rhythms brought from Spain by Jesuit priests who settled the Llanos in the 16th Century. The music from the Llanos is essentially cowboy music.

Due to the distinctly characteristic syncopation and difficult harp techniques used in the music of the Llanos, it is rarely performed in its authentic style outside the region, and hence it remains one of Latin America's best kept secrets. Music from the Llanos is very melodic, often very upbeat, and easily liked by audiences of any cultural background or age. The group brings to life the intricate rhythms of the Llanero folk harp, the cuatro (four-stringed guitar), and the maracas — a feast for the eyes and ears!

COMMUNITY SERVICES REPORT
READING IS FUN REPORT



- 11-15 **Assn. Cultural Indigena Teribe, Potrero Grande, Buenas Aires -- €600.000.** This is a project being promoted by the UNA. For approximately 100 books mainly for primary school children, but including a small selection for the high school students. Also a set of 4 or 6 small chairs and floor mat to make a reading corner for the very young children, plus didactical material, wall charts, maps, etc..
- 11-19 **Escuela Eleodoro Rodríguez, El Sitio, San Rafael de Póas -- €800.000.** The total number of children in primary school is 73 plus another 19 in Kindergarten. This small rural school has changed Directors 6 times in the last 6 years. It is now fortunate to have as Director a lady with whom we have

been working with in the past at another school. Since the beginning of this school year, she has already involved the local, mainly resident Nicaraguan, families in the painting of the school, plus the cleaning up of the large area behind the school building, which leads down to a covered meeting/sport area. For 2 whiteboards, 25 reading books for the kindergarten, educational posters and maps, scientific materials (magnets, magnifying lenses, scales, etc.) for the kindergarten, 150 notebooks, La Nación text books for 4th, 5th and 6th grade – total 30 sets, plus one set for each grade 1st, 2nd & 3rd. Approximately 5 reading books focusing on “values”.

Anne Kreupeling, Chair



SCHOOL UNIFORMS DESPERATELY NEEDED for Escuela Eleodoro Rodríguez, El Sitio, San Rafael de Póas. This is a small rural school with 29 out of the 92 children living in extreme poverty. Their parents cannot afford the basic uniform (white shirt and blue pants or skirt). Various sizes needed; regulation black shoes in good condition would also be appreciated. If you know of children who have outgrown their uniforms or if you have a contact at a school that may be willing to assist, please contact Anne Kreupeling, 2244-3669 or gumbolimbo@hotmail.com.

POST SECONDARY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

The following is a thank you letter from Priscilla, a second year student at UNA whom we support with a scholarship. Most of our scholarship students receive scholarship money from the universities which cover registration for classes and sometimes even room and board. But there are many other associated fees that are not included in the university scholarships as you will see below.

Mary Jo Miller, Chair

From Priscilla: For me, the Women’s Club scholarship is of the utmost importance because my family is very poor, and we don’t have the support of our father. My mother is the only one who works, and she works as a street vendor and her income barely pays for food, light and water...and sometimes we can’t pay for food. Because of our situation, I don’t have money to pay for bus fare to get to the university. Without the help of the Women’s Club, there would be no chance whatsoever for me to attend the university because of the expenses involved: food, bus fares, materials for labs and projects, books, and copies of materials. Thanks to the money you send me each month, I can pay these necessary expenses. My dream is to be a professional and my goal is to achieve my dream. My family and I are extremely grateful to the Women’s Club.

2011 HIGH SCHOOL SCHOLARSHIPS

Anne Sobel and Roslyn Beswick, Co-chairs

A MOTHER’S THANK YOU

Dear Women:

I affectionately (cordially) greet you and extend my most sincere appreciation for the support awarded my son, Diego A. C., during the current course of studies with one of the scholarships from your program.

The support that you have given us with the scholarship has allowed my son to succeed with his studies and has allowed him to pay for the many expenses involved with a high school education. In addition to this assistance, the award has motivated him to continue to follow his goals.

I hope that God will bless you and allow you to continue supporting the young people in their studies so that they can continue with their goals and improve each day. Again my appreciation and wishing you much success with your work.

Nidia C N
Mother of the family

Estimadas señoras:

Les saludo cordialmente y me dirijo a ustedes para externar mi más sincero agradecimiento por el apoyo brindando a mi hijo Diego A.C., durante el presente curso lectivo, con una de las becas de su programa.

El aporte que ustedes nos han brindando con esta beca, ha permitido que mi hijo tenga éxito en sus estudios y pueda cubrir algunos de los tantos gastos que implica la educación secundaria actualmente, además la ayuda que le brindan es una motivación para que siga adelante con sus metas.

Espero que Dios les bendiga y les permita continuar apoyando a los jóvenes en sus estudios para que así puedan continuar con sus metas y superarse día a día. Reitero mi agradecimiento y me despido deseando muchos éxitos en sus labores.

Nidia C
Madre de Familia

MEMBERSHIP – NEW AND DIRECTORY CORRECTIONS

Members, if you missed getting your 2011 WCCR Directory, stop by the membership table and pick yours up. Your 2011 dues must be paid in order to receive a Director.



NOTE: identifying information will be deleted from the newsletter posted on the website.

WELCOME NEW MEMBER! (Approved by the Board of Directors May 2, 2011): Kazmier, Robin, [North]



Our April 13th General Meeting speaker was Dr. María Pía Martín, wildlife veterinarian, who presented an excellent program about the organization where she works: *Kids Saving The Rain Forest (KSTR)*.

The organization was started in 1999 by then 9 year old Janine Licare and a friend who wanted to do something to help save the rain forest and its inhabitants. With mother Jennifer's help, the dream became a reality and Kids Saving The Rain Forest is a non-profit organization which operates an educational center and a reforestation nursery in its 4 acres of secondary rain forest in Manuel Antonio. KSTR financing comes mainly from donations, online as well as others, various levels of memberships, and sale of souvenirs.

The primary focus of KSTR is saving injured and sick animals as well as orphaned animals, which are brought to the center. They are taken care of and many are released back into the wild; over the years, their success stories have increased and continue to do so. KSTR also sustains a Wildlife Sanctuary for animals that cannot be released back into the wild. In 2010 it started an organic farm to raise food for their animals. The Kids Camp program for local children ages 6 to 14 is a way of making youngsters aware of the importance of the rain forest and of planting trees. In 2011 the Volunteer Center opened for students doing research projects and for families; students may stay for 3 months and families for a few days.

One major on-going project is the Monkey Bridges. Monkeys have a pattern of travel causing them to use the same routes through the forests; the older monkeys teach their young these routes. With the building of new roads cutting through the forest, monkeys find their routes interrupted, which leads to the animals being killed by cars; or, if they use the electrical wires strung across the roads to get across, they are often electrocuted.

Dead monkeys. Orphaned monkeys. Replacement of damaged electrical wires. This has lead KSTR to involve ICE in their project: ICE helps by identifying the higher risk areas of electrocution and is starting to use insulated wires. KSTR builds a blue rope "bridge" for the monkeys in those identified areas. Everybody wins. Why a blue rope? It is apparent that monkeys can distinguish colors, and recognize the blue ropes as a safe way to travel.

CLUB CALENDAR & ANNOUNCEMENTS

The **Professional Women's Network** will tackle the issues we all face conducting business in a global world, specifically here in Costa Rica. The May event will be a professional development workshop, Cross-Cultural Communications: Better Understanding for Effective Business.

Several speakers will examine the main cultural differences between local and foreign cultures that typically hinder business. Attendees will take a look at topics such as personal conduct, working with private companies vs. government institutions, women vs. men in the workplace, and more. In addition, there will be a break-out session to help attendees further explore different topics and find solutions to their individual professional needs.

This event will be held **Saturday, May 28**, location to be determined. Watch for an email invitation.



June 8, General Meeting at the Dutch Embassy Residence in Escazú at 9:30 a.m. Mattjies van Bonsel, Ambassador of the Netherlands in Costa Rica will present an entertaining and informative program.

Directions to the Residence of the Dutch Embassy: From the Paco Shopping Center Corner in Escazú, take Guachipelín Road north 350 meters (towards Multi Plaza). The Dutch Residence is on the right, a high, cream-colored adobe wall with Netherlands crest and guard's window beside the portón. PLEASE CAR POOL! There is limited parking inside the gate and roadside parking. We stress the importance of carpooling.

REMINDER: It would be helpful if you have exact change for the €1,000 we pay at General Meetings.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Little Theatre Group presents *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* Directed by Noel Montagano, running from May 13th to 15th, May 20th to 22nd and June 3rd to 5th, at Laurence Oliver Theater, Friday and Saturday at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday at 2:30 pm. Reservations call 8858-1446 or visit www.littletheatregroup.org.

Steel Magnolias presented by the Little Theatre Group is back again, this time at the Centro Cultural in Barrio Dent with three performances: a student show at 10 a.m., again that night at 8 p.m., Friday, May 20, and a matinee at 2:30 p.m., Saturday, May 21. For reservations, 8858-1446 or visit www.littletheatregroup.org.

The 2011 SASY Golf Tournament. All proceeds go to ease the dog and cat population through spay/neuter clinics & education. Sunday, May 22nd -- 7:00am - 10:00am, Valle Del Sol. 2228-5578 or mvuurman@gmx.de \$100 per person, 3-person team, scramble format; 6:00 am breakfast compliments of Bagelmen's; lunch provided by Time Out Tavern; Longest Drive, Closet to the Pin, prizes, gifts and much more. Please contact Mark D. Gibson for sponsorship information at 2214-5291 & Marjan at 2228-5578 or mvuurman@gmx.de for general information and registration. SAVE THE DATE & secure your space for a day of fun.

The **American Legion Post 10 of Escazú and the Marine Corps League** are sponsoring a BACK HOME STYLE MEMORIAL DAY PICNIC, MONDAY, MAY 30, 2011 from 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm at the Villa Amira, Santa Ana. Grilled Hamburgers & Hot Dogs, Potato Salad & Baked Beans. All for only €6,000. Cash bar for beer & beverages available all day. Recreation area for kids. Open air rancho, swimming pool and handicap/wheelchair access. TICKETS AVAILABLE AT: Stan's Irish Pub, Zapote and Kay's Gringo Postres Atenas. For further information or directions to the Villa Amira, please call: San José East – Claudio 8876-1394; San José West – John 2232-1680; Escazú Area – Mel 2288*0464; Ciudad Colon – Rich 2243-0446; Atenas Area – Bill 8312-0126

MEMBERS CLASSIFIED

FOR SALE: Ford Explorer XLT 1997 in EXCELLENT CONDITION. Only one owner, bought from Ford dealer in Costa Rica, always maintained, and operating perfectly. 104,000 kilometers. Asking \$9,000. Photos available by e-mail upon request. Contact Phylliss Crist 2268-6130 exotics@racsa.co.cr

COUNTRY HOUSE FOR RENT -- in San Luis, Santo Domingo, Heredia for \$850/month, all new furniture and appliances, no pets (preferred). 12 minutes from San José by car. Bus to and from San José stops in front of the gate. Three bedrooms with closets, one bath with hot water, living room, dining room, small kitchen, telephone, internet. Grocery store, hardware store, vegetable stand, cafes, etc. right down the road. Price includes water and gardener for the landscaped property. Telephone, electricity and internet/cable service not included. Friendly neighbors in a tranquil environment with many birds and wild life. E-mail martha_rollins@yahoo.com or call Martha 2268-6802/8667-8623 or Ligia 2268-6608/8828-2785.

COUNTRY HOUSE FOR RENT in Vista de Mar, road to Rancho Redondo, 14 kms. from San José. Beautiful view of the entire Central Valley, green areas, paved driveway, 3 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms, living room with chimney, terrace, dining room, maid's room and bathroom, covered parking space for 4 cars. Tranquil environment. \$1,200.00 per month. Contact Gloria Lehmann at: 2292-0156, 2229-1001 or e-mail: ayacam@racsa.co.cr

FOR SALE with house and 2nd floor studio, constructed in 2002, 5½ blocks from the central park of Santo Domingo de Heredia in a quiet and private street with access through a monitored gate. The plot measures 217 sqm., the house approximately 80 sqm., a covered car port 25 sqm. and the remainder is garden. The house has a master bedroom with bathroom, 2 single bedrooms, 1 bathroom, a sitting room with dining area and open plan kitchen, and solar heated water. Above the house, with independent entrance to the street, is a fully furnished studio of 50 sqm., which has good income potential. Price: US\$ 167,000. Anne Kreupeling -- fraluchi@yahoo.com – Tel. 2244-3669 or 8810-6923

FOR SALE - single storey home, 4,800 sq. ft., Bello Horizonte, Escazú. Close to all amenities. Completely renovated. 4 bedrooms, 4 bathrooms. See photos www.pbase.com/phxphrank/smith_house&view=slideshow. Contact Liz Smith onionsincr@yahoo.com

CARIARI HOUSE FOR SALE: A 2 bedroom, 2½ baths home is for sale in Bosques de Doña Rosa, Cariari, a very secure and friendly neighborhood. This is the perfect home for a retired couple or a single person. Contact Ana Maria Booth, 8823-0444, anamaria.booth@gmail.com or hankins.ioan@gmail.com. Finder's fee to any WCCR member whose referral results in a successful sale.

Deadline...for next month's Connection: **Wednesday, June 1, 2011.** Please submit **COPY READY:** news, classified ads, reports, member information, community events, etc. Contact: newsletter@wccr.org