



Manzanillo SUN

coastal Mexico's lifestyle magazine

Out for a stroll
photo by Shelby Schramm



- Culture
- History and Mythology
- Around Manzanillo
- Nature's Wonders
- Around Mexico
- Finance
- RV Travel
- Recipe
- Learn Spanish
- Path to Citizenship

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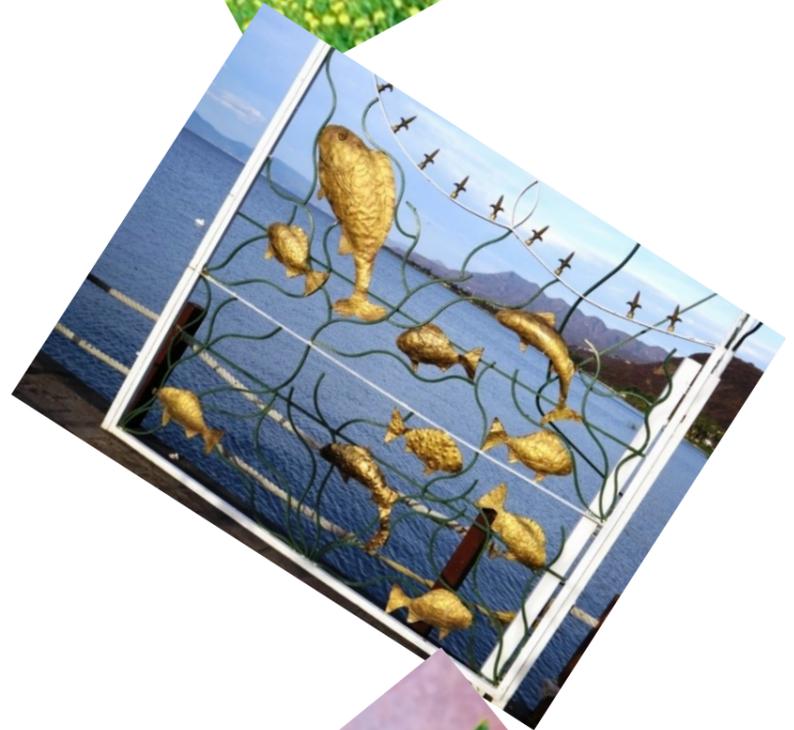
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To send submissions for possible inclusion in the magazine, please send to the editor by 15th of each month. We are always looking for writers or ideas on what you would like us to see as topics for the magazine.

Article submissions:

- Preferred subjects are Manzanillo and Mexico
- All articles should be 1000 words or less or may be serialized or 500-750 words if accompanied by photos
- Pictures are welcome
- Comments, letters to the editor, articles, photos and advertisements are always welcome

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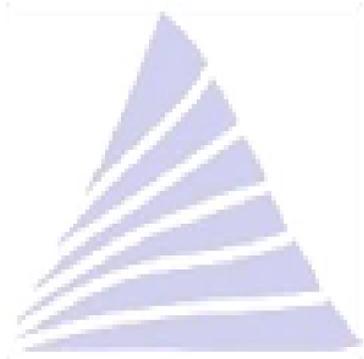
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The Genius of Da Vinci Visits Manzanillo

January 12 - February 17, 2019, Centro Universitario de Bellas Artes, Manzanillo, Colima

by Suzanne A. Marshall

“The Da Vinci Dream Factory, is a Mexican cultural company dedicated to the research, interpretation and construction of Leonardo da Vinci’s inventions, since 2009, preserved in their codices and later integrated into a collection of smaller-scale models that make up a portable and interactive museum.”

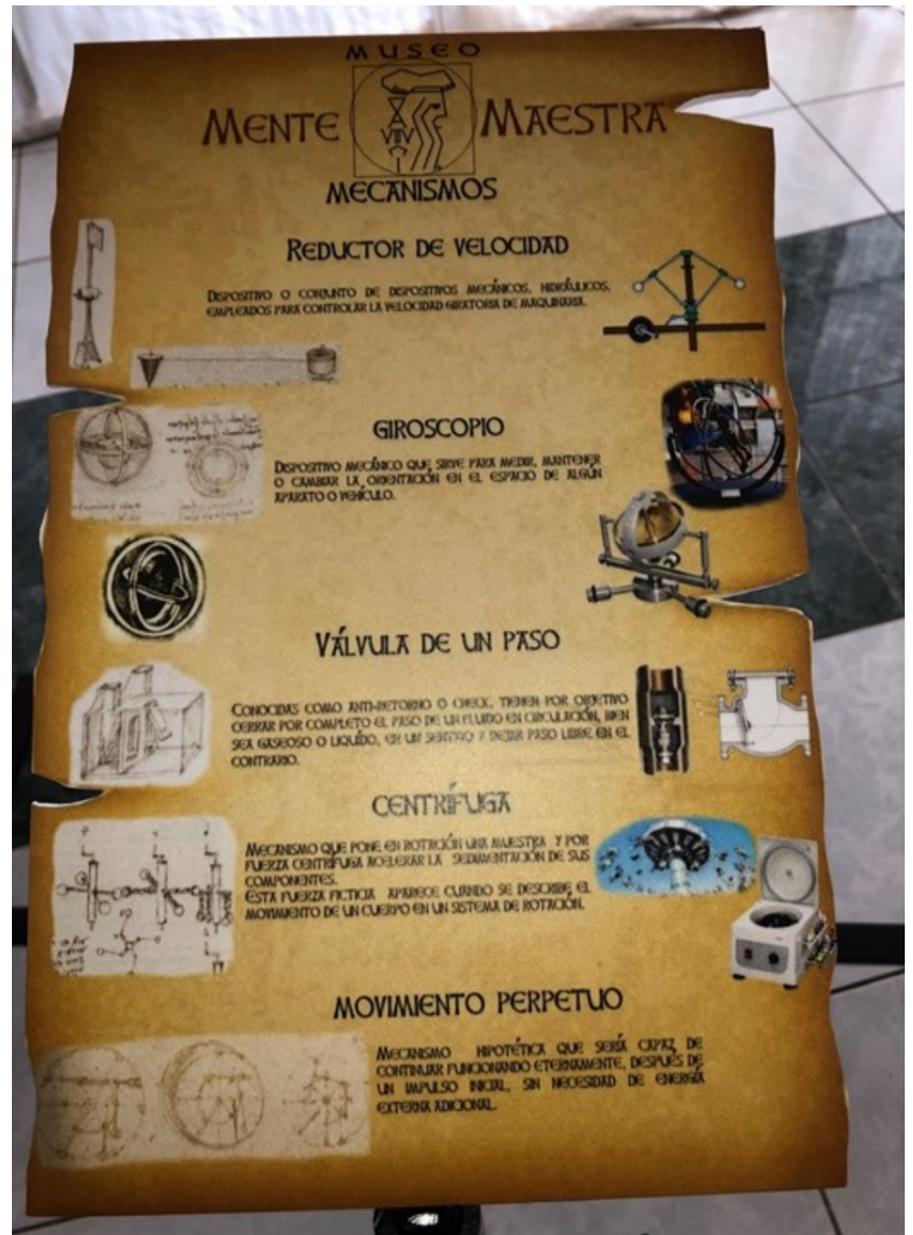
The project is called the Da Vinci Academy and already has three different versions. These have been presented in nine different states of the Mexican Republic. The new project, “Master Mind”, is a large-scale museum, portable, interactive and designed for temporary presentations.

What is really fascinating is the 110 carefully selected models manufactured by Mexican indigenous artisans (Purépechas) from Michoacán, using materials and techniques of the Da Vinci era. I found myself ‘up close and personal’ viewing these models from inches away and walking around them to take in the entire scope of the pieces.

One can view the various charts of the exhibit which depict the many drawings of Da Vinci and the correlation of each to modern day items. It is a most fascinating experience. To think a man who lived 5 centuries ago (1452-1519) could conceive of these brilliant ideas is incredulous. Depicted below, for example, are samples of Da Vinci drawings that became modern day braking systems, gyroscopes, valves, centrifuges and instruments of perpetual motion. But there are so many more.

Not only was Da Vinci a most gifted painter (considered by many the greatest of all time) and sculptor, his drawings and ideas depicted ultimate inventions that included: architecture, science, musical instruments, mathematics, engineering, literature, anatomy, geology, astronomy, botany, writing, history and cartography.

As a painter, some of his most famous works include: The Mona Lisa, The Last Supper, Salvator Mundi. This last painting sold



in New York in 2017 for the highest price ever paid; a stunning 450.3 million at Christie’s auction.

Below is the Salvator Mundi painting sold at auction.



...The Genius of Da Vinci Visits Manzanillo



Models of Da Vinci instruments

Throughout the exhibit, one can view the numerous models. What a wonderful idea to replicate the Da Vinci drawings into real objects. Though one cannot touch (it's tempting to turn a wheel or strike a drum), seeing these come to 'life' creates an unforgettable impact on the mind. How did he dream these ideas up out of nothing?



Da Vinci compass designs

One can only imagine the stimulating conversations to be had for students and adults alike as they view the charts and wonderful artisan models of the Da Vinci inventions. I asked the Executive Director of the exhibition, Gerardo Madrueño, where the exhibits might be taken next and was told they are hoping to bring his wonderful project to Canada. Fortunately, I also spoke with Eduardo Meléndez Campos who is an English teaching coach and involved in many educational pursuits here in Manzanillo.

His English, of course, is impeccable, as the displays are all in Spanish here in Mexico. But believe me, you can still interpret a great deal by the clever models and photos. This is an event

well worth the curious mind and I highly recommend an adventure to the Centro Universitario de Belles Artes to see it for yourself.

I must share another fascinating item that can be enjoyed from the exhibit. When you enter and pay your fee (50 pesos, half price for seniors with the INAPAM/INSEN card) you will receive a coupon commemorating the exhibit complete with a photo of the Mona Lisa. But this is not just any coupon. When you look at it through the photo lens of an android phone, holograms pop up from the coupon in 3D of various Da Vinci inventions. I've, quite frankly, never seen anything quite like it. And what an ingenious way to bring an added modern dimension to the exhibit. (They are currently working on the application for iPhones).



Models of a Da Vinci auger and hammer and anvil

I sincerely hope that this article and the sample photos, which are but a few, will encourage everyone to head out before February 17th to see this wonderful exhibition. Congratulations to the project developers for a job well done!

Don't forget to download the Google Translate app, add the dictionary and the offline option, to make it easier to read captions.

... more pics follow

...The Genius of Da Vinci Visits Manzanillo



Above models are of automated drums and a bell ringer with actual keys to press



Perhaps an underwater diving device or a future submarine?



The first bicycle perhaps and a weight lifting mechanism that rolls.

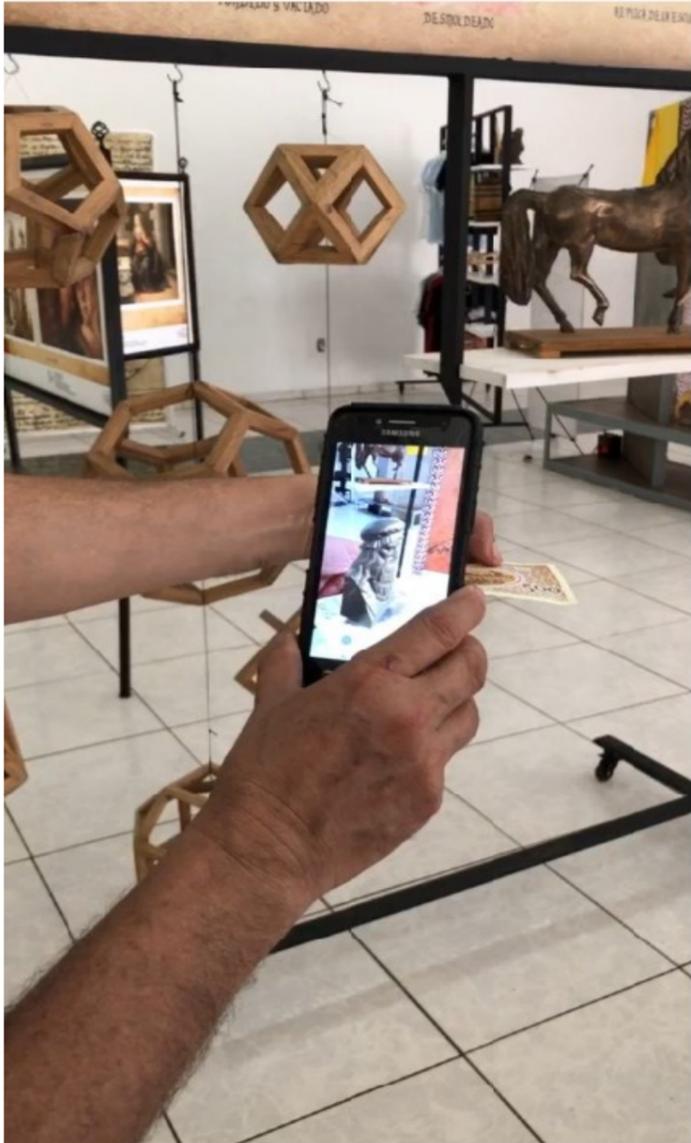


Eduardo Meléndez Campos, interpreter



Executive Director of the exhibit, Gerardo Madruño

...The Genius of Da Vinci Visits Manzanillo



You can view the hologram on an Android cell phone when the camera is floated over the coupons (shown at right)

Click on the picture above to see the hologram video



The exhibit souvenir coupons display Da Vinci holograms when viewed from the camera lens of an Android phone



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Mayan Folklore

Kirby Vickery's version

When I get into any Mesoamerican mythology, the first thing I latch onto is a tribe's, or (to borrow a Canadian term) First Nation's creation story. They are often full of woe, hardship, blood, war, guts, and death. It is as if all these most powerful gods couldn't get it right the first time so they would have a lot of their early work destroyed, only to be replaced by better work [?].

The Mayan were no different. The Mayan' Popol Vuh ends up killing and maiming entire worlds of people. Some of it so bloody that I won't re-tell it for fear of nightmares. I know that there are softer sides to these mythological stories when one digs a little deeper. There are a host of short stories and parables. A lot of them are about animals.

Try this one out:

TZUNUUM'S NEW DRESS

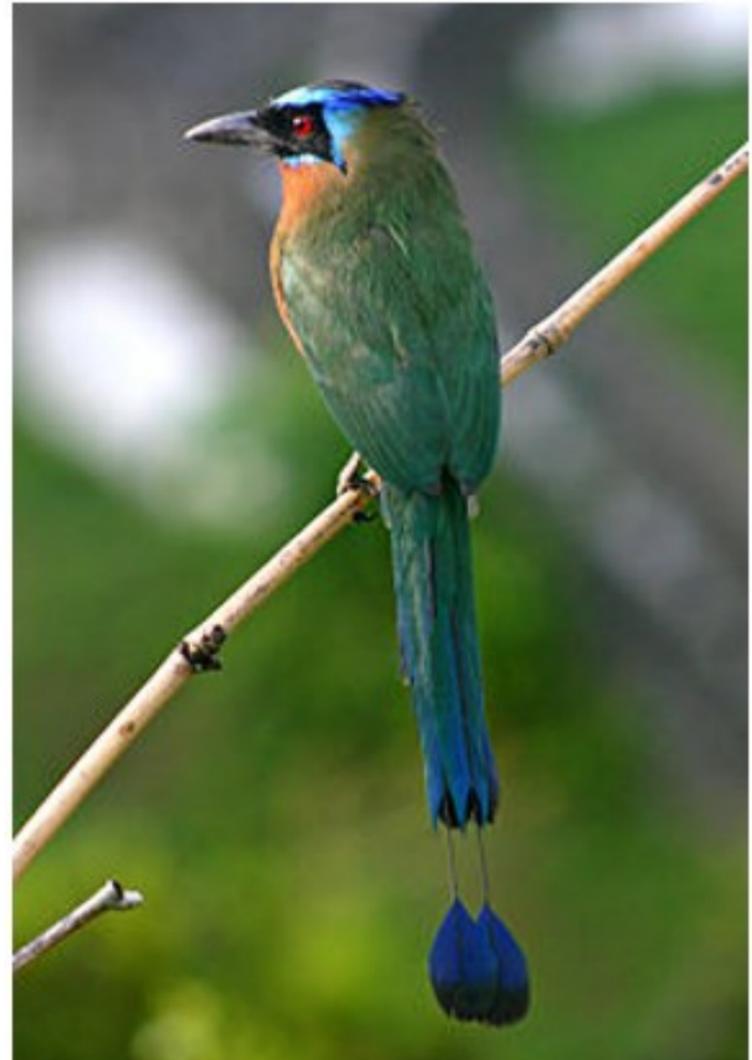
The Story of the Hummingbird

When Halach-Uinic, the Great Spirit, got around to creating all the different animals and other living things for man's enjoyment and support, he concentrated on one small bird to make her his favorite. Tzunuum was the smallest of birds. She could fly backwards, hover in one spot for several minutes and ate nothing but flower honey.

She was brave and excitable yet very tiny and delicate. But, most of all, she had a personality very pleasing to all, except to the other hummingbirds, and the whole forest, as well as all the gods and spirits, loved her. Even though Tzunuum was dressed with a very drab set of feathers, because of her outgoing, positive, and yet humble, nature, no one really cared and she was most happy darting about keeping others happy, too.



The Azar Tree



Vain Motmot

One day she announced that she was getting married to the spirits and to all the forest flora and fauna. Some of the other animals became concerned that she didn't have a wedding dress and got some living things together to solve her problem. The Motmot donated her long tail feathers to be used to help make Tzunuum's wonderful wedding gown.

Not to be outdone, Ya (a Crowned Flycatcher) donated a lot, but not all, of her bright crimson throat feathers, leaving her with just a ring. The Blue Bird known, then, as Uchilche, gave into the mix several of her blue feathers. The Cardinal thought a bright contrasting color would look nice and donated several of her red feathers.

And, so as to not be left out, the prideful Yumyum Oriole took on the responsibilities of putting it all together as she was known as a weaver and something of an engineer. With the help of Ah-leum's talents, and gossamer spider webbing, they also formed a gorgeous veil.

Not to be out done by the animals, the trees voted for the Azar tree to drop all of its leaves for a nice soft but colorful area to hold the reception while Canac, the honey bee, put the

...Mayan Folklore, Kirby Vickery's version



The Gift From Ah-leum

word out to all of her sisters and cousins to provide the sweet honey repast for all the wedding guests.

Everything was put together and the entire forest surprised our little friend and she was so thrilled. The spirits were also pleased, and the Great Spirit was so happy to see how Tzunum looked, due to her happiness, that he allowed her to wear her wedding dress every day from then on.

HOW THE KING OF THE BIRDS WAS CHOSEN

or
Puhay Puhay

The Mayan Great Spirit, Halach-Uinic, liked to wander through his creation of the forests and simply enjoy the feel, smell, sight and sound of it. Although, of late, he had started to hear some discouragement among the birds. There was a growing squawking sound as they were sitting about arguing over things that didn't matter or that they had no control over. "A little bit of this is fine and to be expected," he said to, Naguel, the Jaguar. "I'm starting to not like my daily walks because of that raucous screeching argument coming out of my trees." Naguel could only think of capturing a couple of the big ones for a fine dinner meal but he said nothing.

The next day Halach-Uinic called all the birds together and announced "all this bickering has to stop. You are ruining my forest creation and I can't have that. I have decided that what you need is a little law and order among yourselves. Some simple social guidelines would do it. In order for that to happen, you need some local authority whom I will support and that should do it.

So, you will need to elect a King to govern and I will leave you to it. I will have Muwan, the Screech Owl, monitor your meeting to make sure everything is fair." Muwan called the meeting to order when all the birds had gathered the following day and formed a ring in which volunteers for kingship could enter and plead their cases.

The first one to push his way into the circle was old Cutz, the wild turkey. His coloring was much the same as it is today, and he was every bit as big as any turkey anyone had ever seen.

"I am the biggest and strongest bird in the forest. I'm capable of defending any against bullying and can stop all this fighting. I should be elected as your King." Muwan added a few words about his strength but doubted his intelligence. There were a number of other birds that agreed with him, especially when it became publicly known that these 'Cutz' had problems making the second tier of branches while on wing.



Cutz the Turkey

X-Chol-Col-Chek the tropical mockingbird pushed herself, went into the ring and announced, in a loud high-pitched song she had obviously made up, "I am bright of plumage. I am smart. I am bold. And, I can sing like this all day," she trilled out, blasting those close to the ring. Now, it is true that she had a wonderful voice and even got some applause from some of the other birds when she finished. The old owl muttered something about lacking substance and originality, and she was dismissed with her head hanging low.

A bright red Cardinal stepped into the ring and announced, in a high shrill voice that "I am the perfect answer for a king or queen because I am so beautiful and can command everyone's attention." He turned and strutted around the ring until he came face to face with the owl. All Muwan did was to frown and point to the stairs that led off into the crowd then, as he gaveled the meeting closed for the day, X-Chol-Col-Chek

...Mayan Folklore, Kirby Vickery's version

dragged himself off into some little corner until he regained his own cheery spirit and danced the rest of the way out of the forum.

Now Kukul, the Quetzal, was ambitious, smart, and a proud and elegant bird. But he knew that he was dressed in shoddy, dull and uninteresting plumage. He also knew that, if he wanted to be elected, he needed an edge over Tz'ikb'Uul the Mayan Crow (or Cuervo in Spanish) who was also smart, outspoken, and dressed deliciously in black. He had noticed that the black bird was also waiting to get up in the circle.



Today's Quetzal

As the place emptied out, he caught sight of Xtuntun-Kinil, the roadrunner, who was all dressed out in her finery, oh so colorful and bold. He caught up to her and said, "We need to talk." "Look," Kukul ended his long passionate spiel well after the place was empty. "All I need is to borrow some of your plumage and, with the rest of my attributes, I will be designated King of the Birds. Then I will split all my glory and rewards with you, forever."

But the roadrunner wasn't convinced and turned to walk away. Something kept telling Xtuntun-Kinil that Kukul wasn't a bird to trust and continued to walk away. "I know," he yelled after her, "that you could bring it off all by yourself because you are so bright and smart. But, with your duties as the Gods' messenger - I would take this King job for you and still let you bask in the glory." The brightly colored roadrunner just kept going.

After a few minutes down the road, Xtuntun-Kinil saw her brightly tropical sunset-colored theme decorated chest feathers fade into nothingness. Then she saw her bright four-foot-long



Tzunuum

blue and emerald tail feathers shorten up and change into a darker brown and then disappear completely. This all happened because Kukul completely stole the roadrunner's gallant plumage, one feather at a time, to include in his bill, turning it a bright corn yellow.

The next morning, when it was Kukul's turn to enter the circle, it all ended quickly. Muwan called the place to order, took one look at Kukul and turned to Halach-Uinic, the head Spirit and said, "this one." Halach-Uinic agreed with the owl and issued his proclamation: "Kukul, I hereby grant you the kingship of birds, with all the privileges and rights that go with it." And, with that, he was established as the King of Birds. Kukul really didn't need all that bright plumage anymore but, because he was kept very busy being King of the Birds, he kept putting the return of those feathers off, again and again, until he forgot all about it completely.

As the forum emptied out again, there were several friends of the roadrunner that hadn't seen her at all since the night before. They became worried and set out looking for her. She was eventually found huddling in some corner, deep in the shade of the morning sun. They discovered that she was naked, cold and shaking.

One of these birds gave her some tail feathers of a muddy brown color. Another a chest full of downy feathers which were a lighter brown but flaked with tiny spots. This went on until Xtuntun-Kinil was again fully clothed but in nothing but dull and dun colored browns and darker browns.

Today you can find her running through the country roads muttering to herself over and over: "Puhay, Puhay." Which, translated into English, means: "Where is he? Where is he?"

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Making the Most of Manzanillo

story and photos by John Chalmers

There are so many ways to enjoy México in the Manzanillo area! Day trips by car to locations in the area or an afternoon at the beach to swim, snorkel and soak up the sun are hard to beat. Looking for a restaurant to experience a new taste sensation is a common pursuit! Purchasing silver jewelry, colorful pottery and selecting fresh produce at a market are also high on the list for folks that escape winter at home in the United States or Canada.



The iconic sailfish monument, symbolic of the city, in downtown central Manzanillo

For many of us, one of the best ways to enjoy the diversity and beauty of the area is by hiking different routes in the Manzanillo area. Travel by foot provides opportunity to see things up close that are totally missed when driving. With appropriate clothing, a good hat, a hiking pole, a bottle of water and proper footwear, anyone is equipped to take a hike and enjoy its rewards!

A hike not only provides good exercise but, in a group, it provides a chance to meet new friends and share a worthwhile experience. For some of us, a group hike during the season, from December to April, is a weekly experience we all enjoy. Routes travelled range from walking through urban areas to unpopulated areas past cattle and crops and to golden beaches.

Californians Rich Taylor and his wife, Chris Lundgren, have led us on hikes from two to four hours to see routes we might otherwise never know. Their ability to speak Spanish is a bonus when we are joined by local Mexican men, women and children. In groups from 10 to 50 we have explored farmlands, abandoned buildings, jungle trails, small towns and remote locations in the hills and mountains of the area.

The ultimate challenge each year is a hike up the road to the communications towers atop the twin peaks of Cerro del Toro, one of the biggest mountains in the area. It is a test of fitness and endurance, taking about two hours or more to reach the top from our starting point. It takes just as long to come down!

The reward when reaching the peak at 790 meters above sea level, or about 2600 feet, is a vast view of the sea, and from Manzanillo to towns along the coast.



After hiking up to the communications towers atop Cerro del Toro, the hike down is also work!

A less challenging hike, but one still providing a good workout, is up the trail to the abandoned La Cumbre condo development above Palma Real on the Juluapan Peninsula. It was built in 1975 but never inhabited. The popular route takes trekkers about an hour from the Palma Real or Vida del Mar developments or from the beach at La Boquita. Then, from the top of the structure, hikers have one of the best views of the area.

A 180-degree panorama is seen from the bay at Vida del Mar, from a view of the jungle to a huge lagoon behind the beach, and beyond to the La Boquita beach and all the way around to see ships at sea and the Manzanillo port.

As another worthwhile pursuit, at least three markets in Manzanillo or environs offer must-see displays of merchandise to tempt the visitor. The big market that appears like magic on Saturday mornings in Santiago beside the Boulevard de la Madrid offers fresh produce, all manner of clothing, woven goods and carpets, colorful pottery, appliance parts and even used tools! It is a regular stop for us each week.

...Making the Most of Manzanillo

The big *Mercado Central* building in downtown Manzanillo offers a huge display of produce as well as fresh poultry, bakery products, fresh meat and seafood at the indoor stalls on the first floor. Street level shops on the outside of the big building include a popular stall where we purchase fresh roasted coffee that is ground to order. On the second level, shops abound, including juice stalls and eateries that can satisfy your thirst or hunger.

From the rooftop parking area, you have a fine view of *La Cruz* –the illuminated cross atop a small mountain, from where hikers have a fine view of the city, the downtown area and the port. *La Cruz* is the destination for one of our group hikes, a long sloping route from where we park roadside at sea level and ends with 225 stone steps up to the Cross. They feel like they are straight up, and indeed in some places they almost are. By the time we reach the top, we do feel like we are a little closer to heaven!



A group photo at the Cross is proof that everyone completed the hike!

A favorite stop for me after a hike to the Cross is to visit the *Iguanario* on the drive home. Visitors can get a close look at



Long-time snowbird in the Manzanillo area, Jerry Meyer, checks produce in the *Mercado Central*.

many iguanas, large and small, green and orange, within the facility, as well as seeing other critters of interest such as birds, including a crested caracara, and four-legged residents such as the *coati mundi*.

But even parking on the street provides access to a great show! Huge orange and black iguanas, several feet long, watch visitors from their perches in the trees at the *Iguanario* and pose for cameras.

A three-in-one experience includes a hike to *La Cruz*, a stop to see the iguanas, and then rooftop parking for four pesos at the *Mercado Central* where fresh-squeezed pink grapefruit juice is prepared to order. Within walking distance of the huge sailfish monument in central Manzanillo are several shops offering merchandise, jewelry and fabric. Restaurants abound and a favorite place for us at lunch is the Hotel Colonial.

The beauty of the Manzanillo area is seen in the sea, the sky, the La Boquita beach and the splendid mountain, Cerro del Toro, towering above all with its twin peaks as the destination for hikers who test their fitness in a trek up the road to the very top.



...Making the Most of Manzanillo



Author's wife, Linda, checks out woven products at the Oaxaca artisan market.

A seasonal market not to be missed is the Oaxaca artisan market, set up in January each year in the parking lot in front of the Soriana supermarket and sometimes in other locations. Located in a huge tent structure, dozens of stalls offer goods from Mexico and South America. Clothing, leather goods, woven products, ceramic items, toys, regional liqueurs, pottery, and items made of wood or pewter all offer unique merchandise in a tempting barrage of color and variety.



Floral shops provide beautiful and spectacular ready-made arrangements for any occasion.

Close to Manzanillo is the huge and popular beach at Santiago Bay, which extends around to the La Boquita area. Restaurants and markets line the road along the beach and at one end the beautiful and recently renovated Punta Sur restaurant (formerly Margarita's) provides fine dining under its huge and lovely seaside *palapa*.

The beach is especially popular at Christmas and Easter, but good for swimming and snorkeling anytime. At the beach, several rustic *ramadas* provide food service and more conventional facilities include the popular Santiago Beach Club and the Oasis Beach Club restaurants.

Finding something new always adds to the pleasure of spending time in the Manzanillo area. Whether it be a *panadería* for bread straight from the oven, a *pescadería* for fresh seafood, a restaurant that serves pozole or paella, or a *florería* that produces dazzling flower arrangements, there are always discoveries to be found!

Further afield, some of our favorite places are within an hour or two of driving time. Barra de Navidad has charms of its own when we walk the streets, but each time we go there, we take the free boat ride to Mary's Restaurant for a seafood lunch of *camarón*.



The beach, the bay, the boardwalk and seaside *restaurantes* at Cuastecomates are a fine combination!

A little further away is Cuastecomates, where we like to arrive late morning and stay till mid afternoon. There we enjoy *cerveza fría* and *piña coladas* in lounge chairs under a *sombrilla* at the lovely beach, order a fine lunch from a *restaurante* along the boardwalk, enjoy a swim and take in the view of the sea and the charming *bahía*.

Another rewarding drive has been to enjoy the spectacle of the El Salto waterfall. It is a trip worth doing, capped off with lunch in the area before returning home. Of course, within easy driving distance is the state's capital city of Colima with its many charms—but that's another story!

So much to do, and we enjoy it all. ¡Viva Manzanillo!

... more pics follow

...Making the Most of Manzanillo



Pottery and ceramic products in traditional Mexican styles and design.



Dresses and other items for women are among the most colorful items at the Oaxaca artisan market.



Arduous in places, the hike up to the top of Cerro del Toro is rewarding for the view.



Fascinating iguanas in various colors can be seen in abundance at the unique Iguanario.

...Making the Most of Manzanillo



Fresh produce is one of the biggest attractions at the Saturday market in Santiago.



Enrique of Henry's Silver Shop at the Saturday market in Santiago also displays at other markets in the area.



Color abounds in wooden and ceramic bowls and many products at the Saturday market in Santiago.



Claudio, a merchant at the Saturday market in Santiago offers products in traditional designs.



From the second level, you can see the scope of produce offered at the *Mercado Central*.



Outside at street level in the *Mercado Central*, a purchase of coffee can be ground to order.

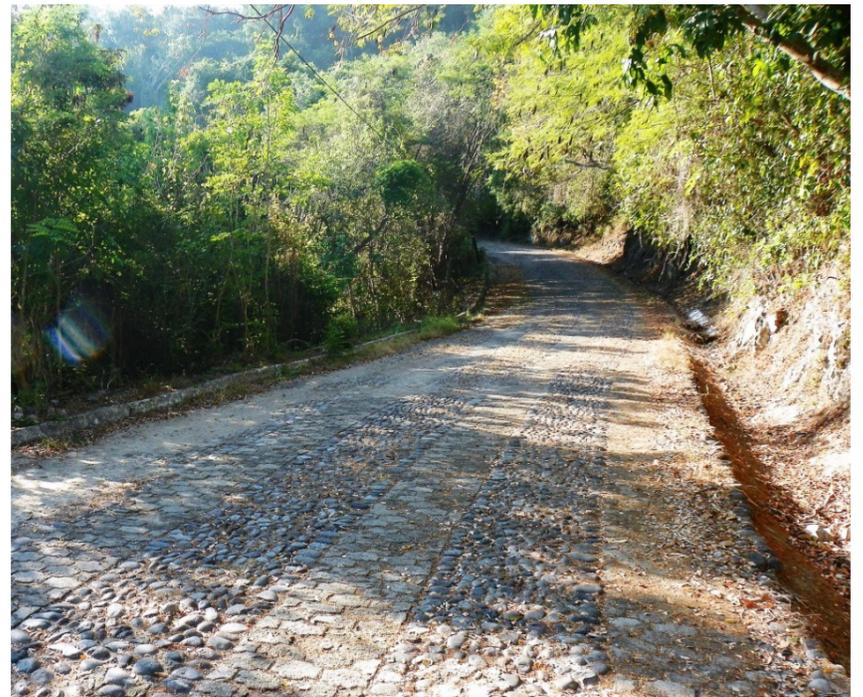
...Making the Most of Manzanillo



The view from La Cumbre spans from the bay in front of Vida del Mar at left, across the jungle to the lagoon in the center, to the beach at La Boquita, and to the sea the Manzanillo seafont, with Cerro del Toro mountain in the background.



Hikers pose for their group photo atop La Cumbre where they have a splendid view for their efforts.



The cobblestone road leading to La Cumbre eventually becomes a hiking trail through the jungle.



This handsome fellow is a resident at the sanctuary for *cocodrilos* in La Manzanilla.

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Family *Turneracea*

Also known as *Mexican Holly, Damiana, Damiana Aphrodisiaca, Damiana Herb, Damiana Leaf, Mexican Damiana, Mizibcoc, Old Woman's Broom and Oreganillo*

*(I encourage you to be seated and holding onto something secure as you read the following - quite possibly - most shocking of surprises. But I have been known to be wrong! Hold on there. Deep breaths. Try to get a grip, as I know this is a startling and shattering revelation, but, sadly, it is true. You see, some botanists of authority might assert this to be the very closely related *Turnera ulmiflora*. They are very similar. Hence, I'm unsure as to what I should call it with any manner of assuredness. Beyond that, I really should probably respectfully ask you to wait on my next book – "The Medicinal Jungle" – to learn of all the intriguing, possible, homeopathic, aspects of about this perennial shrub . . . or, perhaps more accurately, subshrub. But, given my impatience to share these Nifty Nuggets of Knowledge, I won't do that!)*

According to The Plant List – a collaborative effort between the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew Gardens and Missouri Botanical Garden - the genus *Turnera* is in the family *Passifloraceae* in the major group Angiosperms (Flowering plants) and includes 218 scientific plant names of species rank. *(Take notes, this might be on the test!)*

While they share the same, common name, the similarly named Butterfly Bush (*Clerodendrum myricoides*) and (*Buddleja davidii*) are altogether different species. This particular wild shrub grows in southwestern Texas, Mexico, Central America, the West Indies and at least one source contends Africa, as well. Its leaves and stems have been used, purportedly, for medicinal applications since the ancient Mayan civilization.



And, as he describes its leave, they are "simple, alternate, (with) blades of lanceolate or ovate to elliptic (with coarsely toothed margins.)"

It is used in traditional medicine as an anti-cough and diuretic. Here, in Mexican culture, I understand that it is used for gastrointestinal disorders. And while not sure what I think of the test subjects and their response as it relates to me, studies with rats appear to support the folk reputation that *Turnera diffusa* is an effective sexual stimulant.

It is on the US Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) list for use as a food flavoring. That said, however, it does contain low levels of cyanide-like compounds so excessive doses could be dangerous.

(Some might just want to skim this paragraph!) But for those with intense, inquisitive minds, Science Direct says its leaves contain as much as 1% volatile oil consisting of 1,8-cineole, p-cymene, alpha and beta-pinene, thymol, alpha-copaene, and calamine. Further research has indicated the presence of caryophyllene oxide, caryophyllene, delta-cadinene, elemene as well as damiana include albuminoids, alpha-copaene, alpha-pinene, arbutin, barterin, beta-sitosterol, calamenene, caoutchouc, chlorophyll, cymene, cymol, damianin, essential oil, gamma-cadinene, gonzalitosin-i, hexacosanol-1, luteolin, quinovopyranosides, tannins, tetraphyllin b, thymol, triacontane, and tri-

...Butterfly Bush

methoxyflavones. But we - being the extensively educated, highly experienced, and oh-so-very-sagacious, botanical chemists that we are - already suspected that, right? (*Sure thing, and I can fly, too!*)

Speaking of taking "trips," in high (the appropriate word, laden with double entendre) doses, the Butterfly Bush is said to cause hallucinations. In that it is present in some herbal mixtures that appear to replicate the effects of marijuana, it has also been called and sold "on the street" as "spice." Historically, when its leaves were dried to make an herbal tea or smoked, it was used as an aphrodisiac and to alleviate sexual problems. Such is legal everywhere in the United States except Louisiana.

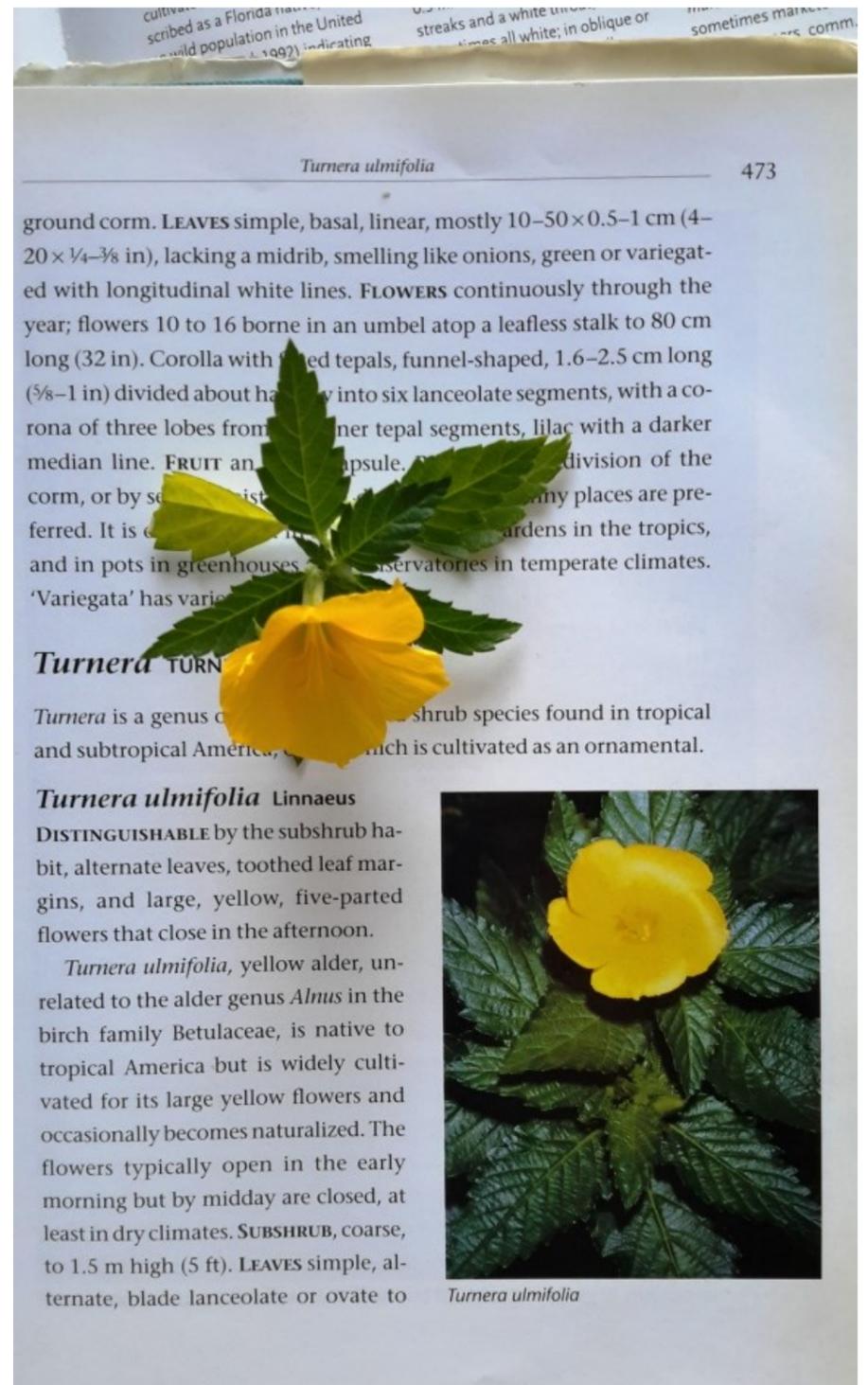


Yes, they are indeed favorites of Flutterbys of all sorts!

But beyond this more "questionably recreational" application, it has also been used to treat stomach complaints such as dyspepsia, diarrhea, and constipation, as well as to help resolve the negative symptoms of menopause and PMS. Additionally, from sources outside of my tropical plant resource books, on MedicineNet.com, I read that, "*Turnera diffusa* is a natural herbal supplement. The exact (chemical) mechanism of how *Turnera diffusa* works is not known. But it is believed to have stimulant, antidepressant, mood improving, libido enhancing, euphoric, and nervous system restorative properties." Suffice it to say that I strongly advise one to consult their doctor before using any of the *Turnera* plants, in any condition, manner or form.

("Sheesh Tommy, I'm just interested in it as a garden addition!")

OK. With its subtly, sweet-smelling and attractive flowers, the Butterfly Bush likes well-draining soil, in full sun, being kept



Juxtaposed against Dr. Arthur Whistler's write up on it in his book "Tropical Ornamentals," one can see the loveliness of its small, yellow flowers.

consistently moist - particularly during hot, dry weather, is fast-growing, and can reach six to ten feet (1.83-3.05) meters) in two years.

Now about those horny rats

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There and Back Again

story and photos by Ken Waldie

From Manzanillo, it's a long climb up to Lake Chapala at 1,524 m. or 5,000 ft above sea level, but the climb is so gradual, it's indiscernible. Even a short distance from the coast land and weather can change from humid to arid, and warm to cool, very quickly.



Lake Chapala as seen through some of the art that decorates the boardwalk.

Most of the northern and central interior of Mexico is actually a high plain known as the Altiplano (north and south). It extends from the US border to the Trans-Mexican Volcanic Belt (the Sierra Nevada) in south-central Mexico and averages some 1,800 m or 6,000 ft. above sea level.

The rugged highlands north of Guadalajara, bounded with steep mountains and chasm-like valleys, have required brilliant engineering, evidenced by beautiful (and very high) bridges and trestles that cross through this extremely tough terrain.



A scenic drive through the Altiplano...you can see Tequila in the distance.

It's deceiving travelling through this region because you don't realize just how high the passes are until you start the long drive down into the valleys below. As mountains melt away and broad valleys open to wider, gentler slopes, swaths of teal-blue coloured agave coat the hills, reaching right down to the roadside. The region grows some 30,000 hectares of agave, that's one great, big coat there...

Gracing the valley bottom – still 1193 m up (that's 3900 feet) is a lovely town whose main industry is world famous. Santiago de Tequila, Jalisco, is where tequila is made. Tequila's whole existence, with the long history of its production, reaching back into Aztec times, with street-side statues, artwork and tequila outlets, is one of those remarkable places that make me glad I stopped to take a look. It's an industrial town with charm.

Tequila's two main producers, Jose Cuervo and Sauza are only a few blocks from the central zócalo. Both distilleries, and most of the boutique distilleries nearby, offer regular tours of their facilities and tastings, of course. You can take a bus tour on bottle-shaped buses or you can go fancy and hop on the Tequila Express or the Jose Cuervo Express, two trains, running from Ajijic or Guadalajara, to tour through the mountains to Tequila and back. On board, travellers enjoy authentic food, tequila tasting, music and an opportunity to learn about tequila.

We found our way, from our hotel, down the street, to the Sauza distillery. The tour began in the Sauza garden, a very large area that I guess is about 6 or 8 city blocks square and is graced with many statues and sculptures, with at least 4 chapels in different areas of the garden; it's worth a look all on its own.

Our tour of the distillery was fantastic. We went from a storage area, where wee samples were distributed, through to the agave crushers, the boiling vats, to the heart of the distillery where they brew the tequila of up to 100 proof or better. Our guide, smiling, gave us some small samples...we



all had to watch our step till we got our equilibrium back after that. From the 100 proof, tequila is reduced by about half, and aged to become the product we know.

...There and Back Again



A visit to church.

There are several boutique hotels available in town, some surprisingly large, but hidden, behind a humble street facade. Our last stay was at Hotel Plaza Rubio, a modest accommodation with a beautiful garden plaza in the middle and within easy walking distance of the town center.

It's a pleasure to wander down Tequila's cobblestone streets. The main parish church, Our Lady of the Purísima Concepción, was built in the 18th century and sits in the town center. On our previous visit, we were there having dinner in the church plaza or zócalo, when, as it turned out, it was Ash Wednesday. At the end of the service, the congregants came out all with black crosses smudged on their foreheads. The spectacle seemed a little strange, like a zombie apocalypse, but with happy zombies wandering around.



Into the night, many businesses stay open. The tequila emporiums, many very large, have more varieties of tequila than I ever thought existed. They look almost like glasswork factories. There are so many different bottles glistening in the display light.



Public art as a nod to the city's economic driver.

Of the top 5 most expensive brands, some are fairly affordable, according to top10zen.com, in 2014 prices: Don Julio Real - \$350, Tres-Quatro-Cinco - \$390, Barrique de Ponciano Porfidio - \$2,000, Dos Luna's Grand Reserve - \$2,500, but the MOST expensive bottles of tequila weigh in at \$225,000 and \$3,500,000 respectively. And these prices are in USD!

Ultra-Premium Ley .925 Pasión Azteca makes them. The cheap one is presented in a platinum and white gold bottle, with a solid platinum logo, and the granddaddy is similar, but it is covered in diamonds.

Tequila is a pretty little working town and certainly worth a stop to see. Half the fun was in the getting there. It's an adventure, whether by Guadalajara or from Puerto Vallarta up the coast through Sayulita, Bucerias, Nayarit and into the mountains.

If you have several days, and two tanks of gas, you'll have a grand adventure.

... more pics follow

...There and Back Again



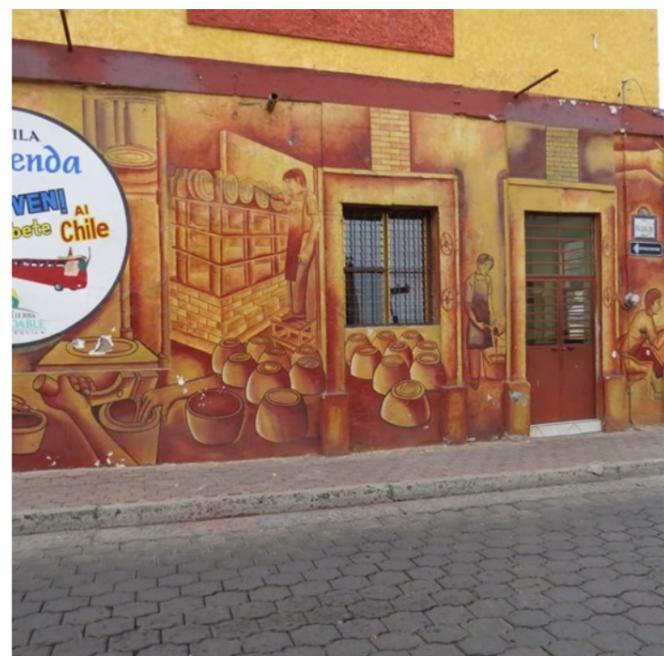
Left: We came across a happy tourist, El Gordo, supervising a tequila delivery.

Below: The grounds of the Sauza distillery are worth the visit.



Left: The story of tequila is shown in this giant mural.

Below: Street scenes from Tequila centro.



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Another Happy Client
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by Tommy Clarkson

Garlic Chives *Allium tuberosum*

Family *Amaryllidaceae*

Also known as *Oriental Garlic, Asian Chives, Chinese Chives or Chinese Leek*

(The same morning, recently, that I came upon some forgotten parsley which I'd planted a while back, I also found, nearby, this wonderful, new pot of Garlic Chives. A'hhhh, getting older - What with my forgetfulness, every day brings fresh unremembered surprises!)

Beyond the joy of that discovery, visitors of the last few weeks have had it thrust under their noses to savor its great scent. But more than merely being a delight to our olfactory lobes, it is quite healthful, containing an array of nutrients important for a healthy diet, including vitamins A, calcium, folate, iron, magnesium, niacin, phosphorus, potassium, riboflavin and thiamin. And, even more, folk remedies were "right on" when they used chives to alleviate a stuffy nose and for colds, what with it being such a rich source vitamin C.

According to the Master Gardener Program of the University of Wisconsin Extension Service, *Allium tuberosum* is a late-season bloomer from the onion family.

Native to southeastern Asia, it is . . . sometimes confused with . . . *A. ramosum* or Fragrant-flowered Garlic. . . (It) . . . has been used in Chinese herbal medicine for a variety of ailments.



Garlic Chives, a great discovery!

No few folks think quite highly of this plant. In *A Handbook of Herbs* by Richard Marshall and Charles J. Ziga, these gentlemen wax most favorably on this genus saying, it is "One of the most indispensable herbs, chives are easy to grow in sun or partial shade, are bone hardy and can be grown . . . both as attractive garden plants and for their culinary virtues. If the flavor of ordinary (or onion) chives is too strong for your taste, try (these) Garlic Chives (as) they have a milder flavor (and) produce charming, sweet-scented, white flowers.

In the kitchen, *Allium tuberosum* can be chopped up and used as a garnish - just like regular chives. It (or should that be they) greatly add to fresh salads, sliced cucumbers and fresh tomatoes, as well as adding a wonderful zest when incorporated in omelets, soufflés and scrambled eggs. Marshall and Ziga also share that "finely chopped fresh chives can also be mixed into

...Garlic Chives



Garlic Chives contains vitamins A, calcium, folate, iron, magnesium, niacin, phosphorus, potassium, riboflavin and thiamin.

cream cheese or cottage cheese, sour cream or butter and used as a delicate, but tasty dressing for steaks, potatoes and broiled fish: to one pound of butter, add a quarter pound of finely chopped chives and a quarter cup of chopped parsley (*Glad I found these two at the same time!*), blend thoroughly and add lemon juice to taste."

Some enjoy sprinkling it on soups, incorporating it into stir-fry or stuffing them into dumplings . . . this I have yet to try. (*Then again, I've never made dumplings either, but by golly, I - sometimes - can boil a decent egg! Does that count for anything?*) And, lastly, for a vegetative equivalent of icing on the proverbial cake, the florets of Garlic Chives can be pulled from the flowers and sprinkled atop a salad for a rather attractive garnish!

Unlike onions, or other types of garlic, however, the fibrous bulb is not edible. The *Allium tuberosum* is grown, rather, for its flowers and stems. It is easy to differentiate between onion chives and garlic chives. Garlic chives have a flat, grass-like leaf, not a hollow one as do onion chives.

Now, some growing tips: They are a great size, reaching 12 to 24 inches (30.48-50.96 cm) in height and, perhaps, a foot (30.48 cm) across. Each elongated bulb is attached to a stout rhizome and produces 4-9 leaves. But, always remember, after the flowers bloom, be sure to remove its flowers, after they've bloomed and faded, so that the seeds don't pop up all over your garden

-well, unless you want that! Also, make a note to divide your Garlic Chive plants every three to four years, in the spring, as they are much more productive if such is done.

As regards harvesting your Garlic Chives, you may generally do so thirty days after they were transplanted or sixty days after having been seeded.



Each elongated bulb is attached to a stout rhizome and produces 4-9 leaves.

Don't forget to cut the leaves down to the base when harvesting - this would be one to two inches (2.54-5.08 cm) above the soil. And, lastly, you can harvest your crop three to four times throughout the first year.

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Steps to a Balanced Portfolio

by Yann Kostic

Year-end is a great time to take a close look at your finances. Because volatile markets can skew the percentage of stocks, bonds and cash in your portfolio, it's important to give your portfolio an annual check-up to make sure your allocation remains aligned with your situation and goals. It's easy to do in three simple steps:

Step one: Develop a target asset allocation

Given your individual financial circumstances and goals, what percentage of your portfolio should be dedicated to each asset class? For example, when close to retirement, some investors may want the majority of their portfolio in as cash and bonds, with a smaller percentage in stocks to protect their portfolio against inflation.

However this kind of strategy has definitely not worked during the past decade. As the saying goes if you're younger, and can tolerate the fluctuations of the stock market over time, you may want to put the majority of your investments in stocks. Today, people simply live longer, and with some planning, leave a large part of their wealth to their heirs while enjoying a great retirement, so the time horizon is quite different indeed.

Step two: Evaluate your portfolio

Next, determine if your actual investments match your target asset allocation. If they do, your portfolio is in good shape. If they're off, consider just how far off they are.

Since making frequent changes to your portfolio can have tax consequences, you may only want to alter the asset mix if it's off by more than five percentage points.

Step three: Rebalance

If your asset allocation has drifted significantly away from your target, you can rebalance your portfolio in a variety of ways.

For example, you can shift funds out of the asset class that exceeds its target into the other investments, or you can simply add funds to the asset class that falls below its target percentage. You can even direct dividends from the asset class that exceeds its target into the ones that are below their targets.

This will bring your portfolio back into balance, but because of tax implications, it's important to talk to your advisor before making any significant changes to it.

Note: *This material has been prepared for informational purposes only, and is not intended to provide financial advice for your particular situation.*

Yann Kostic, MBA and Tom Zachystal, CFP, are Presidents of their respective Assets Management firms, both US-Registered Investment Advisors (RIA). Tom is the San Francisco Financial Planners' Association President. Tom and Yann cater to US expats in Mexico and worldwide. Comments, questions or to request his newsletter, "News you can use" contact him at yannk@atlantisgrp.com, in the US at (321) 574-1 529 or in Mexico, (376) 106-1613.



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Mazatlán

by Dan and Lisa Goy, exclusive to Manzanillo Sun

March 28 - 29, 2016 (Days 82-83)

Mazatlán, Sinaloa



Good signage on the way into town via Hwy 15D

Next up was our 542 km (almost 400 miles) drive to Mazatlán, Sinaloa. Mike and Kelly were in lead and, yes, we had a couple of glitches early on. First, the entrance to northbound Periférico was closed which caused just a short delay as we needed to find a return. As we reached our last leg to Mazatlán, the last 80 km of 15D Cuota highway was closed by police, which was unfortunate as we had just paid a hefty toll to be on it and this made the last bit of our long day longer.



The free highway (libre) into Mazatlán

We landed at the Punta Cerritos RV Park late in the afternoon. At first they only had two spots available then, after the others got parked, another spot (#5) became available, at the waterfront near the pool. That worked out well. We had planned for dinner at 6pm with Eric and Sandra (Surrey friends who winter

at a nearby condo) at Roy's Restaurant in the plaza next to the RV Park. Eric recommended Los Cerritos campground as the meeting place was next door. Dinner was great and we all had fun catching up on our respective time in Mexico. The next day Lisa and I walked down to the beachfront condo where Eric and Sandra were staying. Great view, nice beach, wonderful pool and a very nice apartment.



Above and below: Eric and Sandra's views from their condo



Eric goes boogie boarding daily and has swim in the pool. What a great way to sit out January, February and March in Surrey each year! After our visit, we all walked up the beach back to the RV Park and spent the remainder of the day poolside and had a surprise visit from Paul Beddows, my Caravans de Mexico buddy. Paul was with some members of his group and scheduled to be out of Mexico on April 1. Later, the gang all went for dinner at the "Bruja" Restaurant, a short walk around the corner and down the street on the ocean. The musician was pretty good, the clown kinda creepy and the food was ok.

...Mazatlán



A few spaces were left in the Los Cerritos RV Park

Note: we have recently returned to Mazatlán with our recent 4-day mainland Mexico RV Tour and we visited the Los Cerritos RV Park. There were a few RV camping spots in the park in 2016 and that is no longer the case. All RV spaces are now permanent, no more camping. Our Caravan RV Tour stayed at "Las Jaibas" RV Park down the same road. Our guess is this will not be around much longer as new development surrounds that campground. This north end of Mazatlán is very active for development with probably 20 projects on the go. On our return in March 2019, we will be staying at the Barakas Villa and Beach Club which, it appears, will be around in the future.



Front-row seat at Los Cerritos

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Did you know?

Mazatlán is a Nahuatl word meaning "place of deer". The city was founded in 1531 by an army of Spaniards and indigenous settlers. By the mid-19th century, a large group of immigrants had arrived from Germany. These new citizens developed Mazatlán into a thriving commercial seaport, importing equipment for the nearby gold and silver mines. It served as the capital of Sinaloa from 1859 to 1873. The German settlers also influenced the local music, banda, which is an alteration of Bavarian folk music. The settlers also established the Pacífico Brewery on March 14, 1900.



Mazatlán waterfront in the distance

History - Mazatlán early settlers

Indigenous groups were in the region of Mazatlán prior to the arrival of the Spanish. These groups included the Totorames, who lived from the south bank of the Río Piaxtla, to the Río de las Cañas, as well as the Xiximes, who lived in the mountains in the bordering state of Durango. Until the early 19th century, Mazatlán was a collection of huts inhabited by indigenous peo-

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...Mazatlán

ple whose major occupation was fishing, according to Abel Aubert du Petit-Thouars, a French explorer.



Interesting houses near the RV park

The Malecón of Mazatlán

It is considered one of the longest in the world, has a length of about 21 km, along the Pacific coast, among which you can find from high cliffs, monuments, gazebos, old buildings, hotels, etc. The Malecón in Mazatlán is composed of a series of scenic roads, with pedestrian space, whose name varies along the route by stage or time of construction.



North end of Mazatlán

Invasions

Between 1847 and 1848, Mazatlán was invaded and occupied by the US military. In order to avoid the shelling of the city, the Mexican army abandoned it. Unfortunately, weakening Mexico's cause in the north was internal rebellion and insurrection. The former president, Anastasio Bustamente, was put in command of an expedition that was supposed to counter US intrusions into California but, before Bustamente's force got as far as Guadalajara, insurrection intervened. And at Mazatlán, the port from which Bustamente's force was supposed to debark, civil war erupted, making departure impossible.

Ten years later, in 1859, the port was blockaded by the British warship Amethyst when the resident English Consul was imprisoned. The Amethyst threatened to bombard Mazatlán unless the Consul was released and funds seized from him returned. The siege was lifted in May 1859 and conflict was resolved.



Eric and Dan out for a walk on the beach

On the morning of November 13, 1864 the French Navy ships fired twelve cannon shots into the city causing minor damage to several homes but causing no deaths.

The attack stopped when the prefect of the city made known to the invaders that the Mexican Army had left the square and he formally handed it over to them.

The takeover of the city was preceded by a naval blockade dating from mid-April 1864 and a four-way oligarchy regarding the control of the city within the Juarista party. French troops landed with a force of 5000 soldiers and seized the city.

One American citizen was shot on sight. Advocate for surrender, General Corona, tried to retake the city three times unsuccessfully in 1866. Finally, on November 13, 1866, Mexican General Ramón Corona expelled the French forces from Mazatlán.

On June 18, 1868, William H. Bridge, captain of HMS Chanticleer, blockaded the port and threatened to shell the city on June 22. The captain had taken umbrage after local customs authorities seized 23 ounces of gold from the paymaster of his ship.

...Mazatlán

Porfiriato

Mazatlán's lighthouse (El Faro) began operating in mid-1879. The maritime signals were manufactured in Paris, France, containing a large oil lamp with mirrors, and a Fresnel lens to focus the light. Since the light was static, from a distance it was often mistaken for a star. By 1905, this lamp was converted to a revolving lamp. During that period, the Mazatlán lighthouse was considered to be the naturally highest one in the world. Today, the 1000-watt bulb can be seen for 30 nautical miles (60 km). Near the lighthouse shore, famous "divers" (called this even by the Spanish-speaking inhabitants of Mazatlán) perform daring jumps off high rocks into the Pacific Ocean, for tips from onlooking tourists.

On June 26, 1880, Jesús Ramírez, former general in command of 400 men, stormed the garrison of the square and appropriated Mazatlán. After imposing a compulsory loan on traders, locals had to leave the city when it was bombed again by the Democratic Mexican warship, which caused a high number of women and children to be killed or wounded. Of the 24 cannon shots fired, only three hit the intended headquarters of Ramírez and the rest landed on the neighboring houses.

Mexican Revolution

In 1912, the municipalities enacted law No. 21 as a form of internal division of the State. However, it wasn't until 1915 that the law was abolished by the political directorate, when it erected the first free communes. With the publication of the decree creating the municipality of Mazatlán in the official newspaper on April 8, 1915, independent life began in the region. The Constitution of 1917, culminating in the first constitu-



Looks like fun!

tional governor, General Ramón F. Iturbe, born in Mazatlán, confirmed the sixteen municipalities into which the state was divided, which would then be subdivided into receiverships and police precincts.

The City of Mazatlán has the dubious distinction of being the second city in the world, after Tripoli, Libya, to suffer aerial bombardment (although the local historical display at the plazuela claims that Mazatlán was the first). During the Mexican Revolution, General Venustiano Carranza (later president), intent on taking the city of Mazatlán, ordered a biplane to drop a crude bomb of nails and dynamite, wrapped in leather, on the target of Nevería Hill adjacent to the downtown area of Mazatlán. The crude bomb landed off target on the city streets of Mazatlán, killing two citizens and wounding several others.

... more pics follow

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...Mazatlán



Hwy 15D, hard to miss this corner

Cowboys and their cattle



Green everywhere!

...Mazatlán



Los Cerritos park entrance with shops at the outside

No complaints about this road



Hwy 15D nice road

Submitted by Dan and Lisa Goy
Owners of Baja Amigos RV Caravan Tours
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Mexican White Rice (Arroz Blanco)

Ingredients

- ✓ 2 1/2 cups chicken broth or 2 1/2 cups water
- ✓ salt
- ✓ 2 tablespoons vegetable oil or 2 tablespoons olive oil
- ✓ 1 1/2 cups white rice, preferably medium-grain
- ✓ 1 small white onion, chopped
- ✓ 2 garlic cloves, peeled and finely chopped
- ✓ 1 tablespoon fresh lime juice
- ✓ 3 tablespoons roughly chopped fresh flat-leaf parsley, for garnish

Instructions

1. In small saucepan or microwave oven, heat broth or water until steaming.
2. Stir in about 3/4 teaspoon salt if using salted broth, 1 1/2 teaspoons if using unsalted broth or water.
3. Cover and keep warm.
4. In medium (3-quart) saucepan with a tight-fitting lid, heat the oil over medium heat.
5. When hot, add raw rice and onion and stir regularly until grains have turned from translucent to milky-white, 4-5 minutes.
6. Add garlic and stir for a few seconds, until fragrant. Do not let grains brown.
7. Add the warm liquid and lime juice, stir thoroughly, scraping down any grains that are clinging to the side of the pan.
8. Cover and cook over the lowest heat for 15 minutes--temperature should be low enough that only the slightest hint of steam escapes lid.
9. Remove pan from heat and let stand covered for 5 minutes.
10. Uncover and test a grain of rice: if still a little hard, re-cover pan and set over low heat for about 5 min.; if rice has absorbed all liquid and is completely dry, sprinkle on 2 tablespoons water before returning to heat.
11. When rice is done, sprinkle on parsley and gently fluff with fork to release steam and stop the cooking.



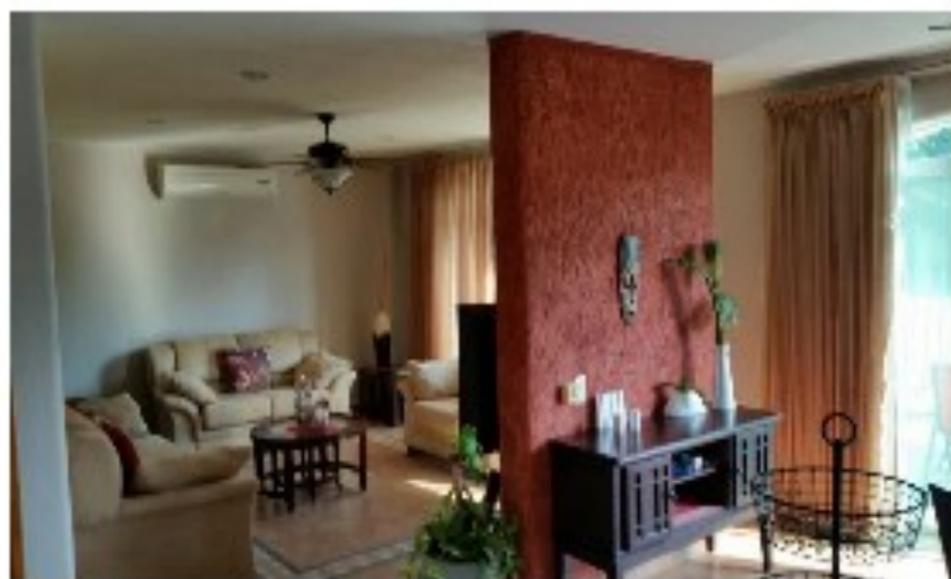
Recipe and images from [Genius Kitchen](#)



House for Rent

Golfers, take note!

Beautiful furnished home for rent, well situated in Real del Country next to the golf course.



The home has 3 bedrooms (each with air conditioning), 2 full, large bathrooms. One of the bedrooms is on the main (lower) floor and adjoins the downstairs bathroom. It comes with a fully equipped kitchen, a washer and dryer.



In addition to 2 patios, and an amazing view of hole 3 of the golf course, a third terraced deck overlooks the social area of the complex that offers a pool, tennis court and a palapa for your enjoyment.

This home comes with 24-hour security, wifi, cable TV and includes water, maintenance fee and covered, off-street parking for 1 car.

Rates:

\$2,100 USD monthly (3-6 months)

\$1,800 USD per month (7-12 months)

Ask about our rates for other lengths of stay.

Contact Yamil Achcar

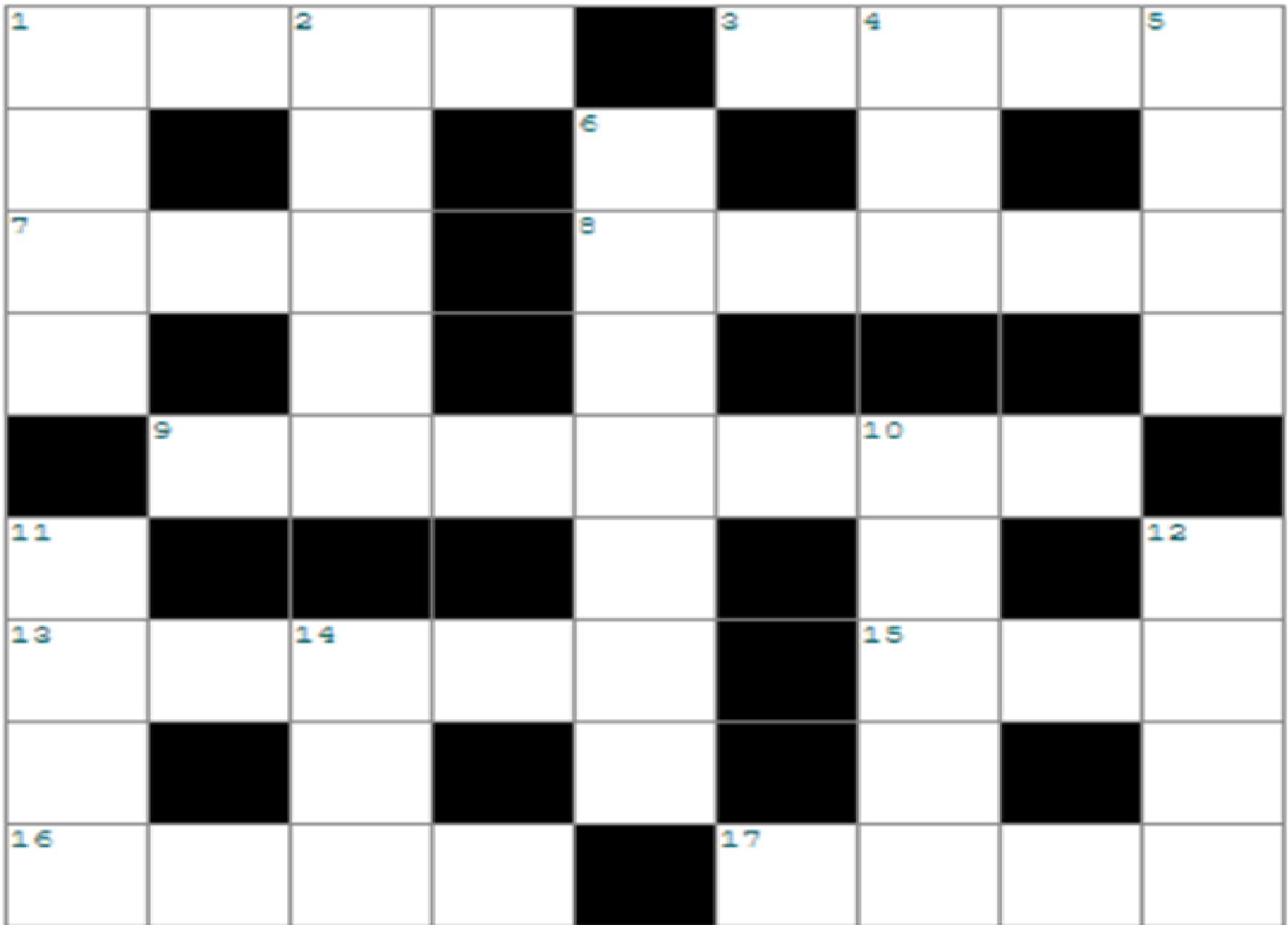
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Crossword



Across

- 1 (l) pass
- 3 May
- 7 with, in the company of
- 8 (l) added
- 9 to show
- 13 to row
- 15 use, act of using
- 16 classroom
- 17 hand

Down

- 1 few; little, not much
- 2 holy
- 4 lady, mistress of a household
- 5 (l) was smelling
- 6 wallet
- 10 needle
- 11 (it) creates
- 12 monkey
- 14 thousand

Last month's crossword solution:



lexisrex.com

Niños Héroes

from the Path to Citizenship series

The Niños Héroes, Boy Heroes, also known as the Heroic Cadets or Boy Soldiers, were six Mexican teenage military cadets. These cadets died defending Mexico City's Chapultepec Castle from invading US forces in the 13 September 1847 Battle of Chapultepec, during the Mexican-American War. According to legend, in an act of bravery, Juan Escutia wrapped the Mexican flag around his body and jumped from the top of the castle in order to keep it from falling into the hands of the Americans.

The Niños Héroes are a key part of Mexico's patriotic folklore, commemorated by a national holiday on September 13. However, several modern Mexican historians claim that parts of the story are not factual.

Chapultepec Castle served as the Mexican Army's military academy. It was defended by Mexican troops under the command of Nicolás Bravo and General José Mariano Monterde, including cadets from the academy. The number of cadets present has been variously given, from 47 to a few hundred. The greatly outnumbered defenders battled General Winfield Scott's troops for about two hours before General Bravo ordered retreat, but the six cadets refused to fall back and fought to the death.

Despite the castle's position: 200 feet above ground level; there were not enough men to defend it. Legend has it that the last of the six, Juan Escutia, leapt from Chapultepec Castle wrapped in the Mexican flag to prevent the flag from being taken by the enemy. According to the later account of an unidentified US officer, "about a hundred" cadets between the ages of 10 and 19 were among the "crowds" of prisoners taken after the Castle's capture.

An obelisk was erected in 1881 to commemorate the Battle of Chapultepec. Interest in the battle increased in 1947, the hundred-year anniversary. The same year, a mass grave was found on the southern hillside of Chapultepec Hill. Six bodies were officially identified as belonging to the six deceased cadets of 1847. The bodies were exhumed and placed in urns on September 13 and a plaque was placed at the site. The authenticity of the remains is in dispute, since there appears to have been no identification based on forensic science or anthropology.

On September 27, 1952, after many public ceremonies, a monument was inaugurated in the Plaza de la Constitución (Zócalo) with an honor guard from the several military academies of the Americas.



The six cadets are honored by an imposing monument made of Carrara marble by architect Enrique Aragón and sculptor Ernesto Tamariz at the entrance to Chapultepec Park (1952).

At the castle itself, in 1967 Gabriel Flores painted a large mural above the stairway depicting Escutia's jump from the roof with the Mexican flag.

The 5000-peso banknote (1987 series) commemorated the battle. The cadets are shown and named on the front of the banknote, and the Chapultepec castle is on the reverse. Starting in 1993, this banknote was retired in favor of the 5 nuevos pesos coin, and there is no analogous banknote in the 1996 series. The cadets appear on a N\$50 coin minted from 1993; it is rare compared to the N\$50 banknote.

The name Niños Héroes, along with the cadets' individual names, are commonly given to streets, squares and schools across Mexico. Metro Niños Héroes is the name of a station on the Mexico City Metro, as well as a station on the Monterrey Metro. Streets in the Condesa neighborhood adjacent to Chapultepec Castle bear the names of each cadet who took part.

Image and article source: [Wikimedia](#)