



Vientos Bajos Codger

Activities in and around San Ramon



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Upcoming Activities

Daily: Walking Club

On Call: DVD, CD, Book Libraries; Picture Puzzles

Vientos Bajos and Covid-19. As you can see by our almost blank activities calendar, Covid-19 has had quite an impact on Vientos Bajos' operations. What a difference a month can make! Thirty days ago, we'd heard of the coronavirus but weren't exactly sure how it was going to impact Vientos Bajos, El Empalme, San Ramon de Alajuela, Costa Rica, and the rest of the world. We planned, but had on hold, several events for April, May, and into June. Today, we still don't have definitive answers, but our understanding of what's going on is a little better and we realize that for the health of all, and especially those of us in the higher-risk categories, closing our facilities to social gatherings is more than prudent.

That being stated, we also realize we have quite a few resources here for those who, like us, are self-quarantining, but are looking for things to do. For our members, we're offering availability of our various libraries: We have over 1,000 books, 500 DVDs, 300 CDs, and numerous picture puzzles. We have hand sanitizers and latex gloves placed out for anyone who wants to peruse and borrow anything from the shelves. We only ask you call ahead so we can open the facility for your use. Your health and safety is our number-one concern, but we also want to make available assets that will help you through this trying period. (Ph: 8530-6828).

Collecting for Sharing. The flip side is that we're also collecting from anyone wanting to contribute to any of the libraries. If you have any puzzles, books, DVDs, or CDs that you want to make available for the use of members, we'll be happy to add them to our collection.

For the Record. So, before we shut-down activities, what did we do in March?

March 8, LTG, *Some Little Things!*

On Sunday, March 8, Little Theatre Group (LTG) brought to Vientos Bajos a series of six short, one-act plays. All in attendance can vouch that LTG was at peak performance. The show was accompanied by a short skit from the Madcap Players and the singing duo of Ben and Susan Knab, both performed beautifully!





The LTG cast takes a well-deserved bow.



Ben and Susan entertained following the intermission.



Following the show, the audience had the opportunity to congratulate the cast on a job well done.

Finca Fernandez Tour, Saturday, March 14.

The Vientos Bajos Activities Center San Ramon Costa Rica Expat Explorers Club toured the Edgar Fernandez farm (finca) on Saturday, March 14. The farm is owned and operated by a family of four (mom, dad, son, and daughter). Many years ago, Edgar (the father) worked on the farm, and began to buy the acreage from the then-owner. Over the next 35 years, he replaced the open fields with coffee, shade, and citrus trees, along with other plantings. Today, the family farm, about 14 acres, produces vegetables, coffee, tilapia, and a contains a menagerie of farm animals. The tour was led by brother Richard and sister, Viviana, who both speak excellent English. Everyone loved the tour.



The 12 tour attendees were treated to a three-hour tour, an excellent lunch prepared with farm-raised produce, and home-grown coffee.



Vivian and Richard explain how they boil the sugar cane juice after the harvest.



Daughter Viviana shows Jeff Barnes how they grind the home-grown coffee before brewing.



Dad and farm founder, Edgar, shows Leslie Leber how they remove the second husk from the coffee beans.

Walking Club: Daily.

We realize that, even with self-quarantining in place, physical exercise is an important component of staying healthy. We are continuing the daily walks, meeting at 7 AM in front of the Vientos Bajos main entrance. And yes, we're practicing both social and physical distancing. If you can't make it, please continue to take care of yourselves.

Future Opening Date:

To be determined by the Costa Rica government and good old plain horse sense. However, please be advised that we've got a couple of shows and other organized activities in the can awaiting a green light. Once we feel it's safe to resume activities, it won't take us very long to again have a very active schedule. In the meantime, keep your heads down, stay safe and healthy.