

Vientos Bajos Codger

Activities in and around San Ramon

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Editor: John Buford

Phone (506) 865306828

email: vientosbajos@gmail.com

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Upcoming Activities and Events

Daily: Walking Club, 7 AM, Vientos Bajos

On Call: Libraries: DVDs, CDs, Books, Picture Puzzles

Events:

- Celebration of Everything and Anything, Sunday, July 4
- Cruise Costa Rica, JAN 22-29, 2022

Activities:

- Contract Bridge (1:30 PM, TUES)*
- Ukulele practice (10:30 AM, WED)
- Recorder Ensemble practice (1 PM, WED)
- Bluegrass pick-up band (2 PM, WED)
- Low Brass practice (3 PM, WED)
- Poker (12:30 PM FRI)*
- Gym and Library open 7 AM-4 PM DAILY
- Golf Simulator (Reservations required)*
- Pickleball: Per reservations*
- Exercise Classes **(New)** See below

*Drop us a note at <https://vientosbajos.com/contact-us> to join the WhatsApp list for Bridge, Poker, Golf, or Pickleball.

Vientos Bajos Social Calendar Update. The merry month of May has not been very merry in Costa Rica. This month again saw an increase in coronavirus cases, although more vaccine has come into the country. Oh so slowly, the population over the age of 55 has been receiving the necessary shots. As we have for the past 15 months, we continue our small bubbles in the activities listed above and detailed below. You're welcome to join us, but please check in first so we know you're coming. As of June 1, our musical groups are back in rehearsal.

1. Current Events

a. **Celebration of Everything and Anything: Sunday, July 4.** In January of this year, we began rehearsal for a show in March, hoping the coronavirus threat would have dissipated in Costa Rica. We were overly optimistic and accordingly, slipped the show date to May, and then to June. At this time, although the coronavirus spread continues in Costa Rica,

vaccinations also progress. Most of the 55+ community has now received at least the first jab, and should have received the second by the end of June.

Depending on the trend of coronavirus cases and Costa Rica government restrictions, we now are planning to host a celebration on SUNDAY, July 4 beginning at 12:30 PM. The get-together will allow us to celebrate Canada Day, US Independence Day, and, in general, the ability for those of us who have received our second jab, the emotional, if not physical release from the hold the virus has had on us for the past fifteen months. The get-together will consist of a potluck and be accompanied by entertainment provided by our various musical groups. We request a donation of 1k CRC/person to cover set-up, service, and clean-up, and it will be BYOB. The event is open to any and all. RSVP NLT June 30 2021 at <https://vientosbajos.com/contact-us>

b. Naturally Costa Rica, Star Legend, Windstar Cruise Line: 22-29 JAN, 2022, Puerto Caldera to Puerto Caldera



Windstar Legend: Star of the movie *Speed 2: Cruise Control*

Need a break? We've been working with *Windstar Cruise Line* to put together a cruise package for those of you who want to try something a little different. Several things drew us to this line and this cruise. First of all, it departs and returns to Puerto Caldera, only an hour's drive from San Ramón—no expensive, long flights to get to or from the port. Second, this is a great cruise line offering first-class service. Caryl and I cruised with them in JAN 2020 and were impressed with their small ship experience. Third, it stops at a different port each day, giving us an opportunity to walk around and explore. And lastly, it's an opportunity to share some time with people you know and like—and also to meet and enjoy people from outside the area. We're working through Tye Rogerson, an employee and direct representative of Windstar: tye.rogerson@windstarcruises.com In order to get the best deal, please mention *Vientos Bajos*. You can get more detail on the ship and the cruise on the Windstar web site, <https://windstarcruises.com>

Overview: Visit Nicaragua's San Juan del Sur, then relax on one of Corinto's white-sand beaches and swim in the inviting clear blue water. Enjoy breathtaking views in Playas del Coco, then visit Quepos for rainforest adventures in Manuel Antonio National Park. From Quepos, head to UNESCO site, Bahia Drake, and stop at Bahia Herradura before returning to Puerto Caldera. This cruise highlights history, flora and fauna by local naturalists, and has a naturalist aboard who provides lectures.

c. Terrarium Workshop: Tuesday, 15th June, 1PM.

Please contact Laraine Altun at larainea@gmail.com plus you sign up here at <https://forms.gle/C8VyALsgFRTppwLPA>



Includes:

- 1 session of 2:30 hours where you will experience the affective mini-gardening and we will create your first terrarium together.
- A kit with materials and tools to create your own closed mini-garden
- An Ebook where you will learn about these microecosystems, including recommendations and caretips of your new closed garden.

June 15th, 1pm

Vientos Bajos at Jardín la Torre, El Empalme

\$50 dolars
₡30.000 colones

Follow the link to sign up

<https://forms.gle/C8VyALsgFRTppwLPA>

+Info: +506 8662 0197

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[Apologies for spelling errors as we're unable to edit the original flyer ourselves which was created by the runners of the Workshop and added into this month's Codger last-minute.]

2. Activities: Here's what's happening at Vientos Bajos now

- Pickleball:** We continue to offer space for two pickleball groups. The first is a private group, limited as long as the coronavirus remains a major issue. The second group is open. All levels of players are welcome in this group. Because of the popularity of the game, we have instigated the use of SignUp Genius. If you're interested, please contact us to get on the SignUp Genius list.
- Golf Simulator:** Our golf simulator remains popular. Rick Reimer, our resident golf pro, has played all fifteen courses and will walk you through the use of the simulator. Play requires knowledge of the system, and Rick will be happy to set you up and accompany your initial play. Please contact Rick ricker49@gmail.com to schedule a time if you want to try it out or join the league, now forming. Regular use is for golf club members only.
- Poker:** Penny-ante poker is now a moving target because of license plate restrictions. Depending on the restrictions, play can be either Friday or Saturday, so check with us. If you want to get in on a big game, this isn't the place. The bets are small, but the fun is big. Play begins at 12:30 PM and goes to 3:30 PM, but feel free to come late or leave early. Please join our WhatsApp group to ensure you're included for the "big" game.

- d. Contract Bridge:** Tuesdays, 1:30 PM. Also known as party bridge, this is for those who want to spend a couple of hours together playing a little less competitive form of bridge than duplicate bridge. Most of us are pretty rusty on our skills, and play is more social than competitive. Please contact us beforehand if you want to play. We'd like to form groups in tables of four and would hate to have you come without having enough to complete a table.
- e. Music Groups.** All practice groups continue in session. Since we're now in practice for a July show, we're not open to new players unless you know your way around your instrument. We provide sheet music for all groups.
- i. Ukulele Band, 10:30 AM, WED.** Because of driving restrictions, we canceled rehearsals in May. However, in June, we'll pick up where we left off, preparing for the July 4 presentation. This is a fun beginning music group, and although we're now closed to enrollment until after the July performance, please check in with us if you're interested in learning to play the ukulele and enjoy singalong with the rest of us Bremen Town musicians.
- ii. Recorder Ensemble, 1 PM, WED.** This group is for those who read music and have been exposed to the recorder. We currently have openings for all four parts—soprano, alto, tenor, and bass. We can provide a soprano recorder, but if you want to play an alto, tenor, or bass, you'll need to provide your own instrument.
- iii. Bluegrass Pick-up Band, 2 PM, WED.** This could also be considered a Blue Grass jam. We're currently blessed to have Terry Handler for a cello fiddle lead, along with a mandolin, guitar, and bass. Although we're focusing on the July program, if you play, you're welcome to join us. Advance notice is appreciated since we're playing from sheet music and we'll need to make copies for you.
- iv. Low Brass, 3 PM, WED.** Trombones, baritones/euphoniums, and tubas. All musicians in the group can read music. Our sheet music is generally level 1.5 to 3.0. As with all the other groups, we're currently closed to new players unless you've played with us before or can sight read easily. If you fit that category, you're more than welcome—but please let us know ahead of time so we can copy music for you.
- f. Exercise Group (NEW) (now forming).** With the completion of the activities room, and the arrival of the Covid vaccine, we now have the ability to offer organized exercise classes via DVDs in our collection. These classes could be offered in the morning once or twice weekly. Based on participant interest, classes could be stretching, Pilates, or general low-level work-out. There will no charge for the class(es), but monthly activities center membership of 10k CRC will be required. Drop us a line at <https://vientosbajos.com/contact-us> to discuss.
- g. Other.** The gym and library remain available for members.

3. Jardin La Torre Construction/Changes

- a. **New Apartments, Vientos Bajos (all rented).** The three last apartments should be completed by the following dates: Bromelia: 15 June, Heliconia: 30 June, Bugarvilla: 31 July.



Bromelia—Two bedrooms, one bathroom



Heliconia—Two bedrooms, one bathroom

- b. **Final Apartment, Bugarvilla.** As we move into the rainy season, our primary goal is to seal the remaining apartment against the incoming rain. By the end of this month, we hope to have Bugarvilla totally enclosed.



Bugarvilla—two bedrooms, one bathroom

- c. **Vista Alta Subdivision (all for sale).** Great progress continues in our new subdivision, Vista Alta. We have finished placing sod, and also have added gravel to the drives. We have begun planting small gardens on the lots.



d. Residence Availability: Vientos Bajos. Amapola. Two bedrooms, two bathrooms, secure, covered parking. Furnished or unfurnished (\$1100/month), Vientos Bajos.



e. Jardin La Torre: Mariposa

Two-bedroom, three-bathroom home with lock-out/mother-in-law apartment, two-car parking. Furnished or unfurnished, \$1,200/month; \$169,000 sale price.

