



Vientos Bajos Codger

Activities in and around San Ramon



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Upcoming Activities

Daily

Walking Club

Tu, Th, Sa, Su

Pickleball (Regular Play)

WED, 10 AM

Ukulele Band Practice

WED, Afternoons

Low Brass Practice

WED Afternoons

Recorder Ensemble Practice

Court Sports On Call

Basket, Volley, Ping Pong, etc.

MAR 1 and following Sundays

Sunday Movie Matinee & Games

MAR 8, 1 PM

Little Theatre Group

MAR 14

Tour of Finca Fernandez

New! Sunday Afternoons at Vientos Bajos—Games and Movie Matinee. 1:30 PM.

As of this Sunday, MAR 1, Vientos Bajos will present Sunday movie matinees and games. Mae Worth, Ron Calhoon, and Rick Reimer have been working diligently to bring you a way to fill your Sunday afternoons.

Beginning at 1:30 PM, Ron Calhoon and Rick Reimer will have games set up on the lower levels of VB. Initially, games will include “Corn-Hole” and ping pong. Based on attendees’ desires, more games will be added for later dates. Beginning at 2 PM, full-length movies on Sunday afternoons. These will be shown on our 10’ x 16’ screen on the third floor of the center. No reservations necessary. However, VB is not providing food or drink, so it’s BYOF and BYOB. Entertainment is free to VB members. We are asking for a 2k colones donation for non-members.

RSVP is not necessary, but PLEASE consider carpooling. On MAR 8, VB will host LTG (see article below), but will continue the series following the LTG show.

Schedule:

1 MAR: *The Good Liar*, a 2019 American crime thriller film directed and produced by Bill Condon and written by Jeffrey Hatcher, based on the novel of the same name by Nicholas Searle. It stars Ian McKellen as a career con artist who meets a wealthy widow (Helen Mirren) online, and then discovers that his plan to steal her fortune has unexpected roadblocks.

8 MAR: Little Theatre Group, ***Some Little Things***. 1 PM. (See below)

15 MAR: *Just Mercy*--a 2019 American legal drama film directed by Destin Daniel Cretton, and starring Michael B. Jordan, Jamie Foxx, Rob Morgan, Tim Blake Nelson, Rafe Spall, and Brie Larson. It tells the true story of Walter McMillian, who, with the help of young defense attorney Bryan Stevenson, appeals his murder conviction. The film is based on the memoir of the same name, written by Stevenson.

22 MAR: *Once Upon a Time in Hollywood*--is a 2019 comedy-drama film written and directed by Quentin Tarantino. It features a large ensemble cast led by Leonardo DiCaprio, Brad Pitt, and Margot Robbie. Set in 1969 Los Angeles, the film follows an actor and his stunt double, as they navigate the changing film industry, and features "multiple storylines in a modern fairy tale tribute to the final moments of Hollywood's golden age."

29 MAR: *The Last Full Measure* is a 2019 American war drama film written and directed by Todd Robinson and distributed by Roadside Attractions. This story follows William H. Pitsenbarger, a United States Air Force para-rescue man who flew in helicopter rescue missions during the Vietnam War to aid downed soldiers and pilots, and the 34-year quest by many veterans to see him receive the Medal of Honor. The film stars Sebastian Stan, Christopher Plummer, William Hurt, Ed Harris, Samuel L. Jackson, Jeremy Irvine and Peter Fonda, in his final, posthumous film role.

Directions: [Vientos Bajos Activities Center](#)

MAR 8, LTG, *Some Little Things!*

On SUN, MAR 8, 1 PM, Little Theatre Group (LTG) is bringing a series of five short, one-act plays to VB:

CarMa by Barbara Alfaro. It is never too late to heal old wounds especially between mothers and daughters!

Cold Calling by Michael Frayn. Telemarketing has some really negative consequences!

Finishing Touches by Michael Frayn. Knowing each other so well you can finish each other's sentences may not be the best relationship model!

The Sirius Interview by Barbara Alfaro. Issues of discrimination and capitalization affect celebrities no matter who or what they are!

Tru Story by Barbara Alfaro. A cynic and an optimist went into a park....

The show begins at 1 PM in order to the LTG cast to miss the heavy traffic to San Jose on SUN afternoon. We'll intersperse with a

couple of interludes presented by singing duo Ben and Susan Knab and a skit by the Madcap Players. Recommended donation is 5k colones to cover LTG's costs. Light snacks served at intermission.

Finca Fernandez Tour, SAT, MAR 14.

The Vientos Bajos Activities Center San Ramon Costa Rica Expat Explorers Club is pleased to offer, on Saturday, March 14, a tour of Finca Edgar Fernandez, owned and operated by a family of 4 (Mom, Dad, Son and Daughter). The family farm is about 14 acres where they grow vegetables, coffee, tilapia and a variety of farm animals. The tour is led by the daughter, Viviana, who speaks excellent English and is a gem. Everyone we have talked to who has taken this tour absolutely loved it.

You will not need sun tan lotion as the farm is almost completely shaded by trees.

You will see how they produce methane gas for their cooking needs, what they do with their gray water, roasting of coffee beans and much more. Lunch is prepared by Mom and they can accommodate dietary restrictions. If you have dietary restrictions, please let us know beforehand so we can request a special meal for you. The family was flown to Switzerland to receive an award from the Nespresso coffee company for their conservation efforts and was featured in Cornell University's Bird magazine. The tour starts at 10 A.M. and concludes at 2 P.M. The farm is located in Piedades Sur, San Ramon, and is 21 km from Vientos Bajos which is a 45-minute ride. The bus will leave from Viento Bajos Activity Center at 8:45 A.M. (Jardin la Torre on Google maps) and stops across the street from the social security building (next to El Establo de Mario Steak House).

There is ample parking on that street and the street that runs parallel to it. We will leave from that location at 9 A.M. The bus can handle 26 people and the cost of 60 mil colones to be split among the passengers. The cost of tour and lunch is \$15. Ron Calhoon will accompany the bus passengers, but since he has already done this tour, on arrival, he will be picked up at Finca Edgar Fernandez and be taken to nearby Finca Libertad Pura for a horseback riding tour. They also have walking tours and anyone is free to join us on that tour. If you

want to reserve your spot for either tour, send an email to roncalhoon@comcast.net

Walking Club - Daily.

We now have 30 on our daily contact list for walkers. The most walkers who have shown up for a given walk have numbered 12. There's room for you—and your dog if you have one! We generally meet at the chosen place to begin the walk at 7 AM and finish the walk within an hour. On a scale of 1-5, 5 being high, the walks generally are



between 2.5 and 3.5. We walk seven days a week. Walk at your own pace. Some of the walks are loops, many are 25 to 30-minute walks with a turn-around. We currently have about 25 people on the Walking Club email list. Please contact jsummers721@gmail.com to be added to the email list.

Ukulele Band Classes/Practices (weekly).

We now have eight members in our ukulele band. Skill levels are from a high of those who have played string instruments for over 60 years and read music, to people who have never played a string instrument and do NOT read music. If you have the desire to learn and are willing to practice, we would be thrilled to have you join us. And it's MUCH easier if there is a group of students instead of your trying to learn it on your own.

Classes meet at 10 AM on Wednesdays at Vientos Bajos. There is no cost, and there is no obligation to buy an instrument, although if you

have one, please bring it. Practice and play books are provided, and although we plan to play a part in the March Variety Show, there is no individual requirement to do so.

This is for fun, sociability, to learn or re-learn something new, and to feel as though you're actually accomplishing something here! Interested? Email John Buford at vientosbajos@gmail.com He'll put together the classes and keep you informed of how things are shaping up.

Low Brass Group.

Our low brass group was formed in 2011 and we have been practicing and playing ever since. In the past three months, two more players have joined us. If you have played a brass instrument—trumpet, Flugelhorn, mellophone, baritone/euphonium, trombone, or tuba and are interested in trying it again, have we got a deal for you! The music is level 1.5 to 2.5—pretty easy. If you haven't played since high school, not to worry. Several of our players fit that description and haven't had much problem picking it up again. Practices are held at Vientos Bajos on Wednesday afternoons. If you're interested, please contact John Buford at vientosbajos@gmail.com to get music and even coordinate an instrument!

Recorder Group.

Do you read music? Are you looking for a hobby or an extra pass-time? We're always looking for new blood. Our recorder ensemble began in 2012 and, as expected in an expat community, we've had changes of people over the years. The recorder is easy to learn—that's why all fourth-graders get one put into their hands!

We have extra recorders available for anyone wanting to learn any of the parts—soprano, alto, tenor, or bass. Our level of play is easy intermediate and we try to rehearse weekly, with performances two or three times a year, especially for the Christmas madrigal dinner.

The bottom line is that this is a social activity that doesn't require a Ph.D.—only the willingness to practice a little at home or with the group. Yes, it IS much easier than learning Spanish! Practices are held at Vientos Bajos on Wednesday afternoons. Please contact us at vientosbajos@gmail.com if you're interested or have any questions.