

# Vientos Bajos Codger

## Activities in and around San Ramon

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### Upcoming Activities and Events

**Daily:** Walking Club, 7 AM, Vientos Bajos

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

#### Activities:

- Contract Bridge (1:30 PM, TUES) (**Join WhatsApp List**)
- Beginning/Advanced Contract Bridge Class (1:30 PM, THURS)
- **Movie Matinees 1:30 PM, MO, WE, FR (Pending!)**
- Ukulele practice (10:00 AM, WED)
- Recorder Ensemble practice (1 PM, WED)
- Low Brass practice (2:30 PM, WED)
- Poker 1 PM SAT (**Join WhatsApp List**)
- Gym open (7 AM-4 PM, DAILY)
- Golf Simulator (**Reservations required. Join WhatsApp List**)
- Pickleball: (**Per reservations. Join WhatsApp List**)

#### Events:

- Christmas Show, DEC 11 and DEC 12, 2021
- Cruise Costa Rica, JAN 22-29, 2022 **CANCELLED!**

### Vientos Bajos Social Calendar Update

- Recently, we made a quick trip to the States with the goal of buying and returning with an upgraded sound system for the activities center. This will be used for our cinema matinees as well as other events and activities.
- As we enter October, we continue rehearsals for our Christmas show, dates now set for Saturday, December 11 and Sunday, December 12.

### Current Events

1. **Christmas Show, 11 and 12 December, 2021!** Until September 15, all musical groups are open to newbies and first-time participants for a limited time. Again, this year, we are combining the two events, opening with our twelfth consecutive *TubaChristmas* and immediately following with our tenth annual madrigal dinner. See below for the various musical groups we're forming to see if there's one or more in which you'd like to participate. If you're interested, please let us know!

2. Naturally Costa Rica, Star Legend, Windstar Cruise Line, 22-29 JAN, Puerto Caldera to Puerto Caldera—**CANCELLED!**



### Windstar Legend

Several days ago, we received word from Windstar that, due to the Covid virus and its effect on the cruise industry, the line has changed itineraries for many of its ships. This includes the Windstar Legend, which is being moved earlier to the Caribbean and will not be making the Caldera to Caldera cruise. If you have booked to go on this and have not received notice from Windstar, please get in touch with Tye Rogerson: [tye.rogerson@windstarcruises.com](mailto:tye.rogerson@windstarcruises.com) an employee and direct representative of Windstar.

### Regular Activities: Here's what's happening at Vientos Bajos now

1. **Beginner and Advanced Contract Bridge Classes:** Thursdays, 1:30 PM.
  - a. **Beginner Bridge.** We began classes several weeks ago, but still have openings for those wanting to learn the basics of contract bridge. This class is for those who may or may not have card-playing experience but have not played bridge before. There is no cost, but please contact us if you're interested so we can set up the correct number of tables.
  - b. **Advanced Contract Bridge Classes:** Thursdays, 1:30 PM. For those who are rusty on bridge (some of us haven't played for 30 or 40 years), but at one time knew the rudimentary skills, we're offering the opportunity to sand off some of the rust. We do NOT promise to make you another Charles Goren, but we hope to elevate you to the point of remembering point count and suit hierarchy. From time to time, and depending on the number who show up for beginning bridge, same time and same place, we may integrate you into a newbie table to serve as a mentor, or at least a bridge angel.
2. **Continuing 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. 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.
3. **Pickleball:** Since most expats have received their second job and more continue to retire to the San Ramón area, we find more people wanting to join our pickleball groups. We now offer the opportunity to sign up via SignUp Genius. All sign-ups limit play to two hours per sign-up time, and up to six players per sign-up time. All levels of players are welcome to sign up. There are three sign-up times daily: 8 AM–10 AM; 10:30 AM–12:30 PM; 1:30–3:30 PM. If you're interested, please contact us to get on the SignUp Genius list.

4. **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. We have clubs available for all except men's LH. Al Sargent has allowed us to use his set of women's LH, so if you're a left-handed man willing to play with a club that's shorter by 1", you're welcome to use these. Play requires knowledge of the system, and Rick will be happy to set you up and accompany your initial play. Please contact Rick, rickreimer49@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.
5. **Poker:** The time slot for "Penny-ante" poker has now been stabilized at 1 PM on Saturdays and goes until 4 PM, but feel free to come late or leave early. If you want to get in on a big game, this isn't the place. The bets are small, but the fun is big. Please get on our WhatsApp list to ensure you're included for the "big" game.
6. **Music groups.** Our music groups are now in rehearsal for the 2021 Christmas show. We provide sheet music for all groups, and instruments for many. All groups remain open to those currently attending, those who have played in our groups before, or those who have a music skill level of 2 or better.
  - a. **Ukulele Band, 10:00 AM, WED.** This is a fun beginning music group. Please check in with us if you play the ukulele or guitar and enjoy singing along with the rest of us Bremen Town musicians. For the Christmas show, we are playing five sing-along numbers. We can provide a ukulele if you need an instrument. **If have a basic knowledge of ukulele or guitar chords, you're qualified for this group.**
  - b. **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.
  - c. **B flat instruments, TubaChristmas, 2 PM, WED (Open to those with some experience).** Trumpets, Clarinets, Oboes, Trombones, Baritones/Euphoniums, and Tubas. All musicians in the group should be able to read music and have experience with their instrument. Our sheet music is generally level 1.5 to 3.0 and we have sheet music for both bass and treble clef. We have an extra trumpet and baritone for your use. If you need a different instrument, please let us know and we'll see what we can do.
  - d. **Mixed Chorus.** If you have sung with our madrigal group in the past, this is for you. The numbers we will be singing will be unison or two-part, and all will be beginning-easy level. We have also sung them for the past ten years, so the songs will be familiar. If you're interested, PLEASE contact us so we can start a roster. Because these numbers are easy, rehearsals will begin in early November.
7. **Movie Matinee (New):** By mid-October, we plan to be ready to offer movie matinees. Watch our Facebook page for the announcement! We plan to set up to offer matinee movies on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays in our activities room. If you are interested, please let us know. We would like to set up a small committee to select movies and take responsibility for set-up and break-down.
8. **Other:** The gym and library remain available for members.

On a very sad note...



*Judy Tapp Kerr*

*Rest in Peace*

*SEPT 3 - 1953 | SEPT 30 - 2021*

On September 30, we lost a very dear friend and a big part of the San Ramón community, Judy Kerr. Judy was one of the brightest stars of the community—always ready with a smile, a quick wit, a kind comment, and to help where needed. She was either leading or involved in many of the expat organizations and activities throughout the area. Anyone who knew her, knew her as a friend and a help mate. She will be sorely missed and we all grieve with her wonderful husband, Alan.