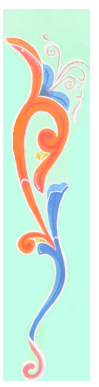




Vientos Bajos Codger

Activities in and around San Ramon



Volume 1, Number3

April, 2019

Published by Vientos Bajos, S.A. Editor: John Buford Phone (506) 865306828 email: vientosbajos@gmail.com

Upcoming Activities and Events

Daily: Walking Club, 7 AM, Vientos Bajos

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

Activities:

- Contract/Party Bridge (1:30 PM, TUES) (Join WhatsApp List)
- **Beginning/Advanced Contract Bridge Class (1:30 PM, TH) (NEW!)**
- **Movie Matinees, (1:30 PM, MO, WE, FR) (NEW!)**
- 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

1. Vientos Bajos Social Calendar Update

- Recently, we began Beginning Contract Bridge classes. Due to a high interest level, we are adding Advanced Bridge classes. Read more below.
- As we enter September, we buckle down on rehearsals for our Christmas show, dates now set for Saturday, December 11 and Sunday, December 12.

2. Current Events

- Christmas Show, 11 and 12 December, 2021! (NEW—firm dates):** 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 follow 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!

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



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

Yes, it's still on the books and there is still room for anyone wanting to join us. As a reminder, the cruise ship 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. 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. It stops at a different port each day, giving all an opportunity to walk around and explore. We're working through Tye Rogerson, tye.rogerson@windstarcruises.com an employee and direct representative of Windstar. 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 website, <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.

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

- a. **Beginner and Advanced Contract Bridge Classes (NEW):** Thursdays, 1:30 PM.
 - i. **Beginner Bridge.** We currently 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.
 - ii. **Advanced Contract Bridge Classes (NEW):** 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.

- b. **Continuing Contact 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.
- c. **Pickleball (NEW INFORMATION):** As more expats receive their second job and more retire to the San Ramon area, we find more people wanting to join our pickleball groups. As of the first part of September, we plan to offer the opportunity to sign up via SignUp Genius and plan to limit play to two hours per sign-up time, and six players per sign-up time. This will allow more players and more play. All levels of players are welcome to sign up, but we plan to have a category stating play level so you'll have an idea of what to expect of the group. If you're interested, please contact us to get on the SignUp Genius list.
- d. **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. We DO have women's LH, so if you're 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.
- e. **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.

4. **NOW FORMING: Music Groups for Christmas Show!**

- a. **Music groups.** We have restarted our music groups, now in rehearsal for the 2021 Christmas show. We provide sheet music for all groups, and instruments for many. All groups will remain open until 15 September.
 - i. **Ukulele Band, 10:00 AM, WED (open to beginners).** This is a fun beginning music group. 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. For the Christmas show, we are playing five sing-along numbers. We can provide a ukulele if you need an instrument. If you've ever strummed a uke or guitar, you're qualified for this group—and if you haven't but want to learn, we'll be happy to show you how!
 - ii. **Recorder Ensemble, 1 PM, WED (open to beginners).** 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. **B flat instruments, TubaChristmas, 2 PM, WED (open to those with some experience).** Trumpets, Clarinets, 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. 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.

iv. **Mixed Chorus (T.B.A.).** If you sing or want to sing, this is for you. The numbers we will be singing will be unison or two-part, and all will be beginning-easy level. If you're interested, PLEASE contact us so we can start a roster. Because these numbers are easy, rehearsals will begin in early November.

b. **Movie Matinee (NEW):** We are now 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.

c. **Other:** The gym and library remain available for members.

5. Continued Progress on Vista Alta

August saw the completion of electric meter installation for the subdivision.



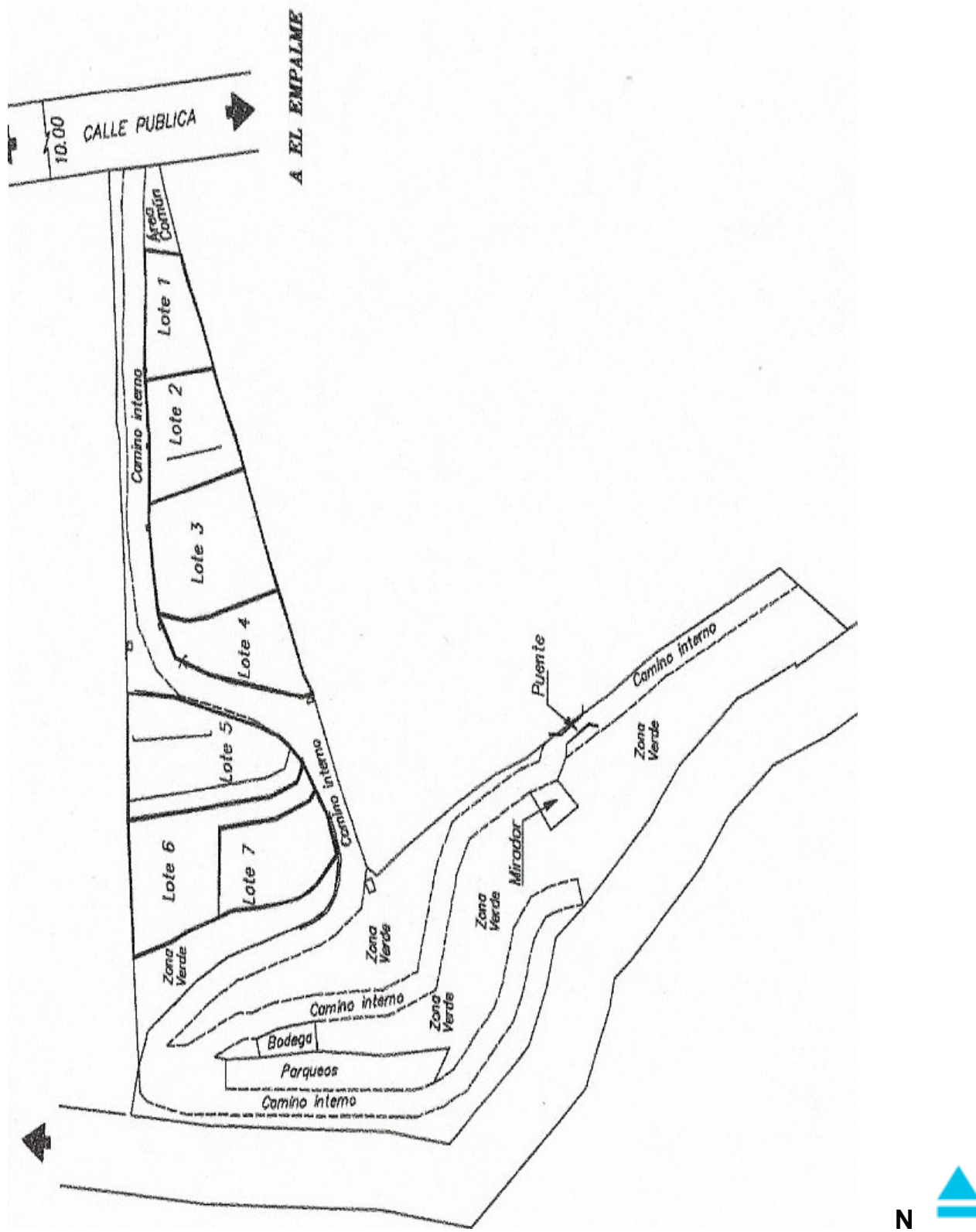
Common Meter plus seven lots



View as of 1 September, 2021

6. Residential Lot Availability

Vista Alta Subdivision



Lots in our new subdivision, Vista Alta, are now available, beginning at \$50,000. They range in size from 182 meters square (Lot 1) to 445 meters square (Lot 5). All have expansive fifty-mile views or better of the Pacific coastline and Gulf of Nicoya. Plats available on request.

7. Residence Availability

a. Jardin La Torre: Mariposa



Two-bed, three-bath home with lock-out/mother-in-law apartment, two-car parking. Furnished. Six-month or longer rental; water, electric, gas, trash pick-up included; \$1,100/month. \$169,000 sale price.

b. Jardin La Torre: Tucán



Two-bed, two-bath home with lock-out/mother-in-law apartment, one-car parking. Furnished. Six-month or longer lease; water, electric, gas, trash pick-up included \$950/month.

8. Vientos Bajos Apartments: Currently no availability