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Guatemala's English-language Magazine
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September 2014
Year 23, No. 7



The Butterfly Watchers
Photo Contest: Architecture
The Flag(s) of Guatemala



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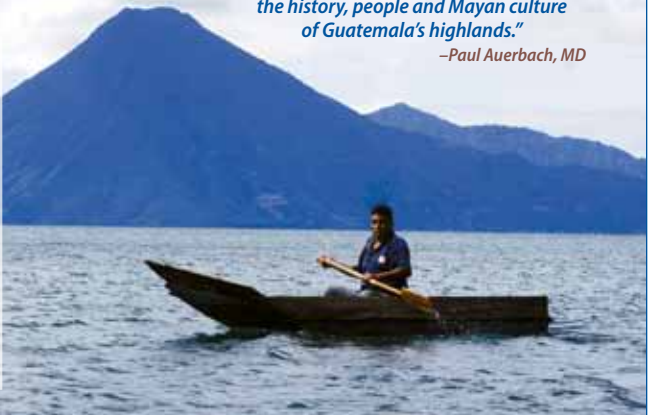
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IF YOU LOVE RIDING HORSES...

I had an amazing, not to be missed, ride out on **Alfred**, one of the fit and well-schooled horses at **Ravenscroft Stables in San Juan del Obispo.**

Stable owners Fred and Paula Hayward bring quite a contrast to the Guatemalan experience. After a ride out through the plantations surrounding Antigua and beyond, you'll be treated with a nice cup of hot English tea.

This thank you is for YOU! *Michael Subklew*



(PHOTOS: JOHN KIN)



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Architecture in Guatemala

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as well as locations in El Salvador and Honduras.

*In fond memory of Jeremías de Jesús López and Nicolas Rikkan.
They will be missed by family, friends and the community.*

Rainy days are wonderful for crops, trees and gardens—this month's cover demonstrates that rainy days can be full of fun for humans, too. Honoring Independence Day, Elizabeth Bell gives us the backstory on the evolution of the *Guatemalan Flag(s)*. Thor Janson offers *Butterfly Watchers*, along with some amazing photographs of these beautiful creatures. Linda Conard sat down with Oscar-nominated *Carlos Argüello* to learn more about his latest project, Fundación C.A. and its three-year program to train 900 young designers in Central America. Francisco Sandoval calls attention to San Juan La Laguna's newest attraction, murals in *Homage to 13 Baktun*. And, congratulations to San Juan La Laguna resident Annytha Julissa Pérez Cholotio, the new *Rabin Ajau* (2014-2015), see page 94.

Sri and Kira ask us, *What are you building today?* while Akaisha Kaderli explains *How I pack my family with me*.

Dr. Nicholas Hellmuth features *Pataxte Pods* while Ken Veronda brings us the *Sensuous* side of *Freesia*. The *Tax Corner* posts some good advice for U.S. citizens, October is the deadline for filing taxes with the IRS.

If you are not hungry right now, you will be after reading *Churrasco!* by Amalia Moreno-Damgaard and Shannon McCullough's overview of Restaurant Las Velas and the delicious offerings on its new menu. *Guatemalan Architecture* is the theme for this month's photo contest. There were so many fabulous entries, you can see and enjoy them all by visiting www.revuemag.com.

Thank you for picking up your copy of the Revue, either in print or downloading it online. More rain in September, pick up your umbrella and dance!

—John & Terry Kovick Biskovich



ON THE COVER

Rainy Day Uproot
by Tamia Hurtado
& Aimee Hansen

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ABBASI announces its newly opened showroom at Deco City

At its new showroom in Deco City, Abbasi invites you to take a trip through the Old World of hand-woven tapestries and discover the culture of the Far East.

Each piece is unique; you will marvel at hundreds of authentic Persian rugs, most of which are antiques and all of which are directly imported from Iran, the source of the finest and most desired carpets of the Middle East.

Learn about the textures of a carpet's nap and contemplate the contrasting colors and geometric patterns, as well as the one-of-a-kind irregularities of tribal rugs with their strong ethnic identity.

Admire floral rugs – known as “royal court” carpets – and the magnificent palettes. You can do all of this in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere, where you'll find answers to all your questions: What distinguishes a genuine rug from a fake? What price points are there? Which regions, techniques or colors are the most valuable and sought after? And am I making a good investment if I buy a Persian rug?

The Abbasi showroom also features a collection of furniture and ancient works of art from India: authentic doors, chairs, benches, tables and chests, where the patina of time further enhances the quality and hardness of the teak (a water- and termite-resistant wood) which highlights the extraordinary handwork of craftsmen of the past.

Take time to discover and fall in love with a unique carpet or fine piece of woodworking that will harmonize perfectly in your home and give it your own unique and personal touch.

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The Flag(s) of Guatemala

Guatemala's current flag has flown over the skies of Guatemala since Aug. 17, 1871, although independence from Spain was signed on Sept. 15, 1821.

Colonial banners and flags were quite popular before independence and usually incorporated a red and yellow color combination similar to the Spanish flag. In 1822, the Mexi-

can flag flew in Guatemala during the brief annexation to Mexico.

But the first flag was that of the United Provinces of Central America (1823-39). With two horizontal blue borders and white in the middle, the flag said Dios, Unión, Libertad in the upper part and B.N. at the bottom. From 1825 until 1843, Guatemala flew the Federación del Centro

flag. Guatemala's third flag flourished between 1843 and 1851. All three flags had two horizontal borders with white in the middle. The fourth flag, in 1851, added red and yellow, influenced from Spain, reflecting the Conservator party, which favored its Spanish heritage. So, between 1858 and 1871, the flag had seven horizontal bars of sky blue, white, red and yellow.

The final color configuration has two sky-blue stripes with a white strip in the center: sky blue represents the Pacific Ocean and Caribbean on each side of the country and the sky above, and the white represents purity and peace and the nation.

“Colonial banners and flags were quite popular before independence.”



Attention flag
AGE 7



1825-1838 (WITHIN CENTRAL AMERICA)



1838-1843


“... It is a great sense of pride for a country that has gone through very difficult times since its independence...”



In the center of the flag are the Guatemalan coat of arms with the quetzal, the national bird of Guatemala, as a symbol of liberty, and a parchment scroll bearing the date of Central America’s independence from Spain, 15 September 1821. Guatemala included the area between southern Mexico to Costa Rica in colonial times. The crossed rifles indicate Guatemala’s willingness to defend itself if need be, and the bay laurel crown is the symbol for victory. The crossed swords represent honor and the wreath of olive branches symbolizes victory. The coat of arms

was designed by a Swiss-born Jean-Baptiste Frener, who lived in Guatemala from 1854 to 1897.

While Aug. 17 is the official Flag Day, Guatemalans love to fly the national flag in September. Blue and white banners are seen just about everywhere and smaller plastic versions are hooked onto car windows.

Flags appear in all of the running marathons during the Independence Day weekend (Sept. 15). It is a great sense of pride for a country that has gone through very difficult times since its independence and there is a new sense of dedication in putting a country on its feet that re-appears every September. 



1851-1858



1858-1871



1843-1851



1851-1858 (STATE FLAG)



1858-1871 (STATE FLAG)



Roads to Adventure

text/photos by
Capt. Thor Janson
NAVIGATOR / EXPLORER
FACEBOOK.COM/NUBLISELVA

The Butterfly Watchers

Bird watching is big business. It's been reported that there are more than 20 million aficionados who are serious about watching these feathered friends in their natural habitat. Birds are often very beautiful and as a group they display a great diversity of color, shapes and behavior.

But there is another group of winged creatures, equally diverse and beautiful, that deserve more attention. I am referring to butterflies and their homologous nocturnal

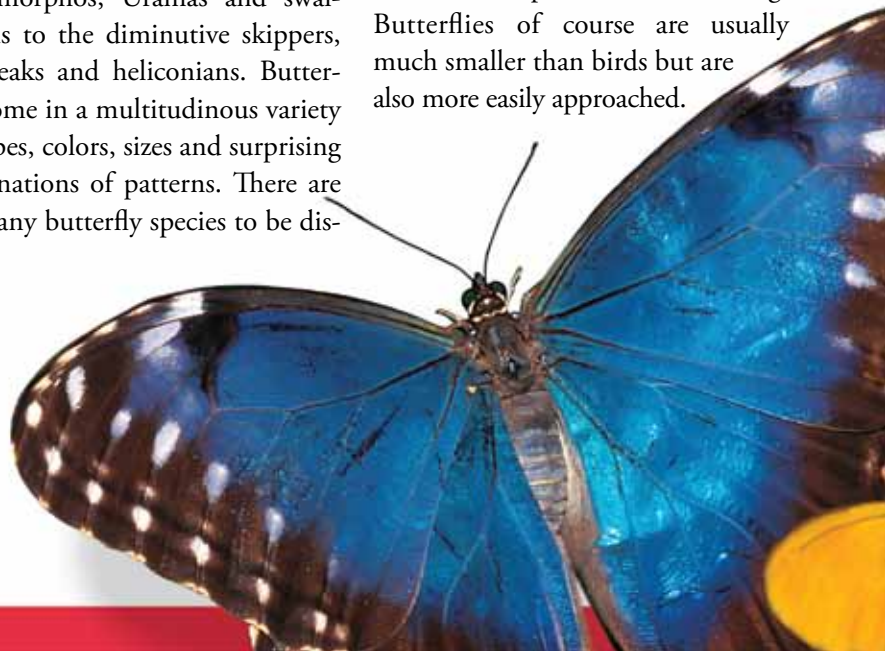
allies, the moths. The diversity of butterflies in Guatemala rivals that of birds. There are more than 600 species, ranging from hummingbird-sized morphos, Uranias and swallowtails to the diminutive skippers, hairstreaks and heliconians. Butterflies come in a multitudinous variety of shapes, colors, sizes and surprising combinations of patterns. There are still many butterfly species to be dis-

covered in remote, mountain valley microclimatic zones and in extant swamps and jungles.

I was thinking about how I might help to promote butterfly watching as a hobby in Guatemala, and I happened to bump into one of our foremost bird tourism guides, Josué de León, who is based at Los Tarrales Reserve in the pristine forest on the upper slope of volcán Atitlán. He was already busy compiling a catalogue of local butterfly species.

Butterfly watching is much the same sort of sport as bird watching. Butterflies of course are usually much smaller than birds but are also more easily approached.

For guided butterfly- or bird-watching adventures, contact Josué de León / Los Tarrales Reserve, tel: 5919-8882. Also inquire about guided school groups with the hope that the experience will instill in students a love of nature.





Josué de León with Elda Lili



So with binoculars or a spotting scope you can get excellent views of these creatures.

Butterflies (and moths) have the added fascinating characteristic that they begin their lives as caterpillars and then, in a near miraculous transformation, seal themselves up for a time in a pod-like chrysalis to undergo metamorphosis and sometime later emerge, reborn so to speak, as butterflies.

Children especially are utterly fascinated by this process, and it is something that they can see and experi-

ence with relative ease at one of the region's butterfly houses, such as the **Atitlán Butterfly Sanctuary** in Panajachel.

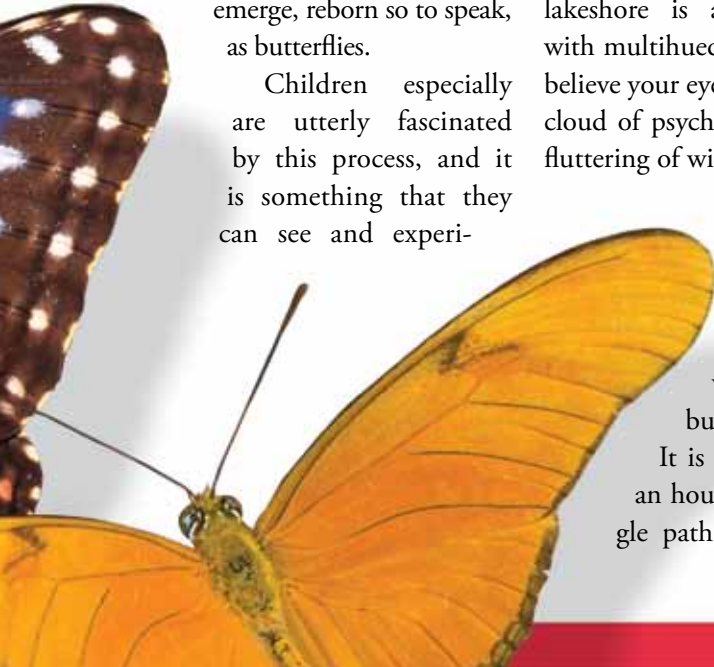
One of the best places I have found in all Guatemala to view the Lepidoptera is at the **Lachua Lagoon National Park** in northern Alta Verapáz department. There are times when the area adjacent to the lakeshore is absolutely brimming with multihued butterflies; you can't believe your eyes at the kaleidoscopic cloud of psychedelic, polychromatic fluttering of wings surrounding you.

Lachua Lagoon is also a great place to camp for a few days.

The authorities had the wisdom to prevent a road being built to access the shore.

It is necessary to walk for an hour or so along the jungle path to the campground

...continued page 84





PROFILE by Linda Conard

Carlos Argüello:

Visualizing a Digital Future for Latin America

Carlos Argüello—the Oscar-nominated mastermind behind unforgettable visual effects in Hollywood blockbusters like "The Chronicles of Narnia," "Batman and Robin," "The Devil's Advocate," "The Mummy" and "Armageddon," and groundbreaking music videos for artists like Michael Jackson and David Byrne—has created never-imagined new worlds on the silver screen. Now he's using that same digital technology to explode pre-conceptions of Latin American

youth and create new futures in Guatemala and beyond.

Argüello's latest production isn't a film or a video—it's a breakthrough foundation that trains designers aged 18-24 in digital animation techniques, and attracts visual imaging jobs to the region as "insertion" points, where these designers can practice their skills and build rewarding careers. This year, Fundación C.A. will embark on a three-year program to train 900 young designers in Guatemala, El Salvador and Costa Rica.

Although Argüello is now known as both a creative and social vision-

ary, his "vision" once led teachers to tell his mother, "Carlos is not college material." He struggled with undiagnosed acute dyslexia as a child in Guatemala. "Drawing was the only thing I liked," he says. At age 17, he realized he would have virtually no opportunities. Although he spoke little English, headed north to California to live with his aunt.

In San Francisco, Argüello went from "not college material" to studying at the Academy of Art University while waiting tables to pay tuition. "The cool thing about that art school was that they had computers," he says. "I touched a computer for the

first time and I thought, ‘OK, this is what I want to do.’”

That love of computers motivated him to apply for an internship with Synthetic Video to create 3-D models for Ford Aerospace/NASA. “An internship meant no pay, but I didn’t care. I knew they would have computers there—big ones where you can do images and stuff,” he says. When the selection committee chose him from a pool of more than 60 highly qualified applicants, he thought there must be a mistake. Four years later, after he’d become creative di-

rector and part owner of the company, he finally asked a colleague why they’d chosen him. “They said my work looked nice, but what really impressed them was my passion in describing my work,” Argüello says. Today, he shares that story to inspire student groups in talks throughout Latin America. “It’s important that they know that sometimes it’s the

passion in your work that says it all.” Argüello later became the creative director for Pacific Data Images (now DreamWorks), where he and his staff created the groundbreaking effects for music videos like Michael Jackson’s “Black or White,” and movies like “Natural Born Killers.” Eventually, he moved to Cinesite and then to Disney, directing visual effects for films like “Armageddon,” “Waterworld,” “Free Willy” and “Space Jam.”

Then, after nearly 20 years of creating digital magic, he pulled the plug.

Argüello sold his California home,

dreams, he told me he would probably just live his whole life as a carpenter in Antigua because there are no opportunities,” Argüello recalls. Watching hundreds of school kids in uniforms swarming into the park, he realized that, like the young carpenter, these kids faced the same limitations he’d faced at their age—and the problem had grown.

“I thought, ‘What can I do? I just do technology and entertainment, and there’s no technology or entertainment in Antigua. I can’t help,’” he says.

But, the idea of those kids with little opportunity ahead haunted him. He explains, “There’s this phrase that I love: ‘If not me, who? If not now, when?’ So I thought, if there’s no technology here, then let’s bring it here.”

That idea grew into Studio C, where young Guatemalans produce special effects for movies, television and educational programs. Studio C is the only studio in Latin America that has worked with the largest Holly-

...continued page 32

Argüello sold his California home, moved to the tranquil seclusion of La Antigua Guatemala, and put the movie industry far behind him... Or, so he thought.

rector and part owner of the company, he finally asked a colleague why they’d chosen him. “They said my work looked nice, but what really impressed them was my passion in describing my work,” Argüello says. Today, he shares that story to inspire student groups in talks throughout Latin America. “It’s important that they know that sometimes it’s the

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Then, after nearly 20 years of creating digital magic, he pulled the plug. Argüello sold his California home,





GIRL AND THE SNAIL DIEGO LUIS IXTAMER

Murals in Homage to 13 Baktun

San Juan La Laguna by Francisco Sandoval



GUATEMALAN MAP GLORIA CHOLOTIO

The Tz'tujil town of San Juan La Laguna is located on the southwest bay of Lake Atitlán. It sits against the foothills of the Rostro Maya, a sacred mountain summit that is reminiscent of a Mayan face gazing skyward. Known for its authenticity and tranquility, now there is something else that sets San Juan La Laguna apart.



THE WOMAN AND THE LAKE ELMER CHOLUTIO

According to the Mayan calendar 13 Baktun, originally called Oxla-
juj Bajtún, Dec. 21, 2012, marked the end of a 5,000+ year cycle. This
time marker became a mystical date for Guatemalans and for many others
worldwide. Expectations, doubts, mysteries, even fatalities were predicted.

...continued page 72



THE BIRTH OF LIFE EDGAR VIVIDOR YOPZ

THE WARRIOR AND THE WORLD LUIS AMILCAR GARCÍA



datebook

SEPTEMBER 2014 GUIDE TO CULTURE AND UPCOMING EVENTS

COMPILED BY MERCEDES MEJICANOS

3 Weds., 10th, 17th & October 1, 9-11am — (Spanish) COURSE: *Modernismos y posmodernismos en la música las artes visuales* by Dr. Dieter Lehnhoff. New topic each week. Q140/Q105 students (per sesión). Museo Popol Vuh (tel: 2338-7836) 6a calle final, z. 10, **Guatemala City**

3 Wed., through Tues., 30 — ART: Tipografía Textil, Art Quilting-Gráfica digital by Priscila Bianchi. **Cocktail Sat., 6**, 10-12pm. Guided Visit Tues., 23 10am. El Attico (tel: 2368-0853), 4a av. 15-45, z. 14, **Guatemala City** ▼



4 Thurs. & Thurs., 18, 7pm — EFTC *Volunteer Night*: Bring some friends and share in a fun evening at Pappy's! All the money spent on drinks is donated to the Education for the Children Foundation. www.eftc.org.uk Pappy's BBQ Antigua, 6a calle poniente #21, **La Antigua**

22

5 Fri., through 27th — (Spanish) THEATER: *Las Criadas* by Jean Genet, directed by Rafael Herrera. Q100. Limited seating. (Info: www.alianzafrancesa.org.gt) Galería de arte de la Alianza Francesa de Guatemala, 5a calle 10-55, z. 13, Finca La Aurora, **Guatemala City**

5 Fri. — DINING at KIDS Restaurant: Reservations: kidsrestaurant@gmail.com or tels: 4550-7798 or 5251-0202. **5pm**: shuttle in front of Cafe Condesa (5a av., central park, Antigua), **San Gaspar Vivar**

6 Sat., 5:30-8:30pm — TALK: Three top Hollywood producers & directors in special effects share their experiences as part of a free event supported by Fundación C.A. Full story on page 18. Miguel Ángel Asturias Theater, **Guatemala City**

9 Tues., 7pm — (English) READING: The Antigua Players presents a reading of Steve Martin's *Picasso at the Lapin Agile*. Free & open to the public. This event is in anticipation of fully-staged performances in late October (watch for Reuve highlight). El Sitio, (just west of 7a av.) 5a calle poniente #5, **La Antigua**

10 Wed., 7pm — ART: *Imagotipos del Cuerpo* by Alejandro Anzueto. Galería de Arte de arte la Alianza Francesa de Guatemala, 5a calle 10-55, z. 13, Finca La Aurora, **Guatemala City**

7 Sun. — MARATHON, the annual Coffee X-Trail run at Finca Filadelfia, sponsored by The North Face. 8km and 16km. Tels: 2474-0633, 7832-2856 **La Antigua**



10 Wed., 6pm — (English) PRESENTATION: *Antigua: Behind the Walls* with Elizabeth Bell. Enjoy a one-hour slide show of Antigua and its heritage through vintage and contemporary photographs collected over the past 40 years, accompanied by Elizabeth Bell's expert narration. Proceeds benefit educational programs in Antigua. Q30 per person. Questions encouraged. Autographed books available. Join us at Hotel Sor Juana, 4a calle oriente #45, **La Antigua** ▼





12 Fri thru Mon., 15 — PHOTOGRAPHY: Exhibit, workshops, portfolio review & contest with National Geographic photographer & expert Kike Calvo. He will be doing a portfolio review of Guatemalan photographers. Beginning Friday night ending Monday evening. Prices range from \$100 - \$250 for workshops. Or a package for \$450. Info & reservations, tels: 3030-6968; email: kikecalvo.gt@gmail.com. Cooperacion Española, 6a av. norte between 3a & 4a calle poniente, **La Antigua**. ▲ ▼

Kike Calvo



13 Sat., 5pm — MUSIC: *Más música menos violencia*, a unique musical recital by students of sistema de Orquestas de Guatemala, (SOG). All proceeds support SOG & its programs. Suggested donation Q150. Info & reservations, tels: 7955-8282 & 7832-2925. Mesón Panza Verde, 5a av. sur #19, **La Antigua** ▼



13 Sat. through Oct. 12 —

ART: *Ilusiones*, a terracotta sculpture exhibit by Guatemalan artist Oscar Ríos Ochoa. For the artist an illusion has to do with the intense emotional state we feel while viewing or interpreting certain objects. The reaction is different for everyone. The theme of this show is to have viewers reflect their emotions while observing the characters, the movements and colors of each terracotta figure. More than 10 new pieces will be on display. The artist will be present at the opening. La Antigua, Galería de Arte, 4a calle oriente #15, **La Antigua**



13 Sat. — WINE TASTING DINNER: Pairing wines with Guatemalan cuisine: kakik, jocón, pepián, subanik and for dessert, torrijas. Info: 7720-7200. Elú Restaurant, 2a av. norte #11, **La Antigua**

14 Sun., through the Sun., 21st — *Writing & Yoga Retreat*: Creative self-exploration through prompted writing & yoga in a gorgeous setting at The Yoga Forest on Lake Atitlán, contact aimee@thestorytellerwithin.com, and visit www.thestorytellerwithin.com. Discounts available. (See Datebook highlight, June 2014, Revue) **Lake Atitlán**

14 Sun. — CELEBRATION: ANTORCHAS DAY: Beginning celebrations of Independence Day with elementary school parades and bands, fireworks and marathon runners carrying torches from town to town. You will hear a lot of noise on the streets, car horns, whistles, music and firecrackers. **Countrywide**.



15 Mon. — INDEPENDENCE DAY: Parades, marching bands, cultural activities, festivals & plenty of pyrotechnics! **Countrywide**



PHOTOS: MERCEDES MERICANOS

15 Mon. — FERIA: Cultural and religious activities highlight the annual fair, **Quetzaltenango**

19 Fri. — DINING at KIDS restaurant. Details, see listing on 5 Sept. **San Gaspar Vivar**

22 Mon., through Fri., 26th — FESTIVAL ÍCARO NACIONAL: Alianza Francesa, 5a calle 10-55, z. 13, Finca La Aurora, **Guatemala City**

23 Tues., 5.30pm — (English) TALK: *Manos Abiertas*, an integrated women's health clinic & natural birth center with two locations in Guatemala services a population that otherwise would not have access to health care. It provides full-scale gynecological and obstetric services, pediatric care, midwifery, Suggested donation Q25, all which goes directly to the NGO. Info. & reservations, tels: 7832 1919. Rainbow Café, 7a av. sur #08, **La Antigua**

23 Tues., evening — BENEFIT DINNER: Have dinner on this date and the Mesón Panza Verde will donate 50% of all proceeds to LAVOSI, The School for the Deaf. If you wish to learn more about LAVOSI, and its mission, there will be a short familiarization cocktail reception at 6:30 pm. Mesón Panza Verde (tel: 7955-8282), **La Antigua**

24 Wed., 6:30pm — ART: *Indeleble* by Daniel Schafer. Galería del Centro. 5a av. 12-38, z. 1, **Guatemala City**

25 Thurs., 6:30pm — ART: Collective exposition to benefit Fundación San Martín de Porres. Galería Guatemala, 6a av. 9-08, z. 9, lobby Banco G&T Continental, **Guatemala City**

25 Thurs., 6:30pm — (Spanish) CONFERENCE: *El sitio de Uaxactún Petén* by Dr. Ernesto Arredondo. Q30/Q15, students w/carnet. Museo Popol Vuh (tel: 2338-7836) 6a calle final, z. 10, **Guatemala City**

25 Thurs. — (subtitled) A VISUAL TOUR OF FRENCH CINEMA: Presenting 7 highly awarded French films: *9 meses de condena* by Albert Dupontel; *Antes del Invierno* by Philippe Claudel; *Chicos y Guillermo...* ¡A comer! by Guillaume Gallienne; *Une Encuentro* by Liza Azuelos; *Mi Vida es un Romepcabezas* by Cedric Klapisch; *Riviera Francesa* by André Téchiné; and *El Ultimo Diamante* by Eric Barbier. Info. & details, www.alianzafrancesa.org.gt. Cines Cinépolis, Oakland Mall, Miraflores, Portales and Cayalá, **Guatemala City**

29 Mon., 7:30pm — EFTC FUNDRAISER PUB QUIZ: Monthly Monday Pub Quiz, join in, test your knowledge, have a fun evening whilst supporting a school for Guatemalan children who are living in poverty! All team entry money is donated to the Education for the Children Foundation. www.eftc.org.uk Reilly's en la Esquina, 6a calle poniente #7, **La Antigua**

30 Tues., 5.30pm — DANCE: *Mayan Dances* performed by indigenous children from Nuevo Amanecer (New Dawn), a charity dedicated to helping more than 30 children in San Andres Itzapa. Its programs focus on health, education and preserving local traditions, including language and dance which is being lost at an alarming rate. Enjoy the show and learn more about this project! Suggested donation Q25, all which goes directly to the NGO. Info., & reserve, tel: 7832-1919. Rainbow Café, 7a av. sur #8, **La Antigua**

Please submit your DATEBOOK entry for the OCT. 2014 edition by Sept. 10

You can find Revue DateBook online: www.REVUEmag.com

REVUE is not responsible for event cancellations or date/time changes



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—Aristotle

Creativity is allowing yourself to make mistakes.
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THROUGHOUT THE MONTH

ART: Work by renown artist Ramón Ávila, see related article at www.revuemag.com, Aug. 2014 edition. Galería Panza Verde, 5a av. sur #19, **La Antigua** ▼



ART, through Sep. 18 — **ART:** *Secuencia*, paintings by Karla Higueros. Galería del Centro, Fundación G&T Continental, 5a av. 12-39, z. 1, **Guatemala City**

Thursdays., 8:30am — **TOUR:** Visit Ciudad Vieja, you'll see where many *Niños de Guatemala* families work and live. Also, visit the school built by Niños de Guatemala. Q200/Q100, students. Proceeds benefit Niños de Guatemala projects. Antigua_office@ninosdeguatemala.org; tel: 7832-8033. **La Antigua/Ciudad Vieja**

Thursdays, 5-6pm — **DOCUMENTARY:** Wings presents *Blessed Fruit of the Womb: The Fight for Reproductive Rights in Guatemala*. Free. The Bagel Barn, 5a calle poniente #2, **La Antigua**



Daily, 2pm & 4pm — **MOVIES:** Las Palmas (tel: 7832-9734), 6a av. n. #14, **La Antigua**

Mondays, 10am & Thursdays, 2:30pm: Common Hope offers a free two-hour village tour, learn about its education, health care & housing programs. Meet at the fountain, central park; also private tours avail., tel: 7922-6600. Visit www.commonhope.org. **La Antigua**

Mondays, 4:30pm; Tues., 3pm; Wed., 3pm — **DUPLICATE BRIDGE:** Asociación Guatemalteca de Bridge. Info., Eva: 7832-4327 or Denni: 2478-1595. Vista Hermosa, z. 15, **Guatemala City**



REVUE Photo Contest

Te invitamos a participar en nuestro **CONCURSO FOTOGRÁFICO** de octubre 2014 con el tema **Mascotas de GUATEMALA**. Enviar UNA (1) foto en ALTA RESOLUCIÓN con el título, lugar donde fue tomada, su nombre y el sitio web para el crédito a: fotos@revuemag.com

Habrá premios para las fotos ganadoras, incluye **Q200 para los dos primeros lugares**. Para más información www.Revuemag.com

Serán elegibles las fotos que se reciban hasta el 10 de SEPTIEMBRE de 2014

We invite you to participate in our **MONTHLY PHOTO CONTEST** for October 2014 with the theme **Pets of GUATEMALA**. Please send ONE (1) HIGH RES photo with caption/location and your name & website for the credit line to: photos@revuemag.com

There will be prizes for winning photos including **Q200 for both 1st place categories**. More information at www.Revuemag.com

Submissions entered by the 10th of SEPTEMBER will be eligible.

PLAN AHEAD

October 5, 9am-8pm — **STAR FANS GT: 2014 Saga Star Wars** fans celebration. Expositions of Star Wars collectors, stands with souvenirs, toys for sale and lots of surprises. More information info@starfans-guatemala.com Q25. Hotel Camino Real Antigua, Salón La Conquista, **La Antigua**



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Mondays, 8-10pm — Nelson Lunding. Q35 cover

Thursdays, 8-10pm — César Barrios,
Latin American guitar. Q35 cover

Fridays, 8-10pm — Latin Trio, Denis Medina on Cubano
Tres. Q35 cover

Saturdays, 8-10pm — Sergio Zepeda, guitar. Q35 cover

Sept. 13, Sat., 5pm — MUSIC: *Más música, menos
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Thursdays — Gustavo: this local musician plays a mix of Latin and western classics

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CARLOS ARGÜELLO cont. from page 19

wood studios in the industry. It started with just three local young men from Antigua: two computer fanatics, Marvin Barillas and Nelo Mijangos, and their friend Ludwing Paniagua. “[Marvin and Nelo] told me that Ludwin loved to paint, but had never touched a computer. So I said, ‘We’ll teach him!’” Later, Ludwin went on to create the lion’s castle featured in “The Chronicles of Narnia.”

The principle “we’ll teach them” is the beating heart of Studio C. From three Antigua friends, the studio grew to 30 artists ages 18-26, then moved to the capital to accommodate up to 100 designers. None of these new designers had previous training in the digital world. “You just had to have passion and interest, and like technology,” says Argüello.

Studio C worked on small, local projects until Argüello landed the opportunity for them to create a helium world for the 2004 sci-fi thriller, “The Chronicles of Riddick.” “This was the first film that basically proved we could work long-distance—that the kids here in Guatemala were ready for it,” he says.

One year later, a very different “Chronicles” film would prove just how ready the Studio C designers really were. In 2005, Argüello sought a role for Studio C in “The Chronicles of Narnia,” which would soon enter production. The producers had already assigned the film’s special effects to larger studios, but invited Studio C to produce the trailer. The trailer so impressed the producers that they asked Studio C to design the lion’s castle for the feature film, plus 370 additional effects, earning Studio C an Academy Award nomination for Best Visual Effects. “The kids didn’t even know what an Oscar was ... but they realized it was something big when they were invited to be on CNN,” says Argüello.

Despite its success, Studio C received minimal support from the Guatemalan government and others, making it difficult to attract big pro-

jects. So, Argüello created Fundación C.A., the social arm of Studio C. He fought hard to convince potential supporters that training Latin American youth could work. Even members of the United Nations in Geneva balked at the idea, according to Argüello. “They said, ‘Are you sure that Latin America is ready? Are the kids really going to take to computers the way you say they are?’”

The work of Fundación C.A.’s new designers left no room for doubt. In 2007, 200 young digital artists began training in Mexico and then joined forces with the Guatemala team for the second “Narnia” film, “Prince Caspian.” “It was really cool to see kids from Mexico and Guatemala collaborating,” says Argüello.

Now Fundación C.A. offers programs in Mexico, Colombia, Guatemala, El Salvador and Costa Rica,

...continued on following page

Argüello created Fundación C.A., the social arm of Studio C. He fought hard to convince potential supporters that training Latin American youth could work.



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Architecture is basically a container of something. I hope they will enjoy not so much the teacup, but the tea.
 —Yoshio Taniguchi



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CARLOS ARGÜELLO from previous page

and will soon begin working in Brazil and the Dominican Republic. In addition to the ambitious goal of training 900 designers in three years, Argüello is launching six training centers in six municipalities around Guatemala City, plus a job insertion center near the capital offering paid internships.

Although its work on Hollywood megaproductions receives the most attention, Fundación C.A. emphasizes education and cultural preservation. Its young designers have created virtual maps, interactive mathematics games developed with Microsoft, programs for students with learning disabilities, and educational programs in numerous Mayan languages. The foundation has won multiple international awards for educational programs, including the World Summit Award for its Guatemala Interactive Project covering 3,000 years of Guatemalan history.

Computer visualization will only grow more critical to the new industries coming into Latin America, such as engineering and aerospace design, according to Argüello.

“Basically, we’re teaching a new language for the youth



of Latin America to be able to get involved in the world market,” he says. “I had learning disabilities, and I’ve known kids who come from small homes with no floor, but they touch a computer and work with us and do great things. . . . Everything is possible in Guatemala; everything can be done from Guatemala. We have talent and we basically need to invest in that talent, which is youth.”

Coming attractions: On Sept. 6, three top Hollywood producers and directors in special effects will share their experiences as part of a free event supported by Fundación C.A. at Miguel Angel Asturias Theater in Guatemala from 5:30-8:30 p.m. For updates, see www.fundaca.org, Facebook (www.facebook.com/fundaca.org), and Twitter (@fca_ca).

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*Sri and Kira have authored several books and are the owners of TOSA La Laguna.
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If we ever start communicating with living creatures from other planets, the number one priority is, how are we going to communicate information? Even between different cultures here on Earth, we get into communication problems. —Story Musgrave



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The two words 'information' and 'communication' are often used interchangeably, but they signify quite different things. Information is giving out; communication is getting through.
—Sydney J. Harris

Half the world is composed of people who have something to say and can't, and the other half who have nothing to say and keep on saying it.
—Robert Frost

Mass communication, radio, and especially television, have attempted, not without success, to annihilate every possibility of solitude and reflection. —Eugenio Montale

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To effectively communicate, we must realize that we are all different in the way we perceive the world and use this understanding as a guide to our communication with others.
—Tony Robbins

When we think we have been hurt by someone in the past, we build up defenses to protect ourselves from being hurt in the future. So the fearful past causes a fearful future and the past and future become one. —Alfred Hitchcock



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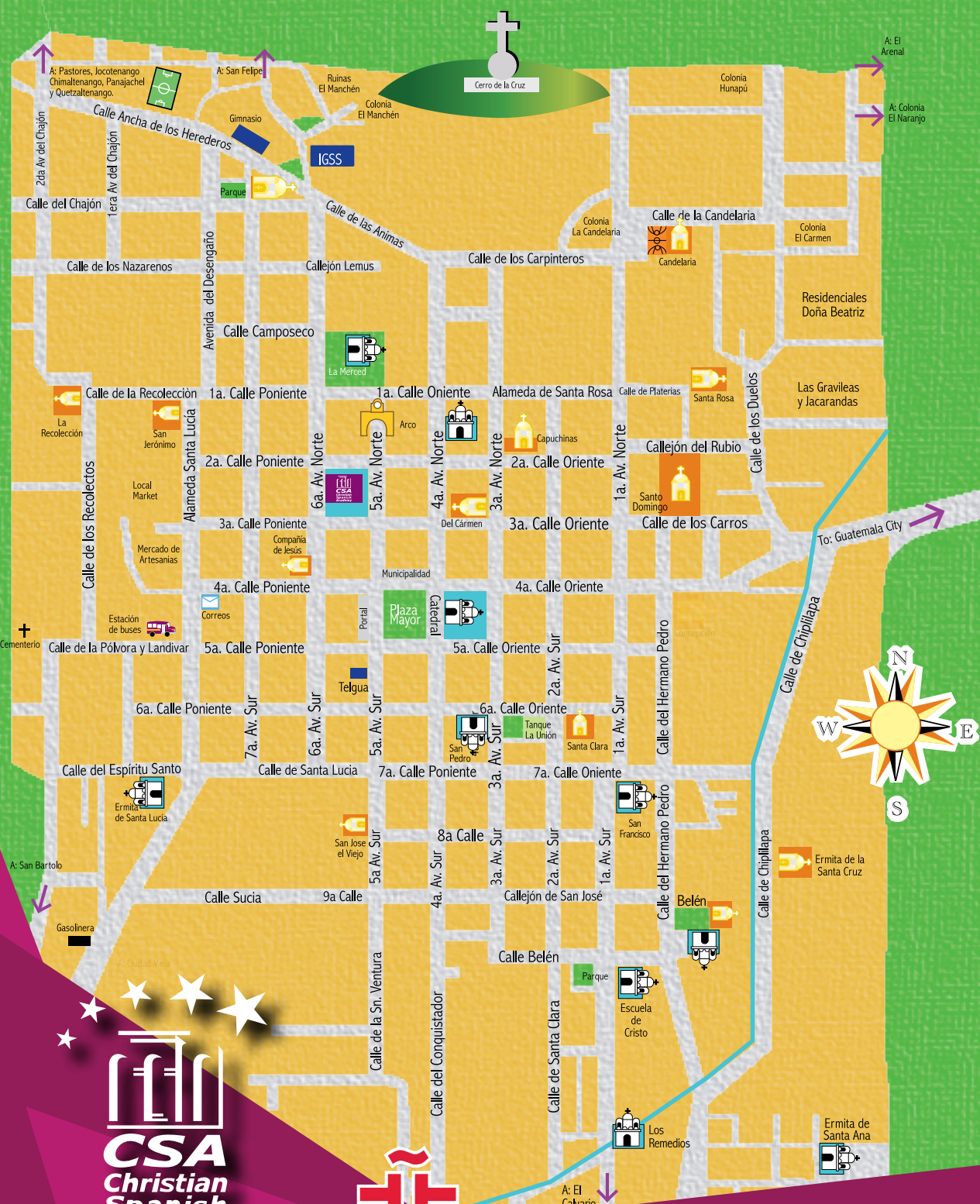
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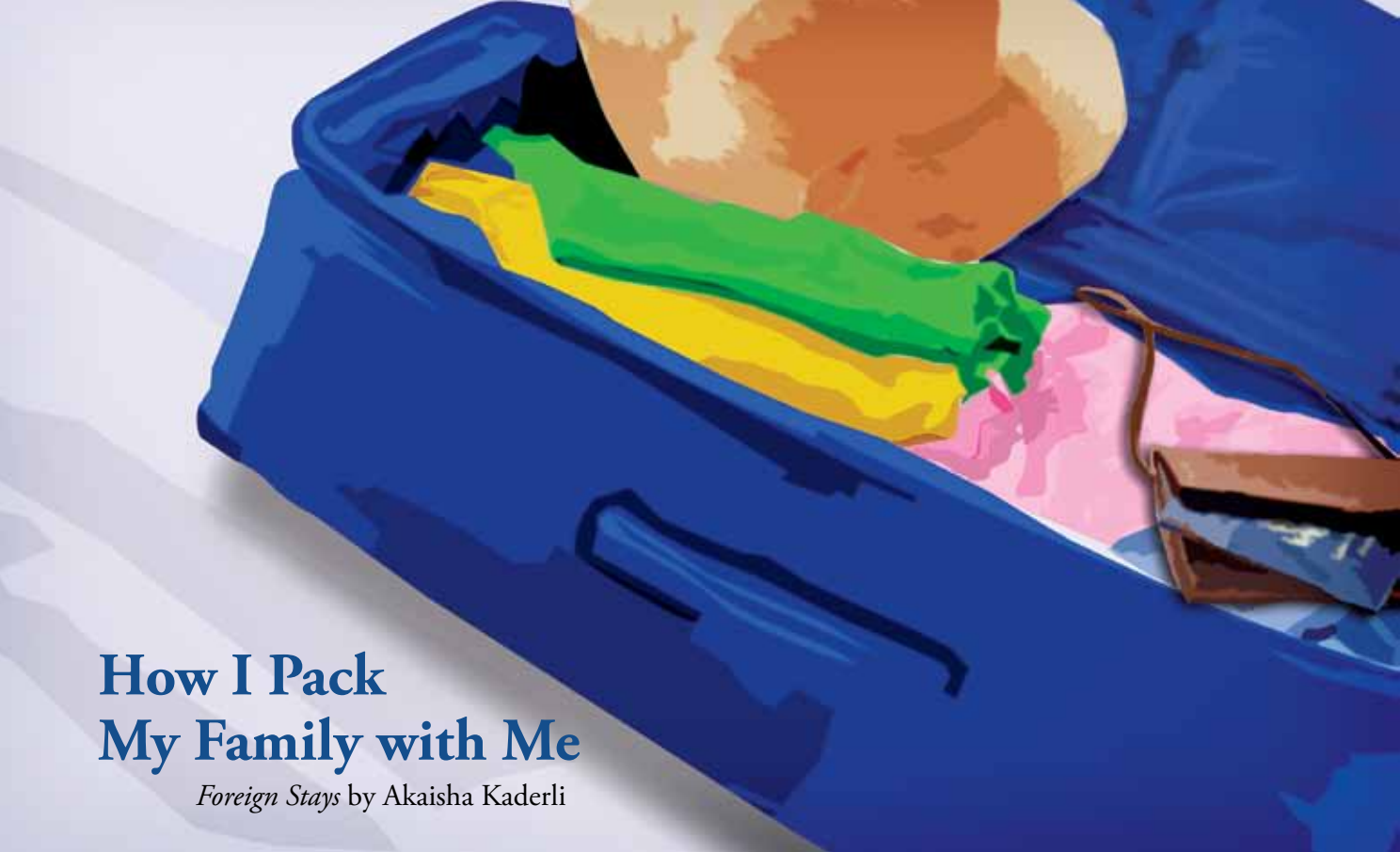
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How I Pack My Family with Me

Foreign Stays by Akaisha Kaderli

When I began traveling the world 24 years ago, none of my family or friends understood why I chose this vagabond lifestyle. None, other than my father, who wished he could have gone with me; most everyone else wanted a stay-in-one-place manner of living that focused on barbecues, Super Bowl parties, pets and gardens.

I, on the other hand, wanted to visit exotic cultures, wander down dusty trails and witness firsthand the wild variety that is humanity around the world.

Initially on my journeys, especially since we began them long before Internet, Skype or Magic Jack, there was this seeming disconnect. I was “long distance” and everyone else was together “back home.”

These days, things are different. My husband Billy and I normally travel a year in between our visits to the States to see our loved ones. To bridge that distance in time, I call their homes several times a month using Skype and

video. In this way, no one forgets what I look like, including my grandniece and nephew. I watch as the decorations in their homes change, their gardens grow and I’m there singing happy birthday or shouting Merry Christmas or happy anniversary as the pages on my calendar turn over.

When I visited the States a couple of years ago, I realized that no one there could relate to the perspective I had been nurturing for decades in my world travels. The U.S. is a developed nation so there were no donkeys in the streets, no indigenous walking the neighborhoods with

...continued page 80

Billy and Akaisha Kaderli are recognized retirement experts and internationally published authors on topics of finance and world travel. With the wealth of information they share on their popular website RetireEarlyLifestyle.com, they have been helping people achieve their own retirement dreams since 1991. They wrote the popular books, "The Adventurer's Guide to Early Retirement" and "Your Retirement Dream IS Possible."



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The more that people live with animals, the more they know how precious they are and what they do to enhance our lives. —Doris Day

One reason a dog can be such a comfort when you're feeling blue is that he doesn't try to find out why. —David Courtney

The animals of the planet are in desperate peril... without free animal life I believe we will lose the spiritual equivalent of oxygen. —Alice Walker

I named my dog Stay so I can say, "Come here, Stay. Come here, Stay." —Steven Wright

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All the arguments to prove man's superiority cannot shatter this hard fact: in suffering the animals are our equals.
— Pete Singer

Question:

Fanny was a 15-pound spayed poodle who was our treasured family member for 14 years. For the last years of her life, her teeth became more and more of a problem until she was suffering so much that she could hardly eat and was constantly at the veterinarian's because her mouth became severely infected despite cleanings and extractions. Our veterinarian told us that early dental care could have prevented the majority of her later problems (including perhaps her heart problems). We are now ready to adopt a new puppy and would like to know how to start a home dental program.

PET Q's & A's
by Cynthia Burski, DVM

Periodontal disease affects nearly 80 percent of all dogs over the age of 3. And since plaque is a buildup of bacteria, heart disease is a potential possibility. These problems can be controlled by regularly brushing her teeth (three times a week) and an annual cleaning by her veterinarian.

Start brushing you dog's teeth at a young age (no later than 5 months when her adult teeth come in). Start by gently touching her lips and teeth and then offer her a taste of pet toothpaste from your finger. Next, rub her teeth with the toothpaste using a piece of gauze, so that she adjusts to the texture. Gradually transition to using a pet toothbrush or finger brush. Practice frequent, short sessions, and always reward her for her patience.

"Bad breath" is the first obvious sign of dental disease. Other signs include loose or broken teeth, red, swollen or bleeding gums, tartar (yellow-brown build-up on teeth) and facial swelling, which might mean an abscess. Remember by the time that these signs appear, the dental disease is already advanced. Also small and toy breeds generally have more dental problems than larger dogs.

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Pataxte Pods

ABOUT THE PHOTOS

We bought a pod to photograph while on location and set up a makeshift studio (tripod and backdrops) but the pod broke off the branch. Without the branch we had no way to suspend the pod. A solution was found when a team member went to a hardware store and bought hooks that had a screw base. Now we could screw the hook into the top of the pod. Next we stretched a wire between two light stands, and hung the pod leaving nothing to obscure the bottom nor top of the pod. I used a detachable ring light combined with sunlight.

Back in our photographic studio Sofía Monzón reshot the pod using four Westcott Spiderlite TD5 digital fluorescent lights.

Pataxte is a close relative of cacao (cocoa), the main ingredient in chocolate. Pataxte is *Theobroma bicolor*, cacao is *Theobroma cacao*. Both grow in many regions of Guatemala, especially on the south coast. Cacao is a bush-like tree averaging 3 to 4 meters in height while pataxte is a tall tree, reaching heights far too high to allow picking by hand. A 400mm to 600mm telephoto lens is necessary to be able to spot a pataxte pod from the ground. Another feature of pataxte pods that distinguish them from cacao pods are the deep ridges and vein structure on the surface.

In July of this year we explored caves and Karst geology in the Cahabón-Senahú area, which is also another location where pataxte thrives. Many grow around the Q'eqchi' Mayan houses in the mountains of Alta Verapaz and throughout sections in San Marcos. Gradually we are documenting these locations and others to assist archaeologists in understanding the diet of the Maya some 2,000 years ago as well as to obtain high-quality photographs of pataxte pods. 

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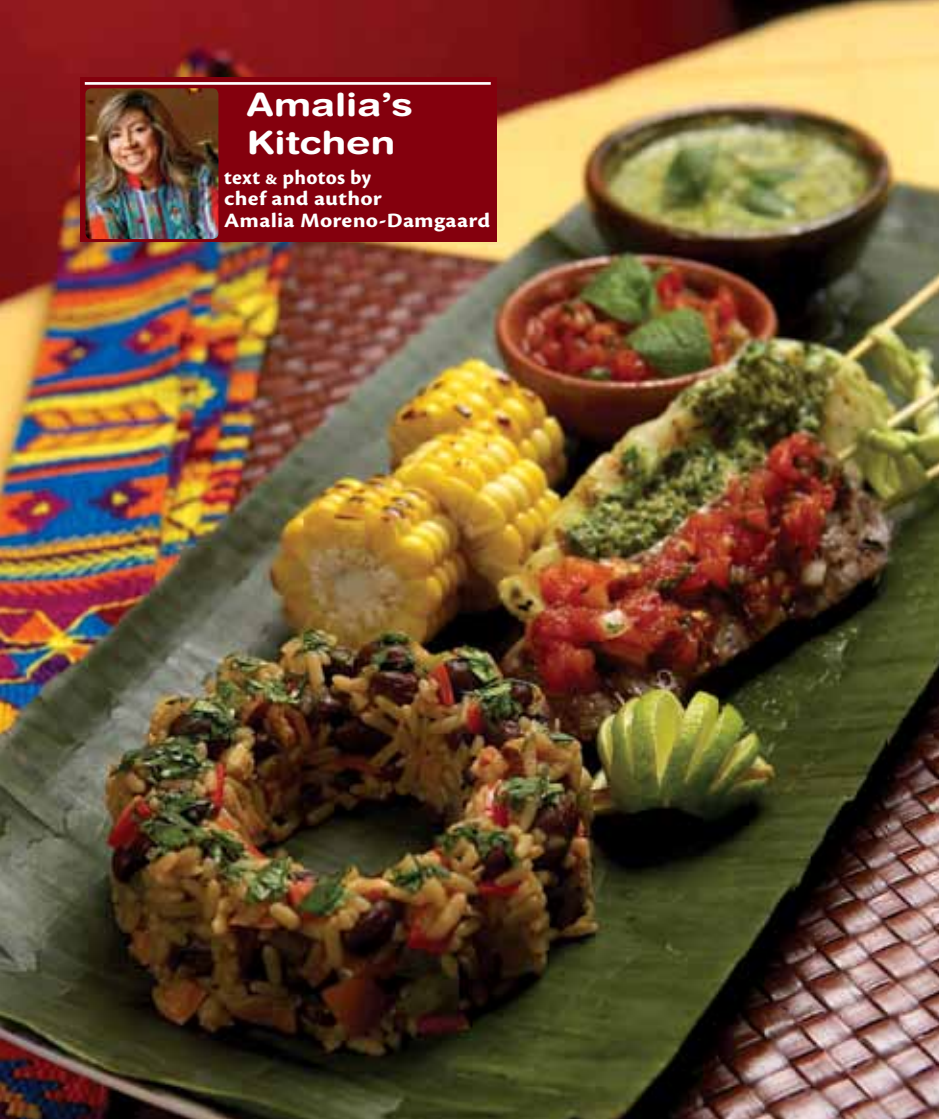
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Amalia's Kitchen

text & photos by
chef and author
Amalia Moreno-Damgaard



Churrasco!

A Guatemalan Barbecue Experience

Churrasco is a special Guatemalan experience that refers to cooking meats and other foods outdoors on a parrilla (grill) during gatherings where friends and family get together to celebrate special events or simply share good times.

My dad's very large family (12 brothers and sisters) had many such churrasco celebrations, and between my dad's and mom's relatives we had barbecue parties galore all year long! As a little girl growing up in Guatemala I remember Sunday afternoons at Aunt Lidia's home at Lake Amati-

“A churrasco gathering is an opportunity to get to know people better by participating in the preparation of food...”

tlán, then later at her *granja* (farm) in the countryside. Her cozy home had the best ranchito (thatched roof BBQ gazebo) equipped with a parrilla and picnic tables for entertaining.

During business-related churrascos, a company may elect a park or resort as the place for this special gathering. In Guatemala, many outdoor public places offer amenities for barbecuing. A churrasco gathering is an opportunity to get to know people better by participating in the preparation of food and activities like games and dancing to the beat of salsa or merengue music.

A home meal can be quite simple and nice. I cannot think of a better way to relax at my sister's house than to enjoy a special time with her and her family while we cook together. Many Guatemalans cook with natural charcoal for optimum flavor, which is readily available in *bolsitas* (small bags) at many public *mercados* (markets). The taste of grilled grass-fed beef and my sister's delicious onion, oregano and lime guacamol, along with homemade, warm corn tortillas, is the flavor of home to me.

Here is a simple, delicious and healthy barbecue recipe. Guatemala is the Land of the Eternal Spring, so churrasco time is any time!

...continued on following page



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Churrasco from previous page

CARNE ASADA CON CHIRMOL

Orange and Onion-Marinated Flank Steak with Charred Tomato and Mint Salsa

By Amalia Moreno-Damgaard

Carne asada con chirmol is a Guatemalan barbecue basic. It is one of my favorite dishes because it is not only delicious and healthy, it is also easy to prepare. The sauce elevates the steak to a five-star status. For another dimension of flavor, serve the steak on top of two soft corn tortillas with refried black beans in between and finish with the chirmol. Grilled fish, *chorizo* or *longaniza* sausages are often on the barbecue plate complemented with side dishes like *guacamol* (guacamole), grilled corn rubbed with lime and salt and other sauces like *tomatillo* and *chilito* (*chiltepe* chili home-made hot sauce). *Chimichurri* sauce is also popular, as there are many Argentine and Uruguayan steak houses in Guatemala.

Serves 4 to 6 people
Salmuera (marinade)

2 unpeeled oranges, sliced thinly

½ cup julienned yellow onion

1 teaspoon crumbled dried



oregano

2 tablespoons canola oil

½ teaspoon kosher salt

Freshly ground black pepper

1½ to 2 pounds flank steak (or 4 to 6 top sirloin steaks), seasoned generously with kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper

1 batch chirmol (charred tomato and mint salsa, recipe below)

Preheat the grill.

To make the marinade, combine the orange slices, onion, oregano, oil, salt and pepper in a large Ziploc bag. Seal the bag and squeeze the ingredients with your hands to mix them and to force the juice out of the orange slices. Add the steak, seal the bag, and work the marinade into the steak with your hands, making sure it

is well coated. Marinate the steak for 1 to 3 hours or overnight.

Take the steak out of the bag. Discard the orange and onion. Grill the steak over medium-high heat for about 4 minutes on one side and 2 to 3 minutes on the other side for medium-rare. Or cook more or less according to taste. Prior to slicing, rest the steak for 5 to 10 minutes tented with foil.

Slice the steak on the diagonal and top it with chirmol.

CHIRMOL

Charred Tomato and Mint Salsa

Chirmol de tomate is so simple, yet so delicious. Chirmol is to Guatemalans what chimichurri is to Argentines. Chirmol is always served with grilled meats. It is the delicious

...continued following page



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Churrasco cont. from previous page

accompaniment to any Guatemalan churrasco. For a flavor twist, use tomatillos instead of tomatoes—or use both—and follow the same steps.

Makes about 2¼ cups

- 3 Roma tomatoes
- 2 tablespoons finely diced onion
- 1 tablespoon finely chopped mint
- 1 tablespoon finely chopped cilantro (optional)
- 2 teaspoons freshly squeezed lime juice
- ½ teaspoon minced chilete or other hot chile (optional)
- ½ teaspoon kosher salt

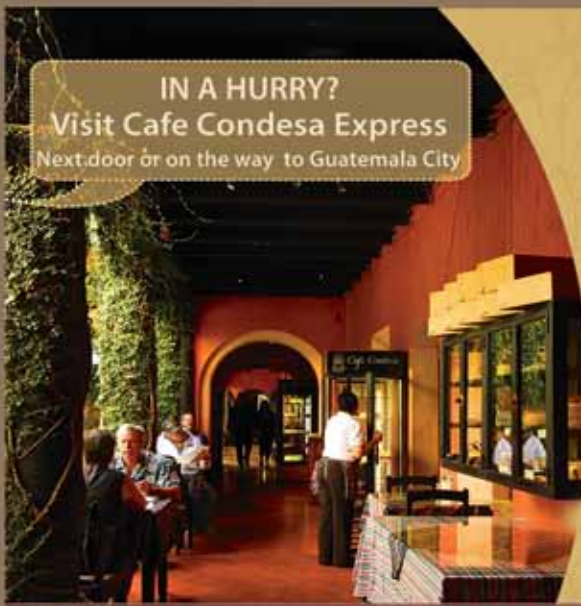
Grill the tomatoes or dry pan roast until they're charred all over and soft and mushy (12 to 15 minutes). Chop them coarsely, but do not peel them.

Combine the tomatoes with the remaining ingredients. Taste and adjust seasonings, if needed. 

My father is an intellectual and physical man, which is a rather unusual combination. He's great. As he brought up me and my brothers and sisters, he ingrained in us that your appearance is not your responsibility, other than that you should not be a slob.
—Christopher Reeve

There are only two mistakes one can make along the road to truth: not going all the way, and not starting. —Buddha

A promotional graphic for Revue magazine's Facebook page. It features the Facebook 'f' logo on the left. To the right, the text reads 'facebook.com/revuemagazine' in a stylized font. Below this, a list of features is shown: 'Cultural Events', 'Updates', and 'Monthly Photo Contests & more'. At the bottom right, the word 'REVUE' is written in a bold, red, serif font.



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you've got to say, and say it hot. —D. H. Lawrence

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Society cannot share a common communication system so long as it is split into warring factions.
—Will Durant

The business schools reward difficult complex behavior more than simple behavior, but simple behavior is more effective.
—Warren Buffett



ENSALADA CESAR CON CAMARONES

PHOTOS COURTESY OF HOTEL CAMINO REAL

There are so many wonderful restaurants in La Antigua Guatemala, you could spend a month dining out every day or night of the week. Camino Real's Las Velas restaurant has been on my list so a few weeks ago my partner and I decided to go there for Sunday brunch. We put on our Sunday's best, by our Sunday's best, anyone who knows us, dressing up means heading to our local *paca*. How can one resist Abercrombie and Fitch khakis and a Ralph Lauren shirt for Q10.

We were immediately taken by the ambiance inside the El Camino Real's hotel lobby. It is elegant, and inviting, the décor is fine-quality Guatemalan hand crafts made to order for the hotel. On our way to the restaurant we were greeted by helpful and friendly staff; you would have thought we were regulars at Las Velas.

The dining room is palatial and the buffet was beautiful, as well prepared as it would be at any international five-star hotel. After a delicious meal we found it hard to leave the cozy at-



Food for Thought

by Shannon McCullough
CULINARY PROFESSIONAL

REAL DINING *at Las Velas*

*CAMINO REAL'S CHEF WALTER MARTÍNEZ
HAS CREATED AN EXCITING NEW MENU*

mosphere and attentive servers, but as many guests were waiting for table service, we resisted the urge to endlessly lounge in the relaxing surroundings and gave up our table. But before we left we asked to see the lunch and dinner menu, and it was no surprise that the entrées would lure heads of state, as the restaurant does on a regular basis.

Later that week I called the food and beverage manager, Rosamaría Portillo, to set up a meeting with her and head Chef Walter Martínez to talk about their new menu. I was greeted by Rosamaría with a smile and an instant connection that I am certain will lead to a good

...continued on following page



CHEF WALTER MARTÍNEZ



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TOMATE QUINOA Y QUESO PARMESANO

REAL DINING AT LAS VELAS

cont. from previous page

Las Velas (The Candles) Restaurant is open from 6 a.m. to 10 p.m. seven days a week. A full menu for breakfast, lunch and dinner is available. It also offers a Sunday buffet breakfast between 6 a.m. and 11 a.m., breakfast is served all day seven days a week. (See the full menu on the Revue website: www.revuemag.com)

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friendship. She gave me a tour of the hotel with such enthusiasm that one would believe she was one of the owners. She has an overwhelming pride in the hotel and her job. In today's hectic world, it is a pleasure to encounter someone who really loves her work.

After chatting a bit at an outdoor patio table, we were joined by Chef Martínez. He, too, was a delight. We talked about his new menu, which incorporates a creative mix of flavors and entrées that only a very talented chef can design. Among the many skills a well-trained chef must acquire, imagination is one that is sometimes overlooked. Chef Martínez has used his experience, palate and imagination to craft a new menu with some of the best cuisine La Antigua has to offer.

Chef Martínez is from El Salvador

...continued page 70



FILET MIGNON

Chef Martínez has used his experience, palate and imagination to craft a new menu with some of the best cuisine La Antigua has to offer.

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"Arco de Santa Catalina, fiel testigo de todos los antiguieños" by Carlos Córdón



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REAL DINING AT LAS VELAS

cont. from page 68

where he began his career nearly 18 years ago. Later he was employed by a corporation in Honduras; then he made his way to Florida, where he attended and graduated from a professional culinary school. When he returned to Honduras his talents were quickly recognized by a dignitary, and he soon found himself as the personal chef to the president of Honduras. Thankfully for all of us who appreciate outstanding food, he now works for El Camino Real Hotel. I could have sat for hours talking about cooking, as his knowledge of food is impressive and thought provoking.

During our conversation the waiter brought to our table one of Las Velas' new appetizers, *Queso Chancol horneado*-



QUESO CHANCOL HORNEADO CON MERMELADA DE SAUCO



CAMARONES A LA PARRILLA CON SALSA DE ANGUILA Y SAKE

do, for a tasting. It was a combination of local farmer's cheese, melted and mixed with *plátano macho*, wrapped and baked in filo dough and served with a side of elderberry jam. Honestly, it was a meal in itself. The flavor sensation makes it one of the best appetizers I have tasted in years.

The new menu is extensive with international and exquisite Guatemalan cuisine with enough selections, including vegetarian meals, to appeal to any appetite. Las Velas also offers banquets, weddings and catering on or off its premises. ®



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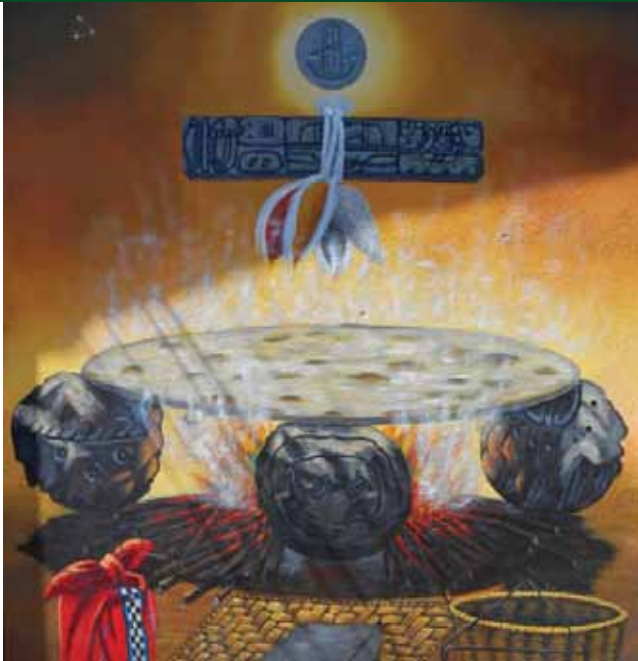


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13 Baktun Murals cont. from page 21



THE THREE STONES ANDRÉS LIX

Deeply inspired by this event, 12 talented local artists created murals in homage to 13 Baktun. The essence of their work speaks of transformation, new beginnings, renewal and breakthrough. The largest of the murals is approximately 6 meters wide; they adorn the walls of many San Juan houses, making your stroll through the town a memorable experience. 📍



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QUIRIGUA ROCAEL SONTAY

Francisco Sandoval is the General Manager of Eco Hotel Ixlabil Atilán, www-ixlabil.com; this article is based on his original work "A 13 Baktun that will Last" found at <https://medium.com/@ecohotelesuxlabill/a-13-baktun-that-will-last-aa65611960ef>

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Entry in the Revue Photo Contest, September
 "Maravillosa arquitectura de nuestros antepasados" by Lolita Kato



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Q & A



Owning Real Estate while Living Abroad


Many U.S. Citizens are aware of the \$250,000 (\$500,000 if married filing jointly) exclusion on the gain from a sale of a home in a qualifying transaction. The following general requirements must be met to qualify for the exclusion: You must have owned and occupied the home as a principal residence for at least two out of five years prior to the sale, and, during the two-year period ending on the date of the sale, you did not exclude gain from the sale of another home.

What is lesser known is the fact that any portion of the gain attributable to non-qualified use of the property is ineligible for the exclusion. Non-qualified use includes periods during which the property is not used as an

individual's principal residence (including when it is rented out). The maximum exemption amount is reduced on a pro-rated basis.

Let's use a simplified example to illustrate. Jane Smith (a single taxpayer) buys a house for \$100,000 on Jan. 1, 2000. She lives in the house for five years, then moves abroad. On Jan. 1, 2012 (seven years later), Jane returns to the U.S., and begins living in her house again. On Jan. 1, 2014 (two years later), she sells the house for \$350,000, at a gain of \$250,000.

Jane meets both of the above requirements. However, seven of the 14 years she has owned the house falls under non-qualified use. Therefore, only half of the maximum exemption amount applies. Jane will have to pay capital gains tax on \$125,000.

There is one important exception to the non-qualified use rule. Non-qualified use does not include any portion of the five-year period preceding the sale that is after the last date that the property is used as a taxpayer's principal residence. In plain English, if you own a home and leave the U.S. without selling the property, sell it within three years (and don't move back into the home). That way, you qualify for the two years of five years requirements, and you will not be subject to a reduction in the maximum exemption amount. Note: Foreign Service employees are subject to different rules. 

Special Reminder:

If you have requested an extension to file your tax return, the Oct. 15 deadline is fast approaching. Electronic filing is available through Oct. 15.

If you would like to submit a tax-related question, please email: info@holaexpat.com.

Responses are provided by John Ohe (IRS-authorized enrolled agent), who resides in Antigua.

Disclaimer: The answers provided in this article are for general information, and should not be construed as personal tax advice. Tax laws and regulations change frequently, and their application can vary widely based on the specific facts and circumstances.

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I believe that the way people live can be directed a little by architecture. —Tadao Ando

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The mother art is architecture. Without an architecture of our own we have no soul of our own civilization.
 —Frank Lloyd Wright

Architecture begins where engineering ends.
 —Walter Gropius

Architecture should speak of its time and place, but yearn for timelessness. —Frank Gehry

Third Place by judges vote in the REVUE PHOTO CONTEST, September

“San José Cathedral” by Rafael Carvajal De León
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Mayan glyph depicting butterfly wings. See *The Butterfly Watchers* on page 12 by Thor Janson.

How I Pack My Family with Me cont. from page 50

their hair wrapped in hand woven textiles, selling their wares. And there were no food carts where on a whim I could purchase fresh fruit or grilled shrimp.

So I gathered about 300 photos of my wanderings, put them on a chip and purchased digital photo frames to display them. My family was amazed — or maybe speechless is a better word.

Not everyone enjoys writing letters, emails or sending postcards. However, every person I know likes to receive them. I am a writer—and I always have been—so now any chance I get I write an email and tell a story about my life, and of course, I ask about theirs. Or I send a post card giving a full-and-in-color snapshot of where I have been.

I carry everything with me when I travel. In the old days, my family was initially stumped as to what to give me for gifts. Before I cart anything around the world with me, I must consider it in terms of value versus its weight

and the room it takes. Today, digital downloads for music or reading material delight me because I have it online instead of packing the heavy book or CD plus-case in my rucksack.

I have also been gifted with great walking shoes, washable and lightweight clothing, scarves, a beach wrap, earrings, socks and even nail polish. When I dress myself in the mornings I have all these reminders of the love we share, and I take them with me into my lifestyle of skipping from one country to the next.

While nothing replaces being there in person for each occasion, I am psychologically built to enjoy my life of movement. My friends and family are constructed for a lifestyle that I would find constricting. So by wearing and using these gifts, I am able to carry my loved ones with me everywhere.

After all, there is no distance in the heart. 13

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	<p>Guatemala to San Salvador</p> <p>Departure → Arrival</p> <p>6:30 hrs. → 11:30 hrs.</p>		<p>San Salvador to Guatemala</p> <p>Departure → Arrival</p> <p>4:45 hrs. → 10:00 hrs.</p>	
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2nd PLACE by judges vote: "119 años del teatro de Xela" by Tono Valdes. Prize: Q300 certificate to **El Sereno**, La Antigua

SEPTEMBER REVUE PHOTO CONTEST, theme: Architecture in Guatemala

Entry: "El Puente de Piedra" Quetzaltenango by Pablo Méndez Garzona





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The Butterfly Watchers cont. from page 17

and lodge. What this means is that you can enjoy pristine natural surroundings. One word of advice: Bring plenty of insect repellent as the area tends to be pretty buggy.

Everyone has seen moths at night, as they are attracted by bright lights and often flit to and fro under streetlights. By taking a hint from the method used by biologists to collect moths at night, it is easy to hang a white sheet over a line and then shine a bright light under a forest canopy at night. It won't be long before various nocturnal insects alight upon the illuminated sheet. As for diurnal butterfly watching, the protocol is pretty much the same as for bird watching: Just head out, binoculars and spotting scopes at the ready, and explore the environs of any forest, and you will be rewarded by many viewing opportunities.

As lepidopterous pursuits become more serious, it is useful to become familiar with butterfly feeding habits, which vary widely. Some butterflies are attracted by rotting fruit, others by flower nectar and others by dung. On a hot dry day it is common to find many species hanging out by the banks of rivers or lakes, where they sip water through their specially designed tubular proboscises. Another strategy is to make your own butterfly feeding station by setting out some overripe fruits and a few small bowls of sweetened water and some stale beer, as many varieties are attracted by the smell of fermented matter. **R**



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The truth is incontrovertible; malice may attack it,
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when I get sad. Most of the time, it turns out
that my voice is worse than my problems. —MM



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Entry in the Revue Photo Contest, Sept.: Architecture

"Templo Minerva" Quetzaltenango, by Alex Hernández
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There, about a dozen times during the day, the wind drives over the sky the swollen clouds, which water the earth copiously, after which the sun shines brightly, as if freshly bathed, and floods with a golden luster the rocks, the river, the trees, and the entire jungle. —Henry Sienkiewicz

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There is no beauty in sadness. No honor in suffering. No growth in fear. No relief in hate. It's just a waste of perfectly good happiness. —Katerina Stoykova Klemer

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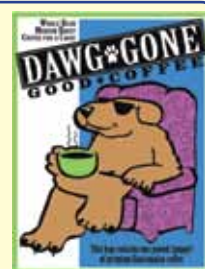
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Are you really sure that a floor can't also be a ceiling?
—M.C. Escher



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Entry in the Revue Photo Contest, September "Puente colonial en aldea Chamil, San Juan Chamelco" by Emilio Vásquez Robles



Freesia

Driving to the lake? Don't ask which lake in the Guatemalan Highlands. As "The City" is San Francisco, "The Queen" is Elizabeth II, "The Lake" around here is the stunning Atilán.

Up the Central American Highway, shortly past the colorful fruit and flower stands and milling folks changing buses at Los Encuentros, you take the turn-off toward Sololá and Panajachel. Don't go too far, too fast. A little beyond the turn, a small stream parallels the road, gurgling past lush grasses dotted with white lilies and little pink and yellow, funnel-shaped flowers year around.


Please don't be tempted to go down the steep bank and pick the flowers, however. The families living nearby consider this natural garden theirs. They send their

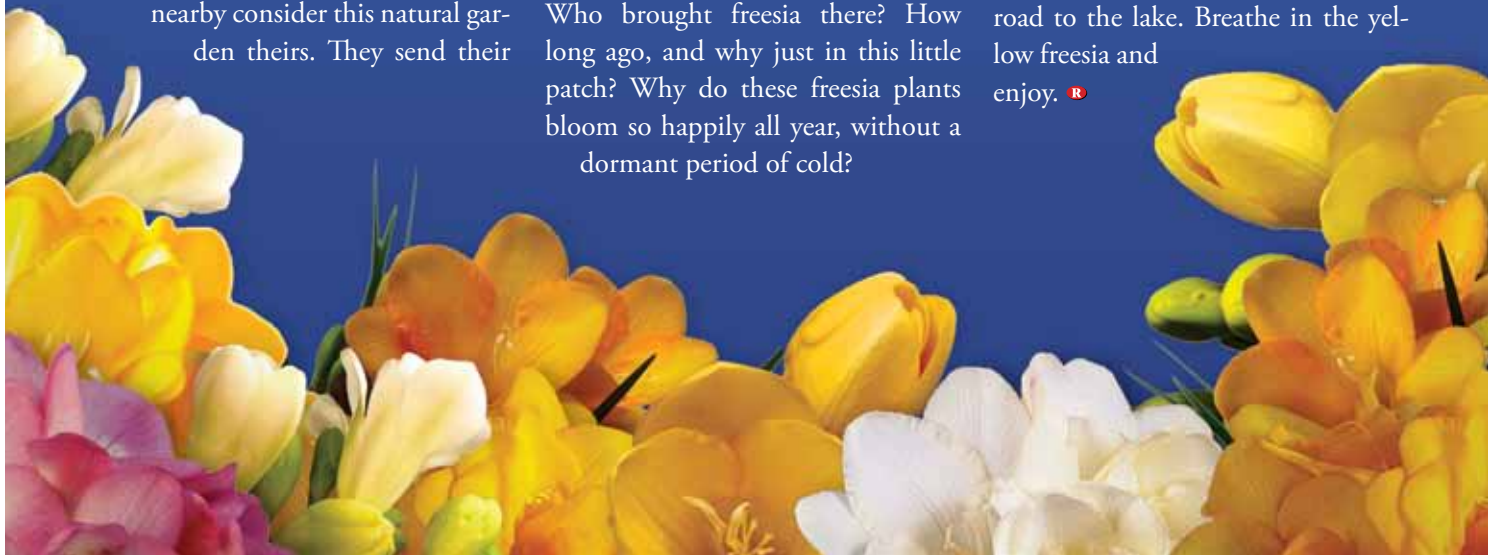
children out gathering nosegays of the incredibly fragrant, sunshine yellow freesias that the kids will happily sell you for a few quetzal coins. At the same time, the families learned somewhere to weave wheatstraw into holiday ornaments for sale, but that's another quest for a holiday trip. This visit, just be impressed with the profound freesia aroma filling your car and room for several days.

You might stop to wonder how cultivated hybrid freesia got to this small patch of river bank. Freesias are native to southern Africa, but wild freesia has very little aroma. The flower we know was genetically engineered in the 19th century by a Dr. Freese in Germany. The bulbs need cold winters for spring flowering, and that doesn't happen near Sololá. Who brought freesia there? How long ago, and why just in this little patch? Why do these freesia plants bloom so happily all year, without a dormant period of cold?

Ponder such questions if you wish, but don't stop from taking a picture or two of the deep yellow flowers against the grasses and water, or maybe set up an easel if you want to try capturing the bucolic scene in oils.

Then on your trips through the flower section of the markets, stay alert for little bundles of freesia for sale, tucked in cans of water among the long-stemmed roses and mums and gladioli that look so pretty but don't have the powerful sweet fragrance of little yellow freesia.

Yellow, notice. There are creamy, and pinkish, and white freesia around Guatemalan gardens and markets too, also hybrids from Europe, but none have the intensity of the yellow ones from that little patch off the road to the lake. Breathe in the yellow freesia and enjoy. 



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ANTIGUA

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I am an optimist. It does not seem too much use being anything else.
—Winston Churchill

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ANTIGUA

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Of all the remedies that won't cure a cold, whiskey is the most popular.

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ANTIGUA

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Ink smears, as thoughts sometimes do.
—Terri Guillemets



EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE Police: 120 Fire: 122 and 123

Tourist Police (Antigua): 7832-4131 Fire Dept: 7832-0234

Guatemala City Tourist Assistance: 1500 (24-hour)

STAR FANS-GT

www.starfansguatemala.com



2014

Celebración de Fans Saga Star Wars
Salón La Conquista.

Domingo 5 de Octubre
Adulto o niño: Q 25.00



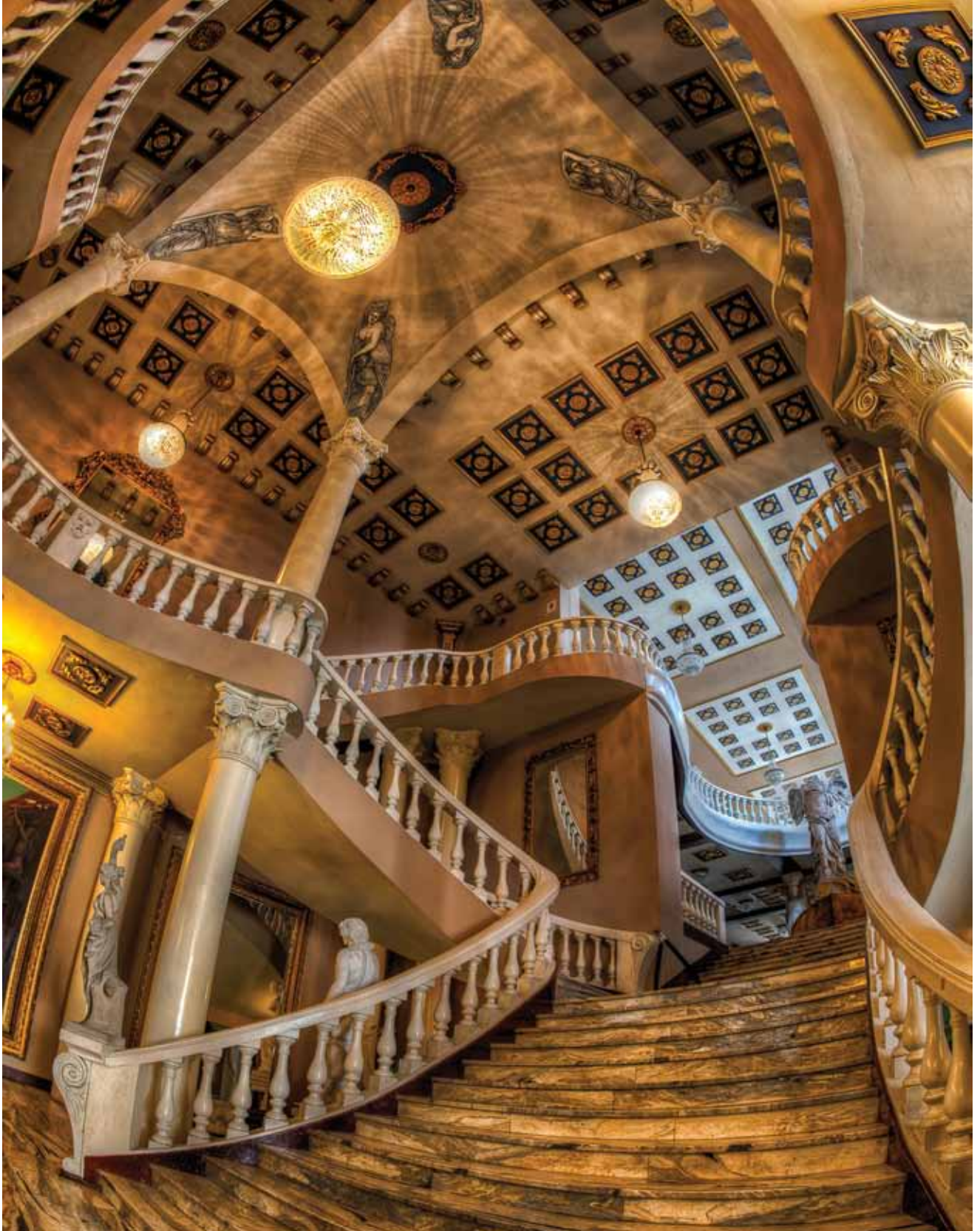
Horario de 9:00 a 20:00 hrs.
Parqueo durante el evento Q. 25.00

Disfruta de las mejores exposiciones de fans y coleccionistas de Star Wars, habrán muchas sorpresas, tiendas de ventas de juguetes y souvenirs de Star Wars.

Mayor información: info@starfansguatemala.com

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1st Place by judges vote in the Revue Photo Contest, September "Teatro Abril" (Guatemala City) by Holger Tobuschat. Prize: Q200
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