



Club Cascadas de Baja

MEMBERS' JOURNAL / SUMMER 2017 / ISSUE 1



President's Letter

Dear Cascadas de Baja member,

“Historia”

Thirty-two years ago the Giddings family stood on the sand of Medano Beach, captivated by the beautiful bay and the stunning rock formation of

El Arco. Their hearts were pounding. They were about to launch their dream!

Could it become a reality or was this just “pie in the sky”? Our friends and business associates in Puerto Vallarta warned us, no one would ever go to Cabo San Lucas. It was just a fisherman's hideaway! We took the challenge and plunged in, literally, with a swim in the lovely Medano bay!

There was nothing easy during those first years, finding supplies and a work force that came from the mainland of Mexico. The workers were wonderful, hardworking and enjoyed working with this “gringo architect” who loved to work side by side with them, putting up a wall or taking down a wall. Ed became famous for moving walls! Life was very exciting and challenging. Our son Mark had joined us and was an apt student of his father's work. Side by side, each day we were progressing and a little bit of our dream was beginning to blossom.

Our opening date for the first phase of Cascadas de Baja was October 1986. We were striving rigorously to achieve this monumental task. We were very fortunate to have members who believed in us and had invested in “our dream.” We were going to be ready for them!

It was the beginning....

As the years moved on, we completed phases two and three, and opened the entire resort in 1991. We have been blessed to have an incredible team, the Board of Directors, the Legacy Committee, Trading Places, on-site management, a vigorous sales team, and our CFO, founder of “The Legacy” program.

We are now moving forward to a new phase; the Giddings family are working closely with the Board of Directors to finalize the turnover of the resort to the members and the Cascadas Association. You will be receiving detailed information from the Board of Directors in the very near future.

It is a momentous time for all of us and most exciting for the future of Cascadas de Baja and the membership.

I wish you good health, happiness and many years of pleasure at your resort, Cascadas de Baja.

Sincerely,

Patricia Giddings, President
Club Cascadas de Baja Board of Directors

Board of Directors:

Larry Greenberg	Patricia Giddings
Richard Bort	Mark Giddings
Marty Russell	David Giddings

Fun at Club



Staff Spotlight

Jose Agundez Castillo

Hello, my name is **Jose Agundez Castillo**. I was privileged for being born and raised in this beautiful port of Cabo San Lucas, where I spent my childhood and part of my adolescence. Cabo San Lucas is also where



I met many of my friends who I continue to stay in touch with. At the age of 17, I moved to the city of Guadalajara, in the State of Jalisco, to begin college and spent four beautiful years learning about the culture of the region. As I returned to Cabo San Lucas I encountered the problem of having no work experience. I started working as a waiter and shortly after, I was invited to join a new hotel project where I rendered my services for three years at a Front Desk position, and I found working in the "Staff and Guest" department most gratifying. One day, I received a call from a friend and worker of Club Cascadas de Baja inviting me to join the staff, which I rejected because I already had a steady job. I received a second call from my friend and decided to allow myself the opportunity to visit the Club. When I arrived at the resort, I was amazed by how friendly the guests and club employees were to one another. It was easy for me to relate and get along with others.

Thanks to the opportunity, I was introduced to a magical place surrounded by friendly people, dedicated to providing excellence in service. At the end of the day, what led me to make the decision to stay at Club Cascadas were the guests and the positive way they treated staff members. They were friendly, very respectful and I was most impacted by how much they care for the Club and the people who work in it. This is one of the most beautiful hotels with unique architecture, exceptional guests, and a gorgeous beach with a spectacular sunrise and sunset that makes you fall in love. Every day I am thankful to this place, where I live and what I have become. I am also very grateful to my superiors for giving me the opportunity to work in such a beautiful and unique place and for the trust they have placed in me. My job feels like home and my coworkers became part of my family.

A huge thank you to all the guests for being the way you are and for treating us with such warmth and affection. I hope to continue offering my services for many more years at this paradise we call Club Cascadas de Baja.

MANAGER'S MESSAGE

Greetings from Club Cascadas,



It gives me great pleasure to write my first Manager's message for Club Cascadas.

I consider myself fortunate for belonging to the select resort group of the Cascadas Family. As you may know, I held the General Manager position at Ocho Cascadas for two years. During my time at Ocho, I made very good friends and obtained a great deal of experience, which I am now using to carry out my duties and responsibilities with professionalism and joy while also ensuring the efficient management of both human and financial resources at your home away from home.

For me, the opportunity to be able to manage and work amongst an excellent group of individuals, who are not only excellent human beings, but collectively, they are a very solid family, has been most gratifying.

On a different note, some of you may already be aware that this year the resort

will undergo several renovations which includes the remodeling of 14 entire villas (Perla and Perlita 9 and Palmas 301-312), replacing our elevator located in the Lobby area, the missing Jacuzzis for villas Escondido J 21, J22, J24, and the resurfacing of Margarita 11 and 12. This year we planned the work schedule by planning the remodel of separate areas at differing times to be able to pay more attention to detail and avoid saturating the Club with construction staff. The remodeling will begin in Perla and Perlita 9 on week 18 and is projected to end with the Palmas 300's in week 43. We apologize for any inconveniences that we may cause, but this is for the betterment of the Club and our Members.

While you are visiting, do not hesitate to contact me if you would like to either meet me in person or if you have any comments or recommendations.

Saludos,

Miguel Torres
General Manager

CONTACT INFORMATION REMINDER

Have you moved recently? Please remember to update your contact information with Trading Places International to ensure that you receive important association mailers and billing statements.

You can update your contact information directly by calling 800-365-7601 ext. 1 or by visiting www.clubcascadasdebaja.com/changeofaddress.



Happy Member Comments

"This is Paradise!"

I will be accused of hyperbole, but Club Cascadas is Paradise. The serene setting with direct access to the beach; the restaurants, including a sushi bar; fragrant blossoms wafting in the breeze; a full service spa; multiple pools and hot tubs—all these are exceptional. However, the foundation of this resort is its unparalleled service. Every employee has one goal—your complete relaxation and enjoyment. And staff complete their tasks with genuine delight and without intrusion. If you are fortunate enough to book one of the palatial penthouses, you are indeed in heaven. - Fran H.

"Ultimate relaxation with old Mexico feel"

A well established, reliable, clean, safe and friendly resort. A great atmosphere. Old Mexico feel with modern amenities. No raucous party noise but lots of fun and laughter. Two wonderful pools perfect for meeting people. Perfect beach location for relaxation, walking or water sports. Amazing staff. Really good food. We go every year. Nowhere else in Cabo is like this. Good for couples, families or single travelers. Partners with grocery delivery service so kitchen can be stocked when you arrive. Have used this—excellent. - NancyJo2015

Members and Memories



The "Mexican Polar Bears" completed their 4th annual Arroyo-2-Arch swim! (also known as the AA meeting) on 1/1/17. Here is the low down on the event by one of our Club Cascadas members and original founder of the group, Karl Voss...

"The whole thing came about because I (Karl) wanted to do a swim in Mexico (Julie and I had just swum the Dardanelles in Turkey). Frances, Suzanne & Bill were easy to convince to join us. For the past 4 years, a group of us do an annual New-Year's-Day-Swim from the beach to the Arch. We have come up with a somewhat catchy name 'Arroyo 2 Arch,' or "AA Meeting", but the "Mexican Polar Bear Club" is fast becoming the favorite label for the group. Last year we were 9 (and one straggler the next day)... This year was by far the largest group and they deserve a big shout-out (especially since the wind made coming back pretty difficult.)



It took us between 45 and 60 minutes to get to the Arch. The 2 really fast swimmers stayed with others to ensure safety. Last year we were 9; the year before 6 or so. The

first time around we were 4 (with Bill and Suzanne switching off). This year three more of our friends announced they would join us; it was also the first year we 'officially' announced the swim at the meet-and-greet orientation at the club & we promptly had 3 more spontaneous additions!

The whole event is very non-competitive. The goal is to start the New Year on a positive note, as well as swimming all the way through the Arch!

We would like to have anyone who wants to join us next year (1/1/18) to be sure to practice: you should be able to swim 1 mile in the pool; you should classify yourself as 'proficient' or as 'newbie.' We will swim in groups & will need at least one kayaker per group. Any volunteers are welcome to help."

So, if you would like to join in this endeavor next year, just come on down to the beach bright and early and be ready to dive in at eight o'clock sharp for a fantastic adventure!



Bill Willis and his daughter Joy have years of fond memories to share from their many years at Club Cascadas de Baja. Ever since the very beginning of the Club's existence, Bill and his wife Elaine discovered their little slice of heaven while Club Cascadas was only half built! "A leap of faith" Joy explained as her parents ventured into what has become a

true second home for this family.

"Dad and Mum discovered Cascadas in 1987", and "they loved it from the start," described Joy. "They came here together until 2001 when Mum was no longer well enough. After 5 rather lonely visits by himself, Dad invited me to join him in 2007. In spite of all they told me about Cascadas, I wasn't prepared for the beauty of the place or the friends I'd be surrounded by!!"



Peder and Lynn McElroy have been coming to Club Cascadas de Baja for many years. Lynn shared a little story about how they first came to know and love our beautiful club! Here's what she said..."We are all so blessed to have found this special place that we have all connected & treasured as time goes by. It is special to see everyone each year & hear how they are. It is so funny that I first found Cascadas in a House Beautiful Magazine. Then I stepped off the plane at the airport in San Jose, & there it was advertised on the wall... a huge, framed, beautiful picture of the resort! I told my husband Peder I wanted to go there, so we did, & fell in love with it right away! Back then, only one quarter of the club had been built, so we bought it in good faith & have never been disappointed." We are "Very blessed to have shared it with many friends and family through the years. I can imagine week 12 is great time of year to be there & the weather is perfect!"

New to the Website!

The Resort Information section of the www.clubcascadasdebaja.com now features a pre-arrival form! To assist Club staff in planning your arrival, please fill out the pre-arrival information form two weeks or more prior to your arrival to your home away from home.



Annual Meeting Notice

Please mark your calendars!

The Cascadas de Baja Association's annual meeting of the members is scheduled to take place on Saturday, June 24, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. (PDT) at the Wyndham Hotel near the John Wayne/ Orange County Airport at 17941 Von Karman Ave., Irvine, CA 92614.

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Club Cascadas de Baja

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Club Cascadas de Baja disclaims any responsibility for claims made or the performance of goods and services advertised in this newsletter.

OWNER SERVICES

800-365-7601 ext. 1 | ownerservices@tradingplaces.com

- Deposit your week (TPI, II) / Inquire about your contract
- Re-confirm your arrival date - *this can also be done online at* www.clubcascadasdebaja.com/reservationrequest
- Pay maintenance fees

Important Maintenance Fee Information

Regular association dues are billed annually and are due and payable per your ABC policy. A statement is mailed to you as a courtesy; non-receipt of a statement does not relieve you of your financial obligation.

Pay Online at www.clubcascadasdebaja.com/pay

Questions about your Maintenance Fees or Assessment

Billings? Call the Accounting Department at 800-365-7601

ext. 7 or e-mail billings@tradingplaces.com

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RENTAL

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- Rent additional time at Club Cascadas, or other TPI resorts
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www.tradingplaces.com/CONDOCONNECT

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RESALES

To buy, sell or inquire about the Cascadas Vacation Legacy, contact the on-site sales team at 888-846-5571, 949-640-8742 in California, or e-mail sales@cascadaslegacy.com

RESORT MANAGEMENT

As your management company, Trading Places is dedicated to making your property the best it can be. Please feel free to contact us at any time.

GOT BOOKS?

Don't forget to toss a few books into your suitcase next time you visit Club Cascadas. The lending library is hungry for some new reading material!



Solicitation of Nominations

We are always looking to add diversity to our Board of Directors. Can you bring something new and fresh to the table? Does your background provide perspective that might benefit the Board? Will your strengths make the Board stronger as a whole?

Serving a two year term on the Board of Directors is your opportunity to make an impact on the future of Cascadas de Baja by becoming involved in the decision-making process. (You must be a member of the association in good standing to submit your nomination.)

If you have an interest in serving on the board of directors, please contact droadmin@tradingplaces.com or send your request and contact information to the address below. We will be happy to send you the form and consider your nomination for our next election.

Thank you!

US Mail: Trading Places International
Attn: DRO Admin
25510 Commercentre Drive, Suite 100
Lake Forest, CA 92630

Tell Us Your Story!

We'd love to hear from you! Will you share your comments, stories, and vacation photos with us?

Please send your story and fun and pretty (high-res) vacation shots to Trading Places International, Attn: Casey Clayson at 25510 Commercentre Drive, Suite 100, Lake Forest, CA 92630 or email casey.clayson@tradingplaces.com.



Did You Know?

Getting from the Los Cabos airport to Club Cascadas is a breeze when you book your transfer with TransCabo. For the reasonable price of \$22.00 per person (including tax), you will ride in a cool, clean and comfortable shuttle van straight to the front steps of your home-away-from-home.

TransCabo now offers the option of booking a handicap accessible van as a private transportation option.*

Please go to www.tradingplaces.com/travel/caboground for more information and to make your transportation reservations.

**Handicap Accessible Van is subject to availability and confirmation is required.*