



AMERICAN CLUB OF ESTEPONA

SEPTEMBER
2012

ACE Grand Opening & July 4th



Our new club (inside and out) was decorated with lots of red, white and blue balloons and American flags to celebrate this very special occasion with flowers for all the inside tables.

Tables were inside and out on our new terrace for all the many people who came to help us celebrate. The party began at 1:30 and went on until almost 9.

A representative from the mayor's office cut the ribbon to make the opening official. Flowers were presented to Francine Pompas for all the great help she has been to the club in so many ways. A television crew from Estepona television was on hand to take pictures and Sandra Russell did the interview in Spanish for the feature which was later broadcast. (copy in club) A representative from Sur in English was also there and interviewed President Michael Moss, the interview of which was published in the Sur with a nice picture. (see page 10)

There was live music throughout the day beginning with Tomas Navas with Spanish guitar music, followed by John Porter with his usual huge

repertoire on keyboard.

Some of our members prepared and sold a variety of food. Sandra Russell sold hot dogs, Ronnie Winder made and sold Mexican fajitas, Rita Mays made and sold brownies as well as apple cake provided by Barbara Duvier. A number of our members worked very hard all day behind the bar—Janet Kirkwood, Geoff Acland, Michael Moss and Jan Painter.

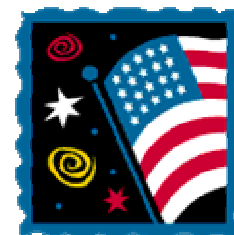
Roberta Aaron, U.S. Consular Agent from Fuenjirola came and spoke briefly about the club and the significance of Independence Day for Americans.

Thanks to all the people who were helpful in creating the publicity the club got for this event. Mike made up fliers and leaflets to explain our club; Sandra and Paca Blanchard translated them into Spanish.

Thanks to Michael, John Russell and Brian Winder for all their hard work putting up all the flags, bunting, etc. to make the club look great.

Thanks also to all of you who came along and spent your money and helped celebrate this special day.

See pictures page 3 and 10.



September Events

General Meeting

Saturday, September 8th - 1:30 pm

Come for the first meeting after the long hot summer break.

Bring finger food if you plan to eat!



ACE Celebrates their 25th Anniversary September 29th

At two o' clock on Saturday, September 29th we will have a big party to celebrate our anniversary. There will be food, drinks and one of our favorite musician, John Porter.

We are inviting all our members, former members and friends to come along and help us celebrate this very special occasion.

We will also have a super raffle in support of our long time charity, CUDECA. It will consist of cash voucher cards for Carrafour, vouchers for the club bar and other nice surprises.

There will be a small charge for the event: 3 euros for members and 5 euros for non members and we are asking members to bring a plate of food.

REGULAR ACTIVITIES

Sewing Classes

This is an informal group who get together on Fridays at 2:00 to do quilting, sewing, etc. Come along and join for what ever type of sewing you do.

Bridge:

Every Wednesday 3:30-5:30 . This is for long time bridge players to play and for those who want to learn. Cost € 1 per session.

September Quiz:

The quiz will be on Wednesday, September 19th at 7:30. Quiz master and food to be announced.

Meal and quiz is 7:50 and quiz alone is 1:30.

Summer Events

Bake Sale

The club had a very successful bake sale on June 9th with all the members bringing lots of great goodies, both sweet and savory. Also, lots of folks came along and spent their money to buy these making a total of 90 euros for the club.

Table Sale, June 17th

We all paid five euros for the table and brought in things around our houses that we didn't need, some hand made items from the sewing class, as well as some enterprising members who made pickles and Cornish pasties for sale. The table rental went to the club as well as some members who donated the proceeds of their sale table. In all the club made 40 euros on the day and some of our members made a little extra.

Well done everyone!

June quiz:

A very challenging quiz was given on the 20th by Ann Hardwick and the meal was prepared and served by Rita Mays.

Winners were:

1st round: Mike Moss & Rosie Zambra

2nd round: Ronnie Winder and guest

3rd round: Brian Winder and guest

4th round: John & Sandra Russell

The overall score was made by Michael and Rosie. Thanks for everyone who contributed to a very enjoyable evening.



July 4th Party



HOSPITALITY

Michael Moss

The bar has been fairly quiet during July and August. However, because of our fantastic July 4th celebration Julys takings were double that of last years and we have already (at the time of writing this) surpassed last Augusts total with another 10 days still to go! Well done everybody.

We are still having some difficulties manning the bar though, specially during September with Janet returning to UK for a months well earned rest. Any Volunteers out there willing to do a few hours a week for their club? Pleeeeease!



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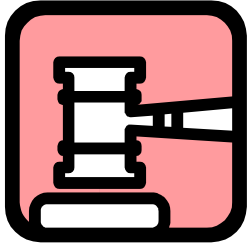
Welcome Back Party
October 20th

This is quite a time away but since our members are very busy, we want to let you know so you can put this on your calendar.

We are having our welcome back party late this year as so many of our wandering members are not back in September.

This should be a fun party with food, live music and seeing friends we haven't seen for a while.

Cost will be 15 euros for members and 17 for non-members so sign up early .



NOTES THE FROM PRESIDENT

MICHAEL MOSS

It doesn't seem two months since the last newsletter, but it is. Welcome back Rita!

Actually, there was one for July, only available on-line @ acestepona.com, showing some fantastic photos of our July 4th celebrations.

After a very peaceful July and August it will be good to see the club coming alive again during September. We have so much to look forward to in the next few months starting with our 'ACE 25th Anniversary' Party on Saturday 29th with John Porter for which I would love everybody to spread the word so that we can get as many current, past, lapsed and future members as possible to attend. Lets show them that we can still put on a good 'do'. Coincidental with the party we'll be holding a fantastic raffle in aid of Cudeca. So that we can raise lots of money for this really good cause we'll be sending out press releases and hoping we can get the same response as we had for our fabulous July 4th party. The Anniversary Party will be 3 euros for members and 5 euros for non members. Better sign up quickly as even with our new premises space will be limited! Following this we've a 'Welcome Back Party' on Saturday 20th October, when we can welcome back old friends and really let our hair down. Then, staying in the party mood we can look forward to Thanksgiving, Halloween, and a really big New Year's Eve bash.

on a more sombre note we must remember that it is exactly a year since the fire that destroyed our old club premises. But hey! Haven't we done well since! I haven't heard a bad word about our new location and I'm sure that in our new premises the club will go from strength to strength.

A little marriage humor.....

My wife and I were sitting at a table at her school reunion, and she kept staring at a drunken man swigging his drink as he sat alone at a nearby table.

I asked her, "Do you know him?" "Yes", she sighed, "He's my old boyfriend. I understand he took to drinking right after we split up those many years ago, and I hear he hasn't been sober since."

"My God!" I said, "Who would think a person could go on celebrating that long?"

And then the fight started...

* * * * *

When our lawn mower broke and wouldn't run, my wife kept hinting to me that I should get it fixed. But, somehow I always had something else to take care of first, the shed, the boat, making beer. Always something more important to me. Finally she thought of a clever way to make her point.

When I arrived home one day, I found her seated in the tall grass, busily snipping away with a tiny pair of sewing scissors. I watched silently for a short time and then went into the house. I was gone only a minute, and when I came out again I handed her a toothbrush. I said, "When you finish cutting the grass, you might as well sweep the driveway."

The doctors say I will walk again, but I will always have a limp.



QUE PASA?



September Birthdays

September 3	Pat Storey
September 23	Nita Marsh
September 27	Vera Whiting
September 30	George Cannon

Happy Birthday To Everyone

Several of our members have a very eventful September coming up. BRIAN DOWNEY, VERA WHITING, PAT STOREY AND SUZANNE FRANCIS are off the St. Petersburg in mid September.

On September 27th, Brian and Ralph will be married in a civil ceremony in Chelsea and then off the Egypt on the 28th with Pat Story and her daughter and granddaughter. They will be back in Estepona on October 7th.

Email from TOM & MARY ELLEN MASSMAN said they have just returned from a tour of the Baltic countries and are off to Hawaii soon.

A little space to fill.....

After retiring, I went to the Social Security office to apply for Social Security. The woman behind the counter asked me for my driver's License to verify my age. I looked in my pockets and realized I had left my wallet at home. I told the woman that I was very sorry, but I would have to go home and come back later. The woman said, 'Unbutton your shirt'. So I opened my shirt revealing my curly silver hair. She said, 'That silver hair on your chest is proof enough for me' and she processed my Social Security application.

When I got home, I told my wife about my experience at the Social Security office. She said, 'You should have dropped your pants. You might have gotten disability too.'

CHICAGO BRIDGE

According to Hoyles Book of Games this type of Bridge is called the friendly game because one does not need a partner and one has the chance to play with a different partner every 4 hands. The word CHICAGO only applies to the movement (as in a Whist Drive), the game is the same as contract bridge but the scoring is much easier.

If you have ever played bridge, no matter how long ago, or if you are learning to play, we welcome all comers. Watch out for the starting date in September and come along and join us!

Anne Hardwick More info?

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THE OFFICIAL TEXAS SHERIFF EXAM

A young Texan grew up wanting to be a lawman. He grew up big, 6' 2", strong as a longhorn, and fast as a mustang. He could shoot a bottle cap tossed in the air at 40 paces. When he finally came of age, he applied to where he had only dreamed of working: the West Texas Sheriff's Department. After a series of tests and interviews, the Chief Deputy finally called him into his office for the young man's last interview.

The Chief Deputy said, "You're a big strong kid and you can really shoot. So far your qualifications all look good, but we have, what you might call, an "Attitude Suitability Test", that you must take before you can be accepted. We just don't let anyone carry our badge, son." Then, sliding a service pistol and a box of ammo across the desk, the Chief said, "Take this pistol and go out and shoot six illegal aliens, six lawyers, six meth dealers, six Muslim extremists, six Democrats, and a rabbit."

"Why the rabbit?" queried the applicant.

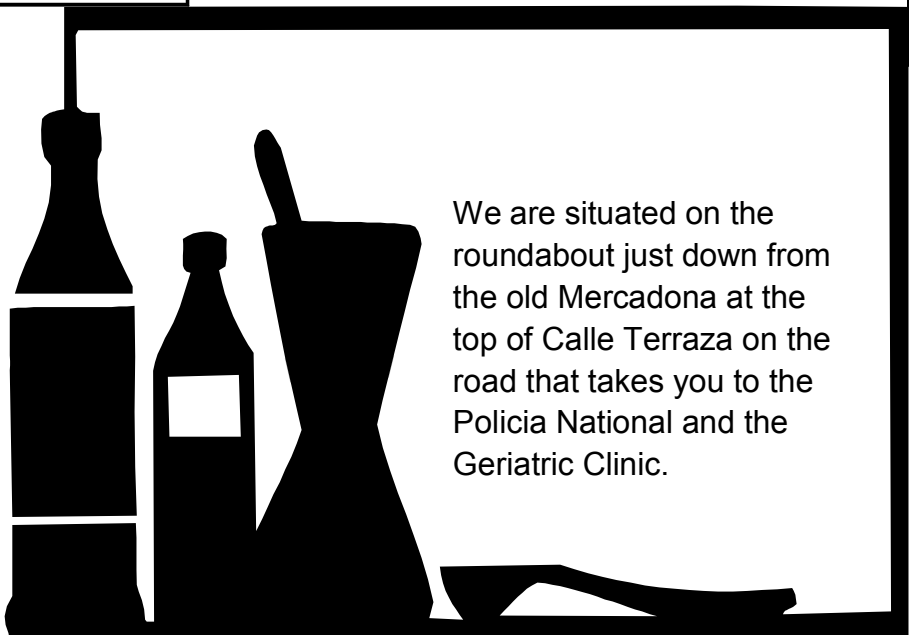
"Great attitude. You pass," said the Chief Deputy. "When can you start?"

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THE KOOKING KORNER

Many thanks to Pat Caldwell for contributing the recipes this month. We all know what a super cook she is!

Fish Pate

- 1/2 Kilo White fish fillet
- 1 or 2 cloves crushed garlic
- 50gms butter
- 150ml thick cream
- 2 tsps very finely chopped parsley
- 1/2 tsp finely grated lemon rind
- 2 tsps lemon juice

Topping

6 tbs thick mayonnaise and 1 tblsp tomato puree

Cook fish in very little water for about 10 mins adding salt and pepper.

Drain well then flake and blend with garlic, softened butter and cream. Place in bowl and beat with parsley lemon rind and juice and season well (touch of sherry pepper). Chill well and top with blended mayonnaise and tomato puree.

Courgette Frittata

- 4 whole eggs and 2 yolks
- 2 small firm courgettes, coarsely grated
- 50gms grated Parmesan cheese
- 2 tsps creme fraiche
- a few sprigs chopped parsley

Stir together all the ingredients. Rub a medium sized frying pan with 1 tblsp olive oil and set over medium heat. After a few minutes add the egg mixture and cook on stove until the underside is browned. Lift an edge and look. Grill for a few minutes until the frittata is lightly browned on top but still a little soft in the middle. Leave in pan until set and eat with a green salad.

Beef Stroganoff

- 1 kilo of beef fillet
- 1 chopped onion
- 250gms sliced mushrooms
- 125gms butter
- 1 glass of white wine
- 1 pint sour cream
- Lemon juice, salt and pepper

Cut beef into thin strips, season and beat thinner if necessary. Saute onions and mushrooms in half the butter. In second pan fry meat in very hot butter for a few seconds. Pour wine over the onion and mushrooms, add lemon juice and reduce slightly. Pour in sour cream and heat without boiling. Add meat and serve with rice and green peas.



Library Reviews

Brian Winder

I've collected half a dozen really excellent books over the summer and they'll be introduced into the library over the next two months. Hopefully, with all the lazing around you'll have all been doing over the summer, the heat will have stopped you reading too much and you can now get back into practice. Additionally, any books you've read you can bring them in.

PRIVATE GAMES by James Patterson and Mark Sullivan

Third of the excellent Private series, this novel exceeds the others primarily because its backdrop is the 2012 Olympic Games in London. Patterson second guesses the make up of the games but then it was a well kept secret! The storyline is, however, really in keeping with his best and the fact that his version of the events doesn't match reality is testament to the organizers of the real things and our Security Services.

Starting with the murder of one of the Organizing Committee and the involvement of the Head of Private London the plot rattles along at an amazing pace.

Basically, the reader can forgive factual accuracy for a great story which could well have happened in our twisted world!

SCARPETTA by Patricia Cornwall

Cornwall brings together shades of Hannibal Lector, her usual excellent blend of criminal forensic science and 'the thrill of the chase'. A

somewhat complicated story with a host of weird characters but well worth reading, especially if, like me, you've had a break from her stories for a while.

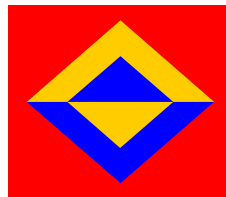
THE VISITOR by Lee Child

I do love the Jack Reacher novels. His anti-hero persona appeals to a great many people and this won't let them down. Typically, Reacher falls into a complicated plot whilst pressured into assisting the FBI to investigate the deaths of two ladies he'd known when in the military. Both ladies were found naked and immersed in their baths at home – not covered in water though but in baths full of paint. Good plot.

THE FRONT by Patricia Cornwall

A slightly different spin on her usual novels. A State Investigator is given a challenging case to resolve and its complexity involves secrets from the past which puts him and his boss in danger.

Who'd have thought that the murder of a young British woman assumed to be a victim of the Boston Strangler some 40 years earlier would have a major impact on the present!





This is a reprint of the picture printed in the Sur in English with president Michael Moss, Tomas our musician and Mercedes Buckley doing a Spanish dance.

Ronnie's Art Wrkshop

We start here in the Club on Thursday 6th September and all are welcome. We normally work in either water colours or acrylic and like to introduce other mediums like pastels or charcoal etc when appropriate. We're a friendly group and work in a relaxed atmosphere as a workshop which covers everyone from a beginner with no experience to those who wish to enhance their developing skills. I cover group instruction through to one on one help which develops your inbuilt talent covering all aspects of painting from perspective, light/shade, landscape and basic portraits.

If you are interested, please come along at 2.30pm on Thursdays for a free introduction to the group and see if the workshop style would suit your aspirations and if you wish to proceed further I'll give you a list of the basic materials you will need to start. Usual price is 10 euros (one of which goes to the club) Non club members pay a 1euro day membership which with drinks at half the price of other locations you'll recover your outlay almost immediately!

Please ask Ronnie or Brian for information

If you have any queries please contact me on **952800875** or on mobile **656550068**.

Email through twoartistsinspain@gmail.com

**AMERICAN CLUB of ESTEPONA****CALLE SAN ROQUE 70****APARTADO CORREOS 267****ESTEPONA, 29680 MALAGA, SPAIN.****Phone no. 952 793 059****E-mail ritamaysspain@gmail.com****www.acestepona.org****CLASSIFIED ADS**

Work wanted: General house cleaning wanted by Isabel who has cleaned the club for many years. Own transport.

In Spanish: 610 650 793

In English: Sandra 606 235 454

Advertise in this space for €1.25 for members and €2.50 for non-members

A.C.E. OFFICERS 2011

PRESIDENT	MICHAEL MOSS	952 807 101
VICE PRESIDENT	PATRICIA CALDWELL	952 805 239
SECRETARY	RITA MAYS	952 937 646
ASST. SECRETARY	SANDRA RUSSELL	952 793 577
TREASURER	JAN PAINTER	628 827 237

A.C.E. COMMITTEE 2011

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HOSPITALITY	MICHAEL MOSS	952 807 101

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Contact the club or a member of the committee



SEPTEMBER 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
			Bridge 3:30 pm	Art Class 2:30 pm	Sewing class 2:00 pm	General Meet- ing 1:30
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
			Bridge 3:30 pm		Sewing class 2:00 pm	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
			Bridge Quiz 7:30		Sewing class 2:00 pm	25th Anniver- sary Party 7:30
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
			Bridge 3:30 pm		Sewing class 2:00 pm	25th Anniversary Party 2:00 pm
30		Welcome Back Party Oct. 20th				