

## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Bienvenidos Ocho Members,

I hope this holiday season greets you with good health and good cheer! It never ceases to amaze me how quickly it comes upon us! It's so cliché but so true and yet here we are with Christmas around the corner and embarking on the new year.

I have always loved this time of year down at Ocho and Puerto Vallarta. The people and the town really embrace the spirit of the season and it is one of the most beautiful times of the year with lights everywhere, mariachis singing Feliz Navidad, and perfect weather!

This time of year can get very hectic with deadlines, work responsibilities, family commitments and gift shopping and it is too easy to get stressed out and lose sight of the joy of the season and all the things that keep us connected. So my hope is that we all take stock of the good things in life and embrace our family and friends and have happy and joyous Holiday and New Year!

Feliz Navidad y Feliz Año Nuevo!



*Patricia Giddings*  
President  
Board of Directors

## MANAGER'S MESSAGE

Dear Members,

Summer season is over and Puerto Vallarta looks spectacular after so much rain. Ocho is nestled within a rugged forested mountain that you can admire while enjoying your stay. Our team worked hard during maintenance weeks (September) to prepare your villas to ensure you have a pleasant stay during your next visit.

We made some improvements to your villas, selected new activity vendors, gathered more information about new restaurants, and put together a list of many more exciting things to do while you are here.

We look forward to pampering you at our welcome cocktail party, wine and cheese evening, and the Monday tequila tasting. Drop by the front desk to grab a book, games, binoculars, beach chairs, beach umbrellas, or snorkel equipment. Let us take care of you and coordinate your transportation, the floating chef, fishing, activities, etc.

Remember your Ocho staff is looking forward to seeing you back and welcoming you to paradise once again!

Ulises Alfaro

# Report from David Giddings



Mark, Dave Stoenner and I just recently went to Ocho for a maintenance trip and to be quite honest the trip was bitter sweet. We were able to stay in the penthouse for two nights and it was nothing short of breathless. We were also able to partake on Lalo's finest creations, and yes we indulged in the filet mignon, baked potato and the blue cheese salad on the first night. The meal was exceptional. Sitting there with the heavenly view of the Bay of Banderas with the exquisite colors of sunset and the balmy weather was as good as it gets. I guess the bitter part of the trip was that Ocho was fully occupied and we had to stay down the street at another resort, which was nice, but not Ocho!

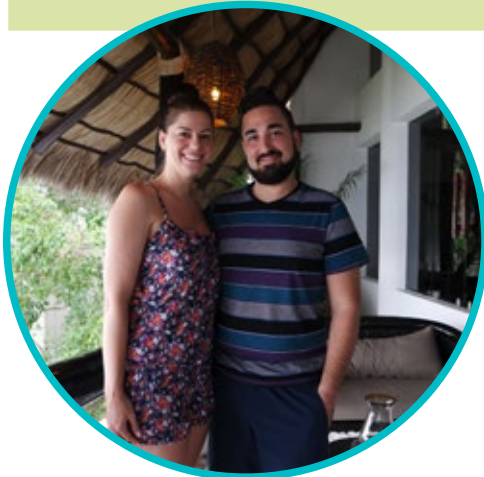
We had a productive visit with Ulises, Odette, Luisa, and the whole Ocho team. The first and foremost item on the agenda was to check on the work that was performed during maintenance weeks. We were pleased with the attention to detail from the painting, furnishings, linens, pool work and the overall condition of the facility. The resort is still relatively new so getting ahead of and staying on top of maintenance is paramount for the continued wellbeing of the resort. Ulises and staff are doing a great job keeping up with our expectations.

On another front, Mark and I met with Dave Stoenner and Luisa Anderson and discussed current sales, new sales strategies and incentives for our existing members, their relatives and friends. We encourage all members to inquire about what a great value we can bring to your current membership and what we can add to it as we move into 2019. We like it and we think you will like it too!

Once again the Friday night cocktail event was a success and we were able to raffle off prizes to members and sample Pedro's imaginative and delicious cocktails and they did not disappoint! We, along with the staff had the great pleasure to celebrate Lalo's birthday and he was overjoyed when he received a new guitar!

In summary, we had a very positive trip and spirits are high and the whole staff are excited and look forward to welcoming you back to your, "home away from home!"

David Giddings 🍹



## Our Youngest Owners

Christina Rinaldi and her husband Benito, have become owners at Ocho Cascadas this year making them our youngest owners so far. We are very happy to have them as part of the Ocho Family!

We are proud of all those who are part of Ocho. Every time we welcome members, we want them to feel the love of home. 🍹

# Mexican Traditions

## *Day of the Dead, November 2nd*

One of Mexico's most beautiful traditions is the great celebration known as the "Día de los Muertos" or Day of the Dead. For many families, the Day of the Dead is a day to meet with their departed loved ones, feel their company and offering them the things they liked while they were alive.

Usually, families setup an altar at home for the deceased person or persons, which is usually made up of a photo, African Marigold flowers (known in Mexico as "cempazuchitl"), the loved one's favorite food, drinks, sweets, and the things they liked in life.



At the cemetery or the resting place of the deceased, people decorate the graves with flowers.

If you visit any cemetery on this special day, you will realize the importance and the magic of the Day of the Dead. At Ocho Cascadas, we honor the life and the memory of the great Ocho Cascadas Architect Edward Giddings by creating an altar for him. 8



## HAPPY MEMBER COMMENTS

"Please tell us what we are doing well: SERVICE, SERVICE, SERVICE! AND SO FRIENDLY!"

"Beyond excellent!! Food & day to day service was outstanding."

"Everyone is wonderful @ Ocho"

"Excellent. Ocho familia, muchas gracias por un tiempo increíble. Todos nos hicieron sentir especiales y recibimos un excelente servicio. Fueron estupendos."

"1ST rate excellent experience."

"Hospitality is excellent, feels like home."

Thank you for taking the time to fill out comment cards with comments and suggestions. Your feedback is appreciated and allows us to know the areas in which we are doing well and how we can help improve your vacation experience.



# UPCOMING EVENTS IN PUERTO VALLARTA

Are you looking for things to do during your stay? Check-out these 2019 events.

## *PV Carnaval Parade*

On March 5th, beginning at 8:00 p.m. Puerto Vallarta will begin its' celebration of Mardis Gras. Make your way to the hotel zone to see the three-kilometer- long carnival parade, catch beads, be amazed by the colorful outfits and street performers and enjoy all the family-friendly festivities. This is an event not to miss!

## *Regata Internacional Bahía de Banderas*

The Regata Internacional Bahía de Banderas provides competitive fun for all classes of cruising and race boats. From Tuesday, March 5th to Saturday, March 9th you can gaze across a bay filled with race and sail boats.

## *Historic Center Art Walk*

Puerto Vallarta is home to a wide range of art. Every Wednesday from 6 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. from October 31, 2018 to May 29, 2019 you may visit participating galleries in the Historic Center and enjoy paintings, sculpture, ceramics, and jewelry.

## *Southside Shuffle on Basillo Badillo*

Every other Friday from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. beginning November 16th until May, wander along Basillo Badillo, a

beautiful bougainvillea-lined street in old town Puerto Vallarta. Explore the art galleries, drop by the boutiques, grab a bite to eat, dance, and so much more. Friday Dates: January 13th & 27th, February 10th & 24th, March 10th & 24th, April 7th & 21st


## *Humpback Whale Watching*

From December to March, one of the largest mammals world, the Yubartas, commonly known as humpback whales, migrate back to the warm waters of the Jalisco Coast after spending the summer in the polar regions of the world. Whale watching tours are available from December to early March each year. These magnificent creatures are a sight to see!

## *Don't Forget to check out the markets!*


Farmers Market held every Saturday Parque Lazaro Cardenas from 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Marina Vallarta Art & Market held every Thursday from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

For more information about local events taking place in Puerto Vallarta, please drop by the front desk. Don't forget you can also fill out the pre-arrival tour form on the website to reserve an event in advance! 

## Penthouse Staff

Please welcome Pedro, our new houseman. Pedro is from Puerto Vallarta. He likes to prepare delicious and very colorful beverages. If you come to the cocktail party on Friday, you will get a chance to see him and try some of his exotic drinks!

Pedro is very helpful and is very happy to be part of our great team at Ocho Cascadas. If you have an opportunity to stay in the penthouse, we recommend you ask him what he has for you to try. We are sure that you will be delighted with his delicious beverages and the service he provides! 



# BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION & Giddings Visit



We enjoyed Lalo's Birthday celebration, along with the penthouse guests, Mark & David Giddings and Dave Stoenner.

We had a great time, and Lalo was very happy with his new guitar, gifted by David to him.

It is so gratifying to see the smiles of everyone. Over the years, we have developed a true sense of family at work. 🍷



# 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: DRO Admin at 25510 Commercentre Drive, Suite 100, Lake Forest, CA 92630 or email [droadmin@tradingplaces.com](mailto:droadmin@tradingplaces.com). 🍷

## Sales Update



Over the last 2 years, getting to know our Ocho Cascadas family of happy members has been a real pleasure for me. I look forward to welcoming all of you back to your PV home. Thanks to a successful sales year the villas will be full of members this winter making it such a special time for all of us. Be sure to invite friends and family for their own Ocho experience and hopefully they will want to become part of our growing family of members.

Do you know how to turn that frown upside down on check out day? ... Easy, buy another week and stay longer next time! We have very few unsold winter weeks left so this is a good time to pop in and see me before they are gone or consider coming twice a year so you don't have to wait so long between visits. Let's see if we have something that will be just right for you and your family. Shoulder and summer weeks, from June through August, is a perfect time for families with children to own a week at Ocho. I have heard stories from many adults who recall "growing up at Ocho Cascadas."

Ask me about the attractive discounts and incentives we have for our loyal members who want to own more weeks/villas. We also wish to show our appreciation by giving you a choice of gifts for bringing us new members.

¡Hasta pronto!

Luisa  
[luisa@ochocascadas.com](mailto:luisa@ochocascadas.com) 🍷





# LALO'S CREATIONS

## Molecular Gastronomy

Great news for our Penthouse members and guests!

Our Penthouse chef, Lalo, has recently completed a certified course in molecular gastronomy. Lalo focused on the study of the physical and chemical processes that occur while preparing different types of foods and uses scientific techniques to create new and entirely experimental dishes. You have probably already seen creations made by him using techniques of this style of cooking, such as freezing something instantaneously with or when cooking sous vide.

Congratulations to Lalo for this achievement which will surely be enjoyed by our dear members and guests! 🍷



## MAINTENANCE WEEKS!

We had excellent maintenance weeks. We completed several VERY important PENDING AND CRITICAL PROJECTS ON OUR TO-DO LIST, including the remodel of the pools and palapas.

The entire team at Ocho Cascadas participated in repairs and painting. We deep cleaned certain areas and replaced leather chairs as needed. We applied a new coating to the Venetian tile in the bathrooms and kitchens of each of the villas, which greatly improved the tiles appearance and will increase its lifetime. 🍷





# Members & Memories







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### "Expectations Surpassed"

*This is an incredible place with outstanding staff. Our expectations were exceeded. Beautiful views. Floating chef option is highly recommended. Location is close to old Puerto Vallarta. We didn't want to leave our villa. |*  
Kyle B.

### "Beautiful Ocho Cascadas"

*Ocho Cascadas is a very beautiful and unique resort with eight private villas built in the Concha Chinas area of Puerto Vallarta. Ed Giddings was so ahead of his time with the design of the resort and outdoor living concept. The view of Banderas Bay and the sunsets were a highlight of our trip. The service from the time the pre-arrival grocery list is sent through the entire stay is outstanding. We feel like part of the Ocho family and plan to return in the near future. |* Kathy V.

### "Hard to Get In"

*We own at the sister resort in Cabo, however this place has only 10 units. It's very hard to get in now, this place has a loyal following. If you get a chance to come here, take it. It's a different kind of relax. You're perched on the side of a cliff with your kitchen/dining/pool overlooking the Pacific. Your pool has a waterfall into the unit below you (no peeing in the pool) and is fed by the pool in the unit above you (really no peeing in the pool). The staff are fantastic |* Dave M.

