

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Bienvenidos,

It is with great warmth and gratitude that I write to you about our lovely jewel of a resort Ocho Cascadas! It has been almost five years since we reopened our doors to all of our members and guests. It has been a wild ride, with excitement, adventure and hard work, which has proven to be very gratifying for me personally and the Giddings Family.

I want to thank everyone for their devotion and dedication for continuing the legacy of my late husband Edward Giddings. He would be amazed and extremely proud of what we have accomplished together!

I have the pleasure of reading the many excellent Ocho reviews on TripAdvisor, the positive comment cards, and the complimentary personal letters sent to our office from happy members and guests, all of which truly touch my heart! It is a wonderful confirmation that, yes indeed, we have a magnificent resort that is unlike any other!

I would like to specifically thank Dave Stoenner and Luisa Anderson for their devotion to the Ocho property and their continued enthusiasm for extending our "home away from home" to current members and new members. We want all of our guests to have the opportunity to build wonderful memories with family and friends in the magical atmosphere of Ocho. I also want to thank Trading Places Management and our wonderful on-site staff for taking such great care of our members and beautiful resort. Last but not least, I want to thank my family, Jessica Kim (Giddings Company), the Board of Directors Keith Wisbaum, Steve Farrell,



Mark Giddings, David Giddings, and Financial Committee members Mark Harbour and Brian Jacobs for their time, generosity and genuine love of Ocho Cascadas. It is inspiring.

May everyone have a wonderful holiday season with good health, love for life and good cheer!

Mi casa es su casa.

saludos,

Patricia Giddings



Interested in keeping up to date with things going on at Ocho? Don't forget to sign up for All About Ocho, an email update that we will send out about six times a year and will include local updates, happenings onsite, and anything else that can help our members stay connected. To sign up, simply go to the Ocho Cascadas webpage and scroll down to enter your email. Members can 'opt out' at any time and if you have questions or information you'd like to see shared, please let us know.

MANAGER'S MESSAGE

Dear Members,

We have finished one more maintenance period at Ocho Cascadas. Staff completed a long list of tasks to assure your next stay will be a pleasant one and the property looks pristine.

I am so excited to start a new season offering a variety of new activities in Puerto Vallarta and Banderas Bay. Several new vendors approached us to promote tours, restaurants and new experiences, and our front desk team has worked hard to put together a list of the best choices for you. I always call the front desk team "wish granters" because they can make anything happen. I am sure you will always find



a good option for dining, sightseeing or shopping.

Please remember that we (the staff) are here for you and because of you; most of us grew up in Puerto Vallarta or have been here long enough to be what the locals call a "Pata Salada."

Don't hesitate to contact us for anything that you think can make your stay even more memorable, we always find a way to get it!

Thank you for the opportunity to welcome you back to Ocho Cascadas.

Sincerely,

Ulises Alfaro

My Journeys by David Giddings

Lately I have been traveling to Puerto Vallarta more so than Cabo and I have been enjoying it immensely. Since we reopened Ocho five years ago, I have been visiting 4 times a year on average. Sometimes I visit with my wife and children, and other times with my mom and my brother, Mark, or with Trading Places employees, the board of directors or Dave Stoenner. Most of my trips have been oriented around business, but even while visiting for work, I still can't help soaking up the ambiance of Ocho and the culture of Puerto Vallarta.

My last visit was for the completion of maintenance weeks. Visiting for the completion of maintenance weeks is always very educational.

I take a hands-on tour of what Ulises and staff accomplished over the course of four weeks. It is nice to report that there wasn't anything major completed just the typical painting, cleaning, landscaping, small repair work that was identified and promptly and carefully done. I commend all the staff for chipping in an keeping our resort looking fresh and passionately cared for. In a nutshell Ocho looks amazing!

I am trying to express the wonderful color of town, the warmth of the people and the many surprises one can have with an open mind. While visiting for maintenance weeks, I planned on going to my favorite restaurant, Archie's Wok, but when I arrived, I was greeted with a closed sign. So, I set out on foot and found myself chatting with a friendly Mexican lady outside her family restaurant. She won me over with the promise of the best deep fried Huachinango in town. If one has not sampled the fresh, deep fried delight of Red Snapper I strongly urge you to. In essence, it is Mexico in a meal!

She was right. I had the best Huachinango (Red Snapper) I have had in many years, along with two Margaritas, all in the old school Vallarta way for under twenty dollars! The name of the establishment evades me, but my story shows that much of Puerto Vallarta and Mexico's charm is very much intact and vibrant as



VISITING PUERTO VALLARTA

Puerto Vallarta is the perfect destination for summertime fun with lots to do and less crowds than the peak winter season, May to September is a great time to visit. Yes, you may get rain during your week, but the lightning storms over the bay are absolutely stunning. Why not invite friends and come on down next year? Special member rates and lower airfare in summer make Ocho Cascadas a great summer time destination.

According to the Ceoworld security index, Puerto Vallarta ranks one of the safest cities in the entire world. Out of the 334 cities ranked by Ceoworld for safety, Puerto Vallarta was ranked 83rd. Puerto Vallarta has also been ranked the second safest city in all of Mexico. 🌐



Updates to Policies & Guidelines

Pet Policy Animals (except for service dogs) are not permitted at Ocho Cascadas.

Smoking Policy Smoking is no longer permitted at Ocho Cascadas and failure to comply with the no smoking policy will result in a penalty and/or fine of \$250.

Tipping Guidelines After receiving lots of feedback from members, the board has revised the tipping guidelines. Next time you come down to Ocho, you will notice that there are only two envelopes per villa.

A copy of the rules and regulations can be found on the website. 🌐

HAPPY MEMBER COMMENTS

“Hospitality & assistance of front desk staff H H H H H Rosa, our housekeeper, is a delightful lady H H H H H”

“Excellent. Front desk staff above excellent, exceptional. Courtesy + kindness. The staff, all of them(!) take extremely good care of the guests. We felt like we were family, like special family members. Everyone is courteous and concerned and went above and beyond in service.”

“Superb! Everything is beyond my expectations. Never felt so welcomed.”

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.

OCHO CASCADAS 2020 ANNUAL MEETING

Please mark your calendars for the Ocho Cascadas Association 2020 annual meeting which will be held in Orange County, CA on Saturday, June 6, 2020 at 2:00 p.m. We invite all of our members to join us for this meeting.

At the 2020 annual meeting, Ocho will be holding their first election. All five seats on the Board will need to be filled.

Do you love Ocho and want to help keep Ocho the wonderful haven that it is? 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 term on the Board of Directors is your

opportunity to make an impact on the future of Ocho 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 or have questions about what being a Board member entails, please contact droadmin@tradingplaces.com or send your request and contact information to the address below. We will be happy to answer your questions and/or send you the nomination form. Thank you!

US Mail: Trading Places International
Attn: DRO Admin
25510 Commercentre Drive, Suite 100

2019 ANNUAL MEETING SUMMARY

The Ocho Cascadas Association's 1st annual meeting was held on June 22, 2019 in Laguna Hills, CA. The Board would like to thank all of the Members who were able to attend. Below is a brief recap of the meeting to fill you in on some of the discussions that took place:

Overview of 2018 and Updates for 2019

Mark Giddings reported that the Giddings family continues to focus on making sure that the Member's needs are met. He reported that on December 31, 2019 the Giddings family, the Developer, would turn over their inventory to the Association. He ensured members that everyone was working hard to make sure that the transition would be seamless.

Ulises Alfaro provided everyone with a brief update on each of the departments at Ocho. He also reported that several projects were scheduled for the 2019 maintenance weeks. He reminded members of the importance of filling out comment cards so that management could know where they were excelling and learn ways they can improve.

Financial Report

Luis Moran, Assistant Vice President of HOA Accounting for Trading Places, reported on the 2018 year end financials.

Sales Report

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 vacation shots (high-res) to Trading Places International, Attn: Casey Clayson at 25510 Commercentre Drive, Suite 100, Lake Forest, CA 92630 or email droadmin@tradingplaces.com. 📧



PUERTO VALLARTA events

Looking for something to do while visiting Ocho? Check out these great events!

South Side Shuffle on Basilio Badillo

This event begins the third Friday of November and runs every other Friday until the month of April. Visitors and guests can enjoy a combination of culture, food, music, drinks, and decorations from 6 to 10 p.m. This is a chance for you to explore and learn what the shops along Basilio Badillo in the Romantic Zone have to offer.

Historic Center Art Walk

Puerto Vallarta is famous for its innumerable art galleries; even the Malecon has transitioned from a simple seaside promenade into an open-air sculpture gallery promenade. Every year, this event gets bigger. You can see a wide variety of both traditional and modern Mexican and International art. This annual event takes place every Wednesday from 6 to 10 p.m. from October 30th to May 27th.

Public Sculpture Walking Tour

From mid-November through mid-April, the Galleria Pacifico sponsors a free sculpture walking tour from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and reservations are not required. Tours begin at the Millennium sculpture near Hotel Rosita at the north end of the Malecon.

International Friendship Club Home Tours

The International Friendship Club has been giving tours of homes in Puerto Vallarta for over 30 years. From November to March, visitors and patrons can go on tours which are given on Tuesday and Wednesday. Ticket sales begin at 9 a.m. at the Sea Monkey Restaurant in front of the Villa Vista Del Sol Condominiums at Aquiles Serdan. Tours begin promptly at 10:30 a.m. and can be purchased in advance online at their website: www.ifctoursforvallarta.com or at the Club office.

Turtle Release

From June 1st to December 31st, there are multiple locations where you can release a baby turtle who will one day return back to the beaches of Puerto Vallarta and lay eggs.

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

Sales Update



As many of you know, at the end of 2019 the Ocho Cascadas developer, the Giddings Family, will complete their sales program. Ocho Cascadas has been an overwhelming success! Any remaining weeks that have not been sold by the developer will continue to be made available for sale, rental, and member bonus week reservations through the sales company Ventas del Rey. Long time sales director Dave Stoenner in California, and sales woman extraordinaire Luisa Anderson on site will continue to handle all sales, rentals, and bonus weeks.

If you or your family and friends have been thinking of picking up another week at Ocho Cascadas, now is the time to act. Please contact Dave or Luisa and let us help you find one of the remaining weeks before it's too late!

Contact Luisa at luisa@ochocascadas.com

Or by calling the front desk 011 52 322 221-5278, or her cell 011 52 1 322 150-6994, or in the US contact Dave Stoenner at 949-640-8742.

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!

Vallarta Lifestyles

For those of you that want to stay up on what's happening in Puerto Vallarta, Vallarta Lifestyles offer a no-cost, online magazine they will e-mail to you each month; go to



General Training

During the month of September, we refreshed our training in the most important and basic of skills. We believe everyone must be well trained in these skills to be able to help others in case of an emergency. Therefore, we once again this year took the First Aid course given by Dr. Mirna Gomez, on behalf of Servicios Medicos de la Bahia.

We reviewed many subjects including:

- Proper Emergency Management
- ABC's of CPR
- Heimlich Maneuver
- Heart Attack vs Cardiac Arrest
- AED (Automated External Defibrillator)
- Shock
- Burns
- Insect Bites and Stings



Training Against Disasters at Andalon

The following subjects were reviewed:

- Fire Extinguisher Handling and Usage
- Fighting Fires
- Search and Rescue
- Victim Removal Methods

This was a very complete training course; the theory part encompassed the above-mentioned subjects as well as how to react in situations where there is fire risk or where fire is involved.

We practiced extinguishing fires using a fire extinguisher and searching for unconscious victims and leading conscious ones to safety. All of this was carried out in a fire training tower and their “smoke” training room (designed to have real fire and produce a lot of

September Maintenance

This year, the municipal office of Protección Civil (who verify that buildings are up to code, among other things) and the company that provides our property insurance, have requested a few new safety requirements. Some of these requirements included safety instruction signs, fire extinguishers, special lamps and smoke detectors. All of these new requirements aim to help prevent accidents from happening.

We completed several tasks these past maintenance weeks. Here is a list of several we carried out this year:

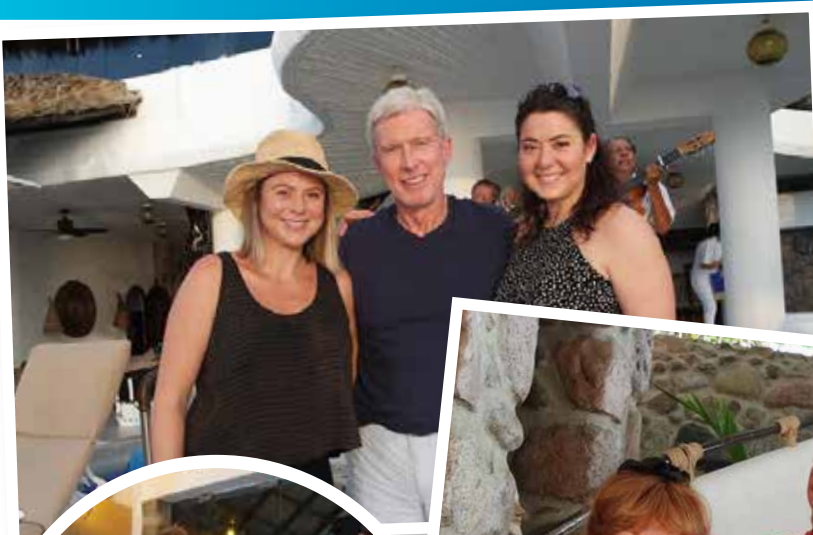
- Trimmed plants and cleaned out plant beds.
- Replaced damaged palapas and applied fire retardant.
- Touched up paint in bedrooms, flowerbeds, kitchens and bamboo.
- Retouched wood and bamboo.
- Installed new gas lines in the laundry room to have better access to quick-close valves.
- Posted all safety signs required by Protección Civil.
- Repainted pool lounge cots and poles for the sunshade canvas in Penthouse.
- Cleaned all upholstery (including cots).
- Retouched wooden villa doors.
- Deep cleaned all silverware and kitchen utensils and replaced utensils as needed.
- Made curtain for Villa 9 dining room.
- Installed a new electrical outlet in the kitchen/terrace area of PH.
- Organized storage rooms.
- Repaired 5 steps on stairs between Villa 7 and 6 which were cracked.
- Replaced 2 broken window glasses (one in Villa 4 and one in PH).
- Added a piece of Palapa to cover the hole by the entrance of the master bedroom in the PH.
- Performed maintenance on pool pumps.
- Repaired some upholstery pieces.

RENTALS & RESALES

Mexican tax law requires a 16% IVA tax be collected and paid to Mexico on any rental or sale of an Ocho Cascadas membership. In addition, the member is also liable for up to 35% income tax. Based on your personal taxes, you may receive an international tax credit on your U.S. taxes, but it's important you know the law and check with your tax advisor before conducting a private sale or rental of your membership. To help our members rent, or return their membership safely and legally, your board of directors has worked with the Giddings family to create programs that will assist members who need to rent or sell their week. Ventas del Rey is the sales

company created for Ocho Cascadas members and operated by long time sales director Dave Stoenner and on-site agent extraordinaire Luisa Anderson. VDR is registered with the Mexican tax authority and handles the marketing, collecting of funds, paying tax, paying the member, and ensuring a safe and legal transaction for all parties. We want members to use their week every year, then when the time comes, pass their membership on to family when you're done traveling. But if you need help, we're here. Contact Dave Stoenner in the California office, or Luisa Anderson on site for details. sales@cascadaslegacy.com USA Phone 949 640 8742. 📞

Members &





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**We're getting
 great reviews!**



Don't forget to post your story to our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/ochocascadas



"Gracias Ocho Cascadas"

This was such a peaceful and relaxing environment. Ocho is truly a unique vacation experience with all outdoor living (with the exception of the air conditioned bedrooms which of course were greatly appreciated for a comfortable sleep). I highly recommend the tour with Luisa on Friday. We learned our way around the charming cobblestone roads in the city and enjoyed the dining, beaches and the entire vibe of Puerto Vallarta. The staff is amazing and will help you to have the best experience while you are there. I highly recommend the floating chef for your first night so you can enjoy the luxury of having a wonderful meal in your villa. | DenverMomColorado

"Relaxing and Beautiful"

Love PV. It's our first time here and we will definitely be back. We have two teenagers so we opted for the bottom unit because it has 3 bedrooms. It was perfect. The place was clean and all the staff were excellent from Rosa to Marcell. Top notch service so thank you. Luisa, our hostess, took us on a tour of Old Town to show us the Mercado, Carniceria, and other local shops and restaurants. They called ahead for us to let the restaurant know we were coming. When I forgot my son's extra insulin, as he is a Type I diabetic, Marcell helped me find a farmacia that carried the insulin my son uses and I was able to get it without any headaches. I couldn't stop without mentioning the floating chef. What a great feature. All you do is pick the menu and a chef will come to your villa and make it for you and clean everything up after he/she is done. All you do is pay a minimal fee for the service plus tip and for the food upon your leaving at the end of the week. This is

