

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Hello Everyone,

I hope this newsletter finds you and your family healthy and happy. I am delighted to say that I was able to spend the last week at Ocho Cascadas with my wife, Cristy, brother David and nephew Dylan. We had a fun filled trip spending time at the Puerto Vallarta Zoo where we all had a thrilling interactive experience feeding the animals, however none more than I did feeding carrots to the ginormous giraffe by mouth! On the way back to Ocho we stopped and had lunch at the gorgeous Botanical Gardens. Their flower blossom adorned Jamaica drink and fresh fish tacos were truly outstanding!



This is the second consecutive Mother's Day that we have had the pleasure of spending in the Penthouse (we did miss Mom at home though) and what a treat it was! We were fed like kings and queens as the Chef and Bar Service in the Penthouse is second to none! The new Penthouse Bartender, Victor, fits right in with the traditional Ocho culture.

Víctor Hernández is married with 4 children ranging from twelve years old to one year old. He brings a lot of experience from the hospitality industry and as you will find, he has a genuine kindness about him in addition to making a fabulous passionfruit margarita!



During this visit I was fortunate to spend a considerable amount of time with our Ocho family who are namely the staff there in addition to touring many of the villas along side Deb Greenberg who is one of our dedicated Ocho board members. During this time I got to know another of our new employees who is a stand out staff member named Adrián Gutiérrez. Adrián is working in the maintenance department adding a lot of professionalism, experience and positivity to the group! He is also married and has three children with the oldest being twenty and youngest being 11 years old.

My mom, Pat Giddings sends all her best wishes to the members of Ocho Cascadas and hopes that everyone continues to enjoy their very special time there! We are all so blessed to call Ocho our home!

Mark Giddings 🍷



Interested in keeping up to date with things going on at Ocho? Don't forget to sign up for the All About Ocho, an email update that we send out periodically that includes local updates, happenings onsite, and anything else that can help our members stay connected. 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:

As the season continues, we are welcoming many new (to me) members, guests and visitors. No matter who or where you are, I hope that every Newsletter is bringing you a bit of Ocho Cascadas love to your inbox.

The second half of April has been busy because of Easter Season "Semana Santa" was in full swing.

With the rainy season ahead comes a sense of peace and tranquility. It may be grey, but good energy is emanating through the air. Puerto Vallarta continues to experience a busier than normal low season, but the mood feels more relaxed. Vibrant wildlife continues to flourish, and friendly faces fill the streets.

May it be to explore nature, enjoy the Puerto Vallarta cuisine, enjoy the vibrant and lively nightlife, or simply to find some rest and relaxation, Ocho continues to be a little slice of paradise with something for everyone.

The water is back to Conchas Chinas area after 7 months of water shortage, the distribution is operating as it should.

Covid updated:

The use of face masks is no longer required in public places in Puerto Vallarta, except for public transportation, airport, and health care facilities.

In your next visit to Ocho you will see new faces: Adrian maintenance guy and Aracely our staff cook.

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach me out.


Looking forward to meeting you!

Rosario Chávez

General Manager 

## Important Highlights at Your Villa

The proper use of items in the villa helps us maintain everything in good shape for everyone to use, please consider the following suggestions:


- The showers are a bit fragile, if you need help moving them from position, ask maintenance through Frontdesk.
- Help us take care of the kitchen utensils, use them properly, when a pan is hot, do not wet it because this will cause it to deform, and it will no longer be flat on the bottom.
- Help us save some energy by turning off your bedroom air conditioners when you leave your Villa. 

## External Services at Ocho

We are happy to help you get a delicious dinner in your villa or a time for relax with a massage, help you get a nice tour and other activities, however this is not part of Ocho Cascadas, so all these activities need to be schedule with time, at least 24 hours before the day you want the service, please talk to the Front desk.

**Floating Chef in Your Villa** This is one of the services that you cannot miss, a unique and wonderful experience in the comfort of your villa and with the best view. Remember that they are not in Ocho Cascadas, they come from outside and to be able to schedule their services it is necessary to pass all the information 24 hours before, if you require a service on Sunday you must know that it has to be sent 2 days in advance menu, time, number of people and number of villa. You can find a copy of the menu at your villa.

**Spa Services** The therapists have a variety of services for you to relax during your stay, they also come from abroad, so their services require prior reservation 24 hours before with Frontdesk. In your villa you will find the catalog of services.

**Tours and Activities** Frontdesk have a wide variety of recommendations for you, from restaurants, tours, pleasant locations to spend the day such as the botanical garden, beautiful beaches among others, approach Angie or Marcell they will be happy to receive you. Most of the external tours and restaurants also require prior reservation. 





## Spotlight: Adrian Vazquez

Adrian is originally from the City of Guadalajara, but he has lived 28 years in Puerto Vallarta, Adrian is a family man, married and has 3 children, one of his favorite hobbies is playing soccer with his friends, going out with his family, getting to know other places...

He currently holds the position of Maintenance and Pools in our beautiful Ocho Cascadas.

Adrian is a super friendly person and with all the good attitude to help, he will be visiting your villa to take care of the pools and other details, if you see him say hi! 🐾

## Sharing Our Space at Ocho Cascadas Amidst the Fauna

My brother was asleep on the couch in our villa and was awakened by a cat scaling the wall in the middle of the night. We didn't think too much about it, as we'd read about efforts to deal with the feral cat situation in parts of Puerto Vallarta. But a couple nights later, with everyone safely snuggled behind the walls and glass doors of the bedrooms, I heard a noise in the kitchen.

Thinking it was the cat again, I went to investigate, just in time to see its long tail flipping over the wall to the jungle below. I went back to bed, and heard an even louder noise. This time, the kitchen garbage was tipped over, and there went that flipping tail over the wall again! I moved the garbage receptacle into our shower, and tried to get some sleep.

Then, CRASH! The sound of breaking glass. This time I caught the culprit red-handed, and the critter that smashed the glass sugar bowl was not a cat at all. It was a Coati!, a Mexican Raccoon.



Living in an open-air environment is one of the things I love most about Ocho Cascadas, even if it means living up close and personal with the local fauna. Ocho is, after all, surrounded on 2 sides by jungle!



Originally, we were in Villa 8, back when you could still see the actual rocks, plants, and wildlife inhabiting the cliff. Our most frequent visitors were the geckos that hung out in the light fixtures and crawled the ceilings at night.

After the remodel, we moved to Villa 3 which gives us much more interaction with the crawling, flying, skittering local wildlife.

For years, I've wondered who owns that loud, obnoxious metal-wheeled cart I could hear traveling over the cobblestones below. Last year, I got my answer.

The noise isn't from a squeaky wheeled vehicle, it's from a bird that looks like a cross between a pigeon and a chicken, called a chachalaca.



If nothing else, it's a fun word to say! I watched and listened to a gaggle of them on the arch in front of the house below Ocho, calling to their friends in the trees and bamboo. Such a fun and noisy call and response!

While that action was going on, we heard a sweeter noise coming from the palapa over our bar on the deck. I've seen and heard these blackbirds before, and have marveled at the wide repertoire of noises they make. I had a hunch they're called grackles, and when I looked them up, sure enough. They're related to the four and twenty blackbirds baked in a pie in the children's nursery rhyme.



Another bird you will certainly recognize and that we see regularly soaring in groups past Ocho Cascadas is the Frigatebird.

These incredibly graceful birds often are seen circling on the thermals along the hill in front of Ocho Cascadas. According to Wikipedia: Able to soar for weeks on wind currents,

frigatebirds spend most of the day in flight hunting for food, and roost on trees or cliffs at night. Their main prey are fish and squid, caught when chased to the water surface by large predators such as tuna.





Over the past few years, we're sometimes visited by iguanas. They mostly like to hang out in the plants around the pool, but they sometimes leave "calling" cards in the villas, which housekeeping is always quick to clean up.

Iguanas are herbivores!

Some helpful tips we've learned:

- Have netting hung if you're sleeping on the couches
- Don't leave ANY food out when you go to bed. Store everything, including the sugar bowl, in the refrigerator, stove or microwave oven
- Develop a chill attitude; after all, we're in THEIR habitat! We need to learn to share.

Barb McGreger

Ocho Cascadas Communications Committee 



## How Best to Sell Your Ocho Cascadas Week(s)

Yes, it's hard to imagine, but as everyone knows, life's circumstances can and do change. So, if something does arise in your life that should necessitate the sale of your Ocho Cascadas week(s), what is the best way to do so, and why?

First and foremost, Dave and/or Luisa assisted you in your Ocho Cascadas purchases. In the same fashion of support and integrity they extended to you as buyer, they are ready and able to offer you as a seller. And there are a number of very favorable and important reasons why we believe this option should be your first, and perhaps only, choice.

Dave and Luisa know the market intimately. They have current owners, guests, and past renters to market to. And at the January, 2022, Board of Director's meeting Dave mentioned that he had several buyers interested in weeks between October and May. Dave and Luisa are in a position to tap into this ready demand on your behalf.

There are complicated Mexican government tax (IVA) requirements that apply to any sales, rentals, property or membership transfers. As the seller you are legally obligated to pay these taxes. Dave and Luisa are fluent in these requirements and can legally execute your sales transaction fully in compliance with these requirements. No need to pay a lawyer and accountant to go through the complicated process of acquiring a Mexican Tax ID and paying their unnecessary added fees.

Selling your villa within the Ocho Cascadas organization will also ensure and preserve the inherent value of our villas. Selling through Dave and Luisa will assure you of a sale price without incurring the typical very steep discounts often necessary to attract a private sale.

And beware: there are timeshare re-sales companies. They require an upfront, cash payment and offer unsubstantiated claims of ready buyers. It's a scam. (Think in terms of the "Time-Share Shark Tank" you have to negotiate at the PV airport.)

But if you do decide to sell yourself privately, please keep in mind that your Ownership Contract stipulates that you must offer Ocho Cascadas the first right-of-refusal for any villa offer you may receive. Give Dave or Luisa a call to fulfill that obligation.

If your circumstances do change for any reason and you are considering letting your beautiful Ocho Cascadas Villa(s) go, please contact Dave or Luisa first. You will you get the best service possible, fastest sale and the best, hassle free sales price.

Contact Dave Stoenner at (949) 640-8742, or Luisa Anderson in Puerto Vallarta at +52 322 150 6994 or 011 52 322 150 6994

Ocho Cascadas Communications Committee 3/22 



# Walking Route into Town

Many Ocho Cascadas Owners in the past have enjoyed walking into town via Calle Santa Barbara. Sadly, that route remains blocked (as of 4/24/22) due to the landslide last year at a condominium construction site. The alternative, walking along Hwy 200, is far less desirable due to the heavy, fast traffic and sometimes rough narrow sidewalk.

Fortunately, one of our owners, an intrepid explorer of Puerto Vallarta, has discovered a walking route into town that cuts the time/distance along Hwy 200 by at least half! Here are the directions:

Proceed to Calle Santa Barbara as in the past. But just 50 yards prior to reaching the point where the road is blocked, take this set of stairs up to Hwy 200 ①

At the top of the steps proceed into town along the highway until you reach ②

This construction site is on the east (right) side of Hwy 200. On the west side (left) side of Hwy 200 immediately opposite the construction site, you will see ③

Note the blue sign with a picture of a person going down a stair and the white hand railing. Take this path ④

At the base of this path you will enter a small plaza ⑤

Turn left and proceed down what appears to be an alley to this villa ⑥

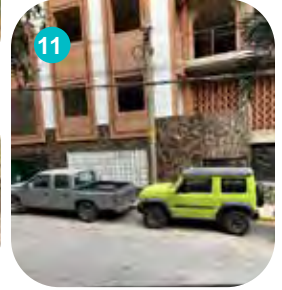
At the near corner of this house, Casa Ocho Locos, you will find these stairs ⑦

The villa is a private home, but this stairway is a public access. Proceed down the stairs to a series of ramps and stairs, and at the base you will find yourself at Calle Amapas ⑧ ⑨ ⑩ ⑪

A right turn and you will be heading back into town far removed from Hwy 200.

Thanks to Joyce Knauff for discovering and sharing this improved route.

OCCC 📍



## Live Entertainment Options in P.V.

Do you enjoy live entertainment while on vacation? If so, Puerto Vallarta offers many venues of different types and styles and a vast array of entertainment options; from drag queen shows to live concerts to theatrical performances. Here is a list of venues by type, their addresses and website contact information to help you find live entertainment to your liking. Show and performance schedules vary, so it is advisable to check the current schedules on-line. The “theater style” venues also allow you to conveniently purchase ticket on-line.

For “theater style” performances:

**Act 2** Basilio Badillo 320 (at Calle Insurgentes)

[www.act2pv.com](http://www.act2pv.com)

This venue is just in-town a mile from O.C. at the Corner of Hwy 200 and Basilio Badillo. They have 3 theaters varying in size, from a rooftop, open air stage to a small, intimate “Red Room,” and a wide array of performances types. If you arrive early for your performance, they also have a very comfortable bar.

**Incanto** Insurgentes 109 (right along the Rio Cuale at the newly open bridge.)

[www.incantovallarta.com](http://www.incantovallarta.com)

They offer an upstairs piano bar, an intimate theater and a river-side patio, each featuring performances of differing types. They also have a restaurant. Sunday brunch on the patio adjacent to the river, listening to a guitar duo, is particularly pleasant.

**Teatro Vallarta** Uruguay 184, 5 de Diciembre

[www.teatrovallarta.com](http://www.teatrovallarta.com)

This is a full-on theater, also with a full array of performances, from stand-up comedians to production plays. They offer a variety of seating options including a post-show dinner.

**The Palm Cabaret and Bar**, Olas Atlas 508.

[www.thepalmcabaret.com](http://www.thepalmcabaret.com)

Their website was inoperative at the time of this writing. But their venue and offerings are similar to that of Act 2.



Below is a list of some of the MANY bars and restaurants around town that offer live music:

**Nacho Daddy**

Basilio Badillo 287

[www.nachodaddy.mx](http://www.nachodaddy.mx)

**Bar Solar**, on Facebook

**Roxy Rock**

Ignacio L. Vallarta 217

[www.roxyrockhouse.com](http://www.roxyrockhouse.com)

**Captain Don's**, On Facebook

Calle Honduras 126

**La Iguana**

Calle Zaragoza 445

(superb Mariachi on Tue & Fri.), Open Table or [casakimberly.com/the-iguana-restaurant-tequila-bar](http://casakimberly.com/the-iguana-restaurant-tequila-bar)

Ask the Ocho Cascadas Front Desk staff to make a reservation and confirm the nights the Mariachi's perform.

**Garbo's Piano Bar & Jazz**

Calle Pulpito 142

On Facebook

**Cuates y Cuates** (one of Luisa's favorites)

Calle Francisca Rodriguez 101

On Facebook

**Whiskey Kitchen**

Carretera Costera a Barra de Navidad 520

[www.orderstart.com/HotMammasWhiskeyKitchen](http://www.orderstart.com/HotMammasWhiskeyKitchen)

There are SO MANY other options for live entertainment while visiting Puerto Vallarta. Hopefully this list will give you at least a starting point for finding a venue and entertainment that enhances your stay. 🍷

## Major Flood Control Project

During last year's rainy season Hurricane Nora missed PV, but dumped huge amounts of rain in the Sierra Madra mountains east of the city in August. The runoff flooded all of the rivers of Bandaras Bay including the Rio Cuale. The flooding caused extensive flooding and serious damage to structures all along the rivers. The Hwy 200 bridge over the Rio Cuale at Calle Insurgentes was washed out and totally destroyed.



*This is some of the work on the river's channel on the south side of Isla Rio Cuale. Oscar's restaurant is on the left. This picture was taken from the pedestrian bridge over the Rio Cuale on the Malacon*



*Nearly completed channel improvement work on the north side of the Isla Rio Cuale.*



*This is the newly rebuilt pedestrian suspension bridge across the south side of the river. Rebuilding of the northern suspension bridge is still underway.*



*And the work extends well into the mountains. This picture was taken looking east from Calle Av. Libramiento (the "tunnel route") from the bridge over the Rio Cuale.*

The cleanup of that damage since the flood has been remarkable (as observed 4/22). A new bridge at Calle Insurgentes was reopened in early April, greatly reducing traffic congestion in the Old Town. And the cleanup of the streets and damaged buildings has been remarkable.

As a result of the serious damage from the flood, the government in Puerto Vallarta has undertaken a major project to not only rebuild the bridge, but to repair the entire channel of the river thru the Old Town.



It's clear that Puerto Vallarta is serious about preventing a repeat of the nasty flooding from this storm. For reference is a map of the Rio Cuale as it makes its way from the Sierra Madre mountains thru the middle of the Romantic Zone: 🗺️

# Pickpockets

While in Puerto Vallarta in April I was the victim of professional pickpockets. These folks were very smooth and well-practiced, and I was inattentive to my surroundings and the circumstances. Puerto Vallarta is widely considered one of the safest cities in Mexico. And the risk of such an incident is very low. But as is the case in any tourist destination anywhere in the world, including the U.S. and Canada, it is a possibility. Since returning home I have read a number of articles on how to reduce the risk of being the victim of pickpockets. One of the best, filled with pragmatic advice, suggestions and recommendations is:

How to Avoid Pickpockets in Europe: 11 Must-Know Tips! ([happytowander.com](http://happytowander.com))

If you care to read the entire article, at the end the author describes in detail some of the more common “best practices for pickpockets,” and how to avoid them. I befell to #6 “The Fake Cleanup” while shopping at Casa Lays.

Gene Stangel

Chair, Ocho Cascadas Communications Committee 

## Extend Your Stay FOR FREE!

Everybody knows that “Thursday-to-Thursday” has been the weekly schedule at Ocho Cascadas forever. But are you aware that Thursday and Friday travel to P.V. are typically the most expensive days for airfares? One of our Owners recently discovered United Airlines offers substantially less expensive airfares if you fly to P.V. on Monday or Tuesday, returning on Thursday. This owner flies to Puerto Vallarta from San Francisco. When looking at airfares for his trip to O.C. in Oct., he found that flying on Tuesday prior to his O.C. stay would save \$900 for two business class tickets, and about \$400 for 2 coach tickets. Of course, your airline’s fare policy may vary. If a similar discount is available for your trip, consider staying at one of the facilities local to O.C. either before or after your scheduled stay. Patio Azul is right next door, the Lindo Mar at the beach below O.C. (they require a 3-night min.), or up the hill at the Grand Miramar, or, any of the 100’s of other great options in P.V.

Ocho Cascadas Communications Committee 

## Sales Corner

Hello friends,

It is so nice to be seeing all of you coming back to Ocho again. Things are getting back to normal...by normal I am talking about the important stuff...welcome Margaritas and the Friday Cocktail Party!

Winter is over, the weather is changing and soon we will have the warm Banderas Bay water to swim in and some wonderful rain showers to make our mountains vibrant green. For those of you who wonder how hot it is here in the summer then come on down and see for yourselves. It’s never so hot that a nice cold beverage in your pool can’t fix. I promise you will be pleasantly surprised, and you won’t be disappointed. We have openings in June, July, and August. It will be my pleasure to help you use one of those bonus weeks before they expire, and if you have one that has already expired, we will be happy to extend it for you.

FALL/WINTER WEEKS FOR SALE:

Sadly, some of our members have asked us to list their prime weeks for sale. We don’t want to see them go but this is a great opportunity for those who have wanted to own another fall/winter week, or perhaps you have friends or family who have wanted to be part of the Ocho family. We have fantastic villas available October, November and December.

Luisa

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011-52-1-322-221-5279

[ocho@cascadasledgacy.com](mailto:ocho@cascadasledgacy.com)  
[ochocascadas.com](http://ochocascadas.com)

Sales and Rentals in CA:  
949.322.4016  
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*Speak with a travel or cruise specialist or  
go online to book your dream vacation*

## Happy Member Comments

*Don't forget to post your story to our Facebook page at  
[www.facebook.com/ochocascadas](http://www.facebook.com/ochocascadas)*

- "Truly the most beautiful place I have ever stayed! But bring some good walking shoes, and binoculars for great bird and whale watching."
- "Beautiful place! Impeccable service! Views are spectacular! Love it here!"
- "Stunning villas and views from the hills of Conchas Chinas just south of the old town of Puerto Vallarta. If you want to experience total relaxation, this is the place to go. Private chefs and spa services come to your villa. The ultimate experience! Views to die for!"
- "It's a beautiful private resort high up on the mountain with amazing views and awesome staff there to assist you with anything you need"
- "EVERYTHING! Amazing staff and accommodations"
- "It's amazing. Beautiful place, incredible staff!"
- "What a lovely property with truly caring employees. Thank you"
- "Staff at the villa was very helpful and friendly. They were very attentive to our needs of my husband and I as guests."
- "Everything runs so smoothly and staff is so friendly and helpful. I am proud to be an owner here!"
- "Excellent. My villa was very clean upon arrival and Gaby kept it that way always for our week. She takes very good care of us."
- "Attention to guests and their needs is fabulous. General atmosphere is warm & friendly."
- "Your staff is amazing. Our every need was met and their kindness is unmatched."

