

Dear friends,

The Steering Committee chaired by the Chamber of Commerce president Mary Gardiner and Executive Director Sandra Slattery is in charge of the 50th Anniversary activities. It is formed by SOU, the City, the Ashland School District Superintendent, the Police Department, The Fire Department, the Rotary, and the Amigo Club.

There have been several meetings and several sub-committees have been formed. Guanajuato guests will have a packed agenda of activities during their stay i.e. breakfasts, lunches, OSF play Hairspray, tours, winery tours, official city of Ashland proclamation, Temple Emek Shalom, Catholic Church, Visit to Mt. Ashland ski area, Ashland Art Center (art project, tour, wine tasting) Grizzly Peak, Irvine & Roberts Vineyards, Elks Lodge breakfast, SOU reception, SOU recital hall, time with host families, among some other activities.

DATES

The 50th celebration activities are as follows:

Guanajuato to Ashland – April 5 to April 10

Ashland to Guanajuato – May 27 to May 31st

AMIGO CLUB CONTRIBUTION

The Amigo Club is contributing to this celebration as follows:

- A substantial donation for transportation.
- In charge of the Home Stay program (host families), chaired by Amigo Club board member-at-large, Suzanne Haveman.
- Co-sponsor and financial contribution to La Clinica event.
- Amigo Club celebration.

LA CLINICA EVENT

Amigo Club member Dr. Ken Rhee is coordinating a planned presentation by La Clinica in Ashland, as part of the 50th celebration of the exchange/sister city program. It will be 2 p.m.-4 p.m. on Tuesday, April 9

La Clinica will have Brenda Johnson (La Clinica CEO and former student in the Amistad exchange program) discuss the services that La Clinica provides to our community with a special focus on Hispanics. She will also highlight the people and programs from the exchange that have impacted La Clinica. The Amigo Club will co-sponsor this event with them which would cover snacks. We would introduce the program to our guests, community, and Amigo Club members, and talk about the importance of the Amistad Program and our Amigo Club Endowed Scholarship.

AMIGO CLUB PARTY

The Amigo Club party in honor of our Guanajuato guests will be at **6 p.m., Wednesday, April 10, 2019** (the day before the Guanajuato guests departure) at the Ashland Springs Hotel. It'll be a buffet dinner with entertainment. It is open to our Amigo Club members and we are asking \$20.00 per person to cover part of the expenses. We will have karaoke and dancing music. Please pencil this in and join us in this big celebration. You may pay online by using the "donation" button on our web site: <http://ashlandamigoclub.org>, or send me a check made out to the Amigo Club to P.O. Box 1161, Ashland, OR 97520.

GUESTS FROM GUANAJUATO Home Stay Program

As an update, Guanajuato City Councilor Karen Burstein Valadez has been in touch with Sandra Slattery about the number of visitors from Guanajuato. Señora Chela is in Guanajuato at the moment and will confirm who is coming to Ashland. Karen said it is a total of 46 people including the university. This number continues to change, as you all know, but as soon as we have more detailed information, we'll let you know. Guests will be completing questionnaires in order to have a good match with host families.

Right now, the Amigo Club Home Stay program has approximately 20 homes and they have completed the Home Stay questionnaire. These are committed hosts. We will have a day and time for the Host orientation close to their arrival. We are looking forward to receiving the names of the guests. If you are willing to host, please contact Suzanne Haveman at suzhaveman@charter.net or (541)840-5830.

GUESTS FROM ASHLAND

The Amigo Club's six directors will be part of the official delegation from Ashland, although we know that others may want to go and participate in some activities. If that is the case, please let me know. It's possible more names may be added to the official list. We understand that Guanajuato wants a limited number of official visitors representing various sectors of the city, for a total of about 60, including spouses. A suggestion: if you're planning to go, buy your flight tickets now before prices increase closer to the date!

AMIGO CLUB INITIATIVE

Baby Packets and Distribution

The Amigo Club, thanks to the initiative of some board members, will be contributing with 94 newborn clothing packets in the mines. Right now there are 94 pregnant women. The packets are adorable and if you want to contribute, you may buy one or more packets at \$15.00 each. The idea is that each visitor will take two or three to Guanajuato in April. Former Councilman Juan Carlos Delgado Zárate will oversee distribution. Please send me a check to the Amigo Club at P.O. Box 1161, or pay by debit or credit card through our website "donation" button: <http://ashlandamigoclub.org>.

We will be updating this information when we have fresh details.

Best,

Mina

Betzabé "Mina" H. Turner
President

AMIGO CLUB OF ASHLAND, OREGON, INC.

P.O. Box 1161
Ashland, OR 97520
Tel. (541) 261-7116
<http://ashlandamigoclub.org>