

HOW TO READ ATENAS TODAY

Many of the pages in Atenas Today are in two column format, and the default “view” in the *Adobe Reader* will present these pages in a large size that requires you to scroll up and down to read the whole page.

By changing the “view” to “**Full Screen**” you can fit the page to your screen and avoid the scrolling.

When in “Full Screen” view, left click to advance to the next page, or right click to go back a page.

If the text is too small for your taste, push the “escape” key to exit the “Full Screen” mode, and change the “zoom” level to get the size you want.

THE NEW YELLOW PAGES

Don't forget to download and save the latest version of the Yellow Pages. Many new businesses have been listed. This section will help you find the goods and services you need.

ATENAS TODAY

Issue No. 113

May 23, 2014



The Rainy Season is Upon Us
picture courtesy of Tom Duffy
tom@duffyportraits.com

ATENAS TODAY is a free English language newsletter for the residents and potential residents of Atenas, Costa Rica. It contains informative articles and creative compositions submitted by our readers, and is distributed via email approximately once a month to over 500 email addresses. To get on the distribution list or to submit material, please send an email to Marietta Arce at atenastoday@gmail.com.

Compositions from back issues are archived on the Atenas Chamber of Tourism and Commerce website, www.atenascatuca.com. Click on the English version and then Atenas Today on the business page.



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DIRECTORY OF ENGLISH-SPEAKING PEOPLE IN THE ATENAS AREA

New names and numbers have been added to the directory. With each issue Atenas Today subscribers will receive an updated file containing the names and contact information of people who have chosen to be listed. Simply download the PDF file attached to this Atenas Today email and print it or save it on your computer.

If your name is on the list without contact information, it is because you are a subscriber to the newsletter, but have **not authorized the publication of your email address or other information**. To add or correct data please send an email to atenastoday@gmail.com

Publisher's Note



One of the most wonderful aspects of my life at this juncture is my ability to travel back and forth from Atenas to New York several times a year. Although traveling is not as fun as it once was (I write these words in a jet lag haze) the choice to do so is mine and I am very grateful for it.

In New York, I find that the endless promise of discovery allows me to view my life in Atenas with a different lens. Back in Atenas, I am filled with the eternal expectation that one day there will be a proper and thriving Art Gallery strategically located right next door to a restaurant offering tantalizing culinary options, and of course, that restaurant would be part of our own Restaurant Row! After all, isn't it fun to dream that one day this might be possible for all us foodies in Atenas?



As I made my first daily ride around town this morning, I was overwhelmed by the burst of color (mostly green!), which contrasted the browns in existence when I left at the end of April. I also noticed several new shops and serious work being undertaken on the construction site of the Maxi-Pali, which will certainly be inaugurated in the next few weeks. I will keep you all posted.

Many of you have gone back to the places where you spend your summers. Enjoy the beach, sip some colorful cocktails and join your family and friends who have endured a long, snowy and brutally cold winter. Relax! After all, summer is the season for taking it easy like we do in Atenas, today and every day!

Marietta Arce
marietta.arce@gmail

bing.com royalty-free image of New York's
Restaurant Row



COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD

This space is available for posting community activities for the following weeks. Please provide information about your activity or event to atenastoday@gmail.com by the 15th of the month.

May 26th – U.S. Observes Memorial Day

June 6th – U.S. Observes D-Day

June 14th – U.S. Observes Flag Day

June 15th – U.S. and Costa Rica (and other countries) celebrate Father's Day!!!

REGULARLY SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES

Every Sunday: Buddhist Book Discussion at Roca Verde (See Flyer)**
(no book discussion Sunday May 25th only)

Every Tuesday, Wednesday & Sunday Atenas New Community (See Flyer)

Second Monday of every month: 4 p.m. Abandoned Animals of Atenas Foundation meeting at Antaños Please contact Virginia 2446-5343 or Sylvia 8868-1386 for more information. Volunteers are needed and welcome.

Every Tuesday: Atenas Bridge Club meets at Don Yayo's Restaurant . 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. No partner required.

Third Tuesday of every month: PLEIN AIR ART GROUP. Art activities as varied as the members. Contact Jan Yatsko at 2446-0970 or janyatsko@gmail.com

Every Wednesday: (Please confirm with Sara or Kay 2446-0664)

Atenas Wednesday Women
informal get together at Kay's Gringo Postres
every Wednesday afternoon at 12:30 PM

REGULARLY SCHEDULED RECYCLING HAS BEEN SUSPENDED FOR THE TIME BEING. THE MUNICIPALITY EXPLORING OPTIONS AND FULL DETAILS WILL BE ADVISED AS SOON AS AVAILABLE. IN THE MEANTIME, TETRPAK (ONLY) ITEMS, WASHED, FLATTENED, ETC. CAN BE BROUGHT TO THE CENTRAL SCHOOL DURING SCHOOL HOURS (7 A.M. TO 2 P.M.) THANK YOU



Buddhist Book Discussion

Every Sunday

Meditation (optional) 1:30pm

Book Discussion 2:00pm

218 Roca Verde, Atenas

A gathering for those interested
in Buddhism and Buddhist writings.

ALL ARE WELCOME.

If you wish to know what book we're currently reading,
or if you need directions or any other information,
please feel free to telephone or e-mail:

Adrienne and Richard Baksa

2446-8509

adriennebaksa@me.com

rbaksa@me.com



ATENAS NEW COMMUNITY (associated with the Tico church, Iglesia Bíblica de Atenas)
facebook.com/groups/145046998883605

DESCRIPTION: Atenas New Community is non-denominational with a diverse congregation - Messianic Jews, Presbyterians, Mennonites, Methodists, Catholics, Southern Baptists, etc. The focus is on Jesus Christ and the Bible, not on esoteric and divisive theological differences.

SERVICES:

Tuesday - 6pm - Bible study in English.

Wednesday - 6pm - English worship service

1st Sunday of each month - an English translator is provided for the 9:00am Spanish worship service (after 1st Sunday service many of the ex-pats gather at Don Yayo's to eat lunch together.)

ENGLISH PASTOR: Steve Lucas - <https://facebook.com/steve.lucas> • 8764-8960

TICO PASTOR: Oldemar Artavia - <https://facebook.com/oldemar.artavia>

ADDITIONAL CONTACT: Judy Hickman • 2446-4791 • judy@proslink.com

DIRECTIONS: On Highway 3 at the blinking light

Do we stereotype?

By Verónica Ogulve (ILE Professor)

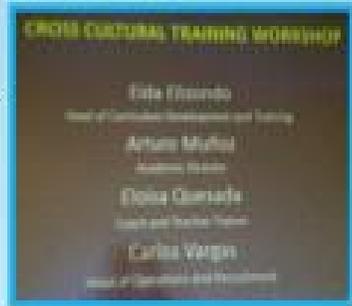
That was the question that was answered in the "Cross-Cultural Communication" workshop taught by teachers from Centro Cultural Costarricense Norteamericano (CCCN). It was a very well-designed workshop using the experiential cycle theory.

When they asked what a stereotype was, participants were clearly able to define the term beyond expectations and come up with examples of what a stereotype was. That is the first phase of the experimentation cycle: knowing about.

However, doing our best effort to come up with a dictionary definition does not prevent us from stereotyping others and having preconceptions about "the other".

We do not stereotype others because we are evil; we stereotype others because we have been raised within a culture and inherited some of the values and beliefs of that culture. Therefore, the teachers from CCCN took us in a journey of self-analysis, self-discovery and self-assessment.

First, participants had to describe what happened in a video about a black bird fishing. Interestingly, instead of describing facts about the video, there was judgment and interpretation. Participants learned that description and interpretation (putting that extra information of what we see) creates a variety of points of view about the same topic even if the input is the same. This idea was reinforced by implicitly interpreting case scenarios that involved non verbal cross cultural communication issues. We judge based not only on what our eyes can see but based on what we believe happens. The worst part, we do it all the time. Have we ever thought about what "the other" feels or thinks about the stereotypes imposed on them? Participants watched a video narrated by Africans. It dealt with how they are portrayed in Hollywood movies. The average African has guns, shoots from trucks, have an angry face all the time and unfortunately, enjoy killing others. That is what the African medicine undergraduate students commenting in the video see in movies. Is the stereotype true? No. Can we stop that stereotyping massacre? Yes. How do we do so? By eliminating from our speech phrases like "they are" and "we are".



When we come across a cultural experience for the first time, in our minds, we have to go through three steps. First, describe objectively. Second, do not judge based on our interpretations. Third, nicely ask the people involved for an explanation. That would have prevented the participants in the workshop from stating that all Americans were cold, unfriendly, insensitive, hungry for money and self-centered.

(Pictures taken by Eric Herrera)

Noise produced by the use of infrastructure in Poás Volcano National Park

Dr. Edgardo Arévalo, Resident Professor of Tropical Ecology (earevalo@fieldstudies.org)

Growing tourism in Costa Rica has generated an increase in visitation to national parks. More infrastructure is developed in response to tourists' increasing demand for access and services. The infrastructure in the parks generally includes access roads, parking lots, trails, picnic areas and viewpoints. Thus, the use of the infrastructure by visitors generates noise, which can be annoying for the visitors themselves and interfere with the communication processes of some species of birds and amphibians.

Poás Volcano National Park receives about 300,000 visitors per year, this number is expected to increase in the coming years. The assessment of the potential impacts of noise produced by tourism is essential for developing mitigation and management strategies within the park. During Directed Research this Fall, a study was conducted with the aim of quantifying the noise levels around the infrastructure with different degrees of use by visitors.

Noise levels produced on the access road to the park and the viewpoints were significantly higher than those produced in the parking lots and the crater road. The noise on the trails was significantly less than the access road but not different from the viewpoints. The relatively high noise on the trails could have been influenced by the wind in the most exposed part of the trail Botos-Crater. Another factor that may have increased the noise level was the large groups of visitors on narrow trails with dense vegetation at either side. Figure 1 shows a map of noise which illustrates the distribution of average maximum noise levels in different areas. It is noteworthy that the average maximum noise levels observed in Figure 1 are low to moderate. However, levels between 90 and 110 decibels were recorded on the access road and trails, which is considered excessive noise.

It is expected that as the number of visitors increases, there will also be an increase in noise. This Directed Research group suggests maintaining the noise monitoring on a regular basis and considering noise mitigation strategies in areas such as viewpoints and trails.

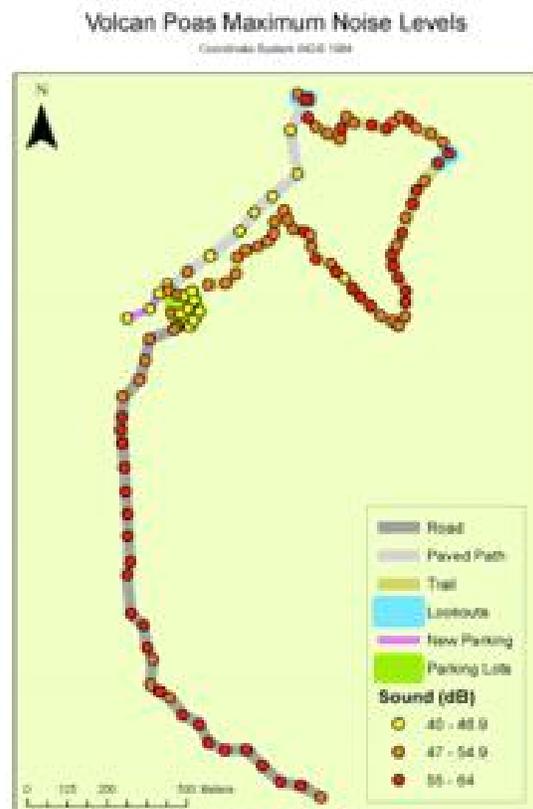


Figure 1. Map of noise in decibels (dB) showing the range of the maximum averages in the different infrastructure types in Poás Volcano National Park.

This article appeared in the February 2014 issue of *Cedrela* published by SFS. It is reprinted here with permission.

GOING CRAZY IN PARADISE!



by Dennis Easters easters3@msn.com

If you do an online search for Costa Rica, you will find all the information you desire about the country, from A to Z. There are literally thousands of articles from people singing the praises of the 'Switzerland' of Central America. Everything you read about Costa Rica being a tropical paradise is true. I wake up every morning, look out my window, and know I am blessed to be living in a country of such stunning beauty. However, depending on your state of mind, the country can have an ugly side, too! Time and time again, we have seen clients come to Costa Rica with nothing but warm, positive feelings toward the country and, in less than six months, leave bitter and jaded.

You may ask, how can somewhere with such natural beauty, a place that is full of warm, smiling faces, have an ugly side? How could one feel bitter and jaded about living in paradise, you ask? Well, in my opinion, the ugly, bitter and jaded emotions have to do with one's own state of mind at any given time. Inevitably, clients always ask us, "What are the things you don't like about living in Costa Rica?". Honestly, this is a difficult question for me to answer, because I always try to live my life 'downstream' and not focus on things that are unwanted in life. I have found that life is much more joyous when you're not fighting the 'current'. Having said that, I give the client my little speech, explaining that one never has BIG issues in Costa Rica, only small annoyances. However, it has been my experience when these little things build up that they are what cause people to throw in the towel and retreat.

After having lived in Atenas for almost 10 years, I look at my top 5 list of annoyances and laugh. It almost seems irrelevant to give lip service to such small details, but these seem important to most people.

1. Banking in Costa Rica - Banking in Costa Rica has always seemed complicated. For example, the requirements to open a bank account seem to include everything from an arm and a leg, to a hair from your first born child. This has become even more complicated with Costa Rica having to change their banking regulations to comply with CAFTA (the free trade agreement with the United States of America).

In addition, going into the bank to do something as simple as exchange currency can often take an hour or longer! Signatures are another cause of my banking stress. I almost never sign my name the same way, but in Costa Rica duplicating your signature is a MUST. When I went to pick up my new credit card a few months back, I had to sign for it to be released to me. Even though I presented my I.D. and signed for my credit card, my signature did not match exactly. I spent the next 10 minutes, signing over 20 times, to get a close enough match to my signature that was 'on file'.

I have overcome most of my banking stresses by using online banking from home as often as possible. If it is necessary for me to actually go to the bank, I get myself into a calm state of mind first and take a good book to read to pass the time.

2. The value of time - In Costa Rica, time does not seem to be measured in the same way as in the rest of the world. Of course, docks exist in Costa Rica, but they serve merely as adomments in homes and businesses. 'Tico time' is a phrase that was coined due to the lack of importance Costa Ricans put on time. For example, when you invite someone over for dinner or to go out for an evening of fun, expect them to be late. This also is true of many professionals. Frequently workers will show up anywhere from 10 minutes to a few hours late to work! On the bright side, they do show up and many people still do show up on time.

3. Drivers' Education - What drivers' education? If I were to describe driving in Costa Rica as an art genre, I would say it is abstract, with a little bit of cubism thrown in for good measure! Do you get the picture? Your canvas includes heavy traffic, motor cycles weaving in and out of traffic, pedestrians, buses and taxis, and they're all trying to nail you, Frogger style! All of this energy is coming from a people who are very laid back and docile under normal circumstances. In the countryside you have slow drivers, tractors, oxen pulling ox carts, cowboys on horses, cattle drives, or those who just choose to stop in the middle of the road and talk to the neighbors. It's very different from driving styles in the U.S.



Bing.com royalty free image

4. Road Conditions - Once you have elevated your driving skills to an art form, you will need to begin military style training for the obstacle course that the country's roadways provide. In the city you can expect overcrowded streets that are antiquated and small. Often on major highways, entrances and exits exist in the very same spot, causing nightmare traffic jams! Potholes are common throughout the country. In the countryside, rough roads that will shake the fillings right out of your teeth are par for the course. I have a Costa Rican friend who is a civil engineer and he laughs as he tells me, "When the road system was created in Costa Rica, all we did was pave over our oxcart trails and call them highways!"

5. No standardized way of doing things - Nothing ever seems to happen exactly the same way in Costa Rica. For example, when helping clients open a bank account at any of the national or international banks, the required documents seem to change depending on the bank itself, the bank branch, the person helping you open the account, the moon phase, your astrological sign, and the results of a Rorschach test. When making a doctor's appointment or picking up your medicine at the CAJA, sometimes proof of payment is required and sometimes it's not. In fact, occasionally the government passes laws and creates new taxes, but then forgets to include instructions and provide a way to charge these taxes.

So, there you have it, my top 5 list of things that drive me a little loco in paradise. Looking back, at one point or another in the past 10 years, all these things have really irritated me and, on occasion, still do. But, when something gets my dander up, I try to put myself into a different state of mind and just go with the flow. Also, I take a moment to remember that it was my choice to live in Costa Rica and that I must abide by the rules and customs of their country, not the other way around. Most everything on my list is due to the 'pura vida lifestyle' that Costa Ricans live in, which is one of the things I most admire about this beautiful country. So, if any of these things are irritants for you, keep in mind it's not life or death. In fact, it's an opportunity to grow as a person. As the author, Richard Carlson once famously said, "Don't sweat the small stuff!" In other words, at the end of the day, don't let such little, insignificant things ruin your new life in paradise!



Bing.com Royalty-free image of Tamarindo Beach

GOODBYE CRUEL WORLD!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Mom jumped up to run to my rescue

Mom grabbed me up, stomped on the bug and threw me up on the kitchen counter, and shoved a Benedryl down my throat.

Mom says it was a SCORPION!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

**Boy!!! They are RUDE little buggers!!!!
All I was going to do was tell him to get away from my mom!
The sting was REALLY un-called for!**

**Anyway, I'm okay. Mom says the ones here are not poisonous so not to worry.
Still, it hurt like heck and my lip was sore all day.
Mom and Dad babied me all day and Mom kept calling me her little hero.**

**Then we get in the car and drive to town. Mom, as usual, said "Stay BudBud" so that I would stay in the car until they could get my stroller out for me.
Well....being a little hard headed I decided I would jump over into the back and jump in my stroller that way.
Well, Dad didn't see me and he just let the back door fall shut.
MY HEAD WAS IN THERE!!!!
It didn't hurt me TOO bad but it sure taught me to "STAY" when Mom says to!!!**

Do you think I might could get a purple heart out of this?

**Enid's youngest human puppy came up with her yesterday while she cleaned the floor. He is SOOOOO cute.
He really likes my dad and mom too.**

Hugs and tailwags to everyone!!!

BudBud, who is awaiting his purple heart.

Fun after Fifty



By Carole Connolly-Shaw

caroleconnolly@gmail.com

Warning! Warning! Warning! You have a “zero” birthday looming. Zero birthday straight ahead. Brace yourself! There is no avoiding it – might as well embrace and enjoy it!

We knew it was coming, so we planned for it well in advance. A group of us expats from Atenas planned to help our friend, Lucas, celebrate his zero birthday in his native Puerto Rico. We booked the flight on Copa months in advance. There was room at Lucas and his wife, Lynn’s condo for all of us. It was hard to believe our youthful, vibrant, athletic friend was turning sixty! Good thing sixty is the new forty.

The fun started at the airport in San Jose, Costa Rica. Isa, Howard, and I rode together. They were kind enough to pick me up at my casitita in Roca Verde. We were plenty early! Isa, a dynamic, smart, strong, successful business woman said: “I’m a nervous flyer. I need to get there early so I don’t stress. Plus, there needs to be time to hit the bar for a couple of drinks before boarding”.

We arrived at the Juan Santamaria airport a good two hours ahead of our flight – always a good thing. Turns out we needed it. Their system was acting up and they could only get boarding passes for the first leg to Panama. Meanwhile, I kept a hawk eye on the front door waiting for Lynn and Lucas, who notoriously run late.

After finally getting all three of us checked in, we decided to head for the gate. “I’m worried about Lynn and Lucas. You know how they’re always late. What if they miss the flight? We don’t know the way to the condo, nor do we have a key. Guess we’ll hotel it!”

It’s hard to keep up with Isa. I have actually tried to run with her on numerous occasions. She has those gorgeous long legs that strike out like a gazelle covering twice the distance my little miniature poodle legs can handle. I learned to just let her go! We all had the gate number and there was still a good hour before departure. Oh, and I should mention, I insisted on wearing some stylish stilettos that went with my outfit while Isa wore her Tevas. Needless to say, she beat me to the gate.

As I rounded the corner, taking up the rear, I felt the energy of our group. Yes! Lynn and Lucas were sitting at the bar next to our boarding gate! I raced up and hugged Lynn. "Oh, thank heavens! I kept watching the front door. I was worried you might miss the flight."

Lynn smiled and raised her wine glass: "We are *never* late for vacation!" She turned to the bartender: "A chardonnay for my friend, please." Whoo hoo. Let the party begin!



And so it did. Our first group outing was lunch with Lucas's brother in San Juan. There is the birthday boy in the orange shirt; no way does he look sixty! Yes, that is a tree growing in the dining room of the restaurant. It reminds me of my favorite restaurant in Capitola, California – Shadowbrook, that has a tree growing through it also. That's one restaurant I could write a book about. Oh, that's right, I am! Coming soon!

Lunch at La Casita Blanca was the perfect kick-off to our five day birthday celebration – great food, great drinks, great wait-staff (that's our waitress in the red shirt and cap).



We didn't actually have to drink the "substandard American Grape Wine" pictured here; the bottle housed some home-made herb olive oil. We cracked up when the always observant Howard pointed the label out to us. We enjoyed every morsel of the local Puerto Rican cuisine, and although we were bursting at the seams, we didn't want to miss the dulce-de-leche; one serving, six spoons!

The next day we made plans to visit El Yunque Rainforest. As soon as we got to the huge waterfall, a memory came rushing at me! I had stood in that very same spot in 1969 when I lived in St. Thomas and came to Puerto Rico for a visit. I must dig through the old boxes of photos that are sitting in my brother's shed in California and see if the photo of me and two

girlfriends sitting on this same railing survived. A side by side comparison would be



fun!

The hike up the mountain to the next waterfall and swim pond was challenging due to the steepness and wetness of the trail. In addition, it was crowded to the point of log-jam in some parts. This did not stop the long-legged, athletic Isa who managed to maneuver through the throngs, sometime stepping off the official trail to get around the slow-pokes. There were busloads of tourists, as well as a slew of students on Spring-Break. Nothing was going to stop the Lucas zero birthday group. I was trailing behind her, panting and sweating as she blazed the path. We had to get this hike under our belts, so we could get on with the party. Next stop: Old San Juan!

That's where the dancing-in-the-streets takes place.

The moment I got out of the car, I felt the energy of the true spirit of Puerto Rico. There was live music on every corner; this is a salsa dancer's paradise! I gaped in admiration at the stiletto-wearing, hotly dressed women gathered in the central plaza. I shot Lynn a look: "Why didn't you tell me? We're wearing shorts and sneakers. I feel like an idiot!"

She laughed and good-naturedly said: "We look like tourists. *We are* tourists! Cocktail?"

This is a place where you not only dance in the streets, but you have a choice of numerous outdoor cocktail stands – none of which are stingy with the pour. Even after living in Miami for several years and sampling some of the best Mojitos on the planet, I must say, that was the best Mojito I ever had. After just one of those, we completely forgot about being under-dressed. Let the spirit move us! And move we did, after some more spirits! The rain came and drove us inside, but in no way did it dampen our fun!



The Atenas contingent, although with the exception of the birthday boy, Lucas, and his brother, Jose David, still looked like tourists no matter how much dancing we did. Judging by the smiles of the on-lookers, we may have been tourists, but we were tourists having fun, enjoying the rich culture Puerto Rico has to offer – and they like that!

The actual birthday was celebrated by friends and family with a meal fit for royalty. The main course was prepared by Chef Lucas. I know, I know; why should he have to cook his own birthday dinner? Well, he enjoys it, plus he's the best cook among us! It was a feast indeed, with enough leftovers to enjoy the next day as well.



I was so happy from day one, I started a morning tradition of playing Pharrell Williams' song "Happy" on my lap-top while I did my version of the dance around the condo, out to the patio, back into the kitchen. For some people, this is a bit much before the first cup o joe. I'm lucky I didn't get tossed off the balcony!

So, if you have a zero birthday coming up, choose to make it fun. And if you are past the fifty mark, add a little extra spice!

The Fortune Cookie



by Marietta Arce
marietta.arce@gmail.com

Although tremendous efforts have been made in the last several years to position Costa Rica as a 'culinary destination', even the most satisfied and grateful expat can attest to the fact that the country is in its infancy in this domain.

When we moved to New York, my mother declared that we would no longer be having rice and beans at every meal because canned beans were not easily found there in 1963. As a working mother, she did not have the luxury of hours to cook them (although I do remember a crock pot was later purchased) and she was eager for us to experience other cuisines in New York's melting pot.

By the age of 12, I was already familiar with Irish-American and Italian-American food eaten at friends' houses. In my sophomore year in high school, I had a favorite Chinese restaurant and I enjoyed going to Chinatown for the food and the change of pace found in the tiny, overcrowded streets.

Over the years, I have become a pretty good cook but Chinese food is a favorite that I have not been able to reproduce even though the simple ingredients are easily available here in Atenas. Every trip to New York has me seeking the opportunity to dine at a Chinese restaurant, usually in the company of one of my sisters.

By this time most people know that it is a Chinese-American tradition to end the meal with a fortune cookie for dessert at a restaurant. Although I enjoy desserts, I find the cookie too plain to eat so its appeal for me is gone once I have read my fortune. I confess, however, that breaking open a fortune cookie is a simple and fun activity that I really get into, waiting and listening to everyone's fortunes before reading my own.



Inserting fortunes into cookies

Contrary to previously held ideas, the fortune cookie was not a product of the Chinese; in fact fortune cookies are not popular in China at all. Research into the subject has uncovered that the cookie was most likely invented in Japan in the late 1800's but popularized in California's Chinese restaurants after World War II. Soon people began to request fortune cookies in Chinese restaurants in other parts of the country and world.

A recent meal at a Chinese restaurant found me engrossed in the conversation going on around me when the bill came with a small plate holding a fortune cookie for each of my companions and me. I was so involved in listening that I wasn't paying any attention to what my hands were doing. They had picked up my cookie and broken it without my usual full attention.

I held on to the tiny slip of paper holding my fortune until my friends had read theirs. Then it was my turn to read: "If your cookie has broken in more than two pieces, then the answer is NO." I am not a fan of the word "No", rarely allowing it to be part of my speech or my life!

I was extremely tentative when I looked down at my plate, expecting that my inattention had produced this:



Much to my relief and great delight, my eyes saw this:



I don't like making left turns, or sitting with my back to the door. And I am a big believer in the power of YES!

Reference:
<http://www.todayifoundout.com/index.php/2011/12/fortune-cookies-were-invented-in-japan-not-china/>
Images: Wikipedia

The Atenas Today Art Gallery

The Art Gallery is a regular feature of Atenas Today. Local artists are encouraged to submit photographs of their works to be included in the gallery, and to send a new picture each month. The artists may be contacted via the email addresses shown.



Times Square
18" x 24"
Oil on Canvas

Al Alexander
jeanandal@gmail.com

ARTIST'S STATEMENT: I tried to capture the visual collision of people traffic and advertisements at this center of commercial chaos.



COLOR THROUGH THE MIST
PETER S.

34"X36" Mixed Media on wood.

Contact: gjalter@gmail.com



"Today's Sunset"
photograph
by
Peter Boyer
pebo2@me.com



CONSOLE TABLE WITH BOWL

Costa Rican Hardwood & Steel.

Contact: gbalter@gmail.com
8803-7167

For the bloggers...



We are providing a list of *blogs* that might be of interest to our readers. By providing this information, we are not endorsing or accepting responsibility for any content found therein. Please contact us if you have any other blogs of interest that you would like to share. These are alphabetized for your easy reference. **Please advise if you find that some blogs no longer exist.**

Biolley Buzz	bcrcoffee.com
Bunky Bartlett	http://www.bestofcostarica.org
Carole Connolly	http://carolejeanscostaricacapers.com
Claudia Leon	http://photoleraclaudinha.smugmug.com/
	http://straightline-cmkl.blogspot.com/
Costa Rica: Sisters in Transition (Judy & Roxi)	http://costaricasistersintransition.blogspot.com
De La Pura Vida Costa Rica	delapuravida.com
Dennis Easters/Pure Life Development	http://www.atenasrealestate.cr/index.php/blog
Diane Miskell	http://dianascostaricablog.blogspot.com
Fred Ball	http://natureboy70.blogspot.com/
Going Like Sixty	http://goinglikesixty.com
Julie and Rick in Costa Rica	http://julieandrickincostarica.blogspot.com/
Marietta Arce	http://marisundays.wordpress.com
Mi Chunche	michunche.com
Nadine Hays Pisani	happierthanabillionaire.com
New Life in Costa Rica	http://www.anewlifeincostarica.com/nuevo_vida/
Paul Furlong motorcycle blog	http://eyeneo.com/
Pura Vida Mommy	puravidamommy.blogspot.com
Rubiatica	rubiatica.blogspot.com
Shannon Farley	http://enchanting-costarica.com/
Somewhere in Costa Rica	http://somewhereincostarica.com
Su Espacio	http://www.suespacioatenas.blogspot.com/
The Real Costa Rica	blog.therealcostarica.com
The Very Worst Missionary	theveryworstmissionary.com
The View From Here	theviewfromherecr.blogspot.com

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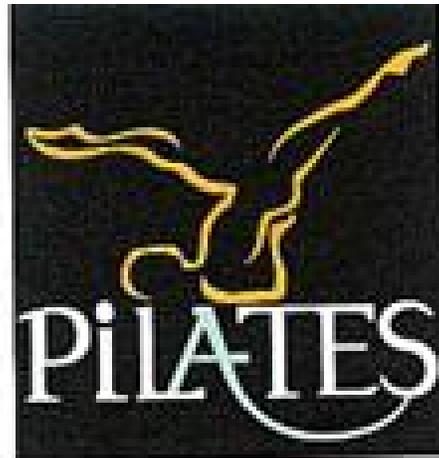
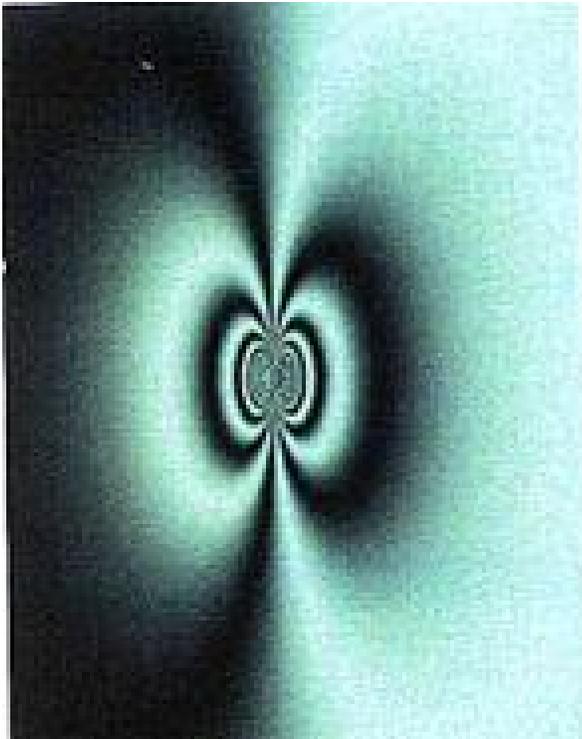
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