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Newsletter of the Rotary Club of Atenas



I cannot do all the good that the world needs. But the world needs all the good that I can do. ~ Jana Stanfield

Meeting Highlights

Nancy introduced her guest, Giovanna. Cynthia W. introduced her guests, Barbara and Toni.

We only have 10 open spots available for the November 15 music and dinner fundraiser! Let Lynn know if you want to reserve your seat.

Stef reported on her research with Rotary amiga, Shannon F., to do a bingo fundraiser. They found that to legally run a bingo game in Atenas, we have to do it through the Red Cross. First we have to submit a letter to them that explains who we are, why we're doing it, and when it would be. The Red Cross will guide us through the process. It was suggested that we hold it at Prado Park where there is plenty of parking. Possible dates are December 10 and December 17. The Red Cross can provide the cards, cage, runners, and ladies to do the food. Rotary would sell tickets to participate. After the event, we'd give a donation to the Red Cross for their assistance. The donation would be dependent on the attendance and "our kindness and generosity." A vote was taken and the club was in favor of proceeding with the bingo game.



On October 18 there will be a fundraising bingo game for the technical school from 1-5. Contact Stef if you would like to visit that game with her, to see what it is like.

Guest Speakers

Anna and Felipe, from Art House Atenas, presented the work their art studio does in town. They've run this studio for three years. Besides teaching classes on painting and drawing, they do workshops at the local schools and the public library. At this point the budgets in the public schools have faced a lot of cuts. Unfortunately, classes in the arts aren't a priority.

In their classes they focus on encouraging the children to feel free to work with different materials. Public school curriculum often discourages creativity. At the Art House they work to develop creativity in the students, and for adults who take classes, they encourage them to bring their creativity back.



One project they're working on is providing teachers in the small schools up in the mountains with a digital whiteboard. Since these schools have little funding, a digital whiteboard could be a great asset. We're encouraged to visit their school and participate in a creativity workshop.

Upcoming Events

- November 15 at 2pm is dinner and music in Loma Paraiso.
- The District Conference is on April 23 – 25, 2026.

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Club News

As of last Wednesday, we've been approved as an official nonprofit association in Costa Rica. Next steps are to open our bank account. Thank you to Stef for all her time and hard work in making this happen!

On October 5, around 9am, a group of us gathered in front of the large Atenas sign at the park to greet San Jose Rotarian, Nolan, as he powered through his last day of bicycling through five countries to raise awareness and funds for Polio eradication. He was joined by local bicyclists who were going to accompany him to his next destination of Alajuela, the Mayor of Atenas and other dignitaries, and several representatives from other Rotary clubs. He arrived closer to 9:30 because of slippery road conditions he encountered in Aguacate. Everyone shouted and cheered as he and his group pedaled into the park. Besides handing out refreshments to all cyclists, several of us joined a small group of Rotary members at El Fogon for breakfast.

Member News & Happy $$$

- Stef's daughter was chosen to go with her work team to Australia.
- Margaret just found a woman she'd been searching for for 50 years.
- Rosie reconnected with a close friend recently.
- Holly is organizing a bus trip for a rally in San Jose.

Next Meetings

Our next formal meeting is October 16th at 12:20pm. Location to be announced.