

The ROUNDUP

JOURNAL OF THE INTERNATIONAL POLICE ASSOCIATION
REGION TWO - CANADIAN SECTION

December 2018— March 2019



If you missed the Christmas Party this year, you will want to make sure you don't miss it next year.

As always, Joe and his gang did a wonderful job putting this event together and I am told that next year will blow this year out of the water so DO NOT MISS OUT again!

What did you miss this year? How about never ending hors d'oeuvres, open bar, dinner including a salad course, pasta course and the entre which consisted of BOTH chicken and veal rib-eye. All of this was followed up with dessert, a delicious chocolate tartufo topped with berries.

Never ending wine on the tables, bottled water always flowing and all of this while the DJ spun out song after song.

Perhaps next year we might see karaoke if we are lucky. Anyone up to sing us a song?

See you next year.

The RoundUp

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IPA Region 2 Upcoming Events

March of 2019 marks the date of our Annual General Meeting on March This meeting above all others is an important one for your attention. It is at this meeting that you elect your Board of Directors, including your President, 2nd Vice-President and Recording Secretary.

No successful organization operates in a vacuum. To become successful and to remain successful, every organization needs hard working and dedicated individuals at the helm to guide the business and operations of the organization however; it also needs people who will support the goals and the aims of the organization by being there to lend a hand when needed.

Why not put your name forward and become an active member of your great IPA?

Don't want to become a Director? Why not step up to the plate and volunteer on one of the committees, organize a social event or attend one.

Make your New Year's resolution to become more active in your social club next year.

IPA Austria are hosting their 31st international IPA Ski Week! Jan 26 to Feb 2, 2019

Prepare yourself for a week filled with skiing fun, amongst other activities such as tobogganing and evening dances!

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World Conference of Women in the Security Sector

IPA Montenegro are hosting the World Conference of Women in the Security Sector. The Union of Montenegro Police is the only union that represents the Montenegrin police. The event will take place in Budva from 19-22 February 2019, and IPA Montenegro are inviting police and military officials from around the world.

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IPA St. Petersburg invites you to take part in a friendship week in May 2019!

The event will feature unique events such as, a presentation of the 'Policeman World' magazine, an International Ball in the Demidov Mansion, and a birthday celebration of the Travel Secretary of WPA IPA, Olga Birkina.

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President's Message

I hope that everyone is enjoying the milder weather that this season is providing us with. I know that some of you are preparing for the upcoming holiday season. Whatever it is that you are partaking in, I just wish that you are all doing so safely.

Region 2 will also be hosting a friendship week and we look forward to meeting members from around the world. It is always interesting when you meet members from around the world as they tell you all about their region and their country. Policing is basically the same, but its always fascinating to hear how it's achieved in various countries .

I also would like to remind you all that this year Region 2 will be hosting the Annual General Meeting of National and there will be representatives from all over Canada attending. More information will be provided as the time approaches. There will be some social events and I look forward to seeing a lot of you at them.

I would like to give a special thank you to Joe Rizzuti, our special events coordinator and his team for the fantastic job they did in organizing and putting on our annual Christmas dinner. As usual Joe and his team insured that the venue was great, the food fantastic and the entertainment, superb . I have heard nothing but positive comments about the entire event. Well done Joe and your team! It seems that when it comes to organizing and promoting events, Joe continuously does a terrific job. The photos from the Christmas dinner are posted on our website.

Congratulations to the members who were present at the dinner and received their IPA pins for years of service. A special congratulations to John Domonkos who received his 45-year pin at the dinner.

Please note that we have a newly designed and user-friendly website, it contains a wealth of information and I encourage you to visit it regularly to keep in touch and updated with all the current and upcoming events. If you can't join us for a meeting, at least please visit our website and keep current with all the happenings at Region 2, across Canada and around the world.

Just a gentle reminder to all, to please stay current with your membership and invite your present and former work colleagues to become members. To check on your membership status please contact Dave or Debbie Carey at ipar2adm@rogers.com. The IPA is great organization, don't keep it a secret...please promote it and recruit your friends and work colleagues. Let's build our region as the largest in Canada and continue to promote friendship.

We were also very pleased to be reminded that the IPA is truly an international organization by having IPA visitors from the USA, France and the Ukraine attend our fair city of Toronto as their base, for travel across this wonderful country we call Canada.

The Region's next business meeting is **7:00 pm on Wednesday, January 9, 2019** at #2 District, York Regional Police, 171 Major Mackenzie Dr., Richmond Hill. It is open to all members. If you wish to place anything on the agenda please advise our Recording Secretary, Malina Nicoara at malinanicoara@hotmail.com

I would like to express our best wishes to you and all your families in this holiday season. We, the Board, wish you all health, happiness and a great time with family. Please enjoy yourselves, and drink responsibly.

Please check out our website, and Facebook page to keep up to date. Be an active part of the Association and not a spectator. There is a mound of information that has been received and it's available for your perusal on the website.

Please read the "Blast outs" as they contain very valuable information regarding upcoming events, such as socials, meeting, etc. It's a great way to keep in touch with what's going on in the Region and for you to plan your attendance at one or more of the events.

ON BEHALF OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS, WE WISH YOU ALL A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR, A HAPPY HANUKKAH, MAHAYANA, AND CHINESE NEW YEAR!

If you have any question, concerns, ideas you can always contact me;

Ipar2president@gmail.com

This is your Region, make it the success it deserves

In friendship,

Luis F. Agostinho, CD
President, Region 2

Escape to Argentina – A Travelogue

By: Tom Rataj

There comes a time each winter, when most of us have had enough of the cold, snow and ice, and short days. The best remedy of course is to travel somewhere south, where it's warm and sunny and the days are long.

Our annual winter get away for 2018 was a two week escape to Argentina in late February, where it was the end of their summer. It consisted of one week each in Mendoza and in Buenos Aires. We flew to Santiago Chile, and after a 2-hour lay-over at the airport, had a short 35 minute, 200km flight across the Andes to the city of Mendoza (in Mendoza province).

Argentina is a long way from Canada, with the capitol city Buenos Aires almost 9,000 km south of Toronto, which makes the trip there and back, and all-day (overnight) affair. Air Canada flies to and from Buenos Aires, via Santiago Chile, almost every day of the week, with a total travel time of about 14 hours (including a stop in Santiago).

The flight is one of those grin and bear-it affairs (especially in economy class), although some preparation with the right equipment and attitude helps one manage. Our equipment includes black-out eye-shades, a neck pillow, noise-cancelling headphones, and compression stockings (to control swelling of the legs and feet).

To get a more affordable and authentic experience in Argentina we secured AirBnB apartments in both Mendoza and Buenos Aires. Typically they cost about half of what a 4-star hotel would run.

In Mendoza we had a 1-bedroom private apartment that was clean, comfortable, reasonably well equipped and secure, and was ideally located in the west end of the downtown, within easy walking distance (20 minutes) of almost all the tourist attractions.

Upon arrival we located a local grocery store, and did some shopping for basic breakfast supplies (coffee, milk, eggs, bread, sandwich meat, cheese, yogurt, fruit etc.) which lasted us most of the week. Being wine country, we also bought a bottle of wine (\$6 – it was very good), and some local beer to stay hydrated.

Wine country

Mendoza province is the heart of the Argentine wine industry, accounting for about 60% of the wine produced in Argentina, and an even higher percentage of foreign exports of wine. The growing environment in Mendoza province and the other wine growing regions of Argentina are conducive to produce many great tasting Malbecs (their most popular red) and other wines including the regional white wine speciality Torontes.

Most of the wine growing regions are located in the north of Argentina, around Mendoza and further north, where the semi-arid desert conditions and high altitudes, hot, sunny days and cold nights provide almost perfect wine growing conditions.

Most vineyards use drip-irrigation to water their vines once a week to supplement what little rain they do get. Although counter-intuitive, the dry conditions actually produce better quality grapes because the plants are constantly under stress.

Mendoza

Not initially by plan, we arrived in Mendoza during their annual wine harvest festival, “La Fiesta de la Vendimia”, which included a week of community festivals to celebrate the annual grape harvest. There is the “Blessing of the Grape” ceremony, the “Vía Blanca de las Reinas” night parade, the “Carousel of the Queens” day parade, and the “Constellation of Wine” gala-event at the outdoor amphitheatre in General San Martin park.

The two parades feature the beauty queens and princesses of the various wine growing counties (departments) in Mendoza province. The queens and princesses travel the route on large floats, along with an entourage of other floats, horse drawn carriages, Gauchos (Argentine cowboys) on horseback, and some marching performers.

Both parades were well attended with lots of families, along with both local, regional and some international tourists lining the routes. We were very fortunate that the Carousel of Queens parade actually came down the street where our apartment was located, so we just had to walk out our front door to watch it.



Carousel of the Queens Parade

We secured a curb-side table at a café and ordered two “café con leche” (coffee with hot milk) and four “medialunas” (small sweet butter croissants which are popular treats in Argentina), and waited for the parade to arrive.

The downtown of Mendoza was an easy walk from our apartment, and most days (and some evenings) we walked to and from the downtown and explored the sights, sounds, smells and environs of Mendoza. One day we took a 2½ hour hop-on, hop-off sightseeing bus tour of Mendoza to get a better sense of the whole town.

We also took several semi-private mini-bus (Mercedes Sprinter) tours with English speaking guides outside of Mendoza. The first tour was an afternoon tour where we visited two wineries, an olive oil factory and a famous old church, all located south of Mendoza.

The next tour was an all-day “High Mountains” tour, which took us 110km north-west of the city of Mendoza to a lookout point on the Argentina-Chile border. The lookout point is at 3,332m above sea level and features the Cristo de Redentor de Los Andes (Christ the Redeemer of the Andes) statue, where there is an unobstructed view of the nearby snow-covered Mount Aconcagua, which at 6,962m, is the tallest mountain outside Asia.

Our final tour from Mendoza was an all-day premium wine tour to the Uco Valley, about 90 minutes to the south. The Uco Valley is at a higher altitude than Mendoza, and the environment is drier so the wines are slightly different in taste. On this tour we visited three wineries and began sampling wine at 10:30 in the morning. At the first two wineries we had tours of parts of the production facilities and vineyards, and at the final winery we had an outstanding 6-course wine-paired gourmet lunch. Not surprisingly, on the drive back to Mendoza, many of us had a siesta!

After enjoying our week in Mendoza, we headed back to the airport for the just under 2 hour flight to Buenos Aires.



Two mounted police officers from the Mendoza City Police participating in the Carousel of Queens Parade as part of the Wine Harvest Festival in Mendoza.



Linda & Tom Rataj at the Cristo de Redentor de Los Andes (Christ the Redeemer of the Andes) statue at an altitude of 3,332m, right on the Argentine-Chile border

Buenos Aires

Upon arrival in Buenos Aires we purchased a Sube Card (similar to the Presto card) and took a rather wild ride on the #38 public bus to the more upscale Recoleta neighbourhood where another excellent AirBnB apartment awaited us. Our host Fernando met us at the apartment and made sure we were comfortable.

This nicely renovated studio apartment was in an older building, which again was within easy walking distance (30 minutes) of the downtown. As in Mendoza we went to the local grocery store and stocked up on essential breakfast foods and other supplies (including beer and wine).

On the first evening in Buenos Aires we went out to dine at the famous El Cuartito pizzeria which was just around the corner. Although the pizza was just average, the atmosphere was quite interesting, with dozens of vintage movie posters of famous Argentine and international movies, and autographed photos of movie and theatre stars adorning the walls.



El Cuartito Pizzeria, Buenos Aires

We spent most of the week in Buenos Aires exploring many of the famous landmarks, neighbourhoods, old churches, and other touristy destinations. Included in the list was Plaza de Mayo (which was unfortunately under reconstruction) the Casa Rosada (where Eva Perón gave her famous speech), the Obelisco, Teatro de Colón, Avenue Florida (a great pedestrian only shopping street), Galerías Pacífico (an upscale shopping centre), Catedral Metropolitana, the famous Puente De La Mujer bridge at the waterfront, the Kavanaugh Building (once the tallest building in South America) and a visit to the La Boca neighbourhood to the south end of town (which happened to be on a game-day for the La Boca Juniors soccer team.) so it was quite the festive atmosphere.

For some of our travels around Buenos Aires we took the Subte (“Subterráneo” – subway). More extensive than Toronto’s subway, and older (started in 1913), it was a quick and efficient way to get around town, and at about \$0.48 per ride certainly very affordable.

On several occasions we also took public buses, which unlike the subway are all privately run and which operate in a strange, seemingly haphazard network of bus routes that wind their way through and around town. Similarly priced to the subway, they were fairly fast and efficient, although a bit confusing to use because there are 7 or 8 different bus companies serving the whole city. We used the Moovit app (available for Android and iOS) to figure it all out.

On one of our self-guided walking tours we visited the Museo Policia Federal de Argentina in downtown Buenos Aires. The museum is located on the 7th and 8th floor of a non-descript office building. When we arrived we discovered that it was closed on Mondays, but the curator welcomed us anyway and happily gave us a private tour, especially after learning I was a retired police colleague from Canada.

The museum has a very extensive collection of authentic and recreated historic uniforms, and police equipment from the history of policing in Argentina. They also had some foreign police uniforms (a full RCMP Red Serge uniform on a mannequin), and hat badges, shoulder patches and other police paraphernalia from around the world. I contributed a vintage Metropolitan Toronto Police shoulder patch, and a newer Toronto Police Service pin to their collection.

From Buenos Aires we took one day trip. We travelled to the Santa Susana Gaucho Ranch, a very touristy destination about two hours north-west of Buenos Aires. At the ranch we were greeted by gauchos with wine or juice and fresh empanadas, before being given a quick tour of the ranch.



A fairly typical Spanish influenced home in Mendoza



Mendoza City Police vehicle with mesh screening on the windows and lights

The property includes the original ranch homestead which is set-up as a museum with period furniture, decorations and antiques. We then went for an escorted horse ride, before settling in for a typical Argentine asado (BBQ) lunch, which features charcoal grilled beef, chicken, small sausages (one pork, and one a blood-sausage), along with salads, beer and/or wine and desert with coffee or tea.

During the lunch we were also entertained with live local music and dance performances. After lunch we went outside and watched a demonstration of the famous “Ring Race” riding competition where gauchos on horseback gallop under an overhead beam from which rings are hung on strings. As they ride under the beam they attempt to capture a ring using a small chopstick sized stick.

Policing

In Mendoza many police vehicles have black steel mesh covering all the windows (except the windshield), as well as the headlights and tail-lights. All the cars were small compact cars and often in poor shape.

In Buenos Aires, all the police vehicles were completely covered with a coloured vinyl wrap (matte black and dark blue) on which the police decals were affixed. Many of the patrol cars had large polypropylene bumpers attached to the front and back of the car.

Public protests in Argentina are apparently almost like a national sport, and we witnessed several while we were in Buenos Aires, although they were all fairly small and peaceful.

General impressions

As is so typical of south-American cities, both Mendoza and Buenos Aires are noisy, gritty, somewhat dirty and in a general state of disrepair, where the streets are often in poor condition, the sidewalks can be treacherous, and there is a fair bit of garbage and graffiti around (compared to Canada). Clearly there is not a lot of money to go around for infrastructure (in general). Despite this, the tap water is safe to drink in both cities.

Virtually every home and business is protected by steel shutters or wrought-iron bars, barbed wire or razor wire (some electrified), and security cameras.

Personal safety and security is something that needs to be treated seriously in Argentina as petty crime (thefts, snatch-and-grabs, and some street robberies) are apparently still quite common, although we witnessed none. On more than one occasion when I had my camera out to take pictures (it was usually inside my non-descript camera bag), locals would warn me with hand gestures to put it away or to be careful with it.

We used basic personal security measures including keeping wallets and minimal cash securely hidden, situational awareness and staying away from places that didn’t feel right. We never felt particularly unsafe (even at night) and found all the locals generally friendly and helpful, despite the language barriers (our poor Spanish, and their generally poor English), although we generally managed to get along well enough.

Much of the local cuisine revolves around grilled beef, charcoal grilled at “Parillas”, and almost everywhere you go you smell the charcoal smoke from these restaurants. Quite a few restaurants have their charcoal grill just inside the front window, so when you walk past, you can see and smell the beef, chicken, lamb, and sausages grilling. Because of a huge influx of Italian immigrants in the 1950s, Italian restaurants, cafés and gelato shops are also quite common.



People enjoying a warm afternoon on the patio of restaurant along a pedestrian-only street in downtown Mendoza.



The wine cellar at the Bodega Viña el Cerno, in Maipú, just south of Mendoza.

Needless to say, excellent locally made wines (and beers) are readily available everywhere in Argentina. A decent everyday bottle of local wine can be had from about \$6 and up. For our final restaurant dinner in Buenos Aires we shared an entire bottle of a 2015 vintage Argentine Malbec which cost us 310 Pesos (about CDN\$18), and it was outstanding.

In addition to several large breweries, there is also a fairly extensive craft and micro-brewing beer scene in Argentina. On the street where our apartment was located in Mendoza, there were four craft breweries within about a half kilometer stretch.

Other than one overnight thunder and rain storm and one evening rain storm in Mendoza, the weather in Argentina was around 30 degrees Celsius and sunny during the day, and mid-20s during the evening/overnight periods, so we were well rewarded with fine weather.



**International Police Association Section Montenegro
Union of the Police Directorate of Montenegro
Association of women police officers of Montenegro**

**WORLD CONFERENCE OF WOMEN IN THE SECURITY SECTOR
2019 IN MONTENEGRO, BUDVA
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19th-22nd February 2019, Budva, Montenegro



Elections Elections Elections Elections Elections Elections

March 6, 2019 Region 2 Executive Board

As per the Constitution passed last year at the Annual General Meeting, elections will be held in 2019 as follows:

The following will govern the procedure to be used in the election of the Board of Directors for the IPA Canadian Section, Region 2.

These procedures will come into force for the election of 2019.

E.1 The term of office for the President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Treasurer, Recording Secretary and Membership Secretary shall be two years.

E.2 Election for half of the Region's Board of Directors shall be held every year at an Annual General Meeting of the IPA Canadian Section Region 2. In 2019 the positions of President, 2nd Vice President and Recording Secretary will be elected for a term of 2 years and the positions of 1st Vice President, Treasurer and Membership Secretary will be elected for a term of 1 year. In 2020 the positions of 1st Vice President, Treasurer and Membership Secretary will be elected for a term of 2 years. From then on, only those positions whose term is expiring in that given year will face an election for a 2-year term.

E.3 An Election Committee consisting of a Returning Officer and at least one assistant shall be appointed by the Regional Executive at least 90 days prior to the Annual General Meeting at which an election is to be held.

What this means in short is that we will be holding an election at our AGM for all positions. The President, 2nd Vice-President and the Recording Secretary will be elected for two years while the other executive members will be elected for one year. Next year, the one year elected positions will be elected for a two year term. This will stagger our elected executive so as to give us continuity on the Board.

A separate notice will be sent to all members by the President.

Any person interested in seeking election to any open position should let the returning officer know as soon as one is appointed.



2018 Christmas Party



See more great shots on our Region 2 website

Region 2 Executive

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2nd Vice President: Les Bodrogi
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We're on the web!

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Positively Speaking by Brian Garvey

Gifts You Can Give Year-round

At Christmas almost everyone gives a gift or receives one, Other "special" times of the year we give and receive gifts are birthdays, weddings, anniversaries, etc. Sometimes we give a gift "just because". But what about gifts we can give **every day, all year long?** Gifts that don't cost money but will give more joy and pleasure than we could possibly imagine. Here are a few suggestions.

The Gift Of Inspiration: Plant positive seeds of courage and action into everyone you meet. Encourage those around us to be the best they can be.

The Gift Of Gratitude: Always say "Thank You" to the ones who serve you, no matter how small that service may be. Say it with sincerity and meaning.

The Gift Of Praise: Compliment people on a job well done, especially in front of others.

The Gift Of Attention: When being spoken to, listen attentively. If the words are directed at you, look the other person squarely in the eye.

The Gift Of Concession: At the right moment, a humble "I am sorry, you're right and I'm wrong" will go a long way to Resolving differences.

The Gift Of Consideration: Putting yourself in the other's shoes and providing a genuine understanding of their point of view.

The Gift Of Personal Presence: In sickness, joy or sorrow, nothing means more to others than your personal expression of sympathy or congratulations. An email just won't cut it.

Give these gifts freely each day to all you meet and you will be surprised at the abundance you will receive in return.

(Brian Garvey is the publisher of "The Perkulator", news to perk you up!

What a success it was again for the Toronto Childrens Breakfast Club Christmas Gala at Liberty Grand. Over 900 children attended this year, and it was a great time. A big thanks to Farhan Kever, Frank Manchisi, Lino and his wife Rosanne and her Friend Clair Stevens, and of course Jim and Lorna Dallimore as the “Clauses” for volunteering their time.



Merry Christmas to all
and to all and a very
happy and safe New Year

