



Photo by: Jim Giese

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Residents' Association Elects Officers by Acclamation

by Pat Howard

The Collington Residents Association has a new set of officers who are primed to lead it successfully into the next year. The nominees of the Nominating Committee were voted into office by acclamation at the association's October 4 annual meeting. They are: President Janet

Jones; First Vice President Joan Zorza; Second Vice President Jackie Smith; Secretary Barbara Bailar and Treasurer Anne McCulley. Outgoing president Grant Bagley turned over the association's business to the new officers after a final review of his two years in office and a preview of matters that will need their attention in 2014 and beyond. With the new officers installed, the residents present gave the outgoing officers thanks and applause for



Barbara Bailar, Secretary-- GN

their faithful service on behalf of Collington residents.

Prior to the election, Nominating Committee Chair Steve Streeter introduced the

nominees to residents at a forum on September 25.



New officers: Jackie Smith, Second Vice President; Anne McCulley, Treasurer, Joan Zorza, First Vice President; and Janet Jones, President.-- GN

with many activities and the Residents Association, has learned that there is work to do. She particularly looked forward to working with the operating committees.

Anne McCulley, called by Steve Streeter the answer to the Nominating Committee's prayers for someone to accept the treasurer's position and relieve long-serving Kay Aldrich of her duties, said she had been warmly received by the Collington community and now wanted to give back to it. She was bookkeeper and office manager for her and her husband's several businesses; she "loves to have the numbers come out even!" Anne reported that Kay had already introduced her to many aspects of

Officers Cont'd p.2

the job and she would count on the continued support of previous treasurers.

Barbara Bailar was out of town and so Joan Zorza introduced the nominated secretary to the audience. Barbara was a statistician for several well-known organizations and associate director of the U.S. Census Bureau. At Collington, she has participated on the dining committee and the library committee of which she is the new chair.

Jackie Smith was the interim second vice president of the Residents Association and now will serve a full term. She has attended meetings of many of the 35 activities committees and helped create the wellness committee. She reported that the activities committees are some of the fun parts of the association and she anticipates providing the link between them and the executive committee.

Lastly, Janet Jones, who was then the nominee for president, thanked President Grant Bagley for his two years of service and remarked that she could not hope to fill his shoes — to start with, her feet are not big enough! She reviewed the constraints on the association president -- the bylaws, the executive committee, and the residents. She pledged to work with, not against, management and said she had been advised by several people to concentrate on Collington's strategic plan. Jones said she would rely on the district representatives to make sure there was a direct connection between the executive committee and residents.

A Word of Thanks from the Editor

Because I have been away on a long-planned trip, much of this issue has been overseen by my predecessor, Jim Giese.

I thank him for that, and more importantly, for his generosity in showing a rookie editor the ropes.

I also have relied heavily on another former editor, Frances Kolarek. Her encyclopedic knowledge of Collington and its people is an invaluable resource for the entire community, and particularly for the Collingtonian.

The health of the third living ex-editor, Bob Elkin, has limited his participation, but I have learned from him as well. It's no secret that a great joy of living at Collington is the privilege of knowing talented and interesting people -- these three prominent among them. -- GN

The Collingtonian

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The Collingtonian invites all Collington residents to submit articles, photographs and story suggestions, preferably concerning Collington and its people. We also welcome "Letters to the Editor" commenting on the Collingtonian and its content. Submissions may be e-mailed to collingtonian@gmail.com or placed in the Collingtonian mailbox. All submissions are subject to editing for length, clarity and style.

From “Cool Idea” to Reality, Dome Home Shaped McCulley’s Pre-Collington Lives

by Frances Kolarek

When Anne McCulley looked up from a picture of a dome-shaped house in a home decorating magazine and said, “This would be cool,” Mike did not foresee that the couple would build and live in such a house for the next 27 years. But ideas have momentum, and Anne’s dream began to take shape when Mike visited a Seattle company that specializes in building geodesic dome homes.

Family members thought the idea was insane. He had to persuade a reluctant building inspector to okay the plans. A local builder, offered the contract, was reluctant to engage in what appeared to him to be a prefabricated project. However, after visiting a building site in Virginia where a dome home was under construction, he jumped in.

Mike explains that the house rests on an eight-sided area shaped like a stop sign. The five sided curved sections that fit together to form the shell of the house were manufactured in Oregon and shipped to the site. Mike calls these units pentagons and they fit together almost magically to form the shell of the house. With a descriptive shudder, Anne described the moment when the final pentagon was connected to complete the building, and “all the units trembled into place.”

Anne took on the job of allocating the interior space, deciding the size of rooms, their location, and the placement of interior walls and the staircase to the second story.

And outside there was boundless space for Master Gardner Anne to exploit. A greenhouse was built on the south side of the house, the garage on the north side, a screen porch on the east, with the front door on the west. Mike recalls with pride that he grew vegetables for

the table from seed started in the greenhouse.

The couple’s real estate business revolved around commercial property and investment real estate, with Mike selling and advising and Anne in charge of finances.

Travel to exotic lands has yielded some interesting furniture and objects d’art. Mike

remarked that the price of some of these objects was far below the cost of shipping them home to Connecticut.

Originally signed up for the Kendal facility in Kennett Square, Pa., Mike and Anne learned that Collington had joined Kendal. They came to visit, since their children live in the Washington area. They have high praise for the consideration our Marketing Department showed when selling their dome home proved difficult.

Anne admits that maintaining the extensive gardens around that home was beginning to tax her supply of energy. Today she is happy with the small plot around cottage 4006 and her Hilltop Garden area.



The McCulley's former geodesic dome home

The Creatures of Schuyler's Midnight Rides in the Gardens of Collington

By Gloria Ericson

Editor's note: As Halloween approaches, mystery creeps into everyday life. Look up at the moon over Collington and you may see the unexpected.

QUESTION: If a seasoned Collington resident has a dog that dies, should another one be acquired to replace it?

ANSWER: Certainly not! Are you *crazy??* You know that long before the new one goes to that Big Dog Park in the Sky you will have gone to wherever it is you are going. Is that fair to the new one?

As a person on the cusp of her ninth decade I knew it wasn't fair, but then I saw the flaw in that assumption: "New" doesn't necessarily mean "young."

The next day I was at the shelter seeking a small "mature" dog. I stopped in front of a cage containing a fawn-colored chihuahua. "I like him," I said to the attendant. "But he's only four years old," she cautioned. Then the dog's eyes met mine. It was Kismet and the message was clear: *Let's get rid of this ridiculous agent, and broker the deal ourselves.* "Four is close enough," I replied. "I'll take him." And Schuyler came into my life.

Schuyler is a quick study. I doubt that his former owner used a scooter to walk him, as I do, but he caught on immediately and trotted on ahead of me as if he had been doing it forever. Looking

at him now, I find myself wanting to hum "The horse knows the way to carry the sleigh..." To this day, people call out to me that I should be ashamed to make that little dog pull me.

So we settled into a routine of plying the pathways of Collington. Then one evening I

became immersed in a TV movie that ended at midnight. Since I had never walked Schuyler that late at night, I guiltily hustled him outside – and was met with a magical view. Ahead of us stretched the whole panoply of Collington's lighted walkways, devoid of any other pedestrians.



It all belonged to Schuyler and me -- we could go wherever we wanted, at whatever speed we wanted, without worrying about upending slower walkers. So I let out his retractable leash and we took off. It seemed we might even end up flying – like the children and their bikes in the movie "E.T."

And so we became midnight walkers. Soon I found out there were other denizens of the night. One encounter made me recall the joke about the dog who called on his girlfriend. She sniffed him appreciatively. "Wow, what's that you're wearing?" "I don't know," he answered. "But isn't it great? I rolled in it on the way over."

Our encounter involved Schuyler suddenly charging a "cat" in some bushes. It turned out to be a skunk. I pulled Schuyler away, but the odor

stayed with him almost until we reached our cottage. Apparently he had only been misted, not sprayed.

And so we continued with our mostly joyful midnight romps — until the recent evening when the rabbit showed up. Now, I'm not blaming him for what happened. The rabbit couldn't help it if his genes forced him to hop in that provocative way — any more than Schuyler could help it that *his* genes immediately began screaming: "Get that sucker *NOW!*" And we were off!

I found myself with a death grip on the handle bar — which unfortunately also included the lever that insured we'd keep going forward at high speed. We whipped around a corner and plowed into a rest area, reducing a plastic chair to rubble before we came to rest against some latticework.

Despite the loud crash no curiosity-seekers showed up, so after I caught my breath and deduced that Schuyler was okay and only my shins were bleeding, I stacked the chair shards in a neat pile and called him over to ride home on the scooter floorboard, which he did, solicitously licking my legs. I took it that that was his way of apologizing.

The next day I visited the cottage nearest the crash and offered to pay for the chair, but was told that they didn't know who owned it — all the furniture had been there for many years.

So, has this incident made me give up midnight runs? No. Schuyler deserves a workout that really stretches his legs. But I now realize I must be more alert as to what's going on around me. And I've been practicing a quick release of handlebar and lever.

So if you ever look up into the Collington night sky and see silhouetted against the moon an image of a lone passenger in a scooter pulled

by a small dog you'll know Schuyler and I have finally cracked the self-levitation code and are on our way to see what's on the other side of that celestial orb.

Note: Resident artist Jan Watt, who did this story sketch for the Collingtonian, did caricatures and silhouettes at Disney World and other amusement parks as well as works in other medias

I Brake for the Muse

By Evelyn Kellman

When you see a poem
by the side of the road,
you must be willing to stop, back up
ignoring loud horns, screeching brakes,
You must make U-turns on busy hi-ways,
even when the signs say NO!

On country roads, you must dare
to park on blind curves,
brave brambles,
climb tall trees,
unhooking words that dangle from the sky.

At all costs you must pick them up
as you would an ancient wanderer
or a runaway teen, her thumb in the air...

Talk to them!

Find out where they're going,

Most importantly

Find out where they've been.

"You end up as you deserve. In old age you must put up with the face, the friends, the health, and the children you have earned" --
Judith Viorst

Happenings



Beware the Great Pumpkin

Get your witch hat out of the closet! Shake out the goblin garb! Collington will celebrate Halloween on Saturday, October 26!

This holiday is for children and grandchildren of staff and residents so dress up the little ones and come for fun and sweets. The Hospitality Committee has plans for you all.

The children can trick-or-treat on the first and second floors of the apartments where doors are marked with a welcoming pumpkin. Games with prizes will be throughout the clocktower area with a special seer and her crystal ball to tell your fortune.



Head goblin, Chris Cobb, has a very scary haunted house in the works. The youngsters who are dressed for Halloween can show their costumes in a parade across the stage. As always, the day will end with punch and cookies.

The Halloween committee needs many helpers; wear your most outrageous outfit or come-as-you-are. All children 12 and under are welcome and residents and staff over 12 are too. The party is from 2 to 4 p.m. Psst – come on and join the fun! -- **PH**



Beauty and the Beast



Ria and Ted Hawkins sent us this wonderful photo taken in their garden by their son Thomas of a hawkmoth (Manduca sexta) at an angel's trumpet (Brugmansia suaveolens) flower. Gardeners will look with less favor on this lovely moth when they learn it was once a tomato hornworm!

Pat Battin Retires from Library

After seven years as Chair of the Library Committee, Pat Battin has retired. Barbara Bailar has agreed to fill the vacancy and is looking for a co-chair.

Among Pat's many achievements: all the books in our library were listed on an internet catalog for the first time; a system for checking out and returning books was instituted; the sale of books on a window sill outside the library yielded funds for purchase of new books; and a booklet outlining library procedures was published.

Pat brought years of experience to our small library, having served at Columbia University as vice president for information services as well as university librarian.

The Library has been a resident project from day one, composed of donations from residents moving to small cottages from large houses. Over the years contributions overwhelmed the available shelf space and constant weeding had to be done.

"It seems to me, Pat comments, "that the library is one of *the* success stories of resident governance contributions." -- **FK**

Some Residents Only Summer Here



It's no secret that a number of our residents flee summer's heat for homes in New Hampshire and Maine. But what few know is that another perennial Collingtonian arrives as others are leaving. This visitor's home is in a honey locust tree just outside the offices of Dining Services.

Judith Shaw, famous for recognizing bird songs, has identified this visitor as a song sparrow. His distinctive three-note introduction is followed by warbles and trills. Those first three notes are a dead giveaway, and even if you are not a birder, you will hear this song if you spend any time near his tree.

Judith tells us that a song sparrow has been nesting in this tree for the past several years, and for all we know it is the same bird. Some have enjoyed a life span of 11 years. And following the example of other two-legged residents, our song sparrow will seek more compatible climes as the season changes.

We can't help wondering what signals this small creature to return year after year to the same honey locust tree on our campus. Only the song sparrow knows. And he's not telling.

-- FK

Theater Renovation Is Back on Track

Plans to renovate the Greenbelt Theatre, a popular movie house for Collingtonians that is owned by the City of Greenbelt were given the go-ahead after the city council agreed to add more money to the project and postpone replacing the heating and air conditioning systems. With building permits and a contractor on hand work could begin shortly, barring further delays. The theater could be closed during construction for six or more months. -- JKG

Where were you on Nov. 22, 1963?

This November will mark 50 years since the assassination of John F. Kennedy. Most of us remember vividly what we were doing on that fateful day, how we heard the news and how we reacted.

What about you? We'd like to learn about Collingtonians' memories of half a century ago.

Email your recollections to collingtonian@gmail.com or place them in the Collingtonian mailbox (next to the library box at the far end of the mailboxes). We'll publish them in the November edition. If we receive more than we can fit in print, we'll post the rest on our new online "Collingtonian Extra."

"Old age is an excellent time for outrage. My goal is to say or do at least one outrageous thing every week" -- Louis Kronenberger

We Welcome Our New Neighbors

by Barbara Allen and George Newman

Molly and James Cline



Cottage 1001. ext.7011. The Clines are from the Midwest, James having been born in Detroit, Mich., and Molly in Elyria, Ohio.

James attended the University of Michigan, receiving three degrees, B.A., M.S., and Ph.D. in physics. He put these to good use as a research physicist in nuclear structure and as a consultant to the nuclear power industry. He spent a year in Vienna as a consultant for the International Atomic Energy Agency. He also served as head of the AARP Tax Aid program and for 10 years volunteered to teach science to fourth- and fifth-graders in Montgomery County schools.

Molly graduated from Oberlin College with a degree in kindergarten and primary education and before her marriage taught in Portland, Oregon.

After marriage she did volunteer work with the Idaho Symphony and became involved in

the political arena, working for Senator Frank Church of Idaho and for Governor Cecil Andrus.

The Clines have four children and two grandchildren.

Mary DeRenzo

Apartment 224, ext. 7538. Mary moved to Collington from nearby Bowie. She was born in Gowanda, New York, south of Buffalo, but grew up in Columbus, Ohio. She attended college in Ohio and in Maryland, and worked in the accounting profession.



Mary and her husband, who died in 1997, had four children, who produced eight grandchildren, who in turn have produced 12 great-grandchildren. All but two of these live in St. Catherine's, Ontario, Canada.

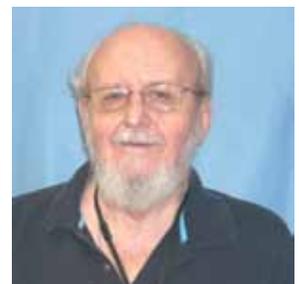
Mary describes herself as a fun-loving person who loves people. She is also a lover of music and an enthusiastic concert goer.

Karen and Jack Bishop

Cottage 5008. ext. 5077. The Bishops moved here from Falls Church, Virginia, but Karen, who was born in Wheeling, West Virginia, has lived on the east and the west coasts of the United States and in Chicago.



Jack was born in Rockville Center, New York has traveled around the world several times. He earned a B.S. in chemical engineering and then a Ph.D. from the University



of Illinois in economics and business. He then worked for Dow Corning doing applied research in silicone chemistry and as a lead systems analyst. Next he worked for Kentucky Fried

Chicken as manager of management sciences. His next position was as chief economist for the May Department Store Co.

He was then employed by Brunswick Corp. and lastly founded his own company, Kingsberry International, doing program evaluation and small business development. He also worked in technology for Northwestern University and left that position when he was recruited to turn around the business development arm of the Nebraska state government. Jack has published three books and numerous articles and developed a leading indicator for the U.S. economy that, he reports, moved the Dow 50-100 points in minutes. He says about his career that he chose to have 55 years of business experience rather than one year doing the same thing fifty-five times.

Jack had four children by his first wife and three grandchildren.

Karen Bishop has had an equally impressive career. She graduated from Rutgers University with a B.A. in philosophy. Then she

earned a M.A. in business and finally a law degree from the University of California, Los Angeles. She practiced law for 40 years, serving as in-house counsel for numerous companies. Now her hobbies are playing the fiddle, quilting and gardening.

Clarita Ricketts

Cottage 1010, ext. 7210. Clarita is one of the recent migrants from Heritage Harbor. She brought her two cats along and they compose her household. Because her husband had been in the Cuban diplomatic service, she lived in numerous places in the United States



and Canada.

She received her education in the United States, earning a B.S. degree in art education from the University of Maryland and a Master's of Fine Arts from the Maryland Institute of Fine Arts. Clarita taught art in the public schools of Montgomery County for 33 years. She loves to play the piano and keeps up with her art. She has a son and a daughter and three grandchildren, all living in Annapolis.

Clarita says she is enthralled living in Collington and loves the courtyard area at the Clocktower where she sits to draw and paint.

Charlotte Melichar

Cottage 1108, ext. 7224. Charlotte moved here from Bowie in August with her two dogs. She was born in Philadelphia but has lived mostly in Miami, Florida and in various places in Virginia.

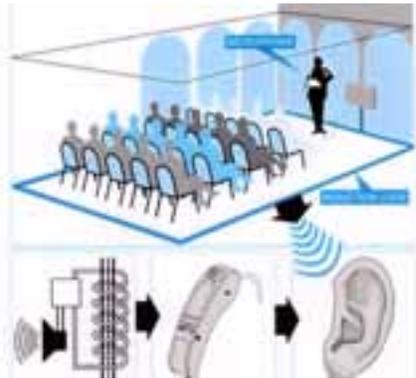


She earned a BA degree in mathematics from Mary Baldwin College and with her math background qualified for a job with IBM which she held for a number of years. Charlotte later worked for the Aircraft owners and Pilots Association as director of their computer center.

Currently she is studying Spanish and doing volunteer work one day a week at the Patuxent wildlife Refuge. She also works with the AARP tax aid program. She has an interest in working with the Grounds Committee at Collington and she is particularly interested in extending the use of computers here. Charlotte has three daughters and two grandchildren.

Auditorium Hearing Loop Clarifies Sound for Those with Hearing Loss

by Curt Bury



For a few days in September, the doors of our Auditorium were closed while the old carpet was removed and the dance floor taken up. A vendor recommended by the Hearing Loss Association of America installed wires for a system called a “Hearing Loop”. Now being widely installed in theaters, churches and other senior living locations, a hearing loop helps people with hearing loss understand words clearly when microphones are used or TV broadcasts or movies are shown.

Here’s how hearing loops work. The special wiring installed in our auditorium is connected directly to our sound system. Sound is then sent straight to the listener’s ears via a hearing aid equipped with a device called a “telecoil” or to a special headphone set a user wears. What this “induction” loop does is “clean up” the sound so that words can be clearly understood, rather than coming across “muffled”.

Collington residents who already have hearing aids only need to check with their audiologist to see if these include a “telecoil” and, if so, how to turn it on. If they do not have a hearing aid, an option is to use a receiver

with a headphone. This can be purchased from our hearing loop vendor Joe Duarte (703-352-2285 or email joe@duartek.com) for around \$140. Also, small hearing loops can be ordered for use in apartments or cottages to help in understanding TV or DVD broadcasts.



That Collington is equipped to offer this amenity will, our Marketing staff expects, be yet another inducement to come here to live.

Limericks by Judith Shaw

(With rhymes for Collington and Mitchellville)

Oh, Deer

With the start of sparkling new dawn,
Comes the birth of a dappled wee fawn.
Often at Collington,
One sees a lolling one
Nibbling sweet blades of the lawn.

Whether Wet?

After some days had been warm,
Came rains in a terrible storm.
In low-lying Mitchellville
Most any ditch’ll fill.
Producing the watery norm.

The *Collingtonian* now has its own email account: Collingtonian@gmail.com Use this address to submit articles, photos and story suggestions. Those without email may place written material in the *Collingtonian* mailbox.

Committee Seeks Green Collington

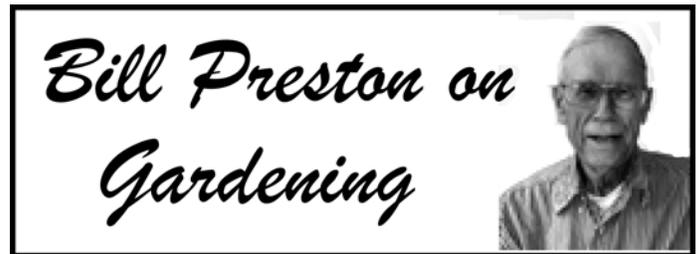
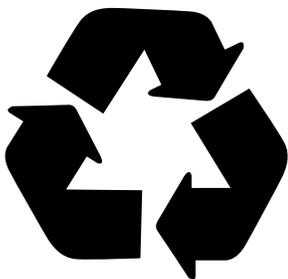
By Jeremy Gorman

Our Green Collington committee is looking for new members. Dedicated to making Collington energy independent, Green Collington will be involved with many aspects of energy use. Our first task will be to find out what Collington now pays for energy, primarily electricity and heating.

When Collington opened in 1988, there were few alternatives to fossil fuels. In the intervening 25 years, we have learned a great deal about alternatives, which we now find to be more abundant than the fuels we use. But little of that information has been translated into action. Green Collington is out to change that. Briefly, we have a simple action plan:

- Assess Collington's current usage and costs
- Study alternatives - sun, wind, geothermal, hydro and "free" energy
- Select the most cost effective source and install a pilot facility here at Collington
- Study the cost effectiveness of the unit installed and revise it accordingly
- Install additional facilities throughout Collington
- Study the next most promising source and repeat steps 4 and 5 until we meet our goal.

Please join us in the Board Room at 10 a.m. on the fourth Tuesday of each month. You will meet wonderful people, learn fascinating things, and save Collington money.



I received my first seed catalog in September, mind you! It was from GeoSeed, an outfit that supplies seeds for commercial flower growers. Most seed catalogs will be in the mail right after Christmas.

Why discuss seeds now? Because this is the time to collect seeds from flowers, fruits, vegetables, trees, and shrubs. You can save these seeds if you follow a few tips.

First, go to an office supply store and get some packets -- the little envelopes often used for keys. Harvest the seeds from the plants you want to grow next year. Put them into a container, then remove all leaves, bugs (especially!), stems, and other retrievable items. For seeds from fleshy fruits, remove and place on paper towels and allow to dry.

Then, on a clean dry wooden or linoleum floor, turn on a small fan several feet away. Drop portions of your dry seed collection into the light breeze. The poor seeds and chaff will blow away, but the good seed will drop straight down. Collect the good seed and you have "cleaned" seed.

Put the cleaned seed into packets that are labeled and dated. Place the packets in the refrigerator until you are ready to sow. Dry seed kept this way will often remain viable for many years.

Once I obtained a few seeds of a very rare wildflower called Royal Catchfly. It had good potential as a commercial cut flower. After two seasons I had 50 plants, so I let them produce seeds, harvested and cleaned the seeds, offered them through a seed distribution program, and the entire crop was disseminated throughout the United States.

Ruth Galaid's Children of the World



South Vietnam, 1990

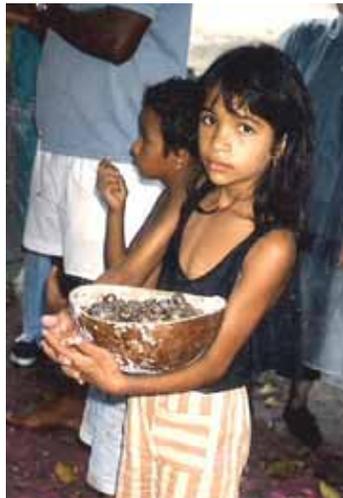
Collingtonian Ruth Galaid spent the better part of her life traveling about the world, visiting all seven continents. She took particular interest in the children she encountered in the many countries in which she lived or visited. Here is a representative selection from her photo collection.



Uganda, 1960



Nairobi, Kenya child with Ruth, 1969



Peru near Amazon, 1993



Japan, 1955



Nepal, 1954



Folk dancers, Bihar State, India 1954



US Soldiers during German occupation help orphan children celebrate Christmas, 1951



American in India, 1954



Guadalajara, Mexico, 1996