

January 14, 1994

Shirley Stateczny, Alcaldesa!
Chili Appreciation Society International
Rt. 2, Box 2385
Boerne, Texas 78006

Hello Shirley,

Congratulations on your new position within CASI. I just read your article in Terlingua Trails and thought I could help you in your questions about a written job description of your duties and a clarification of the rights and privileges of the Old 320 members.

Your duties and the Old 320 member rights and privileges are recorded in past Director's minutes. They have not been compiled into a simple format that you or the members need. I agree that each of you should have something that you can hold in your hands that spells out what it all means. Please consider, these thoughts I give you are from memory however, they should be pretty accurate to what the minutes of previous Director meetings would show. After all, they whole concept of the Alcade(sa) and the Old 320 was conceived by me. The minutes record my definitions of the Alcade and the Old 320 concept that was first presented to the BOD and approved by the BOD at our meeting in Cibilo in June of 1989. You can take this information to the meeting in Denton with you with hopes of getting an official approval by the BOD if you like. Here goes.

ALCADE JOB DESCRIPTION

The Alcade shall be elected by the general membership of the Old 320 members for a one year period which begins the following Monday after the TICC and shall end Sunday at midnight following the next TICC. ()

The election of the new Alcade will be by majority vote of Old 320 members present and voting. No proxy's are allowed. The election will take place the Friday morning before the TICC at the stage at Rancho CASI de Los Chisos.

The duties of the Alcade are to represent the Old 320 members. The Alcade is the direct spokesman of the Old 320 members to the CASI Board of Directors. It is the duty of the Alcade to solicit information directly from the Old 320 members, their thoughts on suggested improvements to grounds of Rancho CASI de los Chisos. The members do not run the TICC.

CASI will reimburse the Alcade for the one time cost of mailing questionnaires for the

* mailing certificates, gas for special trips to Terlingua

purpose of soliciting information from Old 320 members. No other expenses incurred by the Alcalde will be paid by CASI. The Alcalde will attend one Board of Directors meeting to present the findings for suggested improvements to Rancho CASI de los Chisos. The Alcalde has no voting privileges within the BOD.

The Alcalde can accept more responsibilities as directed by the BOD. For example, should certain improvements be approved by the BOD, the Alcalde can lead the direction of those improvements should the authorization be granted by the BOD.

Communication with the board

The CASI secretary will be the permanent record keeper of Old 320 members, their site numbers, and available sites. The secretary shall insure the Alcalde will be given a site map with available site at the beginning of the new Alcades' term. Thenseforth, the Alcalde shall be responsible for assisting in selling and collecting money for new sites which are payable to CASI Old 320, and will be mailed to the CASI treasurer for deposit in the general fund. The Alcalde is responsible for issuing Old 320 member certificates in numerical sequence to new members. It is the responsibility of the outgoing Alcalde to present to the incoming Alcalde accurate and up to date records of the latest Old 320 activities, sales, and site maps.

OLD 320 MEMBERSHIP AND THEIR PRIVILEGES

By purchasing an Old 320 Membership, the purchaser is granted the privilege to select a 10' X 10' space in the arena of Rancho CASI de los Chisos as a permanent cooksite. The arena has been surveyed and plotted by a registered landsurveyor and each site is permantly recorded. Each member shall select a site that will be recorded by the Alcalde and submitted to the BOD for permanent recording the the CASI secretary. The site selected by the Old 320 member will grant useage by that member to cook on that site at the TICC for the life of that member. Old 320 members can have as their guest other qualified cooks to cook on their sites. Should that member not be qualified to cook at the TICC for any chili year, the member has the right to issue the useage of that site to any other qualified cook for that TICC. Should an Old 320 member choose not to use the site or to assign the use of the site to another qualified cook, the Alcalde can recommend to the BOD that the site be issued to any other qualified cook. The cook can use their sites to "show" on if they so choose.

Should the member so choose, the member has the right to "will" the useage of the members site, upon expiration of the member, to the person of the members choice. Upon expiration of that person, the site shall revert back to the open pool of available sites in the arena. This site will hold no privileges over any other sites and shall be available to the next purchaser of an Old 320 membership.

PHILOSOPHY

The initial purpose and concept of the Old 320 program was look to the chilicooks as a basis to generate revenue for the purchase of land in the Terlingua area for a permanent site for the TICC. CASI itself had no money for this purpose. The BOD felt the cooks themselves,

Members

in particular the more active and dedicated CASI chilecooks would be willing to contribute \$200.00 of their hard earned money to the land purchasing cause and for CASI to develop a permanent home for the TICC. The success of Rancho CASI de los Chisos and in its purchase and development into what it is today is directly attributed to the initial Old 320 members. Each and everyone of these people are and should be recognized as very special people within CASI. None have asked for anything in return. Most all of the initial purchasers had one thing in common and that was they sought no elitist category; they felt a sincere desire to help their CASI organization succeed in a cause for the betterment of the whole. They were all very proud to contribute their money for a very worthy cause. That in itself was self gratifying to each. CASI owes a deep gratitude to every Old 320 member for without them, Rancho CASI de los Chisos would not be a success.

THE CONCEPT AND CREATION OF RANCHO CASI DE LOS CHISOS

In 1988 during my first year as a director, I truly believed CASI should be and could be self sufficient. Some of the most wonderful times I had in chili was at Villa de la Mina. Villa de la Mina clearly was too small to accommodate the growth of CASI. We had to move. I felt we could buy our own property if we had the money. What money CASI had in those days came from the \$.50 and later \$1.00 a head per cook from chili cookoffs, and later helped by sponsorships from Gaviscon. That money was used to run the organization and the TICC. At the end of the TICC, there was nothing left. I found out that Glenn Pepper, who let us use his property for the TICC, kept all the revenues from the gate, concession sales, and where ever else he could make money. He would not allow CASI or anyone else sell anything at the TICC. I figured he was making about \$20,000 off the TICC and later proved was very accurate. I felt if we had our own property, we could keep this revenue for our own purposes, a very strong selling point in justifying having our own place.

In the spring of 1989 I contacted all the realtors in Terlingua to find a site for us. The first choice was at the Ghost-town itself where the first cookoff was. Over the years, the property in and around the Ghost-town was subdivided. Unfortunately, nothing was available there that could accommodate us. I searched everywhere from Study Butte to Lajitas. There was a 40 acre piece with a building on it across from Arturos Whites' "Store"; it was too small. I even talked to Arturo about buying "The Store" and his property. He wants to keep the Store for his children. Wouldn't that have frosted the ass of the "Behing the Store people if we suddenly owned their party place? One major criteria I had was our site needed to be flat. The realtors came up with the flattest piece of ground in the Terlingua. The price was a whopping \$125.00 an acre. After my presentation to the BOD in June, the BOD approved the downpayment of \$500.00. Vann, Ken Hudspeth and myself went to Terlingua and the three of us signed the papers in July. Some of the BOD wanted to hold the 1989 TICC on the new site. We didn't have the money. We wanted so desperately to make the announcement at the Great Peppers Meeting in Seattle that we had bought our own property and the TICC would be held there in 1989. We did it right by waiting until 1990 when we had money from the Old 320 people and two major surprises and that was \$10,000 from Wolf Brand and \$5,000 from McCormick. Boy did we know we had done the right thing!

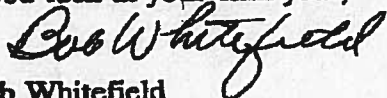
I came up with the name of Rancho CASI de los Chisos from the Chisos Mountains of the area. Chisos is an Indian word for "ghost". I also considered such names as Rancho Caliente, Villa de Chili, Rancho Arrgauya which is Spanish for "quicksilver". The name was approved by the BOD.

There is a book written by T.E. Ferenbach on the history of Texas. In it is a chapter on the first settlers of Texas. The Spanish Governor in San Antonio de Bexar, authorized a real estate developer named Stephen Austin to sell roughly 1,000 acre parcels of land to Anglo settlers if they became Catholics, professed loyalty to New Spain, worked the land and were law abiding people. This was in 1820. The land was in an arc from present day Austin eastward toward present day Houston. The reason for the location of these sites was the Governor felt the Anglo's would serve as a buffer between him and the Comanches. Better the Comanches kill the Anglo's rather than the Gov. Austin was approved to sell 300 sites. These original Texans were called "The Old 300". This is where I came up with the idea of "The Old 320". I felt we had to give something jazzy to the purchasers of our Old 320 sites. I put this on the certificates. Also on there, is the title of chili gentility, "Concinero Hildago". "Concinero" is misspelled. It should be "Cocinero" which is Spanish for "cook". Hildago is Spanish for "nobility". Hence, we have each Old 320 member with the title of Noble Cook. Cute, ain't it? I thought you would like to know how the certificate came about.

The very first concept I had was to actually sell one acre parcels of our 320 acres to chili cooks. People could actually own a piece of Rancho de los Chisos. Not unlike a planned community development you see around our cities with community pools, golf courses and the like. With discussions with Pat Irvine and other land-use attorneys we concluded it could be a legal nightmare with right of ways, roads, owners rights, etc. So we came down to dividing up the arena in 320 cook sites. It was best to have CASI responsible for the entire property.

So there you have it. I hope I've answered some of your questions. There is one other thing. I felt that the leader of the Old 320 members should be called the "Mayor" or the "Mayor of the Ranch" or something like that. It was Pat Irvine who came up with the Spanish word "Alcalde" for mayor. I'm not sure if "mayor" is feminine or masculine. Was Kathy Whitworth the Mayor or Mayoress of Houston? What about Ann Richards? Is she the Governor or Governess of Texas? I'm not a chauvinist pig but if you want to be the Alcaldesa of Rancho de los Chisos its perfectly fine with me. I don't think you need the BOD's approval to be what you are.

Good luck in your chili year,



Bob Whitefield
Old 320 #1
Cocinero Hildago