



LANGUAGE SYSTEMS  
INTERNATIONAL

LSI Alhambra  
SEPTEMBER 2011  
Volume 11 Issue 9

# LSI Newsletter Alhambra

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## September Calendar of Events

**September 2nd**

Lunch Social at our favorite Thai restaurant

Tennis Practice with Jose.

**September 5th**

Labor Day! No School!!!!

**September 7th**

Bowling competition with Tim and Natalya! +dinner

*Six Flags Water park with Andrea!*

**September 10th**

**September 16th**

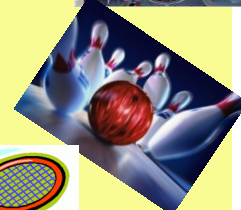
Monrovia Farmer's market! Food, Music, fun!

**September 17th**

Santa Monica! Shopping + shows!

**September 23d**

Graduation Day!



## Beach Party Summary!

Beach Party that LSI organized on August 26th was super exciting!!!!!! Alhambra Volleyball team had great players! Erber, Tim, Jose, Jianyi Lu, Cyrus, and Terry did such a great job!!! We'll definitely win next year! We are very proud of them!!!

Our students did very well in other games and we won the disgusting food contest!!! Now we know that Alhambra school has the best eaters!!!

Check out our blog, facebook and youtube for videos and pictures!

Thank you everybody for making this a fun party!

Let's do it again next year!



**ATTENTION STUDENTS!!!**

**PROMOTION!!!!!!**

**SIGN UP FOR MORNING AND AFTERNOON CLASSES AND RECEIVE 50% OFF OF YOUR AFTERNOON CLASSES!**

# L.A. County Fair

One of the most authentic events in the U.S. is the County Fair, and it's coming to Los Angeles soon. Each county has a big festival

offering experiences like attractions, foods, and entertainment.

The Orange County Fair was recently held in our area. The LA County Fair 2011 will be held every day from September 1 to October 2 at a special site in Pomona. Although I've never been to any county fairs, it sounds great. Additionally, I guess people from other countries can really enjoy this event. Check this out!!

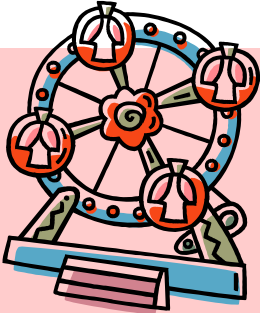
Most of you may have question about the admission prices for the fair. Many retail shops in Los Angeles offer both pre-sale tickets or discount tickets. Weekday admission for adults is \$12.00, and weekend tickets are \$17.00. For children, tickets are \$7.00 on weekdays, and \$12.00 on weekends. Parking is \$10.00. The address is 1101 West McKinley Avenue, Pomona, California. Also, while the Fair is open, some hotels close to the festival site have special rates for overnight stays.

Among the events at the fair are several attractions we can't normally experience in Los Angeles. One example is the Live Shark Encounter. This attraction features sharks, intriguingly dangerous sea animals. The audience will have the real experience of looking at sharks up close. Next, we can get excited about some of the big

entertainment events. In the last week of the fair, ASA World

Championships of Freestyle Motocross will be held in October 1. This competitive show features 12 of the world's top pro-riders from the X games. You can see professional athletes show off their acrobatic skills and compete with each other. The spectacular show of extreme sports will be a lot of fun.

On the next day, the last day of the fair, the legendary Soul Funk band, "Earth, Wind & Fire" will perform in the site. Besides them, some old school bands like "The Beach Boys", "War", "Tower of Power", and other popular groups will add to the musical flavor of the fair. By the way, I'm going to see Earth, Wind and Fire. I'm already excited!



**For more information, visit [www.ocfair.com](http://www.ocfair.com)**

# Autumn Moon Festival



People celebrate the Autumn Moon Festival in many countries. This year, the Autumn Moon Festival will begin on September 12. In China, the Autumn Moon Festival is like Thanksgiving Day in America. Family members gather together, and even the members who live very far away still come back. They admire the moon and eat moon cakes. In some traditional families, grandparents tell many folk tales to their grandchildren. Everyone watches the festival TV show at night. In Taiwan, people usually eat barbecue, moon cakes, and pomelos. Many people go back to their hometown and spend time with their family. They set off fireworks and look at the moon in the night because the moon is very big and bright on this day. In Korea, the festival is called Chuseok. People make traditional foods, visit their relatives,

By Peggy

## Back to School

If you are a parent, you are busy right now. Summer holiday will end in one week. Parents are busy with 'back to school' shopping, and the 'back to school' parties with their kids.

It is easy to find 'back to school' signs in L.A, particularly in the department stores, retail stores and discount stores. Most of the stores have 'back to school' sale to boost their sales volume in this particularly period. You can the school necessities such as stationery, backpacks, lunchboxes, clothes and shoes at good prices. Back to school sales start earlier and earlier every year. Most of the stores started in July this year. Therefore, you can even get an additional discount on the items when it's closer to September. For example, a cartoon character backpack in Disney store cost \$19.50 in July. It was reduced to \$12.50 in early August, and now it's \$9.00 which is almost 60% off from the original prices. However, 'back to school' sales don't happen in all countries. There is no 'back to school' sale in my country. Students wear school uniforms, and parents buy supplies when they need to. However, some people buy new school uniforms, shoes and stationery for the new school year.

In addition, parents are also busy with back to school parties. It is the last opportunity for kids to play and have fun together before the new school year. Kids will be busy with their study and extra-curriculum activities once the school year is started. Actually, there was a 'back to school' party in the apartment area I am living. All of the kids celebrated together. Although I am not a kid, I went to the party and had fun with them.

'Back to school' sale is a really a good idea for both parents and kids. They can use their money economically. Moreover, it is also good for singles as they can shop and buy their favorite things at really good prices. Nevertheless, please don't spend all your money this time because Thanksgiving and Christmas are coming, and you will spend more at that time. On the other hand, 'Back to school' party is a little 'bittersweet'. We are happy about the start of a new school year, but we are sad that summer is gone.

# Margarita

By Luigi

Do you feel stressed or overwhelmed? Then you should go to Margarita. Margarita is a little island that is located off the coast of Venezuela, about 45 minutes from Caracas-Venezuela. It is a place that has no taxes, and everything is cheap. People from Margarita are very nice, kind and sociable. There is no drinking age, so anybody can get drunk whenever they want. Margarita has beautiful beaches, good food and night clubs. In other words, Margarita is a good place to relax, have fun and shop.

Many beaches in Margarita are beautiful. The water is very clean and clear. You can smell fresh seafood from the restaurants. Beaches can be found however you like, with waves, people, wind, hotels, and restaurants or without those. At the beach you can feel the breeze, smell the blue ocean, hear the birds, see the palms and waves moving and have a relaxing day in the shade.

Fishermen walk around the beach with buckets to sell seafood. They sell juicy, fresh oysters with lemon, fresh boiled-lobsters with special sauces and mixed seafood in jars. The mixed seafood in a jar is called "Vuelve a la Vida," which means "back to life." It is a cocktail that has fresh shrimp, oysters, clams, octopus, diced tomatoes, cilantro, sweet onions, and a special spicy sauce. It really brings you "back to life." All the seafood is fresh, so you can taste the real seafood.

After having a great day admiring the beautiful view and eating delicious seafood at the beach, you can also have a great night. Margarita is not only famous for the beautiful beaches; it's also

famous for the night life. For people who like to party, Margarita has a lot of nightclubs. A nightclub like Kamy Beach, which is also a beach club, is a place where you can drink and dance on the sand. There are nightclubs with roofs that have bars, restaurants, Disc jockeys and beautiful ocean views.

Margarita is a good place where you can have fun. It is a tourist place and has a tropical weather in the whole year, so people can go whenever they want. If you want to relax, party, eat all kinds of food, or even get out of your stressful daily routine, you should go to Margarita. If not, you should go anyway and try a wonderful experience that you will never forget. I'm pretty sure that you won't regret it. You won't waste your time.



# Campos de Jordao

By Juliana

Do you want to go to a romantic and beautiful place to spend time with family or friends? Campos de Jordao in Brazil is a gorgeous place to visit, because the environment is comfortable and almost everything is green. Many people visit this city in the winter season. There are a lot of different kinds of food. The tourist places are awesome. There is horseback riding in the mountains, or around the city. The most famous thing in Campos de Jordao is the lift that takes you to the

mountain to see the view of the whole city. Most of the time people go to places on foot, because the environment is green and pretty. The city is small, so walking is no problem. I really love this place. That's why I recommend you visit this city if you go to Brazil.

The cuisine of this city is mostly German, Swiss, French and Italian. Sometimes there is typical Brazilian food, but the most popular thing to eat in Campos de Jordao is fondue.

*Baden Baden* is one of the popular restaurants in this city. You always have to wait in line to eat there, but the food is worth the wait. It is typical German food, so the main dish is sausage with

potatoes. Everything you eat has to be accompanied by beer. You will notice that every kind of

restaurant serves beer. After having lunch or dinner, people choose to eat fondue for desert. Fondue is a chocolate cream served with fruit. Normally the fruits are strawberry and banana, but there are some other fruits too.

The tourist places in Campos are awesome. You can always ride horses. The guide will take you by horse to ride on the mountains and see the view and to spend more time with the nature, or you can ride the horse around the city. Another great thing to do there is ride the lift that takes you to the mountain. The lift normally seats one or two people. It will take you five minutes to go up to the mountain. Once you arrive there, you can see the whole city and take beautiful pictures with your companion. However, you need to be prepared, because it's a little bit cold up there.

The city is not so big, so it would be cool if you could walk around instead of driving.

Everything is nearby. Moreover, the place is full of trees and flowers. In addition, you can see the mountains that will make your walk more pleasant. People go places on foot, because everything is close. If you live a little bit farther from the center, you can drive to center or walk there.

This city, Campos de Jordao, has a beautiful view and very nice environment. Going there for a week will be perfect to spend time alone with family or with your companion. It's a romantic place to be and there is a variety of food to eat. Furthermore, there are a lots of things to do while staying there. I will recommend going, because I love spending my holidays there. I feel very calm and relaxed in that place. Campos de Jordao is the perfect place let go of stress and problems.



# The Big One

By Vina

September 21st, 1999 was the most horrible day for Taiwan. A 7.3 (Richter scale) earthquake occurred at 1:47 a.m. in the central part of Taiwan. Most of people fell into a deep sleep when it happened. 2,455 people died because of the earthquake. Millions of people lost their houses. When the earthquake happened, I was close to the epicenter. I was terrified as I witnessed this historic moment.



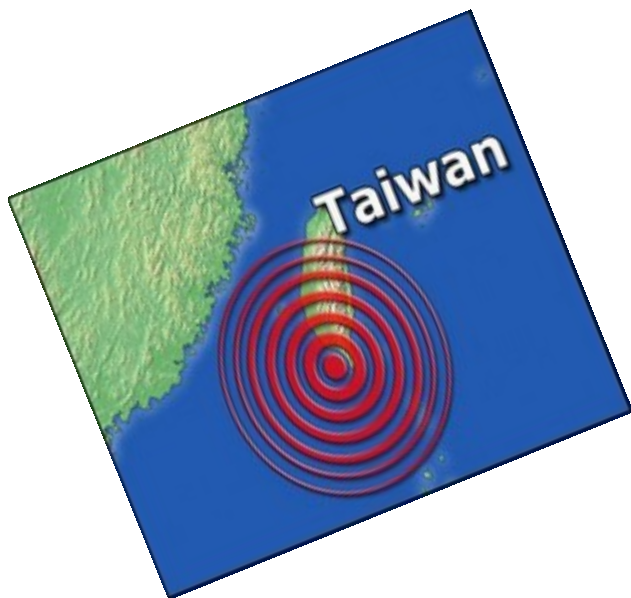
I remember it was a cool night in Tai-Chung, which is located in the central part of Taiwan. I was having fun with my friends at a night club. I had been drinking. I felt a little sleepy and dizzy, so I decided to go home. When I walked out of the club, it was already 1:45 a.m. Only a few cars passed by on the street. Some taxi drivers were waiting for the customers from the club. Everything was so quiet and tranquil. Then I stepped on the sidewalk. Suddenly, the surface started shaking. I didn't think it was a big deal because earthquakes are very common in Taiwan. But a few seconds later, it shook stronger and bigger than any earthquake I had experienced before.

I won't forget the scenes that I saw on that terrifying night. The earthquake continued shaking for 102 seconds. As the shaking continued, I totally sobered up. I couldn't stand on the ground, which felt like a sponge. I got down on the surface to avoid falling down. I raised my eyes to the sky. I saw the street lamps shut down one by one, as if someone had turned them off on purpose. The surface, which didn't move back and forward but up and down, made me feel like someone was punching the ground very hard. At that moment, I thought the whole world was going to crash, and no one would survive after the earthquake. "It might be the end of the world," I thought.

# The Big One By Vina

After the longest 102 seconds shaking. I thought it would be over, but it wasn't. In fact,

aftershocks kept coming afterward. I went back to my suite by taxi to look for my roommate. I lived on the 10th floor, so I had to take the stairs. Everyone who lived in that building ran down the stairs. Instead, I ran upstairs. The brick walls became pieces of rock and dropped on my body. While I tried to open my suite's door, I couldn't open it. The door was stuck because of the aftershocks. I also couldn't steady and open the door at the same time. I put all my strength to open my door. I didn't find my roommate, but I saw my dresser was sliding forward and back. While my closet had al-



ready fallen down on my bed, my dresser was still swinging. I trembled when I stood in my 10<sup>th</sup> floor suite. The aftershocks weren't stopping.

There were screams everywhere when the aftershocks shook again and again. Swarms of people jostled to the park. Hundreds of people stayed in the park with sleeping bags. No one was willing to sleep at home. Everyone's face looked scared and helpless. It was the longest night for us. After 12 years, I will always remember what I went through on that extremely scary night.

# Beach Party!!!

On Friday August 26th, Language Systems International (LSI) organized its annual Volleyball Tournament in one of the most popular and beautiful beaches in California, Huntington Beach.

Five campuses- Alhambra, Downtown, Torrance, OC and Beverly Hills- got together to fight for the championship. The

tournament was very intense, and the competition between the schools was strong. Besides the volleyball tournament there were many other games like Tug-of-War, water balloon game, fill the bucket, stick game and disgusting food contest.



By 9.30 am a huge territory of the beach was covered by different colors, representing each school. Each school had T-shirts of a different color. OC students wore red, LA students wore yellow, Torrance students wore gray, Alhambra students wore green, and Beverly Hills students wore pink.

The fun began when the students started playing with balloons filled with water. Some of them got wet. It was a hot summer day though, so they really enjoyed this game. The Volleyball Tournament started at 10 am. Every team was very good. You could see that they practiced and prepared for this big competition. In the end, it was a three way tie among 3 schools: Alhambra, MLI and OC. After counting the points, the winner was chosen- it was MLI! The students from Beverly Hills did a great job and they deserved the trophy! During the tournament students had the opportunity to hang out with their teachers and friends while enjoying a beautiful sunny day in Southern California. After the games were finished and the trophy had been passed on to MLI, LSI provided all the

students and players with a delicious lunch.



# Beach Party!!!!

Right after lunch, program Coordinators Ty and Ligia organized a few more games: Tug-of-War, Fill-the-Bucket, Stick game and Disgusting Food Contest.

The school that got the strongest students is Downtown LSI. They won Tug-of-War!

One student from Torrance and one student from MLI won the in the stick competition.

OC students were the fastest this time and won the "Fill-the-Bucket" game.



The disgusting food contest was intense! And Alhambra happened to have the best eaters and won this competition.

As you can see, all the school have got something special they are good at and each school won at least one game!

The beach party was just amazing! Everybody's got a nice tan and healthy glow. You can find a lot of pictures taken by the students and LSI photographer on Facebook and watch video on youtube.com.

For more information about activities at all LSI locations, please visit <http://www.languagesystems.com/>

