

## **Bill and Cathy McArthur in Spain: 14**

**On the last morning of Katie and Tom's visit, we were left with three chores: get the car out of the parking garage, take Katie and Tom to their train, and park the car in El Palo somewhere near the rental agency. Bill fretted over the first and third chore because on Sundays the roads and parking spaces are filled with cars. Bill got up early, woke Cathy to get the suitcases packed, paid for parking in an automatic machine, drove to El Palo, parked right across from our casa, put the suitcases in our room, and hopped a bus back to Malaga. The whole event took 50 minutes and Bill met with the rest of the crew for breakfast on time. It was another gorgeous day as we ate a light breakfast and strolled on the walkways of central Malaga. We took a quick tour of the Palacio Episcopal. Katie and Tom packed their backpacks, we checked-out, and we walked to the train station. Katie and Tom boarded their first-class car bound for Madrid and hopefully were served their welcoming drink. We went on to the Internet Café in Plaza Merced and sent out emails 10-13. Then we ate a very light lunch and walked back to El Palo. There were lots of people on the beaches and Bill spotted two topless females; it's going to be a nice spring.**

**As we think back on our trip around Spain, there are a number of memories that come to mind. First of all, the weather was better than our most hopeful dreams for the week. We had a very interesting experience as we drove from Gibraltar to Estepona on Friday. We were pulled over at a Guardia Civil control point. The police wanted to see passports and wanted to look in the trunk. Bill had struggled all week with trying to unlock the trunk and was unable to do it. He mumbled "alquiler" (to rent), which possibly indicated that Bill wanted the cops to rent the car. Bill handed the key to one of the cops who also couldn't open the trunk. Tom came to the rescue. He's the only one who could consistently open the trunk all week and he got it opened again. The crazy ride through the narrow alleys of Toledo will always be a highlight of the trip. The Toledo Cathedral and the Alhambra were the most memorable buildings that we visited. Katie's adventure with the ape on Gibraltar is the single most humorous event of the trip.**

**Bill and Cathy**