



SANTA BARBARA / PUERTO VALLARTA SISTER CITY COMMITTEE

October, 2016



Editor, Blas M. Garza.....Email: Bmgarza@aol.com

Phone: 805-963-9847

President's Column

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Over the summer we have been very happy to see that many new members have joined our merry group. To you new members I encourage you to get involved in the many fun activities our "Club" sponsors and supports. As I said in a previous column many persons join just to go to Puerto Vallarta! I did! ***Here's your chance – we need your down payment of \$450.00 by Sept. 30.*** (I know the flyer says Sept. 25 but we will be at the Sister Cities International Conference in Rosarito Beach until the 26th.)

Nowhere else can you get such a good deal. We stay at a classic old hotel in town right on the beach. (Playa Los Arcos – google it!) Our mirror club, Puerto Vallarta/Santa Barbara Sister Cities Group, arranges trips to many of the beautiful sites around their city. Transportation is provided to many of the organizations we have supported over the years, Santa Barbara Rehabilitation Clinic, Clinica de Boca de Tomatlan, and Los Volcanes Sewing School to name a few. The City government greets us with open arms because we have helped their citizens in so many ways for so many years. I was impressed to see how much our efforts have helped the city of Puerto Vallarta and humbled at the same time to have the opportunity to do so and having the good fortune to have been to be born on this side of the border. If you haven't signed up yet, please think about it and make your decision quickly. For the singles, find a friend or we will help you find a person to be your "new" friend and roommate.

Again for new members and new old members ***get involved.*** In addition to our general Wednesday dinner meeting the **Board of Directors** meets on the following Tuesday. This is when we do our club business. We discuss new projects and ideas for new projects. We are trying to get a Squash exchange going, a Pen Pal/Skye exchange going with a school in Puerto Vallarta and a chef exchange going too. We have had an Sister Cities International Young Artist contest at SBHS. A new member, Dr. Grey Brothers, a professor at Westmont College, is anxious to get an exchange going with UNIVA University in Mexico and has begun dialogues with his counterpart there.

You are needed especially if you have skills or a desire to help in any field that interests you. You are free to attend any of our Board of Directors Meetings. We welcome your ideas!

Upcoming activities are listed elsewhere in this flyer but of special note are fundraiser for the Law Enforcement Exchange and the UN Dinner night on October 20 at the Cabrillo Pavilion sponsored by the Board of Sister Cities. The UN Dinner will be very entertaining and you will meet other Sister City members and be able to sample foods from our sister cities home countries. This is potluck so I hope you will participate. Please keep these two in mind.

They say travel broadens your mind - I would say it does. I see many things differently now and being a person of two heritages am pleased and equally proud to have such a rich heritage on both sides. .

The next dinner meeting is set for Wed. Oct. 5th

MESA CAFÉ (corner of Meigs & Cliff Drive)
6:00 p.m.

Main Course: chicken, salmon or steak with different preparations. Please indicate your choice when making reservation.

PROGRAM: Dr. Garza will present a PowerPoint presentation of history of SB/PV Committee

**FOR RESERVATIONS: CALL Sebastian Aldana
805-304-3637**

or email: sbsebas@gmail.com

FUND-RAISER FOR SB/PV OFFICER TRAINING PROJECT

SANTA BARBARA/PUERTO VALLARTA SISTER CITY COMMITTEE



Police in Puerto Vallarta training facilities under guidance by Santa Barbara Sheriff's officers

COME ONE—COME ALL TO A BAR-B-QUE

OCTOBER 2, 2016

In support of SB/PV's Law Exchange Project for Puerto Vallarta Officers
14th Year of operation

Where: Marti and Gil Garcia's home: 2215 Santa Barbara St.
1:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M..

Chicken and Tri Tip and all the fixin's

Cost \$20.00 per Person (Drinks sold separately)

Checks made out to "Santa Barbara/Puerto Vallarta Sister City",
attention Law Exchange

Call for reservations: Evie Treen: 961-9407

Let's Visit Puerto Vallarta!



SANTA BARBARA/PUERTO VALLARTA SISTER CITY COMMITTEE PUERTO VALLARTA ANNUAL VISITATION NOVEMBER 30 – DECEMBER 9, 2016

**PRICE: \$1,098.00/per person, double occupancy
\$1,467.00 single occupancy**

(Note: Airfare taxes are climbing & unpredictable. If they increase before we travel to PV we will need to add to the trip cost.)

THIS PRICE INCLUDES:

Ground Transportation to/from LAX
Round Trip Airfare from LAX to/from Puerto Vallarta
Hotel Playa Los Arcos OR Playa Los Arcos Suites (9 nights)
Gratuity for Bellman and Maid Service *
Various meals & entertainment & fun!
*Feel free to tip extra for extraordinary service.

A deposit of \$450/per person is due by 09/25/2016

Balance will be due on or before 11/01/16.

Make all checks payable to: **SB/PV Sister City**

Credit cards will be accepted with a 1% service fee.

Please fill-out the “Activity Waiver of Liability and Hold Harmless Agreement” form and send with a deposit to: **SB/PV Sister City, P. O. Box 3718, Santa Barbara, CA 93130**

Marti Correa de Garcia (805) 6802-163 – Gil Garcia (805) 689-2588—Margaret Saavedra (805) 708-0770

S.B. SISTER CITIES ON DISPLAY IN CITY LIBRARY

As seen here, Marti Correa de Garcia views the SB/PV portion of the display reviewing seven sister city committees: Puerto Vallarta Mexico, Toba Japan, San Juan Phillippines, Dingle Ireland, Patras Greece, Kotor Monte Negro and Weihai China



SB/PV VOLUNTEERS HONORED

President Margaret Saavedra returned from the Sister Cities International Conference in Washington, D.C. with certificates for volunteers who were recognized by the international for their dedicated work. The certificates, entitled, “Circle of Distinguished Volunteers” was signed by International President Mary D. Kane. Those recognized were: Blas M. Garza, Roberto Najera, Marti Correa and Gil Garcia (twice)

SANTA BARBARA/PUERTO VALLARTA
SISTER CITY COMMITTEE

Activity Waiver of Liability and Hold Harmless Agreement

I, the undersigned participant, am requesting participation in the Santa Barbara/Puerto Vallarta Sister City Committee Activity: **"2016 Annual Visitation to Puerto Vallarta"** that begins on this date: _____ and ends on this date: _____

In consideration for being allowed to participate in this Activity, on behalf of myself and my next of kin, heirs and representatives, I release from all liability and promise not to sue the Santa Barbara/Puerto Vallarta Sister City Committee, their employees, officers, directors, volunteers and agents (collectively "committee") from any and all claims, including claims of the Committee's negligence, resulting in any physical or psychological injury (including paralysis and death), illness, damages, or economic or emotional loss I may suffer because of my participation in this Activity, including travel to, from and during the Activity.

I am voluntarily participating in this Activity. I am aware of the risks associated with traveling to/from and participating in this Activity, which include but are not limited to physical or psychological injury, pain, suffering, illness, disfigurement, temporary or permanent disability (including paralysis), economic or emotional loss, and/or death. I understand that these injuries or outcomes may arise from my own or other's actions, inaction, or negligence; conditions related to travel; or the condition of the Activity location(s). Nonetheless, I assume all related risks, both known or unknown to me, of my participation in this Activity, including travel to, from and during the Activity.

I agree to hold the Committee harmless from any and all claims, including attorney's fees or damage to my personal property, that may occur as a result of my participation in this Activity, including travel to, from and during the Activity. If the Committee incurs any of these types of expenses, I agree to reimburse the Committee. If I need medical treatment, I agree to be financially responsible for any costs incurred as a result of such treatment. I am aware and understand that I should carry my own health insurance.

I am 18 years or older, I understand the legal consequences of signing this document, including (a) releasing the Committee from all liability, (b) promising not to sue the Committee, (c) and assuming all risks of participating in this activity, including travel to, from and during the Activity.

I understand that this document is written to be as broad and inclusive as legally permitted by the Committee. I agree that if any portion is held invalid or unenforceable, I will continue to be bound by the remaining terms.

I have read this document, and I am signing it freely. No other representations concerning the legal effect of this document have been made to me.

Participant's Signature: _____

Print name: _____

Date: _____

For international activities, the following information is required in order to make reservations:

(Please sign as it appears on your passport)

Signed: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Print Name: _____

Date: _____

In case of an emergency, notify: _____ Phone Number: _____



Excellent General Membership Meeting



The September 7th General Membership meeting was well-received and well attended. Our Second Vice President, Sebastian Aldana, had a great program. The speaker was City Councilman Randy Rowse who represents the Mesa Area.

Mr. Rowse began by indicating that he was very pleased with our new Chief of Police Lori Luhnnow. He likes her experience and her style and he predicts that she will be a great asset to our community.

He indicated that financially, the city budget is on the mend, with a 16 to 17% increase this year in revenues from the Hotel Occupancy Tax. Furthermore, he predicts that once the new construction on State Street at “La Entrada” and the new Children’s Museum by the train depot are completed they will further improve our city revenues. . He also announced that revenues from the city sales tax are suffering a downturn due to the closing of many major stores in our community. This, however, is a trend being suffered nation-wide.

WATER: The good news is that the city was asked to reduce water usage by 25% and residents responded with a 35% decrease. Unfortunately, our water rates still increased due to our 5-year severe drought and the fact that our water source (Lake Cachuma) is at only 13% capacity. Complicating the problem is that as our water tables reach lower and lower there is a great concern that chemicals and heavy metals will seep into our aquifers, many of which are found within the city. Our partial solution lies in our Desalination Plant which should go online late this fall or early winter. He pointed out that the sea water will go through many filtrations and he expects that the water will not taste poorly. One of our contractors is an Israeli Company and they are highly experienced in desalination plants.

Questions from the audience: “What efforts is the city making to encourage people to save and use rainwater?” “Why is there still housing construction going on?” Mr. Rowse explained that statistics show that residence water-use amounts to only 2% of all water usage. The largest amount of water goes to residential landscaping. In California, 90% of water is used by agriculture.

It was apparent that our members were very pleased with the efforts of our program chair.

SEWING SCHOOL GRADUATION

Volcanes Sewing School had their 3rd Generation graduating with honors. Sixteen out of 24 students graduated in July.

We had a delicious luncheon prepared by all the students, and a beautiful cake to celebrate their accomplishment.

One of the students is a professional singer, and delighted us with a rendition of Whitney Houston's "Will Always Love You" and the traditional Mexican graduation song "Las Golondrinas", she also sang "Cielito Lindo", I guess she did it for the only gringo in the ceremony -Art Fumerton-.

They were all very proud of themselves, and thankful to their teachers Patricia Mora the Head Master, Alejandra Amigon, Patty's T.A., and Maria de Jesus Lopez, the cutting and pattern making teacher.

Bertha Medina head of production, was present to invite the new graduates to join the sewing workshop.

Out of the sixteen graduates, eight decided to stay in the workshop and join the team.

The purpose of our program is to empower women, by giving them a skill to provide supplemental income to their families, so their children can continue with higher education once they graduate from Junior High School; and - or - to give them a position in the sewing workshop where they can earn a steady income to sustain their families.

Volcanes Sewing School and Volcanes Sewing Workshop are equal opportunity employers, we are inclusive to gender and age equality and welcome anyone who wants to learn how to sew and work in our workshop.

Thank you Sewing Seeds International for your continued support and professional advice.

Our fourth class starts September 12 2016, and will last for four months.



COMING EVENTS

Friday, September 23 to 25

International Convention in Rosarito,
Beach, Baja CA

Sunday, October 2nd 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. Fund
Raiser for our Police Academy project

Wednesday, October 5th 6:00 p.m. Monthly
meeting at Mesa Café

Tuesday, October 11th: 6:0.m. Board Meeting
at home of Gil & Marty's

Wednesday, Nov. 30 to Dec. 9 SB/PV Visit to
Puerto Vallarta

Past President Raul Navarro & La V Tie Knot

In a formal Wedding Mass at the Old Mission, Past President Raul and La V were married on September 16th. Raul, in a formal black-tie suit and La V, in a gorgeous white gown, declared their vows before a large crowd of friends, family and acquaintances. La V was walked down the aisle by KEYT celebrity, John Palminteri.

The wedding ceremony was followed on September 17 with a reception at Serra Hall where guests were treated to dinner and music provided by Mariachi San Marcos and a Country-Western band.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS –2016-2017

MARGARET SAAVEDRA, <u>PRESIDENT</u>	708-0770	lk4Maggie@gmail.com
RAUL NAVARRO, <u>EX-OFFICIO</u>	963-5449	mail2rjnavarro@gmail.com
CARLOS VELASCO, <u>1st VICE PRES.</u>	450-4778	smokeycat1@cox.net
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JACQUELINE DURAN, DIRECTOR	284-2037	jacqueline_duran1@gmail.com
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SYLVIA BUTLER, DIRECTOR	455-2345	sylviabutler@c21butler.net



Twenty-fifth Anniversary
**SANTA BARBARA SISTER CITIES
 CELEBRATION**

In Honor of **United Nations Day**

Thursday, October 20, 2016 6:00 PM

CABRILLO ARTS PAVILION, 1118 E. CABRILLO BLVD.

Program

- * Helene Schneider, Santa Barbara Mayor
- * Barbara Gaughen-Muller, Santa Barbara Chapter President, United Nations Association
- * Japanese Traditional Dance, Eri Nakamura from Toba, Japan
- * Spanish Dance, Junior and Senior Spirits of Fiesta

Potluck dinner: Food of our Sister Cities

- * Each person or couple is requested to bring a dish to serve 10 (preferably from the country of one's Sister City) and provide a serving utensil.
- * If you choose not to bring a dish, a donation of **\$15 per person** will be collected.
- * Due to the facility, all hot dishes **MUST** be fully cooked
- * Table service will be provided
- * No Host Bar and Raffle to benefit Santa Barbara Sister Cities Board

RSVP by OCT.16. Call or e-mail to your Sister City Potluck Coordinator for reservation and to plan your food contribution

Dingle, Ireland:	Missy Zeitsoff	missyzeitsoff@gmail.com
Puerto Vallarta, Mexico:	Margaret Saavedra	LK4maggie@gmail.com or 708-077
Toba, Japan:	Rory Moore	acquitter@hotmail.com or 744-1107
Weihai, China:	Peter Haslund	haslund@cox.net or 895-3268
San Juan, Philippines	Jaime Sodusta	Jsodust@yahoo.com
Kotor, Montenegro	George Lily	silgeorge@cox.net
Patras, Greece	Georgia Gastouniotis	ginagaston1@gmail.com

Any questions, please call Takako Wakita, 964-7559

All are encouraged to wear traditional clothing from your Sister City.



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Tacos Pipeye
Mexican Food Truck

524 North Milpas

5:30 to 11:30 p.m. daily



Gilbert Garcia
122 East Arrellaga St.
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
Phone: (805) 965-8561
www.garciaarchitects.com/



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