



November 2019



Santa Barbara/Puerto Vallarta Sister City Committee Newsletter



Carlos Velasco

Hello Sister Cities Members! On Nov. 15, 16 and 17th, instructors from the International Fire-fighters Training Association (IFTA) 'will be providing free training to City of Puerto Vallarta's "Protección Civil y Bomberos" staff. The trainings

will emphasize best practices for fire department operations, management and safety and teach staff modern techniques utilized in urban fire-fighting. This partnership is made possible through funding generously provided by The Russell Family Foundation, which is intended to boost public safety in Puerto Vallarta. In addition to providing training, the Foundation is also helping fund infrastructure renovations at the Puerto Vallarta city firehouse, commencing with restroom and kitchen facility improvements. Future plans include securing donations of personal protective equipment, jaws of life rescue tools, boots, gloves, etc. from various fire agencies in California.

Upon completion of next months training, Mr. Brett Russel will be hosting a dinner in Puerto Vallarta on Nov. 17 at Andele Restaurant & Bar, to be attended by members of the Russell Foundation, Santa Barbara Puerto Vallarta Sister City, as well as firefighting staff from Puerto Vallarta.

I hope that this program will flourish and strengthen our ties as Sister Cities !

General Membership Meeting November 6th

Location: Mulligan's Cafe... 3500 McCaw Ave. (city golf club) **Time:** 6:00 p.m.

Meal Choice: grilled local salmon, sirloin steak, rosemary chicken, potatoes, rice, veggies,

BUT NO OUTSIDE ALCOHOL, just the local bar.

Program: Nominating Committee Presents slate of candidates and nominations can be made from the floor. Each candidate will be allowed about 5 minutes to explain why he/she should have your vote.

Selection is by written ballot. *Display of "Dia de los Muertos" Members can bring pictures of their departed loved ones for display.*

Cost: \$30.00 if your reservation is made by **SUNDAY, Nov 3RD** by 6:00 p.m.. Members with no reservations and non-member guests pay \$35.00. (Board policy states that reservations must be made by date set by the Board.)

Reservations to JILL STASSINOS AT: "jstassinos@aol.com" or phone: (805) 895-2580 and be sure to mention your meal selection.



SoCal Sister Cities
Promoting the Success of Sister Cities



CELEBRATION OF JALISCO NATIONALS ABROAD

The Federation of Jalisco international, Association of Jalisco Clubs of California, Sister Cities International and Jalisco Foundation U.S.A. cordially invites you to the DAY OF THE JALICIENCES ABROAD EVENT.

WHERE: Events Salon “la Huasteca
“Plaza Mexico”, 3150 Imperial Highway
Linwood, CA. 90262

DATE: December 14, 2019

SCHEDULE

- 8:00 a.m. Registration
- 9.00 a.m. Breakfast
- 10:00 a.m. Conference led by Sister Cities International
- 11:00 A.M. Presentation of Reunification of Families
- 12:00 P.M. Work Tables with Leaders of Organizations
- 5:00 p.m. Dinner Dance and Recognition of distinguished “Jaliciences”



DONATION: \$30.00

For Information, call Gil Garcia (805) 689-2588



SANTA BARBARA/PUERTO VALLARTA SISTER CITY COMMITTEE
PUERTO VALLARTA ANNUAL VISITATION
JANUARY 14 – 23, 2020

PRICE: \$1,200.00/per person, double occupancy
\$1,605.00 single occupancy

THIS PRICE INCLUDES:

Ground Bus Charter Transportation to/from SB/LAX
Round Trip Airfare from LAX to/from Puerto Vallarta (economy)
Hotel Playa Los Arcos* OR Playa Los Arcos Suites (9 nights)
Gratuity for Bellman (in & out) and daily Maid Service **
Donation/Fundraising over-ride charge
Various meals & entertainment & fun!

*limited Ocean Front rooms available for an extra charge.

**Feel free to tip extra for extraordinary service.

Those who cannot stay the 10 days may make their own airfare reservations and we can make reservations at Hotel Playa Los Arcos to participate in the discounted rates. A donation/fundraising over-ride charge of \$200/per person will be assessed (pro-rated per day). Please contact someone from the Visitation Committee for more details.

Airfare rates are changing daily; to guarantee the favorable basic flight fare & the package rate a deposit of \$425.00/per person is due by 11/10/2019. Once airfare is ticketed it is non-refundable but you can use the Alaska Airlines ticket for another trip with a \$125 re-ticketing charge good for 1 year (based on time of booking). Balance of trip cost will be due on or before 01/02/2020.

Make all checks payable to: SB/PV Sister City
P.O. Box 3718
Santa Barbara, CA 93130

Credit cards will be accepted with a 2.5% service fee.

Please fill-out the "Activity Waiver of Liability and Hold Harmless Agreement" form and send with a deposit to the above address. We will also need a copy of your passport. We highly recommend you purchase trip cancellation insurance. Use your own travel insurance company or ask us for a quote from Sister Cities International (provided by International Health & Travel Insurance).

For additional information you can contact the Visitation Committee:
Marti Correa de Garcia (805) 680-2163 (marti@gilgarcia-aia.com) or
Margaret Saavedra (805) 708-0770 (ik4maggie@gmail.com).

This is our major fundraiser, making it possible to fund our programs in
Santa Barbara and Puerto Vallarta.

Thank you for your support!

It's Time To Select New Board Members!

Currently, there are 12 elected Board Members, with each serving a 2-year term. Our Bylaws stipulate that board members can serve two terms if voted in for a second 2-year term. A 13th board membership is allocated for the president upon serving out his/her term as president. This position is called "Ex-Officio" and our recent past president, Margaret Saavedra is seating in that position. Upon serving out his term of office, Carlos Velasco will replace her as ex-officio. The Bylaws also stipulate that no board member can serve more than two consecutive terms of office. That factor presently affects Marti Correa de Garcia and Blas Garza Both will have served two consecutive terms this November. They, therefore cannot volunteer to run for a third term!

Other board member positions that are expiring include Carlos Velasco, Margaret Saavedra, Sebastian Aldana and Robin Cederlof. These four are eligible to run for a second term should they desire. A Nomination Committee will present a slate of those running for office: **Sebastian Aldana, Carlos Velasco, Bea Molina, Mike Hernandez, Carmen Flores, Gil Garcia, Margaret Saavedra, Jacqueline Duran and Romelia Alvarado.** Those attending the November General Meeting will be asked to vote for SIX Board Members. Nominations can also be made from the floor. Any general member may volunteer to run if their yearly dues are up-to-date. The election for board members will be held at the November General Membership meeting.

The "Board Officer Positions" are selected by the new Board once it has convened.

BENEFIT FOR WILDLIFE

HELP RAISE CRITICAL FUNDS FOR ORPHANED, SICK, INJURED
AND OILED WILDLIFE IN SANTA BARBARA & VENTURA COUNTIES

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2019

5:00 TO 9:00 P.M.

SANTA BARBARA CARRIAGE & WESTERN ART MUSEUM

129 CASTILLO ST. SANTA BARBARA, CA 93101

THIS WILL BE THE "WILDEST" EVENT OF THE YEAR.

Live Music, Fun Presentations, Delicious Food. Local wines and silent auction

Costumes are encouraged but not required

Tickets: \$125 to benefit S B Wildlife Care Network

Checks may be sent to:

Santa Barbara Wild Care Network

P.O. Box 6594

Santa Barbara, CA 93160

In the memo line please put, "Benefit for Wildlife Tickets

Online Tickets: <https://sbwen.org/benefit-2019>

Santa Barbara/Puerto Vallarta Sister City Committee

New and Renewing Membership Form, 2020 (Annual dues expire December 31st)

\$25 (individual) _____ \$50 (couple)

Name(s) _____

Mailing Address _____ City _____

State _____ Zip Code _____ Phone Number(s) Hm _____ Office _____

Cell _____ Cell _____

E-mail address(s) _____

PAYMENT OPTIONS: Check payable to: SB/PV Sister City Committee , Ck # _____

Credit Card (circle one) Visa Master Card Discover American Express

Card # _____

Expiration Date _____ Security Code # _____ Zip code _____

Address (if different from above) _____

Total Membership dues \$ _____

New Member Name Tag(s) \$ _____

Credit Card Processing Fee, if applicable \$1.00 \$ _____

Additional Donation (project of your choice) \$ _____

Total Payment..... \$ _____

By-Laws state, "there shall be no prorating of dues depending on date of enrollment and all membership dues must be paid by January 31st." Mail entire form and payment to: SB/PV Sister City Committee PO Box 3718 Santa Barbara, CA 93130 Questions, please contact: Carlos Velasco, President (805) 450-4778, Marti Garcia, Treasurer, (805) 680-2163 Robin Cederlof, Membership (805) 455-5257 Funds received from the annual dues help to support the mission of the Santa Barbara/Puerto Vallarta Sister City Committee, a 501c3 non-profit organization.

Thank you!

DIA DE LOS MUERTOS

(presented by Gil Garcia)

In Mexico, each town has its own customs for the Day of the Dead or **Dia de Muertos tradition**. Yes it is something that is found in all cultures.... Life and death is an inevitable duality ... A cycle of nature...

This celebration has pre-Hispanic roots but it is also mixed with the Catholic rituals brought by the Spanish in the conquest, who adjusted the celebration to adapt it to the Christian calendar we know today as the Day of the Dead celebration [from November 1](#) to 2. This tradition is one of the most beautiful and representative that Mexico has, the Unesco declared the festival as Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity of Mexico!

The concept of death since pre-Hispanic times depended on what you died for, it would be the destiny of your soul. Death in pre-Hispanic times was only *the beginning of the journey* ...

And with the Spanish conquest it changed into how you behave in life, if you do it right you go to paradise, if you do it wrong, you go to hell. So these days most of the Mexican families are preparing to receive the souls of their loved ones who have left this life with food, personal items they used to help in their trip. The family's belief is that [at mid-night](#) these souls would arrive to this world....

According to the catholic calendar the first days for this event starts:

- [Oct 28](#), this is the day for all those souls that died in an accident, or a sudden death from one moment to another no arriving to their destiny....
- [Oct 29](#), This is the day for all the souls that drowned.
- [Oct 30](#), This is for all the souls that are lonely who don't have family, friends such as orphans & criminals.
- [Oct 31](#), This is for the souls who had a limbic death, like babies who died before being born in the mom's womb or that didn't receive the baptism.



SoCal Sister Cities

Promoting peace through people-to-people diplomacy

SOCAL FALL REGIONAL QUARTERLY MEETING

9:30 A.M. TO 12:30 P.M.

FAULKNER GALLERY OF SANTA BARBARA LIBRARY

The Santa Barbara Sister Cities Board invites you to attend the SoCal Quarterly Regional Meeting, [November 9](#), 9:30AM to 12:30PM to be followed by the SoCal Board of Directors meeting. The meeting will be held at the Faulkner Gallery at the Santa Barbara Library, 40 Anapamu St.,

The keynote speaker will be Geoff Green, CEO of the Santa Barbara City College Foundation. Geoff will set the stage for the program of *How To Roundtables* designed to help your organization with Fundraising, Grants and Grant Writing, Capacity Building, Connections with like organizations, Membership, Youth Programs. This will be a time to learn from others and develop new ideas for your programs.

The Honorable Helene Schneider, former Mayor of Santa Barbara and current member of the Sister Cities International Board of Directors will also address the group.

SANTA BARBARA/PUERTO VALLARTA SISTER CITY COMMITTEE

PUERTO VALLARTA ANNUAL VISITATION - 2020 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:

Print Name _____

That begins on the date: January 14, 2020 And ends on the date: January 23, 2020

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 action 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 and/or travel 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: _____
(Please sign & print as it appears on your passport)

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

Passport Number: _____ Date of Birth: _____ Expiration date of Passport: _____

Emergency Notification: In case of emergency, please notify:

Name: _____ Phone #: _____

SEE THE NEW SB/PV SISTER CITY WEB PAGE: "SBPV sistercity.org".... Missed the newsletter or want to see an old one? You'll find them in the webpage!

If you are an AmazonSmile customer, you can now support Santa Barbara Puerto Vallarta Sister Cities Committee in the Amazon shopping app on your Android device! Simply follow these instructions to turn on AmazonSmile and start generating donations.

1. *If you have the latest version of the Amazon Shopping App, open the App on your Android device.*
 2. *View Settings and select AmazonSmile.*
 3. *Follow the in-App instructions to complete the process.*
- If you do not have the latest version of the Amazon Shopping App, update your App. Click [here](#) for instructions.*

AmazonSmile is not currently available for iOS users. We will notify AmazonSmile charities when it becomes available.

To see the impact of your marketing, visit the AmazonSmile Metrics Dashboard for Santa Barbara Puerto Vallarta Sister Cities Committee. Simply log in at org.amazon.com and click the "View metrics" button.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS –2019-2020

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