



September 2020 Newsletter



Santa Barbara/Puerto Vallarta Sister City Committee Newsletter

While we are all staying safe and healthy we continue to work with our partner **INTERNATIONAL FIREFIGHTERS TRAINING ASSOCIATION (IFTA)**. Here is an update on our projects

The success of IFTA over the last 60-90 days has been amazing. Along with that comes the work load, complexity of issues and logistics that have dramatically increased. Below is list of projects and logistics that need to take place:

Fire Engine Donation To Comala: Transport from Reno Nevada to Rio Colorado Mexico Border Crossing where Comala fire department personal will drive to Comala, Colima, Mexico.

2. P/V Ambulance Donation

- Transport from Albuquerque, New Mexico to Rio Colorado Mexico Border Crossing where Puerto Vallarta fire department personal will drive to Puerto Vallarta, Jalisco, Mexico.

3. Working to develop a plan and Standard Operating Procedures for the Comala, Colima warehouse/storage donation distribution center. International Fire training Association (IFTA) is receiving more and more donated equipment and receiving many requests (and we only see it increasing)

4. IDEAS TO FULFILL DONATION EQUIPMENT REQUESTS

- We're working to create/develop a written donation process/procedure. Obviously, we will never be able to fulfil all the needs, so we need a written procedure and be able to justify and be accountable for all donations.

5. IDEAS FOR DONATION PROCEDURE

- Requests must be in writing and official with city or community signatures. (Like the letters we have been receiving, I can forward some if you would like to see an example).
- If we have a donor who requests some items be directed to a certain city or community, we will make it a priority and honor the request.
- Maybe donate to departments in need at the end of our training symposiums? As the main idea is to train the firefighters with the equipment we donate. We do not want to donate any safety gear or equipment without the training. (Even just turnouts to departments that have never had any, shouldn't they have proper training? Even if it's basic and at least crawled into a live fire conditions like we have in the past).

6. TRAINING

SB/PV Sister City and IFTA is working to divide training topics and have a "Lead Instructor" to make it easier when we get requests for a class. That instructor becomes responsible for the complete class, develop lesson plans and time frame, prepare needed resources for all classroom, field/practical, handouts, everything, We have been contacted by many other cities in Mexico, including cities in Baja, to host training symposiums. Bottom line is we need more help (volunteers) as we expand.

I am open to any and all suggestions and ideas. Right now, everything is dynamic, so I will do my best to keep you all updated.

As we are a non-profit foundation, and as we expand, we must stay organized, transparent and professional. Thanks everyone for all the hard work, long hours and dedication to this rewarding project.

CARLOS VELASCO

Our 9-2-20 SB/PV Sister City guest presenter will be Nicholas DeLorenzo. He is a San Diego landscape architect who lives most of the time in the quaint fishing village of Boca de Tomatlán, Jalisco, Mexico. His Power Point presentation is on the status of the Boca de Tomatlan community and the medical clinic which we support. Below is the Zoom Link Invitation for our **General Meeting at 6 pm (Pacific Time)**.

Jill Stassinis is inviting you to the scheduled Zoom meeting.
Topic: SB/PV Sister City General Membership Meeting
Time: Sep 2, 2020 06:00 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)
Join Zoom Meeting...

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87418525458>

Meeting ID: 874 1852 5458

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Rotary Club North, Santa Barbara-Puerto Vallarta Sister City Committee 'Bust Out' to Help Families

(copy from <https://www.noozhawk.com/>)

Rotarian and Sister City member Yvonne Pedersen is the founder of a new fundraiser titled Operation Bust Out, created to help the Puerto Vallarta foodbank drive while helping local children stay active during the pandemic.

Pedersen, a Goleta native and nationally renowned "Golden Girl" baton instructor, is donating her time to teach baton twirling and dance classes for Goleta-area children ages 5 to 12.

"It is a fun and safe way for local children to 'bust out' of confinement and 'bust out' some cool dance moves," she said. "Baton twirling is a great way to improve ambidexterity, rhythm, coordination and self-esteem."

There is no fee for the four-week sessions, but a tax-deductible donation of \$50 to the Santa Barbara-Puerto Vallarta Sister City Committee is welcome to support the foodbank project.

Classes are one hour and held at an outdoor space in the El Encanto Heights neighborhood in Goleta. Other locations throughout the community will be set up. Santa Barbara County social-distancing standards will be practiced. A parent or guardian must be present at all times during the lesson.

Batons are supplied for participants during class time and are cleaned between classes. Batons can be purchased for \$30 if students want to take one home.

Sessions are underway. To participate in Operation Bust Out classes, contact Pedersen at 970.631.4842 or missyvonnep@yahoo.com.

We thank Rotarian Mary Alsip from Santa Cruz Rotary Club for sponsoring a young baton twirling student in Rotarian and SB/PV Sister City member Yvonne Pedersen's baton twirling class with \$50 donation to the P. V. Volcanes Food Bank that provides groceries to families in crises due to pandemic. Thanks to Yvonne for her energetic support of the food bank.

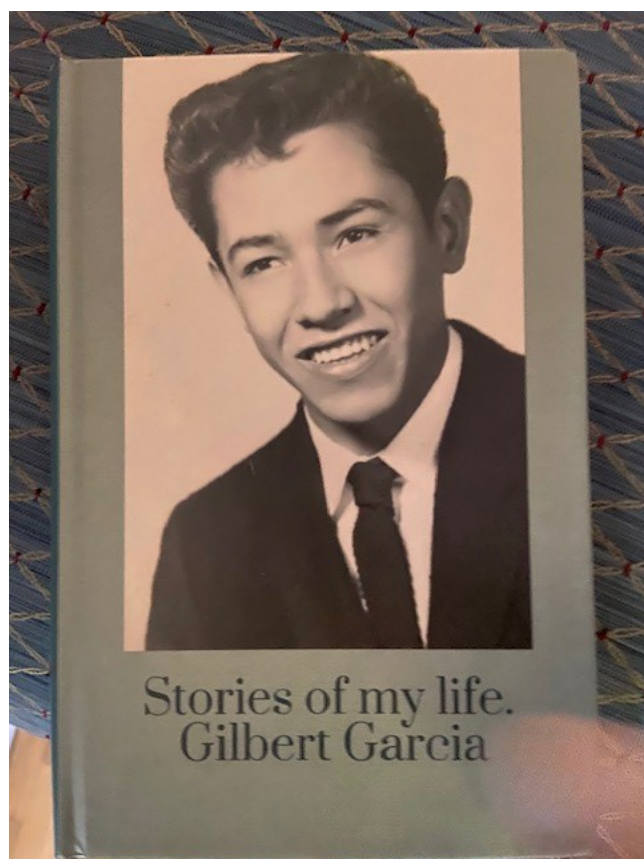


MARTI

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No devil virus would dare come near this blessed face mask



HOT NEW BOOK!



SB/PV Sister City Members Ann Hefferman, Marti Correa de Garcia, Carlos Velasco and Gil Garcia volunteer at the Old Mission weekly Tuesday 10 am to 12 noon food box distribution provided by The Berryman. Pass the word to those in need that every Tuesday they can drive to old Mission parking lot to have a food box loaded into their car.

SISTER CITY INTERNATIONAL ANNOUNCES WINNERS

Poetry Finalists:

- **Sydney Hooper** (Santa Clarita, CA)
- **Marat Bennet** (Santa Barbara, CA)
(Dos Pueblos High School)

(Many thanks to Margaret Saavedra for her dedication to this endeavor!)

PRESENTATION VIA ZOOM FROM PUERTO VALLARTA

Good afternoon:

My name is Stephany Fauvet, I am a physical and language therapist at the Rehabilitation Clinic, we are infinitely grateful for the opportunity to speak to you, to be able to share with you how we work at the Institution. The mission of the Clinic is "To give hope for a better quality of life to low-income children and adults with temporary or permanent disability problems" in Puerto Vallarta, Cabo Corrientes, Zona Serrana, and part of Nayarit.

An average of 1050 people are treated annually, providing more than 10,000 consultation services and physical and language rehabilitation therapies, with a professional treatment and especially with warmth to patients who come to the Institution with problems such as: Cerebral Palsy, hemiplegias, paraplegia, stroke, myelomeningocele, trauma from accidents, congenital malformations, facial paralysis, knee, neck, ankle, shoulder, back and any problem that affects the motor function of the body; in addition to providing orthopedic aids such as wheelchairs, walkers, crutches, orthopedic boots, etc.

All this has been possible thanks to the sum of the support, from companies and people who, like you, have a social commitment to help those who need it most. During all these years we have had the annual visit of the SB/PV Sister City Committee and their unconditional support for the benefit of patients.

During the last years, projects have been presented in which we expressed the needs of the Institution to continue with the service, these are some in which we have counted on your help:

- During the last renovation of the clinic, the Sister Cities Committee helped us with a part of the money to raise the floor of an area that was flooded during each rainy season.
- "Rehabilitation scholarships" have been provided to patients with very limited resources so that they do not suspend their treatment.
- Replaced the equipment for therapies, which has deteriorated over the years.
- Donated gym equipment.
- Donation of orthopedic assistants.
- Training by a physical therapist member of the Sta Barbara Sister City Committee.
- Adaptation and equipment of the area for Language Therapy for adults and children.
- On the last visit, the project for the placement of solar panels and air conditioning was presented to the Committee for the electrotherapy area, children's area and language therapy. The Committee donated funds for the Solar panels. This project was considered for several reasons:
 1. Air conditioning because each heat season is more difficult for patients, volunteers and workers to endure temperatures up to 100 ° F, due to the weather and electrotherapy devices.
 2. Solar panels help lower expenses on electrical service, which is very high due to the activities of the clinic. And only with them we could think of having the opportunity to install the air conditioning.
 3. And last but not least is for contributing positively with the conservation of our environment, which is compromised with the passage of time and human demands.

This project is not a luxury, it is a necessity, which we were able to carry out halfway due to the COVID 19 pandemic, since all the events we had scheduled to raise funds were canceled, and we no longer had the opportunity to acquire the air equipment conditioned; The Sister City Committee, always committed to their projects, has supported us with 1,000.00 dollars for these teams, but it is still not enough. We hope to raise another \$2,000.00 to complete the funds needed for the air conditioning.

I thank you again for the opportunity to tell you about the great project that is the Vallarta Santa Barbara Rehabilitation Clinic, of which you and Rotary Club are founders and active participants of its permanence and future, we hope to continue counting on your great support and blessing.

Thank you.



**SANTA BARBARA/PUERTO VALLARTA
SISTER CITY COMMITTEE, INC.**

08/01/2020

Rotary Club of Santa Barbara North
Charitable Foundation
1114 State St Ste 300
Santa Barbara, CA 93101

RE: Volcanes Food Bank

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cooperation-one individual,
one community at a time"

Website: sbpvsistercity.org

Dear Rotary Club of Santa Barbara North Charitable Foundation:

The Board of Directors of the Santa Barbara/Puerto Vallarta (SB/PV) Sister City Committee, appreciates the generous donation of Two Thousand Dollars (\$2000.00 Fidelity Chk 1319) earmarked for the sustainability of Volcanes Food Bank that is providing meal ingredients to Sister City Puerto Vallarta families in crises due to the pandemic which, unfortunately, is expected to continue into the new year. You will be pleased to know that the donation is a significant contribution to the sustainability goal of the Food Bank to the end of the year.

For your information we are a I.R.S. qualified 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization. As such, contributions to our organization are tax deductible gifts under section 2055, 2106 or 2522 of the Internal Revenue Code. Our Federal Identification Number is 23-7398069.

The Santa Barbara/Puerto Vallarta Sister City Committee program is a direct cultural and social exchange between Santa Barbara, California, USA and Puerto Vallarta, Jalisco, Mexico. The sister city program is a dedication of friendship and understanding between people of different cultures and attitudes to those who engage in the program. It creates an awareness of our "south-of-the-border" neighbor, and the opportunity to enrich our lives, as well as those of our sister city.

Thank you again for your generous donation.

Sincerely,

Gil Garcia - Treasurer

Santa Barbara/Puerto Vallarta Sister City Committee

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REHAB CLINIC'S SOLAR PANELS



SEE THE NEW SB/PV SISTER CITY WEB PAGE: ["SBPV sistercity.org"](http://SBPV.sistercity.org)

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Santa Barbara/Puerto Vallarta Sister City Committee

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Newsletter Editor; Blas Maria Garza

A decorative rectangular border made of black floral and vine motifs, featuring stylized flowers and leaves.

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Sister City Committee
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