

SEBASTIAN ALDANA, PRESIDENT

We ended October with an awesome Dia de Los Muertos event coordinated by Jacqueline Abbud at her beautiful ranch "Hacienda Amador" in Santa Ynez CA. We were treated to a Norteno band, folkloric dancers, tasty Mexican food and a Mexican style horse show. A silent auction was also organized to raise funds for the Puerto Vallarta nonprofit Aid to Families with Children with Cancer (AFCC). We cannot thank Jackie enough for opening up her ranch and heart for the proceeds of this event to benefit AFCC. Thank you for everything Jackie, you were a blessing to AFCC and our SB/PV Sister City Committee.

Speaking of blessings, we also had the tremendous Emcee team of Drew Wakefield and Maria Jimenez. Drew has a gift on how to raise funds for causes he believes in. He helped us raise thousands for our kids with cancer. Thank you kindly Drew and Maria.

Also need to thank our AFCC subcommittee, all members and their guests for attending and being generous with their pledges and donations. The event was a total success.

Enjoy your Thanksgiving gathering with your families and friends. Our Posada event will be our last event for 2021. It will be at Cesar's Place, 712 Milpas St. Sunday December 19th. Be on the lookout for details of the event.

Hasta Luego y buen provecho on your Thanksgiving meal.



Holiday Posada Celebration
4 – 7 pm. Sunday. Dec. 19
Cesar's Place, 712 Milpas St.

Live Mariachi's will play
Special Holiday Meal will be served
Cost: \$35 per person

SANTA BARBARA/PUERTO VALLATA SISTER CITY COMMITTEE REPORT FOR SEPTEMBER, OCTOBER, NOVEMBER 2021

Our membership continues to grow, currently we have 156 members.

Fourth in-person general membership event at the home of Guy de Mangeon in Hope Ranch held in September. The theme was “Viva Mexico” in celebration of Mexican Independence, members encouraged to wear Mexican attire. Over ninety-five people attended, a fun musical chair game was played.

Over 15 members attended the Oxnard Mexican Consulate “El Grito”, Mexican Independence Day celebration on September 15th. A special treat was the opening exhibition of 47 pieces from Gil & Marti Garcia’s Mexican art collection that will be on display for 3 months at the consulate office.

Our October 30 in-person event is being held at the Hacienda Amador celebrating Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead). Jacqueline Abbud is the host of this event, and all proceeds will be donated to “Aid for Families with Children with Cancer”.

Fundraiser for “Aid for Families with Children with Cancer” was held in October on the Condor Express. Over 100 people participated, proceeds of over \$4,500 was raised.

The yearly visitation to Puerto Vallarta was postponed in October. Currently different groups are going to Puerto Vallarta in November and December. On November 29 a group of 15 of our members will be visiting our sister city and participating in visits to our Puerto Vallarta projects.

Las Posadas holiday party will be held on December 17th at Cesar’s Place on Milpas Street. Posadas is a traditional Mexican event celebrating the birth of baby Jesus.

Continued projects:

Aid for Families with children with cancer. Supporting 21 families with food supplements. Proceeds from the fundraisers will be used for food supplements and holiday gifts for the children.

Students’ annual scholarship donations are coming in for school year 2021-2022

A Dog’s New Life. Supporting a dog rescue shelter and collecting donations for solar panels.

Currently no electricity at this shelter. Several large donations came in for the second phase of this project.

Our newly opened Endowment Fund is gathering donations.

Contribution to Boca de Tomatlan by Rotary Club of Santa Barbara North \$5,000 for bridge repair.

We are currently working on the latest need for Puerto Vallarta. A devastating hurricane hit

Puerto Vallarta on Sunday, leaving portions of the pueblo water damaged and many families in need of basic essentials. The Red Cross and Rotary Club of Puerto Vallarta Sur is asking for assistance with non-perishable foods such as Tuna, rice, beans, canned vegetables, soup, among others: personal hygiene items such as toothbrushes and toothpastes, soap, baby food, diapers for babies and adults, clothes in good condition, blankets, towels, and sheets. Thanks to the Santa Barbara-Patras Sister Cities for their generous donation.

Donated to the Santa Barbara/Puerto Vallarta Rehabilitation Clinic. We helped build this clinic in the 1980’s and continue to give a yearly donation.

Donated to the Volcanes Children School Teachers fund. Four dedicated members held a yard sale, and all proceeds went to the Kids elementary school teacher’s fund.

Foster Care Homes in Puerto Vallarta

By Margaret Saavedra

I was in Puerto Vallarta from Oct 26 – Nov. 4, 2021. The situation there is very typical of Covid protocols back home. There are sanitizers at the entrance to the hotel, restaurants and department stores. People are required to wear masks indoors at all locations. I was required to have a negative report on a Covid test two days before you return home. The testing was facilitated through the Hotel Playa Los Arcos.

During my visit I was invited to visit three foster care homes by our sister club members, Heriberta Caballero Ortiz, Irma Coultas and Paty Barrazas. The children in these foster homes are in ‘protective care.’ Some have parents that are incarcerated, legal problems with the law or parents are known drug users; some children have been physically or sexually abused.

The homes are **DIF/Nueva Vida (Desarrollo Integral de la Familia)** for boys from 6 – 18 years of age. These boys stay on site and are provided training in baking and barbequeing. (DIF) **Desarrollo Infantil Federal**

La Casa de Los Abuelos is a drop-in haven for school age children. This is a private home and the owner has opened up her home for neighborhood children with very limited resources.

She allows them to shower, get clean clothes, a snack and get ready for school. She also provides a counseling group for children from these dysfunctional homes.

El Refugio Infantil Santa Esperanza is a home for infants, toddlers, and boys and girls living in high risk situations, possibly physical, sexual/emotional abuse. They are placed by DIF (the state) and they currently have 35 children. Although DIF places children here, they do not provide any financial support. They are 100% privately supported. This organization seeks funding for daily needs, such as food stuffs and diapers.

All of these organizations seek donations of children’s shoes, boys and girls clothing and any financial donations. Additionally, La Casa de los Abuelos is seeking old tablets and old smart phones for children to do homework. She provides a quiet place and a wi-fi network for students to study. Students only attend school every other week!

Happy New Year

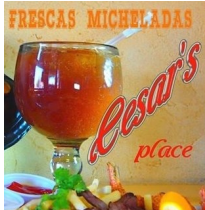
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Upcoming SB/PV Board Election

The board is seeking individuals for openings on our Board of Directors. It is a two year term with the possibility of a second 2 year term. Duties include attending a board meeting once per month and our general membership meetings also once per month. We are seeking members who are ready to work toward common goals and work as part of a team for the greater good of our organization. If you are interested in discussing a board position please contact Margaret or Gil. Emails are lk4maggie@gmail.com or gil@gilgarcia-aia.com.

Earlier in the year the board of directors decided to reduce the number of board members from 12 to 9 members, to make it more streamlined. We currently have a ballot to be voted on for our December general membership meeting.

The ballot for the three openings on our board are:

Gil Garcia	(2 nd term)
Sebastian Aldana	(2 nd term)
Alicia Sorkin	(1 st term)

ELECTRICITY FOR PUERTO VALLARTA DOG POUND

The installation of the Solar panels for the “A Dogs New Life” is almost complete. These panels will provide electricity for fans to keep rescue dogs cool in their kennels during hot PV season, also it will energize refrigeration to keep medicine at proper temperature, and electricity for a Washer and Dryer.


Currently there is no electricity to the site. Thanks go to Yvonne Pedersen and Andy Piszkin for being the driving force for this project



BOARD OF DIRECTORS –2021-2022

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Santa Barbara/Puerto Vallarta

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