



# 2025 APRIL NEWSLETTER

## Santa Barbara/Puerto Vallarta

### Sister City Committee



Published Mar. 29, 2025

Santa Barbara, California

## Puerto Vallarta Delegation Visits City of Santa Barbara Industries March 6 – 9<sup>th</sup>, 2025



**General Meeting Dinner**  
**Wed. April 16, 2025**  
**Mental Wellness Center**  
617 Garden St.  
6:00 – 8:30 pm

**Catering by Mayo**  
The lovely and talented  
**Adriana Reyna**  
will perform for us.

Menu details and pricing will  
follow in an update.

Luis Ernesto Munguia Gonzalez is the new Mayor of Puerto Vallarta. He is very supportive of our Sister City relationship and requested a visit to see how our City of Santa Barbara handles many city functions. Accompanying him were members of his new council.

Council woman, Adary Jacqueline Gonzales de Niz,

Misael Lopez Muro, Director of Civil Protection of Puerto Vallarta

Oscar Zamora Cuevas, Director of Purchasing and Finance

Council woman Ma. Laurel Carrillo, director of the Commission on Culture and Civil Protection and Firefighters for the city of Puerto Vallarta

Christian Bravo Carvajal, Commissioner for Beautiful Beaches

Hector Manuel Briseno Navarro, councilmember

Francisco J. Garcia, President of Puerto Vallarta/Sister Cities Committee

Their three day visit was a packed with visits to various municipal facilities and meeting with the Mayor, the Sheriff, the Fire Department Chief.



Mayor Munguia, Laurel Carrillo, Mayor Randy Rowse, unknown



Fire Chief Chris Mailes



Gil Garcia, Mayor Munguia, Luz Maria Ortiz, Laurel Carrillo, unk, Francisco Garcia, unknown

Santa Barbara Delegation  
 receiving our visitors:  
 Gil Garcia,  
 Marti Garcia, Pres. of SB/PV,  
 Luz Maria Ortiz and  
 Sebastian Aldana





Mayor Munguia and Sheriff Bill Brown



A visit with staff at the MTD Offices. Mayor Munguia showed particular interest in the electric vehicles.





In addition to the abovenamed City Facilities, they also visited the Desalination Plant. Mayor Munguia also has a very deep interest in desalination and levels of water filtration.



Other offices the Puerto Vallarta Delegation had on their agenda were the Direct Relief Facility in Goleta and a meeting with Bret Russel of IFTA (International Firefighters Training Association) at the Fire Department Training site. The DRI had a conflict and could not meet, the same with Brett Russell and IFTA.

**Santa Barbara Puerto Vallarta Sister Cities joins with Rotary in giving back to the community. Our general meeting on April 16 will be at the Mental Wellness Center.**

Santa Barbara North Rotary and the Roteract Club will join us. It will be a fundraising event and monies raised as a result of this April meeting, will go directly to supporting the Peace of Mind Winery Walk and Fundraiser on May 17th at the spectacular Alma Rosa Ranch and Vineyards . Our two groups will get much public and marketing recognition and have the chance to participate in significant raffles exclusively for our organizations.

Most importantly, our sponsorship today will be matched dollar for dollar by Alma Rosa Winery’s proprietors, Bob and Barb Zorich, doubling the impact of Rotary Club and Sister Cities’ support!

The funds raised by our groups will go directly towards:

1. expanding access to free mental health support for low-income individuals.
- > 2. providing educational programs and peer support programs empowering individuals to manage their mental health and prevent crises
3. reducing reliance on emergency services and hospitalizations for acute mental health intervention.



**Join us for the Walk of the Year**

Saturday, May 17th at Alma Rosa Vineyards and Ranch  
7250 Santa Rosa Road, Buellton, CA 93427

Enjoy a gorgeous stroll through the rolling hills and natural beauty of the exclusive Alma Rosa Vineyards while raising money for Mental Wellness Center and mental health research! Then, a magical respite awaits at the Walk's conclusion where you'll enjoy:

- Wine tastings of five esteemed Santa Ynez Valley wineries
- Good-time blues and rag music by popular guitar and harmonica duo Tom Ball & Kenny Sultan
- Delicious food for purchase by Santa Barbara Food Connection
- Non-alcoholic beverages to rehydrate

To sign up or learn more, scan the QR code or contact Yvonne 805-705-4887, EventsByYvonneSB@gmail.com

8am  
Walk Check-in/Raffle

9am  
Walk Begins

12:30pm  
Event Concludes

\$60 per person  
\$50 when you sign up  
by April 15th





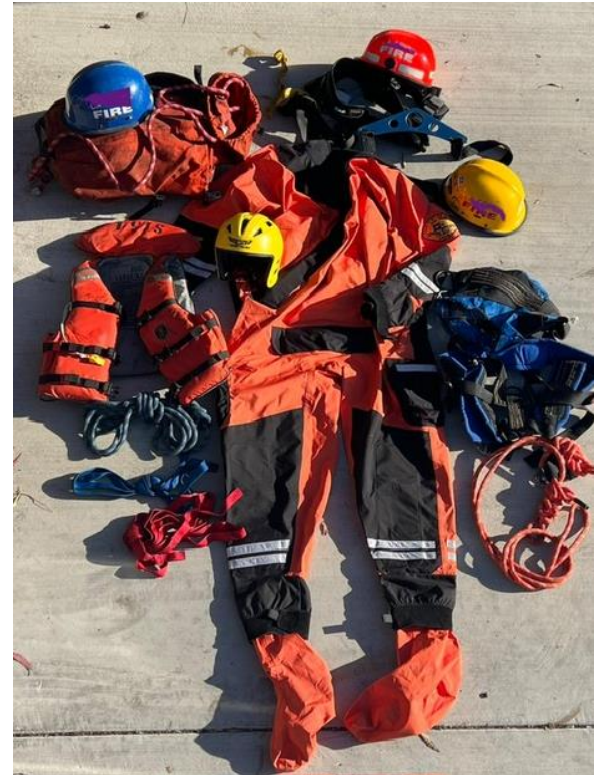
## IFTA – International Fire Fighters Association

SB/PV Sister City supports IFTA (International Firefighter Training Association) with its shipment to Mexico of tons of equipment to donate to rural communities that attend training symposiums throughout the year. The trainings include how to use the donated material by fully qualified retired firefighters. IFTA has provided equipment and training to personnel in PV and many communities surrounding Puerto Vallarta. The donated equipment does not meet the US's strict OSHA requirements and would otherwise go into landfills.

Equipment includes

1. Special USAR swift water rescue and rope rescue equipment
2. Over 40 sets of USAR SWR equipment,
3. Brand new leather, firefighting, boots, and boxes!!
4. And much more as shown in attached photos

Training Symposiums dates and location will be published soon.



**In Memoriam: Richard Axilrod  
RIP August 1941 – March 2025**

Richard, Dick to his many friends, was a longtime member of SB/PV along with his wife Joyce. He was a very gentle man, with a great sense of humor and was well liked by all. He made several trips to Puerto Vallarta with us and on a trip to the ‘Copper Canyon’, he conducted a meditation class for us during a quiet afternoon.

**Joyce our sincere condolences and we are so sorry for your loss!** More info will follow.



**WELCOME NEW MEMBES**

Claudia Alvarado

Lily Ferrari

Aurora R. Hendricks

**RENEWING MEMBERS**

Lourdes Aguilar

Carmen Flores

Esperanza & Roberto Najera

Richard & Adela Andrade

Gustavo & Carmen Gutierrez

Craig & Marcia Nielsen

Silvia Butler

Mike Hernandez

Suki & Joaquin Ornelas

Ma. del Refugio (Kuky)

Cardenas

Aurora Adela Marquez

Lenny Rodriguez

Les & Sylvia Clark

Adela Monroy

Lori A Sneddon

Mike Delgado

Olive Moreno

Bill Weil & Aline Shapiro-Weil

Luis Moreno & Lydia

Swanson

**Board of Directors 2025**

Marti Garcia de Correa, President

Danny Contreras- 1<sup>st</sup> V. Pres

Maria Sanchez – 2<sup>nd</sup> V.Pres

Gary Petlow, Treasurer

Bonnie Carroll

Luz Maria Ortiz, Corresponding Scty.

Jacqueline Duran

Alma Soto

Alicia Sorkin

Margaret Saavedra, Recording Scty. &

President Ex Oficio

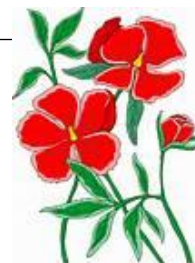
Newsletter Editor Since November 2022

Newsletter published

once per month,

**Wishing a Quick Recovery for both:**

Margaret Saavedra, an outpatient surgery and  
Marti Correa de Garcia – a broken ankle.







## PACIFIC PREMIER BANK®

1035 State St,  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
[+1 805 979 4422](tel:+18059794422)



## Santa Barbara Sunrise

Join us! We meet for breakfast on the first and third Wednesdays at 7:00 a.m. at the beautiful historic Santa Barbara Club, located at 1105 Chapala Street, Santa Barbara, California, USA.

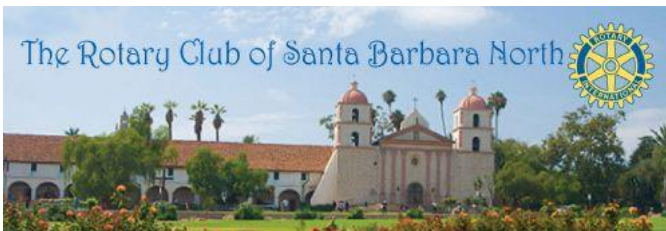


## Jacqueline Duran

- [\(805\) 284-2037](tel:(805)284-2037)
  - [info@durancapitalmanagement.com](mailto:info@durancapitalmanagement.com)
- 15 W. Carrillo St. Suite 100.  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101



205 W Montecito St,  
805-Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
805-965-3772  
[theberryman.com](http://theberryman.com)



**American  
Financial  
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Cesar's Place 712 N Milpas St  
Santa Barbara, CA 93103 ph 884-0964





Don't forget to renew your membership for 2025.  
You can renew at the April Dinner.



Santa Barbara /Puerto Vallarta  
Sister City Committee  
P.O. Box 3718  
Santa Barbara, CA. 93130  
April Newsletter