

HBSCA NEWS

Hermosa Beach Sister City Association Newsletter
VOL. 1, ISSUE 9 OCTOBER 2020 –

From Liz Ramirez



MUCHAS GRACIAS!!! – A HUGE THANK YOU TO ALL OUR SUPPORTERS!



thank you

THANKS TO THE AMAZING SUPPORT of our members and friends, we were able to raise just over \$12,500 in our **FIRST EVER NON-EVENT FUNDRAISER!**

The Fundraising Committee met in Liz Ramirez's backyard on Sunday, September 20, 2020 to hold the raffle. [See the video here.](#)

Congratulations to our raffle winners: **Joan and John Ayton** won the Strand Cruiser donated by Hermosa Cyclery! **Thelma Greenwald and Roberta Greenwald Perkins** won the One Week One Bedroom Villa at the Villa del Palmar Islands of Loreto Resort!

We also need to give a **HUGE THANK YOU** to **Jessie Accamando and the entire Fundraising Committee!** Jessie worked so hard on all our BEAUTIFUL graphics! Nicole Burke did a wonderful job on Social Media blasts! Brenda and Dino Garland, Merna Marshall, and George Barks rounded out the team with ideas, suggestions, and elbow grease! And Claudia Lindwall sent out all the invites and Thank You cards via the USPS! It truly takes a village and all our members and friends made this an incredible success! MUCHAS GRACIAS!

Correction to September El Camino Real Story...



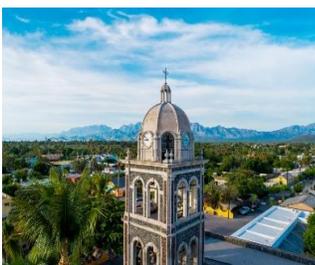
Last month's newsletter reported: "HBSCA members were in Loreto in October of 1997 when "a special bell was erected" to commemorate Loreto as the site of the first successful Spanish Mission in the Californias!"

Through the collective consciousness of our members, I have since learned that it was through donations from the HBSCA and the powerful leadership of Dick McCurdy that this special bell was erected in Loreto!

Thank you to former HBSCA President Dick McCurdy and all the members who have made so many amazing works happen for Loreto!

I plan to snap a photo of the Loreto Bell when I return to Loreto, although some are saying that it may have been removed under a previous mayor during reconstruction of the plaza. I hope to find it and will keep everyone posted!

Loreto Travel – LA Magazine Story - How Loreto is Tempting Angelenos to Take a Much-Needed Vacation



Independent Boutique Hotel owners in Loreto are encouraging tourists to "make their own bubble" in Loreto by renting out an entire small hotel for themselves. See the story here: [LA Magazine - Loreto Travel](#) I have personally traveled down to Loreto twice this summer. Hotels, restaurants, shops, and supermarkets, as well as visitors, residents, and citizens are taking public safety very seriously since the gradual re-opening.

Although we have canceled the HBSCA October 2020 Annual Adult Trip, some members may still be visiting Loreto and we look forward to sharing Loreto with those who may still come down! Contact [Liz Ramirez](#) or

[George Barks](#) for more information.

HBSCA NEWS, *CONTINUED*



Eco-Alianza Loreto Food Security Program Provided Respite for Thousands of Loretanos:



In response to the Global Pandemic, Eco-Alianza Loreto pivoted from an environmental advocacy mission to a humanitarian one. From May through September, they provided “twice-monthly food *dispensas*” to Loreto families impacted by the loss of employment wages due to closure of the harbors, hotels, restaurants, shops, and the flight of international residents who left Loreto during “Safer at Home” guidelines. In the Eco-Alianza Soundings Newsletter this month, they write: “The program initially was designed to last three months to give unemployed workers and their families a leg up, but the extraordinary response to our April 7 funding appeal made possible an additional two months of food distributions. More than 350 generous donors, including many from our Sister Cities of Ventura and Hermosa Beach, CA, contributed funds. All donations were matched 2:1 by Christy Walton’s Alumbra Innovations Foundation through Eco-Alianza’s close connection to the International Community Foundation.” [Click here to read more.](#)

UPDATES:

- **MORE GREAT NEWS:** The [Hermosa Friends Foundation](#) awarded HBSCA \$1,000 at their meeting on Saturday, September 26, 2020. Members of the Foundation nominated charities for funding. Six nominated charities were RANDOMLY selected and then members voted for which charity would receive a grant. HBSCA is VERY GRATEFUL to the members of the Hermosa Friends Foundation for the award of \$1,000. Please visit their [website](#) for more on this wonderful organization!
- Join us for our **General Membership Meeting on Monday October 5th at 6:30pm via Zoom** (Details for how to join meeting on Zoom will be emailed to members.)
- **The Fire Truck** donated by Tulare Fire Department is STILL in Cerritos with the Friends of Loreto Foundation. The west coast wildfires are keeping all area firefighters extremely busy and they have not been able to work on the truck which needed new batteries, may have electrical issues, and might need an alternator. Friends of Loreto and LA County Bomberos want to fit it with as much equipment as they can. Additionally, the Tijuana US Embassy was closed due to COVID but has re-opened. Unfortunately, they have a tremendous backlog so the paperwork for permission to take the truck and equipment across the border is stalled.
- **Do you need your knives sharpened?** Past Student Exchange Participant Max has a new business: <https://knifesharpenings.com/>
- Visit us on [Facebook](#) and post your favorite photos and stories of Loreto/Hermosa Beach!
- Visit our [website](#) for more information on HBSCA!

Stay Safe and Sane, Healthy and Happy Out There!

