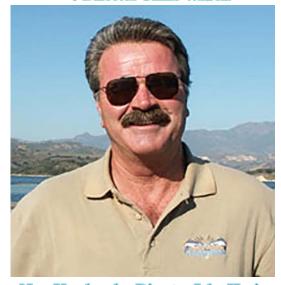




New Vagabundos President Gary Kirkman



New Vagabundos Vice President / Director Carrie Wilson



New Vagabundos Director John Henigan



Vagabundos Ambassador Mike Trible with a beautiful Dorado

PHOTO CREDITS

Front Cover

"Great Horned Owl at Puerto Gato" -Susan Ticehurst, 1st Place 2017 Photo Contest Wildlife

Pg. 20 - "Moonrise" - Faith Martinez

OFFICERS

President - Gary Kirkman Vice President - Carrie Wilson Secretary - Amy Halverson

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John Henigin - fishtalkradio.com
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Roland Heuschele
Sidney "Skip" Huwaldt
Mike Trible
Larry Young

NOTICE

When matters of importance must be announced to Club Members, the *Chubasco*, our Website and Hotbox at Vagabundos.com, Facebook page (Facebook. com/vagabundosdelmar), Twitter page (twitter.com/vagabundosdmar) and periodic Email Bulletins will be the official means of doing so. Add michelle@vagabundos.com and info@vagabundos.com to your address book to assure email delivery. Please read them carefully so that you are fully informed.

VAGABUNDOS DEL MAR 190 Main Street Rio Vista, CA 94571 (800) 47-4-BAJA (2252) Fax (707) 374-6843 info@vagabundos.com

LOGGING INTO YOUR ONLINE ACCOUNT FOR MEMBERSHIP & INSURANCE

Go to our website Vagabundos.com and click on Vag member "Login". Enter your login name and password if you've already created one.

If you've forgotten your login or password, click on the "Need Help Logging In" link on the login page and enter your email address. An email will be sent to you with instructions on how to reset your password; please ensure you're able to receive emails from Vagabundos.com. Once you enter your new password and confirm it, your login will be updated to your email address and your password will be updated to the new password you entered.

If you have never created a login and password click on "Current Member Who Needs To Create A Login" on the login page and enter your last name, member number and zip code. An email will be sent to you with instructions to create a password. Once your password is set your login will be your email address and you will be able to log into your member page.

From your Membership page you can renew a policy, create a new policy, update your address, use the Travel Buddies calendar or find the Chubasco online PDF version. You will be able to locally print your policy immediately after you purchase it.

The Ship's Store online has available all of our Vagabundos logo clothing, as well as burgees, magnetic signs, Baja & Mexico books, charts, maps, etc.

FINDING THE CHUBASCO ONLINE

Follow the instructions in the first three paragraphs above. You will then be on your membership page. Click on "Chubasco" to view the current issue or click on Member downloads to view previous issues.

ALL CHUBASCO CONTENTS
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EDITOR'S NOTES

NEW OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

Tony Schuck has been President since 1996, after we lost our Founding President, **Chet Sherman**. Tony has stepped down from that office, as has Vice President, **Fred Jones.** Tony will remain on the Board of Directors and Fred will remain in his Staff Position as General Manager.

Gary Kirkman, long-time Board Member has stepped up as President. A new Board Member, **Carrie Wilson** is Vice President. In addition, long-time Ambassadorat-Large, **John Henigin**, Fishtalk Radio, has become a Director. Many thanks to these volunteers as they guide the course of Vagabundos.

Carrie lives in Monterey and is a Marine Biologist with more than 30 years of experience working for the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. She is also a fishing and hunting columnist for Western Outdoor News with more than 900 columns published over the past 18 years.

Carrie's passions are fishing, hiking, travel and promoting outdoor adventures and opportunities through writing, photography, seminars and tours. She is an avid outdoors enthusiast, equestrian, outdoor writer, wildlife photographer, fishing and hunting educator, aquarium naturalist guide, event coordinator and is an NRA firearms instructor.

Wilson's travels have taken her throughout the U.S. (including Alaska and Hawaii), Canada, Mexico including Baja California, Central America, U.K., Iceland and 17 trips throughout more than 20 additional European countries.

John is a past President of Outdoor Writers Association of California (OWAC.org), and a long-time Ambassador-at-Large of the VAGABUNDOS DEL MAR and is on the Board of the of the Lake Cachuma Nature Center.

His program, Fish Hunt Talk Radio, nationally syndicated, has been honored eight times by The Outdoor Writers Association as "Best outdoor Radio Show of the Year."

Living in Santa Barbara and a legal resident of Cabo San Lucas, John keeps a boat in Lake Cachuma and spends a lot of time after big game fish. As operator of "Reel Fun Adventures," he hosts fishing trips to Alaska, Baja and Costa Rica as a regular part of his job. He is the master of helping folks plan fishing trips and also leads many fly-in once-in-a lifetime fishing trips. John also always finds time to sponsor kids fishing derbies and to take kids out on his boat at the lake. See on Page 8 in Activities of his current fishing trip.

REGULATIONS

We are still trying to determine what the requirement is for Temporary Import Vehicle Permits (TIP) in Baja. At the Tecate border crossing, our Baja Direct Caravan in early January and the Beaches & Whales Caravan in February were told that a TIP in Baja was only required for boats. At the Tijuana border crossing, however, we are hearing that a TIP is required for motorhomes and they are being issued there. Then, just this week a caravan headed down for the LA Bay Tournament crossed at Tijuana and they were not required to get a TIP.

We will continue to research this and notify Members. Check our Website, Hotbox and Facebook page. Email Bulletins will be sent out as we have more information.

The office is now assisting in issuing TIP's for motorhomes. A two-week lead time is necessary. The fee can be paid to the office, but the form is mailed directly to you from Aduana. If it doesn't reach you in time, the office can help with follow up. If you have information or a recent experience when crossing, please share it. That is one of the major strengths of our Club, Members sharing with Members.

MEDEVAC

Vagabundos is now offering reliable Emergency Travel MedEvac Insurance! This is not your average MedEvac membership or insurance program. Beware of other plans that provide evacuation coverage only to the "nearest suitable facility", rather than to your home hospital. Travel MedEvac plans are underwritten by Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company and Affiliated A+ rated insurance companies.

If you are traveling more than 150 miles from your home, and you are admitted to a hospital for a critical injury or illness and you are in need of a medical evacuation, our partner Air Ambulance Worldwide will manage your medical evacuation utilizing a highly accredited network of experienced air ambulance providers to bring you home.

Wherever you may travel throughout the world, a Travel MedEvac premium medical evacuation plan may be the single most important coverage you should obtain when traveling.

For a quote and full details please visit https://www.vagabundos.com/tme.html

PHOTO CONTEST 2017 PHOTO CONTEST RESULTS

The entries for the 2017 Photo Contest (extended to May 2018), once again made it difficult to choose our award recipients. Vag Members continue to show their talents by submitting ever more outstanding entries. Look for them in future Chubascos and our online portals.

We didn't receive enough feedback on adding a Video or Drone category, so that's been tabled for now until there's enough interest. There is a fairly large drone community in Baja for those who are interested.

Vag Member **Steve Wedi** gave us a link to his own YouTube Channel, which has some great Baja videos. Search "bajatrawler" on YouTube to see them. For those interested in using Drones in Baja, I suggest visiting the Baja Drones Group on the DIY Drones site at https://diydrones.com/group/bajadrones

Here are the Winning Entries for 2017

WILDLIFE

Winner - "Horned Owl on Rock Face" (Current Chubasco cover picture) by **Susan Ticehurst** Runner Up - "4 Pelican Line-up", by **Korinne Flowers**

SCENERY

Winner - "Sailboat Sunset", by **Bruce Purcell** Runner Up - "Silver Lake, B.C." by **Dave Gunall**

ACTION

Winner - "Sunset Lantern Offering Release at Bahia Quemato" by **Steve Ticehurst**

PETS

Winner - "Dog in Church entrance looking for Worshippers" Bahia Salinas, Isla Carmen by **Susan Ticehurst**

Runner Up - "Biker Dog Gracie", by Ken Webb

HONORABLE MENTIONS

"Cardon Cactus w/ VW Bug", "Waning Moon Sunset", - Leslie Reams

"Whale Statue on the Malecon at Sunset",

- Steve Ticehurst

This year's contest began in mid-May as we extended the 2017 contest, and will run until next May. Keep sending in your pics! Same Rules apply.

YEAR PINS

Takao Aratani - 15 years
Guy Bonnivier - 20 years
Noel & Marguerite Casey - 15 years
Leslie John Cox & Heidi Tate - 15 years
Bob Krempin - 10 years
Fred Kresge - 10 years
Fritz & Roberta Kyer - 15 years
Robert & Angela Perdue - 15 years
James & Barbara Rand - 20 years
Albert & Kathleen Smatsky - 20 years
Mark & Bette Sutherlin - 10 years
Don & Margaret Wilson - 15 years
Steve & Maura Zigler - 15 years

FRED HALL SHOW Long Beach March 7-11, 2018 By Mike Bales

For the 27th consecutive year the Vagabundos del Mar had a booth at the largest show of its type in the West. New Memberships were the highest in several years, plus Member renewals were up. It looks like we must be doing something right as a Club. Once again manning the booth was **Ron Ury**, and **Rick** and **Marie Thompson** for five days.

During the last 27 years I have had the privilege to run not only the Long Beach Show, but shows in Ventura, San Mateo, Del Mar, and Sacramento for a total of 35 shows. Our booth has always been well received by the public. I have been fortunate to have had knowledgeable Vag volunteers working in the booth over the years. Without a doubt this has led to our overall success. I feel it's the time to pass the torch to some of our younger Members to take over the shows in the future.

(We're looking to new Vice President Carrie Wilson to head up the Long Beach booth next year. Editor)

TRAVEL TIPS

Jonathan Roldan, Western Outdoor News Baja Columnist and Owner of Tailhunter Sportfishing International with his wife, Jill, mentions in his WON Column of June 22, 2018, some really good tips and ideas for booking flight travel. Jill from first-hand knowledge and research is a ninja for booking travel. Vagabundos will be looking at doing more fly in trips in the future. Let us know what areas and tours would interest you. In the past we have had some great cruises in the Caribbean on the supply ship, Amazing Grace. Email info@vagabundos.com with your suggestions.

CHUBASCO

We endeavor to keep publishing the hard copy of the Chubasco, but sometimes experience technical difficulties. This time it is because of the internet provider, Comcast. We print in-house. There were 15 Email Bulletins sent out last year to supplement the Chubasco. Check our Hotbox on the Website Home Page, Email Bulletins and Social Media pages for upto-date information. Check to see we have your very latest email address, and that you have Vagabundos. com added to your spam whitelist.

ACTIVITIES 15th ANNUAL HIGH SIERRA CAMPOUT AND KOKANEE SALMON TOURNAMENT AUGUST 23-26

Thanks to a rainy season last year, the 15th Annual High Sierra Campout and Kokanee Fish Tournament will be held. Registration will be Thursday evening with a community BBQ dinner. The tournament will start Friday. Fishing can commence one half hour before dawn and weigh in will end at 2:00 pm. Friday night we will have a margarita party and potluck dinner. Saturday, fishing can commence one half hour before dawn and weigh in will end at 2:00 pm. The award presentation will be held after the weigh-in on Saturday afternoon. A fish fry will be planned, hopefully with fish caught, and potluck side dishes. And then one more potluck - a Survivor's Breakfast on Sunday morning before departing.

Camping will be dry, but there are chemical toilets, picnic tables, benches, BBQ pits, a great community fire pit and spaces for RV trailer and tent camping. Although the Fishing Tournament is the feature event, there are always plenty of other activities for those who just want to relax and enjoy the mountains and lake scenery. Stampede is a good place to kayak. There will also be many camp games including horseshoes, washer toss and Mexican train.

Directions: Stampede Reservoir is located in the Sierra Nevada east of Truckee. Please visit www.vagabundos. com/kokanee_tournament.htm for temporary road closure and detour route. You will need to use State Route 89 not Stampede Meadows Road.

The cost is \$150 per rig with two people. \$5 per person over two people. The cost includes your RV site for three nights and tournament registration.

To sign up and pay your fee and obtain more information, call the Vag office at $800\text{-}47\text{-}4\text{-}BAJA\,(2252)$. Leader is Larry Wilkinson.

SAN QUINTIN FISHING TOURNAMENT AUGUST 31 - SEPTEMBER 2, 2018

Held over Labor Day weekend, this is another great Vagabundos tournament. Fishing last year was spectacular and we expect the same for this year. The location is Don Eddie's Landing, the must stop Baja location. The road into Don Eddie's and San Quintin Bay is now paved. Vagabundos discounts are given, the food is great and the staff is always very hospitable they go the extra mile. **Freddie Washington**Make your reservations now by calling the Vagabundos office at 800-47-4-BAJA (2252).

ADVENTURE TOURS 2018-2019 CST# 2044242-40 PASSPORTS WILL BE REQUIRED

BAJA DIRECT CARAVAN January 2019

This caravan introduces first-time Baja RVers to an easy way to experience Baja's warmth and hospitality. Travel south to escape the northern cold winter before it really gets going. Head down Baja 1 with leaders who are well-experienced Baja travelers who know all the ropes for making Baja travel as easy as driving to your local supermarket. The price is low, \$680 per rig. We also have the highest quality, low-cost Mexican vehicle insurance for your RV and towed vehicle. We will meet near the San Diego border. We'll plan to drive at no more than 50 mph, covering between 170 and 250 miles a day and driving between 4 to 7 daylight hours. Overnight stops will be in San Quintin, Guerrero Negro, Concepcion Bay, La Paz and Cabo San Lucas - 10 days traveling. You are free to drop out where you wish or return with the Wagon Master. Nonmembers will receive membership free. Call the Vag Office at 800-47-4-BAJA (2252) or visit the website at Vagabundos.com

BEACHES AND WHALES ROUND-TRIP February 2019

The past recent years have seen record numbers of gray whales in the lagoons on the Pacific side of Baja. All indications are numbers are still increasing and 2019

will be even better. The 2018 Caravan found blue whales (the largest animal ever on the planet), humpbacks, finbacks and gray whales. We are amazed that year after year as we have made the trek to Baja to seek the whales, we have not had a trip without an opportunity to actually touch a gray whale in their habitat. For us it is a humbling experience each time we view these intelligent mammals in the place they've chosen to birth their calves - as the Mexicans say - the gray whales are Mexican by birth. In one of the most remarkable annual migrations nature offers, Pacific gray whales make the 5,000 mile trip from the chilly feeding grounds of the Arctic to the safety of warm, shallow waters of the Baja Peninsula for their breeding and calving season.

We will introduce you to these two favorite things to do and see in Baja and will take you down to Cabo San Lucas and back to California in both RV's and passenger cars. We'll spend some nights on Baja's best beach campgrounds. During the height of the season, we will experience whale watching with gray whales in Scammon's Lagoon and another lagoon, depending on timing and number of whales present. These gray whale wintering areas have developed "friendly" mothers who bring their calves right up to the boats and enjoy being stroked. Mostly it's the babies, pushed to the boat by mama whale, who probably learned the behavior as a baby herself, who seem the most friendly and want to play with us. To connect with these friendly whales from a small panga, looking right into their eye rolled toward you, creates a distinctive awareness of these intelligent creatures, enhances the mind and exhilarates the soul. In Loreto we will search for magnificent blue whales and other whale species like humpbacks and finbacks. In La Paz we'll seek another incredible gentle giant whale sharks. Again the 2018 Caravaners were able to swim with the whale sharks - a lifetime experience to be with these gentle giants in the water. Sometimes you have to keep kicking your swim fins pretty fast to keep up with them. The fee per rig with two people is to be determined. Be sure your CB radio or two-way family radio is working. For more information visit the Beaches and Whales Tour page on our website at Vagabundos.com/beaches_whale.htm, or call Vag Headquarters at 800-47-4-BAJA (2252).

BEACHES, BEAUTY AND BIODIVERSITY

by PREMIERE TOUR LEADERS

DAVID & CONNIE JONES

November 2019

That's what Costa Rica offers and that's what we are offering to Vagabundos at a phenomenal price and an itinerary that suits our unique and independent travel preferences. Put these dates on your calendar and sign up quickly;this will be a very small group and will sell out fast!

Day 1, November 22: Fly independently to San José, Costa Rica. You will be met at the airport and transported to our hotel where we will have dinner and orientation. (Hotel: Studio Hotel; Meals: dinner)

Day 2, November 23: We leave our hotel early and drive through Braulio Carrillo National Park on our way to the boat that will take us along the river channels to the picturesque town of Tortuguero in Tortuguero National Park; there we will learn about the lifestyle of the local people and the conservation efforts to protect the sea turtles. (Hotel: Evergreen Lodge; Meals: BLD)

Day 3, November 24: Tortuguero is an excellent place for ecotourism. During the day and depending on the weather conditions, we might enjoy a guided walk through the jungle where you will learn how different animals, insects and birds interact with the forest plants, achieving a perfect balance between each species. We will take boat tour through the different natural channels of the National Park, where we can see different species of mammals, birds and reptiles. (Hotel: Evergreen Lodge; Meals: BLD)

Day 4, November 25: Today we head back to the mainland to the town of La Fortuna, home of the colossal Arenal Volcano with its remarkable cone, springs of healing thermal waters and well-tended gardens. There will be independent time to enjoy these healing waters at our fabulous hotel hot springs. (Hotel: Arenal Kioro Hotel; Meals: BL)

Day 5, November 26: We will experience a forest in a very different way, walking over the canopy in the Arenal Hanging Bridges Park and then a hike along the base of the Arenal Volcano ending in a delicious picnic served at the volcano viewpoint. The afternoon is at leisure to enjoy other activities in the area. (Hotel: Arenal Kioro; Meals: BL)

Day 6, November 27: A beautiful, scenic drive will take us to Monteverde, stopping to enjoy a traditional lunch in a local restaurant. Once in Monteverde, get comfortable and prepare to explore this diverse area during our stay. (Hotel: Trapp Family Lodge; Meals: BL)

Day 7, November 28: This is a day to explore the cloud forest. We'll start with a visit to the Santa Elena Biological Reserve and a moderate wildlife hike. Lunch will be on your own in one of the restaurants in Santa Elena village. (Hotel: Trapp Family Lodge; Meals: B)

Day 8, November 29: Happy Thanksgiving! What can be better than celebrating our Thanksgiving in the breathtaking landscapes of the Gulf of Nicoya. Our catamaran adventure is on board one of the largest catamarans in Central America; it includes two Jacuzzis, two resting nets, two cross water slides and snorkeling equipment. What a way to enjoy the evening sunset! (Hotel: Si Como No Resort Spa & Wildlife Refuge; Meals: BD)

Day 9, November 30: Today we will explore Manuel Antonio, one of the most famous national parks in the Costa Rican park system. We'll take a moderate three-hour walk where our guide will share secrets of the Coastal Wet Forest and the wonders of the park, including the diverse variety of wildlife. After the hike, enjoy some time on the beautiful beaches within the park. This evening we will enjoy a special farewell dinner at a local restaurant to re-live our Costa Rican adventure and cement our newfound friendships. (Hotel: Is Como No Resort; Meals: BD)

Day 10, December 1: After breakfast we will be transported back to San Juan Santamaria International Airport in San José for our flights home. (Meals: B) Double occupancy \$5,300.

BAJA EAST CAPE FISHING Reel Fun East Cape 2018 Thursday September 27 to Monday October 1st

4 Nights, 2 day Cruiser fishing. \$875 Including tax pp. Price is based on two per room and four per cruiser.

Now you can have it all. This trip includes rooms, boats, fishing gear, Tee shirt and tax. Shuttle from and

to airport will vary by number of people in your group. Normally about \$50 per person.

Four stress free nights with two days in comfortable cruisers, and all you have to do is show up!

The luxurious Las Palmas Beach front Resort has the fishing boats at your front door. Watch the beautiful sunrise at breakfast then walk over to the dock and be fishing in minutes. After a successful day on the water stay cool at the swim up bar in the infinity pool. Or, do some surf fishing, maybe a little golf or a swim in the warm Sea of Cortez.

About an hour north of the Los Cabos Airport, the town of Los Barriles is recognized as one of the best fishing areas in the world. You will be fishing from Cabo Pulmo to Cerralvo Island for a vast variety of exotic big game fish in the Sea of Cortez. Or, you may be fishing a few hundred yards from the resort. In September the air and water is warm and the fishing is HOT. This is a peak time for Yellow Fin Tuna, big Dorado, Marlin, Wahoo, and more. No need for tackle and rods. Bring an ice chest, fish preparation is available. You will catch and release trophy fish and bring home great table fare. Vacuum packing is available.

Extra day fishing, ATV on the beach for surf fishing or side trips can be arranged at discounted pricing.

What's not included??? Tips and beverages, meals and airport shuttle. Very limited space. For more information contact, **John** 805-207-3522 or jthenigin@gmail.com

2018 BAJA MOTORCYCLE TOUR

We ended up with a group of five riders, 2 Goldwings, a Spyder, a Yamaha and a KTM 1190. We left San Diego after breakfast at the border Denny's and changing some dollars to pesos. We traveled down the toll road (\$17 pesos per gate for motorcycles and 3 gates) to Ensenada and then on through to San Quintin where we stayed in the Mission Santa Maria Hotel on the beach just south of town. The hotel is one of the old El Presidente/ La Pinta locations that has been remodeled and well cared for by the new owner.

The next day, we went down through El Rosario and Catavina (another La Pinta that is very nicely maintained with a new store across the road with promise of fuel

within 6 months. We continued to Bahia Los Angeles after lunch at Catavina. Not one, but two Pemex stations in LA Bay! We stayed at the Costa Del Sol Motel, a small but friendly place with a nice restaurant on site. The following day we found ourselves working against a blustery wind as we made our way out to the junction with Highway 1. As we turned south, the wind was at our backs and things were much easier. San Ignacio was a short stop in the plaza to see the mission and some lunch. We rode south through Santa Rosalia, Mulege and stopped in Loreto (394 miles) at the Mission Santa Fe Hotel. After a soak in the hot tub, we walked next door for steaks and a few beers. On to La Paz the next day, roads in very good shape, we tried the new ONE La Paz Hotel. Nice new hotel with a rooftop swimming pool (beautiful but COLD). The rooms are nice and new if a bit small. Dinner was steak again at Las Brisas (used to be a seafood place). Took the eastern mountainous route down to Cabo San Lucas. Worked our way through lots of traffic and found our hotel on the north edge of Cabo (Quinta Del Sol). Hotel was nice and we took advantage of the hot tub and pool. Since we spent two days there, we took a taxi to the waterfront and did the tourist walk about. We visited the Cabo Wabo for a few beers and then to the waterfront for lunch. We left Cabo the following day planning to go to Todos Santos for breakfast. We started out in T-shirts, but as we rounded the cape temperature dropped, and by the time we stopped for breakfast my teeth were chattering.

We rode north through La Paz and up to Loreto for two more nights at the Hotel Mission Santa Fe and more time in the hot tub. After Loreto, we rode (against the wind) to Guerrero Negro for the night. We spent the night at the Caracol Motel (just adequate) in the cold and wind. Following day was on to Catavina for the night. We went on to El Rosario the next morning and some of us were at the very edge of our fuel range. Fueling there, we continued on to San Diego for about an hour long border crossing.

Thoughts about the trip - 394 miles is a bit much in Baja, I think maybe another day to cover that distance. Highways were really good with stretches north and south of Catavina where we did a lot of swerving to avoid potholes. Baja now has asphalt paving machines and they are really using them. With few exceptions (Santa Rosalia) the fuel stations accept credit cards. We also saw Chevron, BP, and Arco gas stations. We saw temps from 85 to 63, so wise to bring layers. An extra

small can of fuel is a good thing, because some stations may run out of fuel from time to time. Be alert! Things can go from great to Sh—t in seconds as demonstrated northbound into El Rosario a basketball size rock was in the middle of our lane. The Spyder swerved toward the southbound lane and a small truck went onto the side of the road and then popped back onto the road scaring the heck out of the next rider in line. We all came out fine, but could have been a major problem. - **Todd Way**

ROAD REPORT

Ambassador-at-large Mike Trible – 7/23/18 WARNING: When exiting Mexico out of Tecate the last right turn there is a stop light. A stop sign has been placed at the stop light and everyone must stop at the stop sign even if the stop light is green. I received a ticket for not stopping at the stop sign even when the stop light was green.

The roads are good from Loreto north except around Santa Rosalia. The potholes around Catavina have been filled. The road is new north of Catavina. We would not recommend the Desert Inn in San Ignacio; it has become rundown. The Desert Inn in Catavina has been updated but was the most expensive hotel. The Desert Inn is no longer accepting the La Pinta travel club card. Hotel Santa Maria in Santo Tomas was the least expensive and was nice.

Director Freddie Washington – 7/17/18 – South of Loreto be cautious there are steep drop-offs on both sides of the road for 2km. South of Ciudad Constitucion at 194km, there is a small amount of road construction. North of La Paz the first sign of major road construction beginning at 62km. At this point slow down (dirt road detour) to 56km marker. (road widening and repaving) At 56km to 52km the highway has been repaved; be careful because road driving lines have not been painted. La Paz to Los Barriles No road construction and the road is in good condition.

MEMBERS SPEAK

Hola Vagabundos, this year our Spring clinic was held from April 16 through the 27th in La Paz, BCS, Mexico. Volunteers for this clinic were as follows:

Brad Farrow CPO(e) (Certified Prosthetist Orthotist, Emeritus), California

Louise Farrow, RPT (Registered Physical Therapist), California

Mike Beck CPO, California

Jim Thompson, Technician, Oregon

Justin Scott, Technician, Washington

Beatriz Unger, Translator, La Paz, BCS, Mexico

Dr. Alejandro Aguirre, La Paz, BCS

Victor Jimenez, Physical Therapist, La Paz, BCS

Professor Oscar Hernandez, La Paz, BCS

Numa Arce, Physical Therapy student, La Paz, BCS **Hernan Soto**, Physical Therapy student, La Paz, BCS.

77 total patients were provided the following systems:

8 Above Knee Prostheses

5 Below Knee Prostheses

1 Symes Prosthesis (ankle disarticulation)

27 Repairs including adjustments, liners, socks, etc...

2-AFO's (custom below the knee braces)

7 pairs of Cascade AFO's (premade, custom fit to patients)

4 pair custom arch supports

1 TLSO (body jacket) repair

A special thanks to Mobilize Mankind for the use of their van for transportation purposes, and to the La Balandra Rotary Club members for providing lunch each day. If any of the Vagabundos wish to donate:

Limb Restoration Fund c/o San Ramon United Methodist Church 902 Danville Blvd. Alamo, California 94507

Request a receipt for tax purposes. Thank you for your consideration, **Paul and Shelley Boe**.

For years, Paul and Shelley have been helping the lives of the disabled and less fortunate in Baja for those who wouldn't otherwise have an opportunity for improvement. Thanks for all you do. Editor.

I had a very good experience shipping a Kawasaki Mule from TJ to a storage unit near the airport in Los Cabos. The name of the shipper is **Venice Gutierrez** COMBAJA, venice@combaja.com

I recommend this group highly for getting things done quickly and on schedule. Venice is very reliable as are all the people that we had contact with to get the Mule to Los Cabos and delivered at the agreed time to the right place.

- Patricia Phillips

Member **Armando Esparza** reported that Auto Zone in Tijuana, Ensenada, San Quintin and La Paz stock DEF fluid for diesel trucks. Tony Schuck said that the Chevrolet dealership in Cabo can also get it, but can be out for 3-4 days waiting for new inventory.

REMINISCING CRUISING STORIES



by Phil McCauley

This installment of Phil's story begins where it left off in the last Chubasco: Another will follow this installment of Phil's adventure.

As we left Florida finally after almost four months, it was of course into the coastal region of Georgia. It was here we had mixed luck. On the plus side the weather turned good after a week or so of rain and wind and crossing the large sounds and rivers in this swampy and marshy country can get nasty. On the flip side of the coin, the critters and no-seeums hit one night as we anchored off Hilton Head Island just across the border into South Carolina that rivaled anything I've ever gotten on the Cortez, and I mean really Bad!! I'm still itchin; you know like when you get in a hot shower they all seem to come back again. Actually, this part of the trip is just not worth doing. It's mostly a low-profile countryside of swamps, marches and bugs, and they can have it.

On the move again --

Speaking of moving, traveling with a trawler is a basic 7-8 knot dash through the water. Keeping a planning boat down at that speed takes on some surprising side benefits. I kept some good stats of performance and there are some social benefits also, some of which I'll share with you after I tell you about Charleston in the next chapter.

ANOTHER WATERFRONT PART FIVE

Mile Zero

It's Wednesday, May 14, Norfolk, Virginia. Yesterday we threw a line around a cleat at the new floating docks and immediately began what we considered to be a well-deserved celebration. After all, this was not just Norfolk, Virginia but on the charts, we have been following so carefully for over a month this was also mile "zero" from here to Key West, 1250 miles south. So besides feeling pretty darn good about that accomplishment we did just about what all Vags would expect, had a mile "0" party. In light of that, today is probably not a good day to be pounding on this typewriter.

This final leg of the Coastal Waterway before we started up the Chesapeake Bay began in Charleston South Carolina. Some call it the hub of the South where much of the early history of our country unfolded. It served in the past as an important agriculture, shipping and commerce center and it was here that the first shot of the Civil War was fired out at Fort Sumter in the Bay.

We warped that boat to the ancient old city docks, now a marina, and spent three days touring, eating and poking around this still proud and historic city. It was fun to take a horse drawn carriage through the old and mostly preserved or restored residential and business district. The operators are well versed on the intimate details of the period and each has a unique way of spinning yarns of the areas early history. There is a great deal of city and personal pride demonstrated. The effort to keep everything representative of those days when times were very different and most remarkable are the churches. These old massive and beautiful structures have survived a lot of time and show little evidence of giving up now, it was also quite interesting to stroll through the grave yards, always it seems right on the ground of the church. Reading the worn inscriptions quickly takes you back to those by-gone days. As we have traveled through the coastal towns it's stops like this that made

us realize that a few days would not be enough to see and enjoy all there was. Almost reluctantly we had to move on.

CAPTAIN QUIGG

We had arranged a mail pickup in Georgetown about 70 miles north and really had not planned more than just an overnight stop. Enough time to receive and process any business, the mail might bring. We were tying up at the Gulf Oil dock right the main street of the town when this fellow came to lend a hand. I thought at first, he was the dock master. Then the man in charge showed up and told us where he wanted us to be, so we moved. Shortly thereafter this fellow again came over to the boat and offered his help should there be anything we needed. He introduced himself and was just a real friendly and sincere type guy, (so please meet our new friend Charlie Quigg).

He's a retired Architect out of New England who has a lifelong interest in boats, so much so that he acquired his 100-ton Captains ticket and it didn't take long to realize he truly has a wide knowledge of boats. He was currently returning from Florida where he had purchased an old 48 ft. Chris Craft and was taking this old beauty to Rhode Island to restore it for resale. Well Charlie is one of those people you meet and immediately like. Despite the fact that he was in there having to replace his port engine he was sincerely ready to help us should we need it. He was alone on his boat as his crew had been forced to return home when the delay of the engine was going to take a couple weeks. We were up having dinner that night at a pleasant dock side restaurant and we decided to stay another day or so to get better acquainted. The next day we all took the Chamber of Commerce tour to see most of the pre-revolutionary homes in this quaint old town. That evening we whipped up a pot luck and sat out on the stern of the Chris and enjoyed hours of swappin stories about our different boating areas. He told us about the Palm tree there by the stern rail and yes, he even had the steel ball bearings. With a name like Quigg to go with it all, he's obviously had a lot of fun with it.

We left the following day hoping to see him again up the waterway or perhaps another day in his port or ours. Once again the best part is the good people you meet.

POWER FAILURE

We just poked along at the 50-75 mile a day pace and were enjoying ourselves. Just south of the Marine base, Camp Lejeune, near Swansboro in North Carolina in the midst of a rather severe thunder storm, we blew a seal on the main circulating water pump. Water was spraying all over the engine. I managed to seal off the carburetor and the distributor, but it soaked the alternator and eventually it went. With the Coast Guard monitoring our situation we limped into Swansboro under our own power. The next day I replaced the pump on my Chevy engine but had no luck with the volt maker. With all the parts now cleaned and dry I switched over to the variable charge rate rheostat system, a creation of Lodi California Vag Neal Weaver. Bingo it worked! Thanks buddy. It's still on line.

NORFOLK ASTERN

From here it's up the Chesapeake Bay for a month then through the C and D Canal, down the Delaware Bay, around New Jersey to New York and into the Hudson river. That's next, plus a word of pride, that I've neglected, about how the "Rainmaker" has been cheered in several ports for bringing the much-needed rain to the drought-stricken countryside.

WINNING IS FUN

It was the first day of summer, June 21st, when we pulled into New York Harbor after a 30 mile dash up the New Jersey coast. It must have been our destiny to have to make that final outside run and give the Atlantic Ocean one last swipe at us. This time however, we came out on top as the sea was flat or not yet awake. We came out of the Manesquan Inlet at dawn that bright clear day and put the Rainmaker up on the plane for the entire run. Based on our previous encounters with his tumultuous old sea I think we just caught her nappin cause after we rounded Sandy Hook and were heading for the inner New York Harbor I took one last look out to sea and sure enough she was building up out there. Displaying her anger, no doubt because the final round went to us.

THE BIG DAY

I think it was here that we first realized that perhaps one year was not enough time for a trip like this. Just to cruise the Chesapeake would take a life time. But, it was something I've always wanted to do so we gave it our best shot and loved it.

When it comes to Bays, I've always been impressed with the one at San Francisco and therefore probably not ready for what the Chesapeake had to offer. First of all, it's vast. Like an inland sea with all the moods of the biggies. Over 200 miles long and down at the open end it's not uncommon to be out of sight of land. It's more comparable to cruising the Puget Sound from the Olympic Peninsula to the San Juan's and the Straits of Georgia in B.C. The rivers alone that flow into the bay would take many boating seasons to explore, cruise and enjoy. We planned it, so we could at least get a brief glimpse of its many sides. The secluded anchorages, quaint old fishing villages, historic Annapolis and busy Baltimore.

SOME TIME OUT

A month didn't last long with so much to see and do especially when you subtract some weather days. It happened to be that time of year when spring is trying to grow into summer producing some wild weather out on the broad reaches of the Bay. We finally named it Thunder Bay as it seemed we were forever dodging our riding out from a thunderstorm.

We counted eight of these quick moving, crazy, violent and rumbling cats of nature that forced us to run for cover or stay put. One that turned out to be interesting was the day we ran in behind Gwynn Island on the West Shore about a third of the way up. The bay had started to react to what was in the sky, so we went in behind the island and worked our way up this long finger of water.

We were just looking for a quiet anchorage when we came to this yacht club that appeared to be closed up. We tied up and found a lady inside the club house preparing for their season opening the following weekend, Memorial Day. This was at Mathews, Virginia and as we came up the channel the homes along the bank testified to the affluence of these folks who turned out to be the friendliest of all the good people we had met so far along the way. The club Commodore saw us come up the channel from his home and came over to greet us. He drove us to town for supplies and gave us the area tour. He even took us to lunch before we left two days later. During our stay we were invited into their homes and in the "It's a small world" category

we met a retired Sea Captain who had worked with a friend of mine as a pilot down on the Panama Canal. They all got a kick out of the name of the boat after the thunderstorm passed and left 2 inches of rain on their drought stricken countryside. It was a hard place to leave but our Club will be remembered by the burgee hanging in their social room (bar) along with many other from clubs along the East Coast.

Continued next Chubasco...

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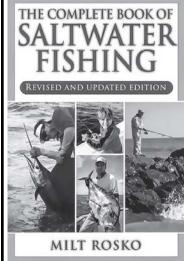
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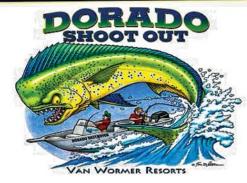
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