



# CHUBASCO

VAGABUNDOS DEL MAR  
BOAT & TRAVEL CLUB

*MEXICO and BAJA EXPERTS SINCE 1966*

VAGABUNDOS.com

ALLMEXICANINSURANCE.com



**SHARK  
DERBY  
SEPTEMBER  
23 – 25, 1977**



**CAPTAIN  
JACK**



# CAP'N JACK SAYS



**Much of the chatter and ballyhoo about the shark and his infamous jaw has died a natural death, and rightly so. However, in the minds of the Vagabundos Del Mar who fish this sleek creature of the deep in Capt. Jack's Shark Derby, he will live on.**



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## VAGABUNDOS DEL MAR

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# EDITORS NOTES

## 1977 SHARK DERBY

On the cover and page two of this edition are a few photos from the 1977 Shark Derby at Channel Islands Marina in Oxnard, CA. Dan Arnold brought them into the office along with many other photos his mother kept over the years.

The Shark Derby was an annual event from 1975 – 1987. Can anyone name the Vags that are in these photos?

## 2023 PHOTO CONTEST

We are accepting entries for our 2023 Photo Contest. We have had many outstanding submissions in the past and are hoping to receive more outstanding photos for our 2023 contest. Our categories are Scenery, Action, Wildlife and Pets. Final submission date November 15, 2023.

We're looking for high resolution, large size digital photos of Baja, Alaska, and other places on Vagabundo excursions or trips, showing people having fun, scenery, wildlife, or whatever you think will make our publication covers stand out. **UNEDITED** Digital color photos saved in JPEG or TIFF format at 200 ppi or higher are best (this does not apply to Camera RAW pics which must be converted to a usable image file format). For those hoping to nail a cover shot, here's a little advice. Pictures submitted must be large enough (Printed Dimensions, NOT Digital/Pixel Dimensions) to either fit in or able to be cropped into an 8"x11" size scene consideration.

Each entry must include a Word document, along with your picture file, stating the category the photo is to be submitted under (Scenery, Action, Wildlife and Pets), location, and photographer's information for photo credit.

Email photos and Word Document to [michelle@vagabundos.com](mailto:michelle@vagabundos.com) or mail them on a flash drive (preferred method) to:

Vagabundos del Mar

Photo Contest 2023

190 Main Street

Rio Vista, CA 94571

Some excellent photos are being submitted. Please keep them coming!

## ROAD REPORTS

Longtime Vag. member George Conlon who lives south of Ensenada forwarded this to Board member Mark Martinez to update road conditions. From Tijuana down Mex. 1 prior to the toll road about 3.5 miles down is a sink hole so you go down to 1 lane each way, the first toll booth is unmanned (free toll). Going down toll road at mile 49, around the Mirador is bridge construction and goes for about 5 miles and is down to single lane each way.

South of Ensenada 3 lanes merge in to 1 lane at around mile 72 & continues until about mile 75. All this said it took about total time about 2 1/2 hours, border through the final road construction. Best time to go south bound would be in the am, as it gets busy around 2:00 pm, going north bound after around 10:00 am. This report was on June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

Gasoline price 21.77 pesos/liter, \$4.85 per/gallon; Diesel 23.19 pesos/liter, \$5.15 per/gallon.

### George Conlon.

I have just travelled from Mexicali to Bahia de Los Angeles and I'm currently in Loreto. The roads are in pretty good shape. Highway 5 is in good shape, a pothole or two but absent are the long stretches of bad road.

Highway 1 to the turn off for Bahia de Los Angeles is fine. The road up to Bahia de Los Angeles is showing its age with a few rough spots.

All the washouts have been repaired. Continuing south on Highway 1 to Guerrero Negro, you still encounter some rough spots.

South of the turnoff for Santa Rosalillita there are sections where potholes (shallow) cannot be avoided due to the narrow road. Slow down and you'll be fine.

## Road report (continued)

Between Guerrero Negro and Vizcaino significant road construction is taking place. There are three long, rough, dusty detours. Each detour is over a mile in length. After Vizcaino there are no significant bad road conditions. There is some repair work going on with flagmen directing traffic, but no problems.

Every military checkpoint we encountered were brief and professional.

Safe travels... Vice President Scott McEwen



Raqueal and Larry's manager Ruth Batista

## FRIENDS OF BAJA

Meet my friend of many years, Ruth Batista. Ruth manages Raquel and Larry's resort in beautiful Bahia de Los Angeles. Raquel and Larry's is a beachfront property and is located north of the village on the road to La Gringa, right next door to Daggetts. Raquel and Larry's offers a small hotel and a wonderful restaurant, Ruth's Cocina. The Cocina is air conditioned and on the second floor of the hotel which offers an incredible views of the Sea of Cortez and the offshore islands.

Ruth is from mainland Mexico, speaks English, and has worked in the hotel/hospitality field her entire adult life. She has been in Bahia de Los Angeles for much longer than she will admit and considers it home. She is a great host and can assist in making your visit to Bahia de Los Angeles special. Ruth is very active in local civic affairs and environmental education for school aged children and the community. She is one of the driving forces in the Sea Turtle Rescue and education, along with White Bay Tours and offers tee shirts and other turtle rescue fund raising items at the Cocina.

During Vagabundos caravans to Bahia de Los Angeles, we always stop by for a group meal with Ruth, a special event enjoyed by all. The caravan camps next door at Daggett's and we simply walk on the beach over to Ruth's. A fun evening.

If you are lucky enough to visit Bahia de Los Angeles stop by and say hello to Ruth, enjoy a meal and buy a turtle rescue fund raising tee shirt. Make sure to say hello from me!!

Vice President Scott McEwen

## YEAR PINS ISSUED

Refugio Carrasco and Dolores Moreno  
25 Years

Jay Conners  
25 Years

Richard Thompson  
20 Years

## VAG'S RECIPE

### RAISIN CAKE

Boil the following for 3 minutes., then cool.

2 cups sugar

2 cups water

2 cups raisins

½ cup shortening

1 tsp cinnamon

½ tsp cloves

½ tsp nutmeg

Add 3 ½ cup flour

1 tsp baking soda

½ cup nuts of your choice (optional)

Bake 30 to 35 minutes in a well-greased and floured pan.

By: *Steve Waggoner*

# CHICKEN CASSEROLE

## For chicken

3 Skinless chicken breast  
1 teaspoon salt  
1 teaspoon pepper

## For sauce

2 Eggs  
1(8oz) cream cheese  
1 teaspoon oregano  
1 teaspoon salt  
1 teaspoon pepper  
1 teaspoon paprika  
oil of your choice  
sliced tomatoes  
parmesan cheese

Cut the chicken into small squares and mix 1 teaspoon of salt and pepper into chicken. Place chicken in 9x13 baking dish, spread evenly on the bottom. Mix all other ingredients in a bowl until smooth. This will be your sauce. Pour sauce over the chicken. Lay tomato slices on top and sprinkle with parmesan cheese, cover and bake in a 350-degree oven for 40 minutes.

**By: Darrell from the *Black Gypsy Draggin' the Shadow***

**We are still accepting recipes for the Vag's cookbook. Please submit your recipes to**

[laurie@vagabundos.com](mailto:laurie@vagabundos.com)

## 2023 CRAB FEED

The Vagabundos Del Mar 2023 Annual Crab Feed and Fiesta Grande was a wonderful, fun filled success. The fun took place once again at the Lighthouse Marina RV Resort in Isleton, CA beginning on May 11-14, 2023. The pandemic shelved the Crab Feed for two years and we were eager to get back on track and have fun with the membership.

Thursday May 11, we enjoyed deep pit bar-b-q pork that was catered, along with pot-luck side dishes. Excellent, tender pulled pork, and who doesn't love potluck.

Friday, May 12, the menu was catered Mexican dinner along with margaritas, very nice.

Saturday, May 13, was the big event, the crab feed. All you can eat Dungeness crab, jumbo shrimp, artichokes, and San Francisco sour dough bread. What fun, shared with nearly 200 of old friends and fellow Vag members. Everyone really enjoyed themselves.

The Lighthouse Marina RV Resort has a swimming pool, cabins to rent and full hook up RV sites. Also, a large club house with a full kitchen is where the meals were enjoyed. Everything was just a short walk to the fun.

The club set up the "Ships Store" where Vagabundos merchandise, books, maps, and other items were available to purchase. The Beer Wagon was open for everyone's enjoyment on Friday and Saturday, water and sodas were always available.

Tradition adhered to, we crowned the "Crab of the Year", during the festivities on Saturday. The Crab of the Year 2023 was awarded to Mark and Faith Martinez, Vag members for many years and always eager to help. Mark and Faith have joined numerous caravans and have led a few as Wagon Masters. Mark is currently on the Board of Directors and is leading a Gray Whales Caravan next February 2024. This will be a unique caravan as it will not require an RV, participants will be able to stay in motels along the way. Congratulations to the Crab of the Year: Mark and Faith!!

I would like to thank all the volunteers, crew and office staff.

We're already planning for next year, bigger and better. Hope to see you there, it's going to be fun!

Vags enjoying the crab feed on back cover!

**Vice President Scott McEwen**

# 2023 ACTIVITES

## Our San Quintin Fishing Tournament has been cancelled this year.

## 2023 ADVENTURE TOURS

**CST#2044242-40**

**PASSPORTS WILL BE REQUIRED`**

### **BAJA EXPLORER 2023 October 10 - November 2**

Wagon Master Vice President **Scott McEwen** is planning to explore the entire Baja peninsula at a leisurely pace, enjoying beautiful beaches, ancient missions, and the welcoming Baja culture. This adventure will include six meals, at least two adventure tours, a guided tour of San Javier Mission and the possibility of swimming with whale sharks. We will visit interesting cities and stay multiple nights to ensure we enjoy what makes them special.

During the trip, we will travel over 3,500 miles enjoying beautiful Baja scenery. The caravan will be limited to eight RVs. By keeping the group size small, we do not overwhelm the local services and campgrounds, and it makes for a more intimate group.

**October 10:** We will gather at the Desert Trails RV Resort in El Centro for introductions and discussions about Baja driving and safety.

**October 11:** Cross the border into Baja Mexico at the Mexicali East Port of Entry. Brief stop in San Felipe for fuel and grocery shopping before continuing to our first nights' lodging in Puertecitos, at Octavio's Camp. Dry camp on the shore of the Sea of Cortez.

**October 12:** Next stop will be Guerrero Negro at Malarrimos RV. We will enjoy a wonderful get-acquainted meal at the onsite restaurant.

**October 13:** We will continue south, enjoy a visit and lunch at the beautiful San Ignacio Plaza before arriving at Santispac Beach, one of the most beautiful beaches in Baja. Dry camp.



**Santispac Beach, one of the most beautiful  
beaches in Baja**

**October 14:** After a leisurely drive, we will arrive in Loreto, our home for the next three nights. We will be welcomed at the Rivera Del Mar RV.

## **Baja Explorer (continued)**

**October 15:** Today we will be transported to the San Javier Mission where we will learn the history of the mission and about the local flora and fauna by a docent guide. Afterwards, we will visit a goat farm where we can milk a goat and purchase goat cheese. Then to a local working rancho and an authentic homemade Mexican meal. This is a special day to be enjoyed by all.



**San Javier Mission, Loreto, Baja Sur**



**300-year-old olive tree behind mission**

**October 16:** Free day to explore beautiful Loreto and catch up on some chores. That evening we will be transported to a favorite restaurant for a group meal, and maybe a margarita, always a lot of fun.

**October 17:** We will arrive in the capital city of Baja Sur, La Paz. We will stay at Campestre Maranatha RV. Campestre Maranatha is a well-equipped RV campground with a beautiful swimming pool and coffee shop.

**October 18:** Afternoon city tour of La Paz and a wonderful group meal on the La Paz Malecon.

**October 19:** Continuing southward, we will visit Todo Santos, on the Pacific side of the peninsula. We then will continue for a short drive to our next stop for two nights in Pescadero at the Rancho Escondido RV.

**October 20:** Free day to explore the area, visit beautiful beaches and interesting restaurants.

**October 21:** We will continue south, driving through the incredible Cabo San Lucas and San Jose Del Cabo areas, before arriving at Playa Norte RV in Los Barriles.

**October 22:** We begin our journey headed north, return to La Paz and Campestre Maranatha RV.

**October 23:** Return to Loreto and Rivera Del Mar.

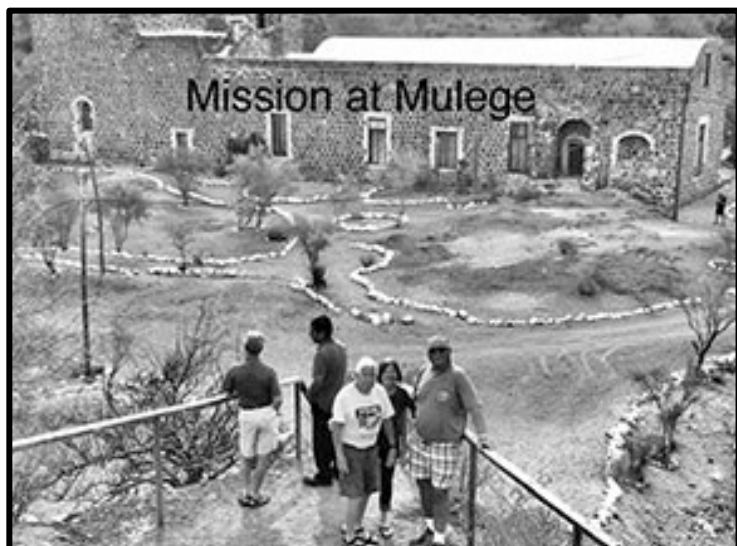
**October 24:** Free day to catch up on some chores and explore the area.

**October 25:** Arrive at Santispac Beach after a short drive. Relax and enjoy this beautiful area. Dry camping.



## Baja Explorer (continued)

**October 26:** We will visit the Mulege Mission and sights of Mulege. That evening we will group up at "Armandos", an open-air, beachside restaurant for dinner. This has always been a favorite event.



**Mulege Mission Baja Direct Caravan 2020**

**October 27:** San Ignacio at Rice and Beans RV. Rice and Beans has a nice swimming pool, restaurant and Cantina.

**October 28:** We will continue our northward direction, and head over to the Pacific and visit Bahia Asuncion, a small fishing village. We will dry camp at Campo Sirena with a beautiful view of the Pacific Ocean and sunsets.

**October 29:** We will return to Guerrero Negro and Malarrimos RV.

**October 30:** Bahia De Los Angeles, Daggetts RV. Beach front camping on the Sea of Cortez. Dry camping.

**October 31:** Today we will enjoy an Eco-Tour with White Bay Tours, exploring the offshore islands and looking for marine life. With luck, we will swim with whale sharks out in the bay, a real thrill. That evening we will walk the short distance to a wonderful local restaurant for dinner. My friend Ruth, who manages the property, makes a killer margarita!!



**Paddle boarding with whale shark  
WHAT A COOL PHOTO!**

**November 1:** The fun is not over; we will arrive in San Felipe and camp at Victors RV. Victors is walking distance to the Malecon in San Felipe with loads of shopping for those last-minute gifts. Victors has a nice beach front restaurant.

**November 2:** Head north towards the Mexicali East Port of Entry. We will be processed back into the USA and gather up to say goodbye.

Traveling in Baja is an adventure, it makes life fun and keeps you young! Everyone is welcome, join us and make some new friends and expand your horizons.

Dry camping means no hook ups. These areas have restrooms, and some are primitive outhouses. Otherwise, each campground will have full or partially full hook ups.

Gas and low sulfur diesel are available throughout Baja.

Fee per rig for two people is \$2,450. Fee due by September 9, 2023. Contact the Vagabundos office **800-47-4-BAJA(2252)** to make your reservation.

# 2024 ADVENTURE TOURS

CST#2044242-40  
PASSPORTS WILL BE REQUIRED

## BEACHES AND WHALES CARAVAN

We will be returning to Baja to explore this beautiful country and interact with the magnificent California Gray Whales. This is an incredible experience. Imagine being able to touch and pet these giant mammals that swim right up to the boat. We will travel out to the lagoon where the calves are born and observe the mothers and babies from a panga boat, an amazing experience. We will also visit missions and explore beautiful beaches, enjoy four group meals (included) and a guided, escorted trip to San Javier Mission near Loreto. This caravan drives at a leisurely pace and makes frequent rest stops. The group is limited to eight RVs, so not to overwhelm to local services.

**February 17:** We will gather at the Desert Trails RV Resort in El Centro, where we will introduce ourselves and discuss driving and safety matters.

**February 18:** We will cross the border into Mexico at the Mexicali Port of Entry (POE) and travel south to San Felipe where we will make a brief stop for fuel and groceries. Our first night in Mexico will be on the shore of the Sea of Cortez in Puertecitos at Octavio's Camp. Dry camping.

**February 19:** On to Guerrero Negro and Malarrimos RV. That evening, we will enjoy a group meal at the onsite restaurant.

**February 20:** Whale watching. We will be transported from Malarrimos out to Ojo de Liebre Lagoon and load up in a panga boat and go enjoy the Gray Whales. This is approximately 4-5 hours in length.



**Gray whale coming up to panga to get petted**



**Mother and baby gray whale swimming beside panga**

**February 21:** Traveling south, we'll stop in San Ignacio for lunch and visit the beautiful plaza and mission. Afterwards, continue south and arrive at Santispac Beach for the night. Dry camp.

## Beaches and Whales (continued)



**San Ignacio Mission**

**February 22:** Arrive in Loreto, our home for three nights at the Rivera Del Mar RV campground. We'll have time to explore this beautiful town with its amazing mission, the first in all of California.

**February 23:** We will be driven to the San Javier Mission along with a docent guide who will describe the flora and fauna and the history of the area. After touring the mission, we will visit a goat farm, then be driven to a working rancho where we will enjoy an authentic Mexican lunch. This is a wonderful, interesting day.

**February 24:** Free day in Loreto to shop and explore. In the evening we will be driven to a local restaurant for a group meal, always fun.

**February 25:** We begin our trek north, arriving at Santispac Beach. Relaxing and enjoying the beauty of the area is in store. Dry camp.

**February 26:** Santispac Beach. Those who want, can head up to Mulege to tour the mission and explore the town of Mulege. That evening we will enjoy a group meal at a wonderful, open-air beach front restaurant, "Armandos". Always a favorite.

**February 27:** Bahia Asuncion, Campo Sirena. Bahia Asuncion is on the Pacific side of the peninsula, a small working fishing village. The campground overlooks the Pacific Ocean and wonderful sunsets. Shore fishing is popular. Dry camp.

**February 28:** We return to Guerrero Negro and Malarrimos.

**February 29:** We journey on to Bahia de Los Angeles, camping at Daggetts Campground. Dry camp.

**March 1:** Eco tour with White Bay Tours, exploring the offshore islands and looking for marine life. That evening we will walk a short distance and enjoy a group meal with my friend Ruth, who makes a killer margarita.

**March 2:** We head to San Felipe; Victors RV. Victors is within walking distance to the San Felipe Malecon for any last-minute shopping. Victors also has a nice beach front restaurant.

**March 3:** San Felipe, relaxing, shopping and just enjoying our last day of the adventure.

**March 4:** Head to the border and back to the USA. After being processed at the US Customs, we'll gather together to say our goodbyes. Always bitter-sweet.

Travel in Baja is an adventure, it's always rewarding and keeps you young. Caravans are a great way to explore and experience new cultures. Our caravan leaders are experienced Baja travelers with years of knowledge, keeping you safe. Plus, they know where the best taco stands are!! Come join the fun!!

The cost per rig will be \$2,115 for two people. Call the Vags office **(800) 47-4-BAJA(2252)** to reserve your spot and pay your \$200 deposit.

# Whale Watching Tour RV & Possible Car/hotel without RVs too!

Mark and Faith Martinez will be leading a whale and beach camping tour February 25 – March 7, 2024. This trip will be open to RVers and those without RV's.

**February 25:** Meet in San Diego (location to be determined).

**February 26:** Cross border at Tijuana and travel to El Rosario (RV lot and hotel available or dry camping).

**February 27:** Leave El Rosario and travel to Guerrero Negro.

**February 27 – 29:** Dry camping on beach at Ojo de Libre lagoon, 10–15 miles south of Guerrero Negro.

**March 1:** Back to Guerrero Negro to stay overnight at Malarrimos campground. (RV full hook-up to dump etc.).

**March 2 – 4:** Leave Guerrero Negro to Bahia de Los Angeles (dry camping) Sea of Cortez side. (RV and Hotel available)

**March 5 – 7:** Leave Bahia de Los Angeles and head to San Felipe Sea of Cortez side. (RV and Hotel available)

**March 8:** Cross back into the US through Mexicali.

Most days are in the vicinity of 200 miles, approximately 5 to 6 hours' drive time.

The administration cost to the Vagabundos is \$450, plus any pre-paid RV/Hotel reservations that would have to be made through the Vagabundos office. All other camping, whale watching, etc. is pay as you go. A \$200 deposit should be made no later than September 15, 2023, to hold your spot and payable to Vagabundos del Mar. Please contact the office for membership and Mexican vehicle insurance (sticking to the schedule, you would need for two weeks).

For any other questions, contact the Vagabudos office and they will forward directly to Mark Martinez.

The last two years that Mark and Faith have been at the Guerrero Negro lagoon has been fantastic. One year we got to hold a cannon ball jellyfish which is not there every year.

Contact the Club for more details. This is open to 8 to 10 reservations. **800-47-4-BAJA(2252)**

Thank you,

**Mark and Faith Martinez**



**Cannon Ball Jellyfish**



**2023 Beaches and Whales Caravan**

## VAGABUNDOS RV CARAVANS

Are you or someone you know a member of a RV travel club or group? Popularity of RV travel has certainly grown in recent years and the number of these fun-loving groups has also grown. The Vagabundos Del Mar travel club can assist your group with planning a trip to Baja and can even provide an experienced caravan leader to ensure a smooth, safe adventure. What better way to enjoy the wonders of Baja than with your group of friends. Contact the office at **800-47-4-BAJA(2252)** for more information or if you have any questions. This can be fun!!!

## MEMBERS SPEAK

### LORETO VAGABUNDO CONCIERGE

I would like to introduce myself, **Howard Winderbaum**, Vags Member for over 20 years and I have a residence in Loreto. I have been visiting Loreto for the past 25 years. I would like to offer to the club members, if you are staying, passing through, or interested in Loreto. I would offer my knowledge and hopefully answer any questions you might have prior to your visit or in Loreto regarding restaurants/bars, shopping, banking, car mechanic, RV sites, fishing, etc. Or any other questions you might have. Unfortunately, I'm not familiar with the hotels/resorts south of Loreto such as Loreto Bay and Villa del Palmar. It is the joy of sharing my knowledge of Loreto to those interested. You may contact me at **310-940-8882** or **h@winderbaum.com**.

## OUR 2022 SAILBOAT JOURNEY

Here is my recount of 7 weeks and over 2000-mile shake-down cruise on Resolute a 2007 J/122. We have horses but I traded in my horse for a sailboat:

We joined the 2022 Baja Ha-ha with myself and a crew of 3 after finalizing the purchase of the boat a week before. Good start to Tortuga with the big blue spinnaker flying high. Calm weather and seas to Bahia Santa Maria. As we left the bay, we had good wind to Cabo San Lucas as we sailed all the way into Los Cabos Marina. We changed crew, and made our way to Bahia Los Frailes, Los Muertos, and to Isla Sprito Santo with good weather. Our next port was La Paz as we said goodbye to Dixie, then it was just the two of us as we returned to the islands north of La Paz and calm bays. Beautiful weather at the Cape and up to islands north Sprito Santo, Partigas with fishing, exploring, snorkeling. It was cruising at its best.

We returned south to Los Cabos where my wife Nancy flew home, and I greeted Gary Clark from TX (He helped bring Medicine Man back from Transpac in 2019 when I had to dive under the boat to cut a net off the prop) for the bash back up the coast. We had calm weather and seas up to Tortuga where the forecast north was 22kts. As we had motor sailed through 20 kts on the way up, Gary needed to get back and we didn't consider it too extreme. We headed up to the south end of Cedros Island on December 7th and noticed in the distance a sailboat close to the island not making headway with calm winds. Just then we heard a distress call requesting help from a frantic young woman. We responded and were informed that they had picked up a fish trap line and tangled it in the prop and were dead in the water.

We approached Motion, a 36' S/V, with Derick and Nicky on board and advised to douse the sails. It was apparent from Nicky's emotional plea; this could end their journey. With Gary at the helm and Resolute circling Motion, I prepared to go in the water with a mask and fins. I dove under the disabled boat and freed up the entanglement. I requested a mechanical verification of the drive system while in and under the water. After the confirmation, I swam over to their stern as they expressed their gratitude. My final statement to them was "Sometimes you just need to COWBOY UP".

### **Sailboat Journey (continued)**

As we continued on and made our way up the inside of Cedros Island, the wind started picking up. We motored across Bahis Sebastian Vazcaino with now 26kts on the nose and 8-to-10-foot seas and a short swell duration. I can recall changing clothes in the V-berth and experiencing free fall as we crested over a swell and slammed in the trough. I would later look back at Gary at the helm as water blasted over the dodger hitting Gary in the face and drenching him. We finally made it to San Carlos at night for anchorage and a good night's sleep. We concluded our trip with Gary in Ensenada arriving at night going through a Christmas boat parade running aground in the mud and with a final side tie at Baja Naval. As we got closer to the port In Ensenada, the radio traffic was unbearable and the VHF radio turned down (this would later be a mistake), Gary took a bus back to San Diego as I stayed with the boat during a haul out for bottom paint.

Nancy joined me again for the trip back to San Pedro where we had an uneventful ride up the coast. That is until we crossed the border. We used the CBP ROAM app to report our entry to the USA as it was acknowledged with a PENDING. Our boat does have AIS but as an offshore racer, there is an unidentified switch at the nav station to disable this feature and unbeknownst to us, it was turned off. So, with no AIS and the VHF volume down to nothing, we proceeded past Point Loma where I noticed on my radar an 85-foot USCG cutter sitting 15 miles offshore at 1:00 at night. We passed the cutter as it followed us about 5 miles off our stern. The cutter stopped and launched a tender where they came up to our stern and requested us to come to a stop and prepare to be boarded. With 4 fully armed USCG personnel, they boarded and proceeded to check the bilge and engine. We were informed that we were under suspicion as our AIS was not activated and there was no reply when we were hailed on the VHF. The boarding resulted in a safety inspection that was completed and successfully passed. We continued on our way and made it back to our home port in San Pedro, California.

This journey resulted in several lessons learned to be added to the docket under "Boating Experience" and if you don't see the local fisherman going out in pangas, the weather may be a little more than you bargained for.

W. Scott and Nancy Wildman  
J/122 S/V Resolute



**Scott and Nancy Wildman aboard S/V Resolute leaving Isla Espirito Santo, Baja California**



**Resolute at anchor at Punta Baja, Baja California**

## **BRINGING YOUR FURRY FRIENDS TO BAJA**

I have been asked many times about traveling with dogs and cats in Baja. I have brought my two little sidekicks with me on a few adventures without any issues. I know people who are regular Baja travelers and wouldn't think of leaving their dog at home. There are a few things to consider when planning on having the company of your furry friends in Baja.

Prior to a trip with my dogs, I visit our Vet and update any needed vaccinations. I ask for an updated printout of their shot record that the Vet is glad to produce. In past years a Certificate of Health was required, but that is no longer needed. I have never been asked for any documentation by either the Mexican or US Customs when crossing the border. The only comment has been, "what cute dogs".

I also purchase from our vet a prescription flea and tick medicine. I have read reports of an outbreak of Rickettsia, spread by fleas, ticks, lice and mites in Baja, mostly in the larger cities. There have been 17 deaths reported, mostly children. That is why I protect my animals with a prescription flea and tick medicine.

I attach identification tags to their collars in the event we get separated. I do not know if micro-chips can be read in the smaller Baja towns, so the tag made at Walmart is a good idea.

I bring my own dog food as my mutts are finicky eaters. Your regular dog food might not be available in Mexico. Dry food is mostly sold from open bags that you have to scoop out into a paper bag.

I was walking my dogs in the campground and met a couple who also was traveling with their dog. They advised me that when in Mexicali, they were issued a traffic ticket because their dog was not tethered or in a crate. They believed this was a shake down and went to the police station where they were shown the penal code establishing the statue. No shake down, fine...\$100.00 US!! I do not know if this is only effective in Mexicali, or the entire State of Baja. Just beware and figure out how to avoid being pulled over. I put my guys in the back seat and raise the center console so they can't jump into the front seat.

My next trip I'm bringing their crates, better safe than sorry. One last observation. There are many dogs running the streets throughout Baja. Not all are friendly and might approach you as you're walking your dog. You have to be prepared. I normally will stay close to where I'm camping, staying mostly within the campground. Some people will carry a walking stick when out with their pooch, just FYI.

I really enjoy traveling with my dogs and will not hesitate to return to Baja with them. Over the course of many Baja caravans, we have not had any serious dog mishaps. They are always entertaining at the campfire and make great traveling companions.

Dogs and kids, always welcome!!

**Scott McEwen**

## **REGISTERING GOLF CARTS**

South Dakota is no longer registering golf carts (low speed electric vehicles) for use in Mexico. They term they use is "low speed electric vehicles."

I checked with several other states, but they require you to appear in person. Then I called the North Dakota Department of Motor Vehicles and they said they would register low speed vehicles if you had proof of liability insurance and paid the fees, etc. I told them I only have Mexican insurance and they said that was no problem. It seems like they are easy-going. They did specify to send a photo of the VIN number. But I think it's best to send as much documentation as possible.

Their phone number is 701-328-2725. Their website is [www.dot.nd.gov](http://www.dot.nd.gov)

They need completed Application Form SFN 2872 (link below) along with a check for the fees, etc. (and they specifically mentioned sales tax).

<https://www.dot.nd.gov/forms/sfn02872.pdf>

**Anna Orozco**

# Spring La Paz Clinic 2023

## Paul and Shelley Boe

Hola Vagabundos,

Our latest spring clinic in La Paz provided the following legs and braces to the people of Baja California:

- 6 Left above knee prostheses
- 3 Left below knee
- 6 Right above knee.
- 3 Left below knee
- 1 pair SMOS (aka ankle/foot brace)
- 1 AFO (aka below knee or short leg brace)
- 1 KAFO Repair (aka above knee or long leg brace)

We had a total of 65 total patient visits and were visited by patients from as far away as Mexicali, Bahía Asunción, Santa Rosalia, and Loreto, to name a few.

I've been retired since 2003, and so I've been out of the loop for quite a while, but I'm pretty sure the value of these systems is over \$200K in today's dollars.

I am hopeful that our clinic can continue, especially with the "new blood." (The volunteers that have joined over the last few years.) One of the new volunteers, Doug Pinkley CPO (Certified in Prosthetics and Orthotics by the American Board for Certification in Prosthetics and Orthotics) has started a 501 (c) (3) in hopes that we can generate some funding to help defray the clinic costs.

Here's how it's worked since 2004:

Volunteers pay for their own transportation to and from the clinic. The La Balandra Rotary Club of La Paz provides the lodging and the daily lunches at the clinic. All other associated costs (meals, entertainment, margaritas, non-recyclable materials for fabrication, etc) are borne by the volunteers themselves. All other parts/supplies are from recycling old prostheses (artificial limbs) and orthoses (orthopedic braces for the back, neck, limbs and head-non dental) that we get from our many contacts in the states.

So, here's my pitch... If one quarter or one third of the folks who are members of the Vagabundos del Mar travel club could donate just a few bucks, we could fund the clinic at least into the 2030's. And even though you may not know me from Adam, I can honestly guarantee that ALL donations, 100%, go directly to the clinic, NO administrative expenses, NO officers' salaries, NO BS, NADA.

If you can include with your donation your email address, Doug can email you a tax-deductible receipt, further cutting down on postal expenses. Please make your tax-deductible check to:

Limb Restoration Project A Nonprofit Corporation  
c/o Doug Pinkley, CPO  
411 12th Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98122-0000



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*Casa 7 Dining Room and Kitchen*

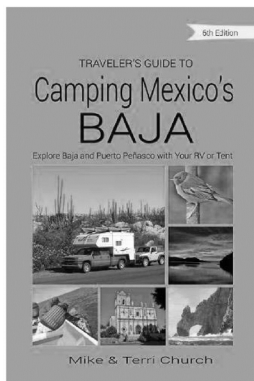
Fishing in the Loreto Bay National Marine Park can be exceptional for migratory dorado, yellowtail, sailfish, marlin and many other resident species.

Diving around the nearby islands is very popular, as well as kayaking and whale watching with several different species. Pangas can be chartered for a delightful day of picnicking and snorkeling. The area has lovely white-sand beaches with several adjoining reefs and numerous tropical fish. Several businesses cater to these activities.

Fascinating side trips can be made to Puerto Escondido to the south and the village of San Javier high in the Sierra de La Giganta to the west. Nopolo is a few miles south of Loreto and has a fine golf course and a tennis complex.



*Casa 7 Living Room and Bedroom in Loft*



Offering invaluable sightseeing tips, advice on fun activities, and detailed descriptions of campgrounds, this grand tour of Mexico's Baja Peninsula provides both RV and tent campers with the best resources for planning a vacation chock-full of beach combing, back-roads exploring, golf, fishing, whale watching, and water sports.

The tour centers around a two-lane ribbon of asphalt winding southward to Cabo San Lucas, from the Pacific Ocean to the Sea of Cortez and back again—and includes important information on border crossings, document requirements, vehicle preparation, and road conditions. In addition to describing the formal campgrounds of Baja—featuring updated maps, recreational opportunities, lists of facilities, and driving instructions—this revised guide also provides telephone numbers, websites, e-mail addresses, GPS coordinates, and picture icons that offer a convenient, quick review of each campground.



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Travel Med Evac Insurance**

As we further develop plans for a wider range of coverage options, we recently enhanced the Travel Medical plan (Hospital of Choice Medical Evacuation and Emergency Medical Expense coverage) to now include Trip Delay coverage which includes a unique quarantine provision. This highly desirable provision is especially relevant given the CDC requirement to obtain a negative COVID test before returning to the U.S. Even more important is the fact there are no infectious disease exclusions in any of our plans – which means COVID-19 is covered as any other illness. The addition of the Trip Delay with the quarantine provision provides a great complement for both domestic and international travelers seeking that added peace of mind when planning a trip.

## **MEXICAN VEHICLE INSURANCE License 0A06282**

As a non-profit social club, we have gone to great lengths to provide low-cost Mexican vehicle insurance for our members, with competitive rates based on the size of our club. We have also insisted on solid claims service, which is really the only reason to have insurance. Our standard annual tourist full coverage rates start at \$186, with a \$300,000 liability. We also have \$500k options. If you want to add special services for uninsured motorist, increased cost of repair, increased medical expenses, the lowest rate annual tourist is \$225. Travel Aid is included in all vehicle policies, Standard or Premier. We also offer liability only starting at \$117 for our annual tourist. The Annual Driver's License Liability Only Policy starts at \$116.54 and Boat Liability in the water at \$150.28 annually. You can find all the details and purchase a policy on the insurance pages on our website [www.vagabundos.com](http://www.vagabundos.com). Please make sure your membership is current. If you need assistance, call Vag Headquarters at (800) 47-4-BAJA (2252).

## **Check Out Our Ship Store**

[www.vagabundos.com/shop/index.html](http://www.vagabundos.com/shop/index.html)

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# CRAB FEED 2023



**Mark and Faith Martinez  
2023 Crab of the Year**



**Director Tony Schuck and Karen Cebrenros**



**President Carrie Wilson**



**Member's enjoying themselves at the  
crab feed**



**Member's enjoying  
themselves at the crab feed**



**Member's enjoying  
themselves at the crab feed**



**Amy Halverson's daughter Leah in the 2023 Crab Feed Parasol Parade**

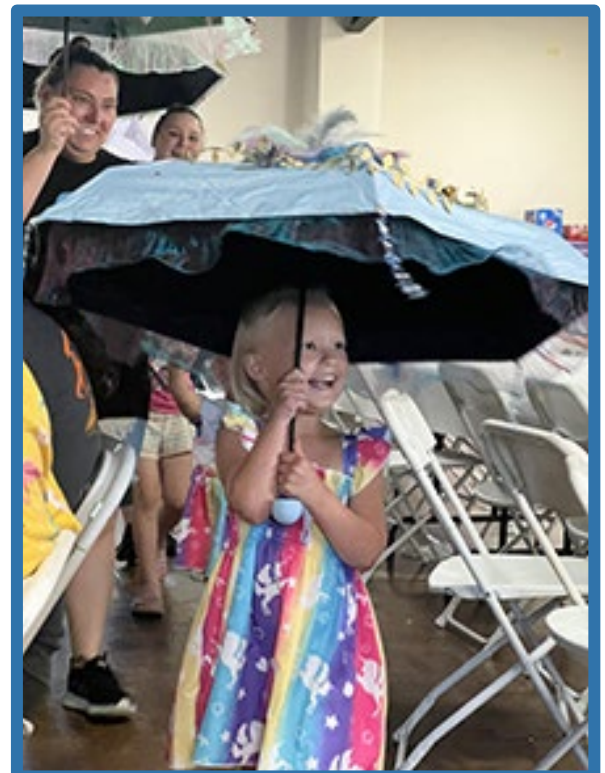
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**Michelle Ralston's granddaughter Freya in the 2023 Crab Feed Parasol Parade**



**Michelle Ralston's granddaughter Elysia in the 2023 Crab Feed Parasol Parade**