

HBSCA NEWS

Hermosa Beach Sister City Association Newsletter
VOL. 1, ISSUE 7 AUGUST 2020



Top Stories in This Newsletter: Let's Take a Look Back in History



History of Baja California



Los quatro libros del Eir
tuofu cavallero Amadis
de Gaula: Comptos.
16th Century Literature
that influenced naming
of California



Co-Founder/Former
Mayor
Jack Belasco



LOVE FOR LORETO FUNDRAISER

In the Beginning... - A Short History of Baja California



"Millions of years ago, the Baja CA peninsula broke off from the mainland of present-day Mexico creating the Gulf of California, also known as the Sea of Cortez. Today, over 2,000 miles of rugged coastlines, lagoons, rocky reefs, and palm oases designate the region where the Baja desert meets the sea. Along with its remarkable biological diversity, the Baja peninsula is marked with unique cultural characteristics. Prior to the founding of the first Spanish mission of California in Loreto, the region was inhabited by semi-nomadic tribes, the Pericu and Cochimi, who lived in the lush canyons of the Sierras de

La Giganta and Guadalupe, living off the ocean and desert." – Excerpted with permission from Eco-Alianza Loreto

"Did you know? When the Spaniards arrived in the Baja California area in 1539, they believed they had reached a mythical island of female warriors governed by Queen Calafia. The earliest record of this myth appears in *The Exploits of the Very Powerful Cavalier Esplandian, Son of the Excellent King Amadis of Gau*, written by Garcia Ordonez de Montalvo 18 years earlier." – From [History.com](https://www.history.com)



Los quatro libros del Eir
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This tale is believed to have been very influential to explorer/Conquistador Hernan Cortez. *"Know, that on the right hand of the Indies there is an island called California very close to the side of the Terrestrial Paradise; and it is peopled by black women, without any man among them, for they live in the manner of Amazons."* Upon landing on the Baja peninsula, the Spaniards believed they had found the island of California!
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Origin_of_the_name_California

In 1930, the Baja peninsula was officially divided into northern and southern territories of Mexico. In 1952, the northern territory of Baja California was granted statehood, but the southern part remained a territory until 1974!

For more fun facts and interesting history of Baja California, visit: <https://www.history.com/topics/mexico/baja-california>



How It All Got Started... - History of the Hermosa Beach Sister City Association

Always wondered about the origin story of the HBSCA? Jack Belasco, former Hermosa Beach Mayor and Co-Founder of the HBSCA wrote a wonderful narrative many years ago and it now lives preserved on our [new "History" page on our website](#). Enjoy!!!

HBSCA NEWS, CONTINUED



A Flying Sportsmen Lodge DC-3, c. 1969, with copilot Guillermo "Memo" Chávez, left, and Bertha and Ed Tabor. Bertha, in stewardess uniform, flew while awaiting the Tabor's first daughter, Susan, who also flew along in a biplane after she was born in 1967. A second daughter, Sonia, would be born in 1978. —courtesy memo.net

The Flying Sportsmen Lodge... -

Jack Belasco's narrative (see story above) of the history of HBSCA mentions the Flying Sportsmen Lodge in Loreto. I, too, have heard many tales of this long-gone landmark and decided to do some digging. Here is what I found (so far...):

<https://www.bdoutdoors.com/flying-sportsmen-lodge-tribute-tenacity/>

<https://loreto-bay-home-rental.com/2019/04/history-of-the-flying-sportsmen-lodge-in-loreto/>

What's in a Name?

Some folks ask why there are so many Loretanos with last names like Davis and Green? According to a story in the LA Times: "Not only missionaries from Spain, Italy, and Portugal, but pirates, miners and adventurers from England and Wales visited Loreto in its early days. Few of them struck it rich, but many stayed. Names like Davis, Cunningham and Green are among the most common names in the Loreto phone book."

Did you know that "Sister Parks" is also a thing? Parque Nacional Bahia de Loreto and Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary are "Sister Parks."

Our own [Hermosa Beach Historical Society](#) posted a virtual presentation of the Channel Islands on YouTube called "North America's Galapagos" based on the book by Corinne Heyning Laverty. [Watch it here!](#) Click on these links for more on the [California Channel Islands](#) and the [Bahia de Loreto National Park](#).

LOVE FOR LORETO (in the time of COVID) NON-EVENT FUNDRAISER Kicks Off This Month!

Hermosa Beach Sister City Association
presents
a non-event fundraiser
LOVE for LORETO
in the time of COVID
SEPTEMBER 16

DONATE

Donate ANY amount! All contributions welcome!

hb-sistercity.org

Donate by September 16 to be eligible for drawings. Winners will be selected September 20.

Donate \$45-99 and you'll be entered to win a beautiful new bicycle donated by Hermosa Cyclery

AMIGO \$45
HERMANO \$60
FAMILIA \$75

Donate \$100 or more and you'll be entered to win a one-week stay in a one bedroom suite at the Villa del Palmar Loreto Resort

PATRON \$100

Our **2020 Fundraiser** kicks off this month! Due to COVID, we are unable to hold our planned Casino Night. But we continue our work with the Loreto Bomberos, Casa Hogar La Esperanza, and programming for our next Student Exchange Program among all our ongoing concerns. We hope you will donate what you can this year; consider what you might've spent if we'd held our traditional fundraiser. Donations in amounts of \$45-\$99 will be entered into a raffle for a Hermosa Cyclery donated Strand Cruiser! Donations of \$100 and above will be entered into a raffle for a ONE WEEK STAY at Villa Del Palmar Loreto in a ONE BEDROOM SUITE! [Donate online](#) or send a check! **MUCHAS GRACIAS!!!**

HBSCA NEWS, CONTINUED



Want more fun facts on Loreto and Hermosa Beach?

Check out Wikipedia on Loreto and Hermosa:

- [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Loreto, Baja California Sur](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Loreto,_Baja_California_Sur)
- [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hermosa Beach, California](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hermosa_Beach,_California)

UPDATES:

- Join us for our September **General Membership Meeting on Monday September 14 at 6:30pm** via Zoom (Details for how to join meeting on Zoom will be emailed.)
- **The Fire Truck donated by Tulare for Loreto Bomberos is in Cerritos** being outfitted with a new battery and hoses and nozzles. Friends of Loreto Foundation Cerritos are waiting on paperwork for permission to drive it across the border so our Bomberos can pick it up and take it home!!!!
- HBSCA purchased **4 Automatic Emergency Defibrillators** as well as **medical supplies** for our Paramedics in Loreto. Additionally, the City of Hermosa Beach donated surplus fire equipment including **Lifting Air Bags and Jaws of Life**. Everything has been shipped to Loreto! Our sincere thanks to Mike Flaherty, Mike Detoy, Paul Hawkins, Mike Garafano, and Nico De Anda for all the heavy lifting to make this all possible!
- **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!

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