

HBSCA NEWS

Hermosa Beach Sister City Association Newsletter



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APRIL 2020

Top stories in this newsletter:



Eco-Alianza Seeks Help for Loreto



HBSCA History: Environmental Convention 2000



DTLA Virtual Tour and History of LA – Hispanic and Asian Influences

ECO-ALIANZA DE LORETO A.C.



Loreto needs help! At the height of the tourist season, global emergency measures to counter attack the COVID-19 pandemic have placed Loreto in a vulnerable situation -- during the peak months that ecotour guides, hotel workers, restaurant workers, and other service workers rely on to put cash in their savings to survive the quiet summer months that typically have few visitors.

Please visit the [Eco-Alianza Webpage](#) for more information on Loreto and what is going on there during the COVID-19 pandemic.

HBSCA HISTORY – Environmental Convention 2000



Did you know that HBSCA planned and hosted the US/Mexico Sister Cities Annual Convention in Hermosa Beach in January of 2000 under the direction of HBSCA President Richard (Dick) McCurdy? The theme was **“Protecting Our Shared Environment”** and included the participation of several environmental groups such as Heal the Bay, Surfrider Foundation, PROBEA, UCLA Science Dept., etc. We invited educational and governmental representatives from Loreto and La Paz, BCS, so they could attend the presentations and various workshops. One of the immediate benefits derived from the convention was the establishment of a one-mile radius maritime protective area around Loreto in the Sea of Cortez, which has since become a much larger Mexican National Marine Park. Jack Belasco called it “the first convention of the new millennium.”

So, the next time you go out on a boat around the Islands of Loreto, and you have to put on a wristband, know that our organization was directly involved in supporting that work! Visit our “About” page on our [website for a “Brief History of HBSCA.”](#)

HBSCA NEWS, CONTINUED...



DOWNTOWN LA VIRTUAL TOUR



On Tuesday, April 7 a small group of HBSCA members took a “Virtual Tour” with Downtown LA Walking Tours. We have participated in their tours before, walking the Downtown area, and learning fun facts and visiting historic sites. But this time, we did it virtually via our computers from home! Our guide, Chris, was very knowledgeable and personable as he guided us through the history of Los Angeles from the Tongva Indians who were here first through WWII. We visited locations from La Placita and Olvera Street, through Chinatown and Little Tokyo. They did this all for free and are offering more free virtual tours that can be tailored to your specific interests! They are selling gift certificates (for future in person use) and taking donations during this time of “Stay at Home”. Check them out at <https://www.dtlawalkingtours.com/>

OTHER UPDATES:

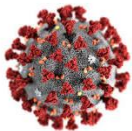


Campaign for a NEW FIRE ENGINE for Loreto – [Pledge Sign-Up Link](#)

We are continuing to raise money to co-fund a new Fire Engine for Loreto! Please pledge to support this campaign today!



Student Exchange Postponed – The 2020 Student Exchange has been postponed from our usual Spring Break time. Our U.S. students and chaperones will travel to Loreto on July 9, 2020 and return with their Loreto *hermanos y hermanas* on July 16. Loreto students and chaperones will be in the South Bay July 16-23, 2020. All of this is, as they say in Spanish, “*Si Dios quiera.*” Fingers crossed it will be safe for us all by then.



COVID-19 Help - If you are a person who is at-risk and would like help with groceries, pharmacy needs, pet supplies, and/or calls of comfort, please visit this [link to a request form](#). You can complete this form for yourself or for someone else. Let’s be sure our community to stays happy, healthy, and safe.



Try Something New – a delicious recipe for “Huevos Mazatlán”

<http://www.mexscape.net/Eggs/Huevos/huevos-mazatlan.html>



El Amigo

FRIENDS OF TAXCO

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still on the web at: <http://www.friendsoftaxco.org>

April 2020

Friends of Taxco, the Canoga Park sister city program, included a brief history of Baja CA Sur in their April Newsletter. I am including it with ours...