

San Carlos Wireless[📶]

“Information for those who wish to be well informed”

FREE

THE DEADLY DOLPHINARIUM OF SAN CARLOS



“No aquarium, no tank in a marine land, however spacious it may be, can begin to duplicate the conditions of the sea. And no dolphin who inhabits one of those aquariums or one of those marine lands can be considered normal.”
Jacques Cousteau

What is it about dolphins that makes people go gaga? Every one has their motives. Suffice to say that their long history of interaction with us land based (supposedly Homo sapiens) mammals has certainly endeared them to us. From classical time to present dolphins have an incredible reputation for being friendly and kind. Just go to youtube and use some key words such as dog, dolphin, save, friend, and cyberspace will provide the rest.

I content that the dolphinarium in San Carlos and the Dolphin industry in Mexico has not returned the offer of friendship to cetaceans. From its inauguration in October of 2006 to May of 2012 ten bottlenose dolphins have called San Carlos home. Four of them have died. Math was never my strong point but a 40% mortality rate, seems high for a facility that has been open for just 5 short years. There are currently no dolphins residing in captivity in San Carlos, lucky for them. Do dolphins live longer in captivity compared to the wild? To answer that questions many variables need consideration but the simple answer appears to be yes and no, and greatly depends on the care captive dolphins receive and whether or not they live in the dolphinarium of San Carlos.

Most San Carlos locals are aware that a group (pod) or perhaps even a family if you will, of friendly wild bottle nose dolphins are permanent residents of the area. No one can tell us how long this group of dolphins have been around but they certainly

predate the town of San Carlos and it is not inconceivable that our local family of dolphins were here before Francisco de Ulloa called the Gulf of California The Vermillion Sea. Can you imagine that? It is likely that family's of dolphins, moms pops aunts uncles cousins and grandparents, all related to each other have been living in San Carlos for hundreds of years and countless generations. Well I guess actually you could count the generations but again lets forgo the math shall we.

According to local Mammalogists, there are anywhere between 14 and 28 dolphins residing in Bahia San Francisco and environs at any given moment. I have seen dolphins on many occasions swim around Bahia San Carlos, were all the sail boats are moored, they are wild and free creatures.

There are not a lot of places in the world were you can virtually guarantee that a person will see a wild dolphin on such a regular basis. San Carlos is such a place. If you haven't seen the wild population of dolphins here then I suggest that you charter a boat rent beg or borrow a kayak or just get down to El Soldado Estuary on any given morning and roam the beach. Ask some of the locals who live out there what time the dolphins have been swimming by. Almost invariably you will find them. Often times on your first try. Back in the day when we were running kayaks tours at the estuary for Club Med one of my guides had the pleasure of watching a dolphin give birth while he was guiding a trip. I missed that one, what I would have given to have experienced it. I would argue that these wild dolphins have become a rather important economic asset to the local tourism industry. Although I absolutely abhor the idea of trying to quantitate what our resident population of dolphins would be worth in cold hard pesos what is impossible to calculate would be the great pleasure and countless memories residents and visitors have experienced by their presence. ...pg.10

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OUR MISSION

The San Carlos Wireless is family owned and dedicated to provide tourists, as well as permanent and temporary residents with accurate information on this incredible area, where desert meets the sea.

We are dedicated to improve San Carlos and help make this town all that it can be. Sometimes that means we will have to report a story, that maybe some people in the community would rather not see it printed. It is our firm belief that reporting the truth is beneficial to the community.

Our goal at the Wireless will always be to promote tourism and the incredible lifestyle that living in a small town on the Sea of Cortes such as San Carlos has to offer. We have called San Carlos our home for the last 23 years, it is a truly wonderful place that I think we can make better. I hope the community will help us doing that!

San Carlos Wireless will have a monthly circulation starting out in black and white with 1000 copies that will be distributed to local sponsors and at other outlets in San Carlos & Guaymas.

Advertising in the Wireless is very affordable. Prices on-line at www.sancarlos.tv Classifieds are US\$10 for 30 words. Advertising deadline is the 15th of the month. Would you like to write an article, submit an Op Ed, or photo to the Wireless? Submit via our email vince@sancarlos.tv

Contributors for this edition:
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Have a question on Mexican Law? Go to our new "Ask Ines Mexican Law Forum" online: <http://sancarlos.tv/forums/forum/ask-ines-mexican-law-forum/>

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NEED A NOTARY PUBLIC? DO NOT USE ONE IN SAN CARLOS FRAUD AND DECEIT IS ALIVE AND WELL HERE

by C. D. Kendall

Whether you were ripped off by Bernie Madoff from his New York mansion or had your signature notarized by the bread-peddling grandma in San Carlos, YOU HAVE BEEN HAD. The only difference between Madoff and bread-peddling grandma is the amount of money involved and the fact that Madoff is in the clink, grandma is still on the street.

Actually, the innocent looking grandma is more dangerous than Madoff. The criminal and civil consequences can be catastrophic; in every state of the U. S. Everything she has notarized is a criminal penalty or civil law suit waiting to happen.

IF YOU NEED ANY DOCUMENT NOTARIZED THAT WILL REQUIRE RECORDING IN THE UNITED STATES, DO NOT USE ANYONE IN SAN CARLOS REPRESENTING THEMSELVES TO BE A COMMISSIONED NOTARY. YOU MAY BE SUBJECTING YOURSELF TO A LAWSUIT AND EVEN WORSE, BEING SENT TO PRISON.

Any person notarizing a document in Mexico whether or not they have a Notary Commission is in violation of Mexican law. They are subject to prosecution for fraud, falsification of a public record (if the document is recorded), for which the criminal penalty may be fine and/or imprisonment under the laws of the state in which the Commission was issued and under laws of any state where the document was recorded. The person whose signature was notarized may also have criminal and civil liability.

If illegally notarized documents are recorded in various states of the United States, Attorneys General in every state will have jurisdiction to prosecute the Notary and you. Also the crime crosses state lines and becomes a federal crime. Most states have a law against falsifying a public record (recording a document automatically invalid because of the Notary's actions). Both the notary and person recording may be prosecuted. There is no Statute of Limitations and discovery of such invalid recorded document may occur years later.

In addition, you (and the Notary) may be held liable for any damages suffered by any person for whose benefit the document was notarized and recorded. Transfers of property, Family Trusts, Powers of Attorney (just to name a few) are automatically invalid.

A notable real estate firm told me that grandma has been notarizing documents for years in San Carlos and they often refer clients to her. Word of mouth also has spread her availability to notarize documents in Mexico for recording anywhere in the U.S.

The Notary's seal is generally a stamp that displays the issuing state seal, Notary's name and commission expiration date. The seal is inked and stamped on the document

being notarized near the Notary's written signature. All seal stamp information must be clear without ink blurs, etc. otherwise, the document is presumed invalid and will be refused for recording. Before allowing anyone to notarize your signature, even responsibility to:

- Check the Notary's Commission Certificate (not a copy);
- Make sure the Commission has not expired. If the Notary balks at showing you the Commission Certificate, RUN.
- Check the Notary's seal and compare the expiration date to that shown on the Commission Certificate.
- If you are not asked for identification or told to complete information needed in the Notary's Registry the red flag is waving again.

IF YOU ARE IN MEXICO USE ONLY THE U. S. CONSULATE GENERAL'S OFFICE FOR NOTARIZING YOUR SIGNATURE ON ANY DOCUMENT TO BE RECORDED IN THE UNITED STATES, or return to the U. S. to have your signature notarized.

Scheduling an appointment with the U. S. Consulate on the Internet is easy. Rescate Directory also has information about the U.S. Consulate.


The nearest U.S. Consulate General's office is in Hermosillo
141 Monterey St. between Rosales & Galeana
Col. Esqueda, C.P. 83000

If you think paying \$50.00 to the U. S. Consulate General is expensive or inconvenient, try having the Sheriff or Federal Marshal show up at your door or being sued because of an invalid transfer of real property. Imagine the fear, expense and grief if heirs of a deceased start suing because notarization on a Family Trust is invalid and family trust properties are subject to probate in the courts. You cannot comprehend the number of lawyers who will suddenly appear and the years of courtroom battle.

Yeah, grandma is more dangerous than Madoff.☹

Information re the writer:

C.D. Kendall is a retired lawyer and has written many legal articles and law columns for newspapers. Kendall was also a Notary Public for many years.

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SPRING TIME FISHING TIPS IN SAN CARLOS

by Brian Replolge

Springtime often means runs to the Island. Often runs of a couple hours through pounding waves and stiff winds, and the water doesn't feel much warmer either. Spring winds are often a reality, so bring a good waterproof spray jacket and maybe even pants. Nothing can ruin a good day like being cold and wet. That is often when the fishing is best, but we also have a lot of beautiful days too, where you can run back with following waves or none at all.

Some of the various weather sites such as buoyweather.com and windguru.com are getting pretty accurate with their forecasts. I like to also get onto eebmike.com to look at local cloud patterns and even a NOAA forecast for the region of the Southwest US if I have concern. It's good to know what's on the horizon, and even more so on the immediate horizon. Look for wispy clouds strung down low for major wind, increased water vapor in the form of a white haze, or even dark shadows caused by dust in the air. Better safe than sorry, and give yourself some time to get in in case a motor goes down (you should have a kicker) or if you need to be towed. Always keep in touch with someone else, bring your phone, all your safety gear, plenty of water, and maybe if worse came to worse camp out at the Island in the lee until morning. For the most part though we live in a very safe part of the sea if you exercise a reasonable degree of caution.

Though the Island is the great producer in the spring, that is not to say that other areas can't be productive too. If fact, that's the one time of year where I have found fish everywhere, but usually not all at once. From Haystack, to all around the Bay and offshore, San Antonio Point and up, and of course San Pedro. In the spring you'll often find the pangas pulling in 40-100 big yellowtails a day. Go easy on the biggest ones as they are usually the fat spawning females. Your personal limit is five, and that should be more than enough. The fishing will stay good into May, when we usually just forget about them, it gets a little hot to jig, and everyone is after the pelagic' (billfish, tuna, and dorado).

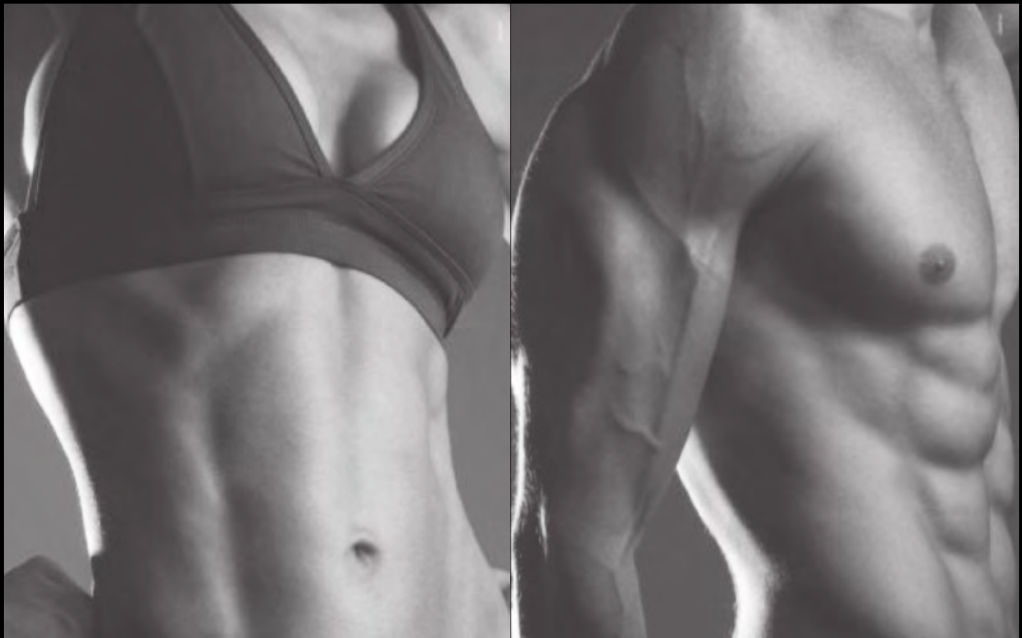
Fishing tactics vary from anything and everything. I've seen everything work, and everything not work. Try to match the hatch, but sometimes they'll hit anything, or something you didn't expect. More mackerel are in the water, so sometimes they'll take a nice big blue or green candy bar when they seem to be focused on small sardines. One day we spent hours trying to intercept schools of yellowtail halfway to the Island before we hooked one on a three inch lure. My wife fought that fish for over

a half hour due to the light hooks, and at times it dove down 600'. Trolling lures can work anywhere at times. A fairly golden rule is that if the fish can't see your lure you aren't going to catch one. Sometimes soft monel wire is needed to get your lines down to the fish. Other times they are right on the surface. Even in close where they will eventually spawn is a good area, and you could get some bonus coco naco (yellow tailed snapper), cabrilla, or even a white sea bass. Watch your rod tip, your lures, and even run a longer leader with a swivel higher up - spring means seaweed and I have a feeling we're going to be clearing the lines a lot this year. If you're lazy, that also means lures not running straight and tangled lines. This definitely takes away from the fishing time and enjoyment.

Finally, spring fishing is not lazy. These are often big fat fish, and they want to go to the bottom. My favorite method for catching fish when they are biting and concentrated down deep is vertical jigging. It can be a lot of work, but when they are biting the adrenaline kicks in and the pain goes away and boy do they fight hard. It is definitely not for everyone, but who said you can't get a good workout fishing. We have a couple Ironman tournaments coming up where we'll do this for seven hours straight! Long light rods with light tips and good backbone are a great asset. A high speed reel with 5 to a 6:1 gear ratio is a must. The experts prefer a variety of speed jigs, with the apex the River2Sea Turkey Slider. Now I've seen the fish hit jigs still when I can't get a bite, so never give up the faith. A fast retrieve is good though. Still, there are a variety of jigs that can be worked slower and be effective. Get a variety of sizes and sometimes you can accommodate the varied skill levels and equipment available in your group, and maybe you'll just stumble onto that magic lure too. Hope to see you on the water! ☺

Tight Lines,
Bryan

Bryan was fishing San Carlos before he could walk. In 2012 he competed in the IGFA world off shore championships in Cabo San Lucas, and last month placed 3rd in Quepos Billfish Cup down in Costa Rica. When he is not on the water trying to think like a fish he runs San Carlos Aquatic Adventures a local fishing charter service as well as selling a piece of real estate every now and again.



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SAHARA TO SAN CARLOS

by Glenn Wakefield

It is April 6, 2013. I am toeing the start line at the Marathon Des Sables, a 152 mile running race in the Sahara Desert, a race known as “the hardest footrace on the planet”. For the next 6 days, I will basically be running one marathon a day, thru rocky canyons, up and over mountains, and thru miles of sand dunes that stretch as far as the eye can see.

On my back I am carrying all my supplies for an entire week of running. I have food; water, a stove, sleeping bag, clothing, medical supplies, exercise and recovery supplements, emergency flares, and even a few treats which I hope will get me thru the rough patches I know are coming.

It is about 120° outside. That’s what I’m most worried about... the heat, that and this 20lb backpack I have to run with for the next week. I’ve done multi-day ultra-marathon races before. But those were luxurious in comparison. Teams of staff would prepare delicious meals, sponsors supplied chilled beer at the end of every day, and masseuses would work on our legs each evening. This day though, this race, I and about a thousand other people from 30 different countries, we’re on our own. We have a hand-drawn map with kilometers sketched in every 10 or so, and a compass. The route is not marked on the ground. I anticipate following footsteps, but if it is like last year, there were 2 days of Sahara sandstorms and no visibility, 150 people dropped out of the race, one man died.

It is those training days in San Carlos Mexico this past winter I will be relying on. All those miles running thru the desert on the single-track mountain bike trails above La Manga, along the 4WD roads north of Paradiso, the quad trails to Nacapule, and even “training” on the beach walking with my dogs.

San Carlos is my winter home like so many other Norteños. I don’t come for the famous sport fishing though. I come for the mountains, and deserts, and trails, and lack of snow. I come for the relatively unknown bounty of outdoor recreation activities such as trail running, hiking, mountain biking, rock climbing, kayaking, and kiting. For 7 years now my wife and I have been making our annual pilgrimage to San Carlos and leaving the cold winters of Utah’s mountains behind... gladly. Were it not for being able to put in many miles of joyful running in the beautiful deserts around San Carlos, I would not be standing at this starting line in Africa, on this day.


When the going gets really rough this next week, and the heat becomes almost too much to bear, I will be dreaming back to those cool winter days of surfing with my kite at the Soggy Peso, and of those world famous Soggy Peso sunsets in the days to come.

San Carlos... San Carlos is going to get me thru this thing. I know it!

I can hear the countdown to the race now.
 10, 9, 8, 7... I can do this!
 6, 5, 4... It’s only a week, and I can head back home.
 3, 2, 1, GO... San Carlos, I’m coming!☺

(Glenn Wakefield wrote this piece shortly before leaving to Morocco for the Marathon Des Sables which takes place annually in western Morocco)

We wish local resident Glenn Wakefield all the luck in the world while he is on his no pain no gain jaunt in the Moroccan desert, the wind will be waiting for him when he returns to San Carlos!



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MEXICO'S DISAPPEARED INTO THIN AIR

From The Economist Feb. 21st 2013,
22:09 by T.W. | MEXICO CITY

MEXICANS have paid a dreadful price in blood and money for the ongoing fight between rival gangsters and the government. The interior minister said recently that organized crime had claimed about 70,000 lives during the six years of the previous administration, which ended in December. But what of those who simply vanish? On February 20th the government said that it had records of more than 27,000 disappeared people. The announcement was made after Human Rights Watch, a New York-based pressure group, published a report documenting 149 cases where security forces had taken people into custody who subsequently vanished. This was only a small sample of what represented “the most severe crisis of enforced disappearances in Latin America in decades”, the organization said. The report detailed cases involving the army, navy and all branches of the police, who were accused in some cases of working in conjunction with organized crime. It said that requests by the missing people’s families to trace them were routinely shrugged off, with agencies failing to carry out proper investigations and sometimes appearing to assume that the missing must themselves have been criminals. It was unclear whether the 27,000 people on the government’s list all vanished during the previous administration, or whether they included historic cases. The list has not yet been published. But previous records of missing people leaked to the press have been a mess of incomplete data, with Mexico’s 31 states using different methodology to collect the information—if they do so at all. Nor is it known how much overlap there may be between the missing people and the many murder victims who remain unidentified. Some places, such as Ciudad Juárez, a northern city

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which saw extraordinary levels of violence from 2009-11, have started to digitize their records of unidentified bodies. The federal government says it will make public its list of missing people soon. If it can come up with a matching list of unidentified victims, families of the missing may at last be able to piece together what happened to their loved ones. After years of increases, Mexico’s murder rate at last began tentatively to fall last year. Enrique Peña Nieto, who became president on December 1st, has tried to move the national conversation onto more positive news. This week’s announcement shows that even if the welcome downward trend in violence continues, the drug war will cast a long shadow over this government—and probably future ones too. ☺

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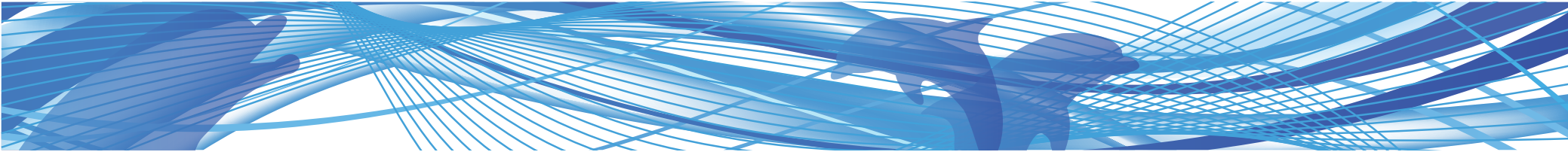


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“The Deadly Dolphinarium of San Carlos” continued from page 1...

So it may or may not be a surprise to everyone to hear this but the state run agency Comision De Ecologia Y Desarrollo Sustentable Del Estado De Sonora (CEDES) (Ecology and Sustainable Development Commission of the State of Sonora) was preparing to illegally capture wild local dolphins from the bay here and stick them in the dolphinarium. This all went down last April of 2012. To even consider such a vile act in itself takes a whole lot of cajones and CEDES did way more than just consider it. The laws that CEDES would have been violating while illegally capturing dolphins are numerous and punitive. This gives one a clear idea of the mindset of CEDES. Ironically, considering their mission, there is no doubt they believed themselves and continue to believe that they are completely above federal environmental law in Mexico. Remember these are the same people who wish to give us a zip line over at the Estero El Soldado, started digging holes for the construction of said zip line and were only stopped at the last minute by out raged locals who filed a complaint with the federal governmental agency PROFEPA (Mexico’s version of the EPA) to halt the project.

The scary thing about the illegal dolphin capture plan is that if it were not for one person, a lone woman biologist who stood up to all the machismo and testosterone that was floating around the dolphinarium at the time, CEDES would have gotten away with it. Why would the agency, that is supposed to protect the environment in Sonora, want to do something so incredibly despicable. Well I think it has something to do with the fact that dolphins in captivity have little to do about “conservation and sustainable development” but a lot to do about money. Entertainment for the masses in the form of dolphins in captivity is an extremely lucrative business in Mexico.

To fully understand the events leading up to the April 2012 plot to illegally capture wild dolphins in San Carlos and enslave them in the dolphinarium we must first go over a brief history of the facility. Why would anyone in their right mind actually want to spend 105 million pesos (thats 2006 pesos) to build a facility like this in San Carlos when we don’t even have major commercial airline service to the area.

It all starts out in 2003 when Eduardo Bours during his campaign for governor made a promise. He even had a telethon to raise money for this political promise. It was called Delfiton Fundacion Bours, there is a video on you tube. Bours was in an extremely tight race for governor against a man named Roman Coral. In order to win votes he promised to start a dolphin therapy program to treat children with neurologically disabilities and Down Syndrome. The treatments would be free to the public paid for by the state. He won the election by the razor thin margin of 0.9%. That decision to build a dolphinarium has been greatly criticized by many Sonorans who claim the money could have been better spend on perhaps a new hospital or in some other way that would benefit a greater part of the general population. The facility was controversial but when you are governor you can pull a lot of strings and you have a lot of control over the media so any dissent is usually swept under the rug and thus the money was allocated and the facility was inaugurated with great fan fare in October of 2006. The official government motto at the time was PROMESA CUMPLIDA (promise kept).

The state run agency CEDES would be in charge of running it. The facility would be stocked with dolphins taken from the wild here in the Sea of Cortes. Capturing live dolphins had been banned in Mexico since around the year 2000 but you could get a permit from the federal government if you could justify a valid reason for the capture. CEDES’ justification to apply for the permit was dolphin therapy and education. An environmental impact study was funded to determine where the dolphins should come from and how many could be taken from a given population so as not to effect its social structure. It was decided that the dolphins could be taken from Guasimas.

An area of the Yaqui coast south of Guaymas. Vicente Fox had just won the Presidential election for PAN. This was the first time in 70 years PRI had lost a presidential election. Eduardo Bours was from PRI. The permit for a live capture of dolphins was denied by the federal government. It was most likely a political decision but there was another factor. It was ascertained that the original environmental impact study that was submitted to the federal government had been altered. The original study had been written based on a capture of 6 dolphins. One lone official working for CEDES upon receiving the impact study took it upon himself to change the number of dolphins to be captured from 6 to 8. When the federal government got wind of this change they denied the permit. The facility was almost complete by the time the federal permit to capture dolphins was denied. Bours and his crew assumed from the beginning that they would easily obtain the permit. Now with the facility almost complete they had no choice but to rent dolphins from an existing company. The profit the dolphinarium could have turned had it been managed properly now would be a huge deficit for the state.

CEDES contracted with a company called Atlantida to supply them dolphins. Atlantida in 2003 purchased 28 indo-pacific bottlenose dolphins from the far away Solomon Islands. The dolphins were delivered to the Atlantiada-owned Parque Nizuc located in Cancun. Tsunami, Azul, Gabutu and Gabriel, the first dolphins to call the San Carlos dolphinarium home were four of the original 28 dolphins that were brought over from the Solomon Islands. In itself the Solomon-Islands capture would become very controversial and sparked international outrage by conservation organizations all over the world. There is plenty of information out there if you punch in the right key words. The man in charge of delivering the dolphins to Mexico for Atlantida was Alex Gómez Rubio. According to Gómez Rubio there is also an equal amount of disinformation regarding the 2003 capture that he was in charge of.

According to the internet at least 12 of the original 28 dolphins died within the first 5 years of their transfer. That is a stunningly high 42% mortality rate when you consider that indo-pacific dolphins can live up to 40 or 50 years in the wild. Alex claims the mortality numbers you find on line are incorrect and that the mortality was no were near that high.

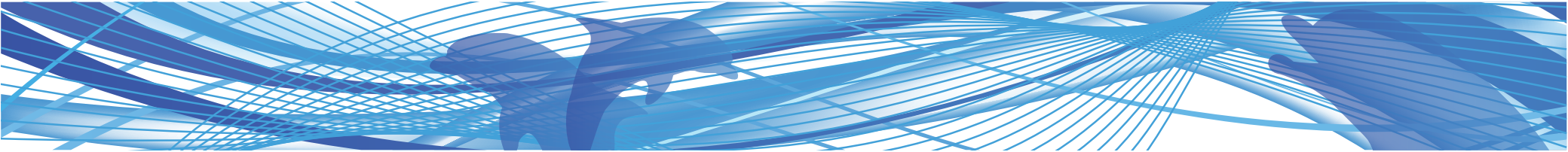
Why would the dolphin industry actually misrepresent dolphin mortality? Especially if they were misrepresenting a number that was higher than the true mortality and theoretically made them look bad.

“You have three big company’s in Cancun, Dolphinaris formerly Atlantida, Dolphin Discovery, and Grupo Via Delphi, they are the three big company’s and they throw shit back and forth at each other and there was one, Dolphin Discovery the biggest of them all was the one trying to ban importation of dolphins into Mexico.” Said Gómez Rubio.

Alex claims that what dolphin discovery wanted was a monopoly on the dolphin market in Mexico. What they did not want was competition from smaller mom and pop dolphin operators.

“They worked with the green party, they had some one in the senate, they threw a lot of money around. They actually kicked themselves in the butt cause they now have so many dolphins they don’t know what to do with them all. Mexico is basically the only country in the world you can’t import or export dolphins.” Said Gómez Rubio.

With remarkable speed, especially when considering the political process here in



the so-called “land of manana”, by 2006, just three short years after the 2003 Solomon Island transfer, Mexico banned all dolphin importation into the country. Wild captures of dolphins had been banned around 2000. What this meant was that if you were a big operation like Dolphin Discovery, the biggest of them all, you had an advantage. You could breed your dolphins in captivity and smaller operations would have a much harder time competing.

The San Carlos Dolphinarium opened its doors in October of 2006 and by September of 2007 Gabutu and Gabriel were dead. Could it have been a stress related opportunistic bacterial infection caused by the trauma of Hurricane Henrietta? Or could it be possible that the dolphins simply received very poor treatment from their care givers. In April of 2007 the facility had a problem with their filtration system and experienced a huge algal bloom. Apparently this algal bloom greatly affected the PH of the water. Maria del Sol Guerra Martinez (Marisol) was in charge of testing water quality and brought this to the attention of Pablo Nelson Garcias Varios one of the head trainers, and right hand man of then director Victor Sanchez. Marisol was instructed by Nelson that in future analysis if the water did not fall within the required parameters she was to change the data. Marisol refused to take part in what was clearly a violation of federal law let alone a complete lack of respect for the health and well being of the animals in captivity and within a month resigned from her job. Gabriel and Gabutu the first two dolphins to die in San Carlos can now be viewed in a more clear perspective. Bacteria, Stress from a Hurricane, poor health care or complete incompetence? Take your pick.

The reality is that we will never know the real truth behind any of these deaths since the small amount of transparency that exists in Mexico’s captive dolphin industry is easily manipulated, distorted and or fabricated. What ever the true cause of death Atlantida, which latter changed their name to Dolphinaris, high tailed it out of San Carlos back to Cancun with their two surviving dolphins, Tsunami and Azul.

This left the door open for another smaller mom & pop operator to get into the picture. Enter Alex Gómez Rubio. Alex just happened to have two therapy-trained dolphins in his operation in Cozumel. Before taking the contract he came to San Carlos and inspected the facility. He agreed to bring his dolphins only if the pool was remodeled. All the fiberglass sheeting that was used in the construction of the pool would have to be ripped out and replaced with concrete followed by several coats of specially designed epoxy paint that is used exclusively for dolphin enclosures. CEDES agreed to Alex’s conditions and on April 30 of 2008 Chirris and Ketsi, two female bottlenose dolphins, arrived. Chirris was captured live from the Sea of Cortes in 2000 (just before the law change). Ketsi was born in captivity in Puerto Vallarta June 7th 2004.

Alex ran a tight ship. With a pool designed for six and only two dolphins to occupy it things went well for the next 18 months. Neurologically challenged kids received their therapy’s paid for by the state and tourists got a new attraction. No dolphins died on Alex’s watch. What no one could have predicted is that there was a serious political upheaval on Sonora’s horizon.

On the 5th of June the unimaginable happened and it happened on Governor Eduardo Bours’s watch. The ABC day care center in Hermosillo caught fire and 49 children between the ages of 5 months and 5 years old died. It appears no one ever went to jail for the tragedy and it was ascertained that those in charge of the day care center may have been well connected to the governor. That information most likely cost the PRI party its first gubernatorial election loss in 70 years. Alex Gómez Rubios contract with the dolphinarium expired in December of 2009. Sonora’s new PAN governor Guillermo Padres decided he could find a cheaper source of dolphins and did not renew Gómez Rubios contract. In December of 2009 when it became clear to

Alex and his team that his contract would not be renewed he started looking for another venue. He negotiated a contract with a facility in Nuevo Leon. When it came time to move his dolphins to the new facility CEDES, now under the leadership of PAN and Guillermo Padres, refused to allow the dolphins to be transfered. Alex had all of his paper work in order but the governor would not budge. The governor claimed the paper work that Alex had was incorrect incomplete ex cetera and refused to give Alex back his dolphins.

When dolphins are captured or born in captivity there is a tremendous amount of paper work that follows that individual dolphin from cradle to watery grave. A small micro chip is also embedded into the dorsal fin of each animal. Alex has been in the business for 30 years and his paper work was in order. CEDES just wanted to keep his dolphins, it was that simple.

While Alex was trying to figure out how to get his dolphins back CEDES negotiated a deal with Dolphin Discovery in Cancun. On the 7th of February of 2010 four more indo-pacific bottlenose dolphins, (Lewis, Marina, Jogo and Vale) joined their eastern-pacific Sea-of-Cortés kidnapped cousins (Chirris and Ketsi) at the San Carlos facility. Now with 6 dolphins it was game-on for CEDES. On the 26th of December 2010 Lewis died. Around the 10th of April 2011 Chirris, one of Alex’s kidnapped dolphins died as well. Why did they die? A bacteria, undue stress, poor management, improperly functioning life support systems, horrible veterinary care, a combination of all of the above? This isn’t a multiple choice test but I would go with all of the above. Suffice to say by March of 2012 Dolphin Discovery had had enough of CEDES and the San Carlos facility. Apparently CEDES, in November 2011, had stopped paying Dolphin Discovery for the rental of the dolphins. As badly as Dolphin Discovery must have wanted to stay in the Sonora dolphin market place, they decided in the end they should cut their losses and leave. With surviving Marina, Jogo and Vale returned to Cancun, Ketsi was left all by herself. Not only would that cause a huge public relations nightmare for CEDES, it would also violate a number of federal laws in regards to dolphins in captivity.

Leaving Ketsi by herself presented CEDES with a rather large conundrum. It is illegal for dolphins to be in captivity alone. If CEDES could not find another contractor to bring them dolphins they would be in violation of federal law. It seems no one in the dolphin business in Mexico was interested in bringing their dolphins to the facility, imagine that. Why would a company bring dolphins here when the state could not (or would not) afford to pay for them. Not to mention kidnap your dolphins if they wanted. Governors have a lot of power and bad news travels fast in Mexico’s dolphin’s in captivity industry.

When Dolphin Discovery, in March of 2012, vacated the San Carlos Facility the Technical Director of the dolphinarium at the time was Marisol Guerrero. She had rejoined the facility in March of 2010 starting her new position just one month after Lewis, Marina, Jogo, and Vale arrived from Cancun with Dolphin Discovery. Marisol was also fully aware that CEDES had refused to return Ketsi and Chirris to Alex Gómez Rubio.

When Dolphin Discovery decided to leave it was Marisol’s job to check the paper work. After reviewing all the permits Marisol ascertained that Dolphin Discovery was in compliance with the law and returned all the paper work back to them. Later that day the director of the dolphinarium Carlos Gonzalez Nemmer called her into his office furious that she had given the paper work a green light. How could she have given Dolphin Discovery’s paper work back to them? It was immediately clear to Marisol that the director fully intended to do to Dolphin Discovery exactly what they had done to Alex Gómez Rubio; to keep dolphins that didn’t belong to CEDES. Marisol informed Carlos Nemmer that she had no choice but to return ...pg.12

“**The Deadly Dolphinarium of San Carlos**” continued from page 11... the files to Dolphin Discovery, they were in compliance with the law. Dolphin Discovery actually had a contingent plan if CEDES refused to return their dolphins. They sent a letter to PROFEPA informing them they had a medical emergency in Sonora and for the safety of the animals they needed to move them immediately. Now CEDES was really screwed. PROFEPA was aware that there would only be one dolphin left in the pool.

By the 3rd of March Ketsi was not only completely alone in the dolphinarium but also when Dolphin Discovery checked-out they took all their dolphin food and their staff with them. That included the veterinarian, another violation of federal law. Two animal trainers from Dolphin Discovery jumped ship and stayed in San Carlos. Marisol and the two trainers were left to try to care for Ketsi as best they could. Semana Santa (Easter Week), the biggest holiday of the year was on the horizon and CEDES only had one dolphin. A huge public relations nightmare. During the busiest week of the year Ketsi would now be required to do the work of 6 dolphins. That would mean 7 work sessions a day of 25 minutes apiece. These sessions included performing in the dolphin show, give swim-therapy to disabled kids and swimming with the tourists who paid extra for the interactive package. And then, after all that, Ketsi would have to pose for pictures as well. All by herself.

One can only imagine the amount of stress this animal had to endure. “For CEDES it was business, they figured as long as the animal could still swim she was ok”, Said Marisol. With no veterinarian around, Marisol sought the help of other veterinarians on line who were specialist in marine mammal health care. Together with the trainers Marisol monitored Ketsi as best they could. During that time she took three blood samples and consulted with vets on line. Analysis of blood samples showed Ketsi’s heath was deteriorating. She was on medication to control a fungal infection and the blood samples were indicating that she might have some kind of liver problem. To top it all off the water in the pool started to warm. As March turned to April the water cooling systems, which stopped working at the end of last summer, had still not been repaired and the Ozone filtration system did not work either. Basically the place was a disaster area. At that point Marisol called a meeting with those in charge at CEDES.

A large part of the conversation dealt with the fact that Ketsi could not remain by herself much longer. Her blood samples were looking bad and part of it had to do with stress from her solitary confinement. She also brought to their attention the lack of a vet on the premisses, yet another violation of federal law.

“They laughed, they made sarcastic jokes, they told me to go to Guaymas and get a vet”. She said.

A week or so later at another meeting, dolphinarium director Carlos Gonzalez-Nemmer told Marisol to stop “stressing out” over this dolphin. If the dolphin died, it would be the responsibility of the governor since it was he who had decided to keep (kidnap) the animal. After that statement it was perhaps a week later that Marisol was called back into the office of Gonzalez-Nemmer. He told her he had just received a phone call from the head of PROFEPA, Alan Munro, in Hermosillo and that two wild dolphins had been entrapped and injured in a net set by a commercial tuna fish boat down off Huatabampo (about 100 miles south of Guaymas) PROFEPA wanted to rescue the dolphins by bringing them to the dolphinarium. Rather astounded, Marisol, a trained and degreed marine biologist, just shook her head and said that could not be possible. Tuna boats don’t fish there. Then Nemmer said, “Oh you know what, it must have been Guasimas” (about 40 miles south of Guaymas). Again, Marisol commented that he had to be mistaken because commercial tuna boats would never be fishing in those areas. “So, how about Topolobampo?”, said the director He was obviously testing the waters to see if he could get Marisol to go along with a newly formed plan to illegally capture wild dolphins and take them to the San Carlos facility. Finally, Marisol said “Well, let’s just call up Alan Munro from PROFEPA and ask him were these dolphins are located since you can’t remember, and I will also call Dr. Juan Pablo Gallo, a local marine

mammalogist at CIAD, and we will go investigate it.” At that point, González-Nemmer said “No, no, no, we don’t want to talk about this to anyone, but if we did do a rescue, how would we bring them into the facility”. Undaunted, Marisol stood her ground and said that in no way, shape, or form could you bring an injured dolphin into the dolphinarium, because that would constitute an illegal capture and she would not sign off on it.

The only way that they could even consider it would be to have officials from PROFEPA present with qualified vets who could examine the animals and determine if they were truly in need of a rescue. Nemmer didn’t want to take no for an answer. “Well how about I just show up with some dolphins here what about that?” Again Marisol explained that dolphins captured in the wild remain quarantined around 10 days before they are transfered to a facility. If you took a few dolphins from the wild and simply dumped them in the dolphinarium immediately you could put them into shock and they could quite conceivably die and or infect Ketsi with a virus or bacteria. “What about we set up a corral for the dolphins over at El Estero del Soldado?” continued Nemmer. Marisol responded, you couldn’t just set up a dolphin corral in the estuary, it was a national park. The conversation never seemed to end. Nemmer asked Marisol if she knew a man named Chuyin Velarde. She did indeed, apparently Chuyin Velarde didn’t have a problem trafficking marine species. Nemmer told Marisol that Velarde was willing to help CEDES with their problem.

About 5 days after this conversation Marisol walked out of her office and noticed a maintenance worker cleaning equipment not normally found at the dolphinarium. There were stretchers, nets and carrier boxes, All the gear one would need to go bottlenose dolphin fishing. Marisol asked the worker what he was doing. He was told to clean the gear tomorrow they were going out to use it. Chuyin Velarde was in town. At this moment Marisol furious that CEDES was actually going to go through with this insane plan immediately sent an email to Carlos Gonzalez Nemmer demanding to know what was going on. She got no reply.

The next morning when Marisol arrived to work she finally met Chuyin Velarde along with a few other fisherman standing on the ramp at the dolphinarium. They were preparing to go fishing for bottlenose dolphins. Marisol confronted him immediately, “ I walked right up to him and said you must be Chuyin Velarde, It is a pleasure to meet you, can you tell me what it is you are about to do?” Why do you want to know that? retorted Velarde. “I am the technician in charge here.” said Marisol. This is interesting said Velarde. Marisol asked him directly if he already had the dolphins in a net stashed some where. Her fear was that the dolphins had already been captured and placed in some clandestine location. He said he didn’t know what she was talking about. He was just waiting for Carlos Gonzalez Nemmer the director of the dolphinarium to show up.

“I asked him again do you have the dolphins already captured somewhere? He said to me what dolphins? I don’t know what you are talking about. I said what are the nets boxes and stretchers for? Are you going out to catch butterfly’s? I said to him I would just like to remind you that what you are about to do is illegal. He said to me you biologists and ecologist’s think you know everything but you don’t know anything, laws were made to be broken.”

As the conversation went back and forth finally the director of the facility Carlos Gonazalez Nemmer arrived. His face turned pale when he saw Marisol questioning his team of dolphin thieves. “He asked me what I was doing here, I told him that I was just asking Chuyin what was going on and waiting for him to arrive. He grabbed me by the arm and pulled me aside and said I have fucking had enough of you, get in line or get the fuck out!” said Marisol. He then ordered Marisol to his office where he explained that Chuyin Velarde had been brought here to protect our wild dolphins in the bay from local fisherman who might trap them in nets and then shoot them. Marisol explained to Nemmer that in her 20 years of experience as a biologist she had never seen a fisherman shoot a dolphin. As Carlos Gonzalez Nemmer continued to try to cover his ass by spewing a ton of bullshit to Marisol the phone rang. The phone call was most likely from someone in CEDES in Hermosillo. Nemmer told Marisol that PROFEPA in Mexico City had received an anonymous report from a local NGO in

Guaymas that the dolphinarium was preparing to illegally capture wild dolphins. The jig was up.

That was pretty much the end of that day. The very next day PROFEPA inspectors from Mexico City, not the state run PROFEPA in Hermosillo, showed up to inspect the facility. In an unbelievably huge tactical blunder Chuyin Velarde and the idiots in charge of CEDES had not removed all the gear that was to be used to illegally capture dolphins. The nets stretchers and boxes were still there. CEDES had been caught red handed. Inspectors also noted that there was no veterinarian on the premisses, Ketsi was alone in the tank, the cooling system for the water was nonfunctioning and was indeed to hot. The ozone filter was not 100% either. It was determined by PROFEPA that Ketsi would have to be moved immediately form the facility. Five days later the temperature of the water had risen to 90 degrees Fahrenheit and Ketsi had still not been transported. Someone had the bright idea to try to cool the water with ice. Two hundred bags of ice were purchased and brought to the facility. When Marisol came to work and saw the ice her immediate comment was “who is the idiot responsible for this idea”. Chuyin Velarde now contracted by CEDES not to be out done replied to Marisol that he thought it was her idea. Apparently the director of the facility ordered the ice. “If they would have brought perhaps 3000 bags of ice they might have actually affected the temperature”. said Marisol. She took out her smart phone and took a few pictures. She was immediately called to the office of Nemmer and told to delete the pictures. Marisol told Nemmer the ice idea was idiotic, his response, well how do we fix this then. Marisol responded, “This can not be fixed, if you don’t get Ketsi out of here she is going to die, what don’t you get about this?”

That was the straw that broke the camels back for Carlos Gonzalez Nemmer. It was the 10th of May and not only was Marisol fired that day she was also told that she was going to be sued for leaking information to PROFEPA about their little dolphin capture program. When CEDES fired Marisol, by law they had to immediately hire another technical director to replace her and notify PROFEPA as well that she had been replaced. CEDES did neither. Marisol the moment she was fired advised PROFEPA that she was no long working for CEDES to cover herself. Around the 15th of May PROFEPA made another surprise inspection of the facility. The inspectors asked to see the technical director Marisol. They were told she was on vacation when in fact she had already been fired, another violation of federal law. PROFEPA having already been informed of Marisol’s dismissal thus caught CEDES and their Director in yet another lie.

On the 27th of May PROFEPA finally showed up to transfer Ketsi to another facility in Cancun. When Marisol returned for her severance pay several weeks after being fired she was handed a check for 1500 pesos. Well below what CEDES legally owed her. The story had now changed and CEDES claimed that she quit voluntarily and so the 1500 pesos check reflected that. Marisol is currently suing CEDES.

There are no dolphins residing in our wonderful dolphinarium by the sea here in sunny San Carlos as we go to print with this story. CEDES has claimed that soon they will have the place up and running again. After reading this can you really trust anything that comes from them? I also have to think that it is highly possible that the now federally run PRI government in Mexico City might deny the permit to allow the PAN run dolphinarium to open up again. I would argue that this facility might be better served as something else entirely. To sum it all up 4 out of the 10 dolphins that have lived here between the years of 2007 and 2012 have died. I would contend that all of those deaths could have been avoided with proper oversight. I do not know what goes on at other facilities in Mexico but based on what I have learned in Sonora I think Mexico and most definitely San Carlos could do quite well without dolphinariums. Perhaps the San Carlos facility should be forever closed to dolphins and reconverted into an aquarium. Definitely take it out of the hands of the state and privatize it!

I would like to specially thank Marisol for standing up to governmental corruption. I am confident that if CEDES would have had one of their cronies as Technical Director of the facility, they would have certainly captured local bottlenose dolphins and put them in the dolphinarium. With CEDES running the show in my humble opinion that would have been a death sentence for Ketsi as well as any other dolphins

that might have joined her.☹

What do you all think of the dolphinarium now?

I am very much interested in what San Carlos thinks on this subject. Has this article changed your opinion on dolphins in captivity? Would you still consider going to the facility knowing what you now know? please go to www.sancarlos.tv look for this article on the link FRONT PAGE STORIES and please join the dialog.


DOLPHINARIUM TIMELINE

October of 2006:	PRI Governor Eduardo Bours inaugurates dolphinarium. Four dolphins arrive from controversial 2003 Solomon Island capture.
May of 2007:	Maria del Sol Guerra Martinez(Marisol) resigns for refusing to falsify water quality assays at dolphinarium.
September 2007:	Two dolphins Gabutu & Gabriel die other two are transported back to Cancun
April 2008:	Alex Gómez Rubio receives contract, two bottlenose Chirris & Ketsi dolphins arrive from Cozumel.
December 2009:	Guillermo Padres wins Election, CEDES kidnaps Chirris & Ketsi, legal battle begins. Carlos Gonzalez Nemmer is Director of facility.
February 2010:	Dolphin Discovery from Cancun receive contract. Four indo pacific bottlenose dolphin Lewis, Marina, Jogo, & Vale arrive. Six dolphins now occupy facility.
March 2010:	Maria del Sol Guerra Martinez(Marisol) takes position as technical director of dolphinarium
December 26th 2010:	Lewis one of Dolphin Discovery’s dolphins dies
April 2011:	Chirris one of Alez Gómez Rubio’s two kidnapped dolphins dies.
November 2011:	CEDES stops payments to Dolphin Discovery
March 3rd 2012:	Dolphin Discovery returns to Cancun with their three remaining dolphins, Leaving Ketsi the kidnapped dolphin all by herself. CEDES is now in violation of several federal laws.
April:	CEDES formulates plan to illegally capture wild dolphins from the bay here in San Carlos. Cooling systems have not worked since the end of last summer. Marisol is pressured by Director Nemmer to sign off on illegal plan to capture wild dolphins.
May 5th:	Ketsi remains alone at dolphinarium. CEDES attempts to enact plan to capture wild dolphins from San Carlos with the help of Chuyin Velarde.
May 6th:	PROFEPA inspects dolphinarium and finds many violations of federal law including equipment used to illegally capture dolphins.
May 10th:	Marisol is pressured to resign by Carlos Gonzalez Nemmer accused of being a whistle blower fired.
May 15th:	Water in the pool at dolphinarium rises to 90 degrees F. Ketsi is in danger of dying.
May 27th:	PROFEPA officials from Mexico City confiscate Ketsi and return her to Cancun.

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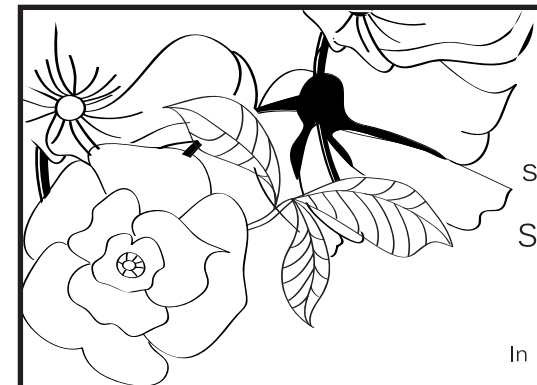
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THE SIGN FAIRY
OF SAN CARLOS

“Oh, sign, sign everywhere a sign
Blocking up the scenery,
breaking my mind
Do this, don't do that,
can't you read the sign”

By Lee Emmerson
performed by 5 man electric band

I know it is not only me who has noticed all these wonderful new signs all over San Carlos telling you were certain restaurants night clubs and tourist destinations are located. My favorite is the combo ESTERO DEL SOLDADO, DELFINARIO, CERRO TETAKAWI sign. The one as your coming into town from the highway. It is on the right side of the road and directs you to turn right to get to the estuary and dolphinarium. They did get one out of three right on that one. The TETAKAWI is straight ahead. The best part of that sign is the plastic bag somebody taped to it to cover up the arrows. Rather than get a 1/2 inch wrench out and just take the bloody thing down they went with duct tape and plastic garbage bag. They most likely didn't have the 1/2 inch wrench handy. Totally understandable and I give whoever did it an A for effort.

El Cerro Tetakawi, as if you couldn't just look up from damn near any vantage point in San Carlos and have it staring you in the face. El Cerro Tetakawi is about the only place in San Carlos you don't need a sign to find. And about the only place you can't see the Tetakawi from is when your 40 feet underwater sucking on scuba tank at martini cove playing with a pulpo.

I will give them this, that part of the sign is right on the money; El Cerro TetaKawi is in fact straight ahead as indicated. One can actually look at the mountain and the sign at the very same moment. A great feat of highway engineering and sign esthetics all melding into one of the most perfect sign placement achievements of the whole Fabio Beltrones Boulevard! Sign placements like that don't happen on accident.



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As of this printing we at the Wireless are still trying to get to the bottom of our burning desire to have this simple question answered. Who is the sign fairy? One vendor we spoke with, Magua from Picolos restaurant who by the way has no idea why she got a sign with her restaurant's name it, commented to us "I think it is unfair that some of the oldest restaurant's in town such as Rosa's Cantina and Blackies, that have been in business for a long time were not given their own signs as well".

Tony from Tony's place also commented to us, "I feel like the people who decided to put up these signs must not like me since no one ever asked me if I would like a sign for my business".

Magua, an investigative reporter after my own heart, actually spoke with the new mayor of Guaymas Otto Claussen and asked him directly why she got a sign and others did not. The reply? Apparently this was a state government decision. Which really sucks for us since that means yours truly now has one phone call less to make to the city of Guaymas and several phone calls to make to the state government to see if we can ascertain the identity of the sign fairy of San Carlos and ask him, or her sorry Ines, was there any criteria for choosing who the sign fairy shinned upon and who they did not? There are also several of these blue signs in Guaymas as well. When we have gotten to the bottom of this I will certainly let you all know! But for now those who got signs should thank their lucky stars, or fairy's.☺



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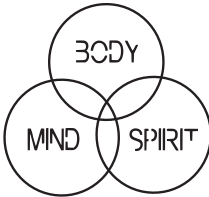
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WHY & HOW GUAYMAS SHOULD BREAK AWAY FROM GUAYMAS

by Alex Calvo

Have you been to Puerto Vallarta or Cancun? Perhaps Los Cabos, Tulum, or Mazatlan? What about Puerto Peñasco? Odds are many of you have been to one of these towns. Do you know what the big difference is between San Carlos and any of these world-class resorts? Beauty? Definitely not because we have it; Beaches? No, we have beautiful beaches. So, really the main difference between these developments and San Carlos, is that they are their own “municipios” or in English incorporated.

San Carlos is in the municipio of Guaymas which means Guaymas owns San Carlos. That means San Carlos has no administrative or legal autonomy and does not enjoy self-determination over their own budget policies, projects and programs that enable self-sufficiency and mainly the progress and welfare of its inhabitants.

So now many are wondering, what are we waiting for or what do we need to do to get that autonomy? Well, it's very simple but also complex. First of all, INFORMATION is required: we need to disseminate information that allows the society to be well aware of the benefits and of course, the obligations to incorporate. UNITY: Everyone needs to get on the same page which is no easy task. People have their own special interests, ambitions, plans. It is not so easy for people to unify for their own collective good. ORGANIZATION: If we could ever achieve unity then the hard work of devoting TIME and COMMITMENT to the project begins. Incorporation will require many hours of work by many people. FINANCIAL RESOURCES will also be needed to handle and manage the whole process. But the most important thing of all, WILL, the will of the general population. Apathy is our main enemy; we always expect others to do things for us.

Quite often, I have asked myself why San Carlos has not incorporated? The answer lies in the lack of all of the items listed above. And we could add a few more, like fear, and lack of creativity. Does San Carlos full fill all legal requirements to incorporate? The answer to that question is Absolutely and completely yes!!!

First of all, we must understand the geographic boundaries that encompass the new Municipio of San Carlos. The geographic area of San Carlos does not just start at the Fiesta Hotel and run west to La Manga and north to Los Ranchitos. No, its boundaries are enormous and reach far beyond that!. Get ready for this. San Carlos stretches from La Manga to Los Ranchitos and then continues east past the estuary El Soldado to Ejido Buenos Aires then continues east to Santa Clara, La Cuadrita, La Resvalon, Ejido San Jose. From San Jose it stretches to Empalme. North from Santa Clara it stretches as far as Ejido Sahuaral, almost to Hermosillo.

Sonora consists of municipalities that exist today and that are erected on the basis of electoral districts. You cannot alter district divisions. That is, for example, the town of Guaymas, not all of it, but most of it, belongs to the Local Electoral District XIII and also is part of the Federal Electoral District 04; for this reason, the current comisario in San Carlos is part of the XIII Local District, and the Federal District 04. If San Carlos were become its own municipio, the law states that the new municipality of San Carlos would be part of the Local Electoral District XIII and the Federal Electoral District 04.

Article 64 of the Constitution of the state of Sonora, states that the creation of municipalities, their new boundaries and limits of the existing ones are subject to the requirements of the Constitution. Article 64 of the Constitution of the State of Sonora establishes the powers of the State Congress, the point at hand, is located in subsection XII, which empowers Congress to erect new state municipalities within the boundaries of existing ones; Here are the requirements for that to happen.

a) That the territorial portion in question has a population of at least ten thousand inhabitants.

b) Show to Congress that it has fulfilled all requirements to provide for is political existence. In other words can San Carlos pay for itself to exist.
c) File a petition to grant to the city or municipalities concerned the right to be heard within a period of two months from the day they receive the respective communication about incorporation.
d) The latter report must be filed within sixty days of the date it has been applied.
e) That the creation of the new municipality is approved by two-thirds of the Members of Congress.

Let's start off with population. Does this enormous area that would become the municipio of San Carlos have 10,000 inhabitants? It probably does but if it does not what then? Here is where political will comes in. The following table shows a portion of the population census of 2010 by the National Institute of Statistics and Geography INEGI.

clave	Municipio	Cabecera Municipal	Population (2010)
041	Nacozari de Garcia	Nacozari de Garcia	12 751
042	Navojoa	Navojoa	157 729
043	Nogales	Heroica Nogales	220 292
044	Onava	Onava	0 399
045	Opodepe	Opodepe	2 878
046	Oquitoa	Oquitoa	0 443

We have not included the whole table in print if but if we had you would see that 50 of the 72 municipalities that currently exist, do not comply with a population of ten thousand inhabitants. That is, 69.44% of the municipalities do not comply. There are extreme cases, such as Oquitoa with 443 inhabitants, and even more so is the case with 399 inhabitants of Onavas. These areas have less than 500 people yet they have their own municipio.

In Sonora 36 municipalities have less than 5000 inhabitants, 30 fewer than 2000 inhabitants, and 9 have less than a thousand residents. The Sonoran state constitution establishes the power of the State of Sonora to abolish these municipalities for lacking the elements necessary to be their own municipios but they have not done so.

In any case, the number of people, and the ability to generate resources, for the Municipio of San Carlos, would be greater than 70% of the municipalities that already exist in Sonora.

In our case, the number of people in San Carlos may be obtained by simple calculations that are perfectly measurable by looking at registered voters. San Carlos has 3 electoral districts (1082, 1083 and 1090) Section 1082 has a list in its electoral boxes of 1,946 voters and is located in the vicinity of Ranchitos usually installed in the Cuauhtemoc elementary school. Section 1083, is located in Santa Clara, has a voter registration list of 1,535 and is located in their Kindergarden and section 1090 has 1,575 voters and is located in San Jose de Guaymas.

These electoral sections, allow us to know that they accumulate a total of 5,056 voters overall, which equals residents living here. The nominal list includes the average 68.37% of the population, because the rest are underage children who have not yet been registered in this governing body; which means that there should be around about 7,395 inhabitants within the demarcation of the San Carlos Municipio.

Now this population data is from 2010. Assuming an annual growth rate of 1.46% (i.e. eliminating deaths), we can assume, now in 2013, San Carlos has 7,723 inhabitants.

To this total must be added all foreigners since by law foreigners with temporary or permanent residency visas are considered as inhabitants. That means that any foreigner living in San Carlos simply prove residence and they would count as inhabitants. How many are there? There must be at least 1,000 and those numbers could be verified by immigration.

Continuing with the analysis of the requirements Point "b" from above. San Carlos must establish proof before the State Congress that is has resources necessary to provide for its political existence. You bet San Carlos does and Guaymas would hate to see all that revenue which they never give back to San Carlos go out the window. All of the taxes from San Carlos go to Guaymas at the moment and what comes back is not much. San Carlos generates equity of over 25 million pesos in property taxes, transfers of ownership, rights and permissions. It has additional potential to generate considerably more. Other taxes such as 2% lodging, federal maritime zone operation, money form sport fishing permits could be requested, sectorial permits, et cetera.

The people of San Carlos, also generate a whole host of activities imposed by business professionals, commercial and private business ownership, both individuals and corporations in all forms of tax systems generate tax, the tax base and the range of taxes is varied, just to mention some as the Income Tax (ISR), taxes on the Work Product (ISPT), Value Added Tax (IVA), and licensing procedures for operating permits and renewals of establishments, renewals Alcohol licenses, health licenses, permits for street sales, street vending permits, permits for holding mass events, among others.

In the vehicular and automotive category, driver's licenses, license plate renewal, tenure, ownership changes, traffic tickets, to name the most common. If to all that conglomeration of income shares are added from state and federal funds, I estimated an annual budget of no less than 75 million pesos.

With respect to "c" and "d" above, which states that the city councils or municipalities concerned are granted the right to be heard and the governor must reply within the period of two months from the day they receive the respective communication from the new Comisaria building in San Carlos. San Carlos would also have to respect the right of an audience with the Municipality of Guaymas. In other words the Mayor of Guaymas would come to the new government office in San Carlos and argue that San Carlos cannot truly be incorporated because then Guaymas would not get all of our tax revenues. At that time San Carlos would simply have to generate sufficient response to any disagreement that may be presented by Guaymas by saying sorry guys but we are tired of you guys sucking us dry and would really like to improve our town and the only way to do it is to break the chains that bind us. Adios Guaymas.

Point "e" San Carlos would have to do the necessary lobbying to secure a yes vote by two thirds or 22 of the 33 members of the State Congress. We all know how the two Guaymas representatives would vote on that one.

While the lobbying process goes on the following things must be taken into consideration with short, medium and long term goals be set to insure the following:

- Offices where you will install and operate the New City Hall
- Municipal and Sanitary Control
- Local law Court
- Police Department and Delegations
- Administrative Delegations in different populations (you have to understand that those who previously were delegations would become comisarias, such as San Jose, and those that were villages would become Delegations which would require San Carlos to offer basic services, such as security, garbage collection, public works, etc).
- Fire dept.
- Red Cross (Rescue)
- Clinics and at least one General Hospital (medium and long term)
- Civil Protection

Imagine a San Carlos that would get to keep all of its tax revenues. Imagine bilingual police, public bath rooms, palapas on public beaches. Imagine enforcement of building codes on main boulevard. Imagine if San Carlos could be in charge of Semana Santa and actually take control over the nightmare that each year we must deal with. For all the Mexican Nationals out there realize this. As it is now there are only around 5,700 voters here. Guaymas politicians do not care about mexican voters in San Carlos, San Jose or Santa Clara. They do not have to. With 150,000 residents in Guaymas the candidates for mayor virtually never come here and campaign, they don't have to. A candidate from Guaymas for mayor could lose ever single vote that San Carlos, San Jose and Santa Clara has to offer and still become mayor. In the end San Carlos will never be all that it can be if it remains a belonging of Guaymas and unable to control its own destiny.

An autonomous San Carlos would mean access to resources for different programs that until now only Guaymas can take advantage of. Like the malecon and the cruise ship terminal, that has benefited virtually no one but the Holland America Cruise Line. Autonomy would mean access to financial institutions, and funding that would allow for development and job creation that would spill over to the economy and the entire municipality.

The road is long, but not impossible. How long it would take depends on ourselves and acquiring at least 22 of 33 votes in congress. For San Carlos to incorporate will take work and dedication but it is completely achievable, the main thing is the unity of the social base. San Carlos, Santa Clara and San Jose must all support each other. Old habits must be broken and personal interests must be put aside. This may prove to be the most difficult of all.☺

For the full unedited version of this story in Spanish go to www.sancarlos.tv and click on the link RECENT NEWS.

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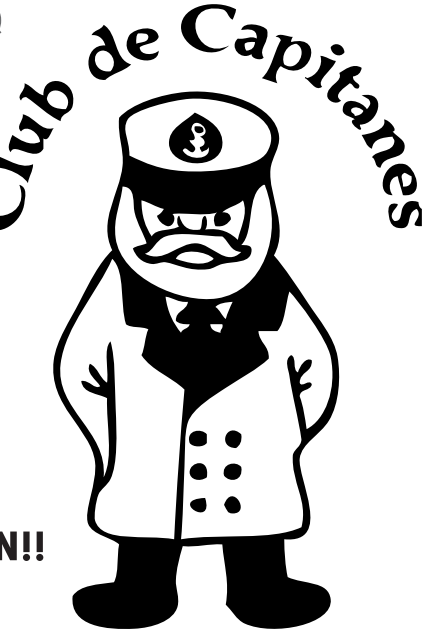
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