



Baja Bits & Bytes

NEWS AND UPDATES FROM DISCOVER BAJA TRAVEL CLUB

MARCH 2013

Bahia De Los Angeles Art And Craft Show & Sale

The 14th Annual Bahia de los Angeles Art and Craft Show and Sale begins Sunday, March 24 and runs through Tuesday, April 2nd, at the Bahia de los Angeles Museum Salon. The show and sale will be held every day from 10:00 am- 4:00 pm.

A talented group of local artists will exhibit collections of oil, acrylic, and watercolor paintings, stunning gourd creations, beautifully crafted wooden objects, jewelry and fabric items. An opening reception—to which the public is invited—will be held on Sunday, March 24 , at 10:00 a.m.. Admission is free.



Bahia de los Angeles, 380 miles south of the US/Mexico border, is a small fishing village of about 600 people located in one of the most breathtaking areas along the Sea of Cortez. The village overlooks 16 picturesque islands and is surrounded by rugged mountains and a lush desert of cordons, cirios, and ocotillos. It offers any artist an assortment of landscapes to paint and a wonderful environment in which to be creative.

Information on accommodations, dining and other available services can be found at www.bahiadelosangeles.info. Mary Bandy can be contacted regarding the Art and Craft Show and Sale at this address: george.bandy@gmail.com

Mexico Increases Vehicle Accident Liability Benefits

As most of you know by now, Mexico passed a new law, which has significantly raised liability payments for vehicle accident deaths. Before, you could go anywhere in Mexico and \$50,000 was enough in your vehicle insurance policy to cover any death liability. Now the amounts have increased over seven times. AND.... amounts differ from state to state because of different minimum wages. So—if you drive only in the northern state of Baja (north of Guerrero Negro), a death liability claim could be as high as \$144,000, while in Baja Sur that jumps to \$336,000. In Mainland Mexico the amount can be as high as \$544,000.



Discover Baja now has insurance policies in place for purchase reflecting this new increase. ACE Seguros has added \$300,000 and \$500,000 CSL options for liability. Combined Single Limit is the amount available for any damage to property, things or people (including death). Be sure and check ACE's Platinum policy. In some cases you get more and pay less.

The other company we write for -- HDI Seguros – has increased the CSL options and also added an excess death liability feature. This coverage can be used only in case of a death. This all becomes a little clearer if you go to our web site www.discoverbaja.com and either renew or create a new policy. You will see all your options. **PLEASE** call our office 800-727-2252 if you have any questions OR if you would like us to explore your options with you and write your policy. We can email the policy and/or send you a hard copy.

Mexico Supreme Court Rules in Favor of Same-sex Marriage

Mexico, interestingly enough, like the U.S., is also grappling with the issue of same-sex marriage. In an historic and unanimous decision last month, Mexico's Supreme Court ruled that denying same-sex couples in the Mexican State of Oaxaca the right to marry is unconstitutional and discriminatory, based in part on two old, but significant, U.S. Supreme Court decisions related to racial discrimination.

Justice Arturo Zaldívar Lelo de Larrea cited cases in Virginia and Kansas that laws banning interracial marriages, based solely on racial classifications, and laws requiring or permitting racial segregation in public schools violated the Equal Protection and Due Process clauses of the Fourteenth Amendment of the US Constitution.

Lelo de Larrea and his fellow jurists compared the racial discrimination in the U.S. cases to the discriminatory nature



of same-sex marriage bans, holding that such laws discriminate by depriving same-sex couples both of the right to marry and of the right to marital benefits.

In its ruling, the Mexican high court mandates that in accordance with principles of equality, the Oaxaca civil code must be written to describe marriage as between two people.

Mexico's legal system mandates that the high court must rule the same way in five separate cases before a law is overturned. This ruling concerns three separate cases; it will take two more for any same-sex couple in Oaxaca to be able to wed easily, and then the process may have to be repeated in other states of Mexico.

Daylight Savings Time in Baja



In California, Daylight Savings Time begins Sunday, March 10---so at 2:00 am, spring ahead one hour.

But unlike most states in the U.S., the state of Baja California (north of the 28th parallel) will not change to Daylight Savings Time until April 7th. The state of Baja California Sur (south of the 28th parallel) does not change to Daylight Savings Time.

FOR SALE: 2000 Jeep Wrangler

6 Cylinder/5 Speed Manual

Less than 35,000 miles – newer clutch and shocks

ASKING PRICE \$8,000

Located in Bahia de Los Angeles

Contact Mike Essary 619-886-4116
Calsur@aol.com



Tripui Casita For Sale

Beautiful, completely-furnished, turn-key house available in Tripui, south of Loreto. Space A-19, with parking and patio in front and cactus garden in the back. Living area

has two ton air conditioner and four ceiling fans. Includes TV-VCR, Telmex telephone, landline with internet connection. Bedroom has walk-in closet, and full bathroom with tub.

Lots of storage, drawers, bookcase, leather sofa with end tables. Kitchen area has two refrigerators, chest freezer and gas stove top. Dining area has tile table with six chairs. Mexican dishes and pots and pans included. Detached brick bodega with hot water heater, washer and dryer, sink, toilet and plenty of storage space. Just \$95,000 USD. Local phone 133-0504, or US phone 619 467-5958.



Gas Prices In Baja



PEMEX prices have increased slightly over the past month, but are considerably lower than US prices: Magna (regular) \$3.30, Premium \$3.45 and Diesel \$3.42.

Peso Exchange

As of 3/8/13, the Mexican Peso is exchanging at 12.74 to the US dollar.

FROM OUR MEMBERS:

COMMENTS, INFORMATION AND "FIELD NOTES" FROM OUR DISCOVER BAJA MEMBERS

Discover Baja member Stephen Hall writes that "On Feb. 8, 2013, I stopped at the newest large Pemex station North of San Felipe and used my Visa card. I was on my way South to Punta Bufeo. I retained my card but the information from the card was stolen and someone attempted to use it in Mexicali on Feb. 10, 2013. Bank of America put a fraud alert out which prevented any other charges.

I guess it may not be safe to use charge cards at that Pemex station, and would recommend you pay by cash at that station or go elsewhere.

Punta Chivato Update: The boat ramp at Punta Chivato is open again, and the water pump has been repaired.



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