

The Eye

Beach, Village + Urban Living in Oaxaca

July 2019

Issue 89

FREE



THE GANGSTER ISSUE



Meet Our Team of Professionals

Lindsay Harder

Erin May

Brent May

Leah Guzmán

Hector Cisneros

WE SELL REAL ESTATE | SERVING HUATULCO AND THE OAXACA COAST

FOR SALE

Tangolunda

Tropical Hacienda Paradise #23300
\$1,699,000 USD
 5 bed, 5 bath, 6996 sq ft. of tropical gardens, luxury hacienda style, outdoor living spaces.

NEW LISTING

Res. Conejos

Puerta del Sol #21100
\$1,100,000 USD
 4 bed, 4.5 bath, residence with expansive garden, lap pool, ocean view, terraces 4,350 sq ft.

NEW LISTING

Golf Course

Casa Campo de Golf #25182
\$649,000 USD
 3,549 sq ft, 6 bdr, 5 bth, golf course view, spacious house, terraces, pool & garden.

FOR SALE

Res. Conejos

Canto del Mar House #23000
\$595,000 USD
 3 bdr, 3.5 bth, ocean views, elevator, open living & kitchen area, terraces, pool.

PRICE REDUCED

Arrocito

3 Bedroom + Den Penthouse #21093
\$549,900 USD
 Residence with expansive open floor plan with a lengthy ocean view terrace at Cosmo. 2530 sq ft.

NEW LISTING

Arrocito

Punta Arrocito Penthouse #24462
\$519,000 USD
 1,257 sq ft, 2 bdr, 2 bth, spectacular views, huge rooftop terrace, common areas, gated community.

NEW LISTING

Balcones de Tangolunda

5 Bedroom House Balcones #24222
\$485,000 USD
 3,799 sq ft, 5 bdr, 4.5 bth, ocean views, tennis court, large pool, terraces, gardens.

FOR SALE

La Crucecita

La Crucecita Duplex #23154
\$420,000 USD
 2 Condos - 2 bdr, 2.5 bth each. Beautiful park view, large rooftop space, 2nd terrace with jacuzzi.

SOLD

Salchi

Salchi 3 Bedroom House #22777
\$279,000 USD
 3 bdr, 3 bth, spectacular ocean view, 2 terraces, waking distance to the beach.

FOR SALE

Arrocito

Arrocito View #24246
\$249,000 USD
 1163 sq ft, 2 bdr, 2 bth, ocean view terrace, pool, common areas, parking.

NEW LISTING

Chahue

Centrally Located 2 Bedroom #24145
\$259,000 USD
 1,769 sqft, 2 bdr, 2 bth. Waking distance to the beach, supermarket, restaurants, pool, gym.

SOLD OUT

La Bocana

Bocana Beach Condos Starting at \$95,000 USD #22960
 1 & 2 Bedroom, 2 bath, 3 min walk to the beach, Pre-construction prices.

NEW LISTING

Puerto Angel

Ocean View Condo #25376
\$185,000 USD
 1,133 sq ft, 2 bdr, 2 bth. Dramatic views, terraces, gated community & pool.

UNDER CONTRACT

Sector M

Studio Mixie Condo #25329
\$119,000 USD
 1,054 sq ft, 1 bed, 1 bath. Garden & terrace, 5 minutes walking to the beach, pool & gym

UNDER CONTRACT

Santa Cruz

2 Bed Condo #22914
\$78,300 USD
 2 bdr, 1 bth condo, short walk to the beach, nearby restaurants, markets and shops.

UNDER CONTRACT

La Bocana

Bocana Dream Lot #25028
\$60,000 USD
 2,153 sq ft each, 2 lots available side by side, two minutes walking to the beach.

FULL SERVICE REAL ESTATE SOLUTIONS

VACATION RENTALS | PROPERTY MANAGEMENT | RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE

MX (+52.1) 958.587.4543 www.BaysideHuatulco.com info@BaysideHuatulco.com

Visit us at Marina Park Plaza Blvd. Benito Juarez, Local 6 / Manzana 3 / Lote 1 / Sector L / Huatulco Mexico

Editor's Letter

“The function of wisdom is to discriminate between good and evil.”

Marcus Tullius Cicero

The biggest villain of our time used his political position to divide the world. He rose to power “through charm, violence and cunning negotiations. He was an excellent speaker and surrounded himself with people who, like him, were not afraid to use violence to fulfil their political objectives.” *historyonthenet.com*

Once elected, as head of the state, he convinced lawmakers to grant “him temporary “emergency” powers for four years, enabling him to act without the consent of parliament or the country’s constitution.” He then divided his nation by singling out minorities and effected “decrees and regulations on all aspects of their lives. The regulations gradually but systematically took away their rights and property, transforming them from citizens into outcasts.” *encyclopedia.ushmm.org*

This leader is so despised that I once met a man who confessed that he had his name changed to prevent any associations with the genocidal maniac. A leader who separated families and put children in prisons- their only crime being their birth. When I first heard of this monster at the age of ten, I remember asking my mother ‘why didn’t you do anything?’ She would have barely been out of diapers when he reigned, but made me realize how helpless we can be in the face of such evil. It makes itself known in small increments and we are like lobsters in a pot with the temperature rising. We are unaware of our eroding morality as the bar for what we will tolerate moves further and further away from decency.

We have very conveniently bisected the world into good and evil which allows us to step over to the good side and feel ok about the chaos around us. We rise above the fray in our self-righteousness and we point the finger at the drug dealers, the ring leaders of organized crime, the terrorists, we watch *Narcos* and we tell ourselves we would never be that bad.

It is the comfort that we are ‘good’ that makes it possible to read the news about children being put in cages or traveling on rafts across dangerous waters to escape violence. Geography is the only thing that separates us from them, yet we see their situation as outside of ourselves. We do our part by sharing a post on social media and then we go about our business, our conscience relatively unscathed.

But if we want to be really good, really humanitarian, don’t we need to step back take ownership of our cog in the wheel?

I recently toured the Anne Frank House in Amsterdam. It was haunting to see the rooms where she spent WWII hiding for her life. I cried at the testimonials they showed at the end of the exhibition about what an icon Anne Frank has become and how brave she was. I didn’t cry for Anne. She was an ordinary girl facing horrible adversity- inhumane adversity! I cried for all the ordinary girls currently facing inhumane challenges today and I do nothing. We all do nothing.

We are the villains when we endure leaders who put power above human dignity.

Jane



DREAM HOMES
BUILDING - DREAMS

www.dreamhomes.mx

Marina Park Plaza, Tel. 011 (52) (958) 105 1814
info@DreamHomes.mx

Eye Team

Editor: Jane Bauer

Copy Editor: Deborah Van Hoewyk

Web Goddess: Erin Vig

Writers: Jan Chaiken, Marcia Chaiken, Julie Etra, Brooke Gazer, Dwayne Hahn, Linda Kelly, Roberta Malysh, Carole Reedy, Alvin Starkman, Kary Vannice

Cover Vector: jorgenmac

Photography/Art:

Various Artists, vamamont, bowie15

Distribution: Renee Biernacki

Layout: Jane Bauer

Opinions and words are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of The Eye.

We welcome submissions and input.

To get involved send us an email.

TheEyeHuatulco@gmail.com

Visit Us Online

www.TheEyeHuatulco.com

In This Issue

When Tragedy Beckons from Between the Pages
By Carole Reedy
Page 6

Mexico, H4H Build, Bajos de Chila 13
By Roberta Malysh & Dwayne Hahn
Page 10

El Chapo
By Marcia Chaiken and Jan Chaiken
Page 16

**From Heroes to Villains and Back Again:
What Really Counts?**
By Kary Vannice
Page 18

**July in Oaxaca is Synonymous with the
Guelaguetza, Indigenous Pageantry**
By Alvin Starkman, M.A., J.D.
Page 20

The Wheels of Justice
By Brooke Gazer
Page 22

**Roberto Jones, Owner of Agua Vital,
and His 30 Years in Huatulco**
By Linda Kelly
Page 24

Mexico's Robin Hood: Joaquín Murieta
By Julie Etra
Page 26

EDITORIAL PAGE 3
UPCOMING EVENTS PAGE 19

www.TheEyeHuatulco.com



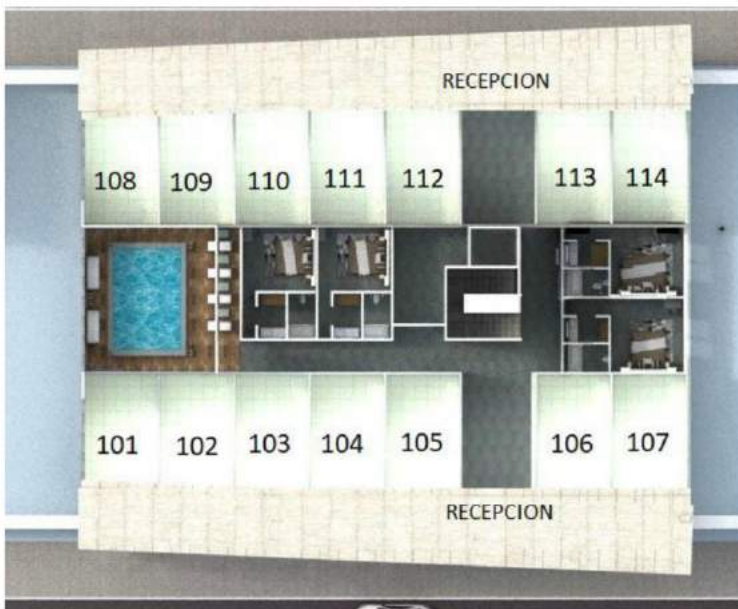
Plaza and Hotel Laramar

14 commercial spaces

Center of Santa Cruz

Pre-construction prices available

Custom design to meet your business' needs



Cell: 958 174 2212

BuildingHuatulco@gmail.com

When Tragedy Beckons from Between the Pages

By Carole Reedy

Gangster movies are the inheritor of the Greek tragedy: it's the only genre where the audience will be disappointed if there's not a tragic ending. – Daniel Espinosa

When you hear the word “gangster” what comes to mind? Capone, Chapo, Narcos, Chicago, *The Sopranos*, Italians, *The Godfather*? Certainly these, but there are many more names and places, which I discovered while searching for some of the most representative and well-written literature about the men, and a few women, whom we call gangsters.

The *Oxford English Dictionary* defines “gangster” thusly: “A member of a gang of violent criminals.” It’s only when we read the synonyms for “gangster” that we understand the nuances that occasionally even romanticize the profession: “hoodlum, racketeer, bandit, robber, ruffian, thug, tough, desperado, outlaw, villain, lawbreaker, criminal.”

Various motives make up the decision to join a gang. To young men looking for a profession and a way to make big money, it may appear that these “breakers of rules and laws” are getting away with something and that it’s an easy way to make a lot of money. Research tells us some would-be gangbangers are actually seeking an extended family they may not have had at home. Heredity is another major factor, especially for many Italian and Mexican families.

In a famous quote from the bestselling novel/film *The Godfather*, Michael Corleone, the conflicted son who previously had rejected a role in the family business, declares: “Tell my father I am ready to be his son.”

The neighborhood in which a person is raised may be another involvement factor. Infamous crime boss John Gotti spent his childhood in East New York, where his Italian immigrant parents had settled. The area was known for its gang activity, and by the age of 12 John was working as an errand boy for the famed Gambino mob family. (John Travolta stars as Gotti in the 2018 movie of the gangster’s life, called simply *Gotti* – not to be confused with the 1996 *Gotti*, starring Armand Assante.)

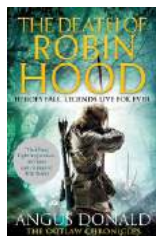
Gangsters come in all shapes, sizes, and colors. I’ve chosen a few gangster-related books, fiction and non-fiction, from different countries that I hope will provide you with many hours of good reading.

ROBIN HOOD (THE OUTLAW CHRONICLES SERIES),

Angus Donald (2009 – 16)

Eight novels make up this series about the legendary Robin Hood, who was first celebrated in the form of ballads starting in 1470 in England. The legend itself, however, dates back to the 13th century.

It has not been established that Robin Hood was indeed a real person. Both the name Robin and surname Hood were popular monikers in the 15th century, making it difficult to confirm the tales of this adventurer.



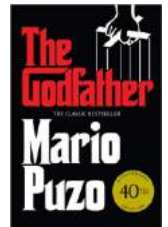
In addition, the name Robin Hood became a stock alias for thieves, perhaps derived from the name Robehod, an appellation given to outlaws in the 13th century. You might conclude that the Robin Hood we know is a compilation of various rogues. Nonetheless, Robin Hood’s actions are synonymous with the famous phrase “take from the rich and give to the poor,” even though he was friends with royalty and said to be born of nobility.

In any case, Angus Donald has created a series of eight novels that follow the adventures of this mysterious hero, beginning in the late 12th century during the Saxon-Norman rivalry and reign of Henry II. One reader says of the series: “Donald creates a Robin that is believable and balances the heroic character we all know and love with the more criminal/outlaw that he would have been.”

The book website *Goodreads* says of *Outlaw*, the first book in the series, “Meet The Godfather of Sherwood Forest,” most likely referring to the display of noble generosity in both of their personal lives while practicing ruthlessness in their professions. The adventurous romp received excellent reviews upon its publication in 2009.

THE GODFATHER, Mario Puzo (1969)

The Godfather, an instant best seller, became an epic masterpiece of Italian Mafia fiction and a global phenomenon, selling between 20 and 30 million copies. It remains one of the top ten best-selling books of American fiction. The films based on the book are classics in the film world to this day.



Author Mario Puzo admits he wrote the book because he needed the money and might have spent more time with the writing if he had known it would be such a huge success. Nonetheless, the novel not only gives us an insight into the Mafia’s business, it also allows a glimpse of the commitment, loyalty, and generosity to family and friends. One reader observes that there is “an incredible sense of moral and religious conviction that what they do is right and good.”

Both book and films are patterned after, and seem to be a compilation of, crime bosses Frank Costello and Carlo Gambino, as well as of Joseph Bonanno (movies have been made about all of them).

DIEGO CORRIENTE O EL BANDIDO GENEROSO,

José Marín Gutiérrez de Alba (1850)

Known as the Robin Hood of Spain, el señor Corriente had a short career. He was born in 1757 and hanged in Seville in 1781, after just three years of marauding from Portugal to Seville with the help of the rural folk, who enabled him to operate with great freedom.





COTO
RESIDENCIAL
BLUEBAY



12 Exclusive Designer Homes Starting at 240 USD

- 24 hour security
- HOA only 125 USD
- Large swimming pool
- BBQ area
- Palapa Area
- Shade and very pristine gardens
- Gated and private entry
- close to all stores and downtown

Starting Pre-sale Pricing

BuildingHuatulco@gmail.com

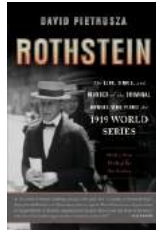
Cel: 958 174 2212

While visiting Andalusia in May, I spent several hours in The Museo de Bandoleros (robbers, thieves), located in the charming pueblo of Ronda. The museum was small but jam-packed from floor to ceiling with information and memorabilia of the bandoleros (mainly from the 18th and 19th centuries), including guns, trinkets, photos, newspaper articles, and clips from the subsequent comic books and films that were made of these anti-heroes.

Diego Corriente dominates the information with his three-year campaign of robbing the rich, but also taking care of the poor rural farmers. Gutierrez's work is actually a drama in three acts in verse, available only in Spanish.

ROTHSTEIN by David Pietrusza (2011)

The name Arnold Rothstein may not ring a bell unless you are a baseball fan. He is said to be the genius behind the 1919 World Series fix in which the Chicago White Sox players were accused of intentionally losing to the Cincinnati Reds for financial gain. Although he was never indicted, Rothstein made a significant profit as a result of the bets he placed on the series, which the White Sox were expected to win.



Rothstein was the black sheep of his orthodox Jewish family. His brother studied to be a rabbi and his father was a wealthy businessman, but Arnold was never interested in school and spent his early teen years shooting dice. He said he never remembered a time when he didn't gamble.

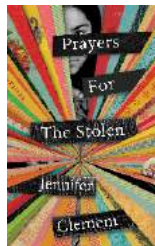
Instead of the successful traditional life his family hoped for him, he became the most clever, diversified, unequalled gangster of the Jazz Age. His repertoire is impressive: from financier of white slavery and drug dealing (some call him the first modern drug dealer) to political and criminal fixer to loan shark, bookmaker, and thief.

Prohibition provided him with the opportunity to bootleg drugs and narcotics. He was a genuine genius whose talents unfortunately were misdirected. His life was cut short in 1928 in a Times Square hotel room, where he was murdered at age 46 over a gambling debt, a mystery the author unravels for the reader in this biography.

Pietrusza is considered one of the best historians in the US. This biography, meticulously researched, was a finalist for the 2003 Edgar Award and received kudos from *The New York Times*, *The Atlantic*, and *The Washington Post*, among others.

PRAYERS FOR THE STOLEN, Jennifer Clement (2014)

Clement offers, in this most disturbing of novels, the point of view of the victims of gangster-narcos in the Mexican state of Guerrero. In the mountains just outside flashy, trendy Acapulco lie villages in which the citizens are mostly women, but you won't see many little girls. They are being hidden or disguised as boys in order to hide from the narcos who come to steal away beautiful girls. The story starts there and progresses to Acapulco and Mexico City, showing us another side of narcotics abuse.

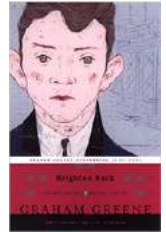


Mexican-American Clement knows her subject intimately, living in Mexico City, where she writes, researches, and observes. She has been president of PEN Mexico, and the first woman President of PEN International since 2015. Her first book, *Widow Basquiat: A Love Story*, the story of her friend's life with renowned painter Jean-Michel Basquiat, received rave reviews from the most prestigious publications. It is a personal favorite of mine, as is *Prayers for the Stolen*.

Prayers for the Stolen was published in 2014 and appeared on dozens of Best Books of the Year lists. I don't know a person who has read this book who hasn't been moved emotionally by the author's ability to tell these deeply tragic tales with the utmost discretion while allowing us a glimpse into the agonies experienced by these women.

BRIGHTON ROCK, Graham Greene (1938)

Greene wrote this crime thriller in 1938, and it went on to film fame in 1947 and then again in 2010. Although it is a thriller set in the 1930s underworld of Brighton, England, a reader/fan tells us the book "goes beyond the reach of a thriller and deep into the zone of existential and metaphysical complexity."

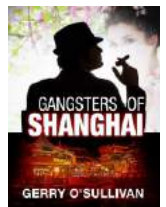


The anti-hero of the novel is 17-year-old Pinkie Brown, a Catholic (as was Greene), which gives Greene a vehicle to ponder the nature of sin and morality.

Graham Greene is, of course, the renowned and well-loved British author of many novels, plays, children's books, poetry, and short stories. His novels often focus on modern man's moral dilemmas.

GANGSTERS OF SHANGHAI by Gerry O'Sullivan (2013)

Both the author and the novel's protagonist hail from the island of Ireland, and both leave for the East, the author in 1986 to Australia and the protagonist to Shanghai in 1927. O'Sullivan traveled from Australia to Singapore and Shanghai to do research, and even to Brandeis University, outside Boston, MA, where secret files of the Shanghai Municipal Police Special Branch are kept.



Inspired by his grand uncle, who was a detective in the Shanghai Municipal Police in the 1920s, O'Sullivan wanted to write an adventure-mystery-crime novel that was historically accurate. The result is a compilation of his grand uncle's stories about his experience in the Shanghai police force, O'Sullivan's dedicated and detailed historic research, as well as his own perspective on living in Shanghai.

Again the Jazz Age of the '20s and '30s is the backdrop for a glimpse of criminal activity during those decades.

The director of The Writer's Factory in Sydney, Australia, says it best: "*Gangsters of Shanghai* is a remarkable story, told in vivid detail and rich in color. It is a racy story underpinned by incredible research that makes the storyline and characters incredibly believable."

Keep the lights on while reading from this list!



VILLA PALMERAS

CLUB RESIDENCIAL



Located at Salchi Beach
45 minutes from Huatulco Airport

- 12 House Units
- 19 Cabin Units
- Lots of 350 m2 and 560 m2
- Three hectares
- 15 amenities
- More than 6,000 m2 of green areas.
- One entry and exit access
- Security and 24/7 surveillance

- Casa Club:
- Reception Area
 - 2 swimming pools
 - Children's pool
 - Terrace with Bar
 - Sunbathing Area
 - Gym
 - 2 Jacuzzis

Exterior Amenities

- 725 m jogging route
- Park
- Childish games
- Parking for 32 cars

- Games Room
- Air-Conditioned Event Room
- Restaurant
- SPA



TORRE & ORTIZ
ASOCIADOS
CONSTRUCCIÓN Y DESARROLLO

Cell: 958 174 2212
BuildingHuatulco@gmail.com



Mexico, H4H Build, Bajos de Chila 13

By Roberta Malysh & Dwayne Hahn

It had been known as the coldest February in 40 years in parts of western Canada. Although they say you can always dress for the cold, the long dark days of winter seemed to stretch out and last forever. It is no surprise that “snowbirds” continue to seek some respite in warmer parts of the world.

It is common to get asked, “Are you getting away for part of the winter?” Luckily the answer was “Yes, to Mexico for a couple weeks.” Since everybody knows all about Mexico, the next question was invariably, “Oh great, which part?”

The answer was “Oaxaca State in southern Mexico.”

“Is that near Cancun?”

“No, it is on the other coast, the Pacific side. We are flying into Huatulco and travelling from there to the resort area of Puerto Escondido. From there we have volunteered to help on a Habitat for Humanity build of a private house in Bajos de Chila.”

“That sounds pretty interesting but what is that like?”

These were the questions but until we experienced the immersion into a world apart, it was difficult to completely answer. A group of 13 volunteers from the Edmonton area signed up to support the Habitat build on the invitation of Max Vandersteen and his wife Leslie. He had assembled a team from people he had met on past excursions around the world, and contacts through his social networking on other activities. Max and Leslie have been team members and their passion for travel and adventure, as well as desire to make a difference, led them to take on the challenge of assembling and leading a team abroad.

How exactly does the Habitat for Humanity “Global Village” model work? Who qualifies and how is the program able to build a “free” home for someone? Well, the house is not free. The applicants are typically hard-working individuals with steady jobs; in Mexico, they need to acquire a piece of land on which to build the home. Habitat is able to help build a modest but substantial home at a reasonable cost through donations and volunteer support. The recipient is not getting a “free home,” but is expected to repay the base cost to fund the program and support others. The payments are based on 35% of the family’s income to make it affordable for them. They are also required to work 500 hours of sweat equity to obtain possession of their home. Previous recipients and future prospective recipients from the community also volunteer their labour to help sustain the effort.



The motto of the *Habitat para la Humanidad* affiliate in Mexico is “*Todo Empieza en Casa*” (Everything begins with a house, or more to the point, a home). A small bit of help can make all the difference in the world to a struggling family needing that little support to raise a family and in turn, improve the community around them.

So, what does the volunteer get out of travelling outside of their home area with Habitat’s Global Village program? One of the most important aspects of this type of

experience is the cultural exchange that happens when two different worlds work and interact side by side. We would like to share the experiences of some members of our group.

Roberta & Dwayne

The trip itself was surreal. We gathered together at Bajos de Chila near Puerto Escondido to spend a week working alongside a family to build a safe and sturdy home. We showed up on day one with positivity and a willingness to take on any job required: moving bricks, shoveling, mixing mortar, bending rebar, bricklaying. Naturally, there were language and cultural barriers – initially, there was an amicable distance between us and the community, but that quickly developed into conversation, laughs, the sharing of food, dance and music – and eventually hugs and tears when we put down our trowels and hammers on the final day. The amazing connections we made, the relationships we were able to build, and the lifelong memories we made for ourselves are hard to express.

Carolyn Smith

Why were we here in Bajos de Chila? A group of sun-starved northerners from Alberta, Canada, 13 in total, with a strong Habitat work ethic learned in our own Edmonton affiliate, or other working life, some with many working builds done over the years in Mexico and Central America, and some total newbies to the cause.



We were warmly welcomed by the Puerto Escondido Habitat affiliate: hard working knowledgeable Chano; fun-loving teacher, Dani, pacing us, adding the “salsa” to the work day, morning stretches, brick-laying and dancing; our interpreter leader, Roman, from HFH Mexico, who guided us through his culture with ease. All three worked along with us for full days and we give you thanks for that and your warmth and friendship and guidance.

Bellas Vista Luxury Villas



**Pre-sale prices
Don't miss out!**

8 Private Individual Villas

24- hour security

Very low HOA fees

Pristine garden

Each home includes private pool

Located in Arrocito with Oceanview!

More info

Cell: 958 174 2212

BuildingHuatulco@gmail.com

Then there were the homeowners, relatives, neighbours, all pitching in to help build this house; teaching us the building techniques.



Now the bright-red bricks! We went to the brick factory and saw how they turned black, gooey river earth into bright-red, solid, locally made materials for building. What an alternative to transporting building materials from further away at a higher cost, all while supporting a local industry and the local people too!



Linda & Larry Tutt

Working side by side with the Canadian team, the Mexican HFH interpreter, coordinator, masons and architects and also with the young family who will be the homeowners, their neighbors, extended family and friends was a wonderful experience that brought us together for a common goal. As we watched the brick walls go higher and higher each day, our friendship, cultural experience, sense of accomplishment, appreciation of the opportunity and gratitude for our blessings grew and grew. Watching the local women cook delicious local dishes over a fire each day was a bonus and a joy. HFH had the build well organized. I would highly recommend this experience to anyone. Put aside your fears of not being qualified, not having the right skills, extreme temperatures, etc. and dive into this humanitarian, social justice, cultural project to simply support a wonderful family in affording a home. All you need is to be a team player, be willing to work to your ability and be flexible.

Leslie & Max Vandersteen

For quite some time now we have had a fondness and respect for the people, culture, history and, of course, the climate of Mexico. We also both harbor a strong devotion to Habitat for Humanity so, coming from Canada, it is an ideal destination for a Habitat for Humanity Global Village build. So, we have done that on three occasions thus far; the first time was in 2009 to Puerto Escondido, Oaxaca; the second was in Chacala, Nayarit in 2010; and on the third trip we travelled again to Puerto Escondido in February of 2019. All three builds were terrific experiences but what made this last trip so special and unique was returning to enjoy a revisit to the friendly city of PE and finding that we felt comfortable and fit right back in.

We returned to the town of Bajos de Chila to volunteer on the construction of a new affordable home for a young family there. The coincidental thing was that the family we were building with this year turned out to be cousins of the family we volunteered to build a home with ten years ago and we were only a few houses away from them. Therefore, we also enjoyed a wonderful reunion with them and their grown and new children. So, although the project was global in scope, it was also still very much like a community working together.

Kathy & Tom Thackeray

We looked forward to our first Global Village Habitat build in the Puerto Escondido area with enthusiasm for helping to make the dream of home ownership a reality for a young family in Mexico! We came away from our experience feeling that our hard work on the days that we participated in the build at Bajos de Chila really did make a difference towards that dream.

We also felt the wonderful warmth and welcoming camaraderie of the local people we met, including Habitat staff members, family, friends and neighbours of the new home's owners, Paloma and Luis.

Maureen Mudie

From the minute I signed my name on a piece of paper in May 2018 I had no idea what lay in store. Then I met 12 strangers and started on an amazing journey that I will never forget. We were not brick layers, or concrete mixers or metal bending people, we were normal Canadians, living normal Canadian lives. Then we met, then we joined, then we became the TEAM. After 5 days of building a home for a beautiful couple we were one. These people became my friends, my family, my brothers, my sisters. Never before have I felt such a connection with strangers, and now they will never be strangers again.

Marj & Gerry Lubbers

The build in Bajos de Chila was our first experience with Habitat for Humanity. It was truly a pleasure working with the family and community members who were very appreciative of our help. They were ready to teach us anything we wanted to know and we were ready to learn everything! We learned so much of the Mexican culture. The Habitat representatives were very organized and helpful, allowing our team to maximize our contribution to the project. It was a trip of a lifetime, so full of purpose, and we recommend the experience to everyone. We hope to be able to help out on another Habitat for Humanity project in the future!

Jane Handford

When I go to a Habitat build, I get a glimpse of what my life might have been like had my parents not emigrated to Canada. My parents came to Ontario from the Netherlands looking for opportunity. My husband and I moved to Alberta also looking for opportunity. When our daughter decided to go to school in Manitoba, she assured us she would come back. She found her husband there, stayed and now has two children. It wasn't until our grandchildren came along that I realized how much each of us had missed by moving so far apart. We see our grandchildren at least 3 times a year as well as on FaceTime. My parents saw our children once every 2 to 3 years and in pictures sent back and forth. I never knew my grandparents. Canada is a country of scattered families. We have opportunity, but at what cost?

At these builds I see what we miss in the everyday getting together of extended families living close by, sharing in the cooking and eating of meals, working together to make their lives better. I see how lucky they are to be able to stay in their home country. It is an honour to help them in a small way to make their lives better so that they can stay close to family. We conclude our memories with a poem by our group leader, Max, who captures our sentiments of Bajos de Chila.

Habitat Alliance

A corps composed of personalities
with spirit and harmony in coalition
and, with mutual motive in our mission,
a cadre of bonded nationalities

jointly preparing new foundations,
building with blocks for new tomorrows,
and dancing, with birds, iguanas and gusanos,
in these newly born congregations.

Though we converse in tongues not common
when we act through love for one another,
when we work hand in hand and together
we convey yet a common idiom,

a vocabulary of emotion:
sweat, travail, blisters and jubilation;
cement and bricks and celebration;
el Corazon, virtue and devotion;

in unity, sheltering families,
in solidarity, fabricating
a global society integrating
villages, countries and communities.



PRE-SALE

4 APARTMENTS

E complex.

Sector E great locations minutes from the "Santa Cruz" beach.

Serious buyers only. 440 K. Rentable zone. Great investment return.

- Very safe zone includes pool.
- Private parking gated.
- Includes Kitchen cabinets, granite.
- Counter tops.
- A/C units included.
- Finished key on hand.



Info.

Mail: buildinghuatulco@gmail.com

Cell: 958 174 2212



Presents

Tour of Diamond Point Condominiums

**Pre-construction
prices available**

**24 Condominiums
4 Penthouses
2 Pools
Club House
Sauna
Gym
24-hour Security
Ocean View**



Condominium Units are 1800 sq. feet (167 m2)
-2 Bedrooms with full Bathrooms, Living Room, Dining Room, Kitchen, Laundry Room, Half-bath, Balcony

Penthouse Units are 3200 sq.feet (288 m2)
-3 Bedrooms and Bathrooms (mastersuite and masterbath with walk-in closet), Living Room, Dining Room, Kitchen, Laundry Room, Half-bath, Balcony



www.HuatulcoRemax.com
Tel: 958 587 0136 Cell: 958 100 0777



EL CHAPO

By Marcia Chaiken and Jan Chaiken

Joaquin Guzmán Loera, aka El Chapo, ranks very high among the wealthiest gangsters who ever plied their nasty trade, very small among the short gangsters (El Chapo means Shorty), and very bloody among the most vicious. As head of the brutal Sinaloa drug cartel he gained international infamy. Captured and convicted multiple times in Mexico, this year in New York El Chapo underwent a three-month-long sensational trial involving over 50 witnesses on ten charges. After a week-long jury deliberation, he was found guilty on all charges including trafficking heroin and cocaine and conspiracy to commit murder. As this edition of *The Eye* is heading for publication, El Chapo is awaiting sentencing on June 25. His sentence is expected to be life imprisonment.



Reports of El Chapo's childhood sound like the background one would expect for a future gangster. Born in April 1957 in La Tuna, Sinaloa, to an impoverished family, Guzmán Loera was said to have been abused, frequently beaten by his father, and required to drop out of school at an early age to work in the family criminal enterprises. He first job was as a low-level mover of contraband, but after he moved into drug trafficking he became known in the trade as clever, ambitious and brutal. He devised innovative ways for moving drugs across the US border, including the now infamous tunnels. He began trafficking larger and larger quantities – at one point leasing an airplane hangar to use for storage. Over a 30-year period he organized the transfer of tons of drugs from Central American countries to Mexico, and from there to the U.S. and Canada.



As his enterprise grew and became more vulnerable to law enforcement, he generously and effectively bribed everyone who had the right and responsibility to bring him to justice in many countries – even at the highest governmental levels. The recipients of his corrupt largesse included a past President of Mexico and the entire congress of Colombia. If bribery didn't work, he eliminated human obstacles. He was notorious, even among other drug cartels, for murdering and burning the bodies of anyone who dared to interfere in his business. One of the best known of his victims was Catholic Cardinal Posadas Ocampo, who was murdered at an airport in Guadalajara. El Chapo regularly flaunted his gold-plated AK-47 rifle and his diamond-encrusted pistols, one of which had his initials carved into the handle.

In addition to the seriousness of his crimes, El Chapo is the stuff of legend due to his constant display of bravado and bizarre behavior. Before capture, his lifestyle included the ownership of many mansions and, perhaps inspired by Michael Jackson, a private zoo. He rivals Houdini as an escape artist. In 2001, he escaped prison in Mexico in a laundry basket. He eluded arrest for over a decade using creative evasion tactics – once escaping naked with one of his many mistresses --until 2014 when he was

apprehended in Mazatlán by the Mexican military. A year later, however, he escaped prison again, this time through a tunnel under his shower stall. The US Drug Enforcement Agency had warned of an escape plan, and immediately put up a \$5,000,000 reward; Mexico, embarrassed, added another \$3,800,000 USD.

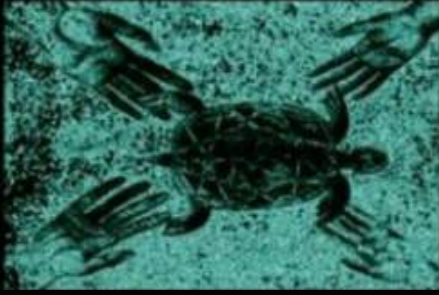
When he was recaptured, the Mexican government extradited him to the US – placing the burden of keeping him imprisoned on the US justice system. And a burden it is. El Chapo's requests, such as more time to exercise in the detention facility, are immediately met with refusals that then require prosecutors, correctional staff and the judiciary to take action. One of his most recent ploys to tie up the justice system was a request he filed to “terminate” the attorney who represented him during his New York trial. No reason was given – and based on his long-term elimination of people whom he decided were expendable, the attorney no doubt deserves extra protection.

He turned his most recent trial into a circus. Among the scores of witnesses were his mistresses who, while testifying against him, sobbed and professed undying love for him. One day during the proceeding, El Chapo and his wife showed up wearing matching velvet smoking jackets. And when an actor who plays the part of El Chapo on a Netflix series about Mexican drug lords attended the trial to study his gestures, Guzmán posed and postured and smiled delightedly, basking in the attention.

Even while incarcerated, El Chapo was known to be directing major trafficking operations, earning millions of dollars, and throwing lavish parties. Wives, mistresses, and prostitutes were regular visitors to his Mexican cells. During one stint in a jail, a mariachi band showed up outside his cell window to serenade for many hours of the night. And lest you think he couldn't possibly live the life fantastic in US facilities, think again. It was just revealed that, while thousands of refugees are being turned away at the US border, members of his family in Mexico were granted visas to visit him.

Although our colleague Kary Vannice argues that the difference between a gangster and a hero can depend on the perspective of the viewer, we challenge anyone to find a single redeeming quality of El Chapo that could be used to reclassify him as other than a violent predatory gangster.

LUXURY VILLAS



CIELO de TORTUGAS
playa mermejita
oaxaca

**Sixteen Exclusive Luxury Villas
Ocean-Front with Beach Access
Villas starting at 350K**

**Gated Community with Amenities
Two Organic Restaurants
Club House
Amazing Sunsets**

**Energy Saver Cool Walls
Solar-Powered Hot Water Heaters
Weather Resistant High-Quality
Concrete
Built with High-grade USA
Construction**

**Pre-sale Opportunity:
Entire Project 4.8 million
23 000 meters of oceanfront!**



**Info: buildinghuatulco@gmail.com
cel: 958 174 2212**

From Heroes to Villains and Back Again: What Really Counts?

By Kary Vannice

When does a hero become a villain and a villain become a hero? Some well-known historical figures have proved that there is a very fine line between these two dichotomous designations. And we, as a society, have proved that we are quite willing to turn a blind eye to the unsavory, detestable, and sometimes even downright nefarious behavior of our favorite “heroes.” While, at the same time (so as not to be hypocritical), we offer the same treatment to “villains” when they prove to be less than the despicable creatures we thought them to be.

In general, if you fight for the people against “the man,” you are considered a good guy and if you represent “the man” and fight against the people, you are a bad guy. However, history is often written by the winner.

Winston Churchill is a perfect example. History, in general, depicts Churchill as the hero who won World War II. And, certainly, largely due to his resolve and dedication, Hitler and his Nazi army were overcome. However, much like Hitler himself, Churchill advocated the sterilization of those with learning disabilities and mental illness. During his post as Home Secretary, in 1910, he wrote, “The multiplication of the feeble-minded is a very terrible danger to the race,” and also argued openly in Parliament for the introduction of forced labor camps for “mental defectives.”

Early in his military career, while stationed in Afghanistan, he said “All who resist will be killed without quarter,” because it was vital that the Pashtuns “recognize the superiority of race.” In his personal reports during that time he wrote, “We proceeded systematically, village by village, and we destroyed the houses, filled up the wells, blew down the towers, cut down the great shady trees, burned the crops and broke the reservoirs in punitive devastation.”

One need not go too far down the rabbit hole to find many who are of the opinion that Churchill himself should have stood trial for war crimes. Those who found themselves on opposing sides to Churchill received little mercy. Just as did another cultural hero, Gandhi.

When Gandhi went on a hunger strike to call attention to British tyranny over India, Churchill’s stand was “Let him do as he likes,” and starve himself to death.

Gandhi, too, had a dark side that is rarely talked about or reported on. He was openly disparaging of blacks, unapologetically misogynistic, and insisted that underage girls, including his own grandniece, sleep naked beside him so he could test his sexual patience.



Nelson Mandela, another modern-day hero, tales of whom always seem to be bathed in the white light of purity and non-violence, started out as an extremist resistance fighter who led an armed rebel army.

While history has been kinder than may be warranted to some of our favorite heroes, it has been much less so with men and women, who despite being “bad guys,” may have actually had good motives, in the beginning, at least.

In the case of Genghis Khan, his history was, in fact, not written by the winner. Much of his story was not documented until 100 years after his reign, and then mostly by those who had been conquered.

Today’s “revisionist history” version of the Genghis Khan story might describe him as a visionary who brought literacy, law, and culture to his people. He unified a nation of nomadic tribes that frequently took money from other countries as mercenaries to kill their own. And, yes, while he expanded that nation across the whole of Asia and into Eastern Europe using force and brutality, that expansion also brought more developed systems such as a universal justice system, unified postal system, and the expansion of knowledge, craft, and innovation.

Women in his empire were given a more equal standing and special rights. They took part in important decisions within the home and were also given the right to divorce their husbands, if they so chose.

The Mongolian Empire treated people as equals and was tolerant of all different religious practices. It was also possible to achieve a better station in life than one started out with by making a contribution to society, which in many of the conquered countries had not previously been the case.

A few “bad girls” of history may have also gotten a bad rap, or at least a less than deserving one. Take Marie Antoinette and Cleopatra VII. Marie was probably more eccentric and ignorant than evil. She had hardly any real political power, yet she became the symbol for everything that was wrong with the aristocracy, which famously cost her her head.

Cleopatra, on the other hand, had substantial political power. And she used every other power at her disposal, including that of seduction, in an attempt to restore order to her crumbling country and try to save it from the clutches of Rome, to prevent the enslavement of her people.

The British news outlet *The Independent* recently proved that even contemporary villains can be seen in a different light when they published an article with the title "So, it turns out Osama bin Laden was a terrorist monster with a tender side..."

An Internet search result for the top 50 heroes of all time yielded a list by the *New Statesman American* that included Nelson Mandela, Fidel Castro, Hugo Chavez, and Bill Clinton.

Ranker (www.ranker.com) lists the top 100 worst people of all time and that list includes Carl Marx, Leon Trotsky, J. Edgar Hoover, and Hillary Clinton.

There are those who would surely believe the reverse is true of some or all of these examples, depending on their personal points of view.

Of course, no one person is without faults or lives a life without mistakes. But there does seem to be some sort of unwritten equation that says if you make a big enough contribution to mankind, we will subtract your wrongdoings and if you still come out ahead, you get a free pass, not to mention a ticker tape parade. We tend to see the world of heroes and villains in black and white. Maybe it's our obsession with cinema that's done it to us, but real life lends itself more to shades of gray. And, in a world where it seems as if a new shade of gray gets invented every day, we, as a society, need to come up with a better equation to hold both our heroes and our villains accountable.

MEZCAL

Educational Excursions of Oaxaca TM/MR

WHILE IN THE STATE CAPITAL, LEARN ABOUT THIS CENTURY'S MOST COVETED SPIRIT BY SPENDING A DAY WITH RECOGNIZED AUTHORITY ALVIN STARKMAN. VISIT RURAL ARTISANAL DISTILLERIES (PALENQUES) USING BOTH ANCESTRAL CLAY POT AND TRADITIONAL COPPER STILL. FOR NOVICES AND AFICIONADOS ALIKE. SAMPLE THROUGHOUT YOUR EXCURSION WITH NO OBLIGATION TO BUY.

WWW.MEZCALEDUCATIONALTOURS.COM
MEZCALEDUCATIONALTOURS@HOTMAIL.COM



Plaza Coyula Local 4
Santa Cruz, Huatulco
(behind Banamex)
Tel: 958 100 9998

Upcoming Events

Huatulco Recurring Events:

English AA, Huatulco

Thursdays 11:30am

Calle Flamboyant 310, 2nd floor, La Crucecita,

Info: Wiles_b_wiles@yahoo.com

Weekly Markets

Pochutla Market- Every Monday

Huatulco's Organic Market

Santa Cruz 8am - 2pm

First and Third Saturdays for the month.

Encuentro de Cocineros - Local cooks gather with sample dishes to raise money for local charities.

Santa Cruz Park, 2pm, - 150 pesos

Last Sunday of the month

Oaxaca City Recurring Events:

Open AA Meetings (English)

Members of all 12 Step Programs Welcome

Mondays and Thursdays 7 pm

Saturdays 9 am

303B Rayon near corner of Fiallo

Al-Anon (English)

Tuesdays 10:30 am

303B Rayon near corner of Fiallo

Religious Services

Holy Trinity Anglican Episcopal Church

Sundays 10:30 am

Crespo 211 (between Morelos and Matamoros)

Liturgy followed by coffee hour. Information 951-514-3799

Religious Society of Quaker Friends Meeting,
Saturdays 10 am Free. All are welcome. For more information and location, contact: janynelyons@hotmail.com

Weekly Markets

Zaachila Market, Every Thursday

Ocotlán Market, Every Friday

Etla Market, Every Wednesday

Tlacolula Market, Every Sunday

July in Oaxaca is Synonymous with the Guelaguetza, Indigenous Pageantry

By Alvin Starkman, M.A., J.D.



With pageantry unrivalled in all of Mexico, the Guelaguetza is the most colorful and exhilarating of the multitude of festivals in Oaxaca. And in a state with 16 different indigenous cultures, each with its own unique traditions including language, food, music, dress and dance, the annual July extravaganza draws both Mexican nationals and tourists from all corners of the globe.

The official Guelaguetza celebrations, commonly referred to as the *Lunes del Cerro* (Monday on the Hill), take place in an open-air auditorium on a hill overlooking the city of Oaxaca, the state capital. The festivities typically occur the last two Mondays of July.

Folkloric dance troupes come to Oaxaca, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, from the farthest reaches of the eight regions of the state, to perform their distinctly unique dances to the tune of traditional native music. It's all carried out live in the amphitheater. The 15 or more performances are designed to convey the nature and richness of day-to-day life in their particular part of Oaxaca, ranging from representations of rites associated with marriage to coastal net fishing. Some have humorous sexual subtext manifest in both dance and the recounting of local tales. Imagery and movement are sufficiently universal so as to ensure that knowledge of Spanish is not a pre-requisite for enjoying and becoming thoroughly enthralled in what is being expressed through dance, music, and at times light dialogue.

Guelaguetza has been translated from the Zapotec both as “offering” and the “reciprocal exchange of gifts or services.” The pre-Hispanic origins of the Guelaguetza assist in unraveling the relationship between its literal meaning and its current format, including why, where and when regional delegations descend upon Oaxaca to reenact indigenous rituals.

The Eye 20

More than three thousand years ago the hunters and gatherers of the region began to develop a more sedentary lifestyle, in large part due to the cultivation of corn, then other foodstuffs such as tomatoes, squash, beans and chiles. Corn remained the key staple, and the rains that traditionally began during the summer months assured its growth and an abundant supply throughout the year. It thus became usual practice to pay tribute to the gods responsible for bountiful yields during mid-summer to ensure that the rains continued and thus produced the healthiest of fall harvests.

This manifests in the offering and trading of initially foodstuffs, and then locally handcrafted products such as clay pots and other wares. The feast of Xilonen, goddess of young and tender corn, fell on the Christian calendar date of July 16.

The Spanish, upon their arrival in Oaxaca in 1521, on the one hand attempted to impose their beliefs on the indigenous peoples through conversion to Catholicism, while on the other sought to maintain at least some relevance for tribe members, through reinterpreting their longstanding traditions. One way was to incorporate the Guelaguetza into the celebration of the July 16 feast of the Virgin of Carmen, beginning at the downtown Oaxaca church of Carmen Alto, once a Zapotec site.

Eventually the Guelaguetza began to focus on the two Mondays following July 16, and its location changed to the Cerro del (Hill of) Fortin, which had been the location of Aztec garrisons during the 15th century. The ridge was, and thereafter remained, a place for gathering – and for celebrating the Guelaguetza.

In 1932, as part of the city's 400th anniversary festivities and its designation as a royal city by King Carlos V of Spain, the forerunner of the modern Guelaguetza was born, with representatives of ethnic groups from the different parts of the state invited to participate.

La Temporada de la Guelaguetza (The Season of the Guelaguetza) is a time for every Oaxacan to set aside political differences and concerns over inequalities and struggles, and pay tribute to the state's multiplicity of rich cultural traditions. The festivities also serve as a reminder that both government and the people must, for generations to come, strive to preserve indigenous heritage through promoting the maintenance of each culture's precious customs.

Just as Super Bowl Sunday draws TV audiences unprecedented throughout the rest of the year, so too does Lunes del Cerro in Oaxaca. From morning until evening on those two Mondays, every year, television stations broadcast the Guelaguetza. Virtually every restaurant, hotel, craft store, jewelry shop, and even market stall, in the state, is tuned in to the live performances.

Watching a Cerro del Fortín Guelaguetza performance is awe inspiring. It adds to our respect for and greater appreciation of the different mores and traditions which have endured centuries, and in some cases millennia. It reminds us of the state's rich array of rituals.

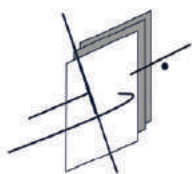
At the end of each troupe's performance, members toss gifts (i.e., offerings) to those in the stands: products brought down from their particular sub-region, ranging from palm leaf hats; to coffee, fruits, vegetables and nuts; to souvenirs created specifically to distribute. One cannot help but leave the Guelaguetza exhausted from cultural overload, but with a special understanding of the magic of Oaxaca. For the vast majority of Oaxacans, the Guelaguetza instills a renewed gratitude for their native legacy.

Ancillary events include the downtown parade of delegates on the Saturday evenings, and the performance of the legend of Donaji (the last Zapotec princess) on the Sunday evenings at 8:30 p.m. at the same auditorium. Some years on the Sunday evenings, a performance entitled *Las Tradiciones del Istmo* (The Traditions of the Isthmus) takes place at a much smaller open-air venue downtown, La Plaza de la Danza. There is frequently a children's Guelaguetza performed in the Alameda de León, adjoining Oaxaca's zócalo. When you arrive in Oaxaca, check for posters in the *centro histórico* for details of events.

The 2019 Guelaguetzas take place on July 22 & 29, at 10 a.m. & 5 p.m. Tickets are available through tourism offices, Ticketmaster and select travel agencies. It's worth the money to buy seats as close to the stage as possible. Each performance lasts about three hours.

Many towns and villages hold free Peoples' Guelaguetzas during the two-week period. Ask for dates, times and locations at your lodging. They, too, are very entertaining, but nothing compares to the state-sponsored Guelaguetzas on the Cerro del Fortín, experiencing all the color and pageantry on a grandiose scale while sitting in the stands, the stage in front, the spectacular valley of Oaxaca and distant mountains as backdrop.

Alvin Starkman attended his first Guelaguetza in 1991. He operates Mezcal Educational Excursions of Oaxaca (www.mezcaleducationaltours.com).



OAXACA
NOTARY OFFICE 115

We are empowered by the Government to:

- Formalize deeds
- Provide foreign investment services
- Create Mexican companies
- Provide Real Estate consulting

We also assist with:

- Issuance of property insurance policies
- Immigration services
- Translations & Interpreting

"The legal security of your investment is our number one responsibility"

HUATULCO - PUERTO ESCONDIDO



Enrique López Salinas
NOTARY PUBLIC & ATTORNEY AT LAW



J. Enrique López Leca
FOREIGN INVESTMENT SPECIALIST



The Wheels of Justice

By Brooke Gazer

Crime occurs everywhere, but the wheels of justice spin differently from country to country. Here is an experience we had years ago in Canada, contrasted with how something similar is handled in Mexico.

Since we were dissatisfied with the job a done by a contractor, we held back four percent of the payment, requesting he attend to a few small details. After two months, we purchased a bag of cement and did it ourselves. Later this man reappeared, threatening to take a sledge hammer to our front steps unless we handed over the remaining \$200.00. My better half calmly explained the law before closing the front door.

Crash! Bang! Boom! Several chunks of cement toppled into the flower bed. I called the police, a court date was set, the offender pled guilty, and was fined five hundred dollars. The judge said we could file a small claims suit, but as the offender had no assets registered in his name, we were unlikely to collect for the damages. After repairing the cement work at our own expense, we purchased two large planters to cover the damage.

Under this system, the government profited while the victim received no compensation. For similar crimes, the wheels of justice spin differently in Mexico.

When a Canadian friend's home was broken into, she discovered the culprit lived in her neighborhood and filed a complaint. The young man was summoned to meet with her at the *Agencia del Ministerio Público* (basically the local police station), he pled guilty, and paid her the value of the damages. Had the offender been unable or unwilling to compensate the victim, he would likely have served time, but his father ponied up the cash. Justice was served with no profit to the government.

This was not an isolated case involving a young offender. I had a similar experience when my dog was attacked. The dog's owner was summoned and paid our vet bill.

Mexico has a system of mediation and conciliation for minor crimes which seems more pragmatic than the traditional criminal justice system. Of course, if personal injury is involved a case becomes more complex and is handled at a higher level.

How to Report a Crime

Crime is comparatively low in Huatulco, but every barrel has a few bad apples. So, should you become a victim of an assault, a robbery or vandalism ... what should you do?

I spoke with Hugo García González, the municipal attorney assigned to the local office of the *Fiscalía General Estado Oaxaca*, *Agencia Estatal de Investigaciones*, or the Oaxacan State Prosecutor's Office of Investigations.



Each *Ministerio Público* is supported by one of these investigative prosecutors. In La Crucecita, it is located on the corner of Calle Jazmin and Calle Plumbago (near the Casa Pepe hardware store).

This was the advice of Sr. García González. If you become the victim of a robbery or assault you should immediately call the emergency number 911. There should be someone who speaks English, but this is not always the case. Although the situation is obviously traumatic, try to be patient.

It would help if you could say, "Please help me, I have been robbed (or) assaulted. Please, in English."

Ayudame han robado (or) agredido. Por favor, Inglés.
Eye-you-da-may ahn row-bah-doe (or) ah-grey-dee-doe.
Pour fah-bore, Inn-gless.

Mexico is a polite society; including "please" could be useful in developing a positive relationship between you and the dispatcher.

Mexicans also try to be helpful and considerate, so it is likely that someone will offer assistance. Try to get any witness to stay until the police arrive. They may assist you in explaining what occurred and possibly describe the culprit in more detail than you can.

In case of a burglary you would follow the same procedure but do not enter the premises unless you are certain the offender has left.

The police are obliged to investigate any complaint, so wait at the scene after you have made the call. You may want to call a neighbor to assist you in speaking to the authorities, since the officers may not speak English.

The 911 number is relatively new in Mexico; it should work and this should always be your first option. If for any reason there is no answer, two alternatives would be the *Policía Municipal*: 01 (958) 581 0675, or *Protección Civil*: 01 (958) 587 1212.

If the crime is a simple robbery, it will be handled through mediation at the *Ministerio Público*. If a weapon was used, or any violence or physical injury occurred, the wheels of justice will roll the case along to a higher court where criminal charges would be laid. Fraud and extortion also fall under the criminal code, but the wheels are set into motion at the same office. In all likelihood, you will never need these numbers, but it wouldn't hurt to file them carefully or program them into your phone. The Scouts' motto "Be Prepared" is a good one to live by.

**Brooke Gazer operates Agua Azul la Villa,
an oceanview B&B in Huatulco
(www.bbaguaazul.com).**

Plaza San Angel

Great Investment
High Quality, Attractive and Clean Shopping Center
Private Parking
Commercial Spaces For Sale
Prime location across from Chedraui

Info: buildinghuatulco@gmail.com
[cel: 958 174 2212](tel:9581742212)



Roberto Jones, Owner of Agua Vital, and His 30 Years in Huatulco

By Linda Kelly

When my cousin Roberto Jones first visited Huatulco with his father and younger brother in 1974, they drove by Jeep from Puerto Escondido, where the family had had a summer house since 1962. The drive from PE to Pochutla, on a new highway, took only about an hour and 45 minutes. The drive from Pochutla to Huatulco - on a dusty, hilly, bumpy, rough mountain trail - took seven hours.

Roberto's father, Bobby Jones, had discovered Puerto Escondido in the early 1960s and had a regular group of American and Oaxacan friends who'd fly their private planes to the landing strip in PE and stay in the trailer park that bordered the "airport." The group would make their way to Huatulco for the excellent sports fishing and SCUBA diving.

The first trip was one of discovery - the Joneses had not come prepared for the primitive conditions they found in Huatulco - no electricity, no water source, no lodging. On subsequent trips to cruise the pristine bays and beaches, and to SCUBA dive in the clear waters, they brought all the provisions they'd need, including their own tanks, compressor, and generator.

As their visits became more frequent in the mid-1970s, the families of the local fishermen lent the men their palapas for camping and prepared delicious meals from the day's catch of fish, lobsters, and oysters, supplemented in the evenings with venison and armadillo, abundant on the coast.

On one of the last SCUBA trips to Huatulco, Roberto's family explored Tangolunda Bay and were surprised to find a ranching family living there, in the isolated bay so far from the small settlement at Santa Cruz. The self-sufficient family had fresh water from the nearby river, were able to grow all the fruits and vegetables they needed, hunted for deer, and fished in the bay.

Bobby Jones saw the enormous potential for development of Oaxaca's Pacific coastline and was keenly aware of the lack of services. Fiestas in PE meant warm beer, as there was no source of ice and no electricity for refrigeration. With an entrepreneurial spirit, Bobby Jones built an ice and water factory in Puerto Escondido and began selling to the local fishermen and businesses in Pochutla and Puerto Angel. He had the vision that this area would eventually become a seaside tourist haven.

In the early years, before the Mexican government expropriated the lands around Santa Cruz in 1984 and began to develop Bahias de Huatulco, Mr. Jones' ice business served the local communities, including a thriving turtle meat vendor called La Piosa in Puerto Angel that needed the ice to keep the harvested meats cold and fresh. This was in the era before sea turtle protections were enacted by the Federal government (in 1991), and turtle meat was a staple to the locals.

Around 1982, then Mexican President Miguel de la Madrid visited the Huatulco area via yacht with one of the owners of the Camino Real hotel chain, Eugenio Martínez Ostos, who had a home in the Tangolunda Bay area. Shortly thereafter, the government expropriated the lands around Santa Cruz and began developing the master plan for a centrally planned tourist community called Bahías de Huatulco through the government's tourism development arm, FONATUR (*El Fondo Nacional de Fomento al Turismo*).

Meanwhile, Roberto went to university in Mexico City and studied to be a CPA. He then decided to enter the hospitality industry and did a one-year apprenticeship with Hoteles Posadas de Mexico at the Hotel Fiesta Americana Los Angeles Lopez near Manzanillo. When Roberto learned of the FONATUR development in Huatulco, he became interested in returning to the area. He was pursuing a few opportunities with the resort hotels just starting plans to build in Huatulco, when his younger brother Eduardo, who ran the ice and water company in PE started by their father Bobby, called to suggest that Roberto join him and set up a business in Huatulco. Eduardo had been delivering ice and water to Huatulco for the past few years, making the drive each week from PE, and he'd already been in conversations with FONATUR representatives about building an ice factory to serve Huatulco's development. In 1985, FONATUR agreed to sell the Jones brothers the land needed to build an ice factory, but it would be five long years before they provided a water source consistent and pure enough for ice production. Nevertheless, Roberto persisted and thus began the seeds of Agua Vital in Huatulco.

His incredible story continued. It was now 1988, and the Huatulco airport had been completed, yet there still were only a handful of hotels and no real apartments or lodging for those involved in Huatulco's development. The first hotel in the area, Posada Binniguenda, became the default home to the early investors and developers in Huatulco - the architects, engineers, the director of FONATUR, the director of the Santa Cruz marina, and the head of the golf course all lived in Posada Binniguenda when in Huatulco (yes, the hotel is in the same location today). Roberto had no interest in living there, and luckily, a very good friend from university, who was the controller of the newly-opened Sheraton, was living in Huatulco with her husband. Roberto lived with Andrea and her husband for four nights each week then returned to PE for the weekends.



Happy
FROZEN YOGURT - SMOOTHIES

Huatulco's Frozen Yogurt

Gardenia Street
La Crucecita
(2 blocks from the church)
Open 3pm-10pm
Closed Mondays

In 1990 FONATUR developed the area's eight wells near the Rio Copalita, and Agua Vital finally obtained its Huatulco water source. When Agua Vital production first began in Huatulco, the operation consisted of one delivery truck and one driver, who delivered water and ice to the early hotels and restaurants during the week; Roberto worked the weekends. Often, he'd be out at the restaurants and discotheques – La Crema (originally in Chahue), Magic Circus, and Medio Carlos y Charley were the first – until 2 am, return to his apartment, shower and head out to begin loading the truck for deliveries.

Despite the superior water from the Rio Copalita that Agua Vital – and all of Huatulco – enjoys, Agua Vital maintains a strict ten-step water purification process.

1. Untreated well water arrives at the factory.
2. The water is chlorinated to eliminate contamination.
3. Fine sand filtration removes suspended contaminants.
4. Carbon filtration eliminates toxins, remaining chlorine; removes residual taste and color from chlorination.
5. Water softening removes minerals and other components that create “hard water.”
6. Purifying filtration removes residual suspended particles.
7. Filtration by reverse osmosis eliminates micro-organisms.
8. The water is sterilized with ultraviolet light.
9. Ozone treatment eliminates any remaining bacteria, improves shelf life and storage time.
10. The water is bottled and hermetically sealed to guarantee purity.

Agua Vital now has a fleet of 35 delivery vehicles, 28 for water and 7 for ice. Agua Vital has taken over the ice factories in Pochutla and in Puerto Angel, but competition in the ice and water industry remains stiff. Roberto attributes much of his success to his personal and hands-on approach to service and management. This vigilance and attention to detail has served the business well. As one might say in Mexico, “*Camaron que se duerme, se lo lleva el corriente!*” (The shrimp that sleeps, is taken by the current!)



Festiva de los Moles
OAXACA JUL 2019

18 JULIO
14:00 Hrs. Inauguración y Muestra Vivencial
Jardín Carbajal

19 JULIO
13:00 Hrs. Convite
Partiendo de la Catedral Metropolitana
14:00 Hrs. Muestra Gastronómica
Jardín Etnobotánico

VENTA DE BOLETOS
A PARTIR DEL 28 DE MAYO

CANIBAC OAXACA Pineda Solís 801 Centro | 06101 - 07200 PDL
RESTAURANTE MARÍA BONITA Macdonald Alcaz | 7048 Centro | 06101 - 21200 PDL
Mayores Informes: (951) 514 93 74 - canibac@canibac.com

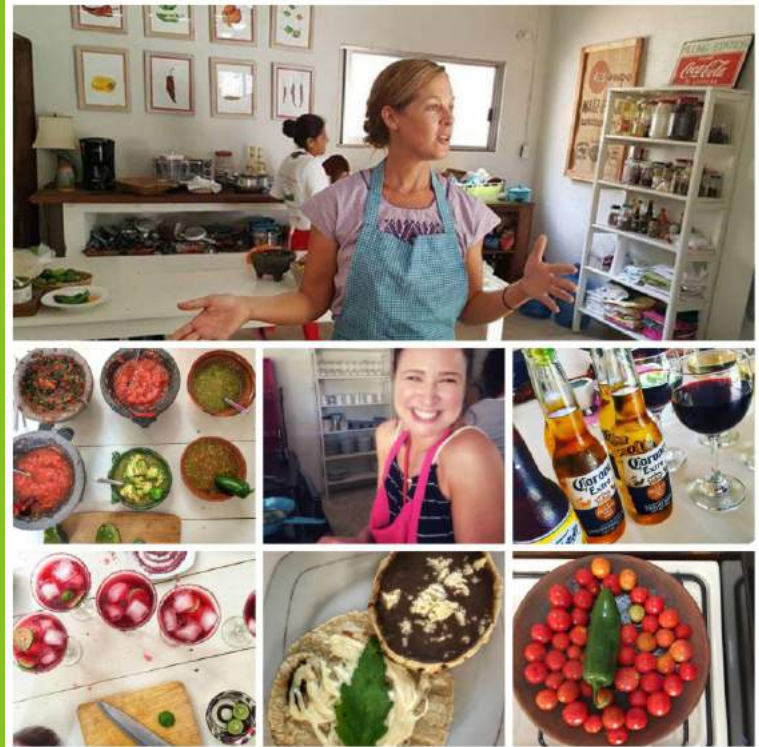
Del 20 al 31 de julio, Presencia del Festival de los Moles en restaurantes participantes.

Chiles & Chocolate

Cooking Classes

Huatulco, Oaxaca

The best way to learn about a culture is through its food.



Chiles & Chocolate Cooking Classes offer a delicious culinary and cultural experience that explore a variety of Southern Mexican cuisine. Our hands-on classes ensure you will leave prepared to recreate the dishes when you get home.

- Small Groups
- Hands-on
- Instruction in English
- Recipe Manual
- Free Gift Bag
- Lunch and Drinks Included
- All classes start at 9:30am
- Transportation Included



Cost: \$85 USD per person
Cooking Classes are 3-4 hours
Zimatan, Huatulco

Tel. 958 105 1671 Cel. 958 100 7339

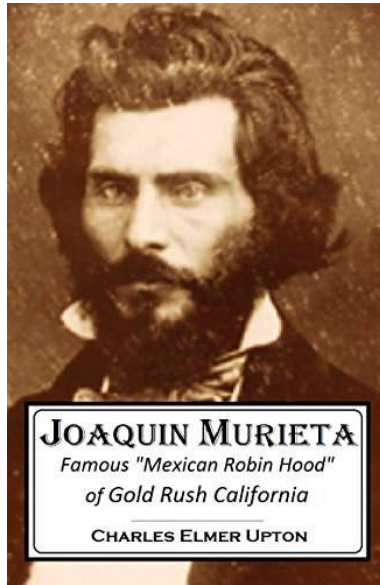
chiles.chocolate@yahoo.com

www.HuatulcoCookingClasses.com

MEXICO'S ROBIN HOOD: JOAQUÍN MURIETA

By Julie Etra

Joaquín Murieta Carillo was a Mexican miner, cowboy, and legendary 'California' character baptized in Álamos, Sonora, Mexico, in 1829. At that time the capital of northern Mexico (*Alta California*) was Monterey (originally named *Bahía de Monterrey* by the Spanish maritime explorer Sebastián Vizcaíno) in what is now the U.S. state of California – California, Nevada, Utah, most of Arizona, and parts of Wyoming, Colorado, and New Mexico were part of Mexico until the Mexican-American war (1848). California became a state (non-slavery) in 1850.



Murieta is a bit of a folk hero and symbol of Mexican resistance to Anglo-American dominance, and, depending on the source, has been called the Robin Hood of Mexico. He continues to be the subject of many myths and controversy. Evidently, he did not steal from the rich and give to the poor, but due to life's circumstances his resulting character became a famously hunted outlaw.

According to historian Susan Lee Johnson, "So many tales have grown up around Murieta that it is hard to disentangle the fabulous from the factual. There seems to be a consensus that Anglos drove him from a rich mining claim, and that, in rapid succession, his wife was raped, his half-brother lynched, and Murieta himself horse-whipped. He may have worked as a monte dealer for a time; then, according to whichever version one accepts, he became either a horse trader and occasional horse thief, or a bandit."

In 1849 he and family members arrived in what was then the U.S. at the beginning of the California Gold Rush, where gold was found at Sutter's Mill (now Coloma, between Auburn and Placerville) as did thousands of fortune seekers. Not surprising, they encountered racism and hostility from other "forty-niners," as they were called. These men came from eastern United States as well as other parts of the globe, including Europe, China, Mexico and South America. The population in and around Sutter's Mill soared to more than 300,000.

According to historian Frank Forrest Latta, Murieta organized several gangs and bands within the gangs, made up and led by his relatives from Sonora. Latta's research revealed that a core group of these men had helped Murieta avenge the lynching of his stepbrother by killing at least six of the Americans involved, who had also whipped Murieta himself; the Americans had trumped up a charge of mule theft to explain their actions.

The gang then took up horse trading, regularly trading stolen horses and legal wild mustangs, driving them south to Sonora from as far north as Contra Costa County, the Central Valley, and the mining camps in the Sierras down the remote Mountain Trail (*La Vareda del Monte*) trail through the Diablo Range along the California coast.

Bands of Murieta's gang engaged in the horse trade, horse theft, and marauding the countryside surrounding the gold camps. Victims of their murderous raids included miners and settlers of Anglo and Chinese origin. Finally, by 1853, when Murieta was in his thirties, the state legislature resolved to stop his gang and created a special force, the California Rangers, led by Los Angeles Deputy Sheriff Harry Love. On July 25, the Rangers encountered a band of armed Mexican men near Arroyo de Cantua near Coalinga, California.

Of three Mexicans killed, one was purported to be Murieta, and another Manuel Garcia, aka *Tres Dedos* or "Three-Fingered Jack," another notorious gang member. To prove their success and to receive the promised reward Love and the Rangers preserved Murieta's head and Jack's hand in a jar of alcohol (whiskey) and presented them to the authorities. Numerous individuals confirmed and swore to their identities as these grisly objects were taken on tour by Love and displayed, for a fee, in Mariposa County, Stockton, and San Francisco. For the next 25 years myths persisted regarding the true identity of the head, which fortunately or not was destroyed during the 1906 San Francisco earthquake.

Ironically in the 1960s the master-planned community Rancho Murieta, southeast of Sacramento, was named for the outlaw, and includes Laguna Joaquin and a 27-hole golf course. The Mexican Robin Hood may also be memorialized at Murieta's Restaurant and Cantina in Reno, NV (a not very good Mexican restaurant the last time I was there).



**Marina Chahue,
Huatulco**
Tel. 958 105 1671
Cel. 958 100 7339
Closed Mondays

www.cafejuanitamexico.com



Coming Soon:

Villas Sirenas Park Place
(right across from Marina Chahue)

56 Luxury Condos
24 Commercial Prime Locations

More info

Cell: 958 174 2212

BuildingHuatulco@gmail.com

We know
the best of

OAXACA. FOOD. REAL ESTATE.



FULL SERVICE REAL ESTATE SOLUTIONS

VACATION RENTALS | PROPERTY MANAGEMENT | RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE

MX (+52.1) 958.587.4543 www.BaysideHuatulco.com info@BaysideHuatulco.com

Visit us at Marina Park Plaza Blvd. Benito Juarez, Local 6 / Manzana 3 / Lote 1 / Sector L / Huatulco Mexico