



Binational Fall News

Binational Emergency Medical Care Committee
Fall 2011

Hello to All!

We here at Binational Emergency want to express our sincerest thanks and gratitude to all of you. After over 35 years of helping our binational community, it has been a pleasure to help you and our close neighbors in Mexico! We have a lot of things to tell you about what has happened since our last newsletter. Can you believe that the Baja 1000 is almost upon us again? Also, we had our first Casino Fundraiser that was a huge success. Hopefully we can even have more of you to come with us for our next Casino event planned for early 2012. Furthermore, our annual toy drive is almost upon us. Each year Binational Emergency's goal is to collect over 5,000 toys, blankets, and warm clothing to deliver to the coldest areas in Baja California. Please visit our website for more information on how you can help!

In addition, we want to tell you more about an exciting rescue and transport. As you already know, your membership is your safety belt in case of an accident, illness, or medical emergency that may occur when you or your loves ones travel into Mexico. So now, read on!

Baja 1000

SCORE Baja 1000 is only a month away with over 500 international competitors all geared up and ready to compete in over 15 categories.

Race week festivities are scheduled for November 17-20 2011, and this SCORE 2011 desert race series 1,061.91 mile loop will start and finish in Ensenada's, Baja, Mexico. The action begins at 6:30am sharp on Friday November 18th 2011 with the motorcycle and ATV Classes up first to start the journey. At 11:45am get ready to see the car and truck classes take off as Jesse James executes his #54 Chevy Silverado SCORE Trophy Truck.

The festivities in Baja are not limited when it comes to having an amazing time. Mountain biking, sea kayaking, snorkeling, deep sea sport fishing, and swimming with the dolphins are among things to do just to get your party started. Visit our travel destination page:

<http://www.binationalemergency.org/destinations.html>

If you choose to go to Mexico, don't forget about your number one rescue source in case of an emergency. Your Binational Emergency Membership is your ticket back so

make sure you carry it in your wallet or purse every time you visit Mexico.

Casino Fundraiser!

In addition to Baja 1000, Binational Emergency hosted their first annual Casino Fundraiser at Golden Acorn Casino in Campo California. Live entertainment on the bus contributed to a great trip, along with raising money for a cause that will save lives. The large group left on an air conditioned bus with full bathroom on Saturday morning, October 8th. Doughnuts, cupcakes, coffee and cookies were served to all the guests, along with bottled water, wine, and sodas. Free play money was also provided from the Casino once the guests arrived. The event lasted from 10 am till 4 pm, and the guests had a chance to eat at the restaurant. For \$7.99 (Five dollars free play money was included), guests could have their choice of Tri-tip and eggs or steak and lobster for a slightly higher price. The slot machines and gambling tables awaited, and by 4 pm everyone had smiling faces when we all met at the entrance to the Casino. Music played and there even was a sing-a-long on the way back! In all it was a great event and Binational Emergency plans to have another Casino trip early in 2012, so call or visit our website at <http://www.binationalemergency.org/> for more details.

Binational's Annual Toy and Blanket Drive

Each year, Binational strives to gather over 5,000 toys and blankets to deliver to the children and families who live in the coldest mountain areas of Mexico. Volunteers come from all over San Diego County and other areas to help personally deliver these toys and blankets to the smiling faces of children and Mothers who desperately need our help during these cold Winter nights. Binational Emergency has made these deliveries for over 35 years, but this year it is especially important due to the economic hardships of all. Please help us and donate. Contact us at (619) 425-5080 or visit our website at <http://www.binationalemergency.org/> for more information. You can also visit us on our Facebook page at:

www.facebook.com/binationalemergency

Emergency in Mexico

On July 3, 2011, Celia Diaz, Director of Binational Emergency was at home when she received a call around 6:00 p.m. from Douglas Magee. Doug is one of Binational Emergency's volunteers living in Gonzaga Bay in Baja California Sea of Cortez. Doug Magee stated, A boat just sunk with 45 persons on board on the Sea of Cortez. Amazingly, one of the passengers swam several hours to reach the closest island. A fisherman found him and the survivor asked for help to rescue the rest of the passengers. Doug said he received the information from the fisherman via radio and needed the assistance of the US and Mexico Coast Guard to search for any survivors. Doug's first thought was to call Celia Diaz of Binational Emergency for assistance.

Celia immediately called and emailed the information to the U.S. and the Mexican

Coast Guard along with the coordinates and requested a Search & Rescue operation for survivors. Within 30 minutes Celia Diaz received another e-mail from Dough McGee. He said thank you, the US and Mexico Coast Guard are arriving and are looking for survivors. Doug also sent the names of other survivors who were picked up by local fisherman near the Island in the Sea of Cortez (approximately 18). Celia immediately passed this information to the U.S. Consulate and to the U.S./Mexico Coast Guard officials along with the radio frequencies used by the volunteers involved with the search & rescue operations in that area. Unfortunately, Celia also discovered that a few of the passengers were never found.

Binational Emergency volunteers kept Celia informed throughout entire search and rescue operation. Celia expediently passed the information to the local military authorities and all others who were involved.

The U.S. Coast Guard called Celia a few days later to ask how she found out before they did about the incident. Celia explained to the officer that it was thanks to the excellent communications and friendship we have with our BEMCC volunteers throughout Mexico.

Special Thank You from Binational

Celia and the entire staff at Binational Emergency want to send a special thank you to Doug and Peggy Magee and all others involved in the rescue operation mentioned above. Through their excellent communication skills and extraordinary effort, many lives were saved. Your continued sponsorship and donations are the driving force and what makes Binational Emergency a tier above all others. Binational not only strives 24/7 to keep you safe, but through the cooperative effort of many unknown volunteers this essential life line is kept open in case of an emergency. A special Thank You from Binational!

Join Now!

Has your membership expired? Click the button below to apply online and renew your membership today!

