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A Brief History of What This Very Cool Project Is All About

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-Started when PRIP Frank Devlyn introduced Taco to RC Mexicali Oeste back in 2011



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-RC Mexicali Oeste chartered 1976 & is small but mighty club where everyone participates; -Proud home to 2 Past DGs.



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-Soon after our first meeting in 2011, a "Sister Club" agreement was signed between RC Palm Desert and RC Mexicali Oeste.

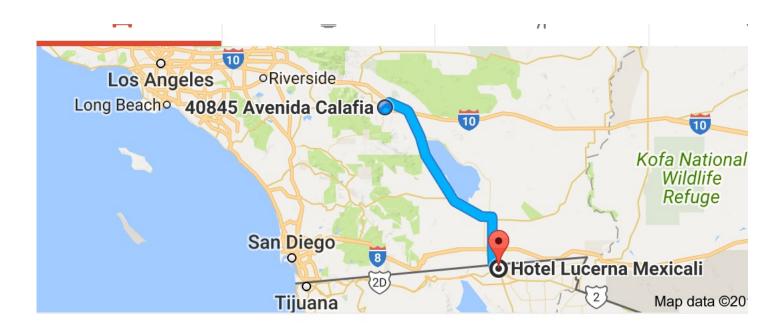
-This agreement has functioned very well, a COMPLETE SUCCESS!

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-Through the years, many Palm Desert Rotarians & friends have visited Mexicali and participated in service events and fellowship, and nearly ALL of the members of Mexicali Oeste have reciprocated, by coming to events in USA.

(A Rotary Club of Palm Desert International Service Project) It's very close...just 2 hour drive!



2 h 6 min (114.0 mi) via CA-86 S

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-RC Palm Desert has donated all kinds of stuff to help RC Mexicali Oeste meet needs including:

- -Money & Food
- -A fire truck & an ambulance
- -Clothes, toys, blankets, piñatas
- -Woodworking machine shop tool
- -4,000 refillable water bottles

-Coming soon: Refurbished park playground ("Angelique Park!"), Cervical Cancer clinic, scholarships, computers for libraries & schools and MORE!

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-And spearheaded by a \$16,000 contribution from Palm Desert Rotary club member Arnold Kirschenbaum, during COVID we contributed a dining hall building to Eduardo Huet School For Deaf, with kitchen, appliances & all utensils to make it work.





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-RC Mexicali Oeste has helped Palm Desert by making it easy to find and execute service projects in Mexico and has also provided us with a wonderful event entertainment option:

Folkloric Dance Group "Tecolotl Macehuani"

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Folkloric Dance Group "Tecolotl Macehuani"



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Folkloric Dance Group "Tecolotl Macehuani"

Have come to Coachella Valley from Mexicali many times, at no cost to anyone, and entertained at Rotary District Conference,
Galilee Center, other partner orgs like Dr
Carreón Foundation, etc.

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So What's "Mexicali Weekend" All About?

- -Well, it starts Friday afternoon, 1st weekend in January, with a drive down to Mexicali...
- -We stay at 5 star hotel @\$100/room
- -Cost to participate, including 3 meals = \$100
- -It ends Sunday morning, with drive home after breakfast.

Sooo...IT'S EASY TO DO, AFFORDABLE, FUN...!!!

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In between, we paint classrooms, building exteriors, wall murals and fences at a school for deaf youth, CAM EDUARDO HUET....and,

We take clothes, toys, blankets...and LOTS OF LOVE to a charity for poor, homeless youth, DESAYUNADOR UREDAE...and,

We provided MEXICALI TECHNOLOGY UNIVERSITY with 4,000 refillable water bottles, after helping them install water purification plant and 4 bottle refilling stations on campus, plus...

We have great dinners (with dancing!) and warm fellowship with Mexicali Rotarians!

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Let's look at some pictures...

































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It's angels like these that keep drawing us back to Desayunador UREDAE!

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In 2023 we promised Mexicali Technology University President Maribel Guerrero that Rotary would try to provide EVERY student a refillable water bottle.

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In 2024 we delivered! Thanks to support from 8 D5330 clubs, we designed, ordered, bought and presented students 4,000 refillable water bottles.

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Here we are filling our new water bottles at one of the refill stations we helped install. President Maribel invited us to her conference room for a warm Mexican GRACIAS!

Two Additional Critical Need Projects





Two other projects we coordinated with Fontana RC and Joshua Tree RC. A fire engine and an ambulance. These vehicles are always needed south of the border.

Other Member Engagement Ideas

- -"Angels of Service" for Food Insecurity
 - -Participate in pantry distribution
 - -Duck races on a pond
 - -Membership contest
 - -Call your city: "Where can we help?"

The principle characteristic all these activities share is getting members engaged. A club meeting to brainstorm which activities might be appealing is a good way to get the ball rolling.