



Merry Christmas 2007

Gran Escape #49 (Feliz Navidad)

21 Diciembre 2007

Amigos Queridos,

Once again, we have escaped to Mexico for Christmas. We are currently in **Puerto Penasco** (Rocky Point) Mexico. Rocky Point is on the mainland side of the **Sea of Cortez**. We arrived here on Wednesday, December 19, and expect to leave December 26. We drove from Yuma, Arizona and crossed the border at San Luis which is about 20 miles south of Yuma. We picked up Mex Hwy 2 at San Luis and followed it along the border to Sonoyta where we turned south toward the coast on Hwy 8. The Mexican truck traffic on Hwy 2 was very heavy and a bit intimidating. Hwy 2 is two lane with no shoulders and the trucks are moving fast. It would be no sweat in a car, but with a motorhome that is about 8-1/2 feet wide, it wasn't fun. On the other hand, Hwy 8 was a delight. Light traffic, wide shoulders, and smooth pavement. This stretch was about 60 miles and very relaxing.

When we go back to Yuma, we will take Hwy 8 to Sonoyta and then cross the border at Lukeville, Arizona, which will allow us to visit Organ Pipe National Monument. This route will add about 50 miles to the trip, but avoids Hwy 2. We probably will never do Hwy 2 again. We just don't need the stress.

We are camped at **Playa Bonita RV Resort** in space #6 which is right on the water. We have a beautiful view of the Sea of Cortez and stairs from our coach to the sandy beach. We were supposed to be here with our friends, **Dick and Wendy** from Yuma, but Dick developed bronchitis and couldn't make it. Playa Bonita is a large upscale resort with a hotel, restaurant and bar, and about 300 RV spaces. It's about a quarter of a block from our coach to the bar and restaurant. Oh yeah, this is the good life. If you wish to escape and join us, there is plenty of room in the RV park and in the hotel. You can drive here, catch a shuttle service from many Arizona towns, or fly in. Puerto Penasco is becoming a first class tourist destination and has an international airport.



Our motorhome, space 6, Playa Bonita RV Resort, Puerto Penasco, Mexico.



Restaurant and bar next to our RV park.

The restaurant and bar has both indoor and outdoor dining. Both are very lovely and there is a 4 to 6 p.m. happy hour with live music every day. All in all, a rather elegant place to watch the sun set into the Sea of Cortez.

Expensive beach front condominiums are springing up like weeds. Our motorhome is the speck on the extreme right of the picture below. You can see some of the high rise condominiums under construction to the north of us.



High rise condos at Playa Bonita and Sandy Beach.



Rocky Point.

South of the RV park and across the bay and harbor is the original Rocky Point area. In the picture above on the extreme right is a new restaurant on stilts over the water.

Our Verizon cell phones do not work in Rocky Point, so we bought a brand new AT&T Go Phone which is supposed to work here. There is good AT&T reception here, but unfortunately our new phone doesn't work. All of our out bound calls are blocked and AT&T doesn't know why. You can leave a message on our regular Verizon numbers and we can pick up those messages via computer.

Our new service provider for our large computer dish is working well with computer data, but cannot handle voice over IP. Nor can this service handle Skype. However, the RV resort has fast WiFi and we can get on Skype that way. If you have a fast Internet subscription, we urge you to subscribe to the free Skype phone service. There is no charge to sign up. A Skype subscriber can call any other Skype subscriber anywhere in the world for free. For a very small fee, a Skype subscriber can also call a land line. We used Skype today to talk to our friends **Dave and Isobel** in England for free. We also talked to **Michael and Anna-Mieke** in Bonaire for free. We called a land line in California and the total cost was 2.1 cents per minute. Is this a deal or what?

You can subscribe to Skype at www.skype.com. If you'd like to contact us while we are at this resort, our subscriber name is: **chuckanddonna713**.

In closing, we wish you a very merry christmas and a happy new year.

Until next time, home is where you park it.

Chuck & Donna

