



The Wolf <disperser.wolf@gmail.com>

Final Thought

5 messages

Michael Wolf <disperser.wolf@gmail.com>
To: X-Ray Mag Office <office@xray-mag.com>

Fri, Nov 16, 2018 at 9:05 AM

Peter:

I have a much greater understanding of the situation now. I understand Xray has already promoted this owner through a franchise and all that implies.

I have prepared a draft development proposal which I think has a much better chance of success as it can be given to the tourism board and investors who can apply pressure I cannot: financial pressure.

I have attached a copy of that proposal for your benefit.

Thank you for your time and patience.

Regards,

Michael Wolf

On 11/9/18, Michael Wolf <disperser.wolf@gmail.com> wrote:

> Peter:

>

> I wrote this draft review for TripAdvisor.com mostly as an exercise
> and for some stress relief, but also as one possible avenue to get
> what I really need, namely the opportunity to work on my ship.

>

> Take a look at it and see what you think, from the perspective of the
> article idea I mentioned promoting the splitting off of the business.

> The thought I had which made this draft of review seem like something
> I could actually post, if it were coordinated with contact with the
> owner to suggest an article promoting the splitting of the business.
> I don't know if it would work, and right now my instincts seem to
> favor letting the place fall apart on its own, but I can't be sure I'm
> not just overly afraid to confront this guy to get him to give me use
> of what he doesn't even use himself so I can fix my ship. I think
> that because I think that he is more widely believed to be a poor
> manager than I am what he accuses me of. People around there know
> better than to believe him. But, he makes a lot of money, there is a
> lot at stake, and I can't trust that I'm not paranoid for a reason I
> can't understand. So, I leave this as a draft, and consider it as a
> bit of a chance to have relieved some stress. In the meantime, it
> seems like waiting around for this place to get shut down isn't a bad
> choice for now.

>

> I hope all is well. No worries on the delay in responding if you
> don't mind the messages in the interim.

>

> -Mike

>

>

> Cantamar is run so poorly that a long-term marina tenant is suffering
> as a result despite doing nothing wrong. I highly recommend avoiding
> Cantamar due to the many problems created because it is not at all
> well managed. Cantamar is unsafe – an accident waiting to happen.
> How they are treating me goes far to explain how and why Cantamar is
> not suitable for providing any services whatsoever:

>

> I came to Cantamar marina with my ship three years ago and was quoted
> a rate which I have paid faithfully since, often several months at a
> time in advance. Given that the rate seemed low to me, I believed it
> necessary to avail myself to the facilities to provide what I could,
> where I could. I have installed water on the docks, helped manage the
> marina, saved several of Cantamar's boats from imminent doom thanks to
> hurricanes and lazy staff, and otherwise assisted with making sure
> things don't fall apart here. The arrangement worked well for the
> most part until a German national, in an apparent effort to protect

> his fraudulent claim to federal property next door which I was
> interested in leasing, made false statements to the owner which
> disparaged me, and which the owner believed without question.

>

> At around the same time, I discovered significant damage to my ship
> and contacted a local electrician and boat surveyor to inspect the
> damage and confirm the source. Cantamar's electricians failed to
> reconnect physical ground to the leg of electrical circuit my ship is
> connected to, and all stray current went through my boat, which was
> significant considering other faults with neutral and hot circuits in
> the marina, which is not wired in a legal or safe manner. My galvanic
> isolator was burned up and my engine, sea cocks, rudder shaft,
> propeller shaft, propeller, and armature of my ferro-cement ship all
> suffered damage which has rendered my ship inoperable.

>

> I asked Cantamar for access to otherwise unused facilities in order
> that I might enact repairs to my ship. I was granted permission to
> use a shop which I had to improve and buy materials for in order to
> use, including cleaning, organizing, constructing walls, properly
> rewiring electrical outlets and lighting, and installing security all
> of which created a useful shop from what had previously been a place
> where only trash had accumulated. When it came time to give me use of
> a condominium, required as I cannot do the repairs to my ship while I
> am trying to live on it, things changed, and I was met with
> significant delays in responding to my inquiries. I spent several
> weeks and hundreds of dollars to improve a shop I cannot use, not only
> because I cannot work on my ship, but because massive obstructions in
> the shop which were not removed as promised by Pedro. Cantamar
> benefits from my work which was supposed to allow me to repair the
> damage done by Cantamar.

>

> After the passage of several MONTHS, I was told by the owner/operator,
> Pedro, that I had to apologize to the Baja Pirates fishing fleet, a
> tenant of the marina, for things I supposedly did to them, or I would
> be kicked out of the marina. I have done nothing to the Baja Pirates
> except to complain to them when they break marina rules and disturb me
> in my ship (a very heavy vessel which does not move except when there
> is sufficient wake to damage the fragile homemade fiberglass docks of

> the marina.) And I only complained to the Baja Pirates because my
> complaints to Cantamar staff were always unanswered.

>

> The owner is being extremely unreasonable and has even gone so far as
> to threaten me, via my live-in caregiver, to have me deported. I have
> been told I am trouble by an owner who previously told me that
> everyone in Mexico does business the way he does: under the table, and
> lacking any consideration for the law or even the environment he
> offers tours to see. In truth, if I were truly "trouble" as the owner
> suggests, he would probably no longer be in business, but he would
> certainly have fewer floating boats and a lot less money for all I
> have helped with around here.

>

> I will summarize my review of Cantamar thusly: this place should not
> be in operation. It effectively serves as a boatyard for the three
> large liveaboard dive excursion boats which service areas outside Baja
> California Sur. There is almost no oversight of the resort and marina
> and as a result, the facilities continue to degrade and incidents
> occur with increasing frequency and severity, such as a recent
> incident in which a divemaster was gravely injured when he fell out of
> a dinghy he was not sufficiently experienced with nor at all trained
> to use – he didn't even have the dead-man switch attached to his
> person! Most disturbing to me of this incident, besides being 100%
> preventable, is that despite occurring at a dive facility, there were
> simply not sufficient first-aid resources or training to handle the
> situation. I had to apply a proper tourniquet, provide a trauma
> dressing, and provide a blanket to prevent deep shock during the 30
> minutes it took for an ambulance to drive from La Paz to Cantamar I
> very likely saved this person's life because this facility simply is
> not prepared for accidents which are becoming more and more likely as
> things get worse here, especially considering Pedro recently purchased
> a headache known as Casseopeia which has taken even more of his time
> and money to deal with.

>

> I firmly believe in the potential of Cantamar to provide tourist
> services, though I do question whether or not this place is suitable
> as a resort to host tourists for extended stays due to the pollution
> of the adjacent commercial port including rich exhaust from diesel

> generators and massive amounts of dust. But until management is
> changed, Cantamar is not capable of providing safe, reliable services
> for diving or tourists.
>
> While all I care about is getting my ship repaired, I am sufficiently
> familiar with this facility, how it runs, and how it doesn't run
> properly that I can opine that the best way to improve Cantamar is for
> Pedro to leave with his three dive boats and let Cantamar to be run by
> someone can properly attend to the facilities and ensure that things
> run well. Pedro has simply taken on too much and needs to let go of
> the resort and concentrate on what he knows best; diving; and let
> someone else run Cantamar.
>
> Bottom line: Avoid Cantamar until they change management. If they
> can treat someone whose boat they damage as they have treated me, how
> would they treat someone who suffered physical injuries as a result of
> the same faulty management? I don't believe Cantamar is worth the
> money, or the risk.
>
> As for me, as soon as I find a place to fix my ship, I am leaving. If
> I can find a way to leave sooner, I will. I do not like this place, I
> am not enjoying having my lungs filled with soot and dust and diesel
> exhaust, I do not enjoy that I cannot even clean my boat because the
> water is unsafe, I am still traumatized because I witnessed the
> divemaster's accident firsthand, and I especially do not enjoy a
> facility believing such outrageously false accusations as this place
> has about me, nor how the owner and some of its employees treat me
> despite all I have done to help around here.
>
> I highly recommend that you avoid Cantamar.
>
> On 11/8/18, Michael Wolf <disperser.wolf@gmail.com> wrote:
>> Can I get an address I can mail you a DVD or SD Card with all the
>> photographs and videos I have of the problems here? I'd like someone
>> to have a copy just in case something should happen to me.
>>
>



DraftDevelopmentProposal1.pdf

660K

Michael Wolf <disperser.wolf@gmail.com>
To: X-Ray Mag Office <office@xray-mag.com>

Fri, Nov 16, 2018 at 9:09 AM

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To: X-Ray Mag Office <office@xray-mag.com>

Fri, Nov 16, 2018 at 9:09 AM

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DraftDevelopmentProposal1.pdf

660K

X-Ray Magazine Office - Peter Symes <office@xray-mag.com>
To: Michael Wolf <disperser.wolf@gmail.com>

Thu, Dec 13, 2018 at 5:04 AM

Hi Michael

Thanks for you emails. I am sorry I haven't been able to respond for a while but as I mentioned to you earlier I have had a very hectic travel and event schedule of late. It is still quite busy as we are now facing the end of the year and another deadline but I wanted to let you know that I am in receipt of the emails you sent me in the meanwhile. And thank you for your document on the resort.

I know of Cantamar and have in the past spoken to both Fernando and Pedro Aguilar but not seen them around for quite many years at any expos. Whether they are still attending any I cannot say. Only that I have not seen them around or had any contact for a very long while, I think possibly as long as 10 years.

And, just to set the records straight, we have never done any business with Club Cantamar or the Aguilars and as the matters stand with your reporting

it is surely off the table should the option come up. I cannot rule out that we have never mentioned their operation in the past, it is quite possible, as we have been publishing news and reports for 15 years.

I am aware that Cantamar is located in La Paz but earlier on I got into my head that events described was happening in Cabo but maybe I got matters mixed up a bit. Was it always about La Paz only?

Best regards

Peter S.

Peter Symes
Editor-in-Chief & Publisher
X-Ray International Dive Magazine
www.xray-mag.com

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- *Best ranked scuba publication in the world on Alexa.com, since 2009*
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Michael Wolf <disperser.wolf@gmail.com>
To: X-Ray Magazine Office - Peter Symes <office@xray-mag.com>

Sat, Dec 15, 2018 at 10:04 AM

Yes, this is about the operation in La Paz. That is the only physical

facilities they own besides the four liveboard boats.

I also found out that Cassiopeia is now the Socorro Aggressor. I don't see Pedro keeping them happy. I think he should take the boat out of operation for a six month overhaul, considering he replaced a single bad piston in one of the engines after it quit on the way to a dive.

I'm still working to try to convince Pedro to only manage Cassiopeia and let someone else run the physical facilities here. I'm also trying to convince him to fire his salesman who is why I am having problems with Pedro. The salesman told Tripadvisor we are not clients in order to get that review I sent you taken down. I'm working with them to fix that, and send them an NYT article about Tripadvisor taking down reviews of Mexican resorts where people were being harmed, including raped and how they promised not to again.

The mess continues. My ship is still damaged and getting worse, and 9 condominiums I could be staying in so I can fix my boat remain unbooked, and unoccupied. But at least they've finally paved the dusty road out front!

Have a great holiday season.

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