



## **PORTCORPUSCHRISTI**

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### **MEXICO'S NAVAL ACADEMY TALL SHIP THE "B.E. CUAUHEMOC" TO VISIT SOUTH TEXAS AS PART OF MEXICO'S BICENTENIAL INDEPENDENCE ANNIVERSARY**

*"As part of 4<sup>th</sup> of July Weekend Sail South Texas 2010"*

**CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS** – To continue the Bicentennial Celebration of Mexico's Independence, the Naval Academy Tall Ship "B.E. Cuauhtémoc," will visit South Texas to be part of Sail South Texas 2010, for Fourth of July weekend. Sail South Texas 2010 is a Tall Ship event hosted by Port Corpus Christi and presented by H.E.B. The event will be hosted at Port Corpus Christi's Ingleside Facility, former U.S. Naval Station Ingleside, July 1 to July 5, 2010.

Sail South Texas 2010 highlights many special celebrations in the region and the Americas. It commemorates the official transfer of the United States Naval Station Ingleside to Port Corpus Christi, the Bicentennial celebration of independence of many Latin American countries and the United States 234<sup>th</sup> Independence Anniversary. *"We are very proud to bring the Tall Ship experience to Corpus Christi and South Texas in a larger scale than before. Our*

*community will have the opportunity to celebrate and learn about Tall Ships and the countries they represent.”* **Said Mike Carrell, Chairman Port Corpus Christi Commission.**

Mexico’s Naval Academy Tall Ship “B.E. Cuauhtémoc,” is used by the Mexican Navy to train its officer cadets and sails with a crew of 276 officers and cadets. The “B.E. Cuauhtémoc” was built for the Mexican Navy in the Celaya shipyards (Bilbao, Spain) and launched in July, 1982. She was the last of four windjammers built by Bilbao shipyards (her predecessors were the “A.R.C. Gloria” from Colombia, the “Guayas” from Ecuador and the “Simon Bolivar” from Venezuela). The “B.E. Cuauhtémoc” is named for the last Aztec emperor who was imprisoned and executed by the conquistador, Herman Cortes, in 1525.

The “B.E. Cuauhtémoc” will be joined by the “Esmeralda” from Chile, the “Capitan Miranda” from Uruguay and the “USCGS Eagle” from the United States in South Texas 2010. Together these four tall ships will be the highlight of one of the most exciting 4<sup>th</sup> of July weekends ever held in the region. The “Velas de Sudamerica 2010” began last February, 2010 in Brazil with ports of call in Uruguay, Argentina, Chile and Ecuador before sailing through the Panama Canal. After crossing the Panama Canal, they will arrive in Cartagena Colombia, on the way to Venezuela, Santo Domingo to end the regatta in Veracruz, Mexico. For more information on this tour see [www.velassudamerica2010.com](http://www.velassudamerica2010.com) . Port Corpus Christi will be the only United States Port where the invited Tall Ships will get together to celebrate and share their celebration, culture and friendship. *“H-E-B is excited to be able to help bring this incredible opportunity to South Texas! The culture, history, and beauty of these ships and their crews will reward all who see them with an educational opportunity that will stay with*

*them and inspire them to learn more about the South American Countries these ships call home."* said Shelley J. Parks, H-E-B Public Affairs, South Texas Region

Sail South Texas 2010 is an international event created by the Port Corpus Christi and presented by H.E.B. at **NO COST TO THE PUBLIC** to open the doors of the Port's newest facility at Ingleside. It celebrates independence while learning about Culture music, food and folklore of the represented countries. For more information, you can visit [www.sailsouthtexas2010.com](http://www.sailsouthtexas2010.com)