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About the Author

For over 30 years, Faye has frequently traveled in Mexico, and for the last 18 years she has wintered there. Her love of Mexico began when she and her husband worked with the Mazahuan people on the high plateau out of Mexico City. That love carried them along years later to the adventure of owning property on the Pacific coast, all the while learning on the go.

Faye has a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Minnesota. Her volunteer interests have included Families Moving Forward, Good Samaritan Nursing Homes, and the Twin Cities Marathon.

She is the author of *Gumption*, *Lessons on Old Age*, *Loneliness*, and *a Hotdish* (2010), a true tale about the resilient spirit of old men in her small hometown in Minnesota. She has made numerous presentations on the subject of "positive aging." She wrote a piece under that title for Minnesota Women's Press (2011).

Faye also wrote *Finding Foxholes*, a World War II Infantry Route, Then...and 48 Years Later (2014) combining her travelogue with coinciding audio-taped stories by her father, a Bronze Star, World War II infantry soldier. In 2016, she was honored as the speaker at the Memorial Service in Renville, MN. In 2017, *Finding Foxholes* was selected for the One Book One County reading program by the Minnesota Arts and Cultural Heritage Library Legacy Fund.

In 2006, Faye's "South of the Border" was featured in *Running Times*.

Faye and her husband live nine months a year in Minneapolis, MN and three months in Manzanillo, MX. They have four children and seven grandchildren.

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Mariachi! Running Off to Mexico...
Beckoning Advice on Beach Front Property,
Retirement, and Crossing Borders

Faye Berger

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About the Book:

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What People are Saying:

**Skillful writing—
informative, yet
entertaining—just the
right mix to keep you
wanting more.**

Thoroughly enjoyable.

**~Jamelle Swanson,
retired teacher, USA**

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Book Excerpt

Nothing says Mexico like the music. Can you hear it? The brilliance of the trumpets...the sweetness of the violins...the deep-voiced *guitarro*...the strumming of the *vehuela*, dramatically calling to attention? It's mariachi! It's Mexico!

You might not yet know the sweet, enticing sounds of the mariachi, which can lull a person into a dream life at the beach. Or you might say, “Sure, I know those sounds...but what's the big fuss? Mexicans are always playing their mariachi.” That's exactly my point. Hardly a celebration of any kind, a restaurant, or a small family party is without their traditional musicians—the heart and soul of Mexico. Their music, the mariachi, gives us a glimpse of the rich and colorful Mexican culture, an audio tapestry celebrating ordinary Mexican people over the centuries. If you have spent an extended time in Mexico, my guess is that the music speaks to you too.

But, music aside, Mexico isn't for everyone. Mexico is daring and risky with its dark foreign intrigue. It can be messy and noisy and dusty and hot. It almost always is complex. And let's not forget, it has a different language. Yet, Mexico for many of us travelers can be an elixir of sorts that not only soothes but exhilarates. Hold it...can this be the same place? Yes. Perhaps travel to Mexico just demands some practical guidance—especially if you are considering an extended stay. Taking the leap, finding your footing, and packing your gear requires some know-how and trust. Just as with any adventure into new territory, it's best to seek out advice. That's how I hope to assist.

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