



House of Spain/Casa de España
San Diego

Boletín

Bulletin 369

July 2014

THEIR MAJESTIES KING FELIPE VI AND QUEEN LETICIA



"Serve with dedication to the State, to all Spaniards; work for the general interests and promote actions or initiatives that serve the common interest, constitute for me an unwavering personal commitment unchangeable and without nuance."



FROM THE PRESIDENT

This month I wish to talk to you about something very important, for what many of you are not up-to-date, with respect to the responsibilities and obligations that the *House of Spain*, Casa de España, (HOS/CDE) in San Diego has with the *House of Pacific Relations* (HPR) and the City of San Diego.

For over a year the city of San Diego has been suggesting to HPR that the cottages involved in this organization be open to the public more days of the week so that the tourists and the community can visit them. They are talking about opening the cottages every Saturday and Sunday, in addition to having the casita open every day of the week, the week in which we have the *Lawn Program* (in our case the week of October 12). They also want us to have the *Lawn Program* for two days, i.e. on Saturday and Sunday. As you can see this would require that we then multiply by 10 the work that we now do with very few people.

Next year, 2015, is the celebration of the centennial of the "*California-Panama Exposition*" and the city would like to see the cottages be open every day of the year, in addition to put several shows in the park during the year for the community.

The HPR has taken about five years asking the city to allow us to construct five double-attached cottages for ten countries more to be represented in the park, and the biggest obstacle is that the city does not see the advantage of letting build them since the cottages do not open more than once a week and only for four hours (Sundays from 12 to 4). For this reason, the HPR is pushing to the casitas to open many more days a week. Which is not very feasible, since the majority of the countries do not have enough volunteers so that the cottages can be open more days of the week. Or if there is any other solution we have not found it yet.

We, the HOS/CDE in San Diego, have to think about what we want from our cottage and how we can keep it open more frequently. We need ideas and support from all of you to see how we can use our casita providing a service to the community and as a business in order to better finance our operation. For the moment, our paellas and minimum subsidies from the Embassy of Spain maintains our current level of activity but does not give for more. Many people tell me that we could use the casita for:

Orientation classes to new Spaniards in San Diego; give Spanish classes; cultural social circles;
Give guitar lessons; see soccer matches; classes of tapas cuisine; classes of tourism; etc.

All of them excellent ideas but we do not have anyone to volunteer to carry out these projects, unless the people suggesting it or others decide to do so. The response to my suggestion is always something to the effect of, "well, it is that I do not have time, or I do not know how to do it", and this is the problem. All of you have good ideas and you think that the HOS/CDE can do everything and you do not realize that we all are the HOS/CDE that we all are volunteers and more volunteers are needed to do what we are already carrying out. The people that are on the Board of Directors already have more than enough to do to maintain our organization and we cannot do more than what we already do. I, for example put more than forty hours a week for our organization, for me, these past few years, the presidency of the HOS/CDE has been my full-time job, and others are also putting a large number of hours for our organization and when there are events or special activities, such as the visit of the Ambassador both myself and others have put 12 to 14 hours a day.

Our organization is not what it was ten or twenty years ago, that we met when we wanted at the home of one or another and there was no obligations and expenditures of a home, with the HPR, City of San Diego and other organizations. The choices today are: 1) attract more volunteers to participate fully, or 2) leave our organization and to meet again from time to time in private homes, or 3) accept that we will continue operating as we are doing now.

Greetings
Jesus

Fragments of the message from His Majesty the King in his Proclamation to the Parliament

Madrid, 06.19.2014

I begin my reign with profound emotion for the honor of accepting the Crown, aware of the responsibility that entails, and with the greatest hope for the future of Spain.

Have no doubt, ladies and gentlemen, that I know to honor the oath I have just uttered; and that, in the performance of my responsibilities, you will find in me a fair Head of State and willing to listen, to understand, to warn and advise; and also to always defend the general interests.

The Crown must seek closeness with the citizens, know continually to earn their appreciation, their respect and confidence; and for this reason, ensure the dignity of the institution, to preserve its prestige and observe a complete, honest and transparent conduct, in accordance with its institutional role and its social responsibility. Because, only in this way, it will be worthy of the moral authority necessary for the exercise of its functions.

Today is a day in which, if we had to look to the past, I would like that we do it without nostalgia, but with a great respect toward our history; in the spirit of overcoming what has separated or divided us; thus to remember and celebrate all that unites us and gives us strength and solidity toward the future.

And looking at our current situation, ladies and gentlemen, I would also like to convey my closeness and solidarity to all those citizens who, the rigor of the economic crisis has hit hard until to be wounded in their dignity as persons. We have with them the moral duty to work to reverse this situation and the public duty to offer protection to the most vulnerable persons and families. And we also have the obligation to convey a message of hope - particularly to the younger people - that the solution to their problems and in particular obtaining a job, is a priority for the society and State.

We want the citizens and their concerns to be the focus of political action, because they are the ones who with their effort, work and sacrifice magnify our State and give meaning to the institutions that comprise it.

We want a Spain in which the citizens regain and maintain the confidence in their institutions and a society based on civility and tolerance, honesty and rigor, always with an open mind and a spirit of solidarity.

In this setting of hope I wish to reaffirm, as King, my faith in the unity of Spain, of which the Crown is a symbol. Unity is not uniformity, ladies and gentlemen, since in 1978 the Constitution recognized our diversity as a characteristic that defines our own identity, in proclaiming the willingness to protect all the peoples of Spain, their traditions and cultures, languages and institutions. A diversity that stems from our history, exalting us and we must strengthen.

In this Spain, united and diverse, based on the equality of all Spaniards, in the solidarity between its peoples and in respect for the law, we all fit; all the feelings and sensitivities fit, all forms of feeling Spanish fit. Because the feelings, even more so in the times of the European construction, should never confront, divide, or exclude, but understand and respect, coexist and share.

Our history teaches us that the great advances in Spain have occurred when we have evolved and we have adapted to the reality of each time; when we have surrendered to the conformism or resignation, and we have been able to lift up our eyes and look beyond - and above - to ourselves; when we have been able to share a renewed vision of our common interests and goals.

Cervantes, speaking through Don Quixote, said: "One man is no more than another if he does no more than another".

I am proud of the Spaniards and nothing would honor me more than if, with my work and daily effort, the Spaniards could be proud of their new King.

Thank you very much.

ACTIVITIES OF JUNE

June 21: Feast of San Juan

This month we had this traditional feast, it was a very pleasant evening with good food prepared by the attendees, sharing stories of how we are celebrating the Feast of San Juan in several places in Spain, Puerto Rico, Mexico, and Argentina.



Penelope Bledsoe, Raquel Forati, Berta Juárez, Mary & Philip Hinshaw, and Devin Duvall



Nellie Camedo, Angeles Leira, Nina Yguerabide, Jesús Benayas, Reynolds & Pilar Heriot, Charo Monge, and Luciana Forati



OPENING OF THE CASITA

Last June the person in charge of opening the Casita was Mary Goldbeck. We are grateful to her and Susi Lusti, Penelope Bledsoe, Laura McWhorter, and Jesús Benayas who helped her as "ambassadors" serving the public.

San Diego/Alcalá Sister Cities Society trip to Alcalá:

SAN DIEGO IS GOING TO SPAIN

Alcalá de Henares, *World Heritage Site*

OCTOBER 1 - OCTOBER 12, 2014

- DISCOVER** San Diego's Sister City
- NOTE** Architectural inspiration for Balboa Park and University of San Diego
- CELEBRATE** Cervantes Week in Alcalá de Henares
- PARTICIPATE** Guided visits in Private Motor Coach to **MADRID**, and 5 World Heritage sites:
ALCALÁ DE HENARES, TOLEDO, EL ESCORIAL, SEGOVIA, CÓRDOBA (all excursions are day trips; sleep in same bed, same hotel every night, no packing, unpacking.) Excursions led by professor of art and history.
- ENJOY** 10 fun-filled days in Spain

Contact Penelope Bledsoe (619) 876-3248 or alcala.trip@gmail.com for a brochure and itinerary

CULTURAL NEWS



The writer Ana María Matute, Cervantes prize in 2010, academic, and one of the great authors of the postwar died June 25 at her home in Barcelona, at the age of 88.

The realistic, fantasy, and children's literature were the three areas that characterized her work with a style of apparent simplicity that hid the complexity of the human being. Matute had just delivered to the publisher her new novel: *Demonios familiares*, scheduled for release in September.

She was considered one of the most important Spanish authors of contemporary literature. «*Olvidado rey Gudú*» was one of her favorite titles, besides being the most famous, as evidenced by the fact that a copy of the first edition was chosen by the writer to be

deposited in the **Box of the Letters of the Cervantes Institute**, where it will be guarded until July 26, 2029. Authentic cult classic, has a medieval theme with elements of the fantasy literature, book of chivalry and fairy tale. Reality and legend, past and future are merged in this treatise of human emotions.

The third woman who won the Cervantes Prize was capable as few, to relate in her writing, the necessary dose of realism with a large dose of lyricism. Matute brought to the bookstores novels of the dimension of *Los Abel* (1948), *Pequeño teatro* (1954, Premio Planeta), *El río* (1973), *Olvidado Rey Gudú* (1996) and *Paraíso inhabitado*, her last novel. With *Primera memoria* she had won in 1959 the prestigious Premio Nadal.



San Diego History Center is celebrating the 86th Anniversary of the Junípero Serra Museum - Third Annual Open House Life at the Presidio: A festive celebration

Sunday, July 13, 2014, 4-6pm.

Junípero Serra Museum, 2727 Presidio Drive, free and open to the public

Special Presentation: Rudy Shappee, Curator U.S. Midway, Daily Life in San Diego's Military Outposts

RSVP: sandieghistory.org/serraopenhouse; rsvp@sandieghistory.org, (619) 232-6203

San Diego/Alcalá Sister City Society invites you to join us for the following tours:

- **Tour of Mission San Diego de Alcalá**, Tony Falcon, docent
Saturday, July 12, 2014, 10-11:30
10818 San Diego Mission Rd, San Diego, CA 92108, (619) 283-7319
Tour is limited to 20 people on Saturday, July 12, 2014.
San Diego/Alcalá Sister Cities Society will pay the tour fee. To reserve a space contact Penelope at sistercityalcala@gmail.com

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[HTTPS://facebook.com/pages/House-of-Spain-San-Diego/365788153526730](https://facebook.com/pages/House-of-Spain-San-Diego/365788153526730)

July 16: important date for San Diego

The area was originally inhabited by the indigenous Kumeyaay village, which today maintains a presence in the county. It was not until 1542 when the European discovery occurred with the arrival of an expedition led by Juan Rodríguez Cabrillo sent by the king of Spain. Originally, he gave it the name San Miguel. The San Diego Bay and the area of the modern city received its name of Sebastián Vizcaíno, who mapped Upper California for Spain in 1602. The explorers camped near an Indian village that was called "Nipaguay" and had a mass in honor of San Diego de Alcalá.

In 1769, Gaspar de Portolá and his expedition founded a presidio, and on Sunday July 16 the Franciscan friars, Friar Juan Vizcaíno and Fernando Parrón lifted up and blessed a cross, thus establishing the first mission in Alta California, the Mission of San Diego de Alcalá. The settlers began to arrive in 1774, but the natives of the area rebelled the following year. They killed a missionary and two other people, and they burned the mission. Friar Junípero Serra organized the reconstruction and two years later he began to construct an adobe building. By 1797 the mission was the largest in California, with more than 1400 natives entrusted. The settlement was gaining in prosperity except for minor incidents such as the poisoning of Friar Pedro Panto in 1812 by his indigenous chef, Nazario.

In 1821 the top political boss of New Spain recognized the independence of Mexico and the territory passed to Mexican control. The governor of California (which included the current state of California, and the peninsula of Baja California) moved its capital from Monterrey to San Diego. In 1834 the mission was secularized and 432 people made a petition to the governor José Figueroa to form a city, a request which was approved by the commander Santiago Argüello. However, the population of the city decreased to almost 100 people, and by the end of the 1830s it lost its city status, until the province of Upper California became a U.S. state in 1848 after being seized by Mexico as a result of the Mexican-American War. The town was designated as the seat of the new County of San Diego, and incorporated as a city again, becoming a very important city in Upper California under American dominance; previously, it had been under the Mexican flag.

In 1885, San Diego was finally connected to the rest of the United States by railroad. The significant presence of the US Navy started in 1907 with the establishment of a naval base to supply coal to ships.

San Diego hosted two World's Fairs, the Panama-California Exposition in 1915 and the California Pacific International Exposition in 1935.



Upcoming Activities

The San Diego Museum of Art presents the film in Spanish:

Letters of Sorolla

Friday, July 11, 2014

7:00 p.m.

The James S. Copley Auditorium at the San Diego Museum of Art

\$5 members / \$7 students, military, and seniors / \$10 nonmembers

Use the code "Spain" and you will only be charged \$5 just like members of the Museum of Art.

***Note: This program will be presented in Spanish. There will be no English subtitles or interpretation.**



FEAST OF SANTIAGO (FEAST OF SAINT JAMES)

(Pot-luck)

Saturday, July 26

From 5:00 to 8:00 PM in our Casita



We invite members and their families to celebrate with us the traditional festival. Bring a typical dish for 4 persons instead of paying. We ask that you bring a main dish.

If you choose not to bring any dish, you will be charged \$10.00 per person

at the entrance.

Non-members: \$15.00 per person.

You can bring your own drinks to share, but this does not substitute the plate of food that you must bring.

House of Spain/Casa de España will provide bread, sangría, and water

RSVP: rsvp2hos@gmail.com, indicating the number of guests and plate(s) of food that you will bring. THANK YOU!



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House of Spain, Casa de España in San Diego is a private non-profit organization, whose purpose is to preserve and disseminate the Spanish culture in the San Diego community.
The opinions expressed in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the thinking of *House of Spain*, Casa de España in San Diego.