



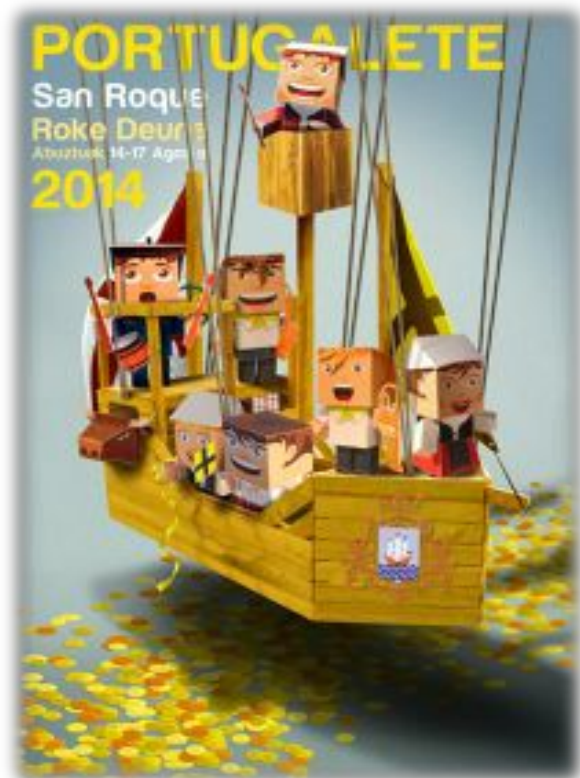
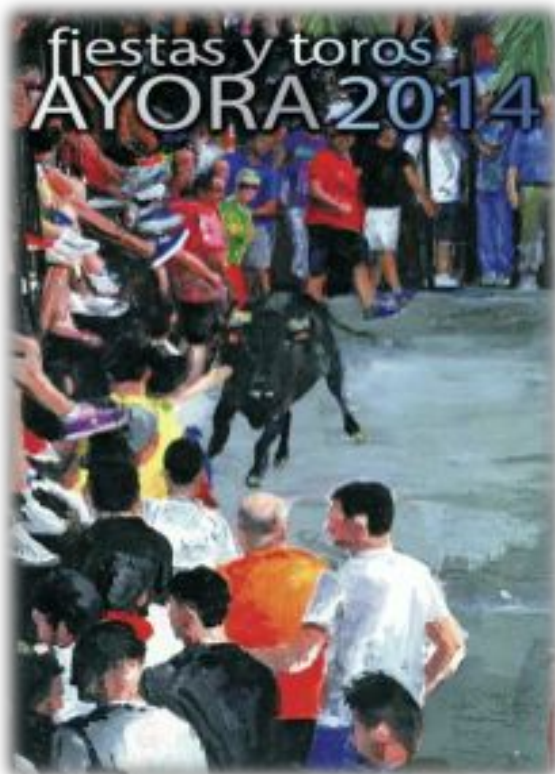
House of Spain/Casa de España  
San Diego

# Boletín

Bulletin 370

August 2014

## SUMMER FESTIVALS IN SPAIN



## FROM THE PRESIDENT



We already have nearly 10 years in the Casita, now what? The work of the House of Spain is a process of surprises and increasing responsibilities, same as maintaining a business, or our own life. As individuals, as we grow and mature we do not think the things we do day to day and we enjoyed doing this or that and learning from life as life goes on. As children we play this game or that game, we get to know other boys and girls, we grow, we study, work, buy a car, fall in love, get married, have children or adopt, we continue in our work, we buy a house, and we have more and more responsibilities. Our children get older and have their own children, our grandchildren. Wife, children, house, cars, insurance, loans, etc. we have lots of responsibilities that have been adding to our life slowly and suddenly we realize all this. One day we look back and wonder, how did I get

here?

The same thing has happened with our organization, *House of Spain*, Casa de España in San Diego. 30-years ago, we would get together in the parks, the beach, in private houses, we rented a house in San Diego in the eighties, we could not afford the rental payments and closed. A few years later we rented an office in "*Mission Valley*" and the same thing happened. Little by little we kept meeting in different places and participating with the community on different events. We became members of the *House of Pacific Relations* in Balboa Park. We became a *Non-Profit Organization 501-C-3*. *Built the casita* in Balboa Park with great enthusiasm, we all supported the project. We gave money, worked; we cooked and sold thousands of paellas ... to maintain de casita. Now, the same as a family that is forming or changing, we are faced with additional responsibilities, and one wonders, how did we get here?

I am telling you this because last month we went to the "*San Diego Tax Seminar for Non-Profit and Exempt Organizations*", a whole day seminar to learn our obligations as an organization. What we can and cannot do. What kind of reports we have to submit to different agencies at the city, state, and federal levels. Here are some of these agencies:

*California State Board of Equalization: Employment Development Organization: Taxpayer's Rights Advocate: Sales and Use Taxes: California Attorney General: Property Tax Exemptions: California Franchise Tax Board: Regulation of Charities: Federal Tax Issues for Exempt Organizations: etc.*

This is particularly important to consider, because it means that every step we take and each new effort that we do to organize ourselves better, have an administrative impact, that sincerely before we didn't have. The regulations and paperwork we have to do to keep our organization in order in the day to day business is increasing. We have to organize ourselves better and get professional help, unless we want to do that work ourselves. Still the issue of coordination is extremely important and time consuming. All of this costs money and effort in addition to paperwork, because everything has to be documented. For this reason, it is extremely important that we all commit ourselves to help the organization or the organization has to spend funds to employ competent people that can keep the organization afloat and prosper. The BOD has to remain voluntary according to the bylaws, but the organization can pay competent persons to be able to maintain our present level or grow, as long as we adhere to the laws of the different agencies of the government. This increases the work and the time that the BOD has to put in our organization, but as all of us who have been in the BOD before know, the majority get burned out and then don't want to know anything about the our organization. The challenge, is a SOS, if we continue as we are, our organization will wither away for lack of interested members, if we want to persist and I do, we need to change and with that change, to attract more members that can take our business forward. We are in a new century, our challenges are new, but not impossible.

The organization needs your ideas and help!

Sincerely, Jesus

## Rincón del Socio

We have received from our member and friend Ángeles Leira this message:

House of Spain, Casa de España en San Diego  
P:O: Box 33064  
San Diego, CA. 92163

26 July, 2014

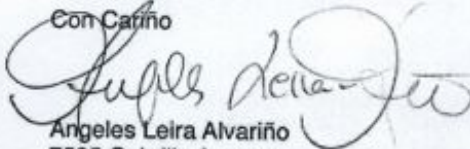
Estimada Mesa Directiva y su Presidente Jesus Benayas:

Quiero tomar esta ocasion en la que celebramos el dia de Santiago Apostol Patron de España, para ofreceros tres artefactos de gran significado historico. En primer lugar una gaita gallega, y en segundo lugar una replica toledana de la Espada Tizona del Mio Cid, y otra, La Espada Bobera de Fernando III El Santo. Se que las cuidareis y honrareis como objetos importantes de nuestra historia y cultura, para nuestro museo en La Casita.

I would like to take the opportunity of our celebration of the Day of the Patron of Spain, Santiago Apostol, to donate to you three artefacts I have owned for a long time. First of all, a Galician Bagpipe, secondly a Toledo Replica of the Tizona Sword of El Cid Campeador, and another replica of the Lobera Sword of Fernando III El Santo, for exhibit at La Casita. With them, I offer short history.

I know you will care for them well, and exhibit them with honour and pride as one of the very numerous legacies of our history and culture, to further enlighten our local society of San Diego.

Con Cariño



Angeles Leira Alvario  
7535 Cabrillo Avenue  
La Jolla, CA. 92037



**Health:** We send to José Benito Pazos our best wishes for a speedy recovery.

**Death:** We would like our members to know the death of Dr. Mauricio Mariona last July 27. Our sincere condolences to his wife Dina and her family. Both of them helped our Organization as members of the Board of Directors.

**Farewell:** We wish our good friends and members Colonel Luis Ruiz and his wife Charo Hernández, a happy return to their home in Madrid and we thank them for all the help they gave us at all times during their stay in San Diego. We will always remember them fondly.



## ACTIVITIES OF JULY

### JULY 4 AND 6: Anniversary of the independence of the United States

This year we were also present in the Balboa Park sharing this important celebration. We are grateful to *Sons of the American Revolution* and their board members who helped us to prepare the Casita with "posters" and attended to the public wearing their uniforms:



Members of "Sons of the American Revolution"



Ángeles Leira receiving the certificate of appreciation

## July 26: Feast of Santiago

Many members and friends gathered this day to celebrate the Feast of Santiago. We enjoyed many dishes of Spanish cuisine that the attendees brought and we spent the evening enjoying the friendship.

Here we have some photos:



A view of the attendees



Angeles Leira making delivery of the historical pieces that will be exhibited in the casita

Penelope Bledsoe speaks to us of other events of July:

**July 12:** San Diego/Alcalá de Henares organized a tour of the Mission San Diego de Alcalá, guided by Mr. Tony Falcon who spoke about the history of our Mission and the people who lived at that time.

**July 13:** In the Serra Museum, Rudy Shappee, curator of the Museum of the *USS Midway* gave a talk about everyday life in the border posts of San Diego.

**July 21:** Dedication ceremony for the new signs of all the sister cities of San Diego, including that of our sister city of Alcalá de Henares.



### OPENING OF THE CASITA

Susi Lusti was responsible for opening the house during the month of July. We are grateful to her and Margarita Logan, Jesús Benayas, Verónica and Demetrio Almaguer, Laura McWhorter, María Jesús Gardeta, and David Healey who responded as "ambassadors" to the large audience who weekly visit our Casita.

**FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK:**

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

## POPULAR FESTIVALS OF THE MONTH OF AUGUST

August, month of heat and vacations. In Spain, as in other European countries, many companies and businesses close their doors and give opportunity to their employees to take a well-deserved rest. All leave their homes and cities and head to faraway places to rest. Those who live among the mountains dream of beaches and those by the beach want to go to discover the mountains and enjoy the wonderful views and the freshness that it offers.

For many, there is always the nostalgia of the people and the families they have left behind to go find better luck in the big cities. The summer vacations are an opportunity to return to visit family and friends and remember the good times of childhood.

There are many towns that coincide to celebrate their feasts during the month of August. Some, who have their Patron Saint festival during the winter, have also decided to hold a "summer feast" to attract more visitors and tourists.

In August there are two major festivals that give opportunity to the towns to celebrate their patron saints and protectors. On August 15, the Catholic Church celebrates the Assumption of the Virgin Mary. On the 16<sup>th</sup>, is the festivity of San Roque. In ancient times this saint was very popular. San Roque is considered a protector against the plague and all types of epidemics, his intervention was requested by the inhabitants of many towns and, to the disappearance of these, they recognized the intervention of the saint, so he was named patron saint of the locality.

It would be impossible to list the towns and cities that celebrate their festivals in the month of August. (This editor has found more than 200!). Here are some examples:

**Calatayud (Zaragoza):** San Roque is the feast that gives rise to the most spectacular celebration of the city. The day before the "chupinazo" already you can feel the festive atmosphere with the wine of honor, the day on which occurs the presentation of the peñas, regaling the attendees with wine and appetizers, that same night all the peñas organize performances and concerts.

**Portugalete (Vizcaya):** Festivals of San Roque, wake up all the "jarrilleros" in order to invite them to the feast. After two hours walking around the streets of the town, one arrives at Plaza de la Ranchería where people taste the traditional garlic soup. During the day there is running of the bulls, activities in the Plaza de Toros, dances, dancing and at night fireworks on the beautiful setting of the estuary.

**Sanlúcar de Barrameda (Cádiz)** The horse races on the beach are one of the most significant events of the field of sports. The racing takes place during low tide, always in the afternoon.

**Ribadesella (Asturias):** The International Descent of the Sella River is held on the first Saturday of August between Arriondas and Ribadesella with a distance of 20 km along the Sella River. The trial is organized by the Spanish Federation of Canoeing.

**Villadiego (Burgos)** from 14<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> . Festivities of the Villa "I took those of Villadiego" with bulls, fireworks, dancing, etc.

**Ayora (Valencia):** Festivities in honor of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary. They include a flamenco party, the traditional auction and sale of the Plaza; confinement of the bull and the toro "embolado".

# NOTICE

The Board of Directors of the House of Spain/ Casa de España requested the By-Laws Committee to review some sections from Article 4.

The Board will present the following revisions for a vote by all members at the November General Assembly:

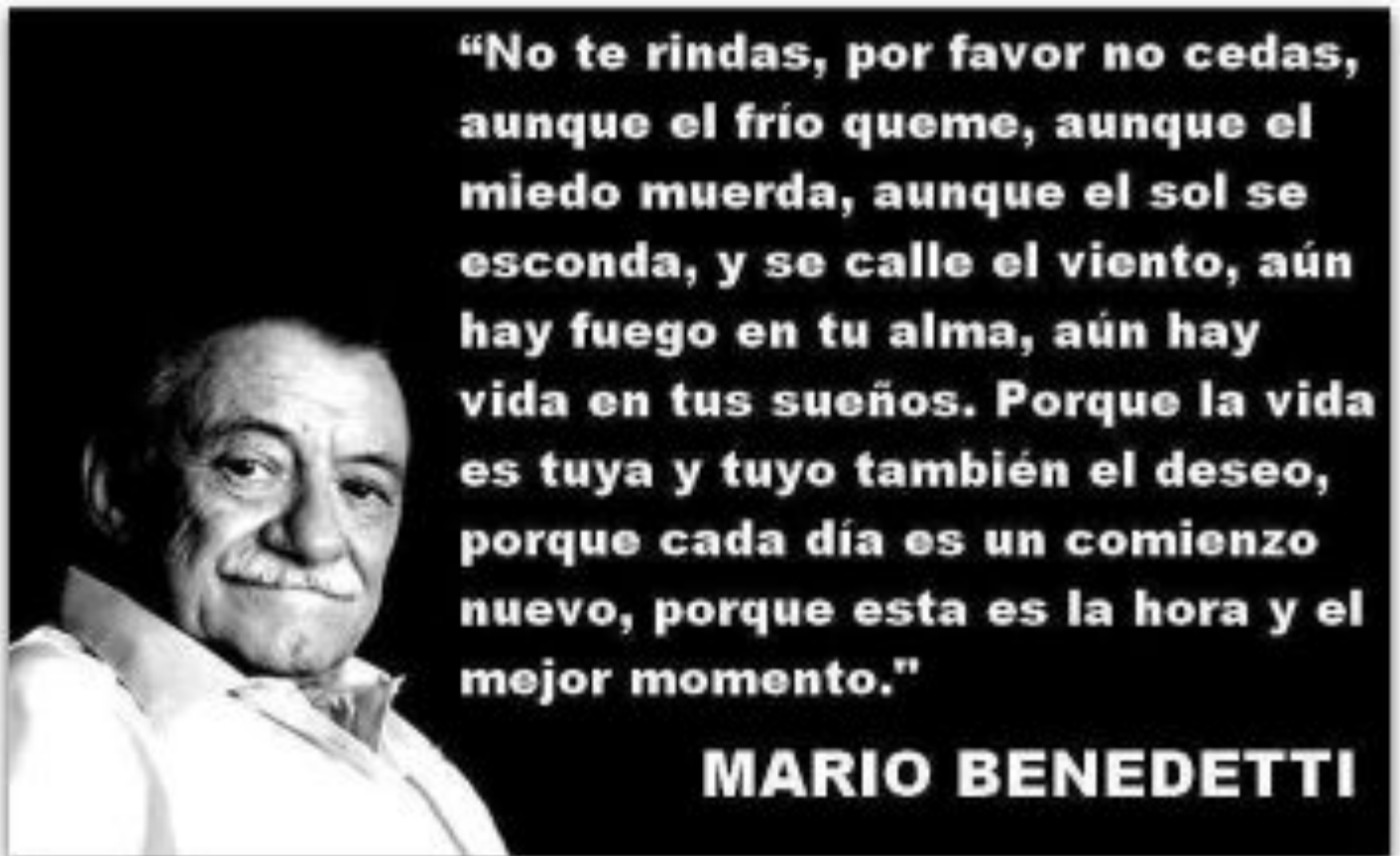
## ARTICLE 4 OFFICERS

### SECTION 2. QUALIFICATION, ELECTION, AND TERM OF OFFICE

Candidates who are members in good standing and are fluent in the Spanish language and are familiar with the history and culture of Spain shall be eligible to hold office. ~~Furthermore, to hold the offices of President and Vice-President, the candidates must be native Spaniards, children of a native Spaniard, or citizens of Spain (subject to verification).~~ In addition, the candidates for President **and Vice-President** must have served on the Board of Directors for at least ~~six (6) months~~ **1 year**.

All officers mentioned above shall be elected at the annual meeting of membership. Furthermore, three (3) members in good standing shall be elected to serve on the Board of Directors. **No two members of the same family shall serve on the Board of Directors.**

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"Do not give up, please do not give in, although the cold burns, although the fear bites, although the sun hides, and the wind quiets down, there is still fire in your soul, there is still life in your dreams. Because life is yours and yours also the desire, because every day is a new beginning, because this is the time and the best moment."

MARIO BENEDETTI





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**Bulletin No. 370**



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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.