



House of Spain/Casa de España
San Diego

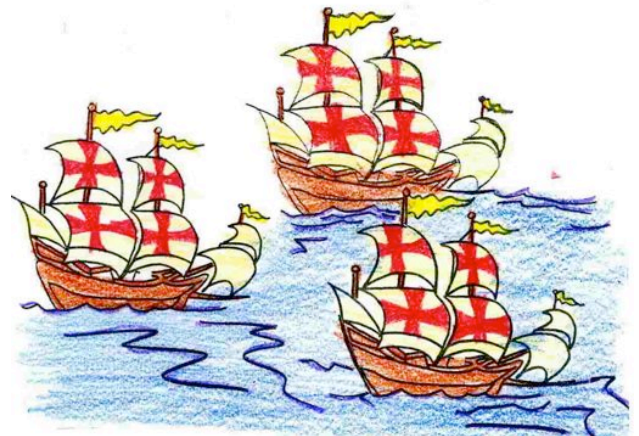
Boletín



Bulletin 372

October 2014

CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS AND THE DISCOVERY OF AMERICA



The days pass and the crew is becoming increasingly nervous. They do not see land in weeks.

"Admiral, when will we arrive? We are tired," say the sailors. Columbus always answers the same "we must already be close, don't worry"...

The discovery of America in 1492 by Christopher Columbus was one of the most important events in European history and shaped the political, social and economic developments of the following centuries.



FROM THE PRESIDENT

One of the obligations that the *House of Spain*, Casa de España (HOS/CDE) in San Diego has with the *House of Pacific Relations (HPR)* in Balboa Park is to celebrate our National Day in the park. This year the obligations have increased having to have the casita open all week, from Monday October 6 to Sunday October 12. See the details on the other page of this bulletin.

The HPR and the city of San Diego, want that from now on every year we also offer music on Saturday so that the **Novamenco Group** has committed to play their famous music from approximately 2:00 PM until past 3:00 PM at the outdoor stage in the center of the international cottages. On Sunday at 2:00 PM at the outdoor stage in the center of the international cottages as in previous years **Juanita Franco and her Olé Flamenco group** will offer a show of Spanish dances approximately an hour so that we can all enjoy our rich tradition of dances.

I believe that this is a good occasion for all of us who know Spaniards and enthusiasts of the Spanish customs that we invite them to participate in the activities that will take place during the week, especially on Saturday and Sunday. No matter that they are not members of our organization, they will be welcome and we would like to share with them these days. We all know of people such as teachers, students, Spanish scientists, visitors at local universities, other families working/studying in this locality, and descendants of Spaniards who want to enrich their social and cultural environment. These days would be ideal to get acquainted, have something like an encounter of cultures. Please, pass on the word to these people and invite them for Saturday October 11 and Sunday October 12 to the casita and the outdoor stage at the center of the international cottages. These two days, from 12 noon until the food ends, HOS/CDE will prepare paella and lemonade that will be offered to the public for a small donation.

On Sunday at 2:00 PM when at the outdoor stage our program for the National Day of Spain starts our Queen Paula Conde-Porto and our Princess Tico Conde-Porto will sing the American "*Pledge of Allegiance*" song. Following the song the national anthems of Spain and the United States will be played, The President of HOS/CDE and the Honorary Consul of Spain in San Diego will say a few words on the occasion of the celebration of the National Day of Spain, the patron of saint of Spain Our Lady of the Pillar and Día de la Raza (Day of the Race).

I would also like to thank Paula and Tico for their enthusiasm and cooperation to continue another year more to represent us in the *HPR* and throughout the community of San Diego.

Greetings,
Jesús Benayas

OPENING OF THE CASITA

We thank Maruja Williams, responsible for the opening of the casita and Bob Williams, Bayardo De Murgia, Regli Dee, Sagrario Din, and Laura McWhorter who helped as ambassadors attending to the public who visited us during September.

Lawn Program week at the House of Spain

- October 6th Monday 10AM-1PM Who was Balboa? Presentation at 10 AM
Spain and the American Independence 11 AM
Who was Balboa? Presentation at 12 Noon
- October 7th Tuesday 10AM-1PM Who was Balboa? Presentation at 10 AM
Spain and the American Independence 11 AM
Who was Balboa? Presentation at 12 Noon
Alcalá de Henares: San Diego's Sister City in Spain at 1 PM
Eduardo Chillida: Life and work of the contemporary Basque sculptor at 2PM
- October 8th Wednesday 10AM-1PM Who was Balboa? Presentation at 10 AM
Spain and the American Independence 11 AM
Who was Balboa? Presentation at 12 Noon
- October 9th Thursday 10AM-1PM Who was Balboa? Presentation at 10 AM
Spain and the American Independence 11 AM
Who was Balboa? Presentation at 12 Noon
Alcalá de Henares: San Diego's Sister City in Spain at 1 PM
Eduardo Chillida: Life and work of the contemporary Basque sculptor at 2PM
- October 10th Friday 10AM-1PM Who was Balboa? Presentation at 10 AM
Spain and the American Independence 11 AM
Who was Balboa? Presentation at 12 Noon

- October 11th Saturday 11AM-3PM
- Paella at noon with the Fantastic Live Novamenco music at the HPR stage at 2 PM
Come and enjoy food and music from Spain



October 12: Sunday 10AM-3PM at the HPR stage

We also celebrate: NATIONAL DAY OF SPAIN, COLUMBUS DAY, DAY OF THE DISCOVERY OF AMERICA

Come and enjoy food and music from Spain "Ole Flamenco" Dance Company.

Noon: Paella. 2PM Flamenco Show



OCTOBER 12, 1492, THE ODYSSEY OF COLUMBUS

Columbus wanting to reach Asia, ran into America, and like Don Quixote, which he saw giant where there were windmills, Columbus saw Indians where there were indigenous, and was looking for the great Khan on the island of Cuba.

This error of calculation was not only a culture shock, but that was the meeting of the indigenous race with the European, African, and Asian.

Since the eleventh century, as a result of the Crusades, the Europeans claimed certain products in which they had become accustomed to its contact with the East. Among them, the spices, used to flavor food, also some plants for medicinal use. The route to bring those products to Europe was known as that of the spices; was based in the Indian Ocean, came to the Persian Gulf and from there moved to Alexandria, Antioch and Constantinople (now Istanbul), a city that served as a link between East and West and through which important trade transactions were made. When Constantinople fell in 1453 in the possession of the Turks, the communication between Europe and Asia was cut off, and among the Europeans came the urgent need to find other routes to the commercial wealth of the East arose.

Although the Portuguese had explored the African Atlantic coast until arriving at the Cape of Good Hope, until now nobody had ventured into the Atlantic Ocean. For this reason, appropriate ships were required, to resist the high waves, winds and currents, and that could carry a load of food, as it is was unknown when they would arrive at the destination. The caravel was the ship that met all these requirements.

The imagination and religion defined the idea that the world had in the fifteenth century. The world was flat or cubed; populated by monsters, with Jerusalem as the center of the world. But apart from the beliefs that were extracted from the Bible, there were Portuguese and Spanish sailors, and Venetian merchants that broadened the horizon with their explorations.



Christopher Columbus was one of those sailors who had notions of the roundness of the Earth. Columbus was able to confirm this idea when he was able to see the map of Pablo del Pozo Toscanelli, Italian geographer who assured that Asia could be reached starting from Portugal, going in a straight line across the Atlantic.

CULTURAL NEWS

The American dream of Sorolla

A show in the Mapfre Foundation evokes the triumph harvested by the artist in the U.S.A.

The exhibition, and its replicas in Boston and Buffalo made Joaquín Sorolla (1863-1923), already enshrined in places such as London or Paris, a tremendously popular artist in the USA; only the New York stop of 1909 accounted for more than 160,000 visits. The show that now comes to Madrid, after passing through the museums of San Diego and *The Meadows Museum* of Dallas, where attendance records were broken, try for the first time to unravel the strange story of love among the American elite and the painter of Mediterranean spirit through the works of art acquired or commissioned by collectors from that corner of the world. And it does so with a wide battery of exceptional loans and material never seen in Spain or directly unpublished, which is the result of an investigation led by Blanca Pons-Sorolla, great granddaughter of the artist, exhibition curator and author of a forthcoming catalog whose inventory exceeds four thousand works.



"Coming out of the bath"

GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND ELECTIONS

In response to an issue concerning equality of time for someone wishing to challenge the position of president, the HOS/CDE in SD board voted to accept the following changes in the previous procedures. (House rules):

HOW DO WE GIVE THE CHALLENGER AN EQUAL ABILITY TO CONTACT MEMBERS IN ORDER TO EXPRESS HIS/HER VIEWS?

Anyone running for this office and wishing to publicize their candidacy may write a max 500 word introduction in a positive manner which would be sent inside the November bulletin and also sent out once by email. Within the 500 words the candidate(s) should offer 3 or 4 points that support their candidacy and what they can contribute to the House of Spain. Each candidate may include his/her email address and/or phone number in case the members want more information or want to communicate personally with the candidate.

The document should be provided in English as well as Spanish and emailed to Joaquin Anguera joaquin.senior@gmail.com prior to 26 October.

The secretary, will give a simple report of what has been done during this year at the general meeting.

After nominations for president have been closed, candidates for president will be allowed a maximum of 5 minutes to expand on their plans. In a similar manner maximum of 3 minutes will be allowed to candidates for Executive Board (Vice-President, Secretary & Treasurer), and 1 minute for all the other ones.

DO WE NEED TO CHANGE THE PROXY PROCEDURE?

No. There is no need to make a change. We just need to emphasize that a member is giving the person receiving the proxy the full right to cast their vote (bound by honor).

EMPHASIZE. Whatever transpires between the person giving the proxy and the one receiving it ... it's totally up to them. All proxies from a member must be carried to the board by a member. No proxies should be sent to the PO Box of the HOS/CDE in SD.

DO WE LIMIT COMMENTS?

Two minutes maximum for general comments at the beginning of the meeting, one topic per person or a maximum allotment 30 minutes divided by the number of requests if more than 15 people wish to speak.

Comments pertaining to the bylaws will be separate and made after the bylaw changes are moved and seconded. Any member who wishes to speak concerning the changes to the By-Laws will be given 1 minute for comment. Note since there are two proposed changes each member could speak once for each change. (IE Nationality 1 minute, and only 1 person per family on the Board of Directors, 1 minute.)

ACTIVITIES FROM SEPTEMBER

September 28: Cabrillo Festival

As in previous years and with a beautiful day, this event was celebrated. A large audience enjoyed the ceremony of landing of Cabrillo, ethnic food of Spain, Mexico, Portugal and the Kumeyaa Indians. Throughout the day it was possible to enjoy the typical dances of these countries.

We thank all the volunteers who helped make this day a success. Here we have some photos:



Cabrillo landing on the shores of San Diego...



Christian White, "Soldier of Cabrillo" and his family



Regli and Demetrio

FILMS FROM SPAIN

2nd program (October 2014 to February 2015)

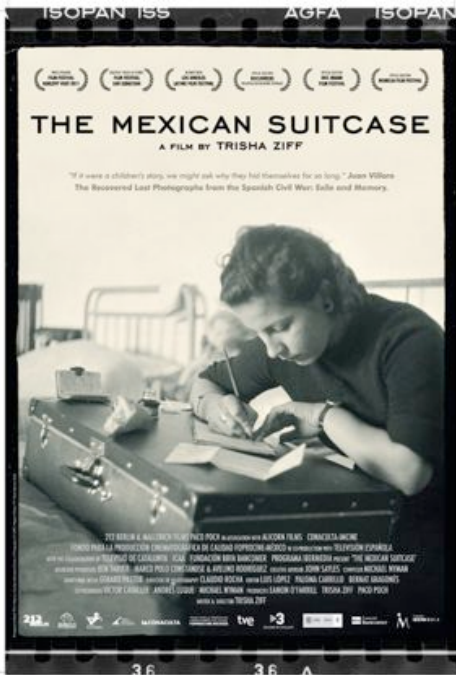
We announce the first film of this Festival:

Tuesday October 28 at 7:00 PM

Museum of Photographic Arts (MOPA)

In the center of Balboa Park

Price: \$ 7.00 per person



The Mexican Suitcase (2011)

86 Min - Documentary

Director: Trish Ziff

Writer: Trish Ziff (screenplay)

In 2007 three boxes were discovered in a closet in Mexico City that had been lost in the chaos in Europe at the beginning of World War II. Inside there were 4,500 negatives taken by friends Robert Capa, Gerda Taro, and David Seymour, exiled from Germany, Hungary, and Poland, who became some of the best photojournalists of their time. As a commitment the anti-fascists travelled to Spain to fight against the rise of Franco with their cameras. Through their work, they revealed the history of the Spanish Civil War and the exile of more than 500,000 Spaniards to Europe and Mexico. The film questions the power of memory and asks who is the owner of our memories and to where they belong, now that a new

generation in Spain is beginning to be reconciled with its own history.



WRITE DOWN THIS DATE ON YOUR CALENDAR

Sunday November 9, 2014

GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND ELECTIONS OF HOUSE OF SPAIN/CASA DE ESPAÑA IN SAN DIEGO

TIME: 5:00 PM to 10 PM

IN OUR CASITA IN BALBOA PARK

FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK:

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Dr. Bayardo De Murgia, PhD, Puri Rodríguez, Maruja Williams

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To read the Bulletin in English visit the web page of House of Spain/Casa de España in San Diego: <http://www.casadeespanasd.com>

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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.