

Boletín



House of Spain

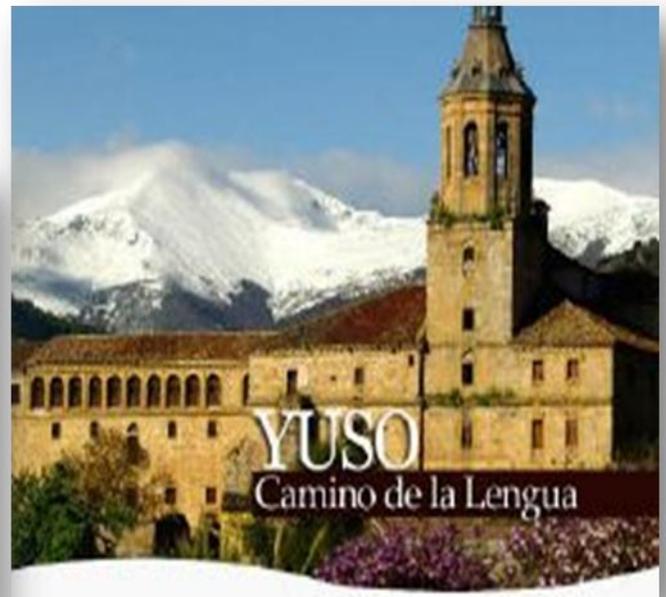
Casa de España
In San Diego

Bulletin #379

June 2015

MONASTERIES OF SAN MILLAN DE LA COGOLLA

Suso Monastery



In the village of San Millán de la Cogolla, La Rioja, are the two monasteries considered as the "Cradle of Castilian Spanish" founded by Saint Emilian (San Millán in Spanish).

They were declared a World Heritage Site by UNESCO on December 4, 1997, for historical, artistic, religious, linguistic, and literary reasons.



FROM THE PRESIDENT

On the fourth of July the Americans celebrate Independence Day known as "*The 4th of July*".

On this day in 1776, the Continental Congress adopted the Declaration of Independence, declaring themselves independent of Great Britain and thus was born the democracy in the U.S.

House of Spain/Casa de España in San Diego, located in Balboa Park and as a member of "*House of Pacific Relations*" is open to the public every Sunday of the year. This year, it will be the fifth year that it will continue the tradition that the Casita will be open on the "4th of July" or Fourth of July.

The public in general, it doesn't matter what country you come from, Spain, Germany, Portugal, Italy, etc., and the same for Americans know very little or nothing of the Spanish contribution to the independence of the United States of America, which is why on Saturday July 4 and Sunday July 5 at the casita we will make an informative display on this contribution.

The contribution provided by Spain to the independence of the United States and directed mainly by the Málaga General Bernardo de Gálvez is a chapter in the history of both countries little known, both in Spain and in the United States.

To see how advanced we have been in our organization, in Spain, for the first time this past Friday May 8, 2015 at 12:30 p.m. in the port of Málaga, the Legion Brigade and the American warship USS McFaul of the United States Navy took part in the act of homage to Lieutenant General Bernardo de Gálvez, Spaniard, hero of Pensacola and honorary citizen of the U.S.

In the military parade participated an honored group composed of a US Section, of the same frigate, and a company of the 3rd Spanish Legion of the Tercio "Don Juan de Austria". Likewise they formed the Battle Flag of the Tercio "Don Juan of Austria" 3rd of the Legion, the Unit of Music and the War Band of the BRILEG and a squadron of soldiers.

His Excellency General of Division, Miguel Martin Bernardi, Commander in Chief of Light Forces, presided over the ceremony on behalf of the Army General of JEME. Also the event was attended by His Excellency Chief of the Brigade Legion, Juan Jesús Martín Cabrero, the Commander in Chief of the warship McFaul, frigate Captain Michael J. Gunther and the president of the Bernardo de Gálvez and Gallardo Cultural Association, Mr. Miguel Ángel Gálvez.

Jesús Benayas
President

OPENING OF THE CASITA

We are grateful to Dr. Bayardo De Murgia, Nina Yguerabide, Regli Dee, Penelope Bledsoe and Laura McWhorter, who as "ambassadors" helped this month by opening the Casita and attended to the large audience that visited us

THE MONASTERIES OF SUSO AND YUSO SAN MILLAN DE LA COGOLLA

In the village of **San Millán de Cogolla**, La Rioja, are the two monasteries regarded as the 'Cradle of Castilian Spanish', founded by Saint Emilian (San Millán in Spanish).

The first of the two to be built was the Monastery of Suso, which translated into old Castilian Spanish means 'upper'. Its meaning makes sense with its location, as it is situated in an area high on the hillside. It was built at the end of the sixth century, with a mixture of Visigothic, Mozarabic, and Romanesque styles.

The caves are the oldest part of this monastery. In them you can see tombs crowded and overlapping of characters without identification, who should be famous by the proximity to the tomb of the saint. In this cave Saint Emilian (San Millán) did his Lenten penance.

On the other hand, we have the Monastery of Yuso, the second to be built due to the need of the community, which had grown considerably, in such a way that it had to carry out a move to a new building, located further down the valley.

On the contrary of the Monastery of Suso, this one was built with a unique style, the Romanesque, according to the time. Although later in the sixth century it suffered a restyling with Herrera style. We have been left up to our current days with many items of interest, such as 'Romanesque ivory', the 'Room of Codices and Hymn Books', among others. Both buildings were declared a **World Heritage Site** in 1997, for historical, artistic, religious, linguistic, and literary reasons. In the famous Writing Room of Saint Emilian (San Millán), inside the Monastery of Suso, they wrote the Glosas Emilianenses, one of the oldest documents of Castilian Spanish. In the same monastery they sign their verses Gonzalo de Berceo, the first Castilian poet known by name.



Origins

In the early days of the arrival of the Visigoths to the Peninsula, the anchorite Aemilian retired to this secluded and hidden place (Millán), son of a pastor and native of *Vergegio*, now currently Berceo. Here he lived as a hermit, nestled in a small cell, dying at the age of 101 years and was buried in a tomb hewn out of the rock. Much is known of his life because it was written in Latin circa the year 635 by the bishop of Zaragoza called Braulius, it was Gonzalo de Berceo, who was educated in this monastery, who translated this Latin biography to verses in the vernacular or romance language.

Berceo, medieval writer, was the first poet of the Castilian language. He was a cleric and lived in the monastery of San Millán de la Cogolla (La Rioja), where he was ordained to the priesthood. He is the first representative of the so-called "Ministry of Clergy", medieval school of men of letters (a qualification that at that time almost coincided with that of the priest) whose main contribution was the spread of the Latin culture. Berceo opened the path of erudite poetry, as opposed to the developed popular epic poetry and that of the minstrels.

Origins of Castilian Spanish

A language is not born in a place or at a particular time, but it is in the monastery of San Millán in the eleventh century when a monk has the audacity to consciously put in writing words and sentences of that language of the people. Nobody had done it before with a literary intent. They are the Glosas Emilianenses. In the same codice we also find the very first words written in Basque. For this reason San Millán of Yuso celebrated in 1977 the Millennium of the Language, and since then it is known with the name of "Cradle of the Language". In the Hall of the Kings you come upon the memorial tablets of the thousandth anniversary of the Castilian and Basque language, as well as a facsimile reproduction of the Codice 60.

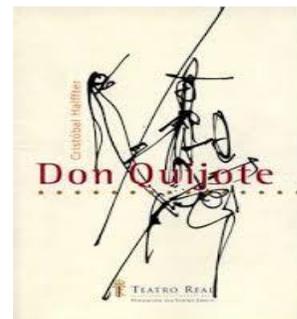
ACTIVITIES OF MAY

May 9: DON QUIXOTE IN THE PARK

It gives much pleasure to the *San Diego/Alcalá Sister Cities Society* to tell you that the Day of Don Quixote in the Park was a huge success, since the opening of the event by María Ángeles Olson, Honorary Consul of Spain in San Diego, the reading of Don Quixote of La Mancha by the eighth grade students of *Longfellow Elementary School* and their teacher, Ms. Alicia Sandoval, and some members of the House of Spain/Casa de España in San Diego, until the staging of the theater play "Clown Quijote of La Mancha" a stage adaptation for children of the novel Don Quixote of La Mancha. They spent a full day of events in Balboa Park to commemorate our sister city, Alcalá de Henares, Miguel de Cervantes and his recognized literary creations.

Very special thanks to the House of Spain/Casa de España in San Diego and its members for a great collaboration, including a lovely paella and the team of Jesús Benayas for their elaboration and sale by which *San Diego/Alcalá Sister Cities Society* raised funds for their educational programs.

Thanks also go to David Silvah for having brought and shown his extraordinary paintings of Don Quixote, to Carlos Velasco and Kevin Moraine for the guitar music, a demonstration of the contemporary armor of Bobbie Concannon, and the photographer, Andrew Abouda and the videographer Louis Cutino for their wonderful images of the day, and to Philip Hinshaw and Oscar Romo for having brought their audio equipment. Thank you all for a wonderful day in Balboa Park!



MAY 23 AND 24: ETHNIC FOOD FAIR IN BALBOA PARK

Two days of intense work the board members and volunteers from House of Spain/Casa de España in San Diego had, preparing, cooking, and selling our traditional paella. As always, from these lines we send them our thanks.



Our chefs, cooking as a team



Ana and Maruja, in the position of sales



Our delicious paella...



Becky and Susi, at the cashbox.....

Scholarship for students, sponsored by the House of Spain/Casa de España in San Diego

This scholarship was established by the *House of Spain/Casa de España* in San Diego for a member or family member of said organization to continue to enhance his/her knowledge and appreciation of the Spanish history and culture and to serve as an "ambassador." The deadline is July 1.

For applications and more information, please download the [infomation flyer](#) and the scholarship [application form](#) from the *House of Spain/Casa de España* in San Diego web page.

Any questions e-mail hjr4015@sbcglobal.net

A statue for Balboa in Balboa Park

This is the year of Balboa Park – the 100th anniversary of the Panama-California Exposition that began the transformation of the park into what it is today, a crown jewel that for many is emblematic of the spirit of San Diego. But walk through the park and try to find a monument to Vasco Nuñez de Balboa, the Spanish explorer who in 1513 became the first European to cross the Isthmus of Panama and lay eyes on the Pacific Ocean, and for whom the park was named in 1910.

You won't find one. You will probably find the sculpture of horse and rider in the center of the park and think that surely must be Balboa. It's impressive. But it's not Balboa. It's El Cid, whose heroism for Spain is legendary but who never had anything to do with the Americas.

Is Balboa getting short shrift? Shouldn't there be something in the park to commemorate him and tell his story?

Yes and yes. But that is easier said than done, as learned by a frustrated Jesus Benayas, president of the park's House of Spain.

On behalf of the House of Spain, Benayas offered a year ago to donate a statue of Balboa for installation in the park as Spain's contribution to the centennial celebration. The proposal has the general support of Mayor Kevin Faulconer, according to an aide. But it is now more than four months into the centennial year. The prospects for the idea becoming reality seem iffy.

It's not easy to get a work of art approved for city property, particularly for Balboa Park. That's as it should be; Balboa Park is special.

For starters, the artwork must be original and must be the work of a professional artist. The sculpture originally proposed by Benayas would have been a replica of a statue that has long stood in the explorer's hometown of Jerez de los Caballeros in Spain. Beyond that, there are numerous bureaucratic steps that must be followed and public bodies that must review the proposal, including the city's Commission for Arts and Culture.

Benayas and other well-meaning proponents of the statue are discouraged by the process. Benayas suspects it may have got bogged down by the possibility that San Diego Indian tribes might be offended by a statue of Balboa in the park – according to various historical accounts, Balboa and his men sometimes battled and subjugated the native tribes in Panama, though he also sometimes befriended them.

But there is no real evidence of such political correctness or other city efforts to delay the proposal.

We like the idea of a statue of Balboa in the park. We encourage Benayas to continue pursuing the project. But we also support the many steps that must be taken for placement of any permanent object in such a special public space.

In the end, maybe it is enough commemoration of Balboa that San Diego's most treasured landmark carries his name.



Upcoming Activities

FILMS FROM SPAIN - SAN DIEGO

June 2, 2015

7:30 pm

Museum of Photography Arts (MOPA) Balboa Park



NO TODO ES VIGILIA (2014)

Director: Hermes Paralluelo

Duration: 98 minutes

Genre: Documentary. Drama. Family. Old Age

Awards: 2014 San Sebastián Film Festival
2014 Mar del Plata Film Festival

Synopsis: Antonio and Felisa have been together for more than 60 years, their fragile state of health prevents them from taking care of each other. The possibility of having to go and live in a residence for elderly people appears on the horizon as a threat. 'No todo es Vigilia' portrays the love in

old age, the nights in light sleep for fear of loneliness, death, and the separation of the beloved. The fear to leave the life in the wrong hands and lose the independence.

Tickets: On location (in the Museum) \$10.00 donation
(\$7:00 House of Spain & MOPA member)



FEAST OF SAINT JOHN (SAN JUAN)

(Pot-luck)

Saturday June 20, 2015

From 6:00 to 9:00 PM in our Casita

We invite members and their families to celebrate with us the traditional feast. Bring a typical dish for 4 people instead of paying. We ask that it be a main dish.

Members: If you choose not to bring any dish, you will be charged \$10.00 per person at the entrance. Children under the age of 12 years, free of charge.

Non-members: \$20.00 per person. Children under the age of 12 years, \$6.00.

You can bring your own drinks to share, but this does not substitute the plate of food that you have to bring.
House of Spain/Casa de España in San Diego will provide bread, sangria 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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To read the Bulletin in English, visit the web page of House of Spain/ Casa de España in San Diego: <http://www.casadeespanasd.com>

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.



TODO TIPO DE CIRUGÍAS Y SERVICIO DENTAL

5 Médicos Generales - 10 Médicos Especialistas

Rayos X - Ultrasonido - Laboratorios

Nuevo Tratamiento para

- * Migraña
- * Lupus
- * Parálisis Facial
- * Hernias de Disco Lumbar
- * Artritis

011-52-664-683-6363 México
 619-361-7021 Médicos
 619-366-7887 Cirugías
 619-862-2703 Dentistas
 619-946-2716 Médicos

Cirugías de

- * Vesícula
- * Matriz
- * Ovarios
- * Ovarios
- * Ojos
- * Nariz

6 Dentistas disponibles para atenderlo

Limpieza dental.....	\$30
Resina(Relleno blanco).....	\$45
Amalgama(Relleno plateado).....	\$35
Coronas (Metal/Porcelana).....	\$160
Placas totales.....	\$300 c/u
Extracciones simples.....	\$30
Endodoncia(Remoción de nervios).....	\$150
Blanqueamiento.....	\$180
Brackets(Frenos).....	\$1,800

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