PRESIDENTS MESSAGE – Scott Costa

Happy August to all of you! I’d like to invite each of you to our Portuguese breakfast that we will be having on Sunday August the 2nd at the clubhouse starting at 8:00 a.m. There will be further information in this newsletter. I’d also like to remind you about our Annual Western Night and Silent Auction that will be held on the 22nd of this month. If you have any donations or would like to help during this event, please contact JoAnn Novey or Ken Costa, please see attached flyer.

Last, I would like to give my personal condolences to the Perry Family for the loss of their mom, Marie Perry. As well as the Yolo Club, Marie was also a member of our club and will be truly missed by all of us!!

See all of you at the breakfast!!!

UPCOMING EVENTS

PORTUGUESE BREAKFAST
Sunday, August 2, 2009
8:00 - 11:30 A.M.
Adults: $7.00, Kids under 12: $2.50

WESTERN NIGHT - SILENT AUCTION
Saturday, August 22, 2009
Cocktails start at 5:30 P.M.
Dinner starts at 7:00 P.M.
Please come, and bring wares to auction!

Come one & come all to our clubhouse at:
4605 Karbet Way, Sacramento, CA 95822-1817

AMERICANIZATION REPORT – Ken Costa

The Cabrillo Civic Clubs of California each year select a Subordinate Club as “All Around Club of the Year”. One of the programs counting toward receiving this award is Americanization. Cabrillo Civic Club No.5 needs your input on your endeavors in this category in order to report at the State level. Activities below are areas considered in judging Americanization efforts of a local Club. Submitting photos are required/important:

1. Participation at Naturalization Ceremonies. Describe help that is given or programs attended.
2. Elections: Taking people to the polls, working at polls, walking precincts, helping with voter registration.
3. Publicity: Americanization and/or history articles in the monthly Newsletter. Submit Club’s patriotic events in local newspaper or radio or TV.
4. Patriotic Organizations: City government, School Volunteering as it relates to Americanization. Describe member’s participation and activity.
5. Show your colors: Fly the Flag on holidays.
6. Participation at Patriotic events: such as July 4th picnics, parades, etc.
7. Support of Veterans activities.
8. Youth involvement: List activities involving youth; parades, polls; distributing literature; etc.

Please notify me at (559) 264-5492 if you have done or will do any of these activities in 2009, so Club No. 5 will have a shot at “All Around Club of the Year.”
I will soon (in September) be doing the Civic Affairs Report, so please start getting together those volunteer hours. For most of the last several months many of you have been turning in your hours on a regular basis. I thank you for doing that. But some are not able to attend our Board Meetings and do not see me on a regular basis. So I will be calling you soon; if you will please start collecting those hours ahead of my call, it would be helpful! Thanks to all who volunteer. Our Club can not do it without you!

In the future, I will have a Volunteer Sheet at the club sign-in greeting table to write your hours on, so hopefully it will be easier to keep track of those hours.

The deadline for newsletter contributions is the 20th of each month. You may phone me at (916) 421-4361, send email to jg5310@yahoo.com, or write me at 7140 Gloria Dr. #44, Sacramento, CA 95831. Please let me know if there are any corrections or additions. Any articles, input, or other comments are greatly appreciated.

Sympathy Card sent to: Marie Perry
Get Well Cards sent to: Mary (Dutra) Rosa, Dolores Greenslate, Nancy Graham, Odette Ebersole

There are no new members this month.

Famous Portuguese in World History

Prince Henry the Navigator - The guiding spirit of world discovery, devoting much of his life to the cause of exploration. He worked to improve ships, their instruments and maps.

Vasco da Gama - Explorer who made the first sea voyage from Europe to the East (India).

Pedro Alvares Cabral - The first European explorer to set foot in South America (in today's Brazil).

Bartolomeu Dias - European explorer to first round the southern end of the African continent, opening a sea route from Europe to the East. Along the way, he explored about 1260 miles of previously unknown African coast.

Fernão Magalhães (Magellan) - The first European to cross the Pacific Ocean, and leader of the first voyage that circumnavigated the globe.

João Rodrigues Cabrilho - Portuguese explorer (working for Spain; name often spelled in the Spanish version Juan Rodriguez Cabrillo), who was the first European to explore the west coast of North America, the first to navigate the coast of California, and founder of the city of Oaxaca, Mexico.

Pêro de Barcelos - Explored North America; was the first to sight the Coast of Labrador in 1498.

Diogo Cão - Discovered the Congo River.

Miguel Corte-Real - Explored Newfoundland and possibly Massachusetts USA, as found in carved inscriptions on the controversial Dighton Rock.

Duarte Fernandes - The first European to establish diplomatic relations with Thailand.

Lopes Gonçalves - First to cross the Equator in 1473.

Pedro Mascarenhas - Discovered the islands of Mauritius and Diego Garcia in the Indian Ocean.

Fernão Mendes Pinto - Was in the first group of Europeans to visit Japan, funding the first Christian church there.

Pedro Teixeira - Explorer of the Amazon River.
Because he knows a fair amount of Spanish, the Whys Guy was perplexed by a street name in the Pocket area that sounded somewhat Spanish: El Douro Drive. A little research suggested this was one of those slip-ups that occur when people christen streets in a language not their own. Grammar shifts happen.

For instance, there's Los (should be Las) Vegas Avenue in Roseville and Los (should be Las) Flores Road in Loomis. El Duero is the Spanish name for a river that starts in Spain and flows out to the Atlantic from Portugal, where it is known as O Douro. You say O Douro, the Whys Guy says El Duero.

We'd call the whole thing off, but it provides a nice introduction to the Portuguese streets of the Pocket. About 5 percent of the street names in the Pocket/Greenhaven neighborhoods have Portuguese ethnic origins, according to a 1998 UC Davis master's thesis by Carol Ann Gregory. That didn't even include El Duero and a handful of others with clear ties to Portugal or the early Portuguese settlers of the area. Those ties are what it's all about.

Portuguese settlers started showing up in this area in the mid-1800s, according to the book "Portuguese Pioneers of the Sacramento Area." The book was published in 1990 by the Portuguese Historical and Cultural Society and was updated in 2003. Many farmed in Natomas and the Pocket, and one Sacramento mayor, Clarence Azevedo, came from among these Portuguese clans. Their names were absent from city street signs and buildings.

Gregory's thesis quotes a 1977 letter to then-Mayor Phil Isenberg, complaining about the omission: "(T)he city government rarely considers using names remembering or honoring the original Portuguese settlers," wrote Joe D'Alessandro, a descendant of immigrants and a co-author of "Portuguese Pioneers."

Isenberg agreed, and when the streets were built in the Pocket and Greenhaven, they got names such as El Douro Drive, Portugal Way and Rio Cidade Way (e.g. River City). Here is El Douro Drive on a Google Map:

The progenitor of modern 'ukuleles, Hawaii's traditional instrument, was introduced there by Portuguese immigrants.

The “braguinha”, a cavaquinho-like 5-string instrument with tuning similar to modern 'ukuleles, was first produced in Braga, Portugal. Between 1878 and 1913, more than 20,000 Portuguese undertook the hazardous voyage from Madeira, the Azores, and mainland Portugal to begin a new life in the Hawaiian Islands. They brought braguinhas, larger “rajas”, and similar instruments.

In 1879 these were played publicly, for the first time in Hawaii, by a Portuguese immigrant, Joao Fernandez. Demand quickly resulted in the evolution of an already-existing crude 2-string native Hawaiian “Ukeke” into the now popularly known 'ukulele, then generally smaller and cheaper than Portuguese varieties. Although dearly loved now by the people Hawaii, the 'ukulele was sometimes ridiculed as a "hideous Portuguese instrument" by so-called respectable people used to traditional stringed instruments. But Hawaiian Royalty soon commanded performances, and in no time all Hawaiians were in love with this new musical instrument. The craze caught on; and business boomed thru at least World War I.

Both Hawaiian and US-mainland manufacturers mass-produced instruments. In the early 1900s Honolulu Ad Club formally patented the 'ukulele, making it Hawaii's very own. Ukuleles are now produced world wide, but some claim the best are made in Portugal!

Find more information and music examples at:

http://www.koolauukulele.com/history.html
http://www.nalu-music.com/ukulele-quotes
http://www.myspace.com/cavaquinho
http://www.theuke.com/download.php?list.4

Learn more (via website & email) at:

www.cabrillocivicclubs.org