

Portuguese Historical Center



Photo: Teri Simas

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President's Message

As spring unfolds around us, we're reminded of the beauty of renewal, growth, and spiritual awakening. Just as nature bursts forth with vibrant energy after a long winter, so too does our beloved Portuguese Historical Center embrace the season with fresh purpose and inspiration. Spring invites us to reflect, set new goals, and seek balance—and at the PHC, we are doing just that.

Over the past few months, we've been hard at work preparing for an exciting lineup of events. From symposiums and our virtual draw-down to Festa Chamarrita nights, Festa weekend, our fashion show, and even early planning for the 2025 Tunaman's Ball, our calendar is quickly filling up—and our enthusiasm is high.

As I've often said, this little museum has big dreams – and we're realizing them, one step at a time.

Beyond events, we continue to make progress on several meaningful projects. We're working closely with the Port of San Diego on the replacement of the Yacht Patrol (YP Yippie) Memorial at the Embarcadero, as well as the addition of a legend to the Tunaman's Memorial at Shelter Island.
In collaboration with
the San Diego Planning
Board, we are also advancing efforts to install
a historical wall commemorating Portuguese
heritage at the Cañón
Street Pocket Park.



We were honored to host Dianne Violeta Mausfeld, a researcher from Bielefeld University in Germany, who visited San Diego from March 16–18, 2025. Her research explores Portuguese migration to California during the 19th and 20th centuries. Her visit coincided with the Tunaman's Memorial Mass and Celebration, offering her a rich opportunity to engage with our community and its maritime heritage. Fluent in Portuguese, Dianne grew up in Cologne and spent time in a Portuguese neighborhood of Hamburg, home to nearly 30,000 Portuguese descendants. During her stay, she visited the PHC, met with Professor Ricardo Vasconcelos of SDSU, and toured the San Diego Maritime Museum. It was a true pleasure hosting her.

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Atenciosamente,

Evelyn Madruga-BarandiaranPortuguese Historical Center, President



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