



El Boricua

House of Puerto Rico San Diego Newsletter

<http://www.HouseofPuertoRico.com>

SUMMER

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President's Message

The summer is almost here and about half of 2003 is already gone by. It seems June has arrived early this year with the overcast and cold morning and beautiful afternoons. We continue to go through *la casita's* plan approval process and our goal of breaking ground on the first weekend in September are holding steady.

In the last few months, we participated in the Latino Film Festival and the Cesar Chavez parade. Our Youth and College Student Committee also held a car wash fundraiser and a talent night, Oye Boricua, in the Hot Monkey Love Cafe in the College Grove area.

We would like to thank all the volunteers that make it all possible. Our next events include the Ethnic Food Fair in Balboa Park on May 25, the picnic on June 21, and the California Puerto Rican Parade in Montebello on 22. For more information, please visit our website www.HouseOfPuertoRico.com

I hope to see you all at our upcoming events and at our membership meetings.

Saludos,
 Ángel Ramírez

Editor's Message

Hola Boricuas,

I am Madeline the *new volunteer editor* of "El Boricua".

I came to San Diego with my family Pablo, Melissa, and Pablo, Jr. on June/95, almost 8 years ago. We love to live here in San Diego. I am excited with my new position in the house of Puerto Rico and especially to meet all of you boricuas from the entire island and share our custom and our experience here.

I am working to improve the quality of our newsletter, make it more readable, better presentation and expand our topics, and get more members. The newsletter is a conglomerate of rich ideas contributed from different resources from our volunteer members.

We are asking that YOU too become an active contributing member by submitting articles or ideas that would be of special interest to our readers. Our usual topics cover education, events, history (music?, dance, sport, etc.), health, *but* also we want to add advertising to our members and friends, Puerto Rican recipes, y por su puesto saber que esta pasando en nuestra querida Perla del Caribe-Puerto Rico. We hope that these changes will result in benefits for all us.

The House of Puerto Rico San Diego (HPRSD) is a non-profit for public benefit organization established and governed by the laws of the state of

California, for the purpose of sharing and promoting the culture of Puerto Rico to the people of California. Membership to HPRSD is open to anyone who is interested in the heritage and culture of Puerto Rico. If you would like to receive El Boricua Newspaper thru e-mail, just send your e-mail address to me. You can contact my email: madelinex@cs.com

Hasta la próxima edición,

Madeline Guerra

Are you moving? If you are, please let us know in order to update our member and general mailing records.

All correspondence to HPRSD should be addressed to:

House of Puerto Rico San Diego
P.O. Box 81982
San Diego, CA 92138-1982



You can also find us in the internet at:

<http://www.houseofpuertorico.com>

Membership Corner

By Sophie Costas

New Members -

"Bienvenidas a nuestra casa"

Joey & Dianne Figueroa
Hector & Lourdes Caballero
Luis Morales
Elizabeth Ramos & Louis Williams
Debra Hernandez

Renewing Members

We would like to thank our members who recently renewed their membership:

Sandra & John Rivera
Sam Solana
Miriam Giorgianni
Helen & Eddie Solivan
Emilie German
Victor & Lucy Chavez
Antonio & Isabel Mejias
Jose Ruben & Margaret Santiago
Liz Lebron & Robert Strahl

Anniversaries

We would like to congratulate the members celebrating their wedding anniversary these months:

Lisboa Jr. Eddie & Myrna
Manzanet Ridder H. & Iris J.
Concepcion Hector & Lucy I.
Kingston John & Terry
Zentella Ana C. & Robert Cabot
Ortiz Carmen & Michael Roman
Rosado Loida B. & Julio Antonio
Rotger Monique & David

Birthdays

We would like to offer our best wishes to our members celebrating their birthday



Paydar, Chantal	05/01
Villarini, Angel	05/01
Baez, Nereida	05/04
Lopez, José	05/04
Lopez, Ines	05/19
Vargas, Miquel Angel	05/21
Gelada, George	05/23
Díaz, Nelson	05/28
Cantres-Garcia, Lusandra	06/06
Caballero, Hector A.	06/13

Erikson, Tim	06/19
Torres, Jessica	06/22
Torres, Luis	06/26
Carballo, Joe G.	06/29

Spouses Birthdays

Martinez, Petri Santiago	05/03
Lisboa, Myrna	05/06
Gonzalez, Nilsa	05/11
Santiago-Rivera, María	05/14
Bobé de Martinez, Awilda	05/21
Chico, Ada	05/21
Valencia De Jesus, Alicia	05/29
Baez, Blanca	06/05
Collazo, Mary Ann	06/06
Medina, Elba J.	06/14
Alvarado-Swaigood, Aillen	06/16
Gonzalez, Pina	06/23
Cruz, Saúl	06/28

Children Birthdays

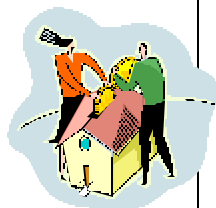


May: Ayari M Aguayo 5/26
Marissa Annandono 5/14
Giancarlo Chico 5/21
Nelson Diaz 5/23
Joel Diaz 5/25
Chet Brown Garcia 5/16
Adam Liddy 5/13
James Z Narvaez 5/26
Dillon Traynor Saez 5/8
Janessa Rosado 6/17
Richard Fox 5/13
Frances C. Vazquez 5/20

June: Eddie Barreto 6/4
Michael Claudio 6/4
Joshua Claudio 6/19
Diana Diaz 6/27
Samuel Elias Vazquez 6/1
Alexander Serrano 6/17
Marco Martinez 6/3

Casita Update

By Ralph Costas
May 28, 2003



We are still working on the Civil Site Plan. The latest they want to know is where the nearest fire hydrant is. I had to go out and find it. It is approximately 200 feet south across the street from our location. They also want to know where the handicap parking is.

Y otras cosas.

We have approval of the plumbing, electrical, structural and architectural plans. The civil is what is holding us up.

We have a tentative ground breaking day set for September 6, 2003. We will keep you informed as to the final details.

We are still in need of raising about another \$33,000 to cover the cost of the interior furnishing and appliances.

Reminder, only those that contribute \$1,000 prior to the construction of the "Garita" will be recognized with a permanent "brick." Once we build the Garita we will not be able to add bricks. So get your \$1,000 Brick donations in today.

Make your checks out to the House of Puerto Rico and mail them to PO Box 81982 San Diego, CA 92138

Saludos,
Ralph

Remember: Casilda Pagán Scholarship- dateline

By: Jaime Chávez

The House of Puerto Rico is offering an educational scholarship for current/future college students and current high school seniors who will be attending college or vocational school. Please come to our next meeting for more information or check out our web site. The deadline to apply for the scholarship is July 31st 2003.

Latino Film Festival 2003

By: Dr. Marie Rodríguez

During a ten day period in March, The Tenth Annual San Diego Latino Film Festival took place in this city. Films produce in Puerto Rica, Spain, Mexico, South America and the united States were presented at the Madstone movie complex. .

Two Puerto Rican documental were shown, Sudor Amargo and 12 Horas. Sudor Amargo was written and directed by Sonia Valentín who also starred. The storyline is that of women facing layoffs in Puerto Rico tuna factory. It is a harsh life under poor working conditions. The

dullness of this black and white film seems to underscore the bleakness of these women's lives.

The last film 12 Horas, a black comedy, depicts night in San Juan. There are five stories that the talented director, Raul Marchand Sanchez intertwines through the eyes of the kindly old cap driver. It is the better of the two in its cinematography and special effects. It is smooth flow storyline keeps the viewer attentive at all times. Congratulations for being the winner of the audience Award at last year's Chicago Latino Film Festival.

Upcoming Events

Monthly Membership Meetings:

Remember, it's the first Saturday of every month at 3:00 PM at the Hall of Nations in Balboa Park.

June 7th, (no meeting in July) Aug. 2nd, Sept. 6th, Oct. 4th, and Nov. 1st (no meeting in December).

June 8th – Hall of Nations in Balboa Park – hosting.

June 21st – Día de San Juan, Family Picnic. You can buy tickets on June 7th at the meeting.

June 22nd – Puerto Rican Day Parade, in Montebello, CA. House of Puerto Rico will participate . Information will give at the meeting on June 7th at the Hall of Nations in Balboa Park.

Prizes for Members – Members attending the monthly membership meetings are eligible to win a t-shirt in the prize drawing at the meeting.

Puerto Rico

“A Commonwealth of the USA”

On the 19th of November 1493, Christopher Columbus discovered the island of Puerto Rico. San Juan was already a city in the early 1500s. One of the first universities in the New World was founded there. One of the earliest attempts to colonize the US was led by Juan Ponce de Leon, governor of Puerto Rico, when around 1513 he led a small fleet from San Juan to the coast of Florida. Puerto Rico remained under Spanish rule and was granted autonomy in the late 1800s. During the Spanish American War, the US defeated the Spanish Navy in the Pacific and the Atlantic. The American fleet then proceeded towards Puerto Rico. There were landings at a couple of points on the island. The fleet laid siege to San Juan and bombarded the fortresses and the city. The 5000 defenders surrendered to the landing force of 15000. Thus, in 1898, Puerto Rico became a colony of the USA. The Foraker Act of 1900 made Puerto Ricans “citizens of Puerto Rico, entitled to the protection of the US”. In 1917, congress passed the Jones Act granting US citizenship to all persons born in Puerto Rico. In 1950,

congress enacted Law 600 that recognized Puerto Rico’s right to self-rule and authorized the organization of a government based on a constitution drawn up by Puerto Ricans. The constitution creating the “Estado Libre Asociado de Puerto Rico” (Commonwealth of Puerto Rico) was effective on the 25th of July 1952. Since then, Puerto Ricans have elected their own governor, cabinet members, and congress. Puerto Rico elects a “Resident Commissioner” in Washington who sits in congress (and can be a committee member) with voice but no vote. Puerto Ricans can vote in the US elections if they reside in the continental US. However, they cannot be candidates for the presidency of the US if they were born outside the continental US. Puerto Ricans have participated and contributed as citizens of the US in many different ways. In the Armed Forces, they have participated in every conflict in which the US has been involved since 1998. The first shot of World War I (by the US) was fired by a Puerto Rican serving in the US Army, Colonel Teofilo Marxuach.

He was officer of the day at El Morro Fortress, at the entrance to San Juan Bay, when war was declared. An armed supply ship for German submarines in the

Atlantic, the Odenwald, tried to force its way out of the bay. Colonel Marxuach opened fire from the walls of the fortress and forced the ship to return to port and be interned. Medals earned by Puerto Rican servicemen and women include four Congressional Medals of Honor and numerous Silver and Bronze Stars. The 65th Infantry Regiment was one of the most decorated units in the Korean War. Puerto Ricans were awarded more Purple Hearts than servicemen from any other state on a per capita basis. Other distinguished Puerto Ricans in military service include Antonia Coelho de Novello, MD (a graduate of the U of PR School of Medicine) who was the US’s first woman Surgeon General; Admiral Horacio Rivero (headed NATO for the US and was also US ambassador to Spain); and Admiral Alberto Diaz (headed the San Diego Naval Medical District and Balboa Naval Hospital until 2001). An abbreviated list of other distinguished Puerto Ricans includes: singer Ricky Martin; 2001 Oscar winner Benicio del Toro (Traffic); heavyweight boxing champion John Ruiz (defeated Evander Holyfield); actors Jennifer Lopez and Raul Julia (Kiss of the Spider Woman, The Adam’s Family, Romero); Oscar winners Rita Moreno (West Side Story)

and Jose Ferrer (Cyrano de Bergerac, The Caine Mutiny Court Martial); Grammy winner Olga Tanon; Denise Quinones Miss Universe 2001 (there are four Miss Universe from PR); middleweight champion Felix Trinidad; Wilfredo Benitez (youngest fighter in boxing history to win a world title, at age 17); golfer Chi-Chi Rodriguez (22 Senior PGA Tour championships); tennis champ Gigi Fernandez won two Olympic Gold medals and 14 Grand Slam titles (together with Natasha Zvereva); cellist Pablo Casals (whose mother was from Ponce, PR); Aida Alvarez who was the first Hispanic woman in the President's cabinet (SBA administrator 1997); and many more. Puerto Rico currently has its first woman governor, Mrs. Sila M. Calderon.

By: Antonio J. Grillo -López, MD

Good News!!

In the last issue we had given a warm farewell to Ramonita (Monin) and her family, but we are very lucky to have them stay with us in San Diego for one more year! Her daughter, Ami, decided to extend her contract with the Department of Defense (Navy), so they stay!!!! Hooray!!!!!!

FROM Ramonita... I will stay

"In the last edition of "El Boricua", my good friend Rosario Camacho said some nice words to say "Good-Bye". I appreciated her kind words very much but I have to say now that due to some changes in my daughter's military commitment, we are staying a little longer in San Diego. I will be cooperating with the new editor of "El Boricua" in any possible way and also will continue to be part of "La Casa de Puerto Rico/San Diego Staff as a voluntary activities coordinator.

Thanks to all of you for your support!

Love, Monin

Recipe Flan de Leche de Abuela Julia

1 lata leche condensada
5 huevos
1 taza de azúcar
1 cucharadita extracto de vainilla
caramelo: ½ taza de azúcar

Calentar la leche condensada, pero no hervir. Dejar enfriar un poco. Batir los huevos y azúcar juntos. En lo que la leche esté caliente, batir en la mezcla los huevos y azúcar, luego añadir la vainilla.

Tomar el azúcar y poner sobre fuego lento. El azúcar se convierte en líquido! Cuando esto sucede, remover del fuego, sin dejar quemar! Poner en un molde de flan (redondo de 15 a 20 centímetros) rápidamente. Se endurecerá.

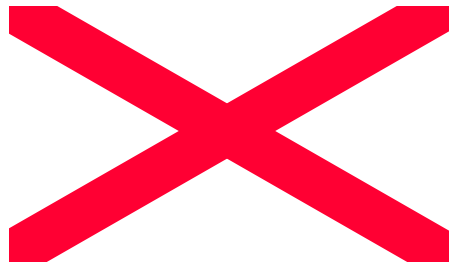
Poner la mezcla sobre el caramelo. Tomar otro recipiente y llenar la mitad con agua. Tomar el flan y cubrir con papel de aluminio y una liga. Poner en el recipiente con agua y poner en el horno por 45 minutos a 350 grados. Meter un tenedor por el centro, si está duro, está listo. Cuando esté listo, poner en la nevera hasta que se enfríe. Servir frío.

"The reason why this recipe is so special to me is that it reminds me of Christmas, family, love, and all the special holidays at Abuela Julia's house" – Jennifer López

Source: World's Top Latin Chefs and Celebrities by Michael Valdez and Art Torres.

Orbituaries`

Manolo Vasquez, a member of La Casa passed away on April 7 2003. He is survived by his spouse Doña Carmen Vazquez. A representation of La Casa attended the viewing in Pasadena, CA.



Envuelvete Boricua
Make The Puerto Rican *Casita* in....
BALBOA PARK A REALITY



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