



*20 Years of Service to the
Portuguese-American Community*

Working Today for Our Community's Tomorrow

*The Portuguese-American Leadership Council of the United States
Established 1991*

LUSUS

The Monthly Newsletter of PALCUS
Special Notice - Community Activities

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Message from the PALCUS Chairman

Dear Friends of PALCUS,

As you know, the daily activities of PALCUS are managed by an all-volunteer Board of Directors who are also active in their respective communities in California, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New Jersey, Maryland and the District of Columbia. This means that we know the communities in which we live and participate. To this end, we all have a role to play within our communities as PALCUS Directors - providing support where possible, attending community events, speaking with the community to find out what issues are most important to you.

In an effort to keep our supporters informed of how PALCUS is making a difference, below is a summary of the various activities that our Board members have undertaken over the past few months.

At the same time, we need you, our friends and supporters, to keep us informed of what is happening in your community, and tell us where you need our support. Don't

wait to see us at an event. Please send your thoughts and comments to any of our Directors via palcus@palcus.org:

Angela Costa Simoes - California

John Bento - California

Fernando Rosa - Connecticut

Jose C. Sousa - District of Columbia

Manny Geraldo - Maryland

Alda Petitti - Massachusetts

Odete Amarelo - Massachusetts

Cynthia Russo - New Jersey

Antonio Gato - New Jersey

Marie Fraley - Rhode Island

Onesimo Almeida - Rhode Island

Pilar Coelho - Rhode Island / Youth Representative

Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward hearing from you or seeing you at a local event very soon!

Sincerely,

Fernando G. Rosa

Chairman, PALCUS Board of Directors

DECEMBER

PALCUS Chairman, Fernando G. Rosa, traveled to the island of Madeira during the holiday season and took some time to meet with representatives of the Regional Government of Madeira to discuss the state of the Portuguese community, and PALCUS' role at the national level. Chairman Rosa also had an opportunity to meet with Dr. Raquel Franca, the Director of Tourism and Dr. Goncalo Nuno dos Santos, Director of the Madeirense Community. Much appreciation to Vice Consul Leonel Teixeira of Providence RI and to Mr. Silveira of Silveira Tours, who provided guidance and helped set up the meetings. Two local Madeira newspapers covered the visit.

Back in Connecticut, Chairman Rosa participated in several radio program interviews, including Voz do Emigrante with Franck Batista, WJFD- FM with Jorge Morais, WRTC with Sam Braga, WFAR with Francisco Bahia, WWUH with Henrique Ribeiro and RDP Internacional with Cristina Borges.

PALCUS was invited to attend the S&F Concrete Co. Christmas party in Hudson, Massachusetts. S&F Concrete Co. is owned and operated by Mr. Antonio Frias and his family. Mr. Frias, a PALCUS Charter Member, attended and supported the 14th Annual PALCUS Leadership Awards Gala at UMASS Dartmouth earlier this year, and S&F Concrete was a major supporter of the event. The S&F Concrete Holiday Event was attended by more 700 people including United States Senator Scott Brown, many other dignitaries, employees and family.

A Holiday Networking event was held for the Hartford, CT metropolitan region PALCUS members.

Vice-Chair Marie Fraley represented PALCUS as a guest on the Portuguese Channel (New Bedford, MA) Holiday Telethon to benefit the local Salvation Army in southeastern Massachusetts. The interview by Catarina Avaral Lima touched on PALCUS' mission and activities highlighting the adoption of the Espirito Santo School in Fall River, MA. PALCUS helps to support the teaching of the Portuguese language and culture by providing materials, resources and professional development workshops.

NOVEMBER

PALCUS Associate Member, Marc Rosa, hosted a meeting for PALCUS with Merrill Lynch and Bank of America executives to discuss community support.

Armando Goncalves, president of the Peoples United Bank Regional, was named the "Bridgeport Ringmaster for 2011." Armando and the Peoples United Bank have been long-time, major sponsors of the Annual PALCUS Gala.

PALCUS attended the ProVerbo Gala at the Sport Club Português in Newark, NJ.

Chairman Rosa met with Mr. Antonio Matinho, publisher of the LusoAmericano newspaper and the PALCUS 14th Annual Leadership Awards Gala media sponsor.

PALCUS Treasurer Manuel Geraldo, Chairman Rosa and PALCUS Executive Assistant Elisabete Martins attended the Abel Morais Foundation Gala at the Manassas Portuguese Center in Manassas, Virginia.

BES 8th Golf Tournament

Antonio Gato, General manager of Banco Espirito Santo USA and PALCUS Director from New Jersey, announces that the 8th annual BES Golf tournament will take place at the magnificent golf resort of Praia del Rey in Obidos, Portugal from May 10-14. Besides playing golf there will many more activities for players and their companions. SAVE the date and Contact Espirito Santo for additional details.

A Special Thank You to Dr. Jose Antonio Galaz

This past year, PALCUS said farewell to Dr. Joao de Vallera, the Ambassador of Portugal to the United States, who was transferred to London. Ambassador de Vallera over the four years that he has been in the US, has been a great supporter of PALCUS activities. We wish him and his family the very best and much success.

But PALCUS still has another great supporter in the Embassy. Dr. Jose Antonio Galaz, the Portuguese Social Counselor. Since he arrived in the U.S. Dr. Galaz has been the bridge to the Embassy, to the Portuguese Government and he has provided the organization with great support and assistance.

PALCUS is sad to see the Ambassador depart but happy that Dr. Galaz is staying to help us as he did with the Reception at the New Bedford Whaling Museum, the 14th Gala, and the Farewell Reception to the Ambassador just to mention the more recent activities.

We are grateful for such support.

Newest PALCUS Board Member

PALCUS is pleased to welcome its newest and youngest Director , **Ms. Pilar Coelho**. Although not yet 30 years of age, Ms. Coelho comes to us with a full resume of experience in the Portuguese community. She has served on the organizing committee of the Day of Portugal and Portuguese Heritage in RI for several years in various capacities, including as its youngest president. She has been active in the Centro Comunitário do Grupo Amigos da Terceira of RI and has been a "wish granter" for the Make a Wish Foundation. As a founding member of the Community Advisory Board of the Institute for Portuguese and Lusophone World Studies at Rhode Island College, she serves as Vice-Chair and Scholarship Committee Chair. A member of PALCUS since 2010, she was the first recipient of the PALCUS Leadership "Promessa" Award. Ms. Coelho is a student in the MBA program at Northeastern University and is employed as Senior Benefits Administrator for Iron Mountain in Boston. We look forward to her energy and insight as Youth Representative on the Board of Directors.

PALCUS Gala

This year's Annual Leadership Awards Gala will be held in the Washington, D.C. area, and will be chaired by PALCUS founding member and current Treasurer, Manuel Geraldo. It will be a celebration of 20 years of service to the community.

For information on sponsorships or early purchase of tickets, please email palcus@palcus.org or call 202-466-4664.

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PALCUS Mission

In order to create a singular voice to advocate for the Portuguese American and Luso-American communities at large, the Portuguese American Leadership Council of the United States Inc. (PALCUS) was founded in 1991 as a 501 © 3 non partisan, non profit, organization headquartered in Washington D.C.

The PALCUS mission is to address domestic and international concerns of the Portuguese American Community.

The Council conducts an expanding program of educational and public affairs activities on issues of interest to the Portuguese American community and of salience to the Luso-American Relationship.

PALCUS is committed to serving the community through increasingly active government relations efforts, the promotion of a greater awareness of ethnic accomplishments and encouraging stronger ties between Portugal and the United States. In this role PALCUS advance the community professionally, politically and culturally while working to ensure that issues directly affecting our community are addressed through our network of government and community leaders.

PALCUS is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization incorporated under the laws of the District of Columbia. Donations are tax deductible to extent allowed by law.

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