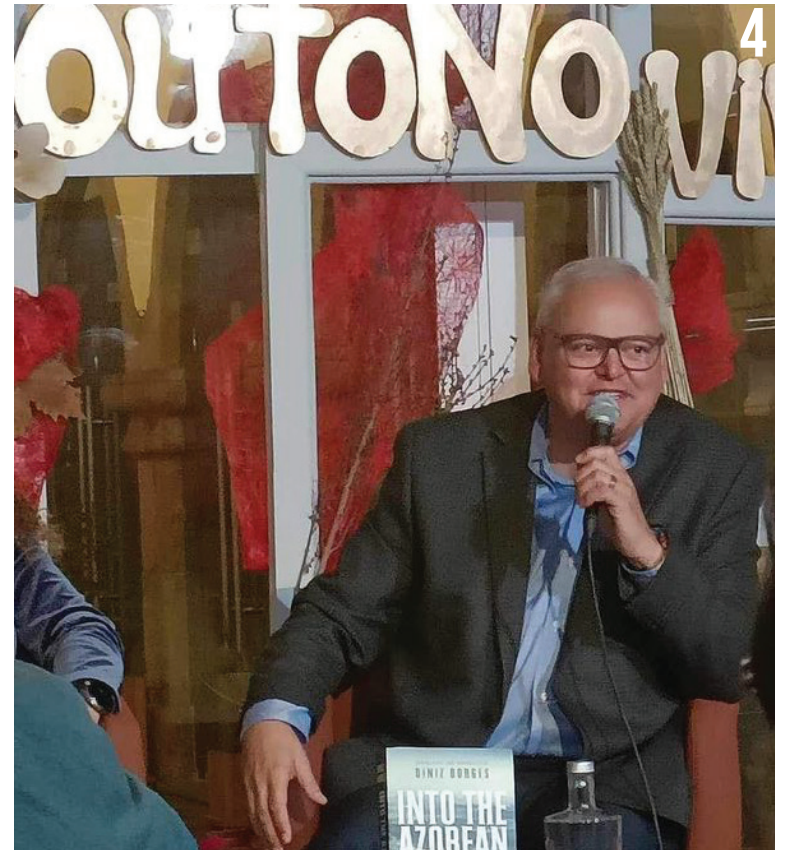


## FESTIVAL DAS BANDAS

18,19



## APRESENTAÇÃO DE LIVROS - UMA RIQUEZA COMUNITÁRIA



### In the next editions:

- \* Histórias de Vida
- \* PFSA Convention
- Entrevista a Manuel Rosa
- Entrevista a Darren Mountain



DANIEL AVILA

4

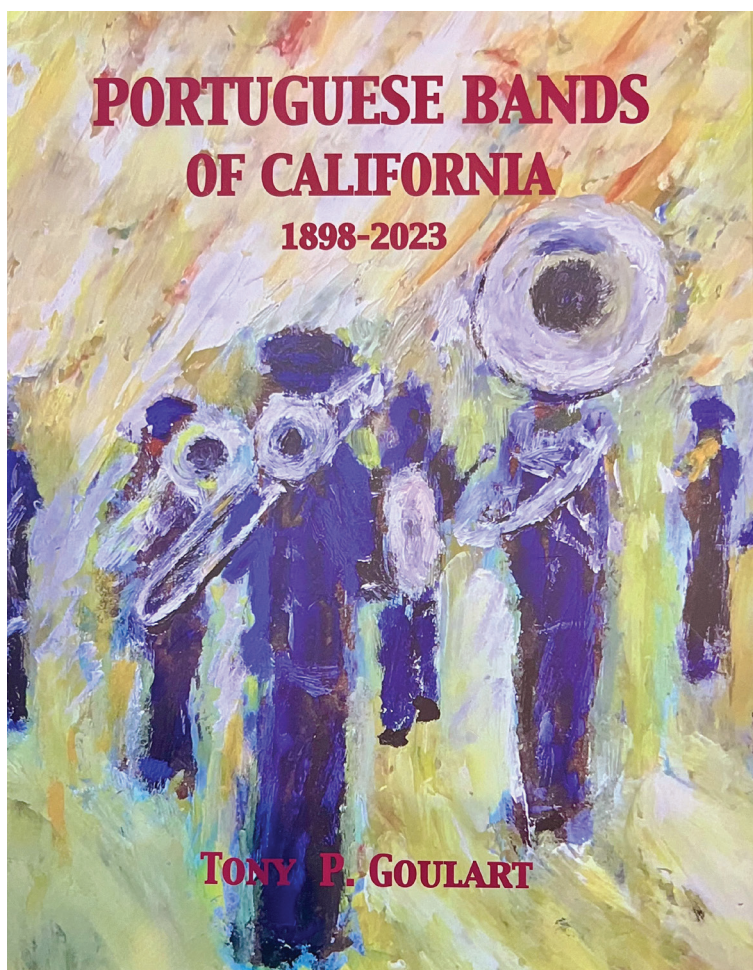
### Book Release

# "Portuguese Bands of California, 1898-2023"

The Portuguese Heritage Publications of California, the non-profit and volunteer-run community publisher releases its latest book *Portuguese Bands of California, 1898-2023* by Tony Goulart. The book chronicles the history of 125 years of Portuguese bands in California and showcases the patriarch of Portuguese bands, José Paulino da Silveira e Costa, a native of Topo, São Jorge Island in the Azores, who founded eight bands in California. At age 25, he came to California in 1895 potentially first to Watsonville. He moved to the Sacramento area (Freeport) where he founded the first Portuguese band in California, the Arcade Band, in 1898. He was also the founder of the seven more bands in Buhach (1906), Mill Valley (1913), Hanford (1914), Tulare (1921), Visalia (1922) and possibly Watsonville (1896). Two other prominent band founders are also showcased in the book - Egídio Gonçalves Santana (Paúl do Mar, Madeira 1899-Setúbal 1988) who founded bands in Turlock, Lincoln, and San Diego; Eleutério Borba, another Topo native, who founded all three current Portuguese bands in San José; and Portugue-

se-American composer and conductor John Philip Sousa (1854-1932) who conducted the prestigious 100-member Portuguese U.P.E.C. Band of San Leandro at the 1915 Panama-Pacific International Exposition in San Francisco. Tony Goulart's extensive research not only will serve as a reference for the history of the first 125 years of Portuguese bands in California, but a critical recognition for how essential these bands are to the Portuguese culture in the state. The book was released at the Portuguese Band of San José (PBSJ) hall on Friday, November 10, 2023 with the presence of all three San José Portuguese bands -- PBSJ (1971), Sociedade Filarmónica Nova Aliança (1973), and Sociedade Filarmónica União Popular (1978). Davide Vieira emceed the event with the national anthems of Portugal and the US being performed jointly by Nova Aliança and União Popular. Henrique Dinis spoke about the Portuguese Heritage Publications of California and José Luís da Silva introduced the book. There was a Fado performance with local artists Sandra Pinheiro Pacheco and David

Silveira Garcia and Teresa Tapadas of Portugal, accompanied by Angelo Eiras, Manuel Escobar, and João Cardadeiro. A PBSJ ensemble conducted by Joe Amaral performed a funeral march authored by Maestro José Paulino da Silveira e Costa in 1886 -- Mártir do Japão -- and accompanied the three Fado singers in another beautiful piece. The grandchildren of José Paulino da Silveira e Costa -- Pauline Nyberg and Chuck Gibson -- were recognized along with the presidents of PBSJ Sandra Gaspar, S.F. Nova Aliança Manuel Silva, and S.F. União Popular Megan Pereira. Sponsors of the book donated 30 books to each active Portuguese band in California. Consul General of Portugal in San Francisco, Pedro Pinto, addressed the audience and the formal part of the event concluded with the author -- Tony Goulart -- speaking about the book and ending with references to St. Thomas Aquinas' Virtue of Gratitude with a very sincere "Muito Obrigado!" The book *Portuguese Bands of California, 1898-2023* is available for sale (\$35).



Maestro José Paulino da Silveira e Costa. Foto de Pauline Nyberg



Photos Miguel Ávila

Book Release

# "Portuguese Bands of California, 1898-2023"



Sandra Pinheiro Pacheco

David Silveira Garcia, Angelo Eiras, Manuel Escobar, João Cardadeiro

Teresa Tapadas



Sandra Pinheiro Pacheco

David Silveira Garcia

Teresa Tapadas



Dolores and Batista Vieira with Sandra Gaspar, PBSJ-President

Dolores Vieira with Manuel Silva, Nova Aliança Celestino and Manuela Aguiar

Megan Pereira, União Popular, with Margarida and Manuel Cabral



Sponsors donating books to the Portuguese bands

Sandra Gaspar, Manuel Silva, Megan Pereira

Grandchildren of José Paulino da Silveira e Costa, Chuck Gibson and Pauline Nyberg

Consul General of Portugal Pedro Pinto



Tony Goulart, author, presenting and signing his book

# TONY GOULART - PORTUGUESE BANDS OF CALIFORNIA



As you may imagine, this is a very special day for me and hopefully for our community, as we gather to share the presentation of the new book about another important aspect of our history: “Portuguese Bands of California 1898–2023.”

I thank you for your presence and for your interest in the subject and, above all, for your support of a dear cultural Azorean and Portuguese tradition brought over by our pioneer immigrants and still maintained with great effort by all those involved in the preservation of the filarmónica’s musical tradition. I am humbled and honored by your presence in such large numbers.

I am especially grateful to the Portuguese Band of San Jose, Sociedade Filarmónica Nova Aliança and Sociedade Filarmónica União Popular for not only co-sponsoring this event, but also for performing for all of us tonight. I thank the three conductors, Joe Amaral, Paul Fagundes and Henry Ramos for making an effort to brighten this evening with their bands, despite being a Friday and with many musicians having previous conflicting commitments. I appreciate the effort and the collaboration.

My gratitude is also extensive to the professional fado singer Teresa Tapadas for volunteering to perform with our own local talents David Garcia and Sandra Pacheco to give us a taste of our Fado, the first artistic expression to be considered by UNESCO as Intangible Heritage of Humanity. Thanks also to Angelo Eiras, Manuel Escobar, João Cardadeiro and PBSJ for providing the musical accompaniment. I have been involved with Portuguese Heritage Publications since its inception. However, this is my first attempt at writing or compiling a book on my own. I am extremely proud of that, even though I constantly remind myself that I must share the credits with so many other people who contributed and made it happen. I thank all the current and past board members of PHPC present here tonight.

I am also honored with the presence of many new and old friends who drove long hours from Hanford, Kingsburg, Fresno, Elk Grove, Stockton, Tracy, Modesto, Watsonville, Lincoln, and other distant parts of the state, including Pauline Nyberg and Chuck Gibson, grandchildren of the great maestro and composer, JPS Costa, who wanted to share this evening of tribute to the Portuguese Bands.

The community’s secular reputation of being honest, law-abiding, and hardworking citizens is undeniable. So is its historical major professional contribution to the prosperity of the state in agriculture, tuna fishing, dairying, construction, and many other service industries. However, the Portuguese traditions and contribution to the rich religious, cultural, artistic and entertainment aspects of our presence in California are often overlooked and neglected. And, in that context, the important education and entertainment role of our marching bands is often taken for granted. They are frequently contacted to enliven social and religious events and receptions to political entities, but very seldom any of their accomplishments and

milestones are officially recognized and appropriately celebrated. The bands can no longer continue to be ignored. They deserve more respect from all our community leaders and official entities.

It is probably not widely known that 2023 is a very special year, as we celebrate not only 125 years of the establishment of the first Portuguese Band in California, the Arcade Band (later named the Camellia City Band) in Sacramento, by José Paulino da Silveira e Costa. In addition, we also commemorate 100 years since the passing of that maestro, bandmaster, composer, and music teacher — the patriarch of the Portuguese Bands in California — who passed away in 1923.

A few years ago, Paulo Teixeira, who was involved in the 150th anniversary celebration of his Filarmónica Club(e) União of Topo, São Jorge — contacted me about “a certain bandmaster José Paulino da Silveira e Costa, who had emigrated from Topo in the late 1800s and had spent all his immigrant life in California teaching music and founding marching bands.” Curiosity did the rest, as I slowly began looking for small nuggets of information (a figurative “needle in the haystack”) about Portuguese bands from the late 1800s and early 1900s. One thing led to another, as I grew increasingly intrigued by Portuguese bands, this bandmaster, and the others that came after him. And the result is... the book.

I found 29 bands which were established during the first wave of Azorean immigration, from 1898 until the 1930s. The musical tradition regained a new energy with the second wave of immigration. Since 1971, 18 more Portuguese bands were established throughout the state. It is worth noting that 23% of all California Portuguese bands were established by musicians from Vila do Topo, São Jorge, namely by José Paulino Silveira e Costa and Eleutério Borba. Three other bands (Turlock, Lincoln and San Diego) were established by Egidio Gonçalves Santana, a native of Paúl do Mar, Madeira Island.

In addition to those 47 bands, the book also features the history of 11 other “predominantly Portuguese bands.” Despite the fact that these did neither have a Portuguese denomination nor were founded by Portuguese, at some point of their existence, at least fifty percent of their musicians were Portuguese-Americans.

Never in my life I considered the expression “it takes a village” to have so much meaning as I do today. For that reason, I titled my introduction to the book, “Not a One-Man Band.” It took a large “band” of friends, acquaintances and organizations at various levels collaborating and contributing toward the completion of this “concert” — one hundred twenty-five years in the making — of the history of Portuguese bands in California.

My gratitude has to start with a special word to my editor, Katharine F. Baker from Pittsburg, Pennsylvania. In addition to the valuable input from José do Couto Rodrigues, Henrique Dinis, Silvia Carol, and the writing suggestions from a dedicated friend, Goretti Silveira, who were my informal advisors and preliminary editors, Kathie Baker transformed my poor “Portinglês” into English, and at no charge. I will forever be indebted to her, and her superb editing skills.

Regardless of how valuable or interesting the contents of a book may be, without reaching the hands of readers, it serves very little purpose. I am thankful to all the sponsors who partnered with PHPC to donate over 500 copies of this publication to the current band members in California. Without their support this information was almost as good as if it had forever remained in the drawer of my filing cabinet. Their continued support is a breath of fresh air, and an incentive for future projects. Besides many other sponsors, I want to thank those who supported the three local bands, my friends Batista and Dolores Vieira for sponsoring the books for Portuguese Band of San José and Nova Aliança, Manuel and Margaret Cabral and Celestino and Manuela Aguiar for sponsoring União Popular.

In the same breath of deep appreciation, I would like to acknowledge the generosity of Portuguese Tribune, Diáspora Media Group and radio stations KSQQ and KLBS for publicizing the new book in various ways.

This event would have not been possible without the

unselfish cooperation of so many people, a group too large to be enumerated and too easy to inadvertently overlook someone. However, I cannot ever forget the drive and dedication of Sandra Gaspar, Mariana Flores and Berta Vasquez and their vast group of helpers at PBSJ; the tireless Ana Ferreira, Megan Pereira, and all their helpers from União Popular; Manuel Silva and the team from Nova Aliança; Mary Alsheikh, Luís Jesus, Olímpia Mendonça, Leonilde Goulart, Leontina Cardoso, Carlos Fagundes, Hermínia Cardadeiro and Margaret Cabral from Aliança Jorgense, Artur Azevedo, and so many others who contributed to this evening’s program.

To all those who accepted my challenge to take a more active role in this event: Davide Vieira, Henrique Dinis, José Luís da Silva, the three San Jose bands represented here by their presidents, and the always welcomed Consul-General of Portugal, my deepest gratitude.

Finally, a word of thanks to my daughters, son, and my older brother and respective families for being part of this event, and to my patient wife, Judy, for listening to band stories, giving feedback, and editing write-ups for the past couple of years. Thanks for understanding the passion and the time I forfeited the family to accomplish it.

Unfortunately, and due to health precautions, there is a huge void in this hall tonight. A dear friend, mentor, and the right hand of PHPC cannot be with us. I deeply feel the absence of José do Couto and Delminda Rodrigues. I know how much I would have loved to see them here, and how much they would have enjoyed this evening.

As you can see, I will be forever indebted to all or most of you, and I feel that I will not have the proper words to express how grateful I am.

For that reason, and as I was preparing to express my general gratitude to you tonight, I remembered the words of a distinguished Portuguese scholar, Sampaio da Nóvoa, who took refuge on one word of the Portuguese language and the “Treaty on Gratitude” of St. Thomas Aquinas, to express his feelings of gratitude. I make his words mine, with the due credit and respect:

The third and deepest level of gratitude is the one expressed by the unique Portuguese word OBRIGADO. Obrigado means a commitment, being reciprocal, building a bond — I am obrigado/ I am obliged. I feel committed to you because of what you did for me... Because of this book, I am obrigado to you in so many ways. Because of it, we have created a mutual bond and we have committed to help this community to be better, to excel, to overcome its differences, to be more united and cooperative.

I feel that tonight, we strengthened and renewed a mutual bond and a lasting commitment to continue preserving the history of the Portuguese presence in California and that of our Portuguese Filarmónicas.

MUITO OBRIGADO.

