

American-Portuguese Genealogical
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Bulletin Board

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Photo: courtesy of Mrs. Joseph Bois

Estella Roderick Margarido — left
June 17, 1910-June 12, 2001

Cecilia Marianne Rose — right
May 5, 1916-June 23, 2001

Cecilia and Estella were first cousins once removed. Cecilia was the great-granddaughter and 'Stella the granddaughter of Manuel Rodrigues Serpa (1834-1918) and Mary Josephine (Francis) Serpa (1843-1907). The Serpa's daughter, Louise, married Joseph F. Rose and was the mother of Joseph P. Rose, Cecilia's father. Frank Serpa, Louise's brother, was 'Stella's father. The cousins were two of the octet that founded the APGHS in 1977. Both will be missed; Cecilia more.



Estella was born in New Bedford to Frank Roderick (aka Rodrigues) and Virginia O. (Vieira) Serpa—their first daughter and second child. Stella grew up in Rehoboth, Mass., and graduated from its Hornbine School and Taunton High School in 1929. She was the executive secretary of attorney Frank Smith and clerk at the Bristol County Superior Court for twenty years. In 1934 she married Anthony F. Maragarido. The couple were childless.

Stella was a volunteer par excellence: at Camp Myles Standish during World War II; at Morton Hospital for fifty years (1986 Volunteer of the Year); at the Old Colony Historical Society. A past president of the St. Joseph's Guild, and the Taunton District of Catholic Women, and the Taunton Business and Professional Women's Club, and the Westville Women's Club, she was also a member of the Queens Daughters and the Old Colony Historical Society. In 1976 she was awarded a Marian Medal from the Diocese of Fall River. Seven years ago failing eyesight forced her to relinquish her duties as APGHS recording secretary.



Cecilia was the first-born child of Joseph P. and Rose Q. (Silva) Rose of Taunton. She graduated from Taunton High School in 1935 and Bryant College, Providence, R.I., in 1941 with an associate degree in accounting. For most of her adult life she was employed as office manager at Alden Auto Parts, Taunton (later Somerset), Mass. She was survived by a brother, Edmund, in Virginia.

She was a member of the Coimbra Club, the Women's Republican Club of Greater Taunton, the National Federation of Republican Women, the Dukes County Historical Association, the Old Colony Historical Society and the Portuguese-American Federation. One of the APGHS's founders, Cecilia was its executive secretary until her death.

The Mirandas of Bretanha: Solving the Mystery

The origins and name of Bretanha, a freguesia (civil parish) on the northwest coast of São Miguel evoke both mystery and controversy.¹ The name, suggesting an elusive French origin, first appears in the 1527 tax records of the local tax collector.² Census records from from 1580-1590 document 312 individuals on the confession rolls. The census of 1646 records a population of 503 living in 106 households. By 1723 Bretanha's population can be estimated at 1,130 based on a documented 226 households.³ Among its most representative families are the Mirandas.

Gaspar Frutuoso is almost silent regarding any Mirandas on São Miguel⁴ and those he records don't shed any light on the origins of the Bretanha Mirandas. The parish records, as well as the indices compiled by Fr. Octávio Luis Reis and the *Genealogias* of Carlos Machado, identify five branches of the Bretanha Mirandas: Pacheco Mirandas, Cordeiro Mirandas, Mirandas de Araújo, Viveiros Mirandas and Tavares Mirandas. In a small isolated area where the populace tended to marry within the parish or a neighboring parish, the argument for a common Miranda ancestor is compelling.

The vital records for Bretanha before 1703 have been lost, but they were surely available to Fr. Reis, who compiled an index on birth records from 1606.⁵ Earlier 17th century marriage records must also have been available to Machado, who recorded many of them in his *Genealogias*.⁶ Both authors document the descendants of the Tavares Mirandas from Margarida Francisca Miranda, who married Manuel Martins Côrtez in Bretanha on 10 November 1710. Machado documents her ancestry back to Cristóvão Afonso de Sousa Ledo, a captain of the regiment in Bretanha, married to Isabel Álvares.⁷ Their descendants had migrated to Ribeira Seca, Fajã de Baixo and Nordeste, but returned to the Bretanha area in the 19th century.

Machado records the descendants of Sebastião de Oliveira Vasconcelos, son of Manuel Oliveira Vasconcelos and Maria Benevides de Sousa, married in Ribeira Seca on 30 December 1609.⁸ Based on this date, the groom's year of birth can be estimated as 1585. The Oliveira Vasconcelos descend from Diogo de Oliveira Vasconcelos.

Frutuoso's *Saudades da Terra*, written in his neat, legible script, was completed shortly before his 1591 death. In Book IV, Vol. 3, p. 245, he documents the existence of Cristóvão Afonso de Sousa Ledo and his siblings, among whom is Isabel Lopes, already married with children. He identifies their parents as Sebastião Afonso de Sousa Ledo of the Ledos of Santo António alem Capelas and his wife, Guiomar de Oliveira, whose ancestry is traced back by Frutuoso to Diogo de Oliveira Vasconcelos.⁹ Isabel Lopes and Antonio Gonsalves' son, Sebastião, and his son, Manuel, carry the Oliveira Vasconcelos names in addition to Sousa. Manuel and his wife, Maria de Araújo Vasconcelos, are the ancestors of the four Miranda branches in Bretanha listed below:

1. Son António de Miranda Araújo and Maria Xavier de Medeiros were the parents of Jacinta Rosa de Miranda, who, with her husband, were the ancestors of the Barons of Fonte Bela and Nossa Senhora de Oliveira and the Counts of Fenaes.¹⁰

2. Daughter Maria de Araújo, born in 1682, and António Viveiros Travassos were the parents of José Viveiros Miranda, from whom all the Viveiros Mirandas descend. Tracing his line presented a considerable challenge because he did not marry the mother of his only child. The absence of a marriage record meant no verification of parentage, but his 1791 death record says he was born in 1715 and identifies him as the brother of Vitória Viveiros. Vitória's 1796 death record identifies her as the daughter of António Viveiros (Travassos).

3. Daughter Jacinta Tavares Viveiros, born in 1711, and António Pacheco de Simas started the Pacheco Mirandas.

4. Daughter Margarida Tavares married Manuel de Oliveira Cabral of Capelas in 1728.

To recapitulate: Tavares Mirandas trace their ancestry back to Sebastião Afonso de Sousa Ledo through his son, Cristóvão; Pacheco Mirandas, Cordeiro Mirandas, Viveiros Mirandas and Miranda de Araújo to Sebastião through his daughter, Isabel Lopes.

Happenstance often plays a role in genealogical sleuthing. The Tavares Mirandas were absent from Bretanha for nearly a century after the death of Luis Tavares in 1784. In 1883, however, Maria Helena de Vasconcelos, a 12th generation descendant of Sebastião de Sousa Ledo, married her seventh cousin twice removed, Manuel António Miranda of Fajã de Baixo, a descendant of Margarida Francisca Miranda. In the late 19th century, Margarida's great-great grandson, Júlio Taveira Miranda, married and settled in Capelas and Júlio's great grandson, Dr. Taveira Miranda, is now president of the town assembly.

Another star-crossed alliance was that of Manuel Pacheco Miranda in Capelas in 1867 to Dona Margarida Rosa Cabral, his third cousin once removed, and a great-great granddaughter of Margarida Francisca Miranda. In the 19th century *dona* wasn't used as routinely as it is today; it was reserved for affluent and socially prominent ladies. Manuel Pacheco Miranda lent his money to the Parish Council to complete the rebuilding of Remédios' original church, destroyed by an 1852 earthquake.¹¹ A previous Miranda ancestor, José Tavares de Oliveira, son of Sebastião de Oliveira and Maria Benevides de Sousa, had built the first chapel of Our Lady of Remedies and with his wife, Maria de Viveiros, had given it to Remédios. It ultimately became the destroyed parish church mentioned above.¹²

The 1878 marriage record João Pacheco Miranda and Maria José Cordeiro is a silent, yet revealing, record of life in the Azores over a century ago. The groom's signature, in fine Victorian script, is that of an educated man. The bride, alas, was unable to write her name.

Footnotes:

¹Herculano Medeiros, "Subsídios para a Monografia da Bretanha," *Arquivo dos Açores*, Vol. V, pp.560-597.

²*Livro do Almojarife*, *ibid.*, Vol. XI, p. 4.

³João Marinho dos Santos, *Os Açores nos Séculos XV e XVI* (two volumes), Ponta Delgada: 1989.

⁴*Saudades da Terra*, Book IV, Vol. 1, mentions Branca Gil Miranda married to Rui Lopes. Their son, Rui Lopes Barbosa, was married to Isabel de Miranda of Santa Maria.

⁵Available at the Ponta Delgada Public Library and Archives.

⁶More than 600 sheets of genealogical charts are available at the Ponta Delgada Public Library and Archives and, through a gift of Rev. Joseph Viveiros, in the APGHS collection at the Taunton Public Library.

⁷*Genealogias*, p.259.

⁸*ibid.*, p. 531.

⁹ See also Ernesto do Canto's *Árvores Genealógicas extraídas das Saudades da Terra do Dr. Gaspar Frutuoso*. ms 1894, Ponta Delgada Public Library and Archives.

¹⁰ See See Carlos Machado, p.373, and Carlos Melo Bento's *História dos Açores 1900-1910*, Vol. II, Ponta Delgada:1996.

¹¹ *Notas Históricas-Remédios, Bretanha*, Rev. António Nunes. Ponta Delgada:1975.

¹² *ibid.*

There are many Mirandas today in Capelas-Bretanha and the Azorean diaspora has taken others to Brazil, Canada and the United States. The author will gladly share his research with Miranda cousins and would appreciate any further information on:

1. Manuel Cordeiro Miranda and Mariana de Medeiros, who raised several children (ca1920) in Seekonk, Mass.
2. António Rego Miranda (1883-1928) and Maria da Estrela Torres, who raised several children in Somerset, Mass.
3. Jacinto R. Miranda (b. 1886), son of Manuel J. Miranda and Maria Rodrigues (d. 1929), who married Eúgenia Oliveira on 1-19-1907 in Fall River, Mass., and died there on 07-24-1920.
4. The Mirandas of Tiverton, R.I., who originate with Rosa Miranda (b. ca1850) and João Almeida.

Submitted by

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ADDENDUM

The resources available at the New Bedford Free Public Library, described in the fall 2000 issue (Vol XXI, No. 3), omitted its address: 613 Pleasant Street, New Bedford, MA 02740.

Announcing:

The first three words of the APGHS are American, Portuguese and Genealogical. The study of of Portuguese history is edifying and re-telling the deeds and accomplishments of Portuguese immigrants and their descendants to the United States doubtless kindles a joy to all members, but most members joined the Society primarily to find their personal genealogical roots.

One way is to link with another Society member with a common ancestor. This is the reason for the Surname Roster, but the SR has its limitations. Already twenty-four pages in length, not much more individual information can be added and abbreviations used for each ancestor without making it prohibitively lengthy. It also is limited in scope. No entry names a place of death so there is no mention that an ancestor moved from the named place of birth and died elsewhere. If the year of birth and/or death is given, the year of marriage is not.

To help members better find that possible common ancestor, the Society will begin printing RE-SUBMITTED pedigree charts in the fall ~~Bulletin Board~~ (Vol. XXII, No. 3). The chart submitted when you first joined will not be used because its information may be dated and it had no permission-for-printing provision. Submitting the new chart will confer permission. Your name (minus Mr., Miss, Ms, Mrs., or any title) and address will be printed in the ~~BB~~. Please submit your telephone number and/or e-mail address (for quick Society verification if needed); the latter addresses will not be printed without permission. Members who submit nothing will remain status quo.

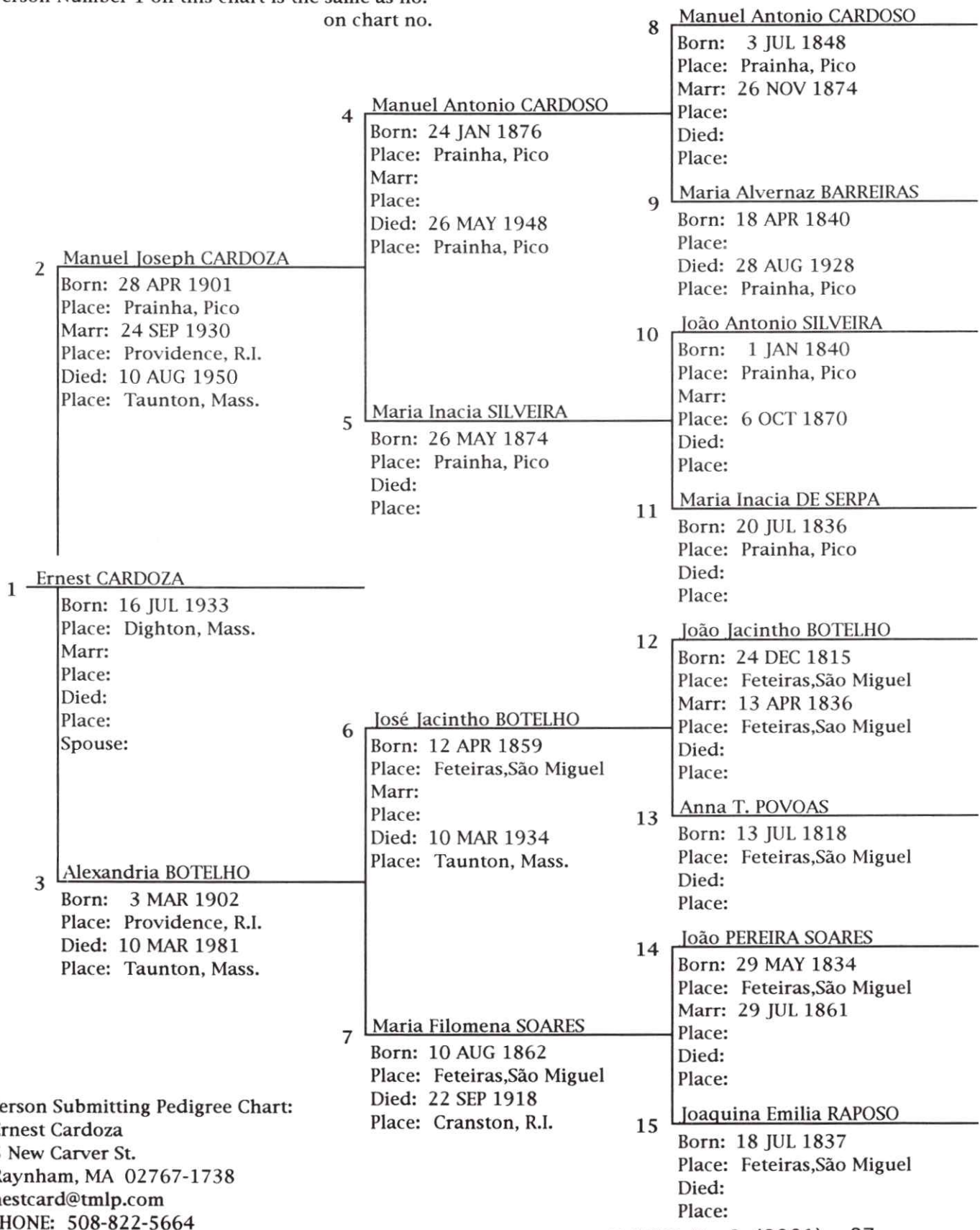
The above doesn't mean that "Historical" has been removed from the Society's title. Historical accounts of events in Portugal, its possessions, and its people will still be printed. Members are encouraged to continue submitting stories.

If you want the printing of your new pedigree chart in a future ~~BB~~, snail-mail it to the street address on the opposite page. Don't regard that chart as a paragon of scholarship. Taking the high road, I hope other members will emulate. Taking the low —and more accustomed—road, I hope it's "monkey see; monkey do."

PEDIGREE CHART

Chart No.

Person Number 1 on this chart is the same as no. on chart no.



Person Submitting Pedigree Chart:
 Ernest Cardoza
 5 New Carver St.
 Raynham, MA 02767-1738
 nestcard@tmlp.com
 PHONE: 508-822-5664

Azorean Family Names

Continued from the winter 2001 issue.....

<u>Name</u>	<u>Derivation</u>	<u>Origin</u>	<u>Crest</u>
Trantora			
Trato			
Trava			
Travaços	Travassos		Yes
Travassos	Travaços		Yes
Trepa			
Trigoso			Yes
Trigueiros			Yes
Trindade			
Tristão	Infante		Yes
Trombas			
Troncoso			Yes
Trovão	Torvão		
Tudela			Yes
Tuna			
Túrcio		Navarre	Yes
Twirdy			
Ulhoa			Yes
Ulrich			
Ulveira			Yes
Unha			Yes
Urbina			
Ursula			
Usodimare	Usodimare	Genoa	Yes
Utra	Dutra		Yes
Uva			
Vabo			Yes
Vaia			Yes
Vais			
Valada			
Valdão			
Valadares			Yes
Valardim			
Valarte			
Valdemar			
Valdevesso		Galicia	Yes
Valez			Yes
Vale	Van den Walle	Flanders	Yes
Valejo			

<u>Name</u>	<u>Derivation</u>	<u>Origin</u>	<u>Crest</u>
Valença	Valencia		Yes
Vanêncio			Yes
Valente			Yes
Valentim			
Valério			
Valha			
Valido			
Valim	Valimi	Venice	Yes
Valls			
Valtéiro	Walter	Germany	
Van der Hagen		Flanders	Yes
Van Praet		Flanders	Yes
Van Rossem		Flanders	Yes
Van Ouvistet		Flanders	Yes
Vaquina			
Varão			
Varedas			
Varjão			Yes
Varela			Yes
Vargas			Yes
Vargem			
Vasconcelos			Yes
Vasques			Yes
Vassalo			
Vaz			Yes
Vazeos			
Veana	Viana		
Vedra			Yes
Veiga			Yes
Veio			
Vela			
Velasco		Castille	Yes
Velasques		Castille	Yes
Velez		Asturias	Yes
Velho	Guedes		Yes
Vellucci			Yes
Velosa			Yes
Veloso		Galicia	Yes
Velouvi	Willoughby	England	Yes
Venâncio			

To be continued.....

Source: *Azores Islands: A History*, James H. Guill. pp. 238-241. With permission.

Following your name on the Bulletin Board's mailing label is your membership number and a dash. Except for the Ls (life members), there are the two digits after the dash. The last ~~BB~~ a regular member will receive will be the Surname Roster of that year; for a professional member (P), the last reception will be issue No. 3.

If you want a membership card please
enclose an SASE with your dues.

Dear Treasurer:

Enclosed is check #. _____ dated _____ in the amount of \$ _____ for
APGHS dues from July _____ to June _____ .

Name(s) _____

Membership number: _____
(include present expiration year and/or letter.)

Address: _____

Address: _____

City/State: _____

ZIP Code + 4: _____

Should you not want to use the above form and lose the information on the other side,
please give the above requested information on a separate sheet or on the check itself;
Muito obrigada(o).

Mail to:

APGHS, Inc. P. O. Box 644, Taunton, MA 02780-0644

American-Portuguese Genealogical and Historical Society, Inc.

The Society's year is July 1 to June 30.

DUES SCHEDULE:

\$ 10.00	Regular membership
2.50	Spouse, no Surname Roster reception
10.00	Professional Membership, no Surname Roster reception
15.00	Organizations, Libraries, etc. no Surname Roster reception
150.00	Life Membership for a regular member up to the age of fifty-five
100.00	Life Membership for a regular member over the age of fifty-five

Regular members are those who have submitted a pedigree chart; their known ancestors are in the Surname Roster. Life dues are kept in a separate account. When it reaches \$1,000 certificates of deposit are purchased. The interest from the CDs is withdrawn each June 30 and put into the Library Fund to continue our goals with the Special Collection.

The APGHS newsletter, the *Bulletin Board*, is issued each season. The summer issue is the Surname Roster. The last ~~BB~~ a regular member will receive will be the Surname Roster of that year; for a professional member, the last reception will be issue No. 3.

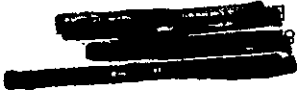
The Society has been ruled a federal income tax-exempt organization under section 501 (C)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code and qualifies for the maximum charitable contribution deduction for bequests, legacies, devices, transfers or gifts of money or property.

The following are available:

1. Back issues of the <i>Bulletin Board</i> , each:	\$ 2.00
2. Maps: Santa Maria, São Miguel, Graciosa, Terceira & Faial, each:	3.00
3. Crests, in color, 5"x7": Armao, Ataide, Baleeiros, Bettencourt, Brum, Goularte, Leites, Macedo, Martin Behaim, Mendonca, Peixoto, Pereira, Pimentel, Porras, Silveira, Soares, Terra, Vernes; Utra [Dutra], Sousa, each:	10.00
4. <i>St. John's Cemetery Gravestone Inscriptions</i> , by Gil and Pat Amaral, 230 pages	39.95
5. <i>The Mary P. Mesquita: Rundown at Sea</i> , by Cecile Pimental, soft bound, 85 pages	16.95
6. <i>They Ploughed the Seas: Profiles of Azorean Master Mariners</i> , by Pat Amaral hard bound, 171 pages	150.00
7. <i>Portuguese Bermudians: An Early History and Reference Guide, 1849-1949</i> , by Patricia Marirea Mudd, 702 pages	49.50
8. <i>Portuguese Pride and Pleasure</i> , by Carmelina Rio Borroz, soft bound, 59 pages	5.00
9. Tote bags, navy blue with white Society logo	10.00
10. <i>The Forgotten Portuguese</i> , autographed by the author, Manuel Mira, 383 pages	29.95
11. "Bridge to the Past," a student's introduction to genealogy, 8 pages	5.00
12. "Teacher's Guide" [for "Bridge to the Past"], 31 pages	10.00
Massachusetts residents add 5% sales tax	
Postage and handling (for 4-10 only)	3.00

You can visit the APGHS on the Internet: WWW.APGHS.ORG
Holdings at the Taunton Public Library can be viewed at WWW.SAILSINC.ORG
or via the Massachusetts Library Systems: [HTP://WWW.MLIN.LIB.MA.US/](http://WWW.MLIN.LIB.MA.US/)

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