



HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION

# HISTORY MATTERS

## CHA UPCOMING EVENTS

**Hands on History:**  
Building Bridges STEAM

Kids Program  
Wednesday, June 31 | 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
\$7 for CHA Members | \$10 for Non-Members

**Wine and Lecture:**  
Coronado Bridge History  
Friday, August 2 | 5:30 p.m.  
Reception 6:00 p.m. Lecture

\$15 for CHA Members | \$18 for Non-Members

**Hands-on History:**  
Kumeyaay Games  
Kids Program

Wednesday, August 7 | 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
\$7 for CHA Members | \$10 for Non-Members

**Wine and Lecture:**  
Kumeyaay Ethnobotany  
Friday, August 9 | 5:30 p.m.  
Reception 6:00 p.m. Lecture  
\$15 for CHA Members | \$18 for Non-Members

**Curatorial Workshop:**  
Digital Photograph Preservation  
Wednesday, August 14 | 2:00 p.m.  
\$10 per participant

**Coffee & Conversations:**  
Federal Housing Project  
Wednesday, August 21 | 10:00 a.m.  
FREE

**Night at the Museum:**  
Schools Back Movie Night!  
Drop kids off for a night of fun! Grades: JK - 5th  
Friday, August 30 | 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
CHA Members \$15/Siblings \$5  
Non-Members \$25/Siblings \$10

R.S.V.P. or Purchase Tickets at [www.coronadohistory.org](http://www.coronadohistory.org)  
(619) 435-7242, or by visiting the Museum Store at  
1100 Orange Avenue.

## HISTORY MYSTERY

A monthly photo from CHA's Collection of Coronado's past for residents to guess. What does this photo depict? See page 3 for the answer.



Coronado Historical Association Collection

## SUMMER LECTURE AND YOUTH PROGRAM SERIES

*August is bringing the summer heat and some exciting history programs to the Coronado Historical Association.*

In commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the opening of the San Diego-Coronado Bay Bridge, the Coronado Historical Association is hosting a very special Wine & Lecture. Documentary Producer Patrice Macovic will be showing her film featuring "the Bridge". The documentary "San Diego-Coronado Bay Bridge," which premiered at the bridge's 40th-anniversary event sponsored by the City of Coronado, contains special features including extra interviews. The program recounts the history of the San Diego-Coronado Bay Bridge from the early days of the ferries to the controversy surrounding the bridge plans in the 1960s. It also explores the issues currently discussed in CHA's summer exhibit and how the coming of the bridge brought to life the Coronado Historical Association.

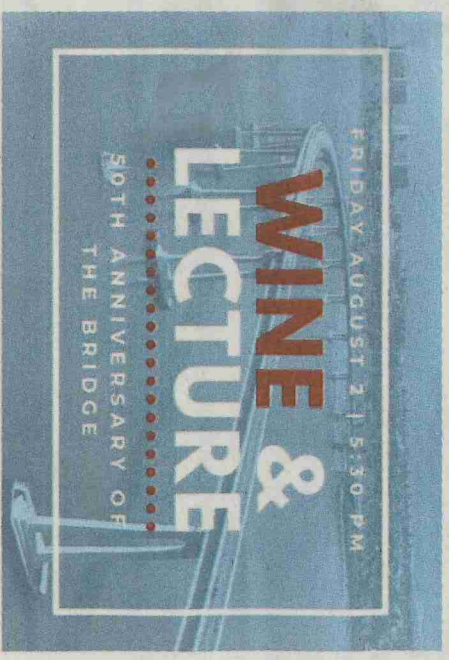
The documentary contains archival footage of the bridge's construction, an interview with the consulting architect, Robert Mosher, and a look at Chicano Park, a creative response to the bridge's construction. Caltrans experts also explain the bridge's intense maintenance program. Former Coronado Mayor Casey Tanaka and Former San Diego Mayor Jerry Sanders give insightful interviews as to the bridge's impact on and importance to the region. CHA will host a Q&A following the film with Ms. Makovic along with Painter & Master Muralist Salvador Torres. Mr. Torres will also delight the crowd with traditional guitar music during the reception. Strong family ties to Coronado have, time and time again, drawn Patrice Macovic back to our community. Her



Patrice Macovic.

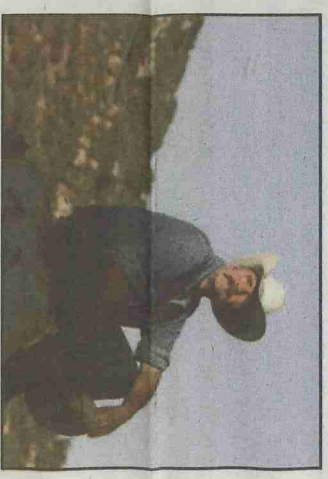
mother and grandparents, the Beauchamp family, resided in Coronado for many years. During her childhood, Patrice became familiar with the charm of our city. After college, she moved to Italy where she and her husband, Arturo Spicca, produced cultural and historical documentaries mostly pertaining to the small medieval town of Assisi. After living in Italy for 20 years they brought their family back to live in Coronado. They now spend their time commuting between the two cities always looking for an interesting story to tell. The Wine and Lecture will be Friday, August 2 at the Historical Association. The reception begins at 5:30 p.m. and the lecture at 6:00 p.m.

The Coronado Bridge is a feat of modern engineering. Families and children are invited for an afternoon at the Coronado Museum the Wednesday before the Bridge History Wine & Lecture. Children are invited to learn about how bridges are built! This interactive STEAM workshop will stimulate the brain of your JK - 5th



grader on June 31 at 3:30 p.m.

Rounding out August, CHA is honored to host a lecture about some of Coronado's first people, the Kumeyaay tribes. Anthropologist Michael Wilken-Robertson, whose applied research have allowed him to develop lifelong understanding of the Kumeyaay, will explore the fascinating world of northern Baja California's original peoples and their descendants. The Kumeyaay's profound knowledge of the edge of the land has sustained them from ancient times to the present.

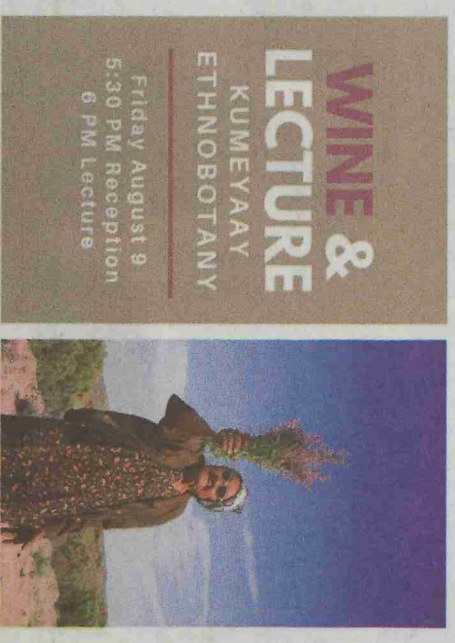


Michael Wilken-Robertson.

His book, *Kumeyaay Ethnobotany*, explores the remarkable interdependence between native peoples and native plants of the Californias through in-depth descriptions of 47 native plants and their uses, lively narratives, and hundreds of vivid photographs. It connects the archaeological and historical record with living cultures and native plant specialists who share their ever-relevant wisdom for future generations.

Michael's lecture and book signing will be at the Historical Association on Friday, August 9. The Wednesday before (August 7), parents are encouraged to drop off kids for an afternoon of fun at the Coronado Museum. CHA will be teaching kids all about historic games, including a Kumeyaay Dice Game. Children will make and decorate their own dice, so they can play at home.

To register for CHA's events please visit [www.coronadohistory.org](http://www.coronadohistory.org) or call (619) 435-7242.

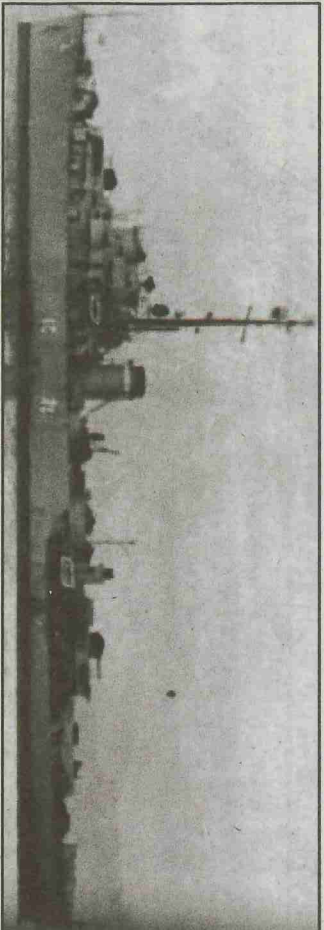


## NEWS FROM THE PAST

*Coronado Eagle and Journal, 3 January 1946*

### USS Coronado and Other Ships With California Names Make War History

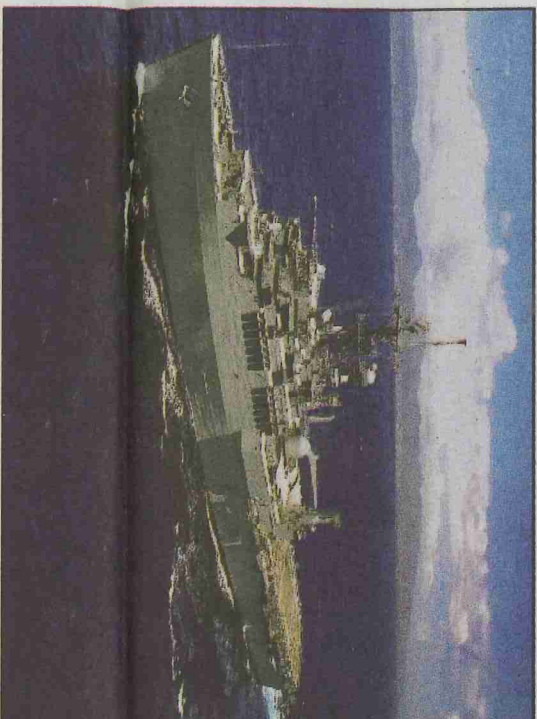
Ships bearing the names of California cities and landmarks will play a prominent part when the history of World War II is written, a Fleet press release says—and the corvette USS *Coronado* is one of them. The battleship USS *California* heads the list of “California” war craft; seven cruisers are named for California cities, and the *Coronado* is one of five frigates bearing the name of a city in this state. The others are the *Sausalito*, *Long Beach*, *Glendale* and *San Pedro*. Books have been given to the USS *Coronado* by the Coronado Chamber of Commerce, and the feasibility of continuing such gifts, and possibly buying a silver service, is being considered by a special committee expected to report next Monday. Chamber of Commerce members agreed in December that the future status of the *Coronado* should determine the extent to which Coronado residents could support it.



*Coronado Eagle and Journal, 28 May 1970*

### Coronado delegation attends commissioning of USS Coronado

Capt. Grant J. Walker assumed command of the USS *Coronado* which was commissioned at the Puget Sound Naval Shipyard, Bremerton, Washington on May 23. Councilman Joseph W. Callahan, representing the City of Coronado; Mrs. Eleanor Ring, sponsor of the ship; and former mayor Paul Vetter, president of the Coronado Council at the Navy League, attended. Following the commissioning ceremonies, a reception was held at the Officers Club where Councilman Callahan read a framed Proclamation from the City of Coronado, declaring May 23, 1870 as USS *Coronado* Day in the City of Coronado, and presented it to the commanding officer. Councilman Callahan also presented medallions commemorating the opening of the San Diego-Coronado Bridge to the commanding officer and other officials present. Mrs. Eleanor Ring presented 3 paintings, two of the USS *Coronado* and one of Hotel del Coronado. Dr. Paul Vetter presented several pictures of Coronado scenes, including one of the bridge. The ship is scheduled to arrive in Coronado in late July, at which time the ship will be presented with the traditional Silver Service, a gift from the citizens of Coronado. Mrs. Ralph W Pray, chairman of the USS *Coronado* Fund Committee, is raising funds for the Silver Service. Contributions may be sent to: USS Coronado Fund, 1825 Strand Way, Coronado, California 92118.



*Coronado Eagle and Journal, 5 June 2013*

### Society of Sponsors Makes Donation To USS Coronado

Members of the San Diego Chapter of the Society of Sponsors of the United States Navy recently presented a check to the USS *Coronado* Fundraising Committee co-chaired by Vice Adm. Edward H Martin, USN (ret.) and Adm. Leon A (Bud) Edney, USN (ret.), both Coronado residents. The funds will go toward the USS *Coronado* commissioning ceremony, scheduled to take place on North Island Naval Air Station next Spring. No taxpayer funds are used for these events, which rely solely on private donations from organizations and individuals. All donations are tax deductible. Coronado resident Susan Ring Keith is the Sponsor of the new ship, which she christened in January of 2012. Her mother, Eleanor Ring, christened the previous ship of the same name. The Society of Sponsors is composed of women who have been named by the Secretary of the Navy for the time-honored tradition of christening a ship to be



commissioned by the United States Navy. A Sponsor participates in all the milestones of the life of “her” ship. The Society was founded in 1908 by three Washington, DC women, with the full support of President Theodore Roosevelt. Today, it is a tremendous honor to be a member of the Society, which includes four former first Ladies on its membership roster. For USS Coronado information or donation inquiries, please contact either Adm. Martin or Adm. Edney.

## ONE HUNDRED YEARS OF THE TOLEDO SCALE

### “NO SPRINGS, HONEST WEIGHT”

by Zoraida Payne

I am Zoraida Payne—a former Spanish teacher, CHA tour docent, and mother of three—and I am thrilled to be back to school as an adult at SDSU pursuing a master’s in American History to study in depth the roots and expressions of this culture, since I am originally from Argentina. I thoroughly enjoy the challenge of researching at the museum and library archives to collect information about Coronado’s past!

We invite you to visit one of our jewels at the Coronado Museum and take a good look at the Toledo scale built in 1919. Did you know that this scale is from one of our very own local stores? Maybe you remember it was located in the Central Drugstore right next door to the Museum? It is my pleasure to share its history with you.

Under E. Babcock and H. Story’s vision, Coronado unfolded as a vacation paradise in 1885. This charming community gifted with idyllic weather offered many refreshing activities and healing benefits. So, a necessary modern institution accompanied the experience when the Central Drug Store opened its doors in 1897. It was owned by Thomas Fisher and bought by F.H.C. Furnald in 1901. Mr. Furnald opened his first drug store in 1893, at 16th and K Street in San Diego, where his primary residence was on its second floor. In 1903, he moved with his family to Coronado, and the following year, he purchased his new home at 1112 Churchill Place. Mr. Furnald had prominent involvement in the city not only through his business but also served as a City Trustee for four years, starting on August 5, 1907.

This first Coronado drugstore was inside the luxurious Victorian resort—the Hotel Del, and in 1911, Mr. Furnald moved it next to what at the time was a brand new building, the Bank of Commerce at the corner of Orange Avenue and Park Place. In this bustling spot, the Central Drugstore expanded its array of merchandise to supply the new demands of its clientele’s health and more. Therefore, it is not surprising that in the Thirties, according to the Coronado Citizen, that Miss Clara Smith was the cosmetician on staff advising on the exclusive lines carried by the store: Elizabeth Arden, Peggy Sage, Yardley’s of London, and Colonial Dames cosmetics.

Previously, in the earlies Twenties, a modern Soda Fountain was added on the left side of the front door in the Central Drugstore. This new busi-



## THE FIRST USS CORONADO

by Bruce Linder

Surprisingly, this original USS Coronado probably holds the most interesting history of the three ships bearing our town's name, but walls of secrecy and anonymity still largely conceal its saga. We know a little of this history today but we may never know the whole story.

Patrol Frigate Coronado (PF-38) was launched 17 June 1943 at the Consolidated Steel Corporation in Los Angeles. She was proudly commissioned just five months later under the command of Coast Guard Lieutenant Commander N. W. Sprow. She was a Navy ship manned by a 190-member Coast Guard crew.

Coronado was a member of the Tacoma-class of patrol frigates. She measured 304 feet long, displaced 2,230 tons, was rated for 20 knots, and held three 3-inch guns. The class was huge, 96 mass-produced ships named for small American cities. Tacomas had been designed primarily for anti-submarine duties and were near copies of the British River-class frigate built to repulse German U-boats. Coronado sailed to war from San Diego Bay, within clear sight of her namesake city, in February 1944. Once in the South Pacific she became quickly involved in an intense series of amphibious landings for General Douglas MacArthur from the Bismarcks to New Guinea and the southern Philippines.

Coronado was engaged in the thick of the tumultuous Battle of Leyte Gulf providing amphibious groups with anti-aircraft defense and was credited with one aircraft shot down. After Leyte Gulf, Coronado returned to the States for repairs. In ten months of nonstop fighting, the ship earned a noteworthy four battle stars. After a short yard period, Coronado sailed for Cold Bay, Alaska in June 1945 to participate in the top-secret Project HULA. There, she almost completely disappeared from view and much of her story would take nearly thirty years to be declassified. Project HULA was conceived after the Yalta Conference in February 1945 when the Allies pushed the Soviet Union to enter the war against Japan and join in the invasion of the Japanese home islands. America promised to provide the necessary ships. What followed was one of the war's largest lend-lease efforts. Shortly after Coronado's arrival in Alaska, a full Soviet crew of officers and men reported aboard. After intensive gunnery, engineering, and underway refueling drills to acquaint Russian seaman with the ship's functions, Coronado was decommissioned on 12 July 1945 and formally transferred to the Soviet Navy. She was redesignated a "torozhevoi korabi" (escort ship) and renamed "EK-8."

Three days later, Coronado led the first ten patrol frigates – the largest, most heavily armed, and most expensive ships transferred to Russia – on their voyage across the Pacific to Petropavlovsk. Twenty-seven patrol frigates were transferred to the Soviet Navy that summer. Three days after the atomic bombing of Hiroshima, the Soviet Union made good on its promise to attack Japan. The Soviet Navy swung into action against the Japanese in Korea, Sakhalin Island and the Kuril Islands. Fighting was heavy against surprisingly stiff Japanese resistance. Former American patrol frigates, undoubtedly including Coronado (said to be in excellent shape), took active part in these amphibious operations and later conducted relentless patrols throughout the new Soviet Pacific territories.

Lend-lease ships were to be returned immediately after the war but Soviet cooperation lagged. It was not until 16 October 1949 that the Soviet Union finally returned Coronado to American custody but the US Navy had no use for her. For three years, Coronado lay forlornly tied to a remote finger pier at the American naval base in Yokosuka, Japan; abandoned, unappreciated, and slowly rusting away. The Japanese, though, had their eye on Coronado. Although Japan had foresworn military force after World War II and disestablished her navy, many believed that the nation's safety depended on a reconstituted fleet.

In January 1953, Coronado and other Tacoma sister ships were transferred to Japan, first for the Maritime Safety Agency (the Japanese Coast Guard) and then as the first units of Destroyer Squadron 2 of the Japanese Maritime Self-Defense Force (Japan's new navy). Coronado was renamed Sugi (PF-285), a name with a great legacy among Japanese destroyers stretching back to before World War I. Sugi is Japanese for "cedar" and two Japanese Sugis served in World War II.

For seven years, the former Coronado patrolled East Asia waters and shouldered training duties for the expanding Japanese fleet while stationed in Yokosuka and Kure. As Japan added new warships to its fleet there was less need for cast-offs from World War II and Coronado was returned with thanks to the United States in 1962 and finally scrapped in 1970.

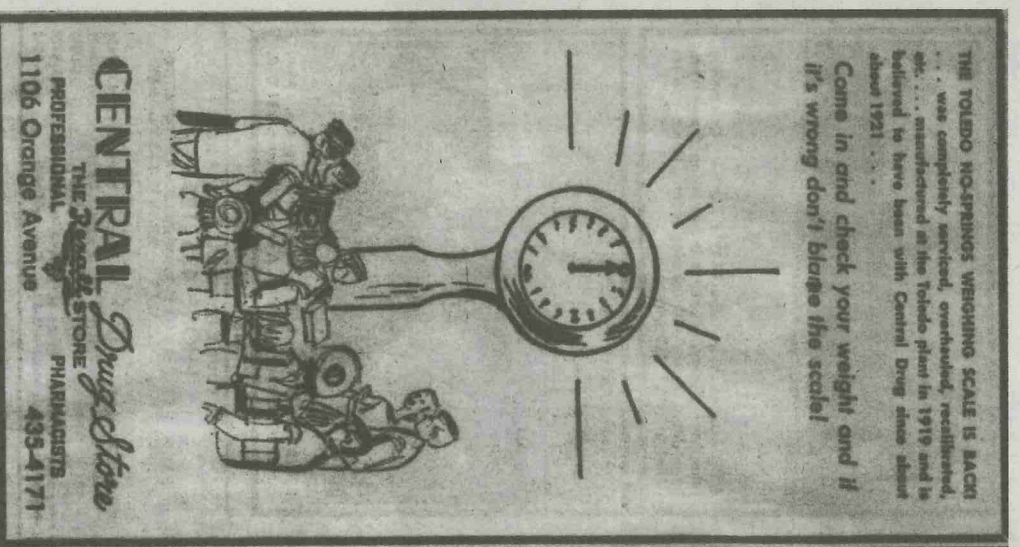
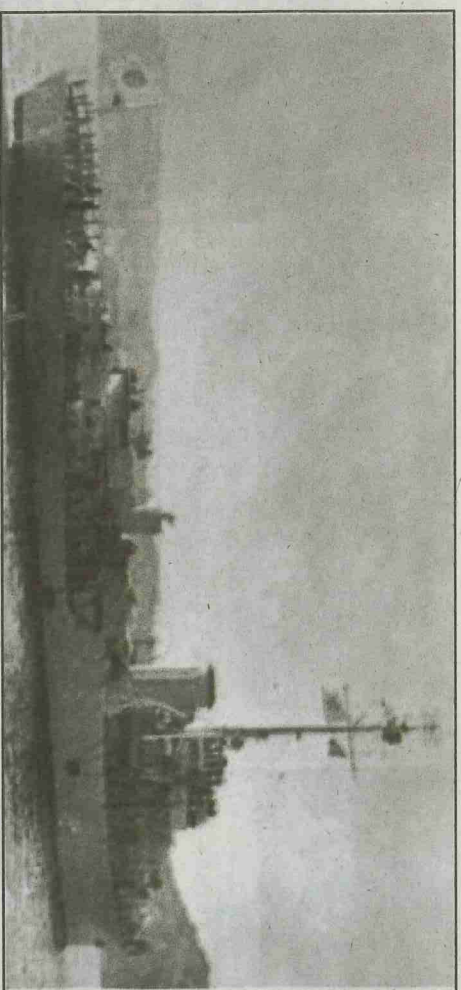
Stout, well designed, and resilient, patrol frigate Coronado witnessed over twenty-five years of service while flying three different flags. Through episodes of violent combat and sustained duty on both sides of the Cold War, Coronado persevered and certainly earned the kind of reputation that is a worthy example for a community with a crown.

### Scales, Continued from Previous Page.

ness served delicious drinks, salads, and light lunches while bringing more clientele, as well as a new social scene. Then, it is not surprising that the lollypop style Toledo Scale was purchased in 1921, placed daily outside the store, and advertised to the customers as a free weighing scale. This scale was manufactured in 1919 by the Toledo Scale Company in Ohio. In 1901, Mr. Henry Theobald founded the Toledo Scale Company and coined the phrase "No Springs, Honest Weight" as the slogan for his new business.

In 1994, the manager of the store, Tom Scheib, highlighted that the individual patient consultation was the cornerstone of the drugstore. This personal attention, free delivery, after-hours emergency service, foreign drug information, location of hard-to-find medicines, and more services, such as gift wrapping of in-store purchases, as well as a whole selection of magazines and greeting cards, made it possible for this small pharmacy to survive the new challenges of the market. It should also be noted that under druggist Tom Scheib, the walls of the drugstore were embellished with paintings by local artists such as Sara Rowe, Sue Tushingham McNary, and John Yato; and the "Special: 5 Pounds OFF" Scheib solution was offered by him, the town-known humorous storyteller.

The privately-owned Central Drugstore served the community of Coronado with their pharmaceutical expertise for 115 years. At the turn of the 20th century, it incorporated a social venue through the opening of the modern soda fountain. In 1962, this social branch closed, and at the turn of the 21st century, in 2012, new changes in the pharmaceutical industry brought the complete closing of its doors. Today, the Museum is offering you a chance to take a good look at this centennial scale that was part of the Central Drugstore. Yes, the Central Drugstore was located right next to where this museum stands today, its original address was 1106 Orange Ave. Stop by the Museum at 1100 Orange Avenue to view the 50th Anniversary exhibit and this local piece of history.



## History Mystery Answer

In 1970, the USS Coronado was commissioned by beloved community leader Eleanor Ring using this champagne bottle. It was the second Navy ship to be named after Coronado Island, and was used in active duty until 2006.

For CHA's 50th anniversary, we gathered 50 objects chosen by Coronado community members that represent the history of the island. CHA President Jane Braun chose this item to honor Susan Ring Keith, Eleanor's daughter.

This object and more, highlighting Coronado's close relationship with the US Navy, can be found in the CHA Collects! exhibit!