



# LA GRANADA



OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF

The Order of Granaderos y Damas de Gálvez – Founding Chapter

JULY 2012

[www.granaderos.org](http://www.granaderos.org)

SAN ANTONIO, TX

## Fourth of July Patriotic Ceremony

Here is a sneak peek at the patriotic postage stamps to be unveiled by the U.S. Postal Service at our 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Fourth of July Patriotic Ceremony. This quartet of stamps has the same flag image but with a different word on each in a typeface that resembles colonial-era printing.

In 1818, Congress passed legislation that the number of stars on the flag should match the number of states



in the union and any new stars would be added on July 4 after a state's admission. Our current flag's 50<sup>th</sup> star was added on July 4, 1960 when Hawaii became a state on August 21, 1959.

With the values of Freedom, Liberty, Equality and Justice being represented and with legislation selecting July 4 as the date that stars would be added to our flag, it is very appropriate that these stamps be unveiled at our Fourth of July Patriotic Ceremony.

### Lineup For The Ceremony

#### **Fife & Drum Corps**

Ricardo Rodriguez – Drum Major  
Crystal Benavides – Fifer  
Priscilla Marrah – Fifer  
Vangie Jacquez – Fifer  
Jesse Benavides – Drummer  
Joseph Mannix – Drummer

#### **Color Guard**

Joel Escamilla, Jack Cowan  
Larry Kirkpatrick, Roland Salazar  
Michael Rojas

#### **Wreath Laying**

Roberto Flores, Tito Fernandez  
Joe Zavala, Rusty Hoffer

#### **Musket Detail – “Troops Under Gálvez”**

Dan Perez – Spanish Navarra Regiment  
Bill Bowlin – Continental Marine  
Charlie Lara – Native American, Choctaw Tribe  
Peter Baron – 5th Virginia Continental Line  
Gus Martinez – Spanish Toledo Regiment  
Mike Boyd – Spanish Louisiana Regiment

#### **Guest Relations**

Sylvia Escamilla – Birthday Cake  
Lucila Flores – Lineup of Participants  
Karla Galindo – Dignitaries List  
Briana Perez - Fans  
Betty Salinas – Plates, Forks & Napkins  
Frank Galindo - Photography  
Roland Cantu – Photography/Video  
James Salinas – Colonial Toys Demonstration

# NEXT MEETING

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 1

Royal Inn Oriental Cuisine  
5440 Babcock Rd Ste 150  
Ph: 691-0602

**Dinner: 6:30 Meeting: 7:00**

(We have no meeting in July due to our sponsorship of the Patriotic Ceremony)

## TREASURER'S REPORT

For May 2012

|                             |          |
|-----------------------------|----------|
| Prev Bal                    | 2,116.40 |
| Deposits:                   |          |
| Donations – Hensley Flowers | 150.00   |
| Elizabeth Perez Dues        | 30.00    |
| Briana Perez Dues           | 30.00    |
| R. Whynot – Galvez Marker   | 1,417.00 |
| Dividend                    | .27      |
| Total Deposits              | 1,627.31 |
| Expenses:                   |          |
| Flowers for M. Hensley      | 150.00   |
| Parade Generator Rental     | 113.22   |
| Total Expenses              | 263.22   |
| New Balance:                | 3,480.49 |

# Calendar

June 30 (Saturday) 10:00 a.m.

Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery  
Practice for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July ceremony.

July 4 (Wednesday) 10:00 a.m.

Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery  
28<sup>th</sup> Annual Fourth of July Patriotic Ceremony  
We need to be on site at 9:00 a.m. to set up tables and go over any contingencies

July 4 (Wednesday) 7:30 p.m.

Hyatt Hill Country Resort  
4<sup>th</sup> of July parade. We will lead the parade.

July 21 (Saturday) 10:00 a.m.

San Pedro Park – 1415 San Pedro Ave  
Fife & Drum Corps practice  
Park on W. Myrtle Street

August 18 (Saturday) 10:00 a.m.

San Pedro Park – 1415 San Pedro Ave  
Fife & Drum Corps practice  
Park on W. Myrtle Street

September 15 (Sat) 10:00 a.m.

San Pedro Park – 1415 San Pedro Ave  
Fife & Drum Corps practice  
Park on W. Myrtle Street

October 20 (Saturday) Time TDB

San Antonio Founders Day Celebration  
Alamo Plaza - We will have an informational booth and conduct presentations in uniform.  
More detailed information will follow as it comes in.

## **Granaderos y Damas de Gálvez – Founding Chapter – San Antonio TX**

Governor: Joe Perez / (210) 386-5050 / jperez329@satx.rr.com  
Deputy Governor: Roberto Flores / (210) 433-8971 / roberto.flores76@att.net  
Secretary: Briana Perez / (210) 412-4929 / briana\_rosa\_perez@yahoo.com  
Webmaster of La Revista, Roland Cantu / gne@yahoo.com (official website)

# Granaderos y Damas de Galvez

## Minutes of the meeting held June 6, 2012

By Secretary Briana Perez

At the June 6th meeting, members met to discuss the relevant topics and tasks currently undertaken by the organization. The meeting was opened by Governor Joe Perez at 6:51 pm followed by an invocation from Governor General Joel Escamilla, the Pledge of Allegiance by Jack Cowan and Treasurer's Report from Robert Flores. Below are the highlights of the meeting.

- Governor Joe Perez welcomed and acknowledged guests as well as returning members.
- Richard Whynot presented a report on the status of commission for the plaque to be mounted next to the statue of Galvez in Spanish Plaza. It has been approved by the city and arrangements are being made to possibly unveil it September 27<sup>th</sup> or 28<sup>th</sup> to tie in with Louisiana Art Week. The mayor is the first pick for speaker as it is a historical marker on city property. Final designs for the plaque and concrete base will be decided on at the end of June. At the present, we are still accepting donations to cover the cost. These can be sent to Robert Flores.
- We extended our thanks and gratitude to Jack Cowan for providing the truck and float used by the organization for the Fiesta Flambeau Parade. As previously stated in the last newsletter, it gave a new perspective and vantage point.
- The Governor passed around a set of medals designed by Frank Galindo commemorating the 54<sup>th</sup> Convention of the Texas Numismatic Association (TNA) featuring Bernardo De Galvez. For information on the availability of purchasing a medal or the set, contact Frank Galindo at karfra1@netzero.net.
- This will be the 28<sup>th</sup> year we sponsor our annual Fourth of July Ceremony. Joel Escamilla has sent out the invitations to various civic and patriotic organizations. At the event this year, we will do a few things differently.
  - We will acknowledge as many veterans and current soldiers in the audience as possible.
  - Members of the musket party will be individually recognized and dressed in the various uniforms of people who fought under General Galvez.
  - The fife and drum corps will perform 3 patriotic and historical tunes and the Governor will give a short story behind each song for the audience.
  - It has been confirmed that there will be an EMT on site as well as 2 Port-A-Potty units. The PA system will be provided by Fort Sam Houston again.
  - The San Antonio Postmaster has confirmed the unveiling of new patriotic stamps.
  - Special recognition will be given to the Memorial Services Detachment.
  - James Salinas will give a colonial toy demonstration after the ceremony. He will also handle press releases for the event.
  - Sylvia Escamilla and Lucila Flores will take care of the birthday cake to be served after the ceremony.
- On the evening of July 4<sup>th</sup>, the organization has been invited to a parade at The Hyatt Hill Country Resort honoring veterans. They have offered us a \$500 honorarium. We will need our musicians, soldiers and color guard to show up for this event. An email will be sent out with more information.
- Recruiting for our new High School Fife & Drum Corps program will begin in August when school starts up again.

# Fife & Drum Songs for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July

At the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Patriotic Ceremony, our Fife & Drum Corps will conduct a special musical presentation. They will play three tunes very popular during the American Revolution. During the presentation, information about each song will be announced as an introduction to each tune. The narrative of each introduction is below.

## Yankee Doodle

The most popular song of the American Revolution was a British tune written as an insult to the American Colonists. The British called Americans “Yankees” and a “doodle” was considered a simpleton. The first verse, “Yankee Doodle went to town / A-Riding on a pony” has the simple American riding into town on something less than a full-grown horse. “Stuck a feather in his hat / And called it macaroni” shows the American sticking a feather in his hat for decoration and thinking it a fancy headpiece. At the time, Macaroni was a fancy Italian style of dress. Although it started as a British tune, Americans adopted it as their own, changing some of the lyrics in the process. One such verse is, “There was Captain Washington / Upon a slapping stallion / A-giving orders to his men / I guess there was a million”. This is a far cry from an American simpleton riding on a pony.

## Chester

Yankee Doodle may have been the most popular song during the American Revolution but the second most popular was a song called Chester. The song was written by William Billings, an American patriot who was friends with Samuel Adams and Paul Revere. Chester was sung in churches, pubs, meeting halls and by colonial soldiers who marched to war. The song was so popular during the American Revolution that it was considered the unofficial National Anthem of the newly created United States of America.

## The Girl I Left Behind Me

The debate continues as to whether this song originated in England or Ireland. Wherever it started, by the time of the American Revolution, it was very popular in the United States. This song was played during the deployment of troops when soldiers left home and bid their sweethearts goodbye. It has since become the Regimental March of the U.S. Army's 7<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment and it is also played during the final parade before graduation at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. This is a tune many people recognize when they hear it but few people know its name.

# Guests Relations for the 4th

At this year's 4<sup>th</sup> of July Patriotic Ceremony, we will have bottled water, umbrellas, fans, two portable restrooms (1 for men, 1 for women) and an ambulance with Emergency Medical Technicians on site to make the ceremony more comfortable for our guests. Immediately after the ceremony, we will have the cutting of a birthday cake to celebrate our nation's birthday. At another table, we will have an educational demonstration of colonial-era toys for the kids.



One of the toys is a Bilbo Catcher. This was a very popular skill game in the 1700s that consists of a wooden ball attached by a string to a wooden stick. You can play it two ways. You can try to catch the ball in the cup on one end of the stick or you can try to catch the ball on a peg at the other end of the stick. While it seems very simple, either way of playing the Bilbo Catcher requires a great deal of practice to master.



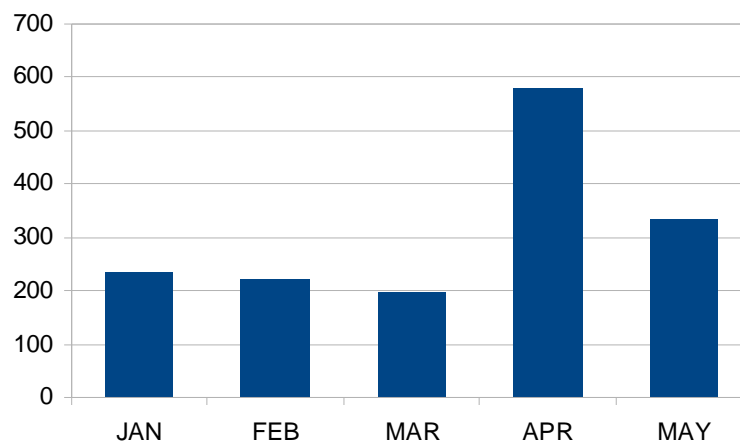
Another toy that will be demonstrated is a toy pistol made of wood. It has a simple wooden lock mechanism that makes a solid "snap" sound when the trigger is pulled. It is about twelve inches long from the tip of the handle to the end of the barrel. The wooden lock mechanism is modeled after a toy pistol from around the year 1800.

We will also have a colonial-era toy doll to display.

Our Webmaster Roland Cantu reports that we are averaging about 200 hits a month on our website at [www.granaderos.org](http://www.granaderos.org). We had a spike in April, which may have coincided with our participation in the Fiesta Flambeau Parade, which was seen by millions of people through internet streaming.

2012 Granaderos Website

■ Page View Per Month



# Troops Under Gálvez

General Gálvez had a very diverse military under his command. At various times, he commanded soldiers who were Spanish, Irish, slaves, free Blacks, Native Americans and even American Marines. Many of the commands these troops were given were in Spanish as shown below.

|                    |                      |                     |
|--------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| Atención           | Ah-ten-sione         | At attention        |
| Armas al hombro    | Armas ahl óhm-bro    | Shoulder arms       |
| A la izquierda     | Ah la Ees-kyehr-dáh  | Left face / column  |
| A la derecha       | Ah la de-re-cháh     | Right face / column |
| Media vuelta       | Metheeah vwel-táh    | To the rear         |
| Presenten, armas   | Preh-sén-ten, ármás  | Present arms        |
| De frente, marchen | De fren-te, már-chen | Forward march       |
| Alto               | Áhl-toe              | Halt                |
| Armas al orden     | Armas ahl-órden      | Order arms          |
| Descansen          | Des kahn-sen         | At ease             |
| Armas al hombro    | Armas ahl óhm-bro    | Shoulder arms       |
| Cargen             | Cáhr-gen             | Load                |

After loading, return to shoulder arms and be ready to fire upon command.

|          |             |       |
|----------|-------------|-------|
| Preparen | Preh-páhren | Ready |
| Apunten  | Ah-poon-ten | Aim   |
| Fuego    | Fwe-go      | Fire  |