



# LA GRANADA



The Order of Granaderos y Damas de Gálvez – Founding Chapter  
MARCH 2013      [www.granaderos.org](http://www.granaderos.org)      SAN ANTONIO, TX

## Granaderos Invade Westfall Library



Joe Perez speaks to the audience about Gálvez and his Gulf Coast campaign.



Jesse Benavides gives the crowd a lesson in drumming rudiments.



James Salinas shows attendees colonial-era currency and children's toys.



During Jesse's presentation, Joe Perez and Bill Bowlin stand behind the crowd.

Bill Bowlin as a Continental Marine, Jesse Benavides as a Spanish Colonial Drummer, James Salinas and Joe Perez as Spanish soldiers of the Navarra Regiment, each of them gave a different part of the living history presentation at the Westfall Library on Saturday, February 9<sup>th</sup>. The crowd numbered 20 people and gave very positive feedback afterwards. A common remark was "I learned a lot today." Using a laptop computer and projector, Joe showed our website and played a video and local news coverage of last year's 4<sup>th</sup> of July Patriotic Ceremony. The audience was treated to various displays, a drumming lesson, they handled the muskets and swords and walked out with brochures about our organization. Thank you, Bill, James, Jesse and Joe for a job well done.



## Our Next Meeting:

**Wednesday, March 6**

**Royal Inn Oriental Cuisine**

**5440 Babcock Rd**

**Dinner at 6:30**

**Meeting at 7:00**

**Special Presentation**

**By Rueben & Dorothy Perez**

**"Women and Children of the Alamo"**

## Special Presentation

On March 6, 1836, despite a valiant effort by its defenders, the Alamo fell to the forces of Santa Anna. On March 6, 2013 at our next meeting, we will be treated to a special presentation by Rueben Perez and his sister Dorothy Perez, two descendants of the youngest survivor of the Battle of the Alamo. Their presentation will cover the women and children of the Alamo and consist of a historical narrative with musical accompaniment.

How appropriate that on the 177<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the fall of the Alamo, two descendants of survivors of that iconic battle will conduct a special presentation at our meeting.

Rueben is the author of *Lest We Forget: A Tribute to Those Who Forged The Way*.

You won't want to miss this special presentation. Guests are always welcome at our meetings, so bring a friend.

## Upcoming Events

**Saturday, March 2, 10:00 am – 4:00 pm**

History Fair at Losoya Intermediate School. We will staff a living history booth. This is being promoted as the first annual history fair on the Southside of San Antonio.

**Saturday, March 9, 11:00 am – 4:00 pm**

SAPD Memorial Festival to benefit families of fallen officers. We will staff a living history booth at this festival. ([www.facebook.com/MemorialFestival](http://www.facebook.com/MemorialFestival))

**Saturday, April 6, 10:00 am – 4:00 pm**

12<sup>th</sup> Annual History Fair at Tejada Middle School. We will staff a history booth.

**Saturday, April 27, 9:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.**

King William Fair. We will march in the parade and staff a living history booth.

### THE BEST TIMES

The newsmagazine for active Mid-Southerners  
age 50 and better

This online magazine has an article about General Gálvez written by John Harkins, Ph.D, that was posted on February 16, 2013. Dr. Harkins is an Archivist at the Memphis University School and President of the West Tennessee Historical Society. You can read his article at the following link.

<http://thebesttimes.com/news/2013/feb/13/wartime-exploits-bernardo-de-galvez/>

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

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**Treasurer:** Olga Lizcano / (210) 843-5162 / [olizcano@sbcglobal.net](mailto:olizcano@sbcglobal.net)

**Webmaster of La Revista (official website):** Roland Cantu / [gne@yahoo.com](mailto:gne@yahoo.com)

# Treasurer's Report

From Nov 30 to Dec 31, 2012

Submitted by Outgoing Treasurer Roberto Flores

PREVIOUS BALANCE: 3,529.88

## DEPOSITS:

Honorarium (SA Airport Event)	500.00
Dues – Jeanie Travis	30.00
Dues – Lynda Normand	30.00
Dues – James Salinas	30.00
Dues – Elizabeth Salinas	30.00
Dues – Sylvia Sutton	30.00
Dues – Tito Fernandez	30.00
Brooch (1) – Sylvia Marcus	35.00
Brooch (2) – Joe Perez	70.00
Brooch (1) – Robert Thonhoff (1)	35.00
Brooch (1) – Lynda Normand	40.00
Brooch (1) – Larry Kirkpatrick	35.00
Brooch (1) – James Salinas	35.00
Brooch (1) – Manuel Lizcano	35.00
Brooch (3) – John Leroy	120.00
Brooch (1) – Nanette Harper	50.00
Dividend	0.31
Total Deposits	<u>1,135.31</u>

## EXPENSES:

No expenses 0.00

NEW BALANCE: 4,665.19

## *Update on the Damas Brooches*

As was reported at the February meeting, the vendor received a sample from the manufacturer, however, it was not of the quality that was promised so another company was found to produce them of better quality for the same price. While this will delay the production of the brooches by a few more weeks, it will also ensure that we have a product that is up to our expectations.

The vendor is very reputable and knew we would want a better product. To show his commitment to this, he has not cashed the check we gave him for the downpayment and said he will not do so until we have a quality product.

# HISTORYnet.com

Last November, Historynet.com, published an article by Barbara A. Mitchell titled America's Spanish Savior: Bernardo de Gálvez.

*“Through the sweltering heat of Louisiana in the autumn of 1779 marched one of the most diverse military forces ever assembled in North America to challenge the British Army's stranglehold in the southern theater of the American Revolutionary War”* is how Mitchell begins her article, describing the various troops under the command of Gálvez.

The article can be found at [historynet.com/americas-spanish-savior-bernardo-de-galvez.htm](http://historynet.com/americas-spanish-savior-bernardo-de-galvez.htm).

The article includes a nice map (shown below) with four forts captured by Gálvez. It does not show what we know as Ft. New Richmond near Baton Rouge because it was under construction and consisted of an earthen redoubt surrounded by a mote and wooden spikes.



Below is one of the comments left by a reader of the online article.

*“Very interesting article, as a student of the Revolutionary War I am surprised that there has not been more written about this campaign or Sr. Galvez.”*



# The Real Alamo – A Visual Quiz

By Joe Perez

The month of March brings many ceremonies remembering the fall of the Alamo on March 6, 1836. It also brings this visual quiz on the Alamo courtesy of La Granada.

The curved-shaped design (parapet) atop the Alamo chapel has become recognized worldwide. On a casual drive through San Antonio, you can see the design repeated on buildings, signs, billboards, theaters, logos and various other forms of advertising. But have you seen those structures whose designers went to great lengths to make their buildings look like the real Alamo? Take a look at the pictures below and see if you can tell which one is the “Real Alamo”. All three structures are in San Antonio.

*A*



*B*



*C*



- A – If you picked A, God bless you. You picked Saint Anthony de Padua Catholic Church.
- B – If you picked B, feel free to make a deposit. You picked the Alamo Federal Credit Union.
- C - If you picked C, congratulations. You remembered the real Alamo.

# **Granaderos y Damas de Galvez Meeting Minutes**

## **For the meeting held February 6, 2013 at Earl Abel's Restaurant**

**Submitted by Secretary Briana Perez**

### Attendance:

Abel Araiza, Reyna Araiza, Jack Cowan, Joel Escamilla, Sylvia Escamilla, Tito Fernandez, Roberto Flores, Lucila Flores, Angel Pagan, Zena Pagan, Joe Perez, James Salinas, Betty Salinas, Courtney Smith, Corinne Staacke, Sylvia Sutton, Richard Whynot

- Governor Joe Perez opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.
- The Invocation was presented by Angel Pagan.
- The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Tito Fernandez.
- The Treasurer's Report was presented by Roberto Flores.
- Secretary Briana Perez was absent due to injury and her report was presented by Joe Perez. As part of the report, Joe gave information on metrics of our Facebook page. Some of the metrics he presented are: Of those who leave messages on our Facebook page, 58.1% are female and 41.4% are male; In further detail, 18% are females ages 13-17, 16.9% are females ages 18-24, 12.3% are males ages 13-17. Joel Escamilla mentioned it is probably due to students conducting research.
- Joe gave an update on the Damas brooches. The vendor received a sample but it was not the same quality as promised so the vendor found another manufacturer who will make some of better quality at the same price. When he receives that sample, he will call Joe to examine it prior to giving approval for the manufacturer to proceed. This will take a few more weeks.
- Joe mentioned that we will meet with Granadero Rick Rodriguez regarding the uniform and accoutrements of Willie Rodriguez.
- Sylvia Sutton announced that the Donativo List recently presented at the Presidio La Bahía was from a period after the American Revolution. She also advised members to have their information verified prior to submitting it to the SAR or DAR for acceptance since an application can cost \$100 and it is not refunded if the application is denied. She mentioned that having an ancestral soldier who donated money to the American cause would not necessarily gain acceptance into the SAR or DAR since it was not direct involvement, however, descendants of those who drove cattle to Louisiana would qualify.
- Joel Escamilla gave a report on the Gálvez statue in New Orleans and passed around a photo of the statue to show how much it is in disrepair. A non-profit group in Louisiana will fund half of the \$28,000 for repairs and others such as the Granaderos y Damas de Gálvez would contribute toward the other half. Richard Whynot will coordinate efforts on behalf of our group.
- Joe made a few announcements:
  - There will be a graveside service for Joe Mannix on Friday.
  - We will conduct a living history presentation at the Westfall Library on Saturday.
  - We will staff a living history booth at a history fair at Losoya Middle School on March 2.
  - We will staff a living history booth at the SAPD Memorial Festival on March 9.
- Joe introduced Guest Speaker Courtney Smith who gave an excellent presentation on his work at the Defense Language Institute at Lackland Air Force Base. Courtney answered many questions from the group after his presentation.
- Joe announced he has appointed Olga Lizcano as our new Treasurer and she has accepted. Jack Cowan moved that we add Olga Lizcano and Joe Perez to the records at the San Antonio Credit Union for them to access funds and write checks and to remove Jack Cowan and Roberto Flores from that list. Richard Whynot seconded the motion. There were no questions on the motion and Joe put it to a vote, which passed unanimously.
- Joe adjourned the meeting at 8:34 p.m.