



LA GRANADA



OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF

The Order of Granaderos y Damas de Gálvez – Founding Chapter

NOVEMBER 2012

www.granaderos.org

SAN ANTONIO, TX



Brooch For The Damas

We will be having brooches made for the Damas to wear on their capes when representing the Order of Granaderos y Damas de Gálvez at events. They will follow the original design as shown below which was made years ago for our Damas. The brooch will be made of zinc, plated in silver and rhodium with a translucent dark red enamel. The center of the oval has a flaming grenade and the outer oval reads "Damas de Galvez". The brooch will hang from a loop attached to a colorful red and gold ribbon. The brooches will sell for only \$35.00 each and we are currently taking pre-orders to fund the downpayment to the manufacturer. Granaderos have a "Yo Solo" blazon and Damas have this attractive brooch. Many thanks go out to Dama Karla Galindo for coordinating the manufacturing of the brooches.

Above: On September 20, Granaderos Joe Perez, Bill Bowlin and J.J. Zavala spoke with visitors to our booth at the San Antonio Founders Day Celebration outside of the Long Barracks at the Alamo.

Below: Granadero Richard Whynot addresses a group of interested parties about General Gálvez and Spain's contributions to the success of the American Revolution. Also there to help was Secretary Briana Perez who gave an interview on camera about our group.



NEXT MEETING

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 7

La Fonda Restaurant
6402 N New Braunfels Ave
(Sunset Ridge Shopping Ctr)

Ph: 824-4231

Dinner: 6:30 Meeting: 7:00

Our guest speaker will be
Dan Phillips
Keeping History Alive

Guests are always welcome.

TREASURER'S REPORT

For September 2012

<u>Prev Balance</u>	3,543.96
<u>Deposits:</u>	3,492.59
Dues – Ray Hoffer	30.00
From Svgs – Marker	3,462.34
Dividend	0.25
<u>Expenses:</u>	4,423.80
Final Pymt – Marker	1,417.00
Leg Straps, Frames	81.80
Clemens Dance Team	25.00
Base for Marker	2,900.00
<u>New Balance:</u>	<u>2,612.75</u>

Calendar

November 11 (Sun) 5:00 pm

Retiring of the The Colors at the Alamo

We will retire the colors at the Alamo again this Veterans Day in honor of all veterans who have served to defend our freedom. We will give a brief presentation, lower the U.S. flag, fold it and retire it like we've done for the past several years at the Alamo in honor of all veterans on this special day.

December 5 (Wed) 6:30 pm

Regular monthly meeting / Christmas Party

The meeting place will be announced in the December newsletter and on our website. Everyone is asked to please bring an unwrapped toy which we will donate to The Children's Shelter – San Antonio.

Dues Are Due

It's that time when all good Granaderos y Damas de Gálvez pay their annual dues which helps keep our organization running. Dues are \$30 per person. Honorary Members and active Fifers & Drummers are exempt from dues but all other members are asked to contribute to these much needed funds. Checks made out to Granaderos de Galvez may be mailed to Treasurer Robert Flores at 5138 Wildflower Dr, San Antonio TX 78228. Thank you for your support.

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

Governor: Joe Perez / (210) 386-5050 / jperez329@satx.rr.com

Deputy Governor & Treasurer: 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)

Welcome New Members

Ray Hoffer

Ray has actually been participating with our group since July when he dressed in the Granadero uniform for the 4th of July Patriotic Ceremony and the 4th of July parade at the Hyatt Hill Country Resort where we led the parade this year. Ray, who goes by "Rusty", served 29 years in the Air Force Reserves, was activated several times and retired as a Master Sergeant. As a Master Electrician, he worked on C5s which are among the largest military planes in the world. Rusty is a proud member of the Fort Sam Houston Memorial Services Detachment that provides full military honors at veteran's funerals. Welcome aboard, Rusty!

Angel Pagan & Zena- Antoinette Orozco

Angel Pagan and Zena-Antoinette Orozco first became aware of our group at our 4th of July Patriotic Ceremony and recently became members. They are engaged and are planning a beautiful wedding ceremony for January. Angel, whose full name is Arthur Angel Luis Pagan Nieves, proudly serves in the Air Force Reserves. Interestingly, he is the great-great grandson of Territorial Prince Lord Arthur Henry Nieves of the House of Homestead established in 1865 in Andorra, Spain and gives them the titles of Prince Arthur and Princess Zena-Antoinette. Angel and Zena operate The House of Homestead as a non-profit humanitarian organization dedicated to serving the underprivileged while also supporting the preservation of medieval heraldry and monarchy. Their website is www.TheHouseOfHomestead.org. They are both very interested in the mission of our group and have been at every one of our events since July. To show their support for our group, they even have a link on their website promoting the Granaderos y Damas de Gálvez. We are very happy to welcome these two new members.

Getting The Word Out

Our Webmaster Roland Cantu reports that the traffic on our website is increasing dramatically. Between September 12 and October 12, our website had 593 views. This is about double the previous traffic our website had for a 30-day period earlier in the calendar year. Anyone who has seen our website knows what a great job Roland does in keeping it updated, eye-catching, informative and user-friendly.

Thanks, Roland!

SAR Propose Gálvez Statue

The Sons of the American Revolution Bernardo de Gálvez Chapter #1 in Galveston, Texas is working to erect a statue of Gálvez on Galveston Island. They are working on a website to provide more information and to accept donations for this project. They are trying to get the King of Spain or his son to be at the dedication ceremony and have invited the Granaderos y Damas de Gálvez to participate as well.

Read All About It

Third In A Series

By Joe Perez

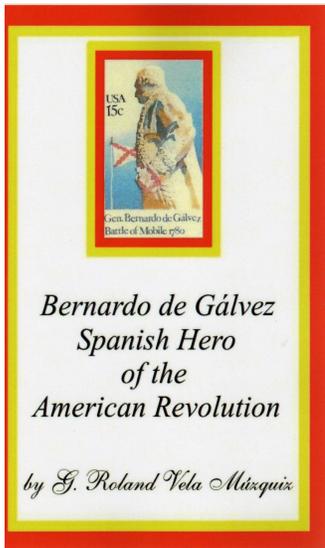
The mission of our organization is to educate the public about Spain's contributions to the American Revolution. Invariably, that includes the valiant efforts of General Bernardo de Gálvez in aiding the American cause through his successful Gulf Coast campaign against British forces. While many of our members have given presentations about Gálvez, a few of our members have written books about him. This is the third article in a series on Granaderos who have written books about General Bernardo de Galvez.



The parents of G. Roland Vela taught him at a young age to work for the things he wanted in life and that is what he has been doing for more than eighty years. He was born in Eagle Pass but grew up near downtown San Antonio. His family spoke only Spanish at home but he and his brother spoke English everywhere else in public. When he wanted money as a young boy, he worked hard selling newspapers. He learned early that working hard would get him what he wanted.

He started at San Antonio Junior College on scholastic probation but studied hard and made the honor roll after one year. He earned an Associate's degree and went on to the University of Texas in Austin. His favorite subject was science and when it came time to select a major, his room mate asked him to take a course in bacteriology so they could share the cost of the text book. After that, he made bacteriology his major. He worked several jobs to support himself while going to school and earned his Bachelor's Degree in 1950.

Studying hard from seven a.m. to midnight every day, he earned his Master's Degree in only one year with a major in bacteriology and a minor in chemistry in 1951. Just prior to starting his doctorate program, he married a beautiful nursing student named Emma Lamar Codina Longoria. They have been together ever since and have raised four children. He went on to earn his Ph.D. in microbiology and biochemistry from the University of Texas in Austin in 1964, after which, he began teaching graduate and undergraduate courses in microbiology at the University of North Texas in Denton where he served as a professor for 35 years. He taught a course that had no text book so he wrote the book himself, *Applied Food Microbiology*, as well as its accompanying lab manual. When asked to name an accomplishment for which he is proud, he states, "*I graduated twenty Doctoral students and forty four Masters students.*" Our Governor General, Joel Escamilla, is one of those Doctoral students.



In his teaching career, he published some 75 research papers in microbiology and taught research techniques upon invitation at the University of Chihuahua, University of Torreon, University of Barcelona, National University of Colombia and the University of Javeriana, also in Colombia

He has kept very busy through the years serving in different capacities for various organizations such as the American Society for Microbiology and the American Academy of Microbiology. He served on the Board of Directors for the Texas Municipal Power Company, which is still the largest power plant in Texas.

He served on the Denton Airport Advisory Board, was the first Hispanic to serve on the City Council of Denton and there is currently a proposal to name part of a Denton city park after him. He even has a species of bacteria named after him and Latino Monthly magazine named him one of the top 100 Texas Latinos of the 20th Century.

Ever the educator, he published the book "*The Men Named Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna*", a biography of the Mexican General and President. Not long after that, while flipping through TV channels, he saw part of a documentary about Bernardo de Gálvez, which stoked his interest to learn more about this forgotten historical figure. His curiosity led him to conduct thorough research which led to his publishing the book, *Bernardo de Gálvez Spanish Hero of the American Revolution* in 2006. During that time, he learned about the Order of Granaderos y Damas de Gálvez and he and his wife, Emma, have been members ever since.

Always working, he is now writing a book documenting the history of the Musquiz family. Even after a lifetime of achievements, he never considered himself very smart, just someone who worked very hard.