

Next Meeting

Wednesday, August 2nd

Royal Inn Oriental Cuisine Restaurant
5440 Babcock Rd
Dinner at 6:30 Meeting at 7:30

Guest Speaker: Dan Arellano

**Newest Appointee to the San Antonio
Tricentennial Commission**

**His presentation is titled:
“How Can The Tricentennial
Commission Help You?”**

Happy Birthday To Our August Babies!

August 10

Julie Soto

August 14

Emma Vela

August 16

Joaquin Faz

August 21

Joe J. Zavala

August 28

Deborah Guerra



Saturday, August 19 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Battle of Medina Symposium to be held at the Atascosa Leming Annex; 25 E 5th St @t Hwy 281.

Saturday, September 9 10:00 am – 11:00 am

Presentation at Central Library downtown.

Saturday, September 9 3:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Presentation at Maverick Library.

San Antonio Chapter Officers:

Governor

Joe Perez

Deputy Governor:

Ricardo Rodriguez

Treasurer

Alex Zamora

Secretary

Vacant

New Members

Martin Franklin McGill

Father Martin Franklin McGill serves as the Chaplain at the Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington, VA. He retired from the U.S. Air Force as a Colonel and currently resides at Joint Base Myer – Henderson Hall (formerly Fort Myer Army Post). He graduated from St. John's seminary in San Antonio in 1956 and was ordained in 1964 in Corpus Christi. He attended Assumption Seminary in San Antonio; received his divinity degree at St. Francis Seminary in Milwaukee; a master's in religious education at Loyola University in Chicago; a master's in church administration and a licentiate in canon law from Catholic University in Washington, D.C.; as well as a doctorate in canon law, magna cum laude, from the Pontifical University of St. Thomas (the Angelicum) in Rome. He is also a descendant of those who provided cattle to Bernardo de Gálvez during the American Revolution.

George Aguayo

George Aguayo proudly served our country in the U.S. Army stationed in Korea for the years 1953 and 1954. After his active duty tour, he worked at Kelly Air Force Base for 10 years until he transferred to Fort Sam Houston Army Post. He retired after 30 years working in civil service. He is the father of four sons. He became interested in our organization due to his love of history, especially that which was not taught in our schools' history text books while he was growing up.

Welcome, new members Father Martin Franklin McGill and George Aguayo!

Patriotic Americans Who Were Not American

By Joe Perez



Honorary citizenship is the highest tribute the United States may grant a person who is not a U.S. citizen. It is such a rare honor that only eight people have been bestowed Honorary U.S. Citizenship since the inception of our country. Below are the eight honorees. The final name on the list helped ensure that we became a country in the first place.

1. Winston Churchill

Churchill was the wartime minister of the United Kingdom during World War II and a staunch American ally. President Kennedy fondly said of Churchill that his *"bravery, charity and valor, both in war and in peace, have been a flame of inspiration in freedom's darkest hour."* Churchill was bestowed the tribute of Honorary U.S. Citizen in 1963 and one of only two who received the honor while still living.

2. Raoul Wallenberg

With ties to Hitler's Germany, Hungary passed several anti-Semitic laws. Wallenberg was sent to the Swedish embassy in Hungary to issue passports for Jewish Hungarians with ties to Sweden. He issued protective passports and set up safe houses. He risked his life and survived an assassination attempt while saving an estimated 100,000 lives from certain death during the Holocaust. When officials realized what he was doing, they invalidated his papers and sent several Jewish Hungarians on a forced march to the Austrian border. In his car, he followed those on the march, providing food and water, undeterred by the guns pointed at him. When Hungary was occupied by the Soviet Union, he was arrested as a spy, imprisoned and never seen in public again. The Soviets claimed he died as a prisoner in 1947, however, in 1981, there were reports that he was still alive. Congress declared him an Honorary U.S. Citizen in an effort to pressure the Soviets to reveal his location and condition. To this day, it is still unclear what happened to him. He was bestowed Honorary U.S. Citizenship in 1981.

3. William Penn

As a debt owed to the Penn family, William Penn was awarded 45,000 square miles of land which he named Pennsylvania in honor of his father. He opened his colony to his fellow Quakers but also to people of other faiths. His colony was established on the principles of representative government, religious freedom and trial by jury. These principles were also tenets of the U.S. Constitution. William Penn was bestowed Honorary U.S. Citizenship in 1984.

4. Hannah Penn

Hannah, the wife of William Penn, was a champion of the same principles established in Pennsylvania by her husband. When her husband became too ill to manage the colony, she took over control, guiding the Colonial Governor in the business of running the colony. She became the longest serving woman in control of a British colony. Hannah Penn was bestowed Honorary U.S. Citizenship in 1984.

5. Mother Teresa

In 1950, Albanian nun Agnes Gongxa Bojaxhiu, who later became known as Mother Teresa, established the Missionaries of Charity. Her group cared for the underprivileged through soup kitchens, emergency shelters, nursing homes and various other ministries throughout India. In her lifetime, she was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize and Presidential Medal of Freedom. For her inspiring work, she was bestowed Honorary U.S. Citizenship in 1996. She and Churchill are the only ones made Honorary U.S. Citizens while still alive.

6. Marquis de Lafayette

Frenchman Lafayette was recruited by the Continental Army and given the rank of Major General when he was only 19 years old. Not only did he secure much needed aid from France, he also provided military leadership to the Continental Army. His forces helped in the decisive battle at Yorktown where he helped defeat Lieutenant General Lord Cornwallis, leading to the end of the American Revolution. The Marquis de Lafayette was bestowed Honorary U.S. Citizenship in 2002.

7. Casimir Pulaski

Drawn by the idea of liberty, Pulaski, came to the aid of American colonists in their fight for independence from Great Britain. Upon his arrival, the Polish military officer declared to George Washington, *"I came here, where freedom is being defended, to serve it, and to live or die for it."* Not long after arrival, he was involved in the Battle of Brandywine where he led a cavalry charge that saved the life of George Washington. He was later promoted to the rank of General. For his valuable assistance in our country's War of Independence, Pulaski was made an Honorary U.S. Citizen in 2009.

8. Bernardo de Galvez

The Spanish hero of the American Revolution is recognized as having played a vital role in our War of Independence. Just six months into the American Revolution, Gálvez was appointed Governor of Louisiana. His headquarters were in New Orleans, which is strategically located at the mouth of the Mississippi River. He prevented the British navy from entering the Mississippi from the Gulf of Mexico, which prevented the Americans from being surrounded on three sides by the world's most powerful navy at the time. He also used the Mississippi River as a virtual lifeline of supplies to the Americans by sending money, muskets, gun powder, clothing, blankets, medicine and a myriad of other supplies necessary to keep the Continental Army in operation.

As if that wasn't enough, in 1779, he launched his Gulf Coast Campaign, attacking the British along the Gulf of Mexico and capturing British forts at Manchac, Baton Rouge, Natchez, Mobile and Pensacola. Gálvez kept the British military occupied, serving as a Southern Front and preventing British forces from traveling north as reinforcements where they could have attacked and overthrown American forces.



He is becoming more recognized for his valuable assistance toward our freedom and historians are realizing that he is a big reason why a ragtag Continental Army and various local militias were able to defeat a world power. In recognition of this, there are statues of Gálvez in Washington, D.C.; New Orleans, Louisiana; Mobile, Alabama and a bust of him in Pensacola, Florida. He was also honored on a U.S. postage stamp in 1980 commemorating the bicentennial of the Battle of Mobile where he defeated the British and captured Fort Charlotte.

In a letter dated May 1783, Elias Boudinot, the President of the Continental Congress, wrote accepting a portrait of Gálvez as a gift. A Congressional Resolution later that same year ordered the Gálvez portrait to be "*placed in the room in which Congress meets.*" Two hundred and thirty one years later, the Congressional promise was fulfilled when, in 2014, a portrait of Gálvez was hung in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee meeting room, where heads of state are often received.

Just a few years ago, Gálvez received the highest honor bestowed upon a foreign national. That accolade is the title of Honorary U.S. Citizen. Gálvez is the most recent recipient of this award as he was made an Honorary U.S. Citizen in 2014. Public Law 113-229 by the 113th Congress states, "*Whereas Bernardo de Gálvez played an integral role in the Revolutionary War and helped secure the independence of the United States: Now therefore be it Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That Bernardo de Gálvez de Madrid, Viscount of Galveston and Count of Gálvez, is proclaimed posthumously to be an honorary citizen of the United States.*"

Approved December 16, 2014

More Photos From the 33rd Annual Fourth of July Patriotic Ceremony

