



LA GRANADA



The Order of Granaderos y Damas de Gálvez – Founding Chapter

JULY 2015

www.granaderos.org

SAN ANTONIO, TX



Gálvez Statue to be Commissioned



A life-size statue of Bernardo de Gálvez astride a horse will be commissioned by the Pensacola Heritage Foundation at a cost of \$350,000 to \$400,000. The foundation hopes to be able to have the statue completed within the next two years. The statue is to be placed near the location of the Queen’s Redoubt, which erupted in a huge explosion that turned the tide in the Siege of Pensacola allowing Gálvez to capture British-held Fort George. The victory at Pensacola removed the British entirely from the Gulf Coast during the American Revolution. When the statue is completed, the Pensacola Heritage Foundation will donate it to the city of Pensacola. The foundation has a 10-to-15 year plan to place several statues throughout the city and it is fitting that the first one be of General Bernardo de Gálvez. Read the article in the Pensacola News Journal at the link below.

<http://www.pnj.com/story/news/local/pensacola/2015/05/31/bernardo-de-galvez-getting-statue/28274387/>



Let’s not forget about another project for a statue of Gálvez. The Sons of the American Revolution Bernardo de Gálvez Chapter #1 is raising funds to have a statue of Gálvez made and placed in their city named after the Gálvez family, Galveston, Texas.

Artist Eric Kaposta has rendered drawings for the statue. When completed, it will be a larger than life bronze statue of Gálvez on horseback with a raised sword. There will also be plaques near the statue explaining the role Gálvez played during the American Revolution.

You can have your name engraved on a brick at the statue by donating at www.galvezstatue.org.



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**Happy Birthday
To Our July Babies**

July 1 -----Ed Butler
July 1 ---- Joel Escamilla
July 4 ---- Larry Kirkpatrick
July 8 ---- Corinne Staacke
July 9 ---- Miaoyin Rojas
July 15 -- James Salinas
July 16 --- Gerard Cortese
July 16 --- Jack Cowan
July 27 -- Claire Steves
July 27 -- Santos Villarreal

Next Meeting

(No meeting in July)

Wednesday, Aug 5

Royal Inn Oriental Cuisine

5440 Babcock Rd

Dinner at 6:30 Meeting at 7:15

Guest Speaker:

Dr. Amy Porter

Texas A&M San Antonio

Upcoming Events

Saturday, July 4

10:00 – 11:00

31st Annual Fourth of July Patriotic Ceremony
at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery.

Saturday, July 4

8:00 – 9:00

4th of July Parade at the Hyatt Hill Country
Resort. We will be leading the parade.

Saturday, July 18

10:00 – 2:00

Longhorn Museum Yesteryear Festival in
Pleasanton, TX. We will have a living history
booth.



A Soldier's Life With Drum and Fife



By Joe Perez

As early as the 15th century, Swiss and German armies had been known to have fifers and drummers in their ranks. By the 16th century, fifers and drummers were common in many European militaries. In the 18th and 19th centuries, fifers and drummers were assigned to infantry units (but not to cavalry or artillery units) with each infantry company assigned two fifers and two drummers. The fife and drum were chosen because the fife has a very high pitch and the drum has a very low pitch, both of which could be heard over other sounds and for a long distance.

In the military, those who served as fifers and drummers were usually either too young or too old to take up arms and fight on the battlefield. It was very common to have fifers and drummers who were younger than sixteen years old that played until they were old enough to fight in battle. Likewise, men in their fifties or older would also serve as military musicians, possibly after having already had a military career. Older fifers and drummers often trained younger ones.

In April of 1779, Texas Governor Domingo Cabello sent a letter to Commandant General Teodoro Croix requesting two drummers. On August 15 of that same year, Cabello wrote to Croix informing him of the arrival of the drummers; Juan Jose Calderon assigned to Béxar (San Antonio) and Jose Andrés Ribas assigned to La Bahía (Goliad). He wrote that he will ensure "*the drummer boys be cared for as their tender ages deserve*"¹. Ribas was thirteen and Calderon was fourteen. Thus, Calderon, as a drummer, began his military career at age fourteen when he was added to the muster rolls at Presidio de Béxar. Of note, the little drummer boy Calderon is an ancestor of Granadero Rueben Perez and Dama Dorothy Perez.

Officers were well aware of the importance of having fifers and drummers among their troops. These field musicians were utilized to regulate and provide order and guidance to other soldiers throughout the day. It was very important for soldiers to know all the musical commands played by the fifers and drummers. These commands started at the break of day with Reveille being played to wake everyone in camp and start the workday. In the course of the day while in camp, fifers and drummers would give several musical commands such as come eat, clean up camp or muster. Typically, at 9:00 p.m., they would sound "Tattoo" for the evening roll call to be taken. A short while after that, they would sound "Taps" for soldiers to extinguish lights and turn in for the night. Fifers and drummers generally were paid more than the regular infantry soldiers. A roster dated April 19, 1775 for the Lincoln Minute Men (of Massachusetts) shows that musicians were paid 44 shillings per month and the regular infantry troops were paid 40 shillings². It is believed that the reason for musicians getting higher pay is because they were vital in communicating officer's commands to the troops both in camp and on the battle field.

As important as it was for soldiers to know the musical commands in camp, it was even more important for them to know the commands on the battlefield.



Granaderos y Damas de Gálvez Fife & Drum Corps

The fife and drum could be heard even over the thunderous cannons and muskets during battle. To hear two fife & drum calls, go to the website www.granaderos.org, click on the Media tab then scroll down and click on "La Llamada" or "Ataque". La Llamada (The Call) is a tune used in camp to call the troops to pick up arms from their stacks. Ataque is the musical command used on the battle field to direct troops to attack.

Fifers and drummers were utilized not only within their own army but also to communicate with opposing armies as well. A chamade is a drum beat used as a signal to inform the enemy commander of a proposition to be made. During the Siege of Pensacola, Spanish troops landed a grenade near the powder magazine of the Queen's Redoubt resulting in a huge explosion that killed several British soldiers and destroyed the redoubt. Granaderos from the Navarra Regiment immediately rushed in and took control of the redoubt. British General Campbell knew this left Fort George extremely vulnerable. *"Faced with the loss of more blood and with no hope of relief, Campbell, shortly before 3:00 p.m., ordered a drummer boy to the ramparts of Ft. George to beat the chamade, which was a certain drum beat that indicated that the commander wanted to discuss a proposition. The battlefield became quiet."*³

General Campbell wanted to discuss the terms of his surrender with General Gálvez.

Because fifers and drummer's tunes were so important, they had to find time to practice every day between their regular duties. For the most part, fifers and drummers stayed busy all day long either playing, practicing or performing other camp duties. While each company was assigned two fifers and two drummers, when occasions arose where companies gathered together, the fifers and drummers from the different companies would join together to form a band to march on parade.

While there were times when fifers and drummers were used to entertain the troops, this was not their purpose. Their mission was to convey officer's

ROGUES MARCH

Rogue's March is the tune played when a soldier was dishonorably discharged from the army. The ceremony was originally performed to the sound of a drum as the disgraced soldier was stripped of his rank, badges and buttons then flogged and shamefully marched out of camp as the drummer played the tune *Rogues March*. This is where we get the term of being "drummed out of the army".

commands musically through their instruments so that those commands could be heard throughout camp and across a battlefield. They were active-duty soldiers who played a very important role in the military and who were relied upon heavily by their officers.

The role of the modern military musician has changed somewhat but still carries a significant role in sustaining warrior morale, building good will with the local community, fostering military pride and playing a crucial role at military funerals. The army has over 30 bands on active duty while the Navy has 13; Air Force 12, Air National Guard 1 and the Marine Corps over a dozen. All of these are modern bands with the lone exception being the Army's Old Guard Fife and Drum Corps. They are a modern band utilizing the dress and instruments that harken back to the very first military musicians and carrying on a longstanding tradition of fifers and drummers.



The only remaining fife and drum corps in the American Military is the Old Guard Fife and Drum Corps, who are attached to the 3d U.S. Infantry Regiment, a ceremonial Army unit based out of Ft. Myer, VA.

Sources:

¹ Béxar Archives, CAH A.L.S., pp. 1-3v, identifier e_bx_003005_004

² Lincoln Minute men, https://www2.bc.edu/~hafner/lmm/music-articles/lmm_musicians_in_history.html

³ Odom, Wesley, 2009, *The Longest Siege of the American Revolution*, p.108

31st Annual Fourth of July Patriotic Ceremony Lineup

Color Guard

Commander: Jesse Guerra
U.S. Flag: Roland Salazar
Burgundian Cross Flag: Ricky Reyes
Regimental Flag: J.J. Zavala
Guard: Joe Perez

Fife & Drum Corps:

Drum Major: Ricardo Rodriguez
Fifer: Miaoyin Rojas
Fifer: Julie Soto
Fifer: Crystal Benavides
Fifer: Kate Bolcar
Snare Drummer: Gerard Cortese
Bass Drummer: Jesse Benavides
Snare Drummer: Mike Malloy

Musket Detail:

Continental Marine: Bill Bowlin
Continental Army: Frank Rohrbough
Spanish Army: Joe Perez
South Carolina Militia: Dan Phillips
Georgia Militia: Bill Barnett
Morgan's Riflemen: Randy Pike
Tejano of 1776: Bob O'Campo
Virginia Militia: Kyle Duncan
Irish Merchant/Louisiana Militia: Pad Kelly

General Bernardo de Gálvez:

Michael Cristian

Keynote Speaker:

CW4 Thomas Hager
Commander, 323d Army Band
"Ft. Sam's Own"

Fife & Drum Tunes:

Yankee Doodle
Chester
The Girl I Left Behind Me
Assemble
Attack
Retreat (Retire The Colors for the Day)
Rogues March

Memorial Services Detachment Honor Guard Members:

Rifle Team:

Juan Balleza, Squad Leader
Luis Gonzalez
J. Sean Habina
Rudy Barrera
Michael L. Rojas
Memereto Perez
Joaquin Faz
Fil Villarreal

Bugler:

Michael Kinkade, U.S. Army

31st Annual Fourth of July Patriotic Ceremony

Free and Open to the Public

**Fort Sam Houston
National Cemetery**
1520 Harry Wurzbach Rd
July 4, 2015
10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.



- The Sights & Sounds of the American Revolution
- The Shot Heard 'Round The World
- Wreath Laying for All Who Defended Our Freedom
- Keynote Speech: Commander, 323d Army Band
- Special Musical Presentation by a Fife & Drum Corps
- Roll Call of the 13 Colonies with the Firing of Muskets
- 3-Volley Rifle Salute Honoring All Veterans
- The playing of "Taps" for All Fallen U.S. Soldiers

Sponsored by the Order of Granaderos y Damas de Gálvez
www.granaderos.org – www.Facebook.com/GranaderosDeGalvez

Granaderos y Damas de Gálvez Meeting Minutes

**For the meeting held [June 3, 2015](#) at the Royal Inn Oriental Cuisine Restaurant
Submitted by Governor Joe Perez for Secretary Briana Perez**

Attendance:

Reyna Araiza, Abel Araiza, Eileen Barrientos, Carlos Castañeda, Henry De Leon, Sylvia Escamilla, Joel Escamilla, Pauline Faz, Joaquin Faz, Carlos Garza, Jesse Guerra, Elsa Herbeck, Walter Herbeck, Yolanda Kirkpatrick, Larry Kirkpatrick, Rueben Perez, Joe Perez, Susan Thonhoff Rodriguez, Elizabeth Salinas, James Salinas, Victoria Thonhoff, Robert Thonhoff, Connie Villarreal, Jesse Villarreal, Santos Villarreal, Richard Whynot

- The meeting commenced at 7:27 p.m.
- Abel Araiza gave the Invocation and Richard Whynot led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Governor Joe Perez welcomed our guests Connie Villarreal, Walter & Elsa Herbeck, Carlos Garza and Carlos Castaneda.
- Joe suspended the meeting at 7:34 and introduced guest speaker Jesse O. Villarreal, Sr. who gave a very good presentation on his newest book "Rosters of Tejano Patriots of the American Revolution". His presentation was very well received. Joe called for a recess at 8:39 to give attendees time to purchase Jesse's latest book.
- Joe resumed the meeting at 8:55.. Treasurer Elizabeth Perez was absent but gave the Treasurer's Reports for May to Governor Joe Perez for presentation to the group. Joe read the report for May giving a Beginning Balance of \$7,323.65, Expenses of \$1,795.50, Income of \$1,015.53 and an Ending Balance of \$6,543.68. A motion to accept the report was made by Rueben Perez and seconded by James Salinas. After a vote, the motion carried.
- Joe reminded everyone about the display of a Granadero de Galvez uniform at the Ft. Sam Houston Museum and that the leggings could not be displayed because of the type of mannequin used. Discussion was had on the subject and Richard Whynot moved that we purchase a mannequin to loan to the museum for as long as they display the Granadero uniform and when it is no longer on display, we will have the mannequin returned for us to use at another location. Rueben Perez seconded the motion. After a vote, the motion carried.
- Joe passed around pictures of the Texas A&M San Antonio reading room grand opening. He also showed the group the latest issue of "American Spirit", the magazine of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, given to him by Dama Yolanda Kirkpatrick. The issue has an excellent article titled "An Essential Man" about Bernardo de Gálvez.
- The meeting adjourned at 9:16 p.m.

