



LA GRANADA



July 2022



Order of Granaderos
y Damas de Gálvez
San Antonio Chapter



www.granaderos.org



Spain presents the Library of Congress with the 9th ‘Bernardo de Gálvez’ award

The prize, which was presented last Tuesday at the ambassador’s residence, is awarded annually by the Spain-U.S. Council Foundation and on this occasion recognizes the contribution of the U.S. Congress to the safeguarding of the world’s bibliographic and documentary heritage.

The Award was collected by the Librarian of Congress, Carla Hayden, the first woman and the first African-American to hold this position, which she has held since September 2016, who was accompanied by Suzanne Schadl, Director of the Library’s Hispanic Division.



In particular, the Foundation’s Board of Trustees took into account the “immense work” carried out by the Library’s Hispanic Division, created in 1939 at the behest of the founder of the Hispanic Society of America, the New York philanthropist and Hispanist Archer M. Huntington, and dedicated to the conservation, research, expansion and dissemination in the United States of the Hispanic-Lusitanian collections.

Established in 1800, the Library of Congress is the oldest federal cultural institution in the United States and the largest library in the world, with more than 170 million bibliographic records. Its catalogue includes more than 39 million books and other printed materials in 470 languages, more than 72 million manuscripts, and the largest collection of rare and valuable books in all of North America, with more than 700,000 volumes, including one of the three best preserved complete copies of the Gutenberg Bible printed on parchment and the draft of the Declaration of Independence.

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We have
NO MEETING IN JULY
due to our sponsorship of
the 38th Annual
Fourth of July
Patriotic Ceremony

**38th Annual
Fourth of July
Patriotic Ceremony**

Ft. Sam Houston National Cemetery



July 4, 2022

Presented by the Order of Granaderos y Damas de Gálvez



July 1

Joel Escamilla
Judge Ed Butler

July 14

Carlos Garza

July 25

Juanita Santos
Derek Underwood

July 30

Manny Rodriguez

July 31

Ricky Reyes

Governor

Joe Perez

Deputy Governor

Alex Zamora

Treasurer

Manny Rodriguez

Secretary


Janie Rodriguez

Drum Major


Ricardo Rodriguez

Chaplain

Joe González



Order of Granaderos y Damas de Gálvez Fife & Drum Corps




Our fifers and drummers have been practicing a lot to prepare for the 4th of July ceremony. They've had practices twice a month to hone their skills for the

five tunes they will play at the ceremony, which are Garryowen, the National Anthem, Brandywine, Jefferson & Liberty and Yankee Doodle.

In addition to scheduling the practices, Drum Major Ricardo Rodriguez has been busy dying wool for uniforms and assembling music books. The pictures above and to the right show the dyes and parts of uniforms he has been working with.



The pictures below show a recent practice. The Corps practices inside for a while, then they go outside into the parking lot to practice playing while marching.

Our musicians are going to be ready for the 4th of July ceremony.

- Drum Major**
Ricardo Rodriguez

- Lead Drummer**
Alex Zamora

- Lead Fifer**
Crystal Benavides

- Drummers**
Joseph Viviano
Jesse Benavides
Luis Martinez

- Fifers**
Alekszandr Skye
Louisette Zurita
Julie Soto
Janie Rodriguez



La Virreina Criolla: The Creole Viceroy

By Stephen

*“Not so alone”: the turbulent life of Felicitas,
the wife of the Spanish viceroy and hero of US independence Bernardo de Gálvez*

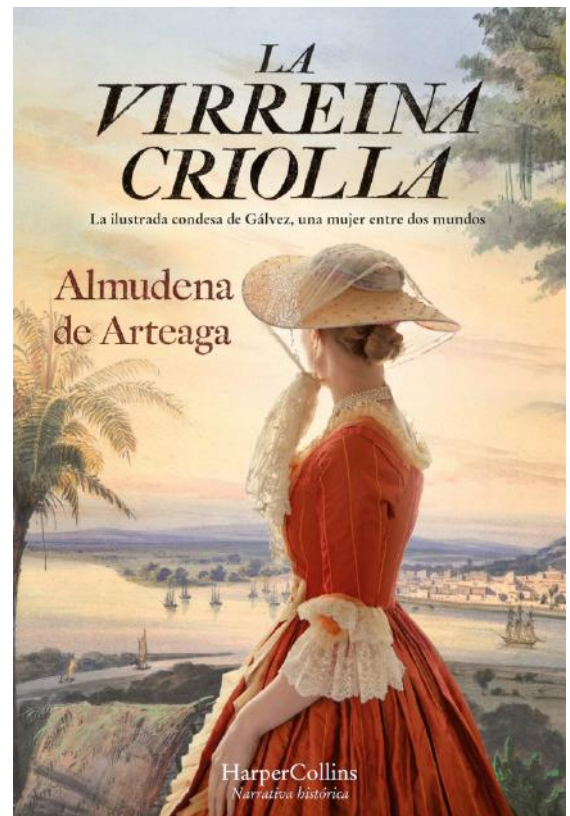
“I alone” was the motto that King Carlos III granted to Bernardo de Gálvez after his courageous performance in the Battle of Pensacola and that mythical phrase that he sent to his men along with a cannonball: “This is one of the bullets distributed by the fort at the entrance. Let him who has honor and courage follow me. I’ll go ahead to remove the fear.” Those words of heroism and epicness were engraved on the coat of arms of Gálvez, a well-known character in the American continent -he is an honorary citizen and his portrait is in the founding room of the US Congress-, and, increasingly, in Spain.

But the truth is that, surely, he was not alone. That’s what he stands for says Almudena de Arteaga, Duchess of the Infantado, and one of the most renowned and successful authors of the Spanish historical novel. Her latest work of fiction is *La Virreina Criolla* (*The Creole Viceroy* (HarperCollins Iberian, 2022). In this book, Arteaga recreates the life of Felicitas de Saint-Maxent, Countess of Gálvez, remarried wife of the famous viceroy and a character with a hectic life straddling several worlds: Europe and America, the Old and the New Regime.

“Gálvez was a self-made man, like the previous generations of his family, but when he arrived in Louisiana, a French territory until then, he had the good sense to marry Felicitas, daughter of the richest family in New Orleans, something that opened many doors for him”. “

Also in Texas is a portrait of the General Gálvez, specifically in the Galveston Hotel. The clients of the establishment complain that the soldier follows them with a cold and mysterious look and that whenever they try to take a snapshot of the painting it comes out blurry.

The Duchess of Infantado analyzes the difficult situation of that territory, which had gone “from being French to Spanish overnight.” New Orleans opened its doors to the Mississippi River, “a merchandise exchange highway, but at that time, it was full of obstacles: the English pirates and corsairs who attacked from the Caribbean, very dangerous native tribes, the English further north...” Even so, many inhabitants of that land did not bet on the Spanish, but Felicitas’ family did.



Arteaga novels the life of Felicitas, a Spanish woman on the American continent in process of change and modernization. “Gálvez was a modernizer and, with the help of Felicitas and her family, he opted to support the United States in its independence, something that aroused fear in case the Spanish viceroalties followed that path, as they eventually did,” she explains.

The profile that this writer draws of this “forgotten woman” is that of an enlightened traveler. “She made her return trip, was born and lived in America and returned to Spain to end up buried in Aranjuez”, illustrates Arteaga. She “lived the opposite experience of the majority of Europeans, who at that time loaded the ships to the new world; she traveled in the opposite direction.”

“She left a widow to raise her children in Spain,” says the novelist. And here, as a good enlightened woman, she began to organize gatherings and meetings attended by great personalities of the moment, such as Humboldt or Balmis -the one from the famous smallpox vaccine expedition. But she also suffered, due to her American origins and her forms and ideas, which the author calls “certain progress”, the suspicions of the traditional peninsular aristocracy.

And because of that enlightened look at the world, she ended up accused of being Frenchified and sentenced to exile in Madrid. “They took away her only son and with her three daughters she went to a small house in Valladolid. She, accustomed to Caribbean climates and New Orleans, ended up in that cold city getting sick,” she recalls.

“Something that I make very clear in the novel is that the Spanish possessions in America were not colonies, like those of other European countries, but viceroalties and that made its citizens as Spanish as someone from Guadalajara or Toledo. They were provinces”, she affirms emphatically.

Arteaga speaks of a rich Spanish America with a deep mestizaje, which tries to break with that gloomy and dark vision that the author assures is “the prolongation of the Spanish Black Legend”. “I say flatly that the native tribes of the North were massacred, without a doubt, but those of the Spanish territories suffered a different fate. Were there atrocities and oppressions? Sure, it was those centuries. There was misery, poverty and violence everywhere, in our eyes.” Just read *The Miserables*, which takes place in Paris.

The author believes that the “combative” facet of her novels, shared by many current Spanish authors, “tell our story and doesn’t change it” and with its mission to “discover women of the past who have been forgotten”.

The novelist affirms that the latest educational reforms and their application to History in Baccalaureate seem to her “an aberration and madness: they are stealing the identity, which is what happens when they take away your history.” And in that position, she is proud that her novels can be a “drop of water” that helps to divulge the past.



Author Almudena de Arteaga

Order of Granaderos y Damas de Gálvez

Minutes for the meeting held June 1, 2022 at La Fonda Restaurant
Submitted by Secretary Janie Rodriguez

Attendance: Governor Joe Perez, Crystal Benavides, Jesse Benavides, Cynthia Flores, Frank Flores, Debra Flores, Roberto Flores, Lucila Flores, Sylvia Jean Garcia, Robert Garcia, Edna Gravenhorst, Joe González, Jimmy Peet, Liz Perez, Delia Rodriguez, Janie Rodriguez, John Rodriguez, Manny Rodriguez, Alex Zamora, Melissa Zamora.

The meeting was called to order at 7:33 p.m. by Governor Joe Perez. The Invocation was given by Chaplain Joe González. Governor Joe Perez led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Treasurer Manny Rodriguez gave the Treasurer's report. The May Bank Statement showed a Savings account balance of 1,318.67 with no activity for the month. The checking account beginning balance for June was \$6,389.96. Expenses were; Payment for Zoom at \$16.00, Payment to Macarthur church for Fife and Drum Rehearsal \$35.00, Payment for shipment to Spain for Brooches at 98.50. For income, we received 2 membership renewals totaling \$60.00, the sale of Damas Brooches totaling \$1,000.00 and sale of one book totaling \$20.00. The end of month balance for May is \$7,320.46. A motion to accept the report was made by Jimmy Peet and seconded by Robert Flores. After a vote, the motion was carried.

Governor Joe announced the birthdays for the month of June.

Education committee Chairman Joe González had nothing to report at this time.

Gálvez Stamp Committee Chairman Manny Rodriguez also had nothing to report at this time.

Governor Joe introduced our guest speaker for the evening. Author Edna Campos Gravenhorst gave an excellent presentation on her book, "*San Antonio's Historic Market Square.*" After a short question and answer session, the meeting was adjourned at 8:46 by Governor Joe Perez. After her presentation, Ms Gravenhorst signed her books that members purchased.



"Beauty begins the moment you decide to be yourself."

Coco Chanel