



LA GRANADA



June 2022



Order of Granaderos
y Damas de Gálvez
San Antonio Chapter



www.granaderos.org



Esther Pérez Carvajal San Antonio de Béxar DAR Award Ceremony



On May 3rd, we served as the Color Guard at an event sponsored by the San Antonio de Béxar Chapter of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution. The event was the presentation of the DAR Women in American History Award at the Carvajal Elementary School, presented posthumously to the school's namesake, Esther Pérez Carvajal. The event was coordinated and led by Mrs. Erika Haskins.

Esther Perez Carvajal (1879-1942) was an author, educator, historian, preservationist, and civic leader. She began the first Spanish language program in public high schools and co-authored four academic textbooks which contributed significantly to bilingual education. In 1940, Mrs. Carvajal was honored with a Distinguished Service Award for her 40 years of service in education.

We provided a Color Guard and played the National Anthem as well as other tunes. Thanks go out to Alekzandr Skye, Joseph Viviano, Joe Weathersby, Manny Rodriguez, Tim Thatcher and Joe Pérez. Photos were provided by Joe González and Paul Casanova Garcia.



IN THIS ISSUE:

	<u>PG.</u>
Carvajal DAR Award	1
Next Mtg, Officers & Birthdays	2
Fife & Drum Corps	3
Gálvez Painting: Mr. Rodriguez	4
Gálvez Day in Pensacola FL	4
Hon. Governor General Thonhoff	4
Spanish Aid, Yorktown Victory	5-6
Minutes From May Meeting	6

Next Meeting

Wednesday, June 1

La Fonda Restaurant

8633 Crownhill Blvd

Dinner: 6:30 Meeting 7:30

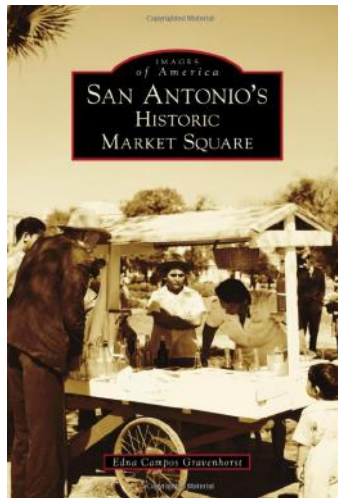
Speaker:

Edna Campos Gravenhorst

Presentation:

San Antonio's Historic
Market Square

At our June meeting, author Edna Campos Gravenhorst will give a presentation on her book, "San Antonio's Historic Market Square." After her presentation, she will sign all books sold. Her book will be on sale at the meeting for only \$20, so bring some money to buy your copy (cash or check only). Checks can be made out to Granaderos de Gálvez.



Birthdays in June

June 1

Priscilla Marrah

June 11

Rafael Cavazos
Tim Thatcher

June 16

Crystal Benavides

June 23

Cliff Normand

June 24

Ricardo Backal

June 29

Alex Zamora

June 30

Stella González

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



Drum Major Ricardo Rodriguez puts in the work in keeping the Fife & Drum Corps looking good. These photos show how he repaired one of the drummer's drum strap by hand recently. He has also made tricorn hats and made repairs on uniforms and equipment. Now, that's a working Drum Major.



Farther below are our fifers and drummers at the practice on May 11th. Fifers shown left to right are Louissette Zurita, Janie



Rodriguez, Crystal Benavides and Alekzandr Skye. Also shown are our drummers. From left to right are Joseph Viviano, Jesse Benavides and Luis Martinez.

If the drums look especially nice, it is because Drummer Jesse Benavides repairs them, paints them and applies the king's coat of arms to them to make them more historically accurate. Jesse has done countless repairs to our drums over the years and always does an excellent job.

Drum Major
Ricardo Rodriguez

Lead Drummer
Alex Zamora

Lead Fifer
Crystal Benavides

Drummers
Joseph Viviano
Jesse Benavides
Luis Martinez

Fifers
Alekzandr Skye
Louissette Zurita
Julie Soto
Janie Rodriguez



Painting Donated to Our Chapter



At our May meeting, we unveiled a painting of Bernardo de Gálvez by Granadero John Rodriguez. Mr. Rodriguez donated his beautiful painting to the chapter. The artistic talent of Mr. Rodriguez was on display at the meeting and he was very kind in donating it to our chapter. Pictured at left are Manny Rodriguez on the left and his father (and artist), John Rodriguez on the right. Thank you, John Rodriguez, for donating your beautiful painting of Gálvez.

Gálvez Day 2022 - Pensacola

On May 8th every year, the city of Pensacola, Florida, celebrates Gálvez Day. This year, a delegation from Spain attended the ceremony. The delegation was from the Spanish city of Macharaviaya, the birthplace of Bernardo De Gálvez.



Representatives from Spain stand in front of the Gálvez Statue in Pensacola, Florida.

The date is the anniversary of Galvez's victory over the British at the siege of Pensacola, which was the longest siege of the American Revolution. With Gálvez's victory, he captured Fort George and ran the British completely out of East and West Florida, ensuring that the British could not send their troops north to fight against George Washington and the Continental Army.



Honorary Granadero Robert H. Thonhoff

Our beloved Honorary Granadero, Judge Robert Thonhoff, is doing much better. Granadero Charlie Carvajal administered his 2nd booster against Covid recently. Mr. Thonhoff is very proud of his Honorary Granadero Governor General certificates bestowed upon him and his late wife, Dama Victoria Thonhoff.

He is always appreciative of our prayers for continued good health.

Spanish Aid, Yorktown Victory

From an Article by Granville W. Hough, Ph.D

On 21 June 1779, King Carlos III of Spain declared war on England and thus made official his support of Americans in their struggle for independence. Clandestine support had already been provided for three years, but afterwards support was open and direct.



In the past few weeks, my daughter and I have been studying documents of the Continental Congress, looking for names of American mariners. We found the reports of Arthur Lee, and the 1777/79 manifests of twelve vessels which were loaded out from Cadiz, Spain, with war supplies headed for Boston and Philadelphia. (Papers of the Continental Congress, Records Group M0247, Item #83, Roll 110, "Letters Received from Arthur Lee, 1776-1780,"). This was pre-war, but vital to the American effort.

Records such as these have rarely been studied by American historians, as emphasis has been on French support and participation. Few Americans know that:

1.) Early French support included fifty/fifty Spanish/French participation, with Spain as a silent partner, so any so-called French support received before June 1779 should be reanalyzed.

2.) Francisco Saavedra de Sangronis was a personal representative for King Carlos III, and he negotiated the de Grass/Saavedra Accord in Jul 1781, which governed Spanish/French conduct of the war in the Western Hemisphere.

3.) Saavedra was personally responsible for arranging the financing for the Chesapeake Bay operations which resulted in Yorktown. (Yorktown was thus the result of Spanish financing of cooperative efforts of the French Expeditionary Force, the de Grasse Fleet, and the American forces.)

4.) The victory at Yorktown was made secure by the West Indies strategies of Spain and France. England was forced into a defensive strategy, as Jamaica was the big target for Spain. The French Expeditionary Force was moved in 1782/83 from North America to Venezuela to participate in the invasion. Spanish General Bernardo de Gálvez gathered in Haiti a 10,000 man force waiting to invade.

5.) For two years, England held on, negotiating for the best possible peace terms. She held four invasion bases in North America (Charleston, New York, Penobscot Bay, and Detroit); but it was to no avail. She was out of manpower. The focus in the Western Hemisphere became holding Canada and the West Indies.

It can be accurately said that what put us over the top at Yorktown was Spanish money, as de Grasse told Saavedra plainly that he could not sail there without it.

It can also be accurately stated that what made Yorktown significant, and secured it as the last great land battle in America, was the British preoccupation with defending the West Indies (particularly Jamaica) against Spanish and French invasion. So we owe the Spanish people for their contributions to our freedom. It is a debt we should not forget.

Editor's Note:

*The preceding article was written by Granville W. Hough, Ph.D, under the title "225th Anniversary of Spain's Entry into the Revolutionary War." The article appeared in the June 2004 edition of the online newsletter **Somos Primos** (edited by Mimi Lozano-Holtzman). The new title and the graphic have been added by the Editor of La Granada to suit this edition of our newsletter.*



Order of Granaderos y Damas de Gálvez

**Minutes for the meeting held May 4, 2022 at La Fonda Restaurant
Submitted by Secretary Janie Rodriguez**

Attendance: Governor Joe Perez, Amy Jo Baker, Cynthia Flores, Frank Flores, Joe González, Jimmy Peet, Liz Perez, Ricky Reyes, Delia Rodriguez, Janie Rodriguez, John Rodriguez, Manny Rodriguez, Joe Weathersby, Vedia Weathersby.

The meeting was called to order at 7:27 p.m. by Governor Joe Perez. The Invocation was given by Chaplain Joe González. Dama Delia Rodriguez led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Treasurer Manny Rodriguez gave the Treasurer's report. The April Bank Statement showed a Savings account balance of 1,318.67 with no activity for the month. The checking account beginning balance for April was \$6,365.96. Expenses were; Payment for Speakers meal \$25.00, Payment to MacArthur Park Lutheran Church for Fife and Drum Rehearsal \$35.00, Uniform for drummer \$180.00. We received 5 memberships totaling 280.00. End of month balance for April is \$6,405.96. A motion to accept the report was made by Jimmy Peet and seconded by Joe Weathersby. After a vote, the motion was carried.

Governor Joe announced the birthdays for the month of May.

Education committee Chairman Joe González - Nothing at this time. Gálvez Stamp Committee Chairman Manny Rodriguez stated that the Uvalde de Encinas Chapter of the DAR acknowledged that they have submitted letters to the Postal Service endorsing a Gálvez stamp.

Robert Thonhoff Award Committee Chairperson Liz Perez reported that they will come together in May for the first meeting.

Mr. John Rodriguez presented the order with an art painting of Bernardo de Galvez that he himself painted. We conducted an unveiling of the portrait, which resulted in applause.

Governor Joe was our guest speaker for the evening. His presentation of the First Cattle Drives out of Texas was very interesting and informative. After a short question and answer session the meeting was adjourned at 8:23 by Governor Joe Perez.