



LA GRANADA



May
2023



Order of Granaderos
y Damas de Gálvez
San Antonio Chapter

www.granaderos.org editor: joe pérez

Tejeda History Faire & Culture Fest



On Saturday, April 1st, our living history soldiers and musicians participated in the 2023 Tejeda History Faire & Culture Fest. They staffed our display booth and spoke with several faire attendees about Gálvez and Spain’s role in the American Revolution.

They also reenacted Spanish military drills for loading and firing the musket. Then they reenacted an attack. This was the first time they performed “Ataque” with a full complement of soldiers and musicians and it was very impressive. See more about this on page 4.

FOLK FEST

On Saturday, April 15th, some of our members participated in the Folk Fest in New Braunfels. We staffed a booth and spoke with several attendees about General Gálvez. See more about this on page 4.



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Next Meeting

Wednesday, May 3

La Fonda Restaurant

8633 Crownhill Blvd

Dinner: 6:30 Meeting 7:30

Guest Speaker:

Armandina Sifuentes

Presentation:

Meet

Concepción de los Angeles Charli

Mother of Alamo Defender

Toribio Losoya

Armandina Sifuentes is an eighth-generation Texan and a descendant of the subject of her presentation. Her research led to the placement of a monument on the grounds of the Alamo, near the long barracks, that recognizes women and children who survived the 1836 battle. Her ancestor was one of them.

The monument was placed by the DRT Alamo Couriers Chapter so people can learn the story of the Alamo and Texas more fully.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY MAY BABIES

May 1

Robert Garcia, Jr.

May 9

Jason Bourgeois

May 22

Irene Roberts

May 23

Robert Hancock

May 26

Joe Weathersby

May 28

Edna Campos

Gravenhorst

Governor

José (Joe) González

Deputy Governor

Elizabeth Pérez

Treasurer

Manny Rodriguez

Secretary

Janie Rodriguez

Chaplain

Joe Weathersby

Drum Major

Ricardo Rodriguez

Sergeant Major

Adam Dominguez

2023 National Meeting in Baton Rouge



Order of
Granaderos y Damas de Gálvez



Save the Date

2023 National Meeting

November 3-5, 2023

Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Plans are underway for the 2023 National Meeting to be held in Baton Rouge, LA. Three hotel options are being offered in downtown Baton Rouge. Please begin making your room reservations while meeting details and planned events are being finalized.

Hotel Indigo ~ 225-343-1515

[Galvez Room Block](#)

Hilton Capitol Center ~ 225-344-5866

<https://book.passkey.com/e/50538967>

Marriott Watermark Hotel ~ 225-408-3200

[Book your group rate for GALVEZ Room Block](#)

Tejeda History Faire Cont.

We have been participating in this event for several years. It was canceled a couple of years due to Covid but it has started up again this year. We got a pavilion that is in a great location. It is on the circular path and has open space next to it where we can perform our military drills and firing.

This year, the fifers and drummers marched into place with choreographed precision, even though they were improvising. The soldiers performed all of their drills very well.

Thanks go out to Sergeant Major Adam Dominguez and Drum Major Ricardo Rodriguez for leading our reenactors. Thanks also go out to all of the participants for representing our group in impressive fashion.



FOLK FEST Continued

This was our first time at this event and we were very impressed with it. It allowed us to conduct our military drills and staff a booth where we spoke with several attendees throughout the day.

A big Thank You goes out to Granadero Joe Weathersby for coordinating our participation, providing an historic booth and for making an impressive sign for the booth also.

We look forward to being in this event next year.



Recent Articles on the Internet

Bernardo de Gálvez and Spain in U.S. Schools

This is an interesting article about what used to be taught in U.S. schools about Spain and what is now taught in U.S. schools about Spain's influence on the U.S. The link is below.

<https://www.abc.es/historia/bernardo-galvez-revolucion-espanola-aterrizan-colegios-eeuu-20230317104136-nt.html>

La Rosa de California

This new book of fiction is the second in a trilogy by author, professor and historian Jesus Maeso de la Torre. The protagonist is a captain in the Spanish army serving in California. It follows other recent books about Spain's influence in what is now the southwest part of the United States. It is written in Spanish. The link to the article is below.

<https://www.rtve.es/play/audios/atlantic-express/atlantic-express-26-marzo/6774634/>

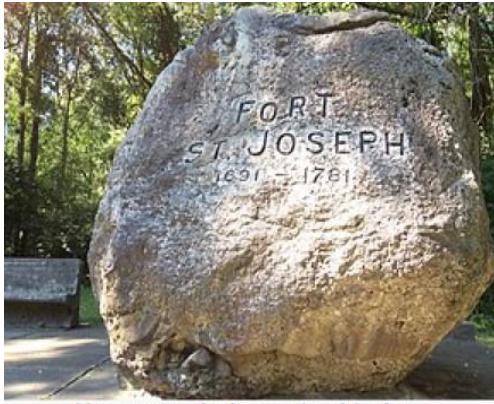
Thank you, Evaristo C. Martinez Radio Garrido for sending the articles above to us.

An Interesting Find

Granadero Dale Leppard made an interesting find while browsing the internet and he is sharing the information with the group. Hussar Saddlery is an online site that sells historic military headwear. The images below are two sides of a 1790 Spanish Louisiana Regiment Officer's Light Infantry Cap with engraved crest. You can see other products from this vendor at:

<https://www.hussarsaddlery.com/helmets-shakos-and-bonnets>





Monument at the former site of the fort

FORT ST. JOSEPH – NILES, MICHIGAN

“SPANISH FORT FOR THE DAY”

BY RUEBEN M. PEREZ

To get the full understanding of Fort St. Joseph being a “Spanish fort for the day” we need to put events in perspective during the American Revolution and take a step back to get the full background history for the story. The land for Fort Joseph, located south of present day Niles, Michigan, was initially granted to the Jesuits in 1684 by King Louis XIV. Jesuit priest Père Claude-Jean Allouez established *Mission de Saint-Joseph* in the 1680s to minister to local Native Americans, primarily from Odawa and Ojibwe tribes.

French Jesuit priests during the 17th and 18th centuries were prevalent around the St. Joseph River Basin and the Great Lakes Region, an important trading hub for the French fur traders. Missionaries traveled among Native American villages in an attempt to convert them. The natives received the French relatively well and allowed them to build small garrisons near the missions.

FORT SAINT-JOSEPH

In 1691 Ensign Augustin Legardeur de Courtemache was directed to build a military post near the mission on the lower Saint-Joseph River. The location chosen was part of the *Old Sauk Trail*, a major east-west and north-south location coming together fording at the river. Europe’s demand for fur, warranted traders to the area and using the fort as a trading post by the French traders and the Native Americans.



Generally, the land where the forts were built was harsh, underdeveloped and only a few Europeans occupied the area. The French forts became the backbone of the fur trade and protection against the British. The fur trade was profitable and fashionable in Europe markets due to much of the fur trade there had been depleted. French traders depended on the Natives to obtain the furs and traded them for muskets, knives and other gifts to keep on a positive relationship with the native tribes.



Artist rendition of **Fort St. Joseph** courtesy Western Michigan University

The Fort St. Joseph garrison was fairly small and generally manned with about 10 enlisted men and 20 soldiers. In addition, the fort had a Commandant, blacksmith, priest, interpreter and about 15 additional households.



The **Seven Years' War** (May 17, 1756 - February 15, 1763), was a global conflict that involved most of the European great powers and fought primarily in Europe, the Americas, and Asia-Pacific. Another concurrent conflict included the **French and Indian War** conflict lasting from 1754 to 1763, which pitted the North American Colonies of the British Empire against those of the French, each side being supported by various Native American tribes. Still other conflicts were the Camatic Wars and the Anglo-Spanish War.

Battle of Jumonville Glen

During the Battle of Jumonville Glen, one of the first battles of the *French and Indian War*, Joseph Coulon de Jumonville was killed by Native Americans of George Washington's forces that help initiate the *Seven Years' War*. The British defeated the French in the *Seven Years' War*, and the French transferred their forts, including Fort St. Joseph, to British forces.



Native Americans fought on both sides with the British and French troops

In 1761, the British sent a detachment of the 60th Royal American Regiment to Fort St. Joseph for reinforcement and to stop the practice of giving gifts, which altered the relationship with the Native Americans, who now saw them as a threat. On May 25, 1763, during *Pontiac's War*, the fort was manned by 14 soldiers from the 60th Regiment of Foot. The fort was captured by the Potawatomi warriors who killed most of the soldiers. Those not killed were the Commander, Ensign Francis Schlosser, and three soldiers. The Potawatomi warriors took them to Fort Detroit to be ransomed as prisoners of war, a common practice with high ranking officials. Afterwards, the British maintained the fort as a trading post until the American Revolution, and again, the British sent troops to the fort and expelled the French traders allowing British fur traders only. In 1780, during the American Revolution, a Patriot force raided the fort with little effort, plundering its contents. A British militia from Detroit captured and defeated the raiding party.

In 1781, a French and Indian delegation went to St. Louis to make a request to Second Lt. Spanish Governor of Upper Louisiana, Francisco Cruzat, to recapture Fort St. Joseph. The governor gave permission to attack and sent a Spanish detachment to raid the fort with 60 volunteers and Native allies. The Potawatomi was promised half the bounty. Racing across the frozen river, Captain Pouré captured the fort on February 12, 1781 and raised the Spanish flag and claimed it for Spain. They plundered the fort **for one day** before returning to St. Louis without incident.



Michigan historical marker

When Francisco Cruzat wrote about it to **Governor Gálvez**, he justified the raid as showing the Natives, the Spanish allies are strong and blocked the British actions in the region. **Thus, it became under the auspices of Spain with colors flying for a day.** The fort remained under British control until 1795 with the signing of the Jay's Treaty. Eventually, the fort fell into ruin. The actual location of Fort St. Joseph was finally identified in 1998 by an archeologist from Western Michigan University. This is the only fort in Michigan that has been under four flags: France, Great Britain, Spain, and the United States.



Order of Granaderos y Damas de Gálvez

Minutes for the meeting held April 5, 2023 at La Fonda Restaurant Submitted by Secretary Janie Rodriguez

Officers in Attendance: Governor Joe González, Deputy Governor Liz Perez, Treasurer Manuel Rodriguez, Secretary Janie Rodriguez, Chaplain Joe Weathersby, Sgt. Major Adam Dominguez
Attendance: Sally Avila, Charlie Carvajal, Dalyn Dominguez, Cindi Flores, Debbie Flores, Lucila Flores, Roberto Flores, Robert Garcia, Sylvia Jean Garcia, Stella González, Deborah Guerra, Jesse Guerra, Gus N. Hinojosa, Scot MacRae, Joe Perez, Ricky Reyes, Tim Thatcher, Vedia Weathersby, Alex Zamora, Melissa Zamora.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Governor Joe González. The Invocation was given by Chaplain Joe Weathersby. Cindi Flores led us in the Pledge of Allegiance. Governor González recognized tonight's guests as Gus N. Hinojosa and Scot MacRae from Dallas. Governor González reminded all in attendance that eligibility for motions and voting are to be done by full members.

Treasurer Manny Rodriguez gave the Treasurer's report. Savings account received a bank dividend of \$2.50. Ending balance for March was \$2,534.96. Checking account balance as of March 1, 2023 was \$8,299.45. Activity for the month was as follows. We received 3 memberships totaling \$75.00 and a reimbursement from the state for \$20.00. Outgoing payments were: \$25.63 for speaker's meal, Parade entry free \$100.00, Payment for D&F rehearsal room \$35.00, Reimbursements for \$20.00 and \$35.00. March end of Month Balance is \$8,178.82. It was understood by the organization that Los Granaderos will be changing banks from Credit Human to Randolph Brooks Federal Credit Union. Signers on the account will be Governor Joe González and Treasurer Manuel Rodriguez. Motion to accept the Treasurer's report was made by Robert Flores and seconded by Liz Perez. Motion carried.

Governor González announced all birthdays for the month of April. Old business was the process of changing banks from Credit Human to Randolph Brooks Federal Credit Union. We are hoping to have this done by the end of April.

Committee Reports: Scholarship Chairperson Liz Perez reported that she received 4 donations of \$250.00. After one donor challenged the order to match his donation of \$250.00 the challenge was met by the Granaderos officers. Scholarship committee is still accepting donations. Membership Chairperson Joe Perez reported that as of April 5th we received 3 associate memberships and 2 full memberships. As of last report we have 85 members total. Visibility Chairperson Melissa Zamora explained the polo shirts that she has been working on with a vendor. These shirts will be embroidered. The shirts will be available for purchase online. This information will be sent out via email.

Governor González recapped the upcoming events. New business, Governor González recapped all upcoming presenters for May and June. Governor González introduced our guest speaker for the evening. Sgt. Major Adam Dominguez gave a presentation on the history of our Granadero uniform and how it has changed over the years from the start of our chapter until now. This was a very informative presentation. After a short question and answer session the meeting was adjourned at 8:44 by Governor González.