



LA GRANADA



May 2024

Founding Chapter



San Antonio, TX



www.granaderos.org



editor: joe pérez



Our Chapter's First Fiesta Medal



It's Fiesta time in San Antonio! It's time for decorations, parties, fairs, parades, and...Fiesta medals. This year, our chapter is selling its very first Fiesta medal. It's a durable, attractive medallion with the most famous portrait of Gálvez, encircled with "BERNARDO de GALVEZ", "YO SOLO", and "2024". It hangs from a ribbon of red and gold, the colors of the Spanish flag.

We are selling them for only \$10 with the profits going toward our sponsorship of the 2025 National Meeting to be held in San Antonio.

The medal made its debut at the Fiesta Medal Extravaganza at Morgan's Wonderland on Saturday, March 30th. On hand at that event were Vedia Weathersby, Joe Weathersby, Joe Pérez, and Joe González. The sales of the medals exceeded expectations.

At only \$10, our Fiesta medals are a bargain. They may be purchased at any of our regular meetings and at any of our events throughout the year. Anyone wishing to purchase a medal and have it mailed, please contact Governor Joe González at jgonz0408@aol.com for further directions. Please state Granaderos Fiesta Medal in the subject line to avoid your message being treated as "Spam."



Next Meeting

Wednesday, May 1

La Fonda Restaurant

8633 Crownhill Blvd

Dinner: 6:30 Meeting 7:30

Presenter:

Ernesto Rodriguez III

Presentation:

Mexican Independence and the

Eve of the Texas Revolution...

The Rest of the Story

Ernesto Rodriguez III is the Senior Curator and Historian at the Alamo. He is a San Antonio native and has devoted over 20 years to historical research. He has both a bachelor's and a master's degree in History from Saint Mary's University in San Antonio.

As Curator at the Alamo, Ernesto is dedicated to the scholarly research that underpins both interpretive planning for the Alamo Museum and a greater understanding of the Alamo's archive and artifact collections.

He is back by popular demand after his presentation to our chapter last October.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY MAY BABIES

May 1

Robert Garcia, Jr.

May 2

Carol Traub

May 22

Irene Roberts

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

Sergeant Major

Adam Dominguez

Tejeda History Faire

On Saturday, April 6, our chapter was once again well-represented at Tejeda Middle School's History Faire. Soldados drilled, Fife & Drum musicians played, and a good time was had by one and all. Both units utilized this event as a combined practice session for the upcoming King William Parade at the end of April. ¡ADELANTE! ¡VIVA ESPAÑA! ¡VIVA GÁLVEZ!



FolkFest 2024

On Saturday, April 13th, we participated in the FolkFest 2024 in New Braunfels. This is an amazing event with several living history demonstrations, entertainment, and food trucks. We had several people come to our table, we handed out brochures, sold some of our Fiesta medals and spread the word about Gálvez and Spain's participation in the American Revolution. Thank you, Dama Janie Rodriguez for helping staff our table. Many thanks go out to event coordinator (and Granadero) Joe Weathersby for letting us be in the air conditioning and allowing us to conduct musket firing demonstrations. We'll be back next year!



Caminos Real Network

Edited by José (Joe) L. González 22 December 2023 ©

“Like the network of roads that covered the ancient Roman world, Spanish *caminos reales* were designed to connect the furthest reaches of the empire. As the Spanish had conquered the Aztecs and began colonizing Mexico, they forged a royal road that led west from Mexico City. In the 1540s the road turned north toward Zacatecas, a great silver mining center and by the 1580s, it reached the Santa Bárbara mining district, near modern-day Parral, Chihuahua. This camino real, that eventually connected Mexico City with Santa Fé, became the longest, most extensive, and the most historic of the royal roads in the Americas. Oñate extended it [in 1598] six hundred miles north and the trail became known as the *Camino Real de Tierra Adentro*, the Royal Road to the Interior (Fig. 2.1). Oñate’s most important long-term contribution was not the establishment of a new colony, but instead the opening of this major transportation corridor that would bring an entirely new way of life to the region.”^[1]



Figure 2.1. Map illustrating the entire route of El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro, beginning in Mexico City and ending at Ohkay Owingeh/San Juan Pueblo in the United States.

The image below shows not only the original Camino Real established and enhanced during the 16th century, but the northeasterly routes taken to establish missions and presidios in south, central, and east Texas beginning in the last decade of the 17th century through the 18th century, and eventually extending into present-day Louisiana. During the last third of the latter century, northwestern explorations and establishment of missions and presidios in ÁIta California would serve to further enhance the network of Caminos Real begun nearly 200 years before in *Nueva España*.



ENDNOTES:

1. Torok, George D. "The Legacy of Don Juan de Oñate," *Password*, Vol 47, No. 2, (Summer 2002), p. 56. Published by The El Paso County Historical Society.

Order of Granaderos y Damas de Gálvez

Minutes for the meeting held April 3, 2024 at La Fonda Restaurant Submitted by Secretary Janie Rodriguez

Officers in Attendance: Governor Joe González, Chaplain Joe Weathersby, Treasurer Manny Rodriguez and Secretary Janie Rodriguez

Attendance: Sally Avila, Diane Baird-Barger, Delores Beardsley, Laurie Bird, Ron Finch, Valerie Finch, Cindi Flores, Robert Garcia, Stella Gonzalez, Debra Guerra, Jesse Guerra, Mary Ann Oliver, Joe Perez, Ricky Reyes, Jack Reynolds, Christina Robinson, Deanna Rodriguez, Manny Rodriguez Jr., Vedia Weathersby.

The meeting was called to order at 7:29 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 Membership Chairman Joe Perez to introduce guests who became members tonight as Diane Baird-Barger and Mary Ann Oliver.

The review of minutes was asked. Motion to accept was made by Manny Rodriguez and seconded by Joe Weathersby, motion carried.

Treasurer Manny Rodriguez gave a report for March 2024. The Savings Account Balance for the beginning of the month of March was \$6,191.04. This amount includes the following: Scholarship CD \$2,000.00, Scholarship general funds \$3,245.00, Non encumbered funds \$446.82 and 2025 National meeting CD \$1,000.00. Activity for the month was interest paid: \$0.94. The end of month total for February in savings is \$6,692.76. The checking account balance as of March 1, 2024 was \$8,732.82. Activity for the month was as follows: We received bank interest of \$0.36. Outgoing funds were: D&F Uniform alteration 65.00, King William parade fee \$100.00, and Speakers meal \$12.80. End of month balance for March is \$8,555.38. Motion to accept treasurer's report was made by Joe Perez and seconded by Ron Finch. Motion carried.

Governor Joe González announced this month's birthdays and "Happy Birthday" was sung by all!

Old business: Fiesta medals have been received and on 03/30/2024 20 medals at \$10.00 each were sold at the Morgans medal sales. On March 26 Joe Perez attended the unveiling of a statue of Galvez in McAllen that took place at the TXDAR Plaza of Liberty at the Veterans War Memorial of Texas. We are waiting for information on the arrival of the Spanish ship, Elcano in New Orleans. April activities will be the Tejeda Middle School History Fair, the Folkfest in New Braunfels and the King William parade.

Committee Reports: Scholarship Deadline is April 30, 2024.

Membership: Joe Perez reports that we have 54 full members and 29 Assoc members.

National Meeting: Christina Robinson gave a brief presentation on the 2025 National Meeting.

New Business: 33 Organizations have been invited to the July 4th ceremony at Ft Sam Houston Cemetery. To date 15 organizations have replied "yes". The 2024 National meeting in Laredo will take place on October 31, 2024 to November 03, 2024. Hotel reservations can be

made by calling 956-772-1701. Rooms are \$99.00 per night. There will be a program at the Parman Library branch on 05/19/2023. Next month's speaker will be Ernesto Rodriguez for "The rest of the story".

Program: Dr. John Reynolds is a professor emeritus at U.T.S.A, where he has taught history since 1987 .He was the principal investigator for the "The Seed of Texas" website designed to commemorate San Antonio's Tricentennial. The interactive website explores various aspects of the city's past with particular attention to the diverse communities that have called it home over the past 12,000 years.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:42 by Governor Joe González.

Recent Articles on the Internet

Bring Bernardo Back!

This is an interesting article about a movement to bring the Gálvez statue back to its place in New Orleans. The statue is currently being refurbished. The link to the article is below.

<https://vivanolamag.com/index.php/home/k2-categories/community/bringbernardoback#inline-auto276>

**"For Spain and for the King, Gálvez in America"
2015 painting by Augusto Ferrer-Dalmau.
General Bernardo de Gálvez at the Battle of Pensacola in 1781**

