



LOS FLORIDANOS SOCIETY

P.O. BOX 4043, ST. AUGUSTINE, FL 32085

FLORIDA'S FIRST SPANISH FAMILIES

LOSFLORIDANOS.ORG

April 22, 2003

March Meeting

Place: Seafood Kitchen Restuarant
Banquet Room in Rear
108 Anastasia Blvd.
St. Augustine, Fl

Date: May 3, 2003

Time: 9:30 AM

New Officers Elect ed

We elected our new officers at the April meeting with 26 members present. The new officers are:

PresidentLinda Solana Barber

Vice President.....Dick Rousseau

Secretary.....Christopher Garrett

Treasurer.....Virginia S. Griggs

Public Relations.....Tommy Rogero

Community Affairs.... Dot Scanlon

We also welcomed two new members, Candy Tilton and Bill Tilton Jr., please make them feel welcome.

April Garage Sale

Our garage sale is scheduled Saturday (April 26) 8:00 to 12:30am. in the St. Augustine Record parking lot.

We hope all our members will bring a few items for sale. Please price items and bring Saturday morning to the sale. All items are welcome but please no clothing.

Upcoming Service Project

At the March meeting, we voted to volunteer our time as a group to help Dr. Bill Adams, Director of the St. Augustine Trust for Historic Preservation, clean-up and restore the historical state records housed at Government House.

Various records and archives of **OUR** history were left at Government House at the time the state of Florida leased the historical buildings in St. Augustine to the City.

The money hasn't been available to maintain the room and documents. We will be cleaning, organizing and cataloging the data.



Dick Scanlon, Barbara Colee, and Dick Rousseau will organize the effort. We will meet with Bill Adams at Government House on May 2 at 9:00am to survey the project and assess the needs. If you are available, please join us for a glimpse of a treasure trove of historical information seen by few people.

Look for the Service Committee to contact you on what needs to be done. We feel this is a worthwhile endeavor for our group and can't wait to get started. Everyone who is interested in helping should contact Dick Rousseau at 737-4952. Even though we won't hold meetings this summer, we can still get together while working on this project.

Young Los Floridanos'

Our group needs to secure our future by encouraging the younger generations to participate. We want to organize a social group so that they can become better acquainted.

Jordie Hudson, Judy Allen's daughter has volunteered to help get it going so I know it will be a BIG success. You will be hearing more about it as it gets *mooving*.!!!!!!!

Los Floridanos Gear !

- Golf Shirts\$25.00
- Caps\$12.00
- Totes..... \$8.50 & \$11.00
- Solana/ Sanchez Banners\$20.00
- Los Floridanos Flags\$35.00
- Medallions.....\$12.00

CALENDAR of EVENTS

- Apr. 26** Garage Sale, 8:00 to 12:30am
- May 2** Service Project Orientation, 9:00am
- May 03** Breakfast Meeting, 9:30am
- Sept. 06** St. Augustine 's Birthday Celebration Mass and Luncheon.

Los Floridanos Ancestors.....Alonso Solana

Alonso Solana 's Map of Florida (Mapa de la Ysla de la Florida) see map on Website.

In the 1680's, the British were stirring up trouble by sending pirates and unfriendly Indians to attack the colonist and Indians, who were under the protection of Spanish Florida.

Alonso Solana was commissioned by Governor Juan Marquez Cabrera, in 1683 to draw a scale map of the three provinces, Apalache, Timucau, and Guale—with their ports and bars, showing Indian settlements under Spanish protection.

Alonso was described by the Governor as “a person of practical experience and training in mathematics.” Though he had no training in cartography and his map was not a perfectly scaled representation of Florida, but rather a sketch, it does show that even in 1683, with transportation limited to horse and foot, the Spanish had a remarkable understanding of the geographic area of Florida and beyond.

The map's main value at that time in history lay in the information gained for the military as to the location of Spain's native allies.

The Mapa de la Ysla de la Florida is preserved in Madrid at the Ministry of War.

The Three Alonso Solana's

The first three Solana's in St. Augustine were named Alonso.

The first Alonso was a carpenter and Sergeant Major with the Spanish Army. His son, the second Alonso was born in 1620, in St. Augustine (the first Los Floridanos), His grandson, the third Alonso was born in 1645, also in St Augustine.

The last two Alonso's were Escribanos or Adjutants for the Governor of Florida. They held the prestigious position of government scribe, both indicating their ability to be trusted, and to read and write.

I do not know which Alonso (number 2 or 3) drew the map. That's one of many mysteries we have to discover.

Much of the information in this article came from the book, “*Situado and Sabana*,



Spain's Support System for the Presidio and Mission Provinces of Florida, written by
Amy Turner Bushell

Page 4

Season's End !

This is the end of our meetings until fall. Hope you will join us for our last meeting, May 3. We will continue working at Government House on our Service Project thru the summer.

I would also like to encourage any of you that are interested to use the summer and write an article on family or early St. Augustine history. (Be sure to note sources). We always welcome articles.

Our first event in the fall will be in September at that time we will celebrate St. Augustine's Birthday .

HAPPY SUMMER, Be Safe!!!!!!!!!!