

LOS FLORIDANOS SOCIETY

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

FLORIDA'S FIRST SPANISH FAMILIES

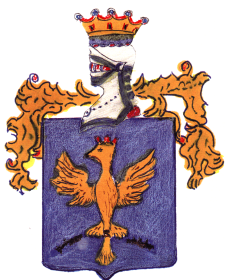
SEPTEMBER, 2003

LOSFLORIDANOS.ORG



SOLANA / SOLANO

Florida's First Families
1565-1763



SANCHEZ

COMING EVENTS CALENDAR

- Sept 6, 9:30 St. Augustine Birthday Celebration Mass and Landing at Mission Nombre De Dios.
- Sept 6, 11:30 Birthday Celebration Lunch at Eddie's.
- Oct 4, 9:30 Breakfast Meeting at Seafood Kitchen. Changed. Please make note.
- Nov. 15, Fall Picnic at Fort Matanzas
- Dec. 6 Christmas Party.

LOS FLORIDANOS NEWSLETTER

HAPPY BIRTHDAY — ST. AUGUSTINE

Call in your Reservation Now

St. Augustine's 438th Birthday

9:15 St. Augustine's Birthday Celebration Mass and Landing at Mission Nombre De Dios.

We will again participate in the ceremonies honoring the founding of St. Augustine, Pedro Menendez's landing, and celebration of the first mass. We will be included in the opening procession and will be introduced as descendants of the original Spanish settlers. We will meet at the Shrine by the cemetery at the Mission Of Nombre De Dios on San Marco. Wear your medallions. We want a good turnout so come help us celebrate. For further info call Linda at 471-6233.

11:30 The Menorcan Society will join us this year as sponsors of the **Birth-day Celebration Luncheon at Eddie's Seafood Restaurant** at the Oyster Creek Marina. The event is open to the public. Please invite family and friends to join us. We will enjoy another "Old Fashion Florida Fish Fry". Tickets for lunch will be \$10. Reservations will be required. Call Linda, 471-6233 or Dick, 797-4952

Our own, **Dr. Ann Masters**, will be the speaker. Her topic will be "St. Augustine's November Light". I know you will enjoy Ann's presentation.

Be sure to welcome all our visitors and Menorcan cousins at the Luncheon and wear a name tag if you have one.

DIRECTIONS: On US1 north of the Oyster Creek Bridge, turn at **Fran and Tam's Restaurant** on Lewis Blvd. Follow the road around to 69 Lewis Blvd and Eddie's.

REMEMBER TO ORDER YOUR LOS FLORIDANOS GEAR ORDER NOW

**Shirts....\$25 Lrg Bag...\$11 Sm...\$8 Hats...\$12 Banners..\$18 Flags...\$35
CALL Linda....471-6233**

Notes from The Government House Project

The Government House Work crew met for work on June 17, 2003 and July 15, 2003.

We have been able to clean, dust, wash window- shades and encourage Dr. Adams to get the floor wet mopped. We feel good about what has been done.

Now it is time to put our own librarian, Tom Rogero, to work. Also, we need Cecile and her expertise to legally direct us.

The June workers were:

- Dick Rousseau (*Our leader who showed up. Not much work from him and he left early*)
- Tom Rogero
- Norma Rogero
- Dick Scanlon
- Dot Scanlon
- Barbara Colee
- Virginia Griggs

The July workers were:

- Dick Rousseau (*Our leader who showed up. Good worker and he left with the rest of us*).
- Tom Rogero
- Norma Rogero
- Dick Scanlon
- Dot Scanlon

It is fun working together, seeing what we have done and what is yet to be done. We are looking for others to come and pitch in.

One half day each month is not much to give and WE WANT YOU!

The next 'Work Day' is September 23.
Submitted by: Dot Scanlon

FAMILY NEWS.....ETC.....!

New Member Brad Coker:

On August 13th Dot and Dick Scanlon had the privilege to meet Brad Coker who is a Sanchez on his Mother's side. Brad and his family live in Columbia, Maryland, and were vacationing on Amelia Island. Dot and Dick met Brad for lunch at the Amelia Plantation. There was great conversation concerning Brad and Dot's parallel heritage.

Brad has just joined our group. Look for Brad's contribution on Sanchez history in this newsletter. He's already impressed the President. *Welcome Brad!*

Sanchez and Elle Goode send best wishes to everyone from their Idaho summer home. Hopefully when it cools off they'll be back .

Mario and Susan Hugas sold their house in St. Augustine and are having a new home built in Ocala. They will move in after they return from their summer location in the mountains. Mario assures us he will stay on the board and be around as much as possible.

We hope Ocala knows what's in store for them. The "sad part" is he's a Sanchez and a Solana. Can you imagine?

Margie Prevatt , after much anticipation, is cruising around Alaska, as we speak. *You go girl!*

Charles and Gaby Usina are about to leave on a trip to Kansas City . They will be attending a reunion with his WWII buddies on the USS San Francisco.

Chris, Kathy, and John Garrett spent a week in Honolulu, Hawaii visiting with his sister this summer.

Frances Barber just returned from visiting her son, Jack, in Hamilton Montana.

Earlene Carlson's daughter, Zane has just moved to St. Augustine and is about to open a shop on Av-iles. We wish her good luck!

Tommy and Norma Rogero have returned from Norma's school reunion in Tennessee and a visit in Kentucky with friends.

Condolences to **Sandy Craig and her mother, Helen Baker** on the loss of their father and husband.

Jose Simeon Sanchez - Ancestor Biography

Submitted by Brad Coker

Jose Simeon Sanchez was born January 4, 1797 in St. Augustine. He was the third son of Francisco Xavier Sanchez and Mary Carmen Hill.

Jose was only ten years old when his father died in November 1807 and just sixteen when his mother passed away in 1813. While he inherited some of his father's land and wealth, his success in life was largely the result of his own hard work and dedication to public service in his native city.

Jose first enlisted in the Spanish militia, and served on Amelia Island against the "Patriot" forces that attempted to take control of the island in May 1812. Later, he was part of the Spanish force that failed to re-capture Fort San Carlos in 1817 when another group of "rebels" led by Sir Gregor MacGregor took control at Amelia.

On April 26, 1816, Jose Simeon Sanchez married Maria Lopez. Their marriage produced eight children, all born between 1817 and 1842.

In January 1818, based on his military service to the crown, Jose asked for and was granted 2,000 acres of land on the Santa Fe River by the Spanish government. This property was bounded by land that already belonged to his brother Francis Roman Sanchez, known as San Felasco Ranch (in current Alachua County). While he hoped to eventually establish his own plantation there, Jose apparently never relocated from his St. Augustine home. Ultimately, he sold this land in April 1836, shortly after hostilities with the Seminoles broke out. In fact, his brother's San Felasco land was later the sight of a battle between U.S. troops and Seminole forces, fought on September 18, 1836.

After Florida was ceded by Spain to the United States in 1821, Jose continued his military career by joining the Florida Territorial Militia. He served in the Florida Rangers and was made Captain in the 2nd Regiment of the Florida Militia. By 1836, he was promoted to Staff Colonel of the 2nd Regiment and served as second-in-command at St. Augustine to General Joseph Hernandez during the Second Seminole War. During that conflict, he likely played some role in

Hernandez's controversial capture of Chief Osceola at Fort Peyton in 1837, which was accomplished under a white flag of truce.

In addition to his military service, Jose Simeon Sanchez also had a long and distinguished political career. Starting as tax collector in 1826, he was elected to the Territorial Legislative Council in 1829. Later, he served as Justice of the Peace, City Alderman, and U.S. Marshal for the Eastern District of Florida. In 1838, he was one of only three native Floridians to serve at the St. Joseph Convention, which sought admission to the United States through statehood and adopted the first state constitution. He capped his political career by serving as Sheriff of St. John's County from 1845-47 and Mayor of St. Augustine from 1847-49.

After his first wife Maria died in 1842, Jose married Sabina Marin, the widow of Charles Hawkins. There were no children from this later marriage. Jose Simeon Sanchez died on September 17, 1853 in his native city. He was buried in the Roman Catholic Parish Cemetery. His house still stands at the corner of Bridge and Marine Streets.



**JOSE SIMEON SANCHEZ
And
DAUGHTERS**