



## LOS FLORIDANOS SOCIETY

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

WWW.

# LOS FLORIDANOS NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER, 2003

### OCTOBER MEETING

**PLACE:** SEAFOOD KITCHEN

108 Anastasia Blvd.

St. Augustine

**DATE:** October 4, 2003

**TIME:** 9:30 am.

The October Breakfast Meeting will center around old family pictures.

Please bring your old pictures to share with everyone. We would like to put all our pictures on the computer so generations in the future will have copies. We will also give copies to the Historical Library.

### SISTER CITIES ASSOCIATION

*Submitted by Dot Scanlon*

Dick and I had the pleasure of attending the Annual Meeting of the Sister Cities Association at the Marsh Creek Country Club on September 15, 2003.

The evening included a social hour and a scrumptious dinner.

We were honored to have Dr.

Thomas Graham as our guest speaker. His topic was "Los Floridanos, Florida's First Families.

In Dr. Graham's talk, he gave special recognition to the SANCHEZ Floridanos on every hand, as he is their direct descendant and there were no Solana's there to object.

Also, he asked how many Minorcans were present. There were quite a few and he managed to call them the "Johnny come lately" group.

His knowledge of Florida History is superb and he loves question and answer periods along with his "History Professor" title.

He has high praise for us Los Floridanos and our participation in local events.

## **Notes from The Government House Project**

*Submitted by Dot Scanlon*

The Government House Library work crew did their duty again Tuesday, September 23, 2003.

Present were our leaders, Dick Rousseau, Dick Scanlon, and our advisor, Dr. Bill Adams.

The co-workers present were Barbara Colee, Norma and Tom Rogero, and Dot Scanlon.

Since the cleaning has been completed on prior visits, we were able to begin cataloging contents. Tom Rogero is in charge of typing up the information for our next session. Lots to do, but it is coming along. We are really making a difference. We welcome you to join us.

It was decided we would meet the 4th Tuesday in October. Dr. Adams seems to like that day better and he is more available on that day. He is a great guy and works right along with us.

Mark your calendars, the next work day is Tuesday, October 28, 2003. We need your help!

**It's Fun !!!!!**

## **St. AUGUSTINE'S Birthday Events**

On September 6th, the Los Floridanos Society and the Menorcan Society co-sponsored a Birthday Luncheon for St. Augustine.

The Luncheon was preceded by a special Mass to commemorate the first Mass held by Menendez on landing in St. Augustine in 1565.

The ceremony was held in the Prince of Peace Chapel due to rain. During the service our group was recognized as descendants of the early settlers.

The Luncheon attendance was at approximately 50 people. Our special guests were; Mayor George Gardner, Eric Johnson (Mgr of Shrine), Fred Brinkoff (Master of Ceremonies), and Charles Tingley (Head Librarian at the Historical Library).

Ann Master's presentation was delightful and added a touch of class to "us Ole Crackers".

I was really proud of all of us. I think St. Augustine is finally feeling our presence.

*We'll get our history back yet! Just look how far we have come!!!!*

**Be sure to see the pictures we took at the meeting Saturday.**

# ANCESTORS and The Civil War

*Submitted by Linda Brown*

The election of Abraham Lincoln, as President in 1860, was a distinct blow to the South and Florida. Not one single vote was cast for Lincoln in Florida.

After Lincoln's election, Matthias Andreu's editorial for the St. Augustine *Examiner* declared that "separation of the South and an independent Confederacy of the Cotton States, are as certain as that the sun shines in the heavens.

Views of the town became polarized between the Northern immigrants and the Menorcan

population. (Please note the reference is to Menorcans. This isn't the first time historical accounts have referred to natives of St. Augustine as Menorcans. The families representing the old Floridanos, British, and early settler families were lumped into the category of Menorcans.)

The city of St. Augustine was dependent on northern winter visitors for a good portion of their livelihood and, the *Examiner* cautioned the residents to remember that all Northerners were not fanatics and that visitors should be treated with courtesy so long as they kept their opinions to themselves.

Mrs. Frances Smith, mother of General-to-be Edmund Kirby-Smith, surmised "that Northern abolitionist freely walked St. Augustine's streets enjoying the Southern climate while hating the Southern people".

Since Lincoln's election, secession was seen as inevitable. Governor Perry called for a state convention to vote and adopt an ordinance of secession.

The citizens of St. Augustine met in the courtroom on December 15, 1860 to decide on

representatives to send to Tallahassee for the secession convention. The representatives selected were R.G May and Mathew Solana

May and Solana traveled to Tallahassee to join the other representatives from Florida and on January 10, 1861, they voted for the secession of Florida from the Union.

When word of Florida's vote reached St. Augustine, there was much celebrating.

The St. Augustine Independent Blues (the local militia) along with a unit from Jacksonville were present when the Commander of the Blues, Major Benjamin A. Putnam announced the decision for separation from the Union.

The "Stars and Stripes" were lowered and the "National Flag of Florida" was raised amid cheers and small arms fire.

**Reference:** *"The Awakening of St. Augustine"*, by Dr. Thomas Graham. Tom is a Los Floridanos Member on the Sanchez side of the famil..



## THE DEVIL AND THE DEEP BLUE SEA

By Mark Smith

*This is a very creative "ditty" written by singer/songwriter Mark Smith about the events surrounding the landing of Menendez and the ousting of the French Huguenots on September 8, 1565, The birthday of St. Augustine.*

WE'LL JUMP INTO A WAR RIGHT HERE.  
BETWEEN THE FRENCH AND SPANISH.

THEY BOTH SETTLED IN NORTH FLORIDA  
AND WANTED EACH TO VANISH.

SO ONE GROUP MARCHED, SOME SHOTS WERE FIRED, AND OTHERS, DID SET SAIL.

BUT SOON THE FRENCH HAD FOUND THEMSELVES AT SEA AMIDST A GALE.

NOW HUEGUNOTS AND CATHOLICS  
MAY SOUND LIKE THEY'RE ALL CHRISTIANS

BUT EACH THOUGHT THE OTHERS WERE FROM HELL AND FOUNDED THEIR OWN  
MISSIONS.

BUT THE SPANISH HAD THE MAKER'S EAR  
AND FRENCH PLANS CAME UNRAVELED.

CAUSE A HURRICAINNE RAN THIER SHIPS AGROUND AT A CAPE WE CALL CANAVERAL.

THE FRENCH PERSISTED AND WALKED NORTH, BUT THE INDIANS BLEW THE HORN.

THEY TOLD THE TROOPS IN AUGUSTINE  
THAT THE FRENCH WERE TIRED AND WORN.

SO THE SPANISH MET THEM IN THE DUNES  
AND MADE SOME HARSH DECISIONS.

THEY PUT EVERYONE TO DEATH .. BUT A FEW CATHOLICS AND MUSICIANS.

SO A GREAT MUSICIAN IS WHAT I GUESS I'LL BE IF I'M CAUGHT BETWEEN THE DEVIL  
AND THE DEEP BLUE SEA.

WELL MATANZAS IS THE NAME THEY GAVE THAT GRAVEYARD BY THE OCEAN.  
AND TOURIST LAY OUT ON IT NOW.... WITH SHADES AND SUN TAN LOTION.

WELL I HAVE NOTHING AGAINST CATHOLICS BUT I'LL JUST FIND MY OWN RELIGION IN CASE I'M  
EVER SHIPWRECKED...I'LL CLAIM I'M A MUSICIAN.

A GREAT MUSICIAN IS WHAT I WANT TO BE  
IF I'M CAUGHT BETWEEN THE DEVIL AND THE DEEP BLUE SEA.



*Mark Smith works for the State of Florida's Park Service. It's very obvious from his music he is a Florida native and loves what Florida use to be.*

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*His songs touch on Florida's native landscape, characters from the state's past, and decries the over-development of our state.*

*He's written about Palatka, Doctor's Inlet, Florida Bay, Payne's Prairie, Everglades, St. Augustine, and numerous other locations.*

*He now has two CDs available. The first is "Water on Tree Sides" which first attracted my attention because of the song "Honeymoon in Palatka".*

*His second CD, "Sun of Winter", has the selection, "The Devil and the Deep Blue Sea", plus a wonderful tribute to Ronnie Van Zant, leader of the group, **Lynnard Skinner**, "October Moon". Mark and I both attended Robert E. Lee and grew up in Murray Hill, the same school and neighborhood Ronnie claimed.*

*If you are interested in getting a CD, send a check to: Mark Smith, 2027 NW 56th Terrace, Gainesville, FL 32605. Be sure to identify the title you want. CDs are \$15 and Tapes are \$11. That includes shipping.*

## **FAMILY NEWS**

Mario Hugas is recuperating in his new home in Ocala. He suffered a heart attack in August while at his summer home in Tennessee. He's resting and *starving* to get back to his old self. Hopefully he will be back with us before long.

## **OCTOBER PICNIC IS COMING UP!**

Our annual picnic will be next month. Please tell your family and friend so they can mark it on their calendar. We want a huge group of family and friend. This would be a good time for our younger family members to get together and meet each other. Bring the kids, too!

## **CALENDAR**

- Oct 4, 9:30 Breakfast Meeting at Seafood Kitchen. *Changed. Please make note.*
- Oct. 28, Gov't Hse Work Day
- Nov. 15, Fall Picnic at Fort Matanzas
- Dec. 6 Christmas Party.
- Jan. 10 Meeting



**REMEMBER TO ORDER YOUR LOS FLORIDANOS GEAR  
ORDER NOW**

**Shirts....\$25 Lrg Bag...\$11 Sm...\$8 Hats...\$12 Banners..\$18 Flags...\$35**