



# The Spy Glass



Newsletter of The Order of the Founders of North America—1492-1692  
 Volume 3, Issue 1, Fall 2014




China  
Porcelain




Moluccas  
Cloves


## The Age of Exploration




China  
Silk




India and China  
Ginger






Africa  
Salt Cones




India  
Pepper




Ceylon (Sri Lanka)  
Cinnamon




India  
Rubies



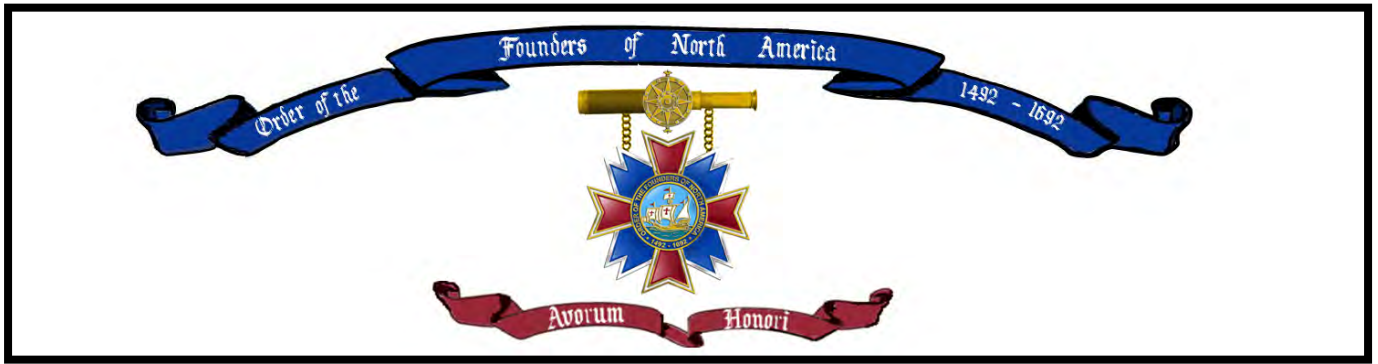
Africa  
Ivory Gold



Caribbean Isle  
Allspice



Moluccas  
Nutmeg



## A Message from the Grand Viscount General

### Executive Committee

#### Grand Viscount General\*

Stephen Renouf

#### Immediate Past

#### Grand Viscount General\*

Judge Edward F. Butler

#### Grand Viscount General Elect\*

Mike Radcliff

#### Deputy Viscount General

##### Eastern U.S.\*

Lindsey Cook Brock

#### Deputy Viscount General

##### Western U.S.\*

Cheryl Faye Rios

#### Deputy Viscount General

##### Europe\*

Duke of Mecklenburg Borwin

#### Abogado General\*

John Dodd

#### Secretary General\*

Barbara A. Stevens

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Karen E McClendon

#### Chronicler General\*

William M. Marrs

#### Vicar General\*

James C. Taylor

Dear Members of the Order,

It is a great honor to have been elected as Grand Viscount General of the Order of the Founders of North America in April 2014. As I stated in my inaugural address, I will endeavor to follow the course set by our founder, Judge Edward F. Butler. We are a new organization, and we are all pioneers in establishing the Order. Each of us has the opportunity to shape the growth of the Order and leave a lasting contribution to our posterity. I encourage all members of the Order to contribute their expertise in whatever area they can – serving as general officers, committee chairmen, or advising and contributing ideas to the development of the Order. We have a great core leadership group, and I appreciate their dedication and service to the Order.

We share in a great inheritance left to us by our intrepid ancestors who left their ancestral homes, sailed across the vast Atlantic Ocean, and settled in the unforgiving mainland and islands of the North American continent – all to give their children and descendants a better life in the New World than they had in the Old World. We owe our pioneer ancestors a great debt of gratitude for the trials and sacrifices they experienced to give us freedom and opportunities. Our sacred responsibility is to remember who they were and what sacrifices they made for us.

My ancestors, Luis Díaz (a Spanish soldier), and his wife María de los Reyes, left Spain and settled in the Spanish Florida colony in the late 1500's. Their son, Juan Díaz, born in St. Augustine in May 1599, was my first known ancestor born in the New World. The small community of St. Augustine survived hostile Indians, bellicose European pirates, and the harsh Florida environment, to establish the oldest continuously inhabited European city in the United States. Next year, St. Augustine will celebrate the 450th anniversary of the founding of the town in 1565 by *Adelantado* Pedro Menéndez de Avilés.

In order to fulfil our mission, I encourage all members to submit articles on their qualifying ancestors to our great newsletter, *The Spy Glass*, edited by Larry Stevens. These stories need to be shared not only with our membership, but also with our children, grandchildren, nephews, nieces, and cousins. We should encourage our relatives to learn about their proud herit-

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age, and encourage them to join our Order. We also have a great website, [www.o-f-n-a.org](http://www.o-f-n-a.org), established by Bill Marrs, with information on the Order and how to join. We are looking for a volunteer to take on the website, which is a great tool for recruitment and education.

We recently received our 501(c)(3) status, so we are now a tax-exempt organization. Our next major project will be to develop an essay contest on a topic regarding the benefits of the European discovery, exploration and colonization of North America. We are accepting input from all members on setting up this program, so please let us know your ideas. To make the essay contest a success, we will also need to develop a funding mechanism through tax-deductible donations and corporate sponsorships. Many of us belong to other societies with established programs, and we can share our experience to develop a unique program for the Order.

We currently have two state societies – the California Society (led by Grand Viscount Derek Brown) and the Texas Society (led by Viscount Rev. James Taylor). I encourage other states to form state or regional societies, meeting alone or in concert with other lineage societies. As a national organization, not all of our members are able to attend our national meetings, so state or regional societies will allow them to meet and participate in the Order.

Our next national meeting will be held in Louisville, Kentucky on September 25, 2014. Hopefully we will have a good showing of members. Our third annual meeting will be held in Washington, DC in April 2015. We are working on plans to have a joint meeting with another society. We welcome all members at our meetings. Even if you cannot attend, we welcome your input. Contact me or one of the other general officers to bring your idea to the meetings.

Past Grand Viscount General Ed Butler and the Texas Society sponsor OFNA events at the annual meeting of the Texas Heritage Societies. In October 2014, they will be meeting in Dallas, Texas, so attend if you are able. If you have lineage or heritage society meetings in your local area, please serve as an ambassador of our Order, and help us to recruit new members. The general officers would be happy to assist you in this endeavor. The more members we have, the bigger the contribution we can make to educate the public about the discovery, exploration and colonization of North America.

*Avorum Honori*  
Stephen Renouf

### **Irish Slavery**

A facebook post has been circulating recently about the English treatment of the Catholic Irish. It has caused comments on both sides, some denying and others presenting supporting documents. If any of our members have documentation about this issues, the editor would love an article.

From the 15th to the 18th century, Irish prisoners were sold as slaves. For centuries, the Irish were dehumanized by the English, described as savages, so making their murder and displacement appear all the more justified. In 1654 the British parliament gave Oliver Cromwell a free hand to banish Irish "undesirables". Cromwell rounded up Catholics throughout the Irish countryside and placed them on ships bound for the Caribbean, mainly Barbados. The authorities in the West Indies, fearing the Irish would resist servitude, treated the prisoners harshly. Records suggest that priests may have been routinely tortured and executed. By 1655, 12,000 political prisoners had been forcibly shipped to Barbados.

*Please correspond with SpyGlass editor, Larry Stevens, [wardtracker@aol.com](mailto:wardtracker@aol.com)*

## Third Annual Meeting Mayflower Hotel—Washington, D. C. April 8, 2015

Our Grand Viscount General has been in discussions with Cheryl Rios, President General of the Descendants of Sheriffs and Constables of Colonial and Antebellum America, with respect to our annual meeting in Washington DC. They have reached a preliminary agreement to co-host a meeting of our two organizations. More information about the meeting will be sent to members when it becomes available.

## OFNA Annual Meetings

The membership has voted to propose an amendment to the By-Laws which would move the annual business meeting from Washington D. C. This was prompted by the low attendance at the last two annual meetings. The OFNA would still meet in Washington D.C. in April, in conjunction with the heritage societies. That meeting would be a social gathering instead of the annual meeting to conduct the business of the society. The annual meeting will be held during the SAR Annual Congress as this meeting has been the meeting with the best attendance numbers. This decision may be revisited in future years as attendance grows at the WDC meetings. **A meeting of the OFNA has been scheduled in Louisville on 28th June 2015 at 4 p.m. Details will be announced after the April 2015 meeting**

## New Members

The following new members have been approved for membership. Membership numbers slowed for a short while after the term began but we have experienced a renewed interest in the Order. Currently we are waiting for application for about two dozen individuals who have expressed interest. We are so pleased with the membership and its interest in the activities of the order. Please let your friends in other organizations know about our order and its activities.

Member	State	Ancestor	Ancestor State
Susan D. Szewczyk	NY	Stephen Hopkins	Plymouth Colony, MA
George Ron Powell	TX	Thomas Powell	Long Island, NY
John W. Davis	CA	John Putnam	MA
Leah L. Samuels	VA	Elizabeth Austin	Burlington Co., NJ
Walter J. Sheffield	VA	William Claiborne	Jamestown, VA
Barbara Dale Wesley Webb	TX	Thomas Mayhew	MA
Charles Edward Luna, Sr.	TX	Edward Dale	Jamestown, VA
Matthew John Barlow, Jr	DE	Chilion White	Gloucester Co., VA
Theresa Jane Sawyer Cobb	FL	Stephen Hopkins	Plymouth Colony, MA

# The Hereditary Societies' of Texas

## 2014 Annual Meeting

Texas Hereditary Societies is approaching at a rapid pace and in order to complete arrangements for this gala event, we must have an accurate count of MEMBERS, SPOUSES and GUESTS who will be attending by October. 04, 2013.

Hotel Reservations should be made directly with the

Wyndham Hotel Love Field, 3300 W. Mockingbird Ln., Dallas, TX 75235 Direct: 214-654-1033

A block of rooms has been reserved @ a daily rate of \$109.00 + Tax for Society members and guests for 24th – 26th October 2014 (plus 3 days before and 3 days after) . Please mention *Society of Colonial Wars* to receive this special rate, which is only available until October 03, 2014. This rate includes Breakfast Buffet for two.

PLEASE COMPLETE THE REGISTRATION FORM BELOW AND ENCLOSE WITH PAYMENT

<b>Name</b>			
<b>Guest(s)</b>			
<b>Address</b>			
<b>City</b>			
<b>State</b>		<b>Zip Code</b>	
<b>Organization(s)</b>			

<b>Registration</b>	at \$40/member	# Members:	Total\$:
<b>Friday Reception</b>	No cost	# Attendees	
<b>Luncheons</b>	at \$40/meal	# Meals:	Total \$:
<b>Banquets*</b>	at \$60/meal	# Meals:	Total \$:
<b>Total enclosed</b>			\$

\*Please indicate selection (    ) Rib-eye Steak (    ) Pork Chop (cost includes 20% gratuity)

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: "TEXAS SOCIETY OF COLONIAL WARS"**  
**AND REMIT TO: David H. Peterson, ESQ. PO Box 63, Hitchcock, TX 77563 409-7610629**  
 David Peterson ([howard85d@gmail.com](mailto:howard85d@gmail.com))

Menus may be viewed at the following web address

<http://o-f-n-a.org/pronouncements2014.html>

## The Exploration and Colonization of the Americas

by Larry G. Stevens, Editor and Historian

The Order and Founders of North America – 1492 to 1692 is a lineage society that was founded to recognize those who played a role in the discovery and settlement of North America. However, the 100 years prior can not be ignored. This period of history determined how the New World would be explored and settled. The conflicts between the first two European powers, Portugal and Spain, and the treaties negotiated by the Pope in Rome mandated how the New World should be divided before either country sent a known explorer west across the Atlantic. (*Tordesillas Treaty, page 9*)

Editors Note: *Many of the descriptions of places and ports can be easily found by searching the internet. The history of these ports should be studied to understand how Western explorers, such as Columbus, were familiar with the sea routes to the south and the islands in the Atlantic. Overland trade of valuable metals, ivory, spices and many other trade goods from the Eastern Mediterranean and Africa was centuries old. Portugal explored routes to Africa by sea to establish their own trade routes to compete with the overland caravans which were across the Sahara to West Central Africa.*

### Some Early 15 Century Sailing Ports of Europe, Africa and the Atlantic Islands

**Lisbon** became the most important debarkation port of Portugal. Voyages from Lisbon south along the African Coast began as early as 1336. Lisbon, the capitol of Portugal, is a protected Atlantic port located at the mouth of the Tagus River on the north bank of Mar da Palheu or Sea of Straw. One of the oldest cities in Western Europe, it was first settled by the indigenous *Iberians*. During the period of about 800-600 BC, the Phoenicians and Greeks established trading posts at Lisbon. This was followed by the Carthaginians, the Romans, Visigoths, and the Almoravids (or Moors).

Prince Henry the Navigator organized and directed Portugal's maritime trade from Lisbon with exploration of Western Africa and the Islands of the Atlantic seeking a trade route to the East by establishing bases in Madera, (ca. 1419), the Azores, (ca.1427), and the Cape Verde Islands (ca. 1445-1456.)



*Lisbon (circa 1500) From the chronicle of Alfonso I, by Durante Galvao*



**Palos** (de la Frontera in May 1642) was officially founded in 1322. This small port is located on the Southwest Coast of Spain. Christopher Columbus left the Port of Palos, Spain on his first voyage to find a western passage to China on August 3, 1492.

**Cadiz** is thought to be the oldest city in Europe, founded by the Phoenicians in 1100BC. Like Lisbon, Cadiz was a port used by the Phoenicians and Greeks, later the Romans, Visigoths, and others. In 1262 AD, Alfonso X of Castile ousted the Muslims bringing Cadiz,

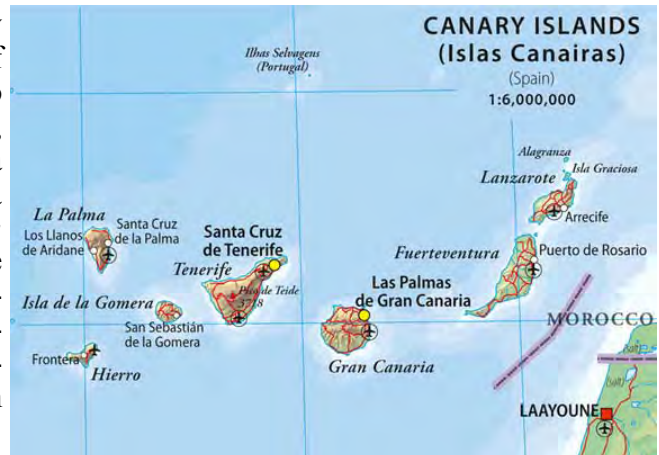
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*Insulae Capitis Viridis (1598) by Barent Langenes, from the Bibliothèque National, Paris.*

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apart of Andalusia, out of a period of obscurity. Christopher Columbus sailed from Cádiz on his second and fourth voyages and the city later became the home port of the Spanish treasure fleets which made it a major target of privateers. Barbary raiders and corsairs made several unsuccessful raids from Tunis, Tripoli, Algiers and Sale Morocco during the 1500's. The old town was consumed in a major fire in 1569. Sir Francis Drake attacked the harbor in April 1587 and remained for three days capturing and destroying ships. The attack delayed the sailing of the Spanish Armada by a year.

**The Canary Islands** were discovered just a few miles off the African Coast, about 60 miles west of Morocco. The islands include (from largest to smallest): Tenerife, Fuerteventura, Gran Canaria, Lanzarote, La Palma, La Gomera, El Hierro, La Graciosa, Alegranza, Isla de Lobos, Montaña Clara and Roque del Oeste. Researchers state that *Pliny the Elder* (AD 23 to AD 79) wrote the islands were visited by Phoenicians and the Greeks. The Carthaginians, under *Hanno the Navigator*, found the islands uninhabited impressive ruins. Genoese navigator Lancelotto Malocello settled Lanzarote in 1312 and named the island after himself.



**The Azore Islands** consist of nine volcanic islands located about 850 miles west of mainland Portugal.

The islands were known in the fourteenth century and parts of them can be seen in early maps, including in the Atlas Catalan. In 1427, one of the captains sailing for Henry the Navigator, possibly Gonçalo Velho, rediscovered the Azores, but this is not certain.

*The Azores ca. 1598*

**The "Grand Banks"** is a large area of shallow water off the Coast of Labrador and Newfoundland. At the southern end is an area called Georges Bank and is about 65 miles east of New England coast. This bank is about 100 meters higher than the rest of the Gulf of Maine just to the north and is about the size of the state of Massachusetts. Here, early fishermen found Cod, Haddock, Herring, and Flounder. At the Banks a cold Labrador current meets the warm gulf current. The currents and sunlight created a fertile ground for millions of tiny sea creatures and food for vast schools of fish.

Although there is no evidence of Europeans landing on the northern coast of North America between the voyages of the Norsemen ca. 1000 and Giovanni Caboto (John Cabot) in 1497, fishermen did sail to this area to harvest the large schools of Cod fish by at least 1470. It is believed the Basques from northern Spain had fished these banks from about the year 1000 AD and kept the location secret. They preserved the catch with



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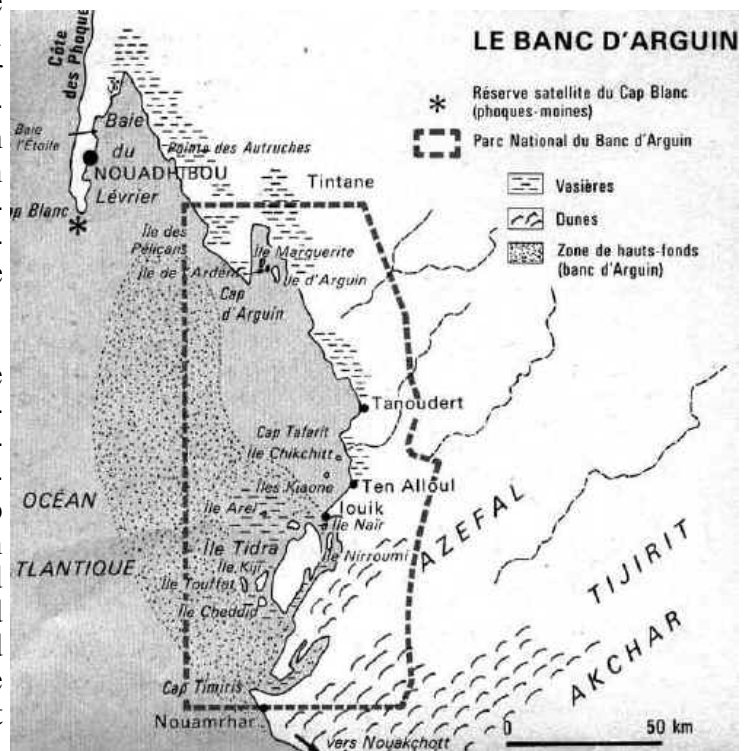
salt and were said to having been trading this catch in Europe. No evidence has been found to support this claim, but evidence can be found that Europeans were fishing there in the early 1500's. These Europeans were from France, Breton and other European countries.



**The Cape Verde Islands**, an island country with 10 volcanic islands, is located 350 miles off the coast of Africa. The county covers a combined area of slightly over 1,500 square miles in the central Atlantic Ocean.

The Portuguese explorer Alwise Cadamosto discovered some of the Cape Verde Islands in 1456 and described the islands as uninhabited. However, given the prevailing winds and ocean currents in the region, the islands may well have been visited by Moors or Wolof, Serer, or perhaps Lebou fishermen from the Guinea.

Portuguese explorers Diogo Gomes and António de Noli, captains in the service of prince Henry the Navigator, discovered the remaining islands of the archipelago. When these mariners first landed in Cape Verde, the islands were barren of people but not of vegetation. The Portuguese returned six years later to the island of São Tiago to found Ribeira Grande (now Cidade Velha), in 1462—the first permanent European settlement city in the tropics. This settlement became very important to Portugal during the slave trade in the 1500's.



**Le Banc D'Arguin** located on the Coast Mauritania, is border by Morocco, Algeria, Maliand Senegal. Despite the Almoravid (A Berber dynasty of people of the western Maghreb and Al-Andalus and headquartered in Marrakesh, Morocco) who conquered the Ghana Empire around 1075 and dominated Spain in the eleventh and twelfth centuries, there seems to be little evidence of contact during that time between Mauritania and Europe.

The inhospitable coastline of Mauritania continued to deter voyagers until the Portuguese began their African explorations in the fifteenth century. Lured by legends of vast wealth in interior kingdoms, the Portuguese established a trading fort at Arguin, southeast of Cap Blanc in 1455. The king of Portugal also maintained a commercial agent at Ouadane in the Adrar in an attempt to divert gold traveling north by caravan with little success. The Portuguese quickly adapted to

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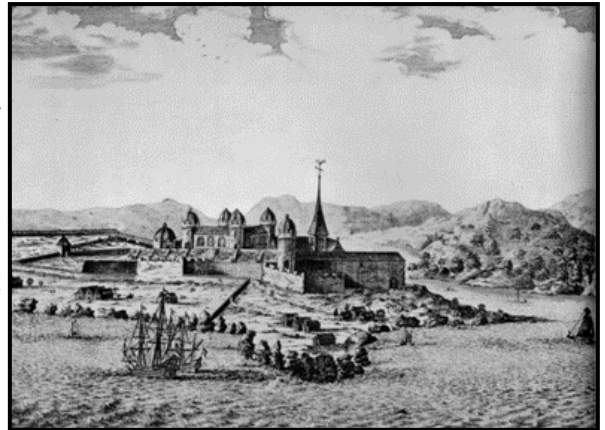


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trading slaves and by mid-fifteenth century imported as many as 1,000 slaves per year transported to Europe from Arguin and to the Portuguese sugar plantations on the island of São Tomé in the Gulf of Guinea.

### Elmina Castle

The fortress or factory called Elmina (the Mine) Castle was built circa 1482 by the Portuguese to protect their trade interests from other European powers and from Africans. This Castle was one of many built by the Portuguese on the coasts of Africa, Asia and Brazil in South America. During the Castilian Secession in 1489, Portugal and Spain clashed in a large naval battle off the coast of Africa with Portugal defeating Spain. Elmina later became a major slave trading center.



*Elmina Castle – on the Gold Coast (Ghana) Gulf of Guinea*

### The Leeward Islands

The Caribs, for whom the Caribbean is named, are believed to have migrated from the Orinoco River area in South America to settle in the Caribbean islands about 1200 AD, according to carbon dating. Over a century before Columbus' arrival in the Caribbean archipelago in 1492, the Caribs had mostly displaced the Maipurean-speaking Taínos, who had earlier settled the island chains. The islands were among the first parts of the Americas to fall under the control of the Spanish Empire. European contact commenced with Christopher Columbus's second voyage, and many of the islands' names originate from this period. Montserrat was named in honor of Santa Maria de Montserrat after the Blessed Virgin of the Monastery of Montserrat.

### Part 1 – Exploration to the Americas

Portugal had been granted a monopoly for Navigation, War, and Trade in 1443. This had been reinforced by papal bulls in 1452 and 1455 for discovery and trade South of Cape Bojador. Joao Dias had sailed around Cape Bojador in 1434. The first trade fort was built in 1445 called du Fort D'Arguin off the coast of Mauritania. This gave them access to the Senagal and Gambia Rivers. The Portuguese brought copperware, cloth, tools, wine, horses, and later arms and ammunition to trade for gum arbiac, slaves, and gold.

The 1443, Royal Decree had granted Prince Henry of Portugal the sole right to send vessels south of Cape Bojador, as well, he was to receive one-fifth of all the profits from the area. Henry became overwhelmed with merchants wanting licenses for voyages to the Guinea Coast.

Henry wanted the merchants to bring back Africans so he could learn about their country, customs, race, and language. He also wanted to introduce them to Christianity and train them to become missionaries to the people in their coun-



*Portuguese caravel. The caravel was developed by the Portuguese for use in the 15<sup>th</sup> Centruy. This was the standard model used by the Portuguese in their voyages of exploration. It was able to sail into the wind, unlike every other ship.*



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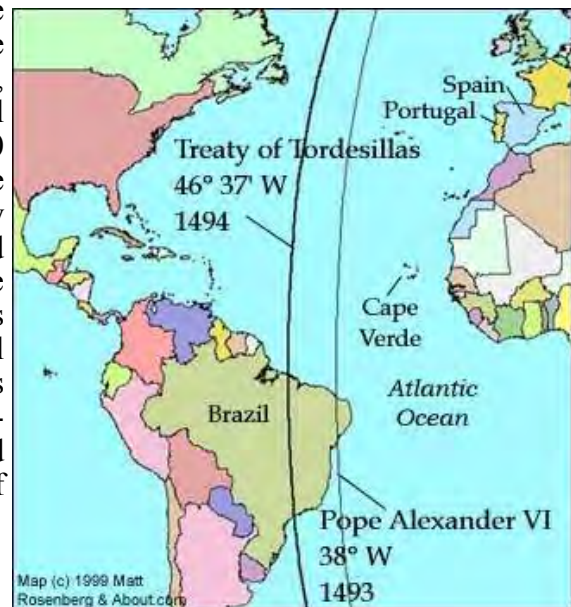
try. The traders and captains were much more interested in simply making money. In 1445, Diniz Dias and Nuno Tristan, directed by Henry the Navigator, reached Senegal, and Dias went on to reach the Cape Verde Islands. Tristan sailed as far as Guines-Bissau and brought the first African slaves to Europe. In 1446 Tristan sailed hundred miles beyond Cape Verde. When he landed, natives attacked his expedition and Tristan was killed and only five of the crew survived the attack. By the time of Prince Henry's death in 1460, the Portuguese had gone as far as present day Sierra Leone. After Henry's death, the Portuguese continued searching for a way south around Africa to Asia. Twenty-eight years later after the death of Prince Henry, Vasco de Gama did so.

Portugal and Spain constantly fought for the right of possession of ports in Africa and the islands they discovered off the coast. The Catholic Church passed the papal bulls of 1452 Dum diversas, 1455 Romanus Pontifex and 1456 Inter caetera in an attempt to resolve the conflict. However war, the Castilian Secession 1475-1479, broke out. During this period Spain attacked Portuguese territory and trade routes. The Portuguese fleet soundly defeated the Spanish at Gran Canaria in 1478 culminating in the Treat of Alcacovas 1479 and confirmed in 1481 with the papal bull AETerni regis that granted all lands south of the Canary Islands to Portugal.

Columbus needed a sponsor to fund his first voyage to find a passage to China. He first approached King John II of Portugal whose scholars and navigators reviewed Columbus' plans and advised that his calculations were faulty and recommended against funding the expedition. Columbus then took his plans to Ferdinand and Isabella.

Columbus stopped on his return in the Portuguese Azores on his first return voyage and he was blown off course retuning to the mainland docking in Lisbon. King John II learning of his return and discoveries, informed Columbus that his discoveries were a violation of the Treat of Alcacova and that the discovered lands belonged to Portugal. King John let it be known he was sending a large fleet to take possession of Columbus's discoveries.

Ferdinand and Isabella realizing thst they did not have the power to confront King John, appealed to the Spanish born Pope Alexander VI. On May 4, 1493, the Pope decreed in the bull Inter Caetera that all lands west and south of a pole-to-pole line 100 leagues west and south of the Azores and the Cape Verde Islands should belong to Spain. The territory under Catholic Rule before Christmas of 1492 would remain untouched. Portugal was not mentioned in the bull so they could not claim newly discovered lands even if they were east of the line. Another papal bull dated September 1493 gave the Spanish all mainlands and the Indies. King John was not pleased and entered in to negotiations directly with Ferdinand and Isabella. The Treaty of Tordesillas was the result of these discussions.



*The Treaty of Tordesillas Map*

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On June 7, 1494 Spain and Portugal met at Tordesillas, Spain and signed a treaty which moved the line 270 leagues west, to 370 leagues west of Cape Verde. This new line (located at approximately 46° 37') gave Portugal more claim to South America yet also provided Portugal with automatic control over most of the Indian Ocean.

While it would be several hundred years before the line of the Treaty of Tordesillas could be accurately determined due to problems determining longitude, Portugal and Spain kept to their sides of the line quite well. Portugal ended up colonizing places like Brazil in South America and India and Macau in Asia. Brazil's Portuguese-speaking population is a result of the Treaty of Tordesillas.

**Columbus** set sail from the Atlantic Coast Port of Palos Spain with the Piñson brothers aboard the Santa Maria, the Niña and Pinta on August 3, 1492 steering the same course as earlier travelers to the Canary Islands.

Sailing west of the Canary Islands Columbus continued westerly using the trade winds and the Atlantic Current to carry them just south of 30 degrees north latitude. He landed in the Bahamas in 1492. He then sailed to Cuba and Hispaniola. The Spanish noticed small bits of gold in the ornaments, belts and masks of the native population. Returning in 1493, a settlement was made on Hispaniola; the first European settlement in the New World. The Spanish enslaved the native people, putting them to work in the fields. Soon, the native population was driven to near extinction. The Spanish then imported slaves from Africa to supplement the labor force on Hispaniola.

Portuguese colonization soon followed the Spanish in South America, east of the treaty line. On April 22, 1500, Pedro Cabral landed on the coast of South America at "Porto Seguro" Brazil. In 1532, they established a permanent settlement at Sao Vicente. The earliest settlements were shaky to say the least, operated independently of each other.

In 1549, the first capital of Brazil was founded at Salvador da Bahia, a location discovered by Martim Alfonso de Sousa in 1531 which he named "Morro de Sao Paulo," (St. Paul's Mount.) Thome de Sousa, the first governor, landed a colony of settlers and with them Jesuits priests. Sugar cane was planted and African slaves were imported to cultivate the crop.

Portugal began what became known as the "Slave Trade" by transporting Africans from their ports on the west coast of Africa to the Caribbean, selling them and transporting sugar and rum back. The Portuguese were followed by the Spanish, the French, the Dutch and English transporting slaves to the Caribbean market.

*In the next issue of the Spy Glass, we will continue with the Conquest for the Americas.*

Note: Material used in this article was extracted and edited from numerous articles on the history of exploration and conquest of the New World and the histories of North and South America from free sites. About the Editor: Larry Stevens received his BA in History from California State University Stanislaus and specialized in the Exploration and Conquest of the Americas completing some graduate level courses in this specialization.

## **Minutes of the Order of the Founders of North America Meeting of 2014**

The minutes of the three 2014 meetings of the OFNA are presented. The minutes of the April meeting have been approved. The meeting in July and September are presented as drafts.

### **ANNUAL MEEING APRIL 9, 2014, Washington, D.C.**

The annual meeting of the Order of Founders of North America, 1492-1692 (OFNA) was convened by Grand Viscount General Edward F. Butler at 4:15 PM in the Stone Room of the Willard Hotel in Washington, D.C. Members in attendance included: Grand Viscount General Edward F. Butler, Grand Viscount General-Elect Stephen R. Renouf, Deputy Viscount General – Eastern USA Lindsey Brock, Parliamentarian Billie L. Brock, Emissary General Karen McClendon, Stephen W. Lee, and Anna M. Lee.

Following the invocation, a quorum was determined present for the meeting. GVG Butler spoke about the Patrons of the Order – Duke Borwin of Mecklenburg is our royal patron. His son, Duke Alexander, is also a member, and is currently going to school in Ireland. Mrs. Paul (Eleanor) Niebell, Sr. is our lineage society patron.

Lloyd D. Bockstruck is our genealogical patron, and will be the speaker at the OFNA Seminar in Texas in October 2014. Dr. Thomas Chavez is our distinguished scholar patron, and was a lecturer at the OFNA Seminar in San Antonio in October 2013.

GVG Butler announced that we have 180 members. His goal for December 2013 was 100, so we are well ahead of the goal.

Under old business, GVG Butler announced that we have a new higher-quality version of the OFNA Blazer Patch for \$45, and the old ones are still available for \$25. GVG Butler noted the formation of OFNA chapters in California and Texas, and Deputy Viscount General Brock said they are working on forming a South Atlantic Society. GVG Butler announced that we are looking for bids on liability and officers insurance.

GVG Butler announced that we applied for 501c3 status on April 30, 2013. We received a letter confirming receipt of the application and fees required in June 2013. The letter indicated we would receive a response in 90 days – which did not happen.

GVG Butler wrote a letter to the IRS in March to inquire the status of our application.

Under new business, GVG Butler presented the financial report submitted by Barbara Stevens showing we have \$31,000 in funds. He discussed the need to establish an investment committee to invest the funds. GVG Butler presented the OFNA Certificate of Appreciation to those who had assisted him during the year: Stephen Renouf, Lindsey Brock, Peter Baron, Duke Borwin, John Dodd, Barbara Stevens, Mike Ratcliff, Gerald Irion, Martha Barnhart, Karen McClendon, Rev. James Taylor, Bill Marrs, Tom Jackson, and Larry Stevens

GVG-Elect Renouf read slate of officers for 2014-15 from the nominating committee (consisting of GVG-Elect Renouf, DGV-Eastern USA Brock, and Secretary Barbara Stevens):

Deputy Viscount General-Eastern USA	Lindsey Brock
Deputy Viscount General-Western USA	Cheryl Rios
Deputy Viscount General-Europe	Duke Borwin of Mecklenburg

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Abogado General	John L. Dodd, Esq.
Secretary General	Barbara Stevens
Exchequer General	James T. Jones, Jr
Mareschal General	Larry G. Stevens
Co-Genealista Region I	Peter Baron
Co-Genealista Region II	vacant
Registrar General	Robin Towns
Emissary General	Karen McClendon
Chronicler General-Website	Bill Marrs
Vicar General	Rev. James Taylor
Parliamentarian	Billie Brock
Adjutant General	Mark Anthony
Quartermaster General	Jack Manning
Chirurgien General	Col. Charles Lucas
Librarian General	Corinne Staacke
Marquis General-Publicity	Stephen Lee
Deputy VG-Spanish Colonists	Jack Cowan
Deputy VG-English Colonists	Lawrence Casey
Deputy VG-French Colonists	Helen Maxon
Deputy VG-Scottish/Irish Colonists	James Hall
Deputy VG-German/Dutch Colonists	Robert Devine
Deputy VG-Scandinavian Colonists	Donald Stone
Deputy VG-Italian Colonists	Carla Odom
Deputy VG-Lineage Society Liaison	Richard Wright
Sergeant-At-Arms	Timothy Ward
Deputy Chronicler General	Charles Odom
Capitan de la Guardia	Robert Capps

There were no nominations from the floor, and the slate of officers was elected unanimously. Following the election, Past GVG Butler presented the GVG neck ribbon and insignia to GVG Renouf. GVG Renouf presented Past GVG Butler with a marble plaque on behalf of the Order recognizing Ed Butler as the founder and first grand viscount general of the Order. GVG Renouf read his inaugural speech (attached). It was announced that the OF-NA Cocktail Reception in honor of the members of the Heritage Community Society of the US would follow the meeting in the adjacent William Howard Taft Room.

Past Grand Viscount General Butler gave the benediction, and the meeting was adjourned at 4:32 PM.

Stephen Renouf, Acting Secretary  
April 9, 2014

*These minutes were approved at the regular meeting of the OFNA on July 20, 2014 at Greenville, SC.*

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## Greenville, South Carolina 20 July 2014

The meeting was called to order by Grand Viscount General Stephen Renouf at 5:34 p.m. Twenty members and five guests were present. (See appendix 1.) A quorum was determined. The invocation was given.

Minutes of the April 9, 2014 meeting in Washington DC were approved in a motion by Lindsey Brock, with John Dodd as second.

The following old business was discussed:

### 501(c)(3) Status

The IRS provided notice that the application for exempt tax status was approved. The notice date was June 30, 2014

Exchequer General, James T. Jones, indicated that the 990-N has been filed for 2014

The OFNA medals, neck ribbons, sashes, and blazer patches sales continue. A new blazer patch was ordered by GVG Ed Butler and will be for sale at \$45.

The following upcoming meetings were announced:

August 2014 – FGS Annual Conference in San Antonio

September 2014 – During SAR Leadership

October 2014 – Texas Heritage Societies Annual Meeting

### Officer Reports

Grand Viscount General Stephen Renouf discussed plans to meet with other organizations and perhaps to partner with the SAR PG in the next May travel excursion.

Secretary General Barbara Stevens reported that our new membership inquiries had slowed to a trickle having received only five since the April meeting. The total membership, as of this meeting, one hundred seventy-three (173).

Exchequer General James T. Jones, Jr. gave the following financial information: The bank balance on July 20, 2014 is \$31,017.

A full financial report could not be prepared without the allocation of the annual dues for members. This relies on the receipt of the age information for each member. Registrar General Robin Towns agreed to extract this information and provide it to Exchequer General Jones.

Registrar General Robin Towns reported that a set of applications forwarded to her from Genealogista General Peter Baron was received empty. Evidently the envelope had come open in transit and the approved applications were lost. She and Peter will work to resolve the issue.

### New Business

There was an issue of whether the OFNA owes sales tax on the sales of the membership medals and paraphernalia. As an entity incorporated in Missouri, it may be that sales tax

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would need to be collected. Jim Jones and John Dodd will investigate this issue and report to the ExCom.

It was questioned whether we should have an investment policy. Some ideas were offered but no action was taken.

The creation of an OFNA Scholarship Program was raised by Parliamentarian Billie Brock. It was agreed that a scholarship program would be an integral part of the objectives of the OFNA. The funding of the scholarship was discussed. Since the only incoming revenues of the organization at this time are the lifetime dues, alternative funding was discussed. Donations and grants were two sources that were considered. Abogado General Dodd and Exchequer General Jones were charged with looking at other scholarship programs and drafting a framework for OFNA. This draft will be presented to the Ex Com.

The members also discussing establishing an award program for books. No further action was determined on this subject.

There have been requests for supplementals ancestors by several members. This item was discussed briefly at our last meeting. Supplemental applications will require a By-Laws change. It was reported that David Grinnell would be willing to become a Genealista General reviewing supplementals.

Registrar General Robin Towns discussed our application process and compared it to other organizations in which she is a member. She says that many of the organization do not retain copies of the proofs. She said that applications that are not typed are returned to the applicant.

Robin Towns made a motion that the proofs no longer be filed with the applications but after the Genealogistas Generals have verified the application and approved it, the proofs will be shredded. This motion was approved by a vote of the members present.

Robins Towns made a motion that any application which has not been typed will be returned to the applicant. This motion passed.

GVG Stephen Renouf reported that he and GVG Ed Butler have been working with the Heritage Society to find a partner to share costs for our Annual Meeting April 2015 in Washington DC. There was a discussion of the lack of attendance at the Annual Meeting. A motion was made by Barbara Stevens and seconded by Ray Maxson to hold all future annual meetings at the SAR Annual Meeting. The rational was that the attendance at this meeting was several fold the WDC meeting. This motion passed. The April Meeting will be the last to be held in Washington, DC, as a formal annual meeting. The Order will still meet in April but as a small gathering. It was noted that this will reduce the costs and increase the membership participation at our annual meetings.

Benediction was offered.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 p.m. by Grand Viscount General Stephen Renouf.

Barbara Stevens, Secretary General

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**REGULAR MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 25, 2014, Louisville, Kentucky**

The regular meeting of the Order of Founders of North America, 1492-1692 (OFNA) was convened by Grand Viscount General Stephen Renouf at 5:05 PM in the Broadway A Room of the Brown Hotel in Louisville, Kentucky.

Thirteen (13) members and one guest were in attendance.

Following the invocation, a quorum was determined present for the meeting. The parliamentarian was missing. The minutes of the July 20, 2014 Meeting were unavailable. GVG Renouf announced that the OFNA merchandise was available for purchase. It was also announced that the Texas Heritage Societies Annual Meeting would be held in Dallas on October 25-26, and OFNA would be represented by Past GVG Butler.

The Secretary General was not present, so there was no report. The Exchequer General James T. Jones, Jr. said we have about \$30k in assets. He is waiting for the birthdates for the members so he can complete the financial statements.

Under new business, GVG Renouf announced that the society needs to develop a scholarship program/history book award. The members present thought it should be for a high school student. We need to develop the theme of the scholarship, and determine an amount for the award. We need to have the financial statements prepared before we determine an amount. Members are asked to submit suggestions for a topic and rules. Once we have a program established, we can begin fundraising for the prizes now that we have our 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status approved.

GVG Renouf announced there will be several bylaws amendments proposed at the Annual Meeting in April 2015 in Washington, DC.

First, there will be a proposal to change the annual meeting from April to July. More members are able to attend in July, so it will be better for the annual meeting.

Second, we will propose allowing supplemental applications. We have a volunteer to serve as Genealista General for Supplementals. The sense of the body was to set the fee for supplementals at \$100.

Before we determine a final fee, GVG Renouf requested the members send the supplemental rates for other organizations to him for comparison.

Third, there will be a proposal to require all expenditures over \$100 to be approved by the Executive Committee.

GVG Renouf announced that we will possibly be having a joint meeting with the Descendants of Sheriffs & Constables for our Annual Meeting on April 8, 2015 in Washington, DC. This will reduce the cost to OFNA for the annual meeting. He also announced there will be a joint SAR/OFNA cruise to the Bahamas in May 2015.

Details will appear in the newsletter.

GVG Renouf announced that Past GVG Butler suggested that the OFNA advertise in *Family Tree Magazine*. They publish 7 issues a year, and reach 73,000 people. Exchequer General Jones made a motion to try one issue with a 1/6 page ad for \$275.00, seconded by Barnhart, and approved unanimously. If it works out, we can consider further advertising.



Vicar General Taylor gave the benediction, and the meeting was adjourned at 5:45 PM.

Stephen Renouf, Acting Secretary



# Order of the Founders of North America

## Member Supplies

Photo	Description	Cost	Quantity	Total
	<b>OFNA Regular Medal</b> – <i>Gold Plated over Bronze on ribbon</i>	\$140		
	<b>OFNA Miniature Medal</b> – <i>Gold Plated over Bronze on ribbon</i>	\$105		
	<b>OFNA Medal Set (Regular and Miniature)</b>	\$230		
	<b>OFNA Medal Charm</b> — <i>for branch</i>	\$55		
<b>Officer Supplies</b>				
	Men's Sash (short)	\$15		
	Women's Sash (long)	\$20		
	Officer's Neck Ribbon	\$30		
<b>Miscellaneous Supplies</b>				
	Blazer Patch	\$45		
<b>SHIPPING: Purchases under \$100 = \$10, Purchases \$101-\$300 = \$15. purchases \$301-\$500 = \$20.00</b>				
<b>Grand Total</b>				
Please make checks payable to OFNA				
<b>Shipping Information</b>				
Name				
Address				
City				
State		Zip		
Send form to Jack Manning OFNA, Quartermaster General 10 Old Colony Way Scituate, MA 02066-4711				