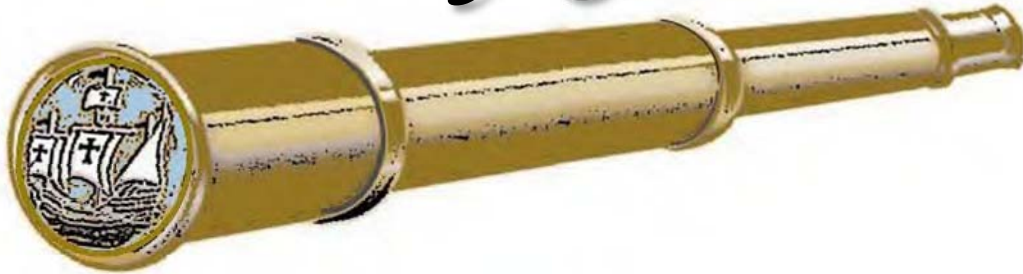


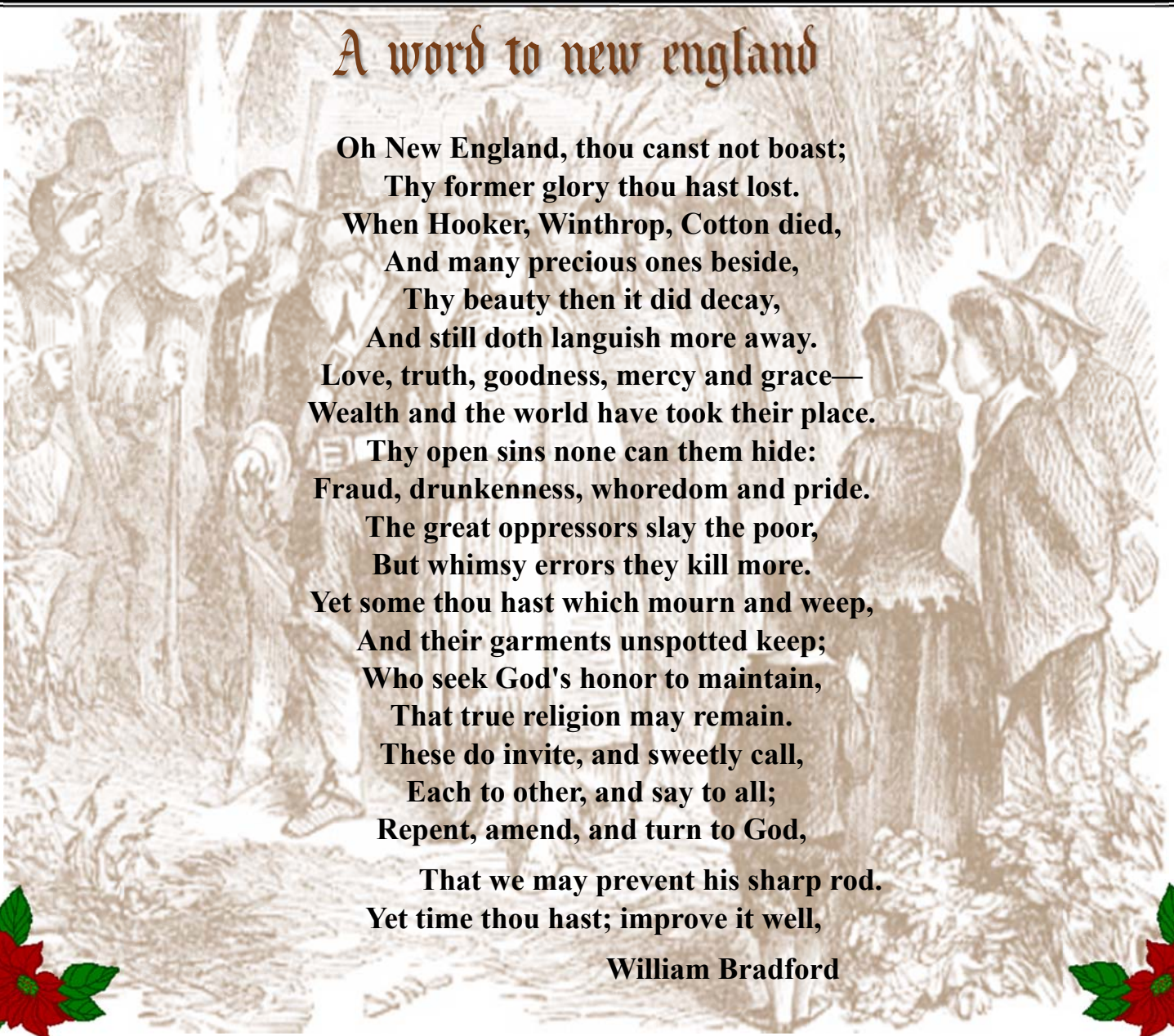


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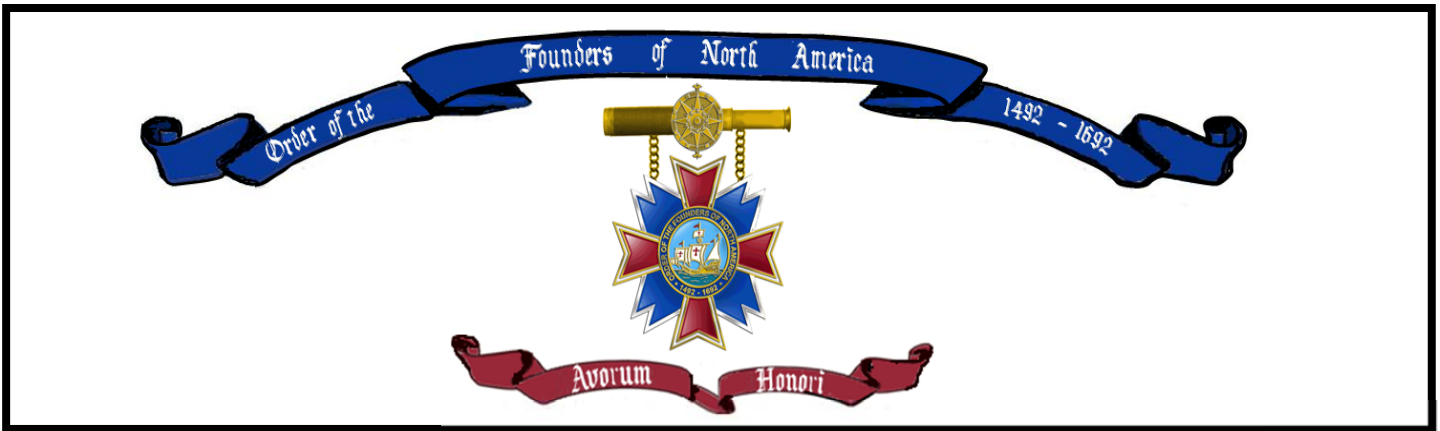
Newsletter of The Order of the Founders of North America—1492-1692

A word to new england



Oh New England, thou canst not boast;
Thy former glory thou hast lost.
When Hooker, Winthrop, Cotton died,
And many precious ones beside,
Thy beauty then it did decay,
And still doth languish more away.
Love, truth, goodness, mercy and grace—
Wealth and the world have took their place.
Thy open sins none can them hide:
Fraud, drunkenness, whoredom and pride.
The great oppressors slay the poor,
But whimsy errors they kill more.
Yet some thou hast which mourn and weep,
And their garments unspotted keep;
Who seek God's honor to maintain,
That true religion may remain.
These do invite, and sweetly call,
Each to other, and say to all;
Repent, amend, and turn to God,
That we may prevent his sharp rod.
Yet time thou hast; improve it well,

William Bradford



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

Exchequer General
James T. Jones, Jr.

Marechal General
Larry G. Stevens

Genealogista General
Peter Baron

Registrar General
Jane Powers

Emissary General
Karen E McClendon

Chronicler General
Valerie Laskowski

Vicar General
James C. Taylor

Upcoming Events

**Regular Meeting
Louisville, Kentucky
26 February 2015**

**Brown Hotel, J. Graham Brown Room
time to be announced**



April Heritage Society Week

Washington, D. C.

April 16, 2016

Army Navy Club

Details to be provided in January 2016

Order of the Founders of North America – 1492-1692

The Galt House, Louisville, Kentucky

June 28, 2015



The meeting was called to order by Grand Viscount General Stephen Renouf at 4:35. The invocation was offered by Vicar General James Taylor. After the pledge to the flag, John Dodd was appointed Parliamentarian. Nine ExCom members and sixteen members were present. A quorum was determined. The attendance sheet is attached to these minutes.

The minutes of the July 28th, 2015 meeting were approved.

Treasurer James T. Jones, Jr. distributed the attached Treasurer's report (Balance Sheet – As of 09/11/15 and OFNA – Revenue and Expenditures – 01/01/2015 – 9/11/2015.) He reported that the cash on hand was \$33,280.12 with total assets of \$39,483.18. Liabilities were reported at \$41,425.38. Revenues for the nine months of 2015 were reported at \$4,512.06. Expenditures for the same period were \$2,730.69. The net revenue for this nine month period was \$1,781.37.

A motion was made to approve the treasurer's report, this motion was approved.

Quartermaster General Matthew Barlow reported on the sales and inventory. There are still a few old blazer patches, it was moved by James Jones that these patches be reduced in price to \$10 to eliminate this inventory. James T. Jones made a motion to change the price of the medal set from \$230 to \$235. The motion was amended to make the effective date of the price increase January 1, 2016. The amended motion passed.

There was no report from the Compliance Committee.

(Continued on page 4)

The Brown Louisville, Kentucky—September 25, 2015

(Continued from page 3)

The matter of the D&O and Liability Insurance was discussed. No carrier has been identified. Treasurer James T. Jones will follow-up on this issue.

The design of award medals was discussed. No action has been taken since the last meeting. GVG Renouf will discuss the matter with Karl Jacobs to get some recommendations.

The efficacy of the essay contest was discussed. A motion was made by Ed Butler to increase the amount of the award to \$1,000. This motion was approved.

Our advertising campaign was discussed. While it is probably too early to assess the impact of the Family Tree Maker ad, it seems that 40% of applicants saw the ad in SAR, 15% in DAR, and about 25% indicated that they learned about the organization from a friend. Many do not fill in that section of the Membership Inquiry Form.

It was suggested that we consider establishing a Facebook page for OFNA. Other societies have seen increased growth in membership after establishing a page. Barbara Stevens will investigate this issue and have a FB page established.

The large membership certificate was discussed. Secretary Barbara Stevens reported that she had sent out potential designs but received very few comments. She will send out the designs to the ExCom. After the ExCom has selected as design she will pursue having a graphic artist prepare a template for us.

GVG Renouf discussed the planning for the OFNA annual trips. It was suggested that prospective members be invited to attend. Currently two trips are being investigated. The first is a cruise to Alaska in May. The second is a trip to Spain in October.

Vicar General James Taylor offered the benediction.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:07 p.m.

List of attendees :

Stephen Renoug, GVG	Michael Henderson
Mike Radcliff, GVG-elect	Derek Brown
Edward F. Butler, Past GVG	V Allen Gray
Lindsey Brock, DVG— East	Tony Vets
John Dodd, AG	Nancy Barlow
Barbara Stevens, SG	Tony L “Be” Vets, II
James T. Jones, Jr, EG	George A Jones
Larry G. Stevens, MG	Jim Fosdyck
James C. Taylor, VG	Dianne D. Jones
Matthew Barlow, QG	Dan Woodruff
Tom Jackson	Ray Raser



OFNA Meeting
25 September 2015

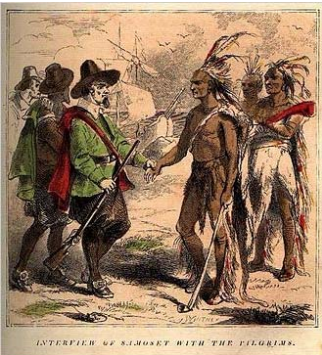
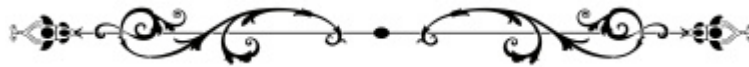




New Members

The following new members have been approved since our last publication.

Name	State	Approval Date
Ora Jane Johnson	Texas	10/13/2015
Kristin Jones	Delaware	8/28/2015
Charles N. McKenna	Washington	8/31/2015
Glenn David Reasoner	California	10/5/2015
Elisa Louise Reid	Oklahoma	10/5/2015
Sally Woolley	Alabama	10/5/2015



Somerset Greet the Pilgrims March 1621



The following is an excerpt from the book *Mourt's Relation or Journal of the Plantation at Plymouth* by Henry Martyn Dexter, Boston 1865. *Relation by Mourt* was first printed in 1622, London by John Belamie.

".....we determined to conclude of the military Orders, which we had began to consider of before, but were interrupted by Savages, as we mentioned formerly; and whilst we were buified her about, we were interrupted againe, for there pefented himself a Savage, which caused an alarm, he very boldly came all alone and along the houses straight to the Kandeuous, where we intercepted him, not suffering him to goe in, as vndoubtedly he would, out of his boldneff, hee saluted vs in Englith, and had vs well-come, for he learned some broken Englith amongst the Englith men that came to fish at Monchiggon, and knew by name most of the Captanies, Commanders, & Matters, the usually Come,...."

The Spanish Settlement of *La Florida*



By Stephen Renouf, Grand Viscount General

Background

Although Florida was discovered by Don Juan Ponce de León in 1513, he did not lead the first attempted settlement of the new territory until 1521. His small group of explorers and settlers were attacked by the hostile Calusa Indians, causing the mortally wounded conquistador to abort the attempted settlement near what is now Charlotte Harbor, and retreat to Havana. In 1528, the Spanish attempted to settle near what is now Tampa under the Conquistador Pánfilo de Narváez. This attempt also ended in disaster – they marched overland to New Spain, and only four survivors, led by Álvaro Núñez Cabeza de Vaca, reached Mexico City. In 1536, Hernando de Soto was appointed Governor of Cuba and *La Florida*. Two years later, de Soto led an expedition to explore his vast, unknown territory of *La Florida*. He landed near Tampa, and explored the area of the current states of Florida, Georgia, Alabama, South Carolina, North Carolina, Arkansas, Mississippi and Louisiana. He discovered the mouth of the Mississippi River, but afterwards fell ill, and died – buried in the river he discovered. In 1557, Tristán de Luna y Arellano was named Governor of Florida, and he attempted a much larger settlement near Pensacola in 1559. A hurricane devastated the colony, and they were eventually rescued, ending yet another attempted settlement in *La Florida*.

Don Pedro Menéndez de Avilés

After half a century of failure, a new conquistador stepped forward to finally succeed where all others had failed – Don Pedro Menéndez de Avilés. The conquistador was from an ancient Asturian family. Don Pedro was the son of Juan Alfonso Sánchez de Avilés, a soldier in the reconquest of Granada in 1492, and María Alonso de Arango. Menéndez was born on February 15, 1519 in the small port city of Avilés in the ancient Kingdom of Asturias. His father died when he was young, and he became a sailor at age 14. After many years of experience and great successes, Menéndez accompanied Prince Felipe when he sailed to England in 1554 to wed Queen Mary. Following

the wedding, Menéndez returned to Spain to bring news of the matrimony. In 1554, Prince Felipe named Menéndez Captain General of the Armada, which sailed to America and returned with gold and silver from the New World – angering the *Casa de Contratación* in Sevilla, which was overruled in its choice for Captain General. In 1556, Emperor Charles V abdicated the throne of Spain to his son, King Felipe II. Menéndez served King Felipe II in the conflicts with France. In 1560 and 1561, King Felipe II again named Menéndez Captain General of the Armada – again making powerful enemies in the *Casa de Contratación*. When Menéndez returned to Spain in 1563, his son was lost at sea before crossing the Atlantic Ocean. When Menéndez arrived in Spain, he was arrested by the *Casa de Contratación*, and imprisoned with his brother Bartolomé Menéndez de Avilés, who was Admiral of the Armada. The *Casa de Contratación* could not prove its case, so they kept delaying the proceedings, despite King Felipe II demanding they complete the trial. After 20 months in prison, a jailbreak was arranged, and Menéndez was taken to the royal palace. He surrendered himself to the Council of the Indies. Despite a complete lack of evidence against him, he and his brother were fined (although King Felipe II paid half of the fine for him).



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The Enterprise of La Florida

Word had reached King Felipe that French Huguenots under Jean Ribault had landed at the mouth of the St. Johns River in 1562, and erected a stone column near present day Jacksonville claiming *La Floride* for France. They continued up the coast, and established Charlesfort on what is now Parris Island, South Carolina. This colony failed, but in 1564, René Goulaine de Laudonnière attempted to re-colonize the area near present day Jacksonville, and he built Fort Caroline (named after French King Charles IX) to defend his tiny enclave in Spanish Florida. King Felipe II named Menéndez *Adelantado* and Governor of Florida, and commanded him to establish Spanish control over *La Florida*, to destroy the French invaders, and to drive them from Spanish territory. Unlike the previous failed expeditions, the Menéndez expedition was militarized – in addition to the ships and men provided by the *Adelantado* at his own expense, the King added soldiers, warships, and supplies financed by the Crown.

Don Pedro Menéndez de Avilés quickly sailed from Cádiz in June 1565 with ten ships, led by his flagship *San Pelayo*, and after a rough crossing of the

Atlantic, rendezvoused in Puerto Rico. Rather than wait for the slower ships, Menéndez struck out for *La Florida* immediately with five ships on August 15, hoping to reach Fort Caroline before it could be reinforced by the fleet of Jean Ribault. Menéndez took a dangerous shortcut through the Bahama Islands to reach *La Florida*. On August 28, 1565, on the Feast Day of St. Augustine of Hippo, Menéndez' fleet sighted land – probably Cape Cañaveral; unfortunately, Ribault's fleet reached Fort Caroline the same day. Menéndez continued up the coast, searching for the French. On September 2, 1565, Fieldmaster Valdés took twenty sailors ashore. He encountered some friendly Timucuan Indians, and discovered from them that the French were further north. The following day, Menéndez came ashore to meet with the Indians. Menéndez continued to sail north along the coast, until they came to a harbor, which Menéndez named *San Agustín* (most likely on September 3). They continued north and spotted the French fleet at the mouth of the St. Johns River on September 4. The following day, Menéndez attempted to engage the French ships, but since their soldiers were ashore, the French ships fled from the Spanish. Menéndez returned to St. Augustine harbor, and anchored his ships in deep water on September 6. Landing craft ferried Captain Andrés



(Continued on page 9)

López Patiño and Captain Juan de San Vicente ashore, where they would locate a site for a fort. The captains found friendly Indians ashore, who took them to the *cacique* (chief) of the village of Seloy. They were given the village communal building for use as a fort, and the captains set about making a moat around it and fortifying it. On September 7, smaller ships entered the harbor and landed more soldiers, and colonists.

St. Augustine (1565)

On Saturday, September 8, 1565, the colonists and Indians gathered at the landing site (located on what is now the Fountain of Youth Archeological Park). There were 500 soldiers, and 100 settlers (men, women and children). In the afternoon, Don Pedro Menéndez de Avilés came ashore to the sound of trumpets and drums, the firing of cannon, and the adulation of the settlers. Chaplain Francisco López de Mendoza Grajales brought forth the cross, singing *Te Deum Laudamus* as he approached Menéndez, who knelt and kissed the cross. Chaplain López said the first mass, and Menéndez took possession of *La Florida* in the name of King Felipe II of Spain. He then installed all the civil and military officers, and officially founded St. Augustine, the oldest continuously occupied European city in what would become the United States. The settlement began in the Indian village of Seloy.

Jean Ribault dropped off supplies for Fort Caroline, but then took most of the soldiers aboard his ships, and decided to launch an attack on the Spanish at St. Augustine. While sailing to St. Augustine, he met with a violent storm, which wrecked most of his ships on the coast south of St. Augustine. On September 16, Menéndez took advantage of this French setback to march with 400 soldiers overland from St. Augustine to Fort Caroline. The fort was lightly defended, since Ribault had taken most of the soldiers, and Menéndez was able to conquer the fort on September 20, sparing only the women and children. Menéndez renamed the fort as Fort San Mateo, and left a garrison of 300 soldiers when he returned to St. Augustine. Upon his return, he learned where some of the French ships had wrecked on the coast to the south of St. Augustine at the Matanzas Inlet at the southern tip of Anastasia Island. Menéndez marched south and took the surrender of the French survivors, whereupon he exe-

cuted Ribault and the other survivors, with the exception of the Catholics and a few Protestants with vital skills he needed. With a struggling colony, short on supplies, he could not support a large prisoner population. The area was named “*Matanzas*” after the “slaughter” that took place there.

Some of the French had refused to surrender with Ribault, and had fled south to where the French ship *Trinity* had wrecked. They built a crude fort and were building a ship to escape back to France. Menéndez took soldiers from Fort San Mateo and St. Augustine, and marched south to finish off the French threat on November 2, 1565. Menéndez marched with 150 men, and Diego Amaya sailed south with another 100 soldiers and supplies. The French sentries spotted the Spanish soldiers as they approached, and warned their compatriots. They abandoned the fort, and fled into the wilderness. Menéndez marched into the fort, and found cannon, gunpowder, and food, but no Frenchmen. Menéndez sent one of his French prisoners to parley with the French survivors, and offer them their lives if they surrendered. A French captain and a few of his men refused, but most of the French surrendered. Menéndez took his prisoners south to the Indian River Inlet, and camped at the Indian village under *Cacique Ays*.

Fort Santa Lucía (1565)

With the French threat eliminated, Menéndez created a fort called Puerto de Socorro just south of the Ays village, and left 200 soldiers and 50 French captives under the command of Captain Juan Vélez de Medrano. Menéndez named Vélez governor of Ays, and commanded him not to harm the Indians. Unfortunately, supplies ran low, and the Indians did not have sufficient stores to feed the large number of Europeans, so the soldiers began foraging for food and came into conflict with the Indians. About 100 Spanish soldiers deserted and marched south. Vélez, in pursuit of the rebels, ran into supply ships under the command of Diego de Amaya. Vélez and Amaya sailed south and found a defensible harbor. On December 13, 1565 (St. Lucie’s Day), Vélez established Fort Santa Lucía at the Jupiter inlet near the Indian village of Jeaga. Vélez captured the rebels, and sent them to Fort Santa Lucía. Conditions at the fort were desperate, and they may have resorted to eating the

(Continued on page 10)

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French prisoners to survive. When a supply ship arrived with corn from Yucatán, the soldiers rose up against Vélez, wounding him, and capturing the supply ship. In March 1566, Menéndez intercepted the mutineers on board the stolen ship, and transported them to St. Augustine. The fort at Santa Lucía was abandoned. The Spanish repaired relations in 1570 with the Ays Indians, but the peace was short lived. By 1573, Menéndez petitioned the Council of the Indies to enslave the fierce Ays and Jeaga Indians.

Mission San Antonio on Carlos Bay (1566)

Meanwhile, Menéndez took 50 soldiers and the remaining 50 French prisoners, and sailed from Ays to Havana for supplies for St. Augustine. In Havana, Governor Francisco García Osorio de Sandoval refused to honor the King's request to fund the Florida colony, claiming he had no funds available. Menéndez sold a captured Portuguese ship they had taken on the way to Havana, and purchased supplies, which were sent to St. Augustine.

In February 1566, Menéndez led seven ships and 500 soldiers to find a safe passage between the Tortugas and the Keys, and to explore the south western coast of Florida, looking for shipwrecked Spaniards and Menéndez' missing son. Menéndez found a shipwrecked Spaniard at Carlos Bay (now Charlotte Harbor), who informed him of other Spanish ship wreck survivors held by a Calusa *cacique* named Carlos. Menéndez met with *Cacique* Carlos and they exchanged gifts. *Cacique* Carlos gave his sister to Menéndez for a wife (although he was already married). Menéndez sent her (baptized as Doña Antonia) to Havana to be trained as a Catholic. Menéndez kept up the appearance of the marriage to maintain good relations with *Cacique* Carlos. Menéndez founded the mission and fort of San Antonio on Carlos Bay. He left behind a small garrison under Captain García Martínez de Cos to protect the mission. In 1567, *Cacique* Carlos was plotting to kill the Spaniards, and they executed him and replaced him with *Cacique* Felipe. In 1570, *Cacique* Felipe plotted to murder the Spaniards, and he was executed and replaced by Don Pedro. The new *cacique* had been to Havana, but refused to accept Christianity, and the Spanish finally

decided to abandon the colony as the Calusa were constantly plotting against them.

Santa Elena (1566)

When Menéndez returned to St. Augustine on March 20, 1566, he found the situation was dire. Many people had died in the harsh climate, and 100 men had deserted for islands in the Caribbean. When Menéndez announced plans to create another settlement to the north of St. Augustine, another 100 men deserted. He had a captive Frenchman, Guillaume Ruffin, who had decided to remain at Charlesfort rather than risk the voyage back to France in 1563 with the other French survivors. Ruffin married an Indian woman, and lived in the Charlesfort area when he was captured by the Spanish. Ruffin would lead Menéndez to the abandoned site of Charlesfort.

At the end of March, Menéndez left 150 men in St. Augustine and sailed north. He first stopped at Fort San Mateo, and reinforced Sergeant-Major Gonzalo de Villarroel to 150 men at Fort San Mateo. He continued north with 150 men and found an Indian village under *Cacique* Guale in early April 1566. Menéndez learned from the old chief that he was at war with *Cacique* Orista, whose village was in the area around Charlesfort, where Menéndez intended to establish a colony. Menéndez told Guale that he would make peace between Guale and Orista, and convinced Guale to release two Orista captives. Menéndez sailed up the coast to the Cape of Santa Elena (the northern tip of what is now Hilton Head Island, which was discovered by Lucas Vásquez de Ayllón around 1526), and sailed up the Harbor River. When he reached Orista, he arranged for peace with Guale, and the Orista Indians recommended that Menéndez found his colony on what is now Parris Island. The French under Jean Ribault had attempted to settle this area in 1562, and named the settlement Charlesfort. However, when Ribault returned to France to secure supplies, the colony descended in chaos, and they colonists abandoned it in 1563, and built boats to sail back to France. Menéndez sent Captain António Gomez to lay out Fort San Salvador and the town of Santa Elena. Menéndez assigned 110 men under Captain Estéban de las Alas to man the fort, and he returned to Guale to inform him of the peace with Orista.

(Continued on page 11)

When Menéndez returned to St. Augustine, he was informed that the local Indians had attacked the settlement and burned the fort. Menéndez temporarily relocated the town to Anastasia Island, and constructed another fort there, but soon moved back to the mainland, where the city stands today. In 1566, Martín de Argüelles was born in St. Augustine, the first recorded European child born in what is now the United States. In April 1566, King Felipe II sent Sancho de Archiniega with 1,500 soldiers to reinforce Menéndez' settlements in *La Florida*. The flotilla arrived in St. Augustine in June, and included Captain Juan Pardo and his 250 men from Asturias, Galicia and northern Portugal. Two ships conveyed Pardo and his men, and relief supplies to Santa Elena in July. Prior to the arrival of the flotilla, a group of soldiers had mutinied in Santa Elena, and left Captain Estéban de las Alas with 27 disarmed men. Juan Pardo was welcomed by the starving survivors. They built a larger fortification – Fort San Felipe – at Santa Elena. Menéndez inspected Santa Elena in August 1566, and designated it as the capital of *La Florida*. In December 1566, Menéndez ordered Captain Juan Pardo to explore the interior, subdue and evangelize the Indians, establish tribute from the Indians in the form of food for the colony, and establish an overland trail from Santa Elena to Zacatecas in the Viceroyalty of New Spain (México).

First Pardo Expedition to Joara (1566)

Captain Juan Pardo left Santa Elena with 125 men, and traveled along an established trail used by Hernando de Soto in 1539 to the Indian village of Cofitachequi (near present day Camden, South Carolina). They continued up the Catawba-Wateree River, and stopped at the Indian village of Joara in January 1567 (near present day Morganton, North Carolina). The January weather prevented Pardo from crossing the Blue Ridge Mountains. Juan Pardo built Fort San Juan in Joara, and left 30 soldiers at the fort under the command of Sergeant Hernando Moyano de Morales, and ordered him to continue to explore to the west when the weather improved. Captain Pardo then commenced the return trip. While he was at the village of Guatari (near present day Salisbury, North Carolina), a messenger arrived with orders recalling him to Santa

Elena due to a possible French attack. Captain Pardo left behind his chaplain, Sebastián Montero, to evangelize the Indians, and a few soldiers. Captain Pardo rushed back, and arrived in Santa Elena in March 1567.

Tocobaga (1567)

In 1567, Menéndez returned to Carlos Bay with his “wife” Doña Antonia. *Cacique* Carlos wanted Menéndez to help him fight his rival at Tocobaga, on what is now Tampa Bay. Menéndez arranged for a peace between the two rivals, rescued Spanish and Calusa captives, and left a garrison in Tocobaga. In 1568, Spanish supply ships found the garrison murdered, and they abandoned the area.

Tequesta (1567)

In 1567, Menéndez returned to Tequesta (he had last visited in 1565 *en route* to Havana), and established a fortified mission. He left a garrison of 30 soldiers with Father Francisco Villareal, who worked on converting the natives to Christianity. He had some success, until the soldiers executed the uncle of the *cacique*. In 1570, they were forced to abandon the mission.

Second Pardo Expedition to Satapo (1567)

In May 1567, Menéndez returned to Santa Elena, and was briefed on Juan Pardo's first expedition to Joara. In September 1567, Captain Pardo set out on his second expedition with orders from Menéndez to establish the trail to Zacatecas to link *La Florida* with the Viceroyalty of New Spain. Captain Pardo followed the trail to Joara, where he found Moyano had been exploring territory across the Blue Ridge Mountains, and getting involved in local Indian rivalries. Moyano was surrounded by hostile Indians in Olamico (to the east of present day Knoxville, Tennessee), so Pardo left Corporal Lucas de Cañihares in command of Fort San Juan, and he continued across the Blue Ridge Mountains into what is now eastern Tennessee to rescue Moyano. Pardo located Moyano cornered in a fort on an island at Olamico. Pardo and Moyano joined forces and continued on the mission to reach Zacatecas. When they reached Satapo (near present day Morganton, Tennessee), Captain Pardo uncovered

(Continued on page 12)

an Indian plot to ambush the Spanish on the trail to Coosa (in present day northwestern Georgia). Captain Pardo became suspicious of the chief of Satapo, and decided to return to Joara taking a different trail from the way they had come.

Upon returning to Olamico, Pardo strengthened the fort there, and left a small detachment before leaving for Joara. At Cauchi, Pardo built Fort San Pablo. He left a small detachment at the fort and continued on to Joara. After resting at Joara, Pardo left Ensign Albert Escudero de Villamar in command of Fort San Juan with 30 men, and set off for Santa Elena. Captain Pardo built Fort Santiago at the village of Guatari, which was completed in January 1568. He left a small detachment at the fort and continued on to Cofitachequi, where he built Fort Santo Tomás, and picked up corn for the colonists at Santa Elena. They continued on, and stopped in Orista, where he built Fort Nuestra Señora de Buena Esperanza. Pardo left Corporal Gaspar Rodríguez in command of the fort with 12 soldiers. In early March 1568, Pardo arrived at Santa Elena. Pardo set up forts between Tennessee and Santa Elena, and took the submission of Indian chiefs on the trail, but he did not have enough men to adequately protect the forts and keep the loyalty of the Indians once his main force left the area. He failed to reach New Spain, but surely avoided disaster by turning back before reaching Coosa. In May 1568, while Juan Pardo was at Santa Elena, a group of Indians attacked Fort San Juan, killed the Spanish soldiers and destroyed the fort. One Spaniard escaped, and survived to inform Juan Pardo of the fate of Fort San Juan. The location of the fort was re-discovered in 2013, and archaeologists are now excavating the site.

All the other forts were destroyed as well, and the Spanish abandoned hopes of colonizing the interior of *La Florida*. Also in 1568, the French pirate Dominique de Gourges attacked Fort San Mateo and killed all the Spanish prisoners in retaliation for Menéndez killing the French prisoners at Fort Caroline. By 1569, the town of Santa Elena had 40 houses around a central plaza. The land on Parris Island was not suitable to agriculture, and the surrounding Indians were not friendly towards the Spanish, so ships had to be sent to supply food for the colony.

Ajacán Mission (1570)

In 1570, Jesuit priest Juan Bautista de Segura withdrew the missionaries from Guale and Santa Elena, and led an expedition to the Bahía de Santa María (now Chesapeake Bay) to establish a mission on the Rappahannock River. Father Segura was led by a baptized Indian named Don Luis, who had been taken from that region a decade before. He brought Father Luis Quiroz, six brothers (including Brother Gabriel Solís, Menéndez' nephew, who had joined the Jesuits in St. Augustine), and a Spanish boy with him. Father Segura wanted to set up a mission far from Spanish garrisons – he felt he could be more successful converting the Indians to Christianity without soldiers riling up the natives, and setting a bad example for the Christian converts. They built Mission Santa María de Ajacán on a creek a few miles from the village where Don Luis' brother was the *cacique*. Everything went well for a few weeks, and then Don Luis went to visit his brother, and did not return. Father Segura traded with the local Indians for food, but conditions became desperate. In February 1571, he sent Father Luis Quiros and Brother Juan Bautista Méndez to beg Don Luis to return and help arrange for food for the mission. Don Luis agreed to return, but as Quiros and Mendez were returning to the mission, they were ambushed and murdered by Don Luis and his fellow Indians with poisoned arrows. Don Luis and his Indians returned to the mission and murdered the remaining Jesuits with axes, taking the Spanish boy, Alonso de Olmos, captive. In 1572, a Spanish supply ship under the command of Captain Vicente González arrived and captured Indians wearing the robes of the martyred Jesuits. They learned of the martyrdom of Father Segura and the others, and the enslavement of the lone survivor, Alonso de Olmos.

In July 1572, Menéndez returned to Santa Elena. He found the colony was viable, but relations with the local Indians were tense. Menéndez learned about the martyrdom of the Jesuits at Ajacán, and he led a punitive expedition – he hanged a few Indians thought responsible for the massacre, and rescued Alonso de Olmos, but was unable to capture the traitor Don Luis. The General of the Jesuits, Saint Francis Borja y Aragón (the 4th Duke of Gandía, and great

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grandson of Pope Alexander VI), decided it was too dangerous, and withdrew the Jesuit missionaries from *La Florida*, and the Franciscans later took their place in 1575. Menéndez decided to abandon the area which became Virginia, and although it was explored further in 1573, no further missions or settlements were attempted. The exact location of the mission has yet to be found. In late 1572, Menéndez returned to Spain, and King Felipe II ordered him to prepare an expedition to Flanders to put down a rebellion (or possibly secretly against England). While preparing for the expedition, Don Pedro Menéndez de Avilés died in Santander, Spain, and was buried in Llanes. In 1591, Don Pedro was re-interred in his home town of Avilés in the Church of San Nicolás with the inscription, "Here lies buried the Illustrious Cavalier Pedro Menéndez de Avilés, native of this town, Adelantado of the Provinces of Florida, Knight Commander of the Holy Cross of the Order of Santiago, and Captain General of the Ocean Sea and of the Catholic Armada which his Royal Highness assembled at Santander in the year 1574, where he died on the 17th of September of that year, in the 55th year of his age." Menéndez' outer coffin was given to the City of St. Augustine, and is on display at the Museum of Mission Nombre de Dios.

Royal Colony of La Florida (1577)

Following the death of Don Pedro Menéndez de Avilés, Diego de Velasco was named acting governor of Florida until 1576. Menéndez' son-in-law, Hernando de Miranda, became *Adelantado* of *La Florida*. Miranda arrived in Santa Elena in 1576, and his cruel behavior provoked the Indians into an uprising. The Guale and Orista Indians sacked Santa Elena and burned Fort San Felipe, and Miranda returned to Spain, leaving his brother Gutierre de Miranda as acting governor. In 1577, King Felipe terminated the proprietary colony and made *La Florida* a royal colony. The king appointed Menéndez' nephew, Pedro Menéndez Márquez, as Royal Governor of *La Florida* (he served until 1594), and he returned and rebuilt Santa Elena, with a new fortification – Fort San Marcos. The Spanish led raids on the Orista villages and re-established Spanish control of the area.

In May 1586, the English pirate Francis Drake

landed on Anastasia Island, across the bay from St. Augustine. The Spanish fired the guns of the wooden Fort San Juan de Pinas, and the English retreated to their ships. A French prisoner informed Drake that the Spanish had abandoned the fort and fled into the wilderness. He led Drake's men to the abandoned fort. When they advanced on St. Augustine, the Spaniards fled into the wilderness and harassed the English invaders with gunfire. Drake burned the fort, the church and the town, destroyed their gardens, and looted the town. After the pirates left, Florida Governor Pedro Menéndez Márquez requested aid from Havana, and had St. Augustine rebuilt.

Epilogue

In 1587, the Spanish decided they had insufficient forces to defend both St. Augustine and Santa Elena, so they abandoned Santa Elena, and transferred the soldiers to reinforce the garrison at St. Augustine, which they made the capital of *La Florida*. The coast from what is now Georgia to Maryland was abandoned, and no further settlements were attempted there. Santa Elena, once the capital of Menéndez' *La Florida* continental empire, was forgotten, and St. Augustine became the main outpost of *La Florida*. Spain's lack of success in attracting settlers, insufficient number of soldiers, and drought conditions resulting in scarce food supplies for the Indians and colonists all led to the loss of its forts and missions on the peninsula and the interior of the continent. They ended up concentrating their limited resources on St. Augustine to prevent the complete loss of *La Florida*.

Despite many setbacks, the town of St. Augustine endured. There was a fire in March 1599 that devastated the town, followed in September by a hurricane that flooded the city. In 1668, English pirate Robert Searle pillaged the town, and murdered 40 inhabitants. In response, Queen Regent Mariana ordered the Viceroy of New Spain to send reinforcement troops and pay for the construction of a coquina fortress to protect the town from repeated attacks. Construction commenced on the Castillo de San Marcos in 1672 (which was substantially built in 1695, and completed in 1756). In 1686, the Spanish besieged Charles Town in the Carolina Colony, and burned the homes of the English colonists. They were forced to

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break the siege when a hurricane damaged their fleet. In 1702, during the War of the Spanish Succession (Queen Anne's War), Governor James Moore of Carolina attacked St. Augustine, and the inhabitants fled to the Castillo de San Marcos for protection. They withstood a siege of three months, before Moore burned the town, destroyed the surrounding Indian missions, and raised the siege. In 1706, a storm ruined the Franco-Spanish attack on Charles Town. In 1727, the Spanish attacked Fort King George in Georgia, and forced the British to abandon it. In 1728, Colonel John Palmer of Carolina ravaged northern Florida and attacked St. Augustine. He could not breach the northern defenses of St. Augustine, and he retreated to the Carolina Colony. In 1740, during the War of Jenkins' Ear, Governor James Oglethorpe of Georgia attacked St. Augustine with 1,000 men. The Castillo de San Marcos held out, and when reinforcements arrived from Cuba, Oglethorpe retreated back to Georgia. In 1742, the Spanish retaliated by attacking Frederica, Georgia (St. Simon's Island), but they were repulsed. In 1743, Oglethorpe returned, but was again unable to breach the defenses.

Finally, after surviving the attacks of nature,

pirates and English governors, Spain ceded Florida to England in 1763 in exchange for the English evacuating Havana, captured in the Seven Years' War (French & Indian War). The English divided Florida into East Florida and West Florida, but their rule only lasted twenty years. After losing the Revolutionary War, England ceded East and West Florida back to Spain in 1783 in exchange for the Bahamas, captured in the war. The Spanish returned for 38 years, but finally were forced to surrender East and West Florida to the United States in 1821. The two territories were combined into the Florida Territory in 1822, and became the 27th state in 1845. In 1861, Florida seceded from the United States and became an independent republic. It quickly joined the Confederate States of America. In 1865, the Confederate government surrendered, and Florida was occupied by the Union. In 1867, Florida was part of the Third Military District (with Georgia and Alabama). In 1868, Florida was readmitted to the United States.

In 2015, St. Augustine celebrated the 450th anniversary of the founding of the city. Among the events of the celebration was a reenactment of the September 8, 1565 landing of Pedro Menéndez de Avilés in St. Augustine.





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Order of the Founders of North America

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