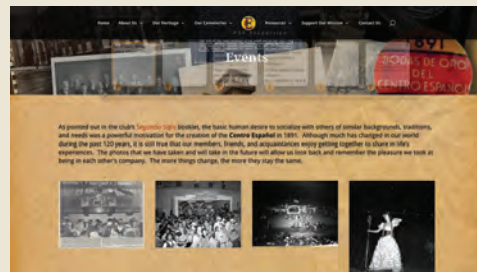


It seems to be a well-kept secret, the Centro Español website, even amongst our members. This is a shame because we have devoted much time and energy to it and frankly, it is something all of us should take pride in. If you haven't visited yet, take a few minutes to do so – it is chock full of great content that was expertly packaged by our friend, web designer and graphic artist, Bill Wilson. Go to [www.centroespanoltampa.org](http://www.centroespanoltampa.org). If you prefer an introduction, feel free to view the 9-minute-long video that we produced when we unveiled the website in December 2015. Move your cursor to the lower right hand corner and select the YouTube button. Otherwise, jump in. The categories are: **About Us**; **Our Heritage**; **Our Cemeteries**; **Resources**; and **Support**. Embedded in these categories are some treasures and interesting items, e.g. our commemorative publications from our 50<sup>th</sup>, 75<sup>th</sup> and 100<sup>th</sup> anniversaries; the wonderful article about "Los Españoles" in Tampa, which dates to 1912; photo-

graphs of events we've held, archival images, and photos of the streets of Ybor City and West Tampa; registries of the dearly departed lying in repose at both of our cemeteries (in alphabetical order and by year of their passing); an exhaustive bibliography of books and articles about our culture in Tampa; links to other websites of interest; archival documents; information on how to become a member and how to donate to our cause; and a wonderful timeline of the history of our club, Spanish colony, and our city. ■



### Master Plan

One of the principal elements of our Segundo Siglo master plan is the stated desire and need to maintain our two cemeteries. Progress in this regard has been slow, but steady. By now, many of you are aware that we re-paved the roadways at the Memorial Park cemetery. Additionally, we undertook another initiative involving the development of a master plan for our Cementerio Viejo, which dates to 1905. Our club engaged the architectural firm of Wilder & Associates to develop the plan and we expect that their recommendations and renderings will be presented to our Board in the near future. Upon completion of the plan we will be in a much better position to seek the means of funding needed improvements. We envision pursuing matching and other types of grants and embarking on a focused fundraising campaign. We will share the details of the plan after it is presented to and approved by the Board. ■



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# El Segundo Siglo

The Newsletter of El Centro Español de Tampa



## Fall Social

They say that you can't go home, but in our case, we did. We are speaking of the fact that we held our Fall Social on December 2 at our beloved former home on 7<sup>th</sup> Avenue in Ybor City. How did this come about? Well, we must thank Board member Brian Howell, who sought and received permission from the current occupant of the old ballroom of our clubhouse, Florida Business Interiors (FBI). The owner and staff of FBI were most gracious in allowing us the use of the entire floor, their kitchen and bar facilities, the use of the balcony overlooking "La Septima", and their wonderful sound system.

For those unable to attend, you will be happy to know that the ballroom has become a very attractive office furniture showroom and FBI was very respectful of its heritage and grandeur – they seemed as happy to host us as we were being there. Special thanks to Rene and Mary Gonzalez, Tim Hunt, Jose Vivero, David Rañon, and Grant Hart for their very significant contributions in preparing for and assisting in the event. A good time was had by all. We hope to have similar events there in the future. ■



## Spring Social

We are planning to have a Spring Social. When plans are finalized, we will contact everyone to let you know about date, time, place and other details. ■



## January Event

Well, we think it can be said that "The Weight of Remembering" was worth the "weight". On Sunday, January 15, the film was screened at the majestic Tampa Theatre before an audience of nearly 450 patrons. By all accounts that we have heard, the reception was very positive. Kudos to the filmmakers, our friends James Fernandez and Luis Argeo, who were both present at the premiere. Congratulations to our Board members who enriched the film by their appearance in it: Anthony Carreño, Cynthia Tamargo, and Emiliano Salcines. Thanks also to those who helped with the arrangements and who pitched in before and after the event with the sale of two new commemorative items for sale (more on this below) and to our friends at the Tampa Theatre who expertly helped us market the event.

It is worth noting that among our guests that afternoon was the Consul General of Spain in Miami,



Candido Creis Estrada. We thank him for the kind words he spoke before the screening and we thank Honorary Vice Consul of Spain in Tampa, Jose Vivero, for arranging his participation in our event. We believe that the Spaniards of Tampa made a good impression on the Consul General and that he will visit often. ■



## Items for Sale

No sooner than Argeo and Fernandez's first film, "A Legacy of Smoke" was screened in November, 2014, that the filmmakers and our club began receiving inquiries on how to acquire a copy of the film. Well, from the very beginning of our association with Luis and Jim, we knew that they wanted to screen a second film in Tampa and combine both films into a single DVD offering. With the completion of their second film, they were able to do so. A handsomely packaged two DVD set was available for purchase for the first time at the screening of "The Weight of Remembering" on January 15. As pleased as we were to contribute financially to this undertaking and having it ready for the film premier, it was not the only item that was available for purchase that day. The other one was a pamphlet containing the list of nicknames that members Ramon Oural and the late Angel Rañon compiled over a period of years. We are happy to report that we sold 86 DVD sets and 81 pamphlets on the afternoon of January 15<sup>th</sup>. We also sold a box full of the book "Invisible Immigrants". Anyone interested in purchasing any of these items should call our office at 870-0559 or contact us through our website ([www.centroespanoltampa.org](http://www.centroespanoltampa.org)). ■

