

El Palacio

After several attempts, we were finally able to make arrangements to move our administrative office to our ancestral home in West Tampa. We are grateful to the prime tenant of the building, the Hillsborough Education Foundation and especially its president, Kim Jowell. Kim and her staff have been very welcoming. The club's office space occupies a large area of the 2nd floor of the building's annex, which was built some years ago. We have also been given access to the TECO Community room on the first floor for our social functions. Please consider stopping by for a visit. Our wonderful Office Administrator, Anna Ramos, is usually there on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays between the hours of 10:00 AM and 2:00 PM. We suggest that you call Anna before visiting to be sure she is there (870-0559). □



Visit of Ambassador of Spain

On Friday, June 14, the Centro Español welcomed the Spanish Ambassador to the United States, His Excellency, Don Santiago Cabanas Ansorena. For those of us fortunate enough to be present, we found D. Santiago to be eloquent, distinguished and friendly. His brief stay with us included a tour and history of the historic "El Palacio" where he was given the "Key to the City" from Mayor Castor.



Community Foundation of Tampa Bay

We are very pleased to report that we recently established a fund with the Community Foundation of Tampa Bay (CFTB). The CFTB's mission is to build a better community through creative philanthropy. The Foundation has over 1,000 funds with assets in excess of $250 million and is among the five largest in Florida; last year it awarded $ 14.6 million in grants. We have invested a portion of our reserves in an Agency Fund where historical rates of return have been substantially greater than what is typically earned at commercial banks. A separate fund will be established soon for the perpetual care of our cemeteries. This second fund will be an endowment from which we will be able to withdraw or re-invest the interest earned each year, but where the principal will be retained in perpetuity. □

Cemetery Project

Our project to improve and beautify the historic Cementerio Español on 21st Avenue is progressing. We reached a tentative agreement with a contractor and should be able to break ground in early fall. □

Centro Español de Tampa, Inc.
2306 N Howard Ave
Tampa, FL 33607

Recipient's Name
Address
City, State, Zip

New Members
In 2018 we welcomed the following new members: Dean Vallejo, Chris Díaz, Dr. Carlos and Georgane Díaz, Manny and Mary Álvarez, Arthur Corrales and James Guarnieri. This year, we've already welcomed several new members: Governor Bob and Mary Jane Martinez, Ralph and Alice Lavandera, Adrienne Garcia, Steve and Scheznarda Barbas, Diana Ekonomou, David Rañon, and Patrick and Kimberly Thorpe. Welcome one and all: Bienvenidos! □

Fundraising
Our Legacy Fundraising campaign is in full swing. As of this writing we have achieved roughly 60% of our goal of $500,000 in pledges and donations. We urge our members and friends of the club to consider donating. If you would like details, please contact us at your convenience.

There are two important factors to keep in mind if you wish to donate. First, the Centro is now a *501 C3* organization meaning that individuals who wish to make contributions in support of our mission may do so and may treat their contribution as a deduction. Second, for "mature" individuals, if you possess an Individual Retirement Account (IRA), the *IRA Charitable Rollover* law allows you to make yearly gifts to charitable organizations like the Centro through a direct transfer without paying taxes on the amount of the transfer. This is especially significant if you are 70 ½ years old or older because a part or all the gift can satisfy the minimum distribution requirement. If you are interested in possibly taking advantage of this program, please confer with your accountant or financial planner for details. □

Spring Social

On Saturday, May 11 more than 90 members and friends of the Centro gathered to view our "new, old home" in West Tampa. In addition to enjoying each other's company, attendees were treated to the unveiling of the club's new exhibit celebrating our health services legacy and listening to Judge E.J. Salcines' remembrances of his youthful days spent in our clubhouse. Photos of the event were posted on the Centro's Facebook page. □





Collaboration with Others
Thanks to the support of Jennifer Dietz, City of Tampa Archivist, the Centro is now being supported by two university students. The first area of focus is the scanning of paper documents in our possession. This will greatly assist us in organizing and preserving the especially sensitive cemetery records. Also, in September we were very pleased to welcome Melany Balbín as an intern. Melany joined us through the Education Foundation's excellent internship program. She is an Honor Student and Senior at Jefferson High School, bi-lingual, and possesses office and graphics art skills that are much valued in organizations such as ours. Welcome Melany! □

Back to the Old Country
Our Ambassador to the world, Board member Anthony Carreño, has continued his travels to Spain in support of the herculean efforts of our friend, Professor Jim Fernandez of NYU, to chronicle Spanish immigration to the U.S. in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Anthony also traveled to Washington D.C. to attend a presentation sponsored at the Spain/USA Foundation and held at the Spanish Embassy. These sojourns not only help support the efforts of Professor Fernandez, but they also provide opportunity for us to establish, and in some cases, strengthen the bonds between our two great countries. Go Anthony Go! □

Social Media
Thanks in large part to the enthusiasm and talents of one our newest members, Dean Vallejo, our profile in Facebook has risen considerably the last few months. If you are not a familiar with Facebook, please consider becoming a participant in what is a marvelous way for the world to become better connected. Go to Facebook and "Like" the Centro Español page. □

Fall Social
Mark your calendars. Our next Social will be on the evening of Saturday, December 7th at El Palacio in West Tampa. Details to follow. See you there!

Contact Us
If you would like to contact us, there are several ways that you can do so. You may call our office telephone at 813-870-0559 (if our Administrator, Anna Ramos, does not answer, please leave a message). You may send an email to Anna: aramos.cetampa@gmail.com. If you wish you may leave a message on our website: www.centroespanoltampa.org or contact us via Messenger of our Facebook page. We look forward to hearing from you soon. □

In Memoriam

In the recent past, several members of the Centro passed away: Carmelina Cayón, María Antonia Díaz, Palmira Fernández, Gerardo Pérez, Frank Pullara, Vicente Novo y José Ramón Oural. We honor and remember their loyalty to and fondness for the Centro. May they rest is peace. □