

Dec 2019

Gaucha Newsletter

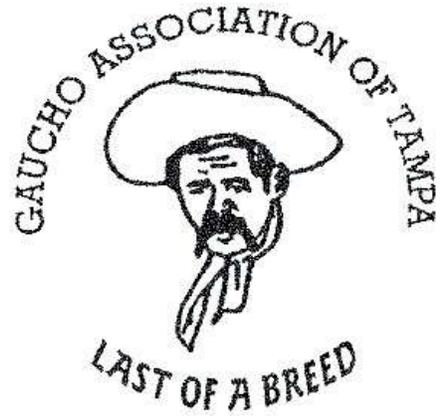
Gaucha Association of Tampa

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www.gauchoassn.com

Tim Rutherford President-813-748-4888



Welcome to the newsletter of the Gaucha Association of Tampa, Inc.!

We have a lot going on in the Gauchos in the coming season. Read on and discover why you are in the best krewe in Tampa!



NEW YEAR'S PARTY



We are thrilled to announce that one of our returning Gaucha members, Julio Gonzalez, will be throwing a fantastic party for all of us on New Year's Eve. All of the Gauchos are welcome and encouraged to attend. You are allowed to bring a guest.

This incredible evening will take place at **8:00 p.m.** at the home of Julio and Tina Gonzalez, located at **15511 Walden Ave, Tampa, FL 33618**. A great time is sure to be had! Please RSVP Julio at (937) 260-6254 by Dec 26.



COSTUMES ARE US

Gaucha membership director, Ralph Fisher, has found an authentic Italian seamstress who is crafting brand new costumes for our Krewe. The vest, pants, white peasant shirt, and red sash and tie come complete for \$280. (The white peasant shirts were ordered online and are all size XL. The ensemble minus the peasant shirt is \$250 if you would like to purchase your own white shirt.)

If you are interested in a costume, please contact Ralph Fisher directly at (813) 949-2749.



NEW GAUCHO MEMBERS

We would like to congratulate our new members who have joined us within the past year. They are:

- Thomas Wagner
- Joseph Manzo
- Steve McCormick
- Guillermo Ortiz
- Julio Gonzalez
- Charles "Chuck" Hallett
- Jay Wilkinson
- Joe Boromei Jr.
- Evan Bahl
- Jay Lechner

Welcome to the Gauchos, gentlemen. We look forward to many years of performing in parades and having an overall good time.

Please tell your friends that joining the Gauchos is a simple 3-step process:

1. Go to <http://www.gauchoassn.com>.
2. Click on "Register."
3. Fill in your name, address, phone number, and email address so that your treasurer, Rich Clark, can send an invoice to the new Gaucha.

GAUCHO SPOTLIGHT

In this edition, we focus on Gaucho Mike Stoup, lead organizer in organizing and overseeing the float renovations. Mike is a professional engineer with McKim-Creed in Clearwater. He is 53 years young, and happily married to wife, Jackie with whom he shares two beautiful children (Meghan and Ryan).

Mike's biggest challenge in dealing with the float renovations this year has been getting the work done and completing all of the projects in time before the parade season begins.

In 2020, Mike is looking most forward to winning an award for *La Casa del Sol Naciente*, and creating a show-worthy float with a better experience for our members and float guests, alike.



Mike Stoup

GAUCHO DUES ALERT

If you haven't already done so, please pay your dues for the coming parade season: The dues are \$325 plus a Float assessment of \$100. Please send your check to Gaucho Assn P.O. Box 340776, Tampa, FL 33694-0776. Contact treasurer, Rich Clark at (727) 967-2554 to make an electronic payment or set up a payment plan.



FLOAT RENOVATION UPDATE:

For the last 5 or 10 Saturdays, several of the board members and many of the membership have worked diligently to improve, repair, and refurbish our floats—*La Casa del Sol Naciente* (main float) and *La Casa del Gauchos* (rear float). The main float did not have enough room to accommodate our growing organization, and as a result we have put in benches for members to sit. We also have refrigeration equipment to avoid the need to buy ice, and have renovated the generator capacity for lighting; hopefully the restroom will be up and running by the time of the first parade: Gasparilla! We also now have a new “subwoofer” as part of the sound system!

All float renovations and repairs will be taking place at the Gaucho Storage Yard at **6508 N. Habana Avenue, Tampa, Florida 33614**. The input and participation of every Gaucho is critical to the success of our renovation project. Please contact Gaucho **Mike Stoup** at **(813) 624-2506** or **mike.stoup@gmail.com** to offer help!

We have a very busy and active parade

schedule prepared for 2020. The upcoming

parades include:

Gasparilla—January 25th

The Knight Parade—February 8th

Dunedin Parade—February 22nd

St. Patrick's Day Parade—March 17th

The Chasco Parade—March 27th

And of course we cannot forget Ybor Fiesta Day in Ybor City, which is not a formal parade, but one that we always love to participate in every year.