



A SHORT HISTORY OF THE HISPANIC AMERICAN CLUB OF PALM COAST

In 1973, a new development was created by ITT, and became known as Palm Coast. With its growth and with around 5000 people living in the area, the number of friendly, smiling Hispanic faces was more evident every day. The first real large organization in the area was the Catholic Church and probably the source of most frequent people contact. Some social events were already taking place thanks to an existing Hispanic Club in St. Augustine. The need for increased local activity was evident and it was the idea and effort of Felix Polo, who outlined the first by-laws, that a local group was started, emphasizing the preservation of language, our customs and differences as well as the welfare of the community.

Soon after regular meetings were started with the original attendants being: Nilda and Hector Rosado, Cindy and Tony Roman, Cecilia and Eduardo Barrera, Carmen and Albert Bohrer, Gloria Brito, Delia and Carlos Perez, Margie and Pablo Jusino, Pauline and Francis Legerman, Elsie and Angelo Dagostino, Nellie and Melvin Cruz. Acting on the first Board of Directors was: Nilda Rosado, President, Felix Polo, Vice president, Eduardo Barrera, Secretary and Margie Jusino as Treasurer.

Periodic meetings were held and the establishment of membership fees along with ticketed dances gave the club its economic support. The membership grew little by little and the Club was formally organized in 1987. The yearly elected presidents performed brilliantly and finally it became legally incorporated in March of 1991. The regular monthly meetings took place at different sites and occasionally at member's homes. A permanent site was always desired but economic factors prevented it from becoming a reality, until finally and thanks to the collaboration Tony Amaral Construction, our present building was inaugurated in September of 1999.

We are a stable organization with both old and new faces and great new ideas, but most of all with a clear vision of the dynasty that we leave our Children so that they too can become active roll models in our community.

The political entities in the area are well aware of our presence and our potential. For 22 years now, we have been proud to offer, yearly, two scholarships to the best graduating Hispanic high school students entering college. But in last year we gave three (3) including a university student and this year (2010) we have added a Non-Hispanic student as well. We strive to grow and be better. Our Friday night BINGO is a favorite in the community and we host the best Latin dances for many miles around where the gaiety and comradely are second to none. Come join us, be part of the Hispanic growing voice. "Si se Puede"