

Atocha Silver

The Story

In the fall of 1622, a heavily armed fleet of Spanish treasure galleons set sail from Havana toward Spain. Included in the manifest were freshly minted coins and bars of Peruvian gold and silver, precious emeralds and the personal treasures of wealthy merchants and families booking passage to Spain.

On September 6, 1622 the fleet was caught in a raging storm and the Neustra Senora de Atocha was tossed onto a hidden reef. Dragged down by the weight of the gold, silver, copper and other cargo, she quickly sank thirty-four feet to the sandy ocean bottom. There she slept for over three hundred years.

In the summer of 1985, treasure hunter Mel Fisher and his divers found the main cargo of the Atocha. Two of the investors of Mel Fisher's company, Treasure Salvor's Inc., have donated their stock in the treasure to the programs of Florida 4-H and citrus research. Because of the generosity of Mr. and Mrs. Barney Greene and Dr. and Mrs. Eugene Lyon, this treasure from the bottom of the sea will benefit youth education now and into the future.

The Florida 4-H Foundation has used pieces of history from the Atocha to create a special 4-H memento for your wardrobe. The 4-H cloverleaf has been fashioned into exquisite silver jewelry made from silver from the Atocha. The pendant and lapel pin/tie-tack can be purchased from the 4-H Foundation. Proceeds from the jewelry sale will benefit the Florida 4-H Council.

<http://florida4h.org/atocha>



**To Purchase: Please fill out the order form to the right and send to: Grace Carter
2142 Shealy Drive
P.O. Box 110225
Gainesville, FL 32611
Cost: \$30**



UF UNIVERSITY of
FLORIDA
IFAS Extension

Atocha Silver Order Form

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Email: _____

Total Cost:

Quantity of Pendants _____ x \$30 +

Quantity of Lapel/Tie-tack _____ x \$30 +

\$5.50 Shipping = \$_____

Payment: Credit Card or Check Accepted

Credit Card No.: _____

Exp. Date: _____ CCV: _____

Zip Code: _____

Please make checks payable to the "Florida 4-H Foundation" with Atocha in the memo. Please mail orders to Grace Carter, 2142 Shealy Drive, Gainesville, FL 32611