



# The Texas Compatriot

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State Convention Issue

June, 2014



**Robert S. Cohen, President  
Texas SAR  
2014-2015**

## President's Message

*In his address to the 119th Texas state convention, incoming Texas SAR President, Robert S. Cohen, shared his vision for the coming year: **celebrate the past, strengthen the present, shape the future.** Here is the text of his speech:*

I wish to thank Stephen Rohrbough for his leadership as State President this past year. Let's continue to support his emphasis on youth programs.

The theme for this year is: **Celebrate the Past, Strengthen the Present, Shape the Future.**

We **Celebrate the Past** by tracing our genealogy to each of our patriot ancestors and by identifying and reveling in each of their efforts and sacrifices to form the United States of America. My own triple great grandfather, a private in the South Carolina militia, was, according to family legend, scalped and left for dead. His sweetheart, Mary Beckham, with assistance, retrieved him, carried him back home, and nursed him back to health.

We **Strengthen the Present** by each of us contributing our efforts and sacrifices to further the cause of patriotism, education, and history using our talents through avenues available to each of us. We **Shape the Future** by laying out a strategic plan and succeeding at the respective tasks

each of us contributes toward a common goal.

The six major points to accentuate this year are:

1. Emphasize the Brand
2. Recruit
3. Retain
4. Reinstate
5. Get Membership to Critical Mass
6. "Sharpen the Saw"

**1. Emphasize the Brand** so that when people in the community see the brand they know that it stands for patriotism, education, history, and genealogy. To keep from fragmenting the brand, in Texas we can say Texas SAR, instead of saying TXSSAR.

In the present, we must build a strong foundation which will allow us to amplify this organization in the future. Along that line of thought, the membership of this Society needs to emphasize a common brand not a variety of different brands for the organization. Sure it is alright to use various brands, but emphasize SAR. Have you heard the statement, "Well, I have seen TXSSAR, but I did not know it was affiliated with any national organization." Now that is a perfect example of brand fragmentation.

What do I mean by brand? Let me give you an example: If I say Ford what do you first think of? If I say McDonalds or Wendy's what is your first

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thought? To use some agrarian examples: What about 6666 (pronounced four sixes) or “running W?” The 6666 Ranch is known for good quarter horses or angus cattle while the “running W” is the brand of the King Ranch, known for Santa Gertrudis cattle and quarter horses. Not to belabor the point, but let me give you one more example. What is the first think you think of when I say DAR. If I say SAR, we in this room all know what it means because we use it internally; however, very few external to the organization know what it means. Our potential new members are external to this organization.

Let me give you a personal example. I wear, on my lapel, two pins representing different fraternities. One of them is the SAR rosette; the other is a square and a compass, the kind of compass one uses to draw a circle. The fraternity represented by the latter pin is recognized anywhere in the world for its meaning. And, many think it’s a secret society. The rosette I have worn for 4 years, and nobody recognizes what it represents except those who are its members, and it’s **not** supposed to be a secret society. In that four years only three people have asked me what the rosette represented. When I tell them I am a member of the SAR they then ask, “What’s the SAR?” I respond with, Sons of the American Revolution. They respond, “I’ve heard of the DAR, but have never heard of the SAR.”

In the interest of branding, I want to move that dialog further along. So that the first question is “What is the SAR?” And, hopefully, in due time it becomes, “Oh! I see you are a member of the SAR.”

I have a new Texas SAR lapel pin for Texas SAR members. Wear this lapel pin which is in the shape of Texas with colors and star of the state flag and initials, SAR, in the white part of the flag.

Pamela Wright, State Regent of Texas DAR,

whose company Pamela Wright Collections assisted Jane and me to create this Texas SAR lapel pin donated the first 200 pins to the Texas SAR. I will be presenting Texas SAR lapel pins to members as I visit Texas chapters this year.

**2. Recruit.** I challenge the Texas Society to reach 5000 active members by the year 2018. That would be about 575 new members each year for the next four years. Texas SAR recruited over 300 new members each of the three years I was State Secretary, but did not retain them as active members. What is significant about 2018? That is when Texas SAR is currently slated to host the National Congress in Houston.

A chapter needs to recruit annually at least 10% of membership as new members just to survive. For some men to be attracted to join an organization, they will have to hear about it and recognize that the organization is doing something worthwhile. For other men, you will have to ask them to join. Where and how are we going to find these new members? In Texas SAR there are about 2700 active members.

In Texas DAR there are 17,000 active members. Statistics suggest that at least half of those DAR ladies have a son or a brother and probably a large number have both. Network with DAR and CAR during a “Day at the Library” to assist individuals to become SAR members. Also, when a DAR member assists one to become a Texas SAR member be sure to submit SAR’s “DAR Finder Report Form;” one form for each application. It is on the National SAR website; just go to Google and enter the form name, it will come up.

Invite male CAR members to join SAR as a junior member. They can join SAR from birth and junior member dues are only \$5 per year. At age 18 they automatically become full SAR members. Elevator Speech. Each member needs to devel-

op an elevator speech that can be used to recruit new members. This elevator speech is a 20-second, or less, talk about the SAR and why it is important to America. During the spring of 2014, while in Louisville, Kentucky for the leadership meeting, I was on the elevator with some gentlemen from another state and their ladies. It was plain to see that each gentleman had the SAR member badge on a ribbon around his neck. As we were moving from one floor to the other, I suddenly asked them if they belonged to the SAR, and, if not, had they considered joining the organization. I completed my speech in about 10 to 15 seconds and reached my floor just as I finished thanking them for listening, and informed them that I was practicing my elevator speech. They chuckled and said, “thank you.” Get your speech prepared and share it to recruit new members.

To encourage the development of a number of short, to-the-point speeches by chapter members to use in recruiting, an Elevator Speech Contest for Texas SAR members will be held at the 2015 State Convention. The contest is open only to active SAR members (Junior and Full), is to be 20-seconds or less in length, and is to promote membership in the SAR. Props may be used, but must be setup and taken down in the allotted 20-seconds of less of the speech. The winner will receive \$52 toward his dues from Jane and me.

Another way to recruit is to go to historical events in your community, visit with others there, and ask if they are a member of the SAR. If not, encourage them, maybe even help them, to become a member.

There are individuals who are eligible for membership and know they are, but will not seek to apply until they see some “smoke” or “fire” or other indications of life in an organization. Seek community leaders and offer to do their papers. Others may just need to be asked. Assist veterans to learn how

to do their genealogy.

A SAR Brochure Contest for Texas SAR will be held at the 2015 State Convention. The purpose of the contest is to encourage members to develop chapter brochures that can be distributed at meetings of other organizations and at genealogy libraries to promote interest in joining the SAR as well as increase the reader's awareness of the existence of the SAR and its purposes. The contest is open only to active Texas SAR members (junior and full). The brochure can be front and back and tri-fold or bifold on a single 8.5"x11" page. The winner will receive \$52 towards his dues from Jane and me.

**3. Retain.** When you induct new members, put them to work on a committee. Learn their interests/specialties and utilize them in short-term projects. Project an expectation of contribution to and participation in the chapter. Mike Everheart prepared a document that quite adequately stated what is necessary to retain members. The document is on the private Texas SAR website. To learn the web address, send an e-mail message to your local chapter president or any state officer. They will send you the web address.

Utilize Perpetual Membership to retain active members. The Texas Perpetual Membership Program is more fully explained at the following web address: <http://www.txssar.org/Perpetual.htm>.

**4. Reinstate.** Each year, check if any members dropped by not paying dues. The easiest person to get to become an active member is one who has been dropped because they haven't paid their dues. Ask them if it was an oversight, tell them the state office has them as dropped from membership, and they might want to contact the state office to get the situation fixed. Let the dropped member know that you care that their membership has dropped and want them to continue membership.

## President General Joseph Dooley Swears in Robert S. Cohen as the 100th Texas SAR President



**President General Joseph Dooley swears in the 100th Texas SAR President, Robert S. Cohen (from left to right: President General Dooley, Texas SAR President Cohen, and Mrs. Jane Cohen)**

Ralph McDowell of the Dallas SAR chapter does an excellent job of contacting members who have dropped and getting them to send their dues. Ask him how he does it.

**5. Get Membership to Critical Mass.** There is a point when a chapter has many members executing various projects that they generate enough “buzz” in the community that recruiting and retention become easier. The result is everyone in the community knows of the organization and wants to be a member. Continue to be active in your community and publicize your events.

**6. “Sharpen the Saw.”** Those who have attended a Franklin-Covey class will recognize this term to mean receive training to enhance the organizational experience. We will continue to train chapter presidents, registrars, genealogists, and others so they can do the best job to enhance the experience of the member for the benefit of the member, chapter, state and national SAR. SAR chapter officers, remember to train your replacement.

Thank you for the privilege to serve you as the 100th State President. I will assist chapters to accomplish these objectives, and I challenge members, committees and officers of the Texas SAR and local chapters to develop a plan to facilitate reaching the 5000 active member goal.

Robert S. Cohen  
State President, 2014-2015

## Awards Presented at the 119th Annual Texas State Convention

Texas SAR Awards were presented to individuals and chapters during the 119th Annual Convention in San Antonio, Texas, March 28-30, 2014. Although competition was tight, many compatriots and chapters diligently worked to complete the Society’s programs and achieve the goals set for 2013.

### The Galveston Award

Established by Bernardo Galvez Chapter, the award was presented to the chapter with the highest % of increase of donations to the TXSSAR Col. Joe Hill Patriots Fund. The winners were:

Paul Revere Chapter #19 (Increase of \$1500) and an Honorable Mention was awarded to the Robert Rankin Chapter #62 (Increase of \$1163.).

### The Frank Watkins Award

Established by the Hill Country Chapter in Honor of Frank Watkins the award was presented to the chapter having the highest percentage of members contributing to the TXSSAR Col. Joe Hill Patriots Fund in the past year. The winners were:

Bluebonnet Chapter #41 (13.04%) and an Honorable Mention was awarded to the McKinney Chapter #63 (12.82%).

### The Karl E. Wallace Award

Given by TXSSAR Society in honor of Past President Karl E. Wallace to the chapter having the highest percentage of membership increase during the past year. The winners were:

Arlington Chapter #7 (47.62%) and an Honorable Mention was awarded to the Denton Chapter #23 (35.29%).

### The Adrian Drouilhet Award

Named for Secretary Treasurer Emeritus Adrian Drouilhet, the award was presented to the chapter with the most new members less than 50 years of age. The winner was:

San Antonio Chapter #4 (9 members).

### Col. Joe M. Hill Patriot Fund Awards

Awarded annually to each chapter that has total contributions that exceed the total of the previous year. The winners were:

\*Bernardo de Galvez #1  
\*Dallas #2  
\*Arlington #7  
\*Col. Turner Sharp #9  
\*Big Country #16  
\*Permian Basin #18  
\*Paul Revere #19  
\*Lt. Nathan Gann #28  
\*Hill Country #31  
\*Cradle of Texas #33

\*Edmund Terrill #34  
\*William Hightower #35  
\*Plano #37  
\*Freedom #38  
\*Bluebonnet #41  
\*Liberty #42  
\*Amb. Fletcher Warren #43  
\*Piney Woods #51  
\*Robert Rankin #62  
\*McKinney #63

# State Awards

## Col. Joe M. Hill Jr. Membership Award

Presented in honor of our past President Col. Joe. M. Hill, Jr., the award is given to each chapter that achieves the goal of 100% membership renewal in the past year. The winners were:

Bluebonnet Chapter #41, District #4 and Amb. Fletcher Warren Chapter # 43, District #11

## The John K. Harrell CAR Activities Award

Recognizes Compatriot John Harrell of the San Antonio Chapter for dedication and support of the national, state, and local programs, activities, and recognition of the strong relationships the two societies of the Sons of the American Revolution and the Children of the American Revolution. Compatriot Harrell believed that supporting CAR Societies at all levels would help the common good of both the National Society SAR and National Society CAR and enhance the promise of new members to SAR and DAR. This award is presented to any chapter who participates in 7 of the 9 elements outlined by the NSSAR CAR Committee. The winners were:

Plano Chapter #37, District #6 and Robert Rankin Chapter #62, District #8

## The John K. Harrell CAR Competition Awards

The Award was established in memory of Compatriot John K. Harrell of the San Antonio Chapter for his outstanding work and active participation in CAR programs and activities at the Chapter, State, and National levels. Mrs. Barbara Harrell, wife of Compatriot John Harrell, donated \$5000 in February 2008 to establish the John K, Harrell Fund to support this award. It was presented to chapters that participate in the CAR activities outlined in the Chapter Annual Report submitted for the calendar year. The winners were:

Group #1(1-25) No Award, Group #2(26-99) Robert Rankin, Chapter #62 District #8,  
Group #3(100+) Plano Chapter #37, District #6

## TXSSAR Flag Presentation Awards

Given to chapters having recognized an individual, company or organization for the proper display, maintenance and care for flying the flag of the United States during the past year. TXSSAR will receive the "Furlong Award" this year with over half of the chapters giving flag awards. The winners were:

\*Panhandle Plains #10, District #2  
\*Hill Country #31, District #3  
\*Victoria #50, District #3  
\*Heart of Texas #26, District #4  
\*Arlington #7, District # 5  
\*Plano #37, District # 6  
\*Bernardo de Galvez #1, District # 7  
\*Paul Revere #19 District #7  
\*Freedom #38, District #8

\*San Antonio # 4, District #3  
\*William Hightower #35, District #3  
\*Patrick Henry #11, District #4  
\*Bluebonnet #41, District #4  
\*Dallas #2, District #6  
\*East Fork Trinity #47, District # 6  
\*Paul Carrington #5, District #7  
\*Cradle of Texas #33, District #7  
\*Independence #40, District #8



**A Flag Ceremony was held at the start of the 2014 Texas SAR Annual Convention (from left to right) Compatriots Jay Lewallen and Frank Rohrbough, President of the San Antonio Chapter, Bob Hancock, and Outgoing Texas SAR, President Stephen Rohrbough**



**Students from Boerne Middle School North Fife & Drum Corps (the only middle-school fife & drum corps in the Southwest) prepare to perform for guests at the evening banquet.**

# State Awards

## TXSSAR Flag Presentation Awards, continued

\*Piney Woods #51, District #8  
\*Liberty #42, District #9  
\*Athens #54, District #10  
\*Amb. Fletcher Warren #43, District #11

\*Robert Rankin #62, District #8  
\*Capt. William Barron #25, Dist. #10  
\*Denton #23, District #11

## The John Bruce Stuart Jr. Memorial Award

Established by the Plano Chapter in memory of Compatriot John B. Stuart Jr. awarded to the chapter based on veterans activities in the past year. The winners were:

Groups 1 and 2 No Reported Activity  
Group 3 (40-100) East Fork Trinity Chapter #47, District # 6, with 18 points  
Group 4 (100+) San Antonio #4, District # 3, with 174 points  
Group 4 (100+) Plano Chapter #37, District #6 with 174 points

## The Marshall Hunter Award

Sponsored by the Captain William Barron Chapter and presented in two categories, based on the chapter membership at the end of the TXSSAR year for the highest percentage of members attending their regular meetings. The winners were:

Group 1 (1-99) Arlington Chapter #7, District #5, with 53%

Group 2 (100+) Maj. K M Van Zandt Chapter #6, District #5, with 17%

## The Hartsell O. Stephens Award

Given in honor of Hartsell O. Stephens and awarded to the individual who sponsors the most new compatriots during the contest year. The winners were:

Compatriot Dan Stauffer, Alexander Hamilton Chapter #66, 28 new applications.

Compatriot Gerald W. Irion, Hill Country Chapter #31, 21 new applications

## The E.A. Limmer Award

Created by the Heart of Texas Chapter and given to the chapter having the highest percentage of approved supplemental applications during the past year. The winners were:

Group 1 (1-25) Daniel Wood Chapter #22, with 3 applications for 37.5 %

Group 2 (26-39) Texas Tech Chapter #15, with 4 applications for 14.29%

Group 3 (40-100) East Fork Trinity Chapter #47, 6 applications for 14.29%

Group 4 (100+) Maj. K M Van Zandt Chapter #6, 15 applications for 5.26%



The Color Guard enters the dining room prior to the banquet. Pictured is Compatriot Peter Baron of the San Antonio Chapter.



President Stephen Rohrbough presents a certificate of appreciation to Sue Lenas, President of the LATXSSAR, for her organization's contribution to the Alexander Hamilton Fund.

## State Awards

### The Ross Shipman Award

This award recognizes chapters with the best newsletter published during the contest year in 2 divisions, Large Chapters and Small Chapters. The winners were:

San Antonio Chapter #4, District #3

Independence Chapter #40, District #8

### The TXSSAR Yearbook Award:

Presented to the chapter submitting the best yearbook as judged by the Yearbook Committee. The year book is the historical record of a chapter's activities for the past TXSSAR year. The winners were:

Plano Chapter #37, District # 6

Dallas Chapter #2, District #6

Hill Country Chapter #31, District #3

Robert Rankin Chapter #62, District #8

Freedom Chapter # 38, District #8

Denton Chapter #23, District #11

Honorable Mention: Arlington Chapter #7, District #5

### Robert Ritchie Oration Awards for Joseph Rumbaugh Contest

This contest is open to students in the sophomore, junior, and senior classes in all public, parochial, and private schools. The oration is presented without script or props. The winner represents the Texas Society at the National SAR Oration's Contest.

The winners were:

1st Place: Mr. Logan Herrera, Junior, Lindale High School  
Sponsoring Chapter: Captain William Barron Chapter #25, District #10

2nd Place: Ms. Clara Scott, Senior, Tascosa High School  
Sponsoring Chapter: Panhandle Plains Chapter #10, District # 2

3rd Place: Ms. Ragen Colley, Sophomore, Hill Country Christian School  
Sponsoring Chapter: William Hightower Chapter #35, District #3

4th Place: Mr. Matthew Cohen, Sophomore, Llano High School  
Sponsoring Chapter: Independence Chapter #40, District #8



The Texas SAR lapel pin presented to attendees of the State Convention by incoming President, Robert Cohen.

**Texas SAR is now on  
Facebook!**

**Take a moment to go  
to  
[www.facebook.com/  
TXSSAR](http://www.facebook.com/TXSSAR) to see read  
more about Texas  
SAR.**

# State Awards

## The Tom & Betty Lawrence American History Teacher Award

Award is presented to an American history teacher based on an essay and recommendation letters from peers, students, and supervisors. The winner was:

Winner: Gretchen Foster, Temple, TX  
Sponsoring Chapter: Heart of Texas Chapter #26, District # 4

## The Eagle Scout Scholarship Award

Given to an Eagle Scout who has passed by the Boy Scout board. The applicant submits a scholarship application, four (4) generation chart, and a five-hundred (500) word essay on the American Revolution. The winner was:

Winner: Eagle Scout, Seth Evan Jensen

## The Jr. R.O.T.C. Scholarship Award

Outstanding cadets are chosen by their respective unit Commanding Officers. The cadets are nominated based their outstanding leadership, military bearing, and good citizenship; and, they must write an essay of five-hundred (500) words explaining how ROTC has impacted their lives and made them better people. The winner was:

Winner: Cadet Tristan J. Kowalik  
Sponsoring Chapter: Cradle of Texas Chapter #33, District #7

## George S. & Stella M. Knight Scholarship Award

The award is given to a junior or senior high school student who writes the best five hundred (500)-word essay on an event, topic, person, or ideal associated with the American Revolution. There were 11 chapters, 50 participants, and 56 schools participating in this contest. The winners were:

1st Place: Sean Schaffer, Senior, Boerne-Champion High School, Boerne,  
Sponsoring Chapter: Hill Country Chapter #31, District #3

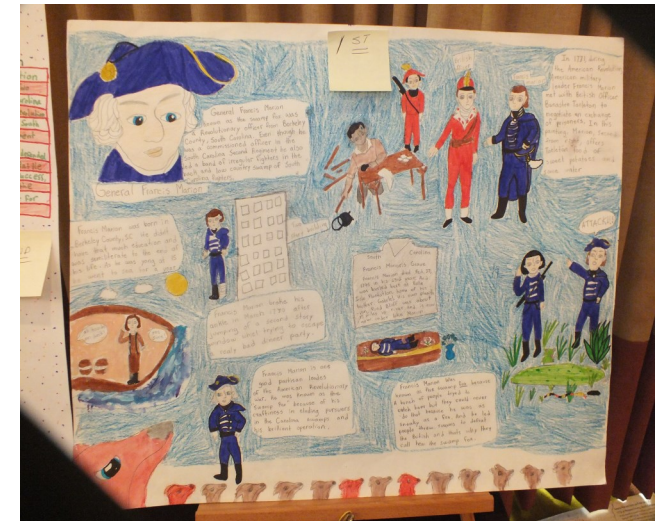
2nd Place: Katherine Joseph, Bishop Thomas K. Gordon Catholic School  
Sponsoring Chapter: Captain William Barron Chapter #25, District #10

3rd Place: Micaela Sparrow, Home Schooled  
Sponsoring Chapter: Lt. Nathan Gann Chapter #28, District #10

**Editor's Note:** Due to the volume of material from the State Convention, "Serendipity" and the Americanism Trivia Quiz will return in the next issue.



**Logan Herrera, winner of the Robert Ritchie Oration Award, delivers his speech.**



**The winning James M. Looney Elementary School Poster Contest entry was a study of General Francis Marion.**



# State Awards

## The TXSSAR C. A. R. Scholarship Essay Awards

Given to male and female members of the Texas Society, Children of the American Revolution who write the best five hundred (500)-word essay on an event, topic, person, or ideal on the Revolutionary Period as announced. The topic this year was “The Battle of Guilford Courthouse”. We had 5 entries with 1 male and 4 females.

These awards were presented at the TSCAR State Convention. The winners were:

1st Place: John C. Clayton, Captain John Smith Society – TSCAR  
Sponsoring Chapter: Alexander Hodge Chapter #49, District #7

2nd Place: Daniel J. Avedikian, Mathew Bolton Society -TSCAR  
Sponsoring Chapter: Plano Chapter #37, District 6

## The James M. Looney Elementary School Poster Contest Award

This contest was developed to help stimulate interest in American history in support of the Texas Schools Fifth (5th) Grade Curriculum. The posters are judged on artistic merit, creativity used to express the annual theme, originality of presentation, and show evidence of research. The winners were:

1st Place: Mayra Nolzco  
Sponsoring Chapter: Arlington Chapter #7, District #5

2nd Place: Sylvia Griffiths  
Sponsoring Chapter: Arlington Chapter #7, District #5

3rd Place: Jessica Mueller  
Sponsoring Chapter: Lt. Nathan Gann Chapter #28, District #10

4th Place: Logan Warnock  
Sponsoring Chapter: Athens Chapter #54, District #10

## The TXSSAR Outstanding Public Service Award

Awarded to chapters that give all 4 Public Service Awards during the year.

The winners were:

\*Dallas Chapter #2, District #6  
\*Plano Chapter #37, District #6  
\*Liberty Chapter #42, District #9

\*San Antonio Chapter #4, District #3  
\*Independence Chapter #40, District #8  
\*McKinney Chapter #63, District #11

\*Capt. William Barron Chapter #25, District #10

## The TXSSAR Americanism Awards

Formerly the Louis J. Rumaggi Trophy, the award is given to a chapter that develops an exceptional program to recognize patriotic activities of the youth of the state, supports institutions and adults that promote patriotic education, recognizes observance of national holidays, and recognizes of outstanding citizenship during the past year.

The winners were:

Group 1 (1-25) Bluebonnet Chapter #41, District #4, with 85 points

Group 2 (26-39)\* Robert Rankin Chapter #62, District #8, with 9260 points

Group 3 (40-100) Athens Chapter #54, District # 10, with 4480 points

Group 4 (100+) Plano Chapter #37, District # 6, with 11,218 points

## TXSSAR Outstanding Chapter Award

Awarded to chapters that excelled in all programs, activities, and outreach to non-SAR institutions and groups as reflected in the Chapter Annual Report. The award is given to chapters in four categories for their participation in the majority of programs contained in the Chapter Annual Report. The winners were:

Group 1 (1-25) Bluebonnet Chapter #41, District #11, with 1,256 points

Group 2 (26-39) Robert Rankin Chapter #62, District #8, with 15,710 points

Group 3 (40-100) Athens Chapter #54, District # 10, with 8,020 points

Group 4(100+) San Antonio Chapter #4, District # 3, with 17,494 points



## President Stephen Rohrbough's Farewell Comments

Fellow Compatriots,

My term as your President has come to an end and Marie and I want to express our sincere gratitude and appreciation for your dedication to the Texas Society and our mission to honor our patriot ancestors for their sacrifices in the cause of freedom and liberty.

We traveled thousands of miles visiting chapters all over Texas and we were warmly welcomed by every chapter with a hearty and friendly welcome. We have met the members and officers of numerous chapters many of whom I already knew, but many whom I met for the first time. These visits were most appreciated because this is where the work of the society is accomplished. Chapters are supporting and raising funds for the Youth Programs, raising money for National Programs including Youth Awards and the SAR Center in Louisville, KY, are being recognized for their accomplishments through their Chapter Annual Reports, and are taking action to gain new members and retaining and reinstating members who have recently been dropped for our membership roster.

We attended the 123rd Congress in Kansas City and met many new friends working at the national level. The Texas Society can be proud of our response to the President General's (PG) Initiatives calling for participation in variety of programs, events, and activities. The big topic of the day is the funding for the Center for Advancing America's Heritage (CAAH), also known at the SAR Foundation or Center.

The State Society contributed \$2750 to the PG Initiatives. Specifically, we contributed \$1500 to CAAH – with a \$250 match by the PG and a \$1500 match from Mr. and Mrs. Sam Powell Foundation. We also gave \$750 to the USO Initiative recognizing the three major airports in Texas, including DFW, HIA, and San Antonio; and gave \$500 to the Mount Vernon Ladies Association for George Washington Portraits to go to two elementary schools in Texas, Pin Oak Middle School in Katy and Saint Mary's Hall in San Antonio. Texas SAR will be recognized for its participation in the President-General's Initiatives during the National Congress in 2014 in Greensboro, S.C.

I especially thank the San Antonio chapter for their professional help and support hosting the 119th annual state meeting at the Omni Hotel in San Antonio on March 27-30. It was an event held in an upscale facility that will be remembered for years to come.

I cannot thank the Texas SAR state officers, committee chairmen, members of the committee, and the Ladies Auxiliary of Texas SAR enough for their dedication to serving not only me, but the Society well. Also, I want to recognize LATXSSAR

President Sue Lenex for her organization's most noteworthy contribution of \$3400 from quilt raffle proceeds to benefit the Patriots Fund.

This Society is, without question, the best State Society in SAR. We are recognized because of what and how we do our work for the good of the entire membership of SAR. We have talents and treasure beyond belief and we are very generous sharing them, not only with the State Society, but the National Society, as well.

It has been both my privilege and my honor to serve as your President. Marie and I will continue to support the Texas SAR and President Bob Cohen and his wife, Jane, in 2014-2015 and will dedicate ourselves to supporting the theme and the work they plan for us this year.

Sincerely,

Stephen Rohrbough

State President, 2013-2014



**President and Mrs. Stephen Rohrbough present *The Blood of Heroes*, a book about the Alamo, written by noted historian, James Donovan, to President General Joseph Dooley for his interest and passion for Texas history and for his leadership and dedicated support of Texas SAR.**

The wives of past Texas SAR Presidents were presented the with the Lydia Darragh Medal



## Chapter News



On February 4, 2014, the Plano Chapter's Color Guard presented the Colors at Eisemann Concert Hall in Plano. The Plano Symphony Orchestra conducts concerts for students in the 4th and 5th grades. Pictured, from left to right, are Compatriots Howard Roach, Don Sielert, Wendell Edwards (behind the Texas Flag), Harvey Vrooman, and Don Babbs. Photo courtesy of Ann Sielert.

During the Boy Scouts of America Annual Awards ceremony held at Grayson College, Edmund Terrill Chapter Vice President, Wade Graves and chapter member, Tyler Graves, presented Certificates of Recognition to 35 Eagle Scouts from various Texoma-area Boy Scout troops and two quartermasters from the Sea Scouts.



Texas SAR President Robert Cohen speaks to the Dallas Chapter about Revolutionary War Uniforms. After his talk, President Cohen distributed Texas SAR lapel pins.

Compatriot Ron Carter presents the 1st Place certificate, ribbon, and check to Texas SAR Poster Contest Winner, Myra N. of Berry Elementary School in Arlington.



## Chapter News



Students from three high schools in the Hill Country received cash and certificates of achievement from the Hill Country Chapter. Winners of the annual Knight Essay Contest, their parents, and school officials were guests of the chapter at their monthly meeting. Boerne-Champion High School's Sean Schaffer received \$400 and a certificate for his first place essay about Robert Morris. Schaffer's essay will be entered at the state-level competition of the Texas SAR. Checks for \$150 and certificates went to Kerrville Tivy's Zachary Boothby and Noah Harper of Heritage Academy in Fredericksburg. Boothby's essay was titled "One Nation Under God," and Harper wrote about George Washington in "The Character of an Honest Man."

Benjamin Solder, also of Kerrville Tivy High School, received \$100 and a certificate for his fourth-place essay about the influence of Benjamin Franklin on American Society. Thirty-nine other students from area high schools received certificates for their entries.



The Alexander Hodge Chapter delivered gift bags to veterans at the Houston Veteran's Hospital. Participants in the effort included Compatriots Ron Brown, Fred Berkstrom, Tom Green, Michael Greene, Curt Osborn, and John Kenton Thompson.



Compatriot Jim Barkley of the Hill Country Chapter presents the 50-year award to Compatriot Winston Scott.

## Chapter News

Officers were recently installed in the McKinney Chapter by past NSSAR President General Nathan White (standing at the podium). From left to right: Jim Henry, Sgt. At Arms; Lloyd Lietz, President; Carl Oehmann, Treasurer; Donald Babbs, Registrar and Color Guard; Mike Ghormley, Historian and Veterans Affairs; Jack Twigg, SAR Awards and Recognition; Peter McClellan, Eagle Scout and ROTC Programs.



Piney Woods chapter officers were installed by President-Elect Robert S. Cohen at the Piney Woods monthly meeting. Three of the original founding members were present and still serve as officers of the chapter: Allan Henshaw (Chancellor), Kim Morton (Genealogist for 21 years), and Larry Stevens. Pictured (left to right) are: Texas SAR President-Elect Robert Cohen, Chapter President Benjamin Stallings, Registrar Kermit Breed, Registrar and Texas Staff Secretary Larry Stevens, Secretary Joe Potter, 1st Vice-President Greg Goulas, Sgt. At Arms Larry Blackburn, Genealogist Kim Morton, and Chancellor Allan Henshaw. Not pictured are Treasurer John Beard, Chaplain Cannon Pritchard, and Historian James Mitchell.



## Texas SAR Chapters in the News

Go to the following links for broadcasts about Texas SAR

### Major K.M. VanZandt Chapter

<http://dfw.cbslocal.com/2014/05/13/ceremony-honors-veterans-without-families/>

### Independence Chapter

<http://www.kbtx.com/home/headlines/Volunteers-Honor-Vets-One-Flag-at-a-Time-260687971.html>



**Bob Clark, immediate past President and Trustee of Texas SAR, presented his daughter, Ashley Clark, on March 6 before over 1100 guests at the 115th TXDAR State Conference as a CAR-DAR Debutante at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Dallas.**

## In Memoriam

### **George H. Brandau, MD (August 12, 1916-April 2, 2014)**

Dr. Brandau was keenly involved in the Sons of the American Revolution. A long-standing member of the Paul Carrington Chapter of Houston, he held two Texas State offices and four national offices including that of NSSAR President General in 1991-92. Dr. Brandau founded the George Washington Fund which helped to fund many causes of the National Society and participated in numerous national activities of the SAR for over 30 years including serving as a member of the 1st Foundation Board. He received many SAR related honors including the DAR Medal of Honor, SAR Gold Good Citizenship medal, and Minute Man Award. Dr. Brandau had fond memories as President General of the SAR when he was honored to present the SAR Gold Good Citizenship medal to General Colin Powell, then Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

Compatriots wishing to make a gift to the Perpetual Fund in memory of Dr. Brandau may do so by going to <http://txssar.org/dues14.htm>

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**F**rom the Editor: The Newsletter Committee unanimously approved a new procedure for the Ross L. Shipman Newsletter Contest. Chapter Newsletter Editors should send one copy each of their four best newsletter issues for 2013 in one single batch of hardcopies to the Newsletter Editor, as shown below. Only hard-copy print-outs will be accepted. This includes newsletters that are normally distributed electronically. All batches must be delivered by U.S. Mail no later than January 1, 2015. A maximum of four newsletter issues per chapter will be accepted for judging. If a chapter publishes more than four issues per year, the Chapter Newsletter Editor should submit what he considers his best four. While black-and-white issues will be considered, color issues may have a competitive advantage.

**F**inally, please observe the following deadlines for submission of items for *The Texas Compatriot*: September 15 for the Fall Issue, January 15 for the Winter issue, and May 15 for the Spring issue.

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