

The San Antonio Compatriot

CHAPTER PARTICIPATES IN TWO 4th OF JULY CEREMONIES AT FORT SAM HOUSTON



Compatriots Burnham, F. Rohrbough, S. Rohrbough and Perese (L to R)
Photo by Compatriot J. Massingill - who also participated in the procession.

Compatriots from our chapter participated in two ceremonies at Fort Sam Houston on the 4th of July celebrating 229 years since the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

The first of which was held at 9:00 a.m. at the National Cemetery. Compatriot Dr. Gil Treviño delivered the invocation. LTG Robert T. Clark, Commanding General, Fifth U. S. Army, was the keynote speaker. Mark Collins, the speaker at our June meeting and who is currently working on his application for membership in our chapter, portrayed General George Washington.

This event was sponsored by the Granaderos and Damas de Gálvez. Our chapter has participated in this ceremony for many years.

We look forward to participating again next year.

New for this year, for our chapter, was the "Salute to the Union" held at 11:30 a.m. on the parade grounds at Fort Sam Houston. Boerne's chapter president gave the opening remarks.

See page 6 for Knox Duncan's statement delivered at the ceremony.

In commemoration of the thirteen original colonies, Frank Rohrbough, our Color Guard Commander, rang the bell as each state was named. Subsequently, howitzers were fired in succession as each of the fifty states were called out. It was an impressive ceremony that by Army tradition takes place at noon on every active Army Post where there is a working artillery piece. The Army Medical Corps Band also participated.

KENS 5 has a video clip on their website - Compatriot F. Rohrbough has air time

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MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

This late, very late at that, August Newsletter was intended to be mailed to you in early August. Since you will soon receive the September Compatriot I'll be brief and make an effort to bring you update with the happenings of your chapter.

In August we inducted a new member, Frank Erwin Carvajal Sutton, who was in San Antonio visiting family. Photos are in the email edition of this newsletter which you may get by emailing a request to me.

This brings me to the distribution of the newsletter. This one is rare in that it is sent by first class postage. This is to get address corrections and information on non-deliverable addresses. Postage, even bulk rate is a large expense for us - we need to have an accurate mail list. Now our newsletters are available by email - request to be put on the email list and you will receive both printed and email newsletters.

Continued on page 3



DR. GIL TREVIÑO delivers the invocation at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery.



THREE NEW Compatriots inducted at the June meeting (l to r) Larry Loop, Steven Loop with guest speaker Mark Collins and Steven Tharpe.

BOOK REVIEW 1776 - BY DAVID MCCULLOUGH

ON A COLLISION COURSE TO INDEPENDENCE

Both George III and George Washington get their due in McCullough's 1776

By LYNWOOD ABRAM

1776 - By David McCullough. Simon & Schuster, 386 pp. \$32.

It is widely believed that Americans don't know much about their national history. As a happy result, so one theory goes, ancient hatreds, such as those that continue to trigger wars in Europe, have no counterparts on these peaceful shores.

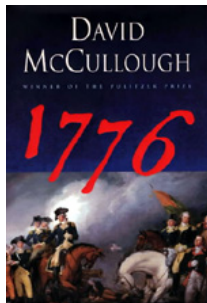
This view may not be exactly true, but so far even the waning animosities of the American Civil War have failed to foment a repeat of the bloodiest conflict in the nation's history.

Historically ignorant American readers, therefore, may be unsettled by aspects of David McCullough's new book about the American Revolution. For starters, McCullough begins in the midst of the struggle, focusing in detail on preparations for the siege of Boston. So the book will be appreciated best by those with some general knowledge about the causes and early history of the revolt.

1776 also is a reminder that the reputations, good and bad, of the central characters in the drama, especially George Washington and King George III, are not set in marble.

"All kings is mostly rascallions," wrote Mark Twain in The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn. He was probably right. Certainly George III had his bad days, and probably his worst was the day he came to understand that the American colonies were gone.

McCullough, however, says the king has had bad press. The king was intelligent but had never been a soldier and had never set foot in America, or even Scotland or Ireland for that matter. George III was, moreover, an exemplary family man, faithful to his "plain little wife," and ultimately the sire of 15 chil-



dren, including a couple of outstanding rascallions. Unpretentious and modest, George loved farming and preferred farm clothes to princely robes.

An early scene in 1776 occurs on Oct. 26, 1775, when King George addressed Parliament, the Lords seated, the members of the House of Commons standing at the rear. In his splendid speaking voice, the king informed the assemblage — months before the colonists declared themselves independent of his rule — that the true objective of the rebels was independence. He intended, said the king, to crush those who dared to rise against him.

"With absolute certainty, he knew what must be done," McCullough says. "He would trust to Providence and his high sense of duty. America must be taught to obey."

McCullough's pages on George Washington are of particular interest: "He was, in dress, manner, and his favorite pastimes, as close to an English country gentleman as was possible for an American of his day," McCullough writes. "He ordered his clothes from England, and only the finest English woolens and linens would do . . . He was by no means an experienced commander. [Before the Revolution] he had never led an army in battle."

A Southerner, Washington also "struggled with his own mounting contempt for the New Englanders" in his army, McCullough says. In one of Washington's numerous letters, he railed against the Yankees as "exceeding dirty and nasty" and considered the heart of his difficulties with them to be "an unaccountable stupidity in the lower classes of these people, which believe me prevails but too generally among the officers." Even so, Washington believed that with proper leadership his troops would fight. "Perseverance and spirit have done wonders in all ages," he wrote.

In the end, McCullough says, Washington's character triumphed over his lack of experience.

In David McCullough, readers will find a seasoned, skilled guide to the shifting tides of revolution. A winner of Pulitzer Prizes for Truman and John Adams, he has combed letters, diaries and special collections to give readers the viewpoints of the participants on both sides of the conflict. The result may encourage Americans to dig a little deeper into the history of their land.

lynwood.abram@chron.com With appreciation to Lynwood Abram - Copyright 2005 Houston Chronicle Reprinted with permission

Compatriot Jim Massingill has donated \$10 to the chapter and Compatriot Col Joe Ware has given a copy of 1776 to Compatriot Massingill

L U N C H E O N R E S E R V A T I O N S

The San Antonio chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution is a not-for-profit organization operating on limited funds. We are obligated to pay First Presbyterian Church for the exact number of meal reservations we guarantee based on compatriot reservations. When you make a reservation and do not attend the chapter is required to pay for that reservation. **We must therefore bill you for any unpaid reservation.** We appreciate you covering the costs of any no-shows and thank you for your continued support and cooperation. **Any cancellation of a reservation to avoid billing must be made at least one week prior** to the event by calling or emailing George Harcourt (contact information on last page of the newsletter). You are encouraged to place your name on the standing reservation list. The dining room has a capacity limit of about 30. The First Presbyterian Church policy requires that we confirm the number of reservations at least one week in advance of the meeting. They do not make provision for any meals in excess of that confirmed number, **thus it is imperative you make a reservation at least one week in advance.**

I N M E M O R I A L

The Reverend Doctor **Allen Palmer Price**, 77, passed away Sunday July 31st, 2005 in San Antonio. He is preceded in death by his brothers Robert and Carroll and sister Betty, and is survived by his wife Nancy, son Walter and wife Jill with granddaughters Jana and Taylor; sons Robert and Stephen, and daughter Deb. Allen will be greatly missed and fondly remembered for his life's dedication to the Christian ministry, both as a Chaplain in the US Navy and as a minister in the Episcopal Church. Born in Stuttgart, Arkansas on October 18, 1928, his family moved to Washington DC where he was raised and graduated from Wilsons Teaching College. His early career included two years in the US Marine Corps followed by service as a Chaplain in the US Navy Reserves. He later moved to Austin Texas and graduated from the Episcopal Theological Seminary of the Southwest in 1955. He served as a parish priest for churches in Lubbock Texas, Colorado Springs, and Thornton Colorado from 1955 to 1975. Following this he moved with his family to Anchorage Alaska where he coun-

seled abused women, worked and ministered in the department of corrections, served as an assistant priest at Episcopal churches in Valdez, Kenai and Anchorage, and riage and Family gical Seminary at and his wife Nancy 1994, where he Texas. Nancy, Al- lieu of flowers, either the Episcopal Southwest, where scholarship in honor 2247 Austin, TX 78768, or to St. Matthews Episcopal Church, PO Box 2337, Universal City, TX 78148-1337.



President's remarks continued

In order to use the bulk rate we must send at least 200 pieces. We barely make that minimum at this time. So, by requesting the email edition you will not be taken off the mailing list. In the near future one of our newest members, John Knoblersdorf - our own grand web meister - will introduce our all new built from scratch web site. John has spent hour following hour (and a great many of them I know) perfecting the site. One of the offerings on the site will be downloadable newsletters. A calendar of events will be a feature that you can easily access to stay current. In addition to those pages we will have pages for officers, activities, reports, memorial and links to other sites of interest. This is a major step forward for our Chapter - thank you John.

On Saturday 20 August four members of our chapter, Stephen Rohrbough, Frank Rohrbough, Edward Heath and George Harcourt, attended the commemoration of the Battle of Medina. Frank Rohrbough participated in period costume in the color guard. Photos of that event are in the electronic newsletter, space being limited in this print edition. A twenty second movie is also available.

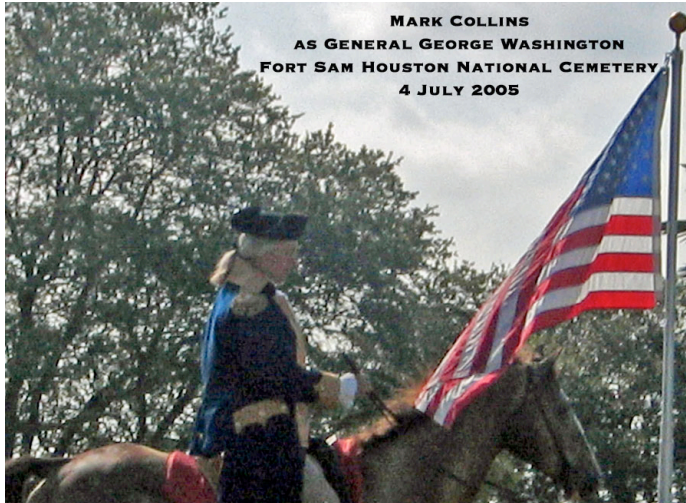
In early August, the 6th and 7th, Stephen Rohrbough, Jack Cowan, Edward Heath and George Harcourt attended the summer Board of Managers meeting in Longview. For me the highlight was the Saturday evening program at the beautiful Longview Country Club. And, yes, business was conducted for the benefit of the state society. It seems declines in membership and active participation are the two major obstacles we face as a society.

One page 5 Jay Higginson, our treasurer, has provided a snapshot of our meager finances. In the next issue of the newsletter I will address our financial condition and the demands on the treasury by our various programs.

Looking forward, in September we will have a program on printing during the Revolution, October brings State President Jim Heath to San Antonio and in December on Saturday the 3rd we will have a joint luncheon meeting with the DAR and CAR at the San Antonio County Club. More on these activities in the September newsletter.

Please consider volunteering for a position within our chapter. There are various openings - and thanks to those who have recently answered the call. Until next month, I remain,

Yours sincerely, George Harcourt



Stephen Rohrbough, Cathy & George Judy, Frank Rohrbough, John Judy, Sandy Fife Moore, David Judy, Bill Messerschmidt, Bridget Rohrbough, front row: Kevin and Aaron Judy (all from left to right)

SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION MARK THE GRAVE OF PATRIOT JOHN RORABAUGH AT HIS HOMESTEAD

On Saturday, June 4, 2005, the George Washington Chapter of Mount Vernon, Virginia and the San Antonio Chapter of San Antonio, Texas marked the grave of Patriot John Rorabaugh (1740 - 1821) in Peru, West Virginia, located 19 miles south of Moorefield, WV on Route 7. Patriot Rorabaugh provided pasturage and corn to the Militia marching to the Carolinas in 1781 for which a Special Court in Hampshire County later compensated him in 1782.

The ceremony was conducted at the private family cemetery on the Judy Farm located on the side of a mountain at the Patriot's homestead which was originally settled in 1758. Jack Evans of the George Washington Chapter served as the Master of Ceremonies. He noted that John Rorabaugh is the Patriot ancestor of Frank Rohrbough - a current member of the George Washington Chapter - and his twin brother Stephen Rohrbough,

Past President of the San Antonio Chapter.

Sandy Fife Moore and Bill Messerschmidt from the Fifes and Drums of Prince William the Third - wearing their Virginia Continental Line uniforms - headed the procession and provided several renditions of songs typical of the period. Frank Rohrbough, also wearing the Virginia Continental Line uniform, carried the colors, provided by the VAS-SAR Color Guard. He also gave a brief accounting of Patriot Rorabaugh and his participation in the War of Independence.

Mr. George Judy, a direct descendent of the honored patriot and the current owner/proprietor of the original 400-acre homestead of Patriot John Rorabaugh, and his wife Cathy, hosted the event. This homestead now consists of more than 3,300 acres and is bordered by the South Branch of the South Fork of the headwaters of the grand Potomac River.

As noted in the *Rohrbach Genealogy Vol. III*, George Washington recorded in his diary, when he was a young surveyor surveying the lands in western Virginia, that he surveyed the Rorabaugh homestead in 1784. By family accounts, George Washington took water from the original springhouse well - which still functions today. To tie this bit of history together, Jack Evans, the Master of Ceremonies, arranged for a piece of Mount Vernon to be brought to the Judy Farm, by obtaining two cuttings of English Boxwoods from Mount Vernon that were originally planted by General Washington. In doing so, this planting commemorates this gravesite and honors Patriot John Rorabaugh for his service to the cause of freedom.

Of the 25 attendees participating in the grave marking ceremony, nine were direct descendants of Patriot John Rorabaugh.

PREPARED BY F R A N K R O H R B O U G H - MEMBER OF THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

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- January - Tom Paine publishes the pamphlet *Common Sense*, a persuasive and widely read argument for independence.
- June - Congress appoints a committee to compose a declaration of independence.
- July - British General Sir William Howe lands an army at Staten Island amassing 32,000 troops. Declaration of Independence is formally adopted.
- September - Nathan Hale is captured by the British and hanged - going to his death bravely.
- October - November - Crushing American defeats at White Plains and Fort Mifflin force Washington to move westward - American army is saved.
- December - Surprise Christmas day attack by Washington leading troops across the Delaware River for a morale boosting victory at Trenton.

CHAPTER TREASURER'S REPORT - J. HIGGINSON
 July 19, 2005
 ASSETS

Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
Checking Account - Guaranty	
James Taylor ROTC Fund	362.00
Memorial Fund	1,206.04
Operating Funds	1,502.33
Total Checking Account -	3,070.37
TOTAL ASSETS	3,070.37
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Equity	
Opening Balance Equity	5,142.92
Retained Earnings	- 1,995.41
Net Income	- 77.14
Total Equity	3,070.37
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	\$ 3,070.37

April - June 2005
 Ordinary Income/Expense

Income	
Program Revenue- Meals	880.00
Total Income	880.00
Expense	
Printing, Reproduction, Postage	233.04
Program Expense- Meals	724.10
Total Expense	957.14
Net Ordinary Income	-77.14
NET INCOME	\$ -77.14

April 2004 - March 2005
 Ordinary Income/Expense

Income	
Membership Dues- NSSAR	1,939.00
Miscellaneous Income	304.14
Program Revenue- Meals	6,283.00
Total Income	8,526.14
Expense	
Awards & Scholarships	323.50
Awards Membership Medals	947.00

Contributions	
Children American Revolution	100.00
Total Contributions	100.00
Misc. Books, Flags, Gifts	34.36
Printing, Reproduction, Postage	1,392.72
Program Expense- Meals	6,085.68
Total Expense	7,612.76
Net Ordinary Income	913.38
NET INCOME	\$ 913.38

TEXAS SOCIETY SAR INVITES MALE MEMBERS TO ENTER TXSSAR CAR ESSAY CONTEST

The Texas Society Sons of the American Revolution invites male members of TSCAR to enter 2006 CAR Essay Contest. The purpose of the contest is to assist male members of TSCAR with college expenses. TXSSAR provides scholarships to three (3) male members in good standing in the TSCAR. for 2 years. Scholarships are offered to defray costs for books, tuition, and room and board while attending an accredited college or university.

If one is in the 10th, 11th, or 12th grade or in the 1st year of college, one is eligible to enter the contests.

One may enter the contest every year in the eligibility period. To enter the contest, contestants must complete an application, write a short essay, send a school transcript, and obtain letters of support from the Senior Society President in the applicant's TSCAR Society. More information is available in the TSCAR Yearbook.

Applicants must send applications through the nearest local SAR Chapter for acceptance and recognition in the program. Applications must be received no later than January 15, 2006. The sponsoring TXSSAR SAR Chapter will submit the application to the TXSSAR CAR Essay Committee for selection of contest winners. Awards for the TXSSAR Essay Contest are \$700, \$200, and \$100 for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners respectively.

Deserving members of TSCAR who participate in the contest have a unique opportunity to receive assistance with college expenses and learn their heritage through their research of American Revolutionary history.

PREPARED REMARKS DELIVERED ON JULY 4TH 2005 AT FORT SAM HOUSTON

Knox Duncan - President of the Boerne Chapter

“The National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution is a patriotic organization formed in 1889 by descendants of those who by great sacrifices established the United States of America as a constitutional republic. Congress chartered the Society in 1906. Its mission is to promote patriotism and to conserve and reaffirm those values on which our nation was established. Today, especially, we recall to memory the American Revolution and the nation of free men our patriot forefathers gave us, with the proviso, ‘if you can keep it.’ This ceremony has special significance to me, as for most of you. Two of my three sons serve as Army officers and a daughter is married to one. I served about two years on active duty in the Korean War.) Today, we honor those who in the War on Terror continue the fight for the freedoms we have enjoyed these past 228 years. We salute our soldiers, sailors, marines, and airmen—and their families—who sacrifice themselves in service to the nation.”

N O T E S F R O M N A T I O N A L

Report of President General Henry N. McCarl

July, 2005 - 115th SAR Congress

It has been a real privilege to serve as your President General this past year. Mary and I thank all of you for the courtesy and kindness rendered to us as we have been your guests in so many places during the year. Your work on behalf of the SAR is greatly appreciated and I encourage each and every member to continue to support those programs and activities we provide to uphold the founding principles upon which our Country is based.

As we look into the future we have a big job before us. The recent survey summarized in the report of the Strategic Planning Committee indicates that we have not been successful in communicating our goals to our own members, let alone the public at large. Many compatriots apparently receive but do not read the SAR Magazine. They show a profound lack of knowledge concerning the importance of our Center for Advancing America's Heritage. Some have indicated that they do not even know about our important thrust into education for patriotism. This must change if we are to be successful in promoting the goals of our Society. If we truly believe in what we are trying to do, we must have the support of our membership. This is a challenge for all of us. We must make a sincere effort to get the word out to our membership before we can explain it to the public at large.

I ask each of you, as the leaders of our Society, to read, discuss, and inform yourselves about what we are doing. Take the information back to our compatriots at the State Society and Chapter level. Once the members are enthusiastic about our exciting plans for the future, they can educate the public at large. Without outreach, the Society will wither away.

We will be considering some important changes in our NSSAR Bylaws at this meeting. Most of these changes are the result of recommendations of the IRS and to keep one step ahead of legislation pending in Congress to regulate charitable and fraternal organizations such as the SAR. Please give them your careful consideration.

May God Bless each of you, the efforts of our Society, and this Country that we all love so well.

Henry N. McCarl
President General 2004-2005 NSSAR

Compatriots,
I am gathering information on our veterans. If you served during either World I or II, please send contact me. While I would prefer email, a telephone call is acceptable.

ADDRESS ALL REPLIES TO: jrandall@sar.org

Thank you for your assistance and past service.
James N.(Jim) Randall Chief Operating Officer/Executive Director The National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution 1000 South 4th Street Louisville, KY 40203 Telephone: (502) 589-1776 Fax: (502) 589-1671 jrandall@sar.org

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February 4 - Great Britain officially declares an end to hostilities in America.

June 13 - The main part of the Continental army disbands.

September 3 - The Treaty of Paris is signed - ending the war. The treaty is ratified by Congress in January of 1784.

N O T E S F R O M S T A T E

The TXSSAR summer board of managers meeting was held on August 6th & 7th in Longview. In attendance from our chapter was Stephen Rohrbough, Ed Heath, Jack Cowan and George Harcourt.

A report of the meeting can be seen in the electronic (pdf file) version available by email request to George Harcourt.

G E N E A L O G I S T G E N E R A L S A R N A T I O N A L - J U D G E E D B U T L E R

At the annual NSSAR Congress in Louisville, by a vote of 168 to 33 (over 80%), the following by-law was amended so as to allow direct lineal descendants of a SAR member to obtain membership or a supplemental membership, without the necessity of first providing additional documentation. The amendment was submitted by the Tennessee Society.

Please note that when the membership certificate or supplemental membership certificate is mailed to the compatriot, he will be requested to provide the additional information if it is available.

FINAL AMENDMENT FORM (As amended on the floor) approved by a division of 168 Yea - 33 Nay.

Upon adoption of the amendment By-laws No. 1, Section 5 reads in its entirety:

Section 5. Whenever an applicant for Membership in the Society is a lineal descendant of a present or former member of the Society whose application contains references to authorities or sources for the ancestor of that present or former member having been eligible as a Son of the American Revolution as provided in Article III of the Constitution, it shall only be necessary to establish the applicant's descent from such present or former member and to include such member's National Number; provided that proofs satisfactory to the Genealogist General are on file at NSSAR Headquarters to establish the line of descent from the ancestor to the present or former member.

Direct descendants of current or former SAR members, including sons, grandsons, nephews and great nephews only, may apply using only a copy of their ancestor's SAR membership approved application and no additional proof may be required of the applicant to be approved for membership provided the ancestor's patriotic service is not in question and is fully documented. When his membership certificate is sent to him he may be requested to submit additional information about those ancestors listed on his SAR ancestor's application form.

Until and unless any requested additional proofs deemed necessary by the Genealogist General are provided the line will be acceptable to direct descendants, including sons, grandsons, nephews and great nephews only, of the original SAR member, and will not be useable by third parties for either original applications or supplemental application.

Compatriots,

I am pleased to report through the industrious efforts of Dr. Ralph Nelson, web-master, there is now a new SAR Genealogy Web Site at www.sar.org/geneal/genecomm.htm (<http://www.sar.org/geneal/genecomm.htm>).

I hope you will check it out. Hopefully it will help state registrars and will provide information to prospective new members. Please make a note of this web site.

Fraternally - Ed Butler - Genealogist General

P O S I T I O N S O P E N

The chapter has several openings for those who are dedicated to serving. There are officer positions such as vice president, chaplain as well as committee chairmanships. The Chapter Genealogist position is also open. Not only is this an interesting position it is crucially important to our chapter as through this office all new members pass. Please contact George Harcourt to express your interest or to recommend someone.

SAN ANTONIO CHAPTER - TEXAS SOCIETY OF THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION - SUMMER 2005

C H A P T E R C O N T A C T S & C A L E N D A R

President ~ George Harcourt
210 822 1960 ~ gharcourt@satx.rr.com

VP ~ Chancellor ~ Col Perry H. Burnham
210 342 1864

Treasurer ~ Jay Higginson, Jr.
210 666 3321 ~ jhigginson@aol.com

Genealogist ~ Open Position
Contact George Harcourt

Chaplain ~ Open Position
Contact George Harcourt

Historian ~ Jimmie D. Massingill
210 520 8525 j_massingill@earthlink.net

Sgt-at-Arms ~ Color Guard Commander~ Frank Rohrbough
frankr@gvvc.com

Recording and Corresponding Secretary ~ Dogan Perese
210 826 5633 ~ dogan@perese.com

C H A P T E R C A L E N D A R

SEPTEMBER 28TH - WEDNESDAY
Lunch - First Presbyterian Church
11:30 a.m. - \$10.00

OCTOBER 26TH - WEDNESDAY
Lunch - First Presbyterian Church
11:30 a.m. - \$10.00

NOVEMBER 16TH - WEDNESDAY
Lunch - First Presbyterian Church
11:30 a.m. - \$10.00

DECEMBER 21ST - WEDNESDAY
Lunch - First Presbyterian Church
11:30 a.m. - \$10.00

September 30th - Friday - 11:30 a.m.
EC meeting at Denny's on Blanco

October 28th - Friday - 11:30 a.m.
EC meeting at Denny's on Blanco

SAN ANTONIO CHAPTER
TEXAS SOCIETY OF THE SONS OF THE
AMERICAN REVOLUTION
PO BOX 460781
SAN ANTONIO, TX 78246-0781

RETURN ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED