



The San Antonio Compatriot

SAN ANTONIO CHAPTER #4 • TEXAS SOCIETY OF THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

JANUARY 2007

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Compatriots:

I would like to congratulate and thank all of our San Antonio Chapter compatriots for their support this past year. Many have stepped forward and volunteered to lead numerous activities that promote our values. By doing so, we honor our patriot ancestors.

This new year Compatriot Frank Rohrbough will serve as our president. He has been an energetic and steadfast supporter of our activities as a recent arrival to San Antonio. I am sure we will all be proud of our chapter under his leadership. I look forward to continuing to work with him and all of our fellow compatriots during the years to come.

Best wishes for the New Year!

Yours Fraternally,

Dogan Perese

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

WELL KNOWN TEXAS AUTHOR TWEED SCOTT TO ENTERTAIN US WITH HIS RENOWNED STORIES

**STATE CONVENTION ONLY 3 MONTHS AWAY
STILL NEED MORE VOLUNTEERS**

The speaker at the January meeting will be Tweed Scott, see page two for more information. He will be telling us interesting stories and introducing his newest book to us.

At our January meeting the newly elected officers will be sworn into office. The chapter calendar of events is on page four. It covers January through April of 2007. Please note the March chapter luncheon will be held in conjunction with the State Convention. It will be on Saturday March 24th at the Doubletree hotel - a departure in time and place from our normal meetings. This is an event you don't want to miss.

Chapter members (and some Compatriots from nearby chapters as well) are volunteering for positions to help with the 2007 convention. On page three is more information on the various positions we need help with. We are in need of items for the silent auction: and a chairman of that committee as well. This is held at the Saturday evening gala banquet and raises funds for the State Society. If you have items to donate we would love to have them.

DECEMBER'S GENERAL CHAPTER MEETING

The slate of officers for 2007 was announced with Joe Ware making a motion to elect the slate with a second of that motion by Courtland Snyder. The membership voted unanimously in favor of the motion.



At left is President elect Frank Rohrbough, Col. Don Taylor, retired, and President Dogan Perese thanking our speaker for an eye opening view of the 332nd Expeditionary Wing work in Balad, Iraq. Please see December's electronic newsletter for links to the 332nd.

Chapter historian, Jim Massingill, delivered a historical vignette that was an informative discussion of Clermont, the estate of the Livingston family. For more information on his presentation, web links and his photographs of Clermont see the six page edition of this newsletter on our website. Emailed copies contain all seven pages, but the mailed newsletter contains only the first four pages.

An America Revolution precedent for the [Gonzales](#) response in the Texas Revolution: [John McIntosh](#), Colonel of Continental Troops, Commanding Fort Morris, South Carolina replying to a British demand that he surrender; "...We have no property compared with the object for which we contend...and would rather perish in a vigorous defense than accept your proposals. We, sir, are fighting the battles of America and therefore disdain to remain neutral until its fate is determined. As to surrendering the fort, receive this laconic reply "Come and take it!"



Two hundred and twenty six years ago this month, on January 19, 1781, the patriots under the command of [Daniel Morgan](#) won a significant victory at the [Cowpens](#). General Morgan reported to General Greene:

"The troops I have the honor to command have been so fortunate as to obtain a complete victory...The action happened ...about sunrise at the Cowpens. ,, although (the British) waged the most cruel warfare , marked with burning and devastation, not a man was killed, wounded, or even insulted after he surrendered..."

Americans lost 12 killed and 60 wounded; British lost over 100 killed and over 200 wounded, over 500 captured. The Americans captured over 800 rifles, 2 cannons and 34 wagons of much needed supplies.

The boost to morale was incalculable. Submitted by Joe Ware

JANUARY'S SPEAKER

The mere mention of her name evokes a staggering array of images. No two people see Texas the same way. It is a land of contrasts and contradictions. The physical make up of the land is as diverse as her people. Blessed with a culturally rich heritage, Texas is a colorful tapestry of

characters and events. Her history spans everything between the Spanish conquistadors and astronauts on the moon.

Texans are special. It's as if they were born with an extra gene. They go through

life with an intense pride-a sense of belonging to something special.

Hello. My name is [Tweed Scott](#) and I am a writer in Austin, Texas and I will see you on January 24th at the San Antonio SAR luncheon.

GENEALOGY SEMINAR AT STATE CONVENTION

Plan now to attend the Texas Sons of the American Revolution Genealogy Seminar in San Antonio that is part of the annual TXSSAR convention in March 2007. The seminar will be held on Thursday, March 22nd. The speakers are Harry and Mary Alice Dell who have dedicated the past 14 years to genealogical pursuits from their home in Boerne. They have researched their ancestors and those of others in over 150 libraries, scores of court houses, and more graveyards than they can remember. The seminar will be in the Doubletree Hotel, the convention hotel, and the special convention room rates will apply. Cost of the seminar is only \$35.00. A syllabus will be provided for all registrants.

THE PREVIOUS ISSUES HAVE FEATURED FOUR TOPICS AND HERE ARE TWO MORE:

CAN I FIND IT ON THE INTERNET? – Mary Alice Dell

Digitized copies of original records and family histories on the Internet are speeding the genealogical research process. Tips on efficient ways to search for these records and illustrations of lesser known and free web sites are discussed.

W E B S I T E S

SAN ANTONIO CHAPTER #4
WWW.SARSAT.ORG

TEXAS SOCIETY
WWW.TXSSAR.ORG

NATIONAL SOCIETY
WWW.SAR.ORG

END OF THE LINE PROBLEM SOLVING

Harry and Mary Alice Dell

Is your line stopped because you can't find the next ancestor? The Dells will provide general suggestions for overcoming your brick walls and then answer individual questions. Attendees can submit questions in writing prior to the session, or during the sessions for specific problems.

For further information contact Judge Ed Butler, NSSAR Chancellor General, acting chairman for this event, at judge58@aol.com or at 210-698-8964.

THE FEBRUARY 2007 WILL BE AN EMAILED NEWSLETTER
SEE THIS ISSUE AND OTHERS IN COLOR - GO TO THE [WEB SITE](#)

SPOTLIGHT ON SAN ANTONIO CHAPTER COMPATRIOT

This Spotlight Compatriot, born in [Johnstown](#), PA, has served as president of the chapter for 27 months, 1988-1990. In December 1942 he entered service in the Army Air Corp, graduating as a pilot in August of 1944. Prior to that graduation he studied for two semesters at the [Presbyterian College](#) in Clinton, SC. In Europe he flew for the War Crimes Commission ([Nuremberg](#), Germany) and participated in early air evac missions. He left the service in 1946 and received a degree in 1949 from the [University of Pittsburgh](#). Recalled to serve once more in 1951 he served until 1975 when he retired as a Colonel. His service included a one year tour in Viet Nam. In 1966 he earned a Master in Logistics Management - in the first class to be awarded that degree. With that degree in hand he went on to reorganize logistics for the Air Force in an effort that encompassed five depots and 120,000 people. In 1975 he moved to San Antonio. He was the founding president of the David Crockett chapter of [Society of the War of 1812](#) in the State of Texas. He has three adult children, two sons (one of whom is also a member of our chapter) and a daughter. He is an involved member of our chapter, if you come to EC meetings or the monthly meetings you will have a chance to spend some time with this fine Compatriot. See page four for the identity of this month's spotlight Compatriot.

LUNCHEON RESERVATIONS

All compatriots who plan to attend Chapter Meetings on a regular basis are invited to add their names to the Standing Reservation List.

To do so, contact Compatriot Frank Rohrbough by calling (830) 537-5452 or e-mailing him at frankr@gvtc.com.

Reservations for the January meeting need to be made before Friday the 19th of January.

STANDING RESERVATIONS ARE STRONGLY ENCOURAGED.

UNITED STATES DAUGHTERS OF THE WAR OF 1812

Dear Mr. Rohrbough, I would like to ask if you and some of your members could give our Historical Program for the [United States Daughters of the War of 1812](#), on Saturday February 24, 2007 at the Gunther Hotel. Your speaker for the Marine's party at the Alamo last year did such a good job. I believe the program time will be at 7 PM; I am still waiting confirmation of the time. I would like the Flag Processional again. There will be ladies from across the State of Texas and some National Officers coming to attend this convention. Thank You

Monica R. Hague RN CEN, USD 1812 State Historian
10522 Tioga St. - San Antonio, Texas 7230-2430 - 210-699-3003

TEXAS SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION 2007 STATE CONVENTION - SAN ANTONIO

Several committee chairs are still needed. Review the list below and call George Harcourt to volunteer.

VOLUNTEERS ARE SOUGHT FOR THE FOLLOWING COMMITTEES. • CHAIRMEN AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS ARE NEEDED.

- ★ Registration - [J. Massingill & C. Snyder](#)
- ★ Publicity - [Brad Stephenson](#)
- ★ Silent Auction - at Gala Dinner
- ★ Ladies Events • Tour [McNay Museum](#)
- ★ Ladies Hospitality Suite - [Robin Butler, et al](#)
- ★ Entertainment for Saturday Gala
- ★ Audio/Visual
- ★ Luncheon - Saturday - [Dogan Perese](#)
- ★ Banquet- Saturday - [Dogan Perese](#)
- ★ Scrapbook and Poster Display
- ★ Friday Night Host Chapter Reception
- ★ Goody Bags and table decorations
- ★ Programs and printed materials
- ★ Merchandise - [John Knobelsdorf](#)
- ★ Genealogy Seminar - [Ed Butler & Joe Ware](#)

We need a great many of our compatriots to lend a hand during the planning process and even more during the event. Please contact [George Harcourt](#). See page four for contact information, and offer yourself for service in this undertaking. Many thanks to those who have responded to offer assistance. Individual committee meetings will continue meeting in January.

The registration form for the [Convention](#) is on our web site. All members are encouraged to participate. By all means, if not taking part as a convention registrant you are invited to the genealogy seminar, Saturday lunch and Saturday banquet - as your schedule allows.

Registration for the convention is not required to attend those events.

C H A P T E R ~ R E P O R T S V E T E R A N S / M I L I T A R Y

In December 252 magazines and 2 books were delivered to Audie Murphy Veterans Hospital. Please continue to bring books and magazines to the EC and general meetings. The donations are truly appreciated by the Veterans. In 2006 we donated 1,303 magazines and 33 books.

E X E C U T I V E C O M M I T T E E

The meeting was held on December 14th. Compatriots present were: Courtland Snyder, Stephen Rohrbough, Ed Heath, Brad Stephenson, Ed Butler, Joe Ware, David Bowles, Jay Higginson, Harry Long, Jim Massingill, and the chapter president elect presiding - Frank Rhorbough.

W E B M A S T E R

The most important pages, at least for the next few months, are the [2007 State Meeting Pages](#). When you go there, you will find a wealth of information about the annual TXSSAR convention that will be held in San Antonio in March. A link to the 2007 Information Page will reveal registration and reservation forms. Another link will take you to information about the 2007 Genealogy Seminar which will be conducted the day before the annual convention. I hope to see you there.

The [Organization Page](#) has tables which list the Chapter Officers and the Committee Chairmen for 2007.

The [Information Page](#) contains sections about: Important Announcements; a Calendar of Events; information about our monthly luncheon Chapter Meetings; and information about the Chapter's Executive Committee Meetings.

Next in the list is the [Honorariums Page](#). Here you will find tables which list: Chapter Presidents, past and current; the names of Chapter Members who have served, or are serving State and/or National (note that some of our Compatriots have been active at more than one level, and sometimes in more than one office at the same time); recipient(s) of the Minuteman Medal; and recipients of the Patriot Medal.

That's enough for now. As before, I invite everyone to visit our Website, check it out, and offer suggestions for improvement. I will appreciate your participation and assistance with making our website useful and informative.

I'll see you next month. *John Knobelsdorf*, [Webmaster](#)

2007 CHAPTER OFFICERS - ELECTED ON DECEMBER 20TH 2006

PRESIDENT.....Frank Rohrbough	TREASURER.....Dogan Perese	GENEALOGIST...Dr. Reverend James Taylor
PRESIDENT ELECT.....Jay Higginson	CHANCELLOR.....Brad Stephenson	CHAPLAIN.....Dr. Reverend James Taylor
VICE PRESIDENT.....David Bowles	SERGEANT-AT-ARMS.....John Dupree	PUBLICITY.....Jerry Fullenwider
SECRETARYGeorge Harcourt	HISTORIAN..... Jim Massingill	

The electronic edition of this newsletter contains various hyperlinks (text in blue that is underscored) that when clicked on will take you to a website with information about the topic or open a window for the sending of email to further inquire about that specific topic.

Please let the editor know if these hyperlinks are useful or not; if you use them or find them to be distraction.

THE ELECTRONIC ISSUE OF THIS NEWSLETTER CONTAINS SEVEN PAGES; THE PRINTED VERSION IS FOUR PAGES.
THE BONUS THREE PAGES CONTAIN AN ARTICLE ON THE HISTORIC CLERMONT ESTATE - WITH PHOTOS BY JIM MASSINGILL.

CHAPTER OFFICERS FOR 2007

PRESIDENT ~ FRANK ROHRBOUGH
830 537-5452 ~ FRANKR@GVTC.COM

PRESIDENT ELECT ~ JAY HIGGINSON
210 666-3321 ~ JHIGGINSON@AOL.COM

VICE PRESIDENT ~ DAVID BOWLES
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CHANCELLOR ~ BRADLEY STEPHENSON
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CHAPLAIN ~ REV. JAMES TAYLOR
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RECORDING AND CORRESPONDING SECRETARY ~ GEORGE HARCOURT
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THIS NEWSLETTER IS EDITED AND PRODUCED BY GEORGE HARCOURT. CONTACT HIM WITH ANY SUBMISSIONS, SUGGESTIONS, ADDRESS CHANGES OR COMMENTS. **AN EDITOR AND PUBLISHER IS SOUGHT** - CONTACT G. HARCOURT.

THE SPOTLIGHT COMPATRIOT IS: COL HARRY C. LONG

MEETINGS ON THE HORIZON

DATES/MEETING TYPE	CHAPTER	LOCATION
2007 STATE CONFERENCE 23-25 MARCH 2007	SAN ANTONIO	DOUBLETREE HOTEL SAN ANTONIO
2007 August BOM	Boerne	Tapatio Springs Resort
2007 October BOM	Plano- McKinney	Southfork Hotel, Plano
2008 State Conference	K. M. VanZandt	Fort Worth

ANNUAL DUES

In November you should have received your dues notice from the state treasurer. The statement has your certificate for 2007 as well as the explanation of the dues. The schedule of dues is: National - \$25.00; State - 12.50 and Chapter - \$9.50 for a total of \$47.00. If you are a member of more than one chapter the statement will reflect that and have the appropriate amount listed. If you did not receive the statement in November you may, either request one from the state treasurer or simply mail your dues to him.

Checks should be payable to: Jim T. Jones, Jr. Texas Society Treasurer and mailed to PO Box 10178, College Station, TX, 77842-0178. Please include your NSSAR # if you have

it. Dues not received by December 31, 2006 will cause

an inactivation of your membership and there is a fee to [reactivate](#).

Please renew your membership and your participation in our worthy goals.

<http://www.txssar.org/fees2007.html>

CHAPTER CALENDAR

CHAPTER MEETINGS



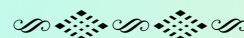
JANUARY 24TH • WEDNESDAY
LUNCH • BARN DOOR
11:30 A.M. • \$17

INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS
SPEAKER TWEED SCOTT



FEBRUARY 28TH • WEDNESDAY
LUNCH • BARN DOOR
11:30 A.M. • \$17

SPEAKER TBA



MARCH 24TH • SATURDAY
LUNCH • DOUBLETREE HOTEL
11:30 A.M. • \$25

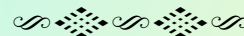
STATE MEETING LUNCH

ORATION CONTEST

ROTC AWARDS

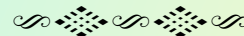
EAGLE SCOUT AWARD

& MUCH MORE



APRIL 25TH • WEDNESDAY
LUNCH • BARN DOOR
11:30 A.M. • \$17

SPEAKER TBA



EC MEETINGS

ALL MEETINGS AT 11:30 AM

JANUARY 18TH - THURSDAY

FEBRUARY 15TH - THURSDAY

MARCH 15TH - THURSDAY

APRIL 19TH - THURSDAY

GOLDEN CORRAL IH10 WEST

ALL ARE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE



THE CLERMONT ESTATE

REPORT BY CHAPTER HISTORIAN - JIM MASSINGILL

We visited [Clermont](#) in October. When the last family member gave it to the state of New York she only took her cloths. They asked her what the kitchen looked like when she was a little girl and she said "I have no idea I never went into the kitchen". The pictures are of the front and the back of the house. The back faces the Hudson River and is about 300 feet above the river.

Jim Massingill, Chapter Historian

ROBERT LIVINGSTON, Jr

Seven Generations of Livingston's lived at [Clermont](#); a period of over 278 years.

Visible across the Hudson River from the house are the high peaks of the Catskill Mountains that inspired the estate's name: Clermont which means "clear mountain" in French.

The [Clermont](#) estate was established in 1728 when Robert Livingston, Jr. (1688-1775) inherited a tract of 13,000 acres along the Hudson River from his father

Robert Livingston (1654 - 1728), first Lord of Livingston Manor. The Manor of Livingston, which comprised the southern third of modern Columbia County, was the second largest private landholding in colonial New York. Robert of Clermont, as he was known began construction of his brick Georgian-style country seat, perhaps incorpo-

rating an existing seventeenth-century house, between 1730 and 1750.

Livingston's eldest son, Robert R. Livingston, Jr. (1746-1813), was Clermont's most notable resident.

A member of the Committee of Five responsible for drafting the Declaration of Independence

Served as the first United States Minister of Foreign Affairs (Secretary of State) Chancellor of the State of New York.

He gave the oath of office to George Washington as first President of the United States. Shouting to the audience "It is done", "Long live George Washington, President of The United States"

Chancellor Livingston concluded his public career as Thomas Jefferson's Minister to France between 1801 and 1804. While in Paris, he negotiated the Louisiana Purchase. He entered into a

partnership with Robert Fulton a Pennsylvania born painter and inventor who shared Livingston's fascination with steam navigation. Their creation which they called the North River is known to history as the Clermont.

Their steamboat embarked on its maiden voyage between New York City and Albany in 1807, setting off a transportation revolution in the United States. Clermont was designated a United States National Historic Landmark in 1973.

[There are hyperlinks in this article.](#)





ROBERT LIVINGSTON'S CLERMONT • THE MANOR OF LIVINGSTON ROBERT OF CLERMONT • LORD OF LIVINGSTON MANOR

7 Generations-Over 278 years

The Clermont estate was established in 1728 when Robert Livingston, Jr. (1688 - 1775) inherited a tract of 13,000 acres along the Hudson River from his father Robert Livingston (1654 - 1728), first Lord of Livingston Manor. The Manor of Livingston, which comprised the southern third of modern Columbia County, was the second largest private landholding in colonial New York. Robert of Clermont, as he was known began construction of his brick Georgian-style country seat, perhaps incorporating an existing seventeenth-century house, between

1730 and 1750. Visible across the Hudson River from the house are the high peaks of the Catskill Mountains that inspired the estate's name: Clermont means "clear mountain" in French.

Robert of Clermont's only child, Robert R. Livingston (1718 - 1775), added to the family's landholdings when he married Margaret Beekman heir to immense tracts of land in Dutchess and Ulster counties, in the 1740s. Clermont's second owner was known to his contemporaries as Judge of the Admiralty Court and Judge of the Supreme Court of the Province of New York. Judge and Margaret Beekman.

Livingston's eldest son, Robert R. Livingston, Jr. (1746-1813), was Clermont's most notable resident. A member of the Committee of Five responsible for drafting the Declaration of Independence, he also served as the first United States Minister of Foreign Affairs (Secretary of State) and, as Chancellor of the State of New York, he gave the oath of office to George Washington as first President of the United States.

Because of the Livingston family's prominent role in support of independence, Clermont was burned by British troops under the command of General John Vaughan during a foray up the Hudson River in the autumn of 1777. Marga-

ret Beekman Livingston, who managed the estate during most of the war years. rebuilt the family home between 1779 and 1782.

After independence was won, Chancellor Livingston began developing Clermont as an agriculture show-place. His experiments with sheep breeding and methods for increasing the yield of crops, while retaining the fertility of the soil, received national attention In 1792 the Chancellor began construction of an elaborate new mansion just south of the original house as the centerpiece of his experimental farm. Built in the shape of a capital "H." this house was also called Clermont It was destroyed by fire in 1909, but its ruins are still visible and indicate its size and grandeur.

Chancellor Livingston concluded his public career as Thomas Jefferson's Minister to France between 1801 and 1804. While in Paris, he negotiated

the Louisiana Purchase and entered into a partnership with Robert Fulton a Pennsylvania-born painter and inventor who shared Livingston's fascination with steam navigation. Their creation which they called the North River is known to history as the Clermont Their steamboat embarked on its maiden voyage between New York City and Albany in 1807, setting off a transportation revolution in the United States.

Chancellor Livingston died at his Clermont estate in 1813. The original Clermont residence which had remained the home of Margaret Beekman Livingston until her death in 1800, was willed to the Chancellor's eldest daughter. The Chancellor's heirs initiated a series of additions and alterations to the house during the nineteenth century. The last significant changes to the old Clermont residence were made in the 1920s. when John Henry Livingston (1848-1927) and his wife, Alice Delafield Clarkson Liv-

ingston 1872-1964), remodeled the home in a Colonial Revival style.

After Mr. Livingston's death, Alice Livingston continued to reside in the house until the onset of the Second World War, when she relocated to the nearby gardener's cottage (known as Clermont Cottage). Thereafter, the mansion was only opened for special occasions during the summer months. In 1962 Mrs. Livingston deeded most of her family's historic estate to the State of New York.

Clermont was designated a United States National Historic Landmark in 1973. Clermont is also an anchor in the Hudson River National Landmark District (designated in 1990), a twenty-mile stretch of riverfront land in northern Dutchess and southern Columbia counties Restored to its early twentieth-century appearance, Clermont's furnishings and airy pastoral landscapes and vistas reflect the continuum of a unique and vanishing way of life along the Hudson River.

Best wishes for a 2007 that finds you in good health and at our monthly meetings.



COL. DON TAYLOR (RET), DECEMBER 2006 AT THE CHAPTER MEETING.