



# THE SAN ANTONIO COMPATRIOT

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

Compatriot Edward Heath, President — Compatriot Frank Rohrbough, Editor

Jan-Feb 2012



## PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

Greetings Compatriot and Friends of SAR:

First, let me say “thank you” for this opportunity to serve as your President this year. It is special because we are the Host

Chapter for the 117th Annual Texas Society Meeting here in San Antonio in March, something this Chapter has not done since 2007. To make this convention successful, I look for your assistance and valued support.

It’s an honor and privilege to serve as your president because I know the many accomplishments that this chapter has achieved under some very capable Presidents over the years. So, thank you for entrusting me with the privilege of being your President for the coming year. We got off to a great start with our State President Bill MARRS installing our Officers for 2012 at our January 18th Chapter Meeting.

The core value of this great organization is dedication to the patriotic principles of our Society. We have seen the decline of patriotic values in our country. I believe we can reinforce these values with the continuance of our educational programs in the middle schools. It is not about what we personally achieve, but what we can accomplish in perpetuating interest in American History and patriotism to the youth of our country.

I hope to extend our education efforts during this year and together, we can accomplish this goal.

Respectfully, *Ed Heath*

## NEW OFFICERS INDUCTED FOR 2012

At our January 20th Meeting, President Bill MARRS, Texas Society SAR, installed the new officers for our Chapter for 2012. The following members were elected

by the members at the December 2011 Chapter Meeting: Edward Heath, President; James Taylor, President-Elect and Chaplain; Bob Brady, Recording Secretary; Frank Rohrbough, Corresponding Secretary & Sergeant At Arms; Robert Clark, Treasurer and Registrar; Jim Massingill, Historian; and Peter Baron, Genealogist.

We were honored to have as our Guest Speaker Compatriot Bill MARRS, President, TXSSAR, and his First Lady Sylvia from Temple, TX. President Bill MARRS began by inducting our elected officers to their elected positions by administering the SAR Oath of Office. Those present and taking the Oath (shown in the photo at left and left to right) are Compatriots Edward Heath, Harold (Bud) Davenport, James Taylor, Robert Clark, Bob Brady and Jim Massingill.



Following the induction ceremony, President MARRS spoke of the state of the Texas Society and the upcoming State Conference in San Antonio at the Hilton San Antonio Airport Hotel on March 23-25th. The Annual Meeting is being hosted by the San Antonio. The Meeting begins with committee meetings on Friday morning and goes until 3:30 PM. The General Session opens at 3:45 PM and continues through Sunday morning.

For more details, go to the TXSSAR webpage at “www.txssar.org”, go to the “Home” tab and select “Public Site” then click on the “Events” tab and select “March 2012 Annual Conference”.



(Above) President MARRS shares his remarks about the Texas Society and its efforts to promote its programs and activities.

## SAR Celebrates George Washington Parade in Laredo

SAR Chapter dual member President-General Larry Magerkurth and First Lady Barbara led the multi-state SAR group in the 114<sup>th</sup> Annual George Washington Birthday Celebration Parade in Laredo on February 18th. The Magerkurth's were accompanied by other national officers including Registrar General Lindsey Brock and wife Billie traveled from Jacksonville, FL and Treasurer General Joe Dooley, also a dual-member of our Chapter, joined us in the Parade. Also, joining in was Compa-

triot Michael Tomme, National Color Guard Commander and Leading the large TXSSAR delegation was President Bill Marris and his First Lady Sylvia and President-Elect Bob Clark. For the first time, Compatriot Karl Jacobs, the Mexico Society President, joined us and marched in the parade. The George Washington Parade has an estimated 300,000 plus parade viewer along the 3 mile route. As a NSSAR national event, this event counts toward the Silver Color Guard Medal. It maybe the largest Parade that SAR participates in the country.



(Above) At the International Bridge, President-General Larry Magerkurth and Karl Jacobs, President Mexico Society, led the SAR contingent. Following behind them are other TXSSAR dignitaries, including President Bill Marris (with US Flag) at far left. **More photos are provided on page 4.**



(Shown at Left) President Ed Heath presents Lois Shipman, surviving spouse of Past State President Ross Shipmen, the Certificate of Appreciation for her years of support of SAR. (At Far Right) As speaker for our February Chapter Meeting, Compatriot Joe Ware gave an interesting review of "Raids Across the Rio Grande" which addressed the Ware Family moving from Virginia to Texas in the mid-1800's. He reported on an ensuing battle on June 19, 1864 at Fort Duncan at Eagle Pass, Texas. As a Captain in the Confederate Army in the Texas Cavalry, his ancestor commanded 34 soldiers to fight deserters from across the River who sought to loot the town.



**SAR — DAR Participate in GW Parade:** Because of the great efforts of Compatriot Tom Green and the hospitality and marketing efforts of Rick Ramirez, President of the Laredo SAR Chapter, over 50 SAR Members and their Ladies (many wearing period clothing) participated in this year's Parade. Following the parade, President Ramirez and his family hosted over 100 SAR guests and their ladies to a Chapter sponsored luncheon at the Holiday Inn Ballroom. Compatriot Ramirez presented the TXSSAR Bernardo de Galvez Medals and Parade Pins to all first time participants in the Parade. The Bernardo de Galvez Medal was struck in 2010 specifically for SAR Color Guardsmen who participate in the Parade for the first time.





## Colonel Peter Goebel, USA, Retires after 30 Years of Active Duty Service

Colonel Peter K. Goebel, USA, was retired on February 23, 2012 at Ft. Sam Houston, TX after 30 years of service in the US Army. He graduated from the U.S. Military Academy in May 1981 and was commissioned as a 2nd Lt. of Air Defense Artillery upon his graduation. His duties took him to Ft. Bliss, TX, Ft. Benning, GA., Germany, Fort Knox, KY, Hawaii, and Ft. Bragg, NC. He had operational assignments in Cuba, Croatia, and Bosnia-Herzegovina with JTF-160 and Task Force Eagle. Col. Goebel graduated from the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College at Fort Leavenworth, KS in 1999. Following graduation, he had operational assignments to include the 82nd Airborne Division during Operation Iraqi Freedom I from March 2003 to March 2004. He was assigned to U.S. Army South in August 2008; was



(Above) Major General Simeon Trombitas, USA, Commander of US Army South, presides over Col Goebel's retirement at Ft. Sam Houston, San Antonio, TX.



deployed to Central and South America and to Afghanistan for Operation Enduring Freedom in October 2009 for one year. He returned to Ft. Sam Houston in 2010 and was assigned to U.S. Army North/Fifth Army.

Col Goebel was awarded the Legion of Merit Medal for his 30 plus years of dedicated service to his country. Col Goebel has served the SAR well too serving as a Chapter President in New York, as NY State Society President and National Color Guard Commander.

(Shown from Left to Right) Attending the ceremony were Compatriots Stephen Rohrbough, Ed Butler and his wife Robin, Peter Goebel, Bud Davenport and Frank Rohrbough.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMING EVENTS

**Chapter Business Meeting:** Lion & Rose Pub, Sonterra Blvd 410, 2nd Thursday each month at 11:30 A.M. (Mar 8th and Apr 12th)

**Chapter General Meeting:** Usually held at the Petroleum Club on 3rd Wednesday each month at 11:30 A.M. to 1 P.M. The **March Chapter Meeting has been cancelled** in order to support the 117th Annual Meeting of TXSSAR. In lieu of a monthly meeting we encourage members to attend the Youth Awards Luncheon on Saturday, March 24th.

### Special Events:

- The **Annual Meeting of the Texas Society of SAR** will be hosted by our Chapter at the Hilton San Antonio Airport Hotel during the period March 22-25, 2012. All members are encouraged to help in the conduct of this meeting and attend the General Sessions on Friday and Saturday.
- **Frank Tejada Middle School History Faire**, Saturday, April 7th, 9AM - 4 PM.. All members

are invited to participate in this history filled event and meet with students telling them of your Patriot's contribution to the cause of liberty.

For more information, contact Compatriot Jay Lewallen at [jlewa@satx.rr.com](mailto:jlewa@satx.rr.com).

To learn more about our many Chapter events, go to our Webpage :

**Chapter Website:** [www.sarsat.org](http://www.sarsat.org).



## George Washington Parade (Cont'd) Who Are These People?

