



THE SAN ANTONIO COMPATRIOT

San Antonio Chapter Sons of the American Revolution

Compatriot Edward A Heath, President — Compatriot Frank Rohrbough,

Sep-Oct 2012



PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

A decisive victory led by General George Washington over a British Army commanded by Lt. General Lord Cornwallis was the culmination of the Yorktown Campaign on October 19, 1781. This proved to be the last major land battle of the American Revolutionary War, 231 years ago. Our country has gone through many accomplishments and setbacks, but has endured to become the greatest country in the world. To reach this esteem, our leaders had to depend on a well organized and courageous military force. This has been our country's backbone since its creation. This security has allowed our country to prosper and its people to develop their ingenuity for the betterment of a free society.

Shortly, we will be celebrating Veterans Day to show our appreciation for those military members and veterans who are currently serving and who have served in our Armed Forces in many various ways. On November 10th, we are planning a Veterans Day Gala and will participate in the US Military Veterans Day Parade. I hope you'll be able to join us.

As we reflect on the 231 years of our country's freedom, despite the bends on the road, there is much to be proud of and its up to all of us to practice our patriotic ideals and be optimistic for the future.

I wish all of you and your family a very Happy Thanksgiving. May God Bless America.

Respectfully, *Edward A. Heath*

NOMINATIONS FOR CHAPTER OFFICERS FOR 2013

President Heath has appointed a Nominating Committee for the Chapter Officers for 2013. This Newsletter is official notification for upcoming nominations at the November Chapter Meeting and the Election of Officers at the December Chapter Meeting. To nominate candidates, contact President Heath at analysis@gvtc.com.

This Month in American History

Battle of King's Mountain: On October 7, 1780, Patriot irregulars under Colonel William Campbell defeated the British Loyalist (Tories) under Major Patrick Ferguson at the Battle of King's Mountain in South Carolina.

Major Ferguson's Tory force, made up mostly of American Loyalists from South Carolina and elsewhere, was the western wing of General Lord Cornwallis' North Carolina invasion force. One thousand American frontiersmen under Colonel Campbell of Virginia gathered in the backcountry to resist Ferguson's advance. Pursued by the Patriots, Ferguson positioned his Tory force in defense of a rocky, treeless ridge named King's Mountain. The Patriots charged the hillside multiple times, demonstrating lethal marksmanship against the surrounded Loyalists.

Unwilling to surrender to a "band of banditti," Ferguson led a suicidal charge down the mountain and was cut down in a hail of bullets. After his death, some of his men tried to surrender, but they were slaughtered in cold blood by the frontiersmen, who were bitter over British excesses in the Carolinas. The Tories suffered 157 killed, 163 wounded, and 698 captured. Colonel Campbell's force suffered just 28 killed and 60 wounded. (Source: History.com)



Two Chapter Members Share Their Views on Specific Minutemen of the Revolution



from the mountains of western Virginia, North and South Carolina (what is now Tennessee and Kentucky). He noted they were Scottish and Irish immigrants who left their homeland due to religious strife and thus had great hatred for the British. They were called to service with the Virginia and Carolina Militias and thus “came over the mountains” to fight the British Loyalist. On October 7, 1780, they fought victoriously at King’s Mountain and at Cowpens on January 17, 1781. Eventually, these victories led to the defeat of General Cornwallis at Yorktown in October 1781. (At Right) Accompanying Compatriot Krish were two re-enactors dressed in the uniforms of the patriots (on the left) and the British (on the right).



Green Mountain Boys:

On September 13th, Compatriot Peter Baron, Past President of SASAR Chapter and Early American History enthusiast, gave an historical perspective of the role of the Green Mountain Boys’ service in Vermont during the American Revolution to DAR’s Green Mountain Boys Chapter (San Antonio). He noted: “When the Revolutionary War started in 1775, Ethan Allan and a force of his guerillas along with colonial General Benedict Arnold marched up to Lake Champlain and captured the important military posts at Fort Ticonderoga, Crown Point, Fort Ann and the town of St John (Now St Jean), Quebec. The Green Mountain Boys later formed the basis of the Vermont militia which selected Seth Warner as it’s leader. Some of the Green Mountain Boys preferred to stick with Ethan Allen and were captured along with Allen in August 1775 in a bungled attack on the city of Montreal.” (Source: Wikipedia)



(At Left) Regent Jean Kanter expressed her appreciation for Compatriot Baron’s very interesting and entertaining presentation on the weapons, uniforms and Flag of the Green Mountain Boys with a DAR Certificate of Appreciation.

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INDUCTIONS AT SEPTEMBER MEETING

At our September Chapter Meeting on September 19th, three new members of were inducted into the Sons of the American Revolution and the San Antonio Chapter of the Texas Society by Chapter President Edward Heath. Shown from left to right are Michael Byrne (Patriot Ezekiel Bentley), Lan Kelly (Patriot Capt Joseph McMurtry) and (in wheelchair) Schuyler Crist (Patriot Moses Cummins).

EMS/FIRE SAFETY AWARDS

At our October 17th Chapter Meeting, San Antonio Fire Chief Charles Hood was again our guest speaker for the past six years. He spoke of the daily demands that are placed on the Fire Department and on the challenges and the tasks associated with protecting our community from such fire disasters. Following his remarks and some questions, President Heath presented two awards. **(Right Top)** Chief Hood was presented a small Betsy Ross Desk Flag for his presentation.



SAR Awards EMS Medal to Local Fireman: **(Right Bottom)** President Heath presented Fire Engineer Christopher Velasquez with the SAR Emergency Medical Services Commendation Medal for his commitment to educational programs and work to ensure that the Fire Department has the most advanced equipment and practices the newest treatment techniques when responding to life-threatening events.



SAR Announces Fire Safety Commendation Medal: President Heath also announced to the award of the Fire Safety Commendation Medal to Captain James Duncan who is also a member of the San Antonio Fire Department. As a Captain of Engine 40 and director of the Wildland Firefighting Team, he was recognized for training, equipping and preparing his team to fight wildfires and protecting the citizens of San Antonio from devastation from threatening wildfires. Unfortunately, Captain Duncan could not attend the ceremony and will be scheduled to

(Above) Witnessing the presentation of this award is Officer Velasquez's wife, Julia Velasquez who received a bouquet of flowers.

INDUCTIONS AT OCTOBER MEETING



At our October 17th Chapter Meeting, three new members were inducted into the Sons of the American Revolution by

Chapter President Edward Heath. Shown from left to right are Jeffery Payne (Patriot Mial Scurlock), Robert Hancock (Patriot Stephen Hancock) and Bobby Vernor (Patriot John Whitman). Congratulations to all.

OPERATION ANCESTOR RESEARCH

The National Society SAR and Ancestry.Com, Operation Ancestor Research was launched at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, DC in 2010 for Wounded Warriors. Through the dedicated leadership of Compatriot Edward F. Butler, Past President-General (2009-2010), NSSAR, the program was set up for Wounded Warriors and their families at Brook Army Medical Center in San Antonio in 2011. With the stalwart support of Compatriot Peter Baron, our Chapter is conducting training programs at the Family Support Center at Ft. Sam Houston. Classes are conducted two times per month. Other Compatriots are James Taylor, Frank Rohrbough, and Jay Lewallen. Other members are invited to help.

Members Recognized for Supporting Chapter's ROTC Awards Program

At our September meeting, Compatriot Bill Clanton, Member Awards Program Committee, presented Certificates of



Appreciation to members who attended local high schools and universities who have ROTC Awards Programs. Each year, the faculty identifies deserving students. SAR presents ROTC



Medals to selected students during the school's Annual Awards Programs. (Shown Clockwise at Top Right) Some members who attended such events are: Ed Ritchie, George Harcourt, Bud Davenport and Peter Baron.



ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMING EVENTS

Chapter Business Meetings: Lion & Rose Pub, Sonterra Blvd 410, usually held on the 2nd Thursday each month at 11:30 A.M (Next Meetings are on November 8th and December 13th.)

Chapter General Meeting: Petroleum Club on 3rd Wednesday each month at 11:30 A.M to 1 P.M. (No Meeting will be held in November due to our Veterans Day Gala. Next Meeting will be held on December 19th.)

Special Events:

- **Annual Veterans Day Gala,** November 10th (Saturday), 6-9 P.M., Petroleum Club.

- **Operation Ancestor Research,** November 16th (Friday), 1 PM at BAMC Wounded Warrior Family Support Center.
- **US Military Veterans Association Parade,** November 10th (Saturday) 11 AM Assemble in Section D Position 28, Parade starts at Noon.
- **Christmas Decorations:** November 28th (Wednesday), 8-10 AM. Set up Christmas decorations in the Recreation Center at the Audie Murphy VA Hospital, in San Antonio.
- **Joint DAR/SAR.CAR Holiday Luncheon,** Dec 1st (Saturday)

San Antonio Country Club, 11 AM, Reservations required.

- **Wreaths Across America,** December 8th (Saturday), 11 AM, National Cemetery at Ft. Sam Houston. Our Chapter Color Guard will participate in the Opening ceremony. Come join us for this event honoring our fallen veterans.

Contact Compatriot Frank Rohrbough at frankr@gvtc.com

To learn more, go to our Chapter Webpage :

www.sarsat.org