



# THE SAN ANTONIO COMPATRIOT

San Antonio Chapter Sons of the American Revolution

Compatriot James C. Taylor, President—Compatriot Frank Rohrbough, Editor Sep-Oct 2013



## PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

First, I want to wish all of you and your family a very Happy Thanksgiving. As we head into the Fall, I want to report that we have done much to spread the word about our Chapter and SAR within the San Antonio Community. On September 14th, we conducted our second distribution of Tool Boxes, as part of the NSSAR Tool Box Program, to 20 more warriors at the Operation Homefront Village. This community support event provided each warrior a Tool Box filled with up to a \$1000.00 worth of tools at no cost to your Chapter or SAR. (See page 2 for more information.)

Then, at our October Meeting, we presented SAR's Fire Safety and Emergency Medical Service Awards to 6 well-qualified and deserving members of the San Antonio Fire Department. Our Guest Speaker was San Antonio Deputy Fire Chief Noel Horan who observed the presentation of the SAR Awards to his people. (More details are given on page 3.)

At the December Meeting, The Election of Chapter Officers for 2014 will be held. The Nomination Committee has come up with a Slate of Officers on which the membership present will vote. Although a Slate has been prepared, nominations from the "floor" will be accepted before the vote. The Officers elected at this meeting will be installed at the January 15th Chapter Meeting by Texas Society President Stephen Rohrbough. May God Bless You and God Bless America! Respectfully, *James C. Taylor*

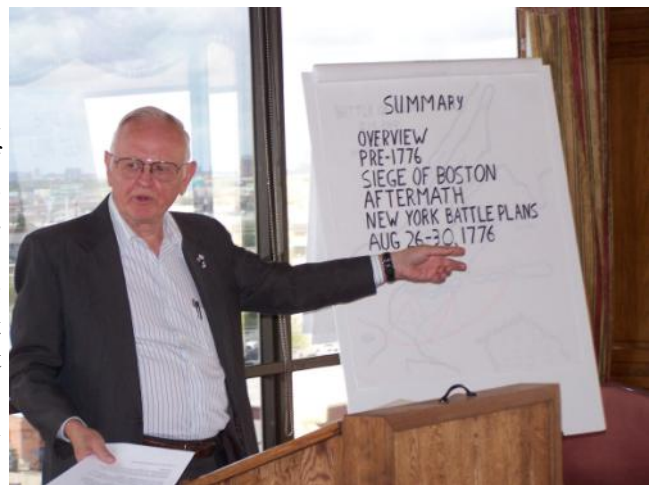
## NOMINATIONS FOR CHAPTER OFFICERS FOR 2014

President Taylor has appointed a Nominating Committee for the Chapter Officers for 2014. 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 from the Floor at the December Chapter Meeting, contact Past President Heath at [analysis@gvtc.com](mailto:analysis@gvtc.com).

## Battles of New York and Brooklyn

Compatriot Scott Atkinson gave a presentation on the Battle of New York with emphasis about the events of the Battle of Brooklyn where his Patriot Ancestor fought against the British in August—October 1776. While many of the Continental Soldiers were in relatively strong positions in Brooklyn Heights, the front line was on the low line of hills running from the Harbor through Greenwood Cemetery and Prospect Park. My Ancestor, Capt Ezekiel Scott, was on this front line, in Col. Samuel Wyllys' Regiment, 22d Continentals. Upon seeing that they were essentially surrounded, Col Wyllys ordered a retreat to the Brooklyn Heights fortifications. They were ultimately transported to Manhattan under cover of dark after several days, thus saving Washington's Army from annihilation.

At the end of the day, the mill ponds were in British hands, but the British realized that marching across the continent would be a difficult affair. Though casualty figures were disputed, the Americans apparently lost about 1,100 men captured, many of them wounded. Another 100 wounded were evacuated to within the new American lines. Estimates are that 300 Americans were killed. The British lost about 370 killed and wounded, plus 23 prisoners who were carried to Brooklyn Heights in the retreat. **For information on the Battle of Brooklyn, go to page 4.**



## Operation Tool Box: Second Distribution Held

On September 14th, the Chapter conducted the second distribution of another 20 Tool Box Kits to Warriors who have received the Purple Heart Medal at the Operation Homefront Village in San Antonio. On June 15th, The first distribution of Tool Boxes was held on June 15th where 21 Purple Heart Wounded Warriors were given their Tool Boxes. Each tool box was filled with almost a thousand dollars worth of tools collected by Resource Exchange Association (REA) from Industry Manufacturers such as Snapper, Stanley, Husky and Home Depot and placed in Tool Boxes which are donated by NSSAR. Operation

Homefront provides all types of services to wounded warriors and their families. These services include providing homes and apartments for those in a transitional period of their lives. The goal is to provide 48,000 Tool Boxes to Purple Heart Wounded Warriors residing across the Nation residing in all 50 States.

Participating in the Event was Dino J. Sarracino, Vice President of Programs, from Operation Homefront. He remarked that there are 700 more wounded warriors in the San Antonio Area who are eligible to receive the Tool Boxes. The Tool Boxes are a “house warming” gifts when they move into their new home, either here in San Antonio or elsewhere, as they move on to rebuild their lives.

Omar Hernandez stated “It's really refreshing to see that people have not forgotten our veterans, and especially the wounded. I wish there was something I



(Above) President James Taylor opens the 2nd Distribution Event explaining to the warriors present how the program started and what its purpose is to help warriors and their families. Shown to Taylor's right are Compatriots Sam Powell, the National SAR Chairman, and TXSSAR President Stephen Rohrbough.



(Above) Omar Hernandez, who was awarded 2 Purple Heart Medals and Silver Star, expressed his appreciation for the gift.



(Above) From Left to Right are Paul Roberts and Cody Nusbaum who praised the Project.

## INDUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS

At our Chapter Meeting on October 16th, two new members were inducted into the Sons of the American Revolution and the San Antonio Chapter of the Texas Society by Chapter President James Taylor.

(At Left) Shown from left to right are James Allgood (Patriot Joseph Meek) and Benjamin Riser (Patriot Henry Horn). (At Right) TXSSAR President Stephen Rohrbough pins on SAR Lapel Pin for Compatriot Allgood.





## EMS/FIRE SAFETY AWARDS

At our October 16th Chapter Meeting, Deputy San Antonio Deputy Fire Chief Noel Horan, was our Guest Speaker; he spoke of the daily demands that are placed on the Fire Department and challenges and tasks associated with protecting our community from such fire disasters. Following his remarks and some questions, President Taylor presented six awards. **(Right Top)** President Taylor presented Chief Horan SAR's Bronze Good Citizenship Medal for his years of community service to the City of San Antonio. Other Service Awards were given as follows:

**SAR Awards EMS Medal to Local Fireman: (Right Upper Middle)** President Taylor presented Fire Engineer **Matthew W. Ripley** with the SAR Emergency Medical Services Commendation Medal for his strong service to the Emergency Medical Services Division. His training and quick response in critical situations has resulted in lives saved and life-saving care to patients in need.

**SAR Awards EMS Medal to Local Fireman: (Right Upper Middle)** President Taylor presented Fire Engineer **Gabriel Christopher Garcia** the SAR Emergency Medical Services Commendation Medal for his strong commitment to duty which has saved lives, improved patient care and promoted higher morale among his worker. His service has brought great credit upon himself and the San Antonio Fire Department.

**SAR Presents Fire Safety Commendation Medal: (Right Lower Middle)** President Taylor also announced the award of the Fire Safety Commendation Medal to **Lieutenant Brett T. Joiner** who has 14 years with the San Antonio Fire Department. As Medical Officer 4 in Fire Station 29, he has improved the Department's response to Mass Casualty Incidents through the development of the AMBUS Program which allows up to 20 critical patients to be transported while being treated in the Mobile Intensive Care Unit. His work ethic has brought great credit to himself and the Fire Department.

**SAR Presents Bronze Good Citizenship Medal: (Lower Bottom Right)** President Taylor also presented the SAR Bronze Good Citizenship Medal to Assistant Chief Yvette Granato for her 28 yrs of dedicated service to the San Antonio community.

**SAR Presents Bronze Good Citizenship Medal: (Right)** Chief Joseph Hermann was also awarded the SAR Bronze Good Citizenship Medal by President Taylor for his 26 years of dedicated service to the City of San Antonio.

**We greatly appreciate the opportunity to recognize the work of our SA fireman.**



## A Historical Review of the Battle of New York

### Oct 12, 1776: British troops head up East River

On this day in 1776, British Generals Henry Clinton and William Howe lead a force of 4,000 troops aboard some 90 flat-boats up New York's East River toward Throg's Neck, a peninsula in Westchester County, in an effort to encircle General George Washington and the Patriot force stationed at Harlem Heights.

After hearing of the British landing at Throg's Neck, Washington ordered a contingent of troops from the Pennsylvania regiment to destroy the bridge leading from the peninsula to the Westchester mainland. The destruction of the bridge stranded Clinton and his men at Throg's Neck for six days before they were loaded back onto their vessels and continued up the East River toward Pell Point.

With the British stranded at Throg's Neck, General Washington decided to withdraw all but 2,000 of his troops north to White Plains, before the British could use Redcoats stationed on Long Island and in Westchester County to surround them on Manhattan Island. After stopping at Pell Point, the British continued north up the East River, engaging in daily skirmishes with Washington's Continental Army, until the two armies—both 13,000 strong—confronted each other at the inconclusive Battle of White Plains, beginning on October 28, 1776. On October 31, after a bad storm, Washington chose to withdraw to New Jersey before Howe could orchestrate another attack with newly arrived reinforcements.

Source: [www.history.net](http://www.history.net)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMING EVENTS

**Chapter Executive Committee 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 14th and December 12th.)

**Chapter General Meeting:** Petroleum Club on 3rd Wednesday each month at 11:30 A.M to 1 P.M. (No Meeting is scheduled in November due to our Veterans Day Gala. Next Meeting will be held on December 18th.)

### Special Events:

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

**(Cancelled Due to Low Registrations and Participation)**

- **US Military Veterans Association Parade,** November 10th (Saturday) 11 AM Assemble in the Vanguard Section at the front of the Parade; Parade starts at Noon.
- **Christmas Decorations:** December 5th (Thursday), 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 7th (Saturday) San Antonio Country Club, 11

AM, Reservations are required..

- **Operation Ancestor Research:** December 9th (Monday) at 1 PM at BAMC Wounded Warrior Family Support Center.
- **Remove Christmas Decorations:** January 3rd, 8 AM in Recreation Center at the Audie Murphy VA Hospital.

Contact Compatriot Frank Rohrbough at [frankr@gvvc.com](mailto:frankr@gvvc.com). To learn more, go to our Chapter Webpage :

[www.sarsat.org](http://www.sarsat.org)