



THE SAN ANTONIO COMPATRIOT

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

Compatriot Robert Hancock, President — Compatriot Frank Rohrbough, Editor

Mar-Apr 2014



PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

Greetings: Our San Antonio SAR Chapter hosted the 2014 TXSSAR Conference at the Omni Hotel at the Colonnade that was held March 27th thru 30th. It was absolutely superb. Many of the attendees told me “this was the best Conference that they had ever attended”. That’s saying a lot and it just did not happen without a lot of work by our Chapter Planning Committee. The Team consisted of 14 of our members and was chaired by Frank Rohrbough. The members attention to detail was the best that I have ever experienced! I wish to thank you, Frank, for all of your outstanding work and that of your staff. I was pleased to recognize them with Certificates of Distinguished Service at our April Chapter Meeting.

I wish to compliment Compatriot Stephen Rohrbough for his leadership as Texas Society President. He set lofty goals and labeled them the “Year of Our Youth”. His accomplishments made this Chapter proud serving with dignity and confidence; he set a standard that those who follow will have a hard time trying to emulate!

We hosted a special guest at our April Chapter Meeting - LCMR Fred Goynes, US Navy Retired. He is really a special veteran as he survived the attack on the US Naval Base at Pearl Harbor by the Japanese which marked the beginning of the United States involvement in World War II. LCMR Goynes was later assigned to the battleship USS Missouri and was on board when General McArthur accepted the Surrender of Japan, ending WWII. **(Go to Pg 4)**

The Chapter is currently presenting SAR ROTC Medals/Certificates to outstanding cadets at schools in the San Antonio area. I have had the privilege of making a number of these presentations and I have been very impressed with the high quality of our youth!

We have several Special Events that I would like good support from our SAR members: Memorial Day – Scouting Flag Placement – Fort San Houston National Cemetery, Independence Day Historical Program at Hyatt Regency Hill Country on July 3rd and the Wreath Laying Ceremony at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery on July 4th. For more details, **see page 5.** Compatriotly, *Robert Hancock.*

CHAPTER RECEIVES AWARDS AT TXSSAR MEETING

Because of the sustained work during the period March 2013 to April 2014, our Chapter received the following awards:

- **Lamplighter Awards** – Center for Advancing America’s Heritage (CAAH) - \$500 **Jack L Chisenhall**
- **NSSAR Streamers** - President General’s Challenge - Chapter’s Donation of \$750
- **Roger Sherman Medal** - **Edward Heath** as District Vice President for TXSSAR District 3, **Peter Baron** – Chairman Chapter and Society Annual Reports and **Frank Rohrbough** – Chairman of Color Guard Cmte/ Commander Color Guard and Chairman Veterans Cmte, and **James Taylor** – TXSSAR Chaplain
- **Lydia Darragh Medals and Certificate** - Marie Rohrbough - TXSSAR First Lady from TXSSAR President Stephen Rohrbough
- **Adrian Drouilhet Award** — most new members < age 50 — 19
- **TXSSAR Flag Presentation Award** — White Star and a Repeat Winner from last year.
- **John Bruce Stuart Jr. Award** — Group 4—Veterans Activities.
- **Ross Shipman Award** — Multiple Page Division 2 — Outstanding Chapter Newsletter.
- **TXSSAR Outstanding Chapter Award**— Group 4 Honorable Mention (a repeat winner from last year)

The Outstanding Chapter Award could not have been awarded without the active support of many members of the San Antonio Chapter. Accordingly, our Chapter can be proud of the work done to receive these awards and knowing that we have provided a wonderful service to our community which brings recognition to SAR.

Several of our Chapter Members were personally recognized by TXSSAR President Stephen Rohrbough for their service throughout the year to the Texas Society at the Annual Meeting; they are noted above.

SAN ANTONIO CHAPTER HOSTS TXSSAR ANNUAL CONFERENCE



TXSSAR President Stephen Rohrbough's first order of business was to conduct a Flag Ceremony where the NSSAR Flag is flown on the Omni Hotel Flag Pole on Thursday March 27th. **(Far Left Photo)** Compatriots Jew Lewallen and Frank Rohrbough raise the NSSAR Flag. **(Center Photo)** Looking on is the Hotel Manager Mr. Delfin Ortiz, General Manager. He was presented a Flag Certificate for flying the US Flag. **(Photo Below)** With President Bob Hancock is the fabulous Omni Hotel Staff.



SAR Members Receive Patriot

Medals: This year the Texas Society selected 5 members to receive the NSSAR Patriot Medal. TXSSAR President Stephen Rohrbough presented these Medals during the TXSSAR Banquet on Saturday March 29th. This prestigious Award can only be awarded to one person per 500 state members each year. **(Photo at Right)** TXSSAR Members for the Class of 2014 include from left to right — Compatriots Harmon Adair, Marvin Morgan, Hank Voeglte, Gerald Irion and Daniel Stauffer.



Compatriot Patrick S. Rohrbough Inducted: Compatriot Patrick Rohrbough was inducted to the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution by President-General Joseph Dooley at the Banquet on Saturday Evening, March 29th. Compatriot Rohrbough's Patriot Ancestor is Robert Clark of Staunton Virginia located in the Shenandoah Valley, a newly established patriot in NSSAR. Looking on is Patrick's father, Stephen Rohrbough. Witnessing his induction into the Texas Society SAR and the San Antonio Chapter were his wife Antonia Rohrbough, his uncles - Compatriots Frank Rohrbough (San Antonio Chapter) Leonard Rohrbough (Louisiana Society and Pierre Rousseau Chapter) - his aunts Diane and Rebecca Rohrbough (both DAR members), his mother Marie Rohrbough (TXSSAR First Lady) and his sister Bridget Rohrbough (DAR).



TXSSAR COLOR GUARDSMAN OF THE YEAR

The selection of the TXSSAR Color Guardsman of the Year is voted at the Color Guard Committee Meeting during the Fall Board of Managers Meeting. Compatriot Jay Lewallen was selected to be the Color Guardsman of the Year at the October 2013 BOM in Houston, TX for the Year beginning March 2013 to March 2014. His formal recognition was announced at the Annual TXSSAR Conference during the Banquet on March 29th at the Omni Hotel in San Antonio, TX. The Color Guardsman of the Year Medal with Certificate was presented by TXSSAR President Stephen Rohrbough. Looking on is TXSSAR Color Guard Commander Frank Rohrbough and State Color Guard Adjutant Peter Baron (holding the TXSSAR Flag).



PRESIDENT RECOGNIZES MEMBERS SUPPORTING THE TXSSAR ANNUAL CONFERENCE

For their extraordinary leadership, President Hancock presented TXSSAR Bronze Service Medals to Compatriots Frank and Stephen Rohrbough (**Photo at Right**)

Compatriots who received Certificates of Distinguished Service are Compatriots Bud Davenport, George Harcourt, Jay Lewallen and President Hancock (**Photo Below Left from Left to Right**). President Hancock with Compatriots Edward Butler, Joe Ware, Harry Long and Frank Rohrbough. Others present were Peter Baron, Paul Reynolds and Bob Clark. (**Photo Below Right from Left to Right**)

Other members to receive their Certificates at the May Chapter Meeting include: Compatriots Jimmie Massingill, Lan Kelly, James Taylor, David Richmond, Schuyler Crist and Mark Remington.

President Hancock recognized all Chapter Members who served on the Planning Committee for their extraordinary efforts in support of the TXSSAR Conference at the April Chapter Meeting.



PRESENTATION OF SAR'S NEW LYDIA DARRAGH AWARD TO OUR SPECIAL LADIES

The Lydia Darragh Medal is a new SAR Award for recognizing the support of ladies who contributed to the success of a President's term of service. A look back period of five Presidents was authorized by the National Society. Those selected include: President George Harcourt (2005): **Dorothy Perez (Photo Top Right)** and Martha Von Nimitz, Regent, San Antonio de Bexar DAR looking on); President Frank Rohrbough (2007): **Diane Rohrbough**; President David Bowles (2009): **Holly Langford (Photo Bottom Right)**; President Peter Baron (2010): **Nancy Schmid (Photo at Left)**; President James Taylor (2011-2012): **Pat Taylor**. Future awards will be made in years to come.



SPECIAL GUEST RECOGNIZED

During the Veterans Appreciation Week in February, President Hancock met LCMR Fred Goynes at the Shavano Park VA Clinic. It that time we learned of his service at Pearl Harbor and in the Navy for more then 20 years. Cmdr Goynes and his wife Carolyn were invited to be our special guest at our April Chapter Meeting. At the age of 92, President Hancock wanted to give him special recognition by presenting CMDR Goynes with the San Antonio Bronze Good Citizen Medal. CMDR Goynes was recognized for his service by the Express News in December 2013.



MRS. ELIZA GRIFFIN JOHNSTON VISITS OUR CHAPTER

On April 16th, Mrs. Eliza Johnston joined us as a special visitor during our Chapter Meeting and to tell us about her life with General Albert Johnston, a West Point graduate from Tennessee. In 1843, he married Eliza Griffin, his late wife's first cousin. The couple moved to Texas, where they settled on a large plantation in Brazoria County. Johnston named the property China Grove. Here they raised Johnston's two children from his first marriage, and the first three children born to him and Eliza. He was appointed by President Zachary Taylor to the U.S. Army as a major making six tours, and traveling more than 4,000 miles annually on the Indian frontier of Texas. He served as a general in three different armies: the Texian Army, the United States Army, and the Confederate States Army. For the rest of the story, you'll have to talk to Mrs. Eliza Johnston (Ms. Pricilla Hancock).



CHAPTER PARTICIPATES IN ANNUAL TEJEDA MIDDLE SCHOOL HISTORY

Revolution events, period uniforms and weapons, camp life and the making of powder horns during the Revolution. Members participating included Compatriots Frank Rohrbough, Peter Baron, Fred Soupiset, Schuyler Crist, Jay Lewallen, Bob Hancock and Paul Reynolds. Also, participating, but not in the picture was Stephen Rohrbough. Others in the photo are Tejeda Middle School Assistant Principal Brenda Cerron (**center of photo**) and Assistance Principal Alex Escamilla and Principal John Bojescul respectively (**in local attire holding muskets**).

On April 5th eight members participated in the Frank Tejeda Middle School History Faire. Compatriot Jay Lewallen took the lead to provide selected demonstrations of the American



PILGRIMAGE TO THE ALAMO

Pilgrimage to the Alamo — an annual event held by the Daughter's of the Republic of Texas. Many civic and patriotic organizations participate in the solemn procession as a tribute to those Texians who died at Alamo fighting for their independence from Mexico on April 21, 1836. According to DAR sources, more than 30 of them were sons or grandsons of Patriots of the American Revolution. (**In photo from left to right**) Participating members were the following: Carrying the Parade Banner are Cadets Manchaca and Trevino from Jefferson High School's JROTC Unit. Behind them are Compatriots Stephen Rohrbough, Bud Davenport, Frank Rohrbough, Jay Lewallen and Fred Soupiset.

On April 21st, five members of the Chapter assembled at the Municipal Auditorium to participate in the



ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMING EVENTS

Chapter Business Meeting: Lion & Rose Pub, Sonterra Blvd 410, 2nd Thursday each month at 11:30 A.M. Next meetings are on May 15th and June 12th)

Chapter General Meeting: Usually held at the Petroleum Club on 3rd Wednesday each month at 11:30 A.M to 1 P.M. Next Meetings are on May 21st and June 18th .

Operation Ancestry Research:

Training sessions are on May 6 and 12th at the Wounded Warrior Family Support Ctr., Ft. Sam Houston, TX starting as 1 P.M. (**All Members are invited to participate.**)

Memorial Day Scouting Flag Placement Event, Friday, **May 23rd** at 5:00 P.M. Ft. Sam Houston National Cemetery. (Assemble at 4:30 PM)

Independence Day Events:

- Hyatt Regency Hill Country Resort Educational Program, **Jul 3rd**, 10 AM (Assemble at 9 AM at the Lukenbach Pavilion) All members are invited to participate or attend.
- Granaderos de Galvez Memorial Service, Ft. San Houston National Cemetery, **Jul 4th**, 10 A.M. (Assemble at 9 AM)

For more, go to our Chapter Website at: www.sarsat.org.