



THE SAN ANTONIO COMPATRIOT

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

Compatriot David Brooks President — Compatriot Frank Rohrbough, Editor

Nov-Dec 2016



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Compatriots: Season's Greetings to you all. I hope that everyone had a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year's celebration with family and friends as Amelia and I experienced.

As my ten month term of office comes to an end on the Twenty-first of January 2017 at our Chapter Gala, I wish to thank all of the members who have helped to make my time as President a rewarding one. I have really enjoyed working with all of those members who have actively served our Chapter in some capacity. Whether your service was as an Officer, Committee Chairman, ROTC presenter, or as a participant at one of our special events, I sincerely want to thank you for your service. For Chapter Awards go to **Pages 5, 6 and 7.**

The Chapter received many awards from both State and National Societies this year; I expect to see some additional Chapter Awards when we host the Texas Society SAR Convention in late March and early April 2017.

At the Chapter Meeting on December 14, 2016 we conducted our annual election of Officers for 2017; the slate of candidates led by Compatriot Larry Loop for President was elected by acclamation. My best wishes to our new Officers, I feel secure in the knowledge that our organization will be in good hands for the coming year.

Don't forget our **6:00 PM Chapter Gala on Saturday, January 21, 2017** at the Petroleum Club in San Antonio (where we usually hold our chapter meetings). We have scheduled this event on a weekend so that members who cannot attend our Chapter meetings during the week can join us for this special celebration. **This event takes the place of our monthly Chapter meeting for January.** Our guest speaker will be Immediate Past NSSAR President-General Thomas Lawrence (2015-2016) from Houston. Also attending will be our Texas Society President Mike Radcliff; he will Install our new Officers for 2017 at this event. I encourage you to attend and help us give them a warm San Antonio welcome. For more details see the Gala Invitation on **Page 7.**

In closing, I wish all Chapter members a healthy, happy and prosperous 2017; it has been an honor to serve you as your President. *Respectfully, David Brooks*

TWO MEMBERS RECOGNIZED FOR SERVICE TO NSSAR



(Photo at Left) President Brooks presented a NSSAR Certificate to Compatriot Frank Rohrbough making him a George Washington Fellow for his contribution to the George Washington Foundation. The Foundation provides funding from the interest earned to those programs that are unfunded and underfunded programs by the National Society SAR.

(Photo at Right) President Brooks presented Compatriot James Taylor the SAR Liberty Medal (5 Oak Leaf Cluster) for the recruitment of 10 new

members to the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. As the Genealogist and Registrar of the San Antonio Chapter, Compatriot Taylor has recruited 66 new members in to SAR and the Chapter. Further, Compatriot Taylor has recruited 50 other prospective members but had serving Chapter Presidents co-sign the Applications which allowed them to received the SAR Liberty Medal.



SALUTE TO VETERANS ON VETERANS DAY

On November 10th, several members of the Chapter supported various local events as a means of honoring veterans on Veterans Day Events in our community.

- Compatriots Larry Loop and Stephen Rohrbough participated with many other veteran organizations in placing our Chapter Wreath at the Assembly Area during ceremonies at Fort Sam Houston honoring all veterans interred there as part of Veterans Day Celebrations.
- Compatriots Frank and Stephen Rohrbough together with their brother Leonard Rohrbough (Louisiana Society) had a Wreath placed at the grave of

their father, Colonel Leonard M. Rohrbough at the Mandeville (Louisiana) City Cemetery as part of a Nation-wide “Wreaths Across America” Program. (See Photo Below.)

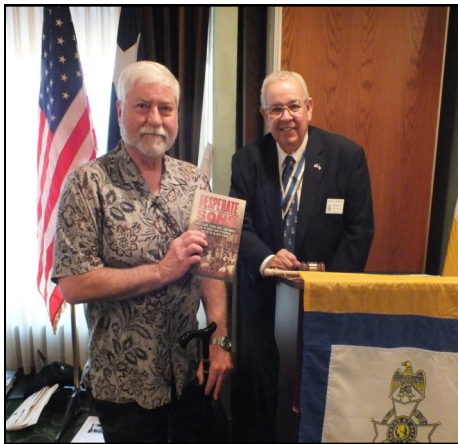


- Former President-General Ed Butler was the Featured Speaker

at the Aue Elementary School (NISD) Veterans' Day Program. Following the Program they led a parade of military parents & siblings through the school.



GUEST SPEAKER FOR NOVEMBER CHAPTER MEETING



At our November 16th Chapter Meeting, our Guest Speaker was History Professor Allen Hamilton of St Phillips College. His topic was the Battle of Trenton.

His presentation was lighthearted and informative noting that General Washington needed to show some success after his Army had been pushed and chased all over New Jersey before having his Army go into Winter Encampment in January 1777.

Professor Hamilton noted that in late December 1776, the winter turned cold and risky for any campaign to defeat the three Hessian regiments under the Command of Lt Colonel Johann Rahl (Rall) residing in Trenton. With Christmas coming, General Washington met with his War Council to discuss the merits of a night march on Christmas Day against the Hessians at Trenton. With the element of a surprise attack on the Hessian Barracks at 8:00 A.M. on the morning of December 26th this attack might turn the tide of the Revolution for the Continental Army.

Professor Hamilton noted that Colonel Rahl was known for his fondness of drink and celebration. The Hessians embraced the Christmas holiday as an excellent opportunity to imbibe in beer and hard liquor, and the night was spent in boisterous revelry. He noted that many historians reported in their writings about the Battle of Trenton that General Washington's Army benefited by the surprise attack on the Hessian Regiments and made the outcome of the Battle more favorable to Washington's Continental Army.

In reality, a violent snowstorm with blinding snows and driving winds delayed the march for several hours but as they approached the outskirts of Trenton the storm concealed their movement from the pickets who were sheltered indoors. Washington's Army arrived at the north end of Trenton and launched the attack at 8:00 A.M. The sudden eruption of fire roused the Hessians from their foggy slumber. Colonel Rahl sluggishly assumed command of his men and tried to advance against General Greene's regiments but without affect. The efforts at a counter attack failed and Rahl fell mortally wounded. By 9:30 A.M. the fighting was over—some source say the real fighting was over in 40 minutes. Washington had the victory he needed to retain many of his soldiers whose enlistments were up. For more details, Compatriot Frank Rohrbough referred members to “Washington's Crossing” by David Fischer.

JOINT DAR-SAR CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON



(Photo L to R Above) Chapter Color Guard included Compatriot Kevin Kanter, Commander Frank Rohrbough, Immediate Past NSSAR Vice President-General South Central District Stephen Rohrbough and Past Chapter President Bob Hancock.



The Joint Meeting of the San Antonio de Bexar DAR and San Antonio SAR Chapters was held on December 3rd at the San Antonio Country Club. Regent Ann Dennis was our hostess for the annual event and provided us with wonderful hospitality.

(Photo Below at Left) This year the Reagan High School Show Choir provided our Holiday entertainment. The Choir is directed by Mary Cowart who is in her twelfth year at Reagan High School and her sixth year as the head choir director. Her choirs have consistently received Sweepstakes at UIL Concert and Sightreading Contest. For the last five years, Reagan HS has had the highest numbers of students place in the Texas All-State Choirs each year.

The Reagan Show Choir has performed in many countries in Europe and South America, including Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris France and St. Peter's Basilica in Rome, Italy. Shown at Left is the Choir at the Roman Coliseum.



Joining Regent Dennis at the Head Table were Chapter President Dave Brooks and Former President-General Edward Butler.

Others attending the Joint Meeting were Compatriot Frank Rohrbough and his wife Diane, Stephen Rohrbough and his wife Marie, Bob Hancock and his wife Prissy, Joseph and Nita Ware, Kevin and Jean Kanter, Dustin and Brooke Whittenburg, Robert Brady, Max Strozier and Patrick and Neida Howard, with daughters: Morgan, Amelia and Stephanie.

MEMBER RECOGNIZED FOR 35 YEARS OF MEMBERSHIP

On December 14th, President David Brooks presented the National 35 Year Membership Certificate to Compatriot (Colonel) Al Metts, Jr. at his home. Accompanying President Brooks was Immediate Past Vice President General Stephen Rohrbough and member of the San Antonio Chapter.

In the accompanying Letter, President Brooks stated "It is my pleasure to present you with the National Society 35 Year Certificate for continuous years as a patriotic and faithful member of the National Society Sons of the American Revolution. Thank you for your support and dedication to the goals and mission of the National Society and the Texas Society Sons of the American Revolution, including Patriotism, Education and History."



FEATURED SPEAKER FOR DECEMBER MEETING



Dr. Amy Porter, Texas A & M University San Antonio was our Guest Speaker at the December 14th Chapter Meeting which was held at the San Antonio Petroleum Club. Her topic was "The Role of the Missions in the American Revolution." In summary, Dr. Porter spoke on the San Antonio missions during the era of the American Revolution as well as the role that the missions and other residents of San Antonio played in Spain's participation in the American Revolution. She also discussed the impact that ideas of the Enlightenment, which were important in the American Revolution, had on San Antonio and the missions.

To say the least, the subject was well-received by our members and enlightened us on the challenges for the Spanish Settlers in the 100 years plus preceding Texas Independence in the early 1800s and their defense against the native Indians Tribes which included the Apache and Comanche's. Dr. Porter went on to explain how the large ranches surrounding San Antonio and south Texas provided food to the Spanish Army of Bernardo de Galvez as he fought the British along the Gulf Coast from Louisiana to Florida.

For her presentation President Brooks presented her a book entitled "Desperate Sons" by Les Standiford. The book is "A groundbreaking narrative that explores the role of the Sons of Liberty in the American Revolution. Calling themselves the Sons of Liberty, they gathered together in a radical society committed to imposing forcible change. Those determined men--including second cousins Samuel and John Adams, Paul Revere, Patrick Henry, and John Hancock--saw themselves as patriots. Yet to the Crown, and to many of the Sons' fellow colonists, the revolutionaries were terrorists who deserved death for their treason. In this gripping narrative, Les Standiford reveals how this group of intelligent, committed men, motivated by economics and political belief, began a careful campaign of interlocking events that would channel feelings of vague injustice into an armed rebellion of common cause, which would defeat an empire and give birth to a radical political experiment--a new nation known as the United States."

TWO NEW MEMBERS INDUCTED INTO SAR



At the December 14th Chapter Meeting, President Brooks inducted two new members into the San Antonio Chapter.

Genealogist James Taylor provided assistance in preparing the Applications for Membership for both Compatriot Charles Lee Booker, Jr. and Compatriot Richard Hudson Smith.

Photo At Left) Compatriot Charles Booker spoke of his Patriot Ancestor Lieutenant James Judge, Sr. He was born in 1756 in Halifax County, NC, and the son of James Judge and Hannah Horn.

Lieutenant Judge enlisted as a Private from April 20, 1776 to November 10, 1778 in Granberry's Company, Halifax Co., NC. Lt. James Judge is found on the payroll of Captain William Brinkley's Company, 2nd Regiment of North Carolina, commanded by Col. Samuel Jarvis.

From the Raleigh Register dated August 13, 1813: "...James Judge, Sr ... died 2 August ... Halifax County on the 2nd inst.,

of a consumption, James Judge, sen. Esq. ... officer in the Revolutionary War, an old member of the Methodist Society, and of the Bench of Justice ... "

After the Revolution, land was allotted to officers and soldiers of the Continental Line. Lieutenant James Judge was given 228 acres for 30 months service.

For information on Compatriot Richard Smith, go to Page 5.

OFFICERS FOR 2017

The following Officers were elected by acclamation at the December 14th Chapter Meeting:

President: Larry Loop
1st Vice President: Roy Leonard
2nd Vice President: Dustin Whittenburg
Recording Secretary: Paul Reynolds
Corresponding Secretary: Frank Rohrbough
Sergeant at Arms: Bud Davenport
Treasurer: Dustin Whittenburg
Registrar: Peter Baron
Historian: Chad Lewis
Chaplain: James Taylor
Genealogists: James Taylor
Chancellor: Edward Snyder
NOTE: They will be Inducted at the January 21th Chapter Gala by Texas SAR President Mike Radcliff

CHAPTER AWARDS FOR 2016

President Brooks noted in his "Message" on Page 1 the efforts that Chapter Officers and Committee Chairmen undertook to make this another very successful year.

Some "Highlights of the Year" include participation in the National "Salute to Veterans" held throughout the South Texas Veterans Health Care System during the week of February 9th, the George Washington Parade in Laredo on February 21st, history fairs at local elementary and middle schools, the Independence Day Program on July 3rd at the Hyatt Regency Hill Country Resort and our Joint DAR/SAR Christmas Luncheon on December 3rd.

All of these activities support SAR's goal to educate local students and the public about the history and events of the American Revolution.

At our Chapter Meeting on December 14th, President Brooks presented Service Awards to Officers and Committee Chairman for their service to the Chapter throughout the year.

Members were presented the various SAR Medals and Certificates or an Oak Leaf Cluster (OLC) if they had previously received the Medal. For Awards, go to **Page 6 and 7.**

INDUCTIONS (CONT'D)

(Photo at Right) Compatriot Richard Smith's Patriot Ancestor was Issac Wood who "provided 113 lbs. of Pork to the Army of the American Revolution in Rockingham County, Virginia (Patriotic Service)". Further research shows that Issac was born in circa 1729 in England and immigrated to Rockingham County Virginia before the onset of the American Revolution. He married Rachael Ramey in 1763. Like most other residents, he was a farmer. He died on April 21, 1803 in Pendleton County, Virginia. Following the Revolution Issac served in the Virginia Militia in 1787 as a Private in Captain Robert Harrison's Company.



CHAPTER PRESENTS SAR EAGLE SCOUT AWARD



(Photo at Left) Compatriot Stephen Rohrbough, Chairman of the Chapter Award and Medals Committee, presented the National Society Sons of the American Revolution Eagle Scout SAR Medal and Certificate to Eagle Scout Christopher M. Heron. He was selected as the Winner of the San Antonio Chapter SAR for the 2016 Eagle Scout Contest. Chris was our Chapter's nominee to the Texas Society SAR State-wide competition. Chris received a check for \$250, a National SAR Certificate and the Eagle Scout SAR Medal for his participation in the National Contest. Chris is a Sophomore at Oklahoma City University and is majoring in Musical Theater. Looking on as Chris was presented his Award is his father Tom Heron.

CHAPTER AWARDS (CONT'D)

(Photos Below) President Brooks recognized Chapter members for their service to the Chapter during the past year. The following members received the Bronze Roger Sherman Medal (BRSM) or Oak Leaf Cluster (OLC):

Former VPG SCD Stephen Rohrbough - Awards and Decorations Chairman (1 OLC), Frank Rohrbough - Correspondence Secretary/Newsletter Editor (1 OLC), Paul Reynolds - Recording Secretary (BRSM), George Harcourt - Executive Committee (1 OLC).

Others members in attendance received the Chapter Service Medal or Oak Leaf Cluster (OLC): Edward Butler (3 OLC), Larry Loop - President-Elect, Dustin Whittenburg - Treasurer, Roy Leonard - 1st Vice President, Bud Davenport - Veterans Programs (4 OLC), Bob Brady - Eagle Scout Program (2 OLC), **(Continued Below)**



Henry Garcia - Membership Chair, Bob Hancock - Nomination Committee (2 OLC) and Joe Ware - Executive Committee (7 OLC).

For More Awards, go to Page 7.

There were several other Officers and Committee Chairman who were not present but recognized. They were: Compatriots Kevin Kanter - Education, Edward C. Snyder III - Chancellor (2 OLC), Max Strozier - Webmaster (5 OLC), Jack Cowan - Veterans Services (3 OLC), Ron Powell - Flag Program (3 OLC), Tom Small - Executive Committee (2 OLC).

They will be presented their Awards at future Chapter Meeting or Event.

Invitation to Chapter Gala

Who Can Attend: All Members and their Guests and Friends of SAR and DAR are Invited to attend our Chapter Gala

Keynote Speaker: Immediate Past President General The Honorable Thomas E. Lawrence

Reservations: Send name/s and select meal choice of

- Filet Mignon or
- Red Snapper Pontchartrain for each person in your party.

Payment: Send check made payable to San Antonio SAR in the amount of \$50 for each person to:

Mr. Dustin Whittenburg
999 E. Basse Road, Suite 180-136
San Antonio, Texas 78209

Checks must be received by January 13, 2017

Dress: Men - Black Tie or a dark suit & Ladies: Formal evening gown or cocktail dress

For Additional Information: Contact President David Brooks at (740) 296-8782.

CHAPTER AWARDS (CONT'D)

Additional Members were recognized at the December 14th Chapter Meeting. (Photos from Top to Bottom) The first two members received the Chapter's Good Citizenship Medallion:



Compatriots James P. Hudson, Sr. for his donation of a British Sword from the American Revolution and **Schuyler W. Crist** for his service as Publicly Chairman and Chapter Facebook Webpage Editor. He recently moved to Tyler TX. **Compatriot C. Patrick Howard** received the Certificate of Appreciation for his service for Independence Day Event at the Hyatt Regency Hill Country Resort in July. Other Certificates will be presented to **Jay Lewallen, Jim Massingill and Fred Soupiet** at a future Chapter Event.



ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMING EVENTS

Chapter Executive Committee

Meetings: January 12, 2017, 11:30 A. M., Egg & I Restaurant located at 9985 IH-10W (Colonnade) on Spectrum One Street.

Chapter General Meeting: Normally at Petroleum Club on 3rd Wednesday each month at 11:30 A.M to 1:00 P.M. **There will be No Regular Chapter Meeting in January 2017 because a Chapter Gala will be Held on Saturday, January 21, 2017.**

Special Events:

- Operation Ancestry Research:

January 9 and 23, 2017; Wounded Warrior Family Support Center, Ft. Sam Houston, TX; Sessions Start at 1:00 P.M. (**All Members are invited to participate.**)

- **Annual Chapter Gala, Saturday, January 21, 2017, Petroleum Club (7th Floor), 6:00 PM. Your Reservations to Attend Must Be Received by the Treasurer No Later Than January 13, 2017. (See Gala Invitation Above)**
- George Washington Parade in

Laredo, TX: Saturday, February 18, 2017 at 9:00 AM (All Participants must sign a Release Form and send it to Tom Green at TBGreen3@gmail.com NLT December 31st).

For more details, contact, Compatriot Frank Rohrbough at frankr@gvtc.com.

For more information about what your Chapter is doing, go to our Chapter Webpage at:

www.sarsat.org