



THE SAN ANTONIO COMPATRIOT

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

Compatriot Larry Loop, President — Compatriot Frank Rohrbough, Editor

Jul-Aug 2018



PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

Compatriots: On Tuesday morning July 3rd, we held our “**Independence Day Celebration**” at the Hyatt Regency Hill Country Resort. This was our 8th year to make this presenta-

tion to over 100 Hotel Guests. Again, our Program was very well-received. We had 12 members (10 in revolutionary uniforms or period clothing) participate in the various activities to include: Battle Flags Presentation, Show and Tell Table Demonstrations, Remarks on “What is SAR” and “Why Do We Celebrate Independence Day”, the Firing of Muskets, and a Bell Ringing Salute to the Original Colonies. For our presentation, the Hyatt Staff made a \$500 donation which funds our Knight Essay Contest — a very welcomed gift. The Hyatt Regency Hill Country Resort has agreed to be our Sponsor of the Essay Contest for 2018. For more details, go to **Pages 2-3**.

On July 4th, we participated in the “**35th Annual Fourth of July Patriotic Ceremony**” at the National Cemetery at Ft. Sam Houston. This program is conducted each year by the Order of Granaderos y Damas de Galvez and included many of the local Patriotic, Historical, and Military organizations including the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Memorial Services Detachment Honor Guard at Ft. Sam Houston National Cemetery. I participated in the Program by presenting our Chapter Wreath along with other organizational wreaths. Compatriot Kevin Kanter was invited to give the closing Benediction. For more details, go to **Page 5**.

The Texas Society SAR hosted the National Society Annual Congress in Houston at the Westin Memorial City from July 12 to 18, 2018. There over 120 Volunteer Members from across the state assisting President Thomas Jackson to make this a most successful Congress according to National Staff leaders and many guests throughout the meeting. We had five chapter members in attendance as volunteers and/or Congress registrants. See **Page 5** for more details.

Our Color Guard also participated in the Naturalization Ceremony on July 24th at Ft Sam Houston. There were four service members who took the Oath of Allegiance becoming US Citizens. I was the Guest Speaker at this event, noting my Patriot Ancestors service during the American Revolution and encouraging the new citizens to fully appreciate the rewards and obligations of their United States citizenship.

Three chapter members attended the **Battle of Medina Memorial Event** on August 18th. Past Chapter and former mayor of Castroville Bob Hancock represented SAR and Medina County in organizing this event. Eight Historians and Archeologists were invited to speak at the afternoon Symposium. The presentations were well received addressing the settling of Texas that created the First Texas Republic and its demise at the disastrous 1813 Battle of Medina in Atascosa County. Go to **Page 4** for more details.

Remember, **we will resume our monthly chapter meetings in the Fall beginning September 19th at the Petroleum Club**. The speaker for this meeting will be Air Force Colonel (Ret) Thomas McNish, a fighter pilot, a Board Certified Aerospace Medicine flight surgeon, a pilot-physician and former POW in Hanoi, North Vietnam. Please remember to make your reservations by Noon Monday, September 17th, if you are not on the Standing Reservations List, with our Treasurer Kevin Kanter at reservations@sarsat.org.

I hope you had an enjoyable summer that included some travel and family gatherings. I look forward to seeing you in September at our next Chapter Meeting.

Respectfully, *Roy Leonard*

CHAPTER'S GALA BANQUET

The Chapter's Annual Gala Banquet will be on Saturday, January 19, 2019 at the Petroleum Club at 6:00 P.M. A Keynote Speaker is being is being sought. The primary purpose for conducting this event is to have fun and share in fellowship with many of our members who usually cannot attend our monthly Chapter Meetings during the work week and celebrate the event with the Texas Daughters of the American Revolution.

A Chapter News Release will be sent out in early November reminding you to make your Reservations!

Save the Date!
San Antonio SAR
Chapter GALA
Saturday
January 19, 2019
@ 6:00 PM
Petroleum Club

CHAPTER CELEBRATES INDEPENDENCE DAY AT THE HYATT REGENCY HILL COUNTRY RESORT



(Photo at Left) This year we celebrated the 242nd anniversary of our nations Declaration of Independence from England. At the Invitation of Ms. Aneka Muniz, Marketing Communications Manager for the Hyatt Regency Hill Country Resort and Spa in San Antonio, our chapter conducted our **7th Educational and Historical Independence Day Event** for hotel guests visiting the resort on July 3rd. Compatriot Frank Rohrbough, Past Chapter President (2007-2008) served as the Master of Ceremonies.

Additionally, 11 other chapter members participated in this morning event. They included President Roy Leonard, Larry Loop (Immediate Past President), Stephen Rohrbough (Past Vice-President-General for NSSAR's South Central District), David Brooks (Past President), James Taylor (Former Chaplain General), Paul Reynolds, Henry Garcia, Fred Soupiset, Peter Baron (Past President) and his young son Campbell Baron, and Bud

Davenport. Ten members wore Period Uniforms. **(Photo at Right)** The National Colors were presented by Acting Color Commander Peter Baron (Texas Flag Bearer), Compatriots Stephen Rohrbough (US Flag Bearer), Fred Soupiset (Guardsmen for US Flag) and Paul Reynolds (Guardsmen for Texas Flag).



Chapter President Roy Leonard opened the Program welcoming approximately 100 hotel guests and spoke on "What SAR Is" and does. Compatriot Stephen Rohrbough gave a good overview on "Why We Celebrate Independence Day". He noted that as British subjects, the British Parliament had placed heavy taxes of them and increasingly denied them the freedoms they expected and self-rule they wanted.

(Photo Below) Compatriot Peter Baron explained the evolution of the Patriot Uniforms during the Revolution starting with the Minutemen of Massachusetts and Mountain Men of Virginia and the Carolinas to the Regimental Uniforms that were approved by the Continentals Congress in 1778. Seen from left to right are Compatriots Frank Rohrbough (Officers First Virginia Regimental Continental Line Uniform), James Taylor (period Civilian Dress), Peter Baron (Militia Uniform) and President Larry Loop (Virginia Continental Line Uniform).



(Photo Bottom Right) Compatriot Baron provided an overview of the guns used by Foot Soldiers in the Militia and the Continental Line Army during the Revolution, notably the 75 caliber flintlock musket and a 50 caliber flintlock rifle. He noted that a well-seasoned soldier could load and fire a musket three times in one minute and that the musket was not very accurate beyond 50 yards. In battle, muskets were fired in volleys in succession at the enemy standing in formation over 50 yards away. Comparatively, a rifleman could load and fire only once every 90 seconds. However, Compatriot Baron conceded that the rifle is a more accurate

weapon used for targets up to 250 yards away. Baron described the firing positions of soldiers — shoulder to shoulder of soldiers and standing 3 rows deep — when engaging the enemy on the field of battle. Following several volleys, the command was given to fix bayonets and advance against the enemy. Compatriot Baron gives instructions on firing the musket to a young recruit from the hotel. At the closing, Compatriot James Taylor spoke of his Patriot Ancestor who the officer in charge at the Bridge at the Battle of Lexington. **(Continued on Page 3.)**



HYATT REGENCY RESORT (CONT'D)



(Photo at Left) The Ringing of the Bell Ceremony was the highlight of the Event. As Compatriot Frank

Rohrbough announced each of the 13 original Colonies in the order in which each Colony was established, Compatriots Campbell Baron and Fred Soupiset (Militia Uniform) rang the Bell to call attention to the founding of the Colony. Virginia was the first Colony to be founded in 1607 with the settlement of Jamestown on the banks of the James River just west of the Chesapeake Bay. Other Colonies were founded over the next 125 years along the eastern seaboard of North America. Georgia was the last of the Colonies to be founded in 1732.

DEMONSTRATION TABLES

(Photo at Right) Compatriot Campbell (Son of Compatriot Peter Baron) and friends manned the “Coloring Book” Demonstration Table. This Table provided a learning station where children among the hotel guests could color various pictures of Patriots, Campaign Flags, artifacts and activities of the American Revolution.



(Photo Below) Colonel Scott Woodard from the US Army Museum at Ft. Sam Houston gave a superb presentation on the practice of medicine during the American Revolution. He explained how battle wounds were treated and what medicines and procedures were used to treat illnesses within the Continental Army. Looking on are hotel guests who are viewing the table display of instruments used to remove bullets from gun shot wounds and amputations of limbs when needed. Woodard explained how General Washington directed the inoculation of the troops to prevent them from contracting small pox that was prevalent throughout the colonies at that time. Through this innovated process, General Washington was able to maintain a viable and fit Army through the spring of 1778 and return it to the battlefield in June of that year.



(Photo at Right) Compatriot Fred Soupiset explains the process for making a Black Powder Horns. Cow horns were the primary horns used for storing gunpowder used for making cartridges and priming black powder weapons. The horns usually included the name of the owner and



often etched showing an event, location of home or battle where a soldier fought.

(Photo at Left) Lady Di Rohrbough explains that if a spouse or other family members accompanied the soldier as Camp Followers, they would bring clothing and personal articles for themselves. They would perform duties in support of the sponsor or other soldiers in the unit to sustain their livelihood.



(Photo at Right) This Table Display includes the items a soldier would have as his camp gear and be expected to bring them when reporting for duty in his unit of assignment. The gear would include a musket, blanket, haversack, axes, canteen, knives, food bowls and any personal articles. If a spouse or



other family members accompanied the soldier as Camp Followers, they would bring clothing and personal articles for themselves. They would perform duties in support of the sponsor or other soldiers in the unit to sustain their livelihood.

CHAPTER PARTICIPATES IN NATURALIZATION CEREMONY



On July 24th the San Antonio Chapter was invited to participate in the Naturalization Ceremony for four foreign national members who are currently serving in the Armed Services of the United States. All were in training at Ft. Sam Houston to be medical service technicians upon graduation.

(Photo at Left) To open the ceremony, our Color Guard presented the National and State Colors. Shown (L to R)

are Compatriots Fred Soupiset (Flagbearer for US Flag), Compatriot Stephen Rohrbough (Guardsmen for Texas Flag) and Commander Frank Rohrbough (Guardsmen for the US Flag) and Paul Reynolds (Flagbearer for Texas Flag).

(Photo at Right) Colonel, US Army (Ret.) Roy Leonard, President of the San Antonio Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution, was the Guest Speaker. He spoke on the history of the establishment of our country with the ratification of the Constitution by the States and explaining the benefits of being a U.S. citizen, He remarked on how his Patriot Ancestor served during the American Revolution.

Having successfully completing their instructions for citizenship, they were administered the Oath of Allegiance to the United States and became United States citizens. Following his remarks, he presented each enlistee their Certificate of Citizenship.



COMMEMORATING THE BATTLE OF MEDINA

The 18th Symposium and Commemoration of the Battle of Medina, “the bloodiest battle in Texas history”, was held on August 18th. Following the Commemoration Ceremony, a seminar was held at 1:00 P.M. at the ATASCOSA COUNTY LEMING ANNEX (Old Leming School) in Pleasanton, TX. The Battle of Medina occurred on August 18, 1813 between the Royal Spanish Army and the Republican Army of the North. Between 800 and 1,300 Americans, Tejanos, Native Americans and Spanish soldiers died in this battle. According to Judge Robert H. Thonhoff, a winning author and educator, he writes in his book “This was the biggest and bloodiest battle ever fought on Texas soil. An expedition to wrest Texas from Spain. Flying the Green Flag, the Republicans Army of the North crossed from Louisiana into Texas on August 7, 1812 and capture Nacogdoches and Trinidad de Salcedo before heading toward Presidio La Bahia, during the winter of the 1812-1813 occurred the longest siege in American military history. The Republicans marched towards San Antonio and defeated the Spanish Royalist on March 29, 1813 in Battle of Rosillo Creek. The Republicans took control of San Antonio on April 1, 1813, and on April 4, 1813 two Spanish governors were brutally executed. On April 6th a Declaration of Independence establish the first Republic of Texas.” The Spanish Royalist forces responded decisively on August 18, 1813 defeating the Republican Army of the North ending the First Republic of Texas.

The host was the Atascosa Historical Commission and the Texas Society of the Sons of the American Revolution of the Commemoration of Battle of Medina Memorial Event on August 19th. Eight Historians and Archeologists spoke at the afternoon seminar which was held at the at the ATASCOSA County Leming Annex. All of the presentations were well received addressing the settling of Texas that created the First Texas Republic and its demise at the disastrous 1813 Battle of Medina in Atascosa County. Shown at left is Judge Thonhoff. Shown at right is Compatriot Bob Hancock representing Texas SAR, the San Antonio Chapter SAR and the Medina County Historical Society. He has served on the planning committee for this event for the last 14 years.



ORDER OF GRANARDEROS Y DAMES GALVEZ



(Photo at Left) On July 4th, we participated in the “35th Annual Fourth of July Patriotic Ceremony” at the National Cemetery at Ft. Sam Houston. This program is conducted each year by the Order of Granaderos y Damas de Galvez and included many of the local Patriotic, Historical, and Military organizations including the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Memorial Services Detachment Honor Guard. President Leonard at far right, together with Compatriots Frank and Stephen Rohrbough, presented our Chapter Wreath along with many other organizations. Compatriot Kevin Kanter is also shown in the Photo standing the right of the Chapter Wreath. **(Photo Above Right)** The Fife and Drum unit of the Granaderos is a centerpiece of the Granaderos Events. It is directed by Jessie Benavides. Compatriot Kevin Kanter, a Deacon at the Shrine of St. Padre Pio, gave the Benediction.



(Photo Above Right) The Fife and Drum unit of the Granaderos is a centerpiece of the Granaderos Events. It is directed by Jessie Benavides. Compatriot Kevin Kanter, a Deacon at the Shrine of St. Padre Pio, gave the Benediction.

TEXAS SAR HOSTS 128TH NATIONAL SAR CONGRESS

During the period July 12-18, 2018 The Texas SAR hosted the 128th National SAR Congress at the Westin Houston, Memorial City. President Thomas Jackson led the planning of this historic event with over 120 volunteers from across the state. According to National Staff leaders and many guests throughout the meeting, this was one of the most successful Congresses ever held. We had five chapter members in attendance as volunteers and/or Congress registrants. These members included Edward F. Butler (President-General 2009-2010), Stephen W. Rohrbough (Former Vice President General for South Central District), Chapter President Roy Leonard, Frank G. Rohrbough (Chairman of the Texas SAR Veterans Committee and Past Chapter President 2008), and Bob Brady (Chapter Member). Compatriots Stephen and Frank Rohrbough were the Day Captains for the Congress handling miscellaneous issues of members attending the Congress while Compatriot Brady assisted as a volunteer doing tasks as needed to support the Bus Tours for Congress attendees.

The main business of the Congress was the election of new Officers for 2018-2019. President General Warren Alder and the Slate of Officers provided to the membership was elected. Some changes to the National By-Laws were approved. Importantly, one of the proposed changes in blood line lineage to allow adopted children to use the adopted parents’ lineage failed.

Several events were noteworthy and well attended — the Volunteer Appreciation Dinner at the Czech Center Museum, the Host Society Reception at the Historic George Ranch and the Tours to NASA, President George H. Bush Library at Texas A&M, San Jacinto Battle Field and Houston Museum Square. At the George Ranch attendees discovered more than 100 years of Texas history which is a 20,000-acre working ranch featuring historic homes, costumed interpreters and livestock. The Ranch is a living history partnership of the Fort Bend History Association and The George Foundation. **(Photo at Bottom Left)** Shown is Compatriot Frank Rohrbough with his Lady Di at the Chuck Wagon. **(Center Photo)** One of many Longhorn Steers on the ranch. **(Photo Bottom Right)** Entertainment was provided by the Pat Gavin & The Buckaroo Band .



DEATH OF CHAPTER MEMBER



We are saddened to report the passing of Chapter member Harry Dell. He was also a longtime member of SAR and the Boerne Chapter. He transferred to the San Antonio

Chapter 2 years before and Mary Alice moved to Santa Maria, CA to be with family. Harry was a superb genealogist and educator. His Obituary reads:

Harry Nelson Dell, age 88, passed away Sunday, July 1 at his home in Santa Maria. He was born in Durango, CO to Harry Howard and LaRue Nelson Dell. He graduated from Vienna Illinois High School and received his BS from Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, Il. It was there he met and married his wife, Mary Alice Newsom Dell, with whom he shared 68 years of love and shared interests.

He worked for McDonnell Douglas Aircraft for 32 years at several locations including Cape Canaveral FL during the early Gemini and Apollo programs. He was a retired USAF Captain. He was an avid genealogist and wrote a semi-monthly blog for over 500 alumni of the 7-week advanced genealogy course taught by he and his wife for 15 years. He loved fishing and hunting in the Sierras and was a lifetime member of the El Segundo Rod and Gun Club. He was also a

member Santa Maria Valley Genealogy Society, The Boerne Texas Sons of the American Revolution, The Mayflower Society and Texas State Genealogy Society. He loved traditional jazz and was a member of the Basin Street Regulars.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by three daughters and son in laws: Kathy and Jay Kukawsky of Arroyo Grande, Barbara and Mark Freie of Camarillo, and Laura and Mike Mueller of Rainier WA. He left six grandchildren and their families: Jesse Simms and Abel of Los Angeles, Jared and Brittany Lippert of Maryland, James and Misti Simms of Nipomo, Steven and Meggan Lippert of Camarillo, Sara Jacobson of Los Angeles, and Rachel Lippert and Matt of Henderson NV. He is survived by 9 great grandchildren: Salicia, Alannah, Jaedon, Izabela, Jackson, Jerimiah, Cristoper, Matthew, and Giana. He is also survived by his brother, Donald and wife Joan of Oregon and numerous nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents and sister, Betty. A memorial service will be held at Merrill Gardens.

Arrangements are in the care of Magner-Maloney Funeral Home and Crematory. Sympathy notes and words of support may be expressed at www.magnermaloney.com.

Magner-Maloney Funeral Home and Crematory, 600 East Stowell Road, Santa Maria, CA 93454, Phone: 805-925-2753 Fax: 805-922-4930

"A general dissolution of principles and manners will more surely overthrow the liberties of America than the whole force of the common enemy. While the people are virtuous they cannot be subdued; but when once they lose their virtue then will be ready to surrender their liberties to the first external or internal invader." ...Samuel Adams, 1779

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMING EVENTS

Next Executive Committee: Thursday, September 13, 2018, 11:30 A.M., **New Location - Chester's** at 16609 San Pedro. It is at Hwy 281, N. and Thousand Oaks.

September General Membership Meeting: Wednesday, September 19, 2018, 11:30 A.M., The Petroleum Club (7th Floor), San Antonio, TX

Board of Managers Meeting: October 13-15, 2018, New Braunfels, TX, Courtyard New Braunfels River Village Hotel (Register On-Line at <http://texassar.org>).

Operation Ancestry Research: Training Sessions will be announced as they are scheduled. Wounded Warrior Family Support Ctr., Ft. Sam Houston, TX; (All Members are invited) (Peter Baron)

Annual Chapter Gala: Saturday, January 19, 2019, Petroleum Club (7th Floor), 6:00 PM.

For more information about SAR and our activities, go to **SASAR Chapter Website:**

<http://www.sarsat.org>