



# THE SAN ANTONIO COMPATRIOT

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

Compatriot Dustin Whittenburg, President — Compatriot Frank Rohrbough, Editor

Mar-Apr 2019



## PRESIDENT'S REMARKS



Since my installation as President of the Chapter, we have been on a fast track following our Gala Banquet in January. Several of our Chapter leaders attended the Annual Texas Society SAR Conference that was held at the Omni Hotel in Austin TX on April 4 to 7, 2019. Because of our efforts in 2018, our Chapter was recognized as the Outstanding Chapter of the Year (Large Chapter Category) and the Americanism Award for the Texas SAR. Our Chapter received other awards to include the USS Stark Award for Chapters 100+ Members and 3<sup>rd</sup> Place in the Youth Poster Contest. Texas Society President Thomas Jackson also recognized several of our members with SAR Service Medals and Certificate Awards. **(Page 2)**

On April 6th Compatriots Bob Hancock, Paul Reynolds, Fred Soupiset and George Whittenburg attended the History Faire at Frank Tejada Middle School (Northside Independent School District). Although it conflicted with the Annual Texas SAR Conference, we determined that it was important to participate in this annual event. **(Page 6)**

To kick off “Fiesta San Antonio”, Compatriot Jay Lewallen and his Lady Diane, once again, sponsored a table for our Color Guard to attend the 101st Annual Patriotic and Historical Ball (aka Pioneer Ball) on Saturday, April 20th at the Villita Assembly Hall. Our Color Guard opened the Ball with the posting of National and State Colors. For more details, see **Page 5**. The highlight of this event is the Visit by King Antonio to extend his personal greetings of “Viva Fiesta”. This is one of the premiere events for “Opening Fiesta Celebrations”. On Monday, April 22nd, five of our Compatriots and the granddaughter of Fred Soupiset wearing a colonial period dress participated in the Pilgrimage to the Alamo to honor the 180 Texans, several of them having served in the American Revolution, who fell at the Alamo on March 6, 1836. **(Page 5)**.

Hardy Oaks Elementary School participated in our Annual Poster Contest submitting over 100 posters. The Poster Winners and the Teacher coordinating the Contest are noted on **Page 6**.

We have received many referrals of prospective members from our State Registrar since the first of the year. Compatriots Peter Baron (Registrar) and Chaplain Rev. James Taylor (Genealogist) are each working on numerous applications in addition to these new inquiries from our State organization. We are looking for new ways members can help relieve their workload so new applicants can jump-start their applications before turning them over to Peter and Rev. Taylor.

During our April Meeting we celebrated on Chapter’s 88th Birthday with 5 of our Past Presidents joining me in the Birthday Celebration. They were: Jim Massingill, Bob Hancock, Ed Butler, George Harcourt and Joe Ware. **(Page 4)**. As in years past, we joined many patriotic organizations in the Pilgrimage to the Alamo. **(Page 5)**.

Under the able leadership of Compatriot Paul Reynolds, our members are in the process of awarding SAR medals to outstanding Junior and Senior ROTC students in 43 area high schools and 3 universities. I greatly appreciate all members who are attending these ROTC Awards Programs that made our SAR Awards more meaningful to deserving Cadets who are selected by their Military Science Professors.

Our Executive Committee meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month, except for July when we take a summer recess. Our Chapter Meetings are held at the Petroleum Club on the third Wednesday of each month, with a summer recess in July and August. You are welcome to attend these monthly planning sessions. Announcements and Coming Events are noted on **Page 6**.

Compatriotly, *Dustin Whittenburg*

## CHAPTER RECEIVES AWARDS AT TEXAS SAR ANNUAL MEETING

President Dustin Whittenburg noted at the April Chapter Meeting on April 17th that our 200 plus members can be very proud of what we have achieved in service to the our local and state community. The Chapter received many Awards, as noted below, at the Texas Society Annual Meeting that was held April 4th to 7th, 2019 at the Omni Hotel in Austin, TX.

Because of the sustained work of chapter members under the able leadership of Past President Roy Leonard during his term of service 2018, these State Awards show well of our chapter fulfilling the goals and objectives of our Chapter, the Texas Society and the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution.

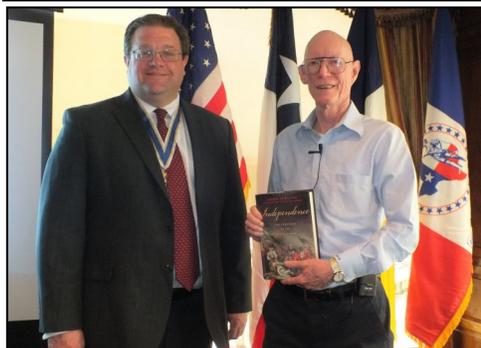
### **Chapter Awards for Service to SAR**

- **The Texas SAR Americanism Awards—Gp. 4 (100 + Members)** Awarded to a chapter that develops an exceptional program to recognize patriotic activities of the youth of the state, supports institutions and adults that promote patriotic education, recognizes observance of national holidays, and recognizes outstanding citizenship during the past year. **San Antonio Chapter #4.** (Repeat Winner from Last Year)
- **Texas SAR Outstanding Chapter Award for Chapters—Gp. 4 (100-+ Members)** Awarded to Chapters that excelled in all programs, activities, and outreach to non-SAR institutions and groups as reflected in the 12 sections of the Chapter Annual Report. **San Antonio Chapter #4.** (Repeat Winner from Last Year)
- **The John Bruce Stuart Jr. Memorial Award—Gp. 4 (100-+ Members)** Awarded to the Chapter that best meets the criteria based on Veterans activities in the past year. **San Antonio Chapter #4**
- **The Ross Shipman Awards Gp. 3 (100 + Members)** Selected by the Newsletter Committee. Best Newsletters published during the past year. **San Antonio #4 Honorable Mention**
- **Texas SAR Flag Presentation Awards:** Given to Chapters having recognized an Individual, Company, or Organization for the proper display, maintenance, and care for flying the Flag of the United States during the past year. White Star presented as a Repeat Winner from last year. **San Antonio Chapter #4.**
- **The Adrian Drouilhet Award:** Awarded to the Chapter with the most new members under 50 years of age. **San Antonio Chapter #4** (19 new members)
- **The James M. Looney Elementary School Poster Contest Award:** This contest was developed to help stimulate interest in American History in support of the Texas School Fifth (5th) Grade Curriculum. The Posters are judged on artistic merit, creativity used to express the annual theme, originality of presentation, and show evidence of research done by the student. **San Antonio Chapter #4, 3rd Place Award.** (Our nominee was **Emily Yun**, Hardy Oaks Elementary School, Supporting Teacher was **Catherine Baker**.)

### **Individual Awards for Service to Texas SAR**

- **Stephen Rohrbough:**
  - 1) **Silver Roger Sherman Medal and Certificate** (For Extended Outstanding Services as a State Officer)
- **Frank Rohrbough:**
  - 1) **Silver Meritorious Service Medal** (Notable Services in Support of American Principles)
  - 2) **Certificate of Distinguished Service** (Outstanding Personal Service Exemplifying the Finest American Ideals)
  - 3) **Certificate of Appreciation** (Outstanding Service as Chairman of the Veterans Committee)
- **Henry Garcia:**
  - 1) **Silver Service Medal & Certificate:** (Notable Services to the Texas Society)
  - 2) **Certificate of Appreciation** (Outstanding Service as Chairman of the Expansion, Retention and Membership Committee)

## GUEST SPEAKER AT MARCH CHAPTER MEETING



Our Guest Speaker at our Chapter Meeting on March 20, 2019 was Mr. John Barber — a longtime coin collector who has specializes in North American Colonial Period Coins and Script — who spoke on the “Revolutionary Period Currency”. He stated there were three general types of money in the colonies of British America: specie (coins), paper money and commodity money. Cash in the colonies was denominated in pounds, shillings, and pence. Barber noted that commodity money was used when cash (coins and paper money) was scarce. Commodities like tobacco and beaver skins served as money at various times and places.

The value varied from colony to colony. For example, a Massachusetts pound was not equivalent to a Pennsylvania pound. Also, all colonial pounds’ were of less value than the British pound sterling. The coins in circulation in the colonies were most often of Spanish and Portuguese origin. Because Spanish dollar were widely used in the colonies, colonial money was valued in dollars, not British pounds. For his presentation, President Whittenburg presented Mr. Barber a book entitled “Independence — The Struggle to Set America Free” by John Ferling.

## INDUCTION OF A NEW MEMBER

At the March 20th Chapter Meeting, President Whittenburg inducted Compatriot Jay Sampson into the San Antonio Chapter, Texas Society SAR. Compatriot Jay Sampson’s Patriot Ancestor was Josiah Terry who served as a Private in the Virginia Continental Line under the command of Colonel Charles Lynch. Lynch served in the Virginia House of Burgesses from 1769 until 1778, when he became a militia colonel.

In several incidents in 1780, Lynch and several other militia officers and justices of the peace rounded up suspects who were thought to be a part of a Loyalist uprising in southwestern Virginia. The suspects were given a summary trial at an informal court; sentences handed down included whipping, property seizure, coerced pledges of allegiance, and conscription into the military. Lynch's extralegal actions were legitimized by the Virginia General Assembly in 1782.



## TEXAS SOCIETY SAR DISTRICT #3 VICE PRESIDENT VISITS CHAPTER

Texas Society District Vice President Stuart Hoyt for District #3 visited us at our Chapter meeting on March 20th to encouraging our members to attend the upcoming Texas Society Annual Meeting that will be held at the Omni Hotel in Austin, TX starting on April 4th.

The second reason for coming to the meeting was to present Compatriot Ernest Kerr III with an authentic American Indian Comanche Tomahawk that he had put up for auction earlier in 2018. VP Hoyt had sold tickets during his previous visit to our Chapter on April 16, 2018 as a fund-raiser. Kerr, who was inducted to that Chapter Meeting, purchased the winning ticket.



## GUEST SPEAKER FOR APRIL CHAPTER MEETING

The Guest Speaker at our April 17th Chapter Meeting was Compatriot Colonel James R. (Bob) McConnell, USAF, Retired and members of the Sojourners who gave a presentation on the Symbology in the Flags of the Armed Forces. Other members of the presentation were, MCPO Freddie Freeland, USN Retired, Lt Col. John H. V. Lorch, USAF Retired and Honorary Member Luther L. (Lee) Leopard, Jr. All are members of Ft Sam Houston Chapter # 17 of National Sojourner, Inc., and are members of Alamo Camp Heroes of '76. The Heroes of '76 is a sub element of the National Sojourners, Inc. It is composed of Master Masons who have served in the military services or have been selected as Honorary membership due to their Masonic services. They give Flag Presentation Programs for any organization which would like to have a program. They have several Flag Programs to choose from. Their motto is "Proudly Serving the Cause of Patriotism".



## CHAPTER CELEBRATES 88TH BIRTHDAY



On April 17th, our Chapter celebrated its 88th Birthday. President Whittenburg noted that our chapter has been quite active in his President's Remarks on Page 1. Some of the Past Presidents are still actively contributing to the Chapters' success since its founding on April 19, 1930.

Their name and term of service as a Chapter President is noted in parenthesis after their name. Shown from left to right are: Former Vice President General South Central District and Past Texas Society State President Stephen Rohrbough (Mar 1998 - Mar 2000), Dave Brooks (Apr 2016 - Jan 2017), Roy Leonard (Jan 2018 - Jan 2019), Larry Loop (Jan 2017 - Jan 2018), George Harcourt (Apr 2005 - Dec 2005), Former President-General Edward Butler (Mar 2002 - Mar 2004), Bob Hancock (Jan 2014 - Jan 2016), Peter Baron (Jan 2010 - Jan 2011), Joe Ware (Mar 1993 - Mar 1995) and James Taylor (Jan 2011 - Jan 2013). Others Past Presidents not shown who remain active as members of the Executive Committee or participating in Chapter Events throughout the year include Jimmie Massingill (2001 - 2002) and Frank Rohrbough (Jan 2007 - 2008). President Whittenburg officiated over the cake cutting ceremony.

## SAR ROTC AWARDS FOR LOCAL STUDENTS

As President Whittenburg stated in his Remarks on page 1, our members are in the process of presenting SAR medals to outstanding Junior and Senior ROTC students in 43 area high schools and 3 universities. According to Chairman Paul Reynolds, Certificates and Bronze Medals have been sent to 43 high school JROTC units for presentation during their Annual Awards Programs. Several of our members have attended these Awards Programs and presented these Awards to students who have been selected by their Professors of Military Science for their outstanding leadership qualities. **(Photo Right)** Compatriot Dave Brooks presented the Bronze Medal to Cadet Captain Rebecca Cuevas at Taft High School.



## CHAPTER MEMBERS PARTICIPATED IN 101ST PIONEER BALL

**(Photo at Right)** Once again, Compatriot Jay Lewallen and Lady Diane, longstanding Members of the State Association of Texas Pioneers, arranged for the Chapter Color Guard to present the National and State Colors on Saturday, April 20th at the 101th Annual Patriotic and Historical Ball (Pioneer Ball). The ball was held at the historic Villita Assembly Hall near the historic San Antonio River Walk. The Lewallen's were recognized for their sponsoring the State Association of Texas Pioneers Fiesta Medal for 2018.



The Historical Ball is among the first of the galas to open Fiesta. The first Ball took place in 1919 to honor San Antonio's military personnel and has continued doing so over the years. Military personnel from local installations and organizations are special guests for the evening.

The Lewallen's host a table each year for the Color Guard and their guests.



Their guests this year included: Former VPG South Central District of NSSAR Stephen Rohrbough, Compatriot Paul Reynolds and his Lady Rose and Compatriot Fred Soupiset and his Lady Pat. We are grateful for their support of us . Viva Fiesta!

**(Shown Left to Right)** The Chapter Color Guard presented the Colors for the Opening of the Pioneer Ball Celebration. Serving as Guardsman of the U.S. Texas Flag is Compatriot Fred Soupiset; Compatriot Roy Leonard is Texas Flag Bearer, Compatriot Paul Reynolds is US Flag Bearer, Compatriot Jay Lewallen, Guardsman of the U.S Flag and Compatriot Stephen Rohrbough is the Commander of the SAR Color Guard.

## PILGRIMAGE TO THE ALAMO

On Monday, April 22nd, the San Antonio Chapter of the Texas Society participated in the Pilgrimage to the Alamo to honor the 180 Texians who fell at the Alamo on March 6, 1836. According to DAR sources, more than 30 of them were descendants of Patriots of the American Revolution.

We had 5 participants in the Pilgrimage Procession. Shown from left to right as Color Guardsmen are Compatriots Fred Soupiset (Guardsman), Jason Bourgeois (US Flag), Roy Leonard (TX Flag) and Larry Loop (Guardsman). All are in colonial period dress. President



Dustin Whittenburg (Right) and Compatriot Fred Soupiset's granddaughter Mimi (Left) carried the SAR Banner. Also attending was Compatriot Leonard's wife, Lady Debra, in period colonel dress.

Many of our members are members of the Sons of the Republic of Texas (SRT). These include Compatriots George Harcourt, James Massingill and Max Strozier who are active members of Alamo Chapter.

During this event, Compatriot George Harcourt announced the names of the those who died at the Alamo seeking the cause of Independence from Mexico so they are once again recognized and honored.

## CHAPTER PARTICIPATES IN ANNUAL TEJEDA MIDDLE SCHOOL HISTORY FAIRE

On April 6th Compatriots Bob Hancock, Fred Soupiset, Paul Reynolds and George Whittenburg attended the 18th Annual History Faire at Frank Tejeda Middle School (Northeast Independent School District). Although it conflicted with the Texas SAR Annual Conference, we felt it important to continue participating in this annual event which we have attended since 2009. Our compatriots spoke about their Patriot Ancestors and how they participated in the events of the American Revolution, their uniforms and weapons, and camp life during the Revolution. **(Photo at Right)** Compatriot Soupiset spoke with a student about the making of a powder horn for storing black powder that is used for his black powder weapon.



## HARDY OAKS ENTERS POSTER CONTEST

Compatriot Larry Loop, Chairman of the Education Programs, worked with Hardy Oaks Elementary School teachers seeking participation in our Annual Poster Contest. This year the 5th Grade Class submitted over 100 posters. On March 8th cash awards and winning Certificates were to the students who were selected at the top 3 awards. All students were applauded for participating in the contest. All teachers were presented a Sons of the American Revolution Certificate of Appreciation.

**(Photo at Right)** From right to left is **Emily Yun** (1st Place), **Lillian Davis** (2nd Place) and **Avery Wong** (3rd Place).

**Catherine Baker** (5th grade teacher) was the school coordinator for the contest this year. Our 1st Place entry won 3rd Place in the Texas Society Poster Contest in Austin, TX on April 6th. Congratulations **Emily Yun!**



## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMING EVENTS

**Chapter Business Meetings:** May 9 and June 13, 2019, 11:30 A.M., Denny's Restaurant on Blanco inside Loop 410. (New Location Being Considered)

**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: May 15 and June 19.

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

**Memorial Day Flag Placement**

**Event:** Support the San Antonio Area Scouting Council's Flag Placement Event, Friday, May 24th, 5:00 P.M. Ft. Sam Houston National Cemetery (East Cemetery Assembly Pavilion) at 4:15 PM. (Frank Rohrbough)

**Blue Skies Parade,** June 22nd at Air Force Village II. Located on Hwy 90 West - Patriotic Celebration Event (Frank Rohrbough) (All Members are Invited)

**Independence Day Events:**

- **Hyatt Regency Hill Country Resort Educational Program,** July 3rd, 10 AM (Assemble 9

AM at the Lukenbach Pavilion) (All members are invited)

- **35th Annual Fourth of July Patriotic Ceremony,** Hosted by Order of Granaderos y Damas de Gálvez, San Antonio National Cemetery, **July 4th,** 10 A.M. (Assemble 9 AM)

**129th Annual Congress of the National Society:** Orange County, CA, July 5 - July 10, 2019. For More Details, "Control Click" on <https://www.sar.org/annual-sar-congress>

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