



THE SAN ANTONIO COMPATRIOT

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

Compatriot Dustin Whittenburg, President — Compatriot Frank Rohrbough,

Nov-Dec 2019



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 as Brooke and I had with all our family.

As my year as President comes to an end on January 18, 2020 at our Chapter Gala, I wish to thank the members who have helped to make my time as President a rewarding one. I have really enjoyed working with all 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 and 6.**

We had a very busy and challenging year. The Chapter received many awards from both State and National Societies of SAR this year many from the great work done by Past President Roy Leonard in 2018. I expect to see some additional Chapter Awards next year based on your efforts this year. Once again, we promoted our Patriotic support through many events such as School History Fairs, the Hyatt Hill Country Resort Independence Day Program on the Revolutionary War and Colonial History, Color Guard events and tremendous support of our Veterans at the San Antonio Veterans Hospital and Clinics.

At the Chapter Meeting in December we conducted our annual election of Officers for 2020; the slate of candidates led by Compatriot George Whittenburg for President was elected by acclamation. (See **Page 5**) 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 18, 2020** 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 Keynote Speaker will be Monty Monroe, Texas State Historian; his topic will be "Preserving Texas History." I encourage you to attend and help us give him a warm San Antonio welcome. For more details see the Gala Invitation on **Page 6.**

In closing, I wish all Chapter members a healthy, happy and prosperous 2020; it has been an honor to serve you as your President.

Best Regards, *Dustin Whittenburg*

CHAPTER ANNUAL GALA

The Chapter's Annual Gala Banquet will be held on Saturday, January 18, 2020 at the Petroleum Club at 6:00 P.M. Our Keynote Speaker will be Monty Monroe, Texas State Historian; his topic will be "Preserving Texas History." 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.

Send your check (made payable to San Antonio SAR) to:

Mr. Kevin Kanter at 508 Wilderness Way, New Braunfels, Texas 78132.

Payment must be received by January 10th

Save the Date!

San Antonio SAR
Chapter GALA

**Saturday
January 18,
2020
6:00 PM**

CHAPTER PARTICIPATES US MILITARY VETERANS PARADE

The San Antonio Chapter again participated in the 20th USMVPA Parade in downtown San Antonio on Saturday, November 9th. Our Chapter participated in this Parade from 2009 to 2013 when Compatriot Jim Hudson provided his 1952 vintage Korean Jeep and trailer. Regrettably, his health no longer allows him to participate in this event.

This parade celebrates the currently serving active duty members and is held to thank all veterans for their service in years past to this great country.

This year the Boerne SAR Chapter joined us and entered their "Boat Float" patterned after the Iron Ore Boats that were used by General Washington and the Continental Army to cross the Delaware



River and attack the Hessians at Trenton on Christmas Day in 1776. They had eight members of their Chapter participate in the parade. All members who have colonial attire or period uniforms were invited to wear them. The parade began at noon at Ave E Street and East Travis St. The Assembly Area was located on Ave E and extended from 3rd St. to 6th St. and all cross streets on either side of Ave E. The Parade Route proceeded west on Houston St. to Milam Park (near the Mexican Market). This was a great time to show our respect for the service members and their families of the Armed Forces and to honor veterans living and those who have passed. **(Photo Above)** Our members participating in this event are shown from left to right were Compatriots Frank Rohrbough, Chapter President Dustin Whittenburg, Max Strozier at right of US Flag and Jason Bourgeois. All members except Strozier wore Revolutionary War Uniforms. Participating but not shown was Robert Brady.

GUEST SPEAKER FOR NOVEMBER CHAPTER MEETING

Our Guest Speaker at the November 13th Chapter Meeting was Command Sargent Major William Manchester, Retired U.S. Army. He retired in 2015 after 30 years in the US Army. He spoke on "The History of the U.S. Army in San Antonio" noting that San Antonio has a rich history of leadership and innovation in civil and military aviation and aerospace, starting with the first flight of an airplane in the San Antonio skies in February 1910 by French barnstormer Louis Paulhan. The first military flight by Lt. Benjamin Foulois from Fort Sam Houston on 2 March 1910 and the establishment of Kelly Field in 1915, Brooks Field in 1917, Randolph Field in June 1930, which became known as "The West Point of the Air". The dedication of The School of Aerospace Medicine at Brooks AFB was presided over by President John F. Kennedy on 21 November 1963. Southwest Research Institute has played and continues to play a significant role in aviation, aerospace, and deep space exploration and has been inducted into the U.S. Space Foundation's Space Technology Hall of Fame.



Manchester currently serves as the Director of the Airman Heritage Training Complex on Lackland AFB. The Mission of the Airman Heritage Foundation is to support the USAF Airman Heritage Museum and other heritage-related activities in preserving and honoring the history and heritage of enlisted airmen. In January 2019 he became Director of the Airman Heritage Museum and is now focused on building the new Museum. For his presentation President Whittenburg presented Manchester a book titled: "American Spring - Lexington, Concord and the Road to Revolution" by Walter R. Borneman.

NEW MEMBER INDUCTION INTO SAR

President Whittenburg inducted Yancey Swearingen into the Chapter during the November 13th Chapter Meeting. In the latter part of the year 1778, there was a call for the Militia. His Patriot Ancestor Lieutenant Van Swearingen Sr. served under Colonel Leroy Hammond, Commander of 4th North Carolina Regiment and Company of Captain Benjamin Hatcher. He provided supplies while serving in the South Carolina Militia. Further, his unit attacked the British picket in their divisions near the Georgia border and after a few minutes of very brisk firing the British surrendered.



MEMBER FINDS ADDITIONAL PATRIOT ANCESTORS

While many of our members use one patriot ancestor to qualify for membership in the National Society Sons of the American Revolution, some do further research of their family genealogy and find other ancestors who performed patriotic service to complete their Supplemental Application.

Compatriot John Lee Jansma became a member of SAR in April 2018 through his Patriot Ancestor John Dunlap. He continued to research his family history and found five additional ancestors who served during the American Revolution. His Supplemental Applications were approved by the National Society SAR and Membership Certificates were presented by President Whittenburg to Compatriot Jansma at the November 13th Chapter Meeting. Compatriot Jansma's Patriot Ancestors include:

- Cornelius Bassett - Member of the Committee of Correspondence in 1774
- Matthew Barnum, Sr. - Corporal in Connecticut Militia, Lt James Seeley's Company
- Robert Dunlap - A private in the New Jersey Militia
- David Wisner - An Ensign in the New York Militia
- Elijah Kinne - Corporal, 4th Reg Continental Line, New York, Col. James Holmes Camp Ticonderoga

Compatriot Jansma has completed another 6 Supplemental Applications that have been approved by NSSAR. These Certificates will be presented by the Chapter President upon receipt.

JOINT DAR-SAR CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON



The Joint Meeting of the San Antonio de Bexar DAR and San Antonio SAR Chapters was held on December 7th at the San Antonio Country Club. Regent Lauren Walthour hosted this annual event and provided all attendees with outstanding southern hospitality. Joining Regent Walthour at the Head Table were Peter Baron and his son Compatriot Campbell Baron and Max Strozier.

(Photo at Left) Color Guardsmen shown from left to right included Commander Frank Rohrbough, Campbell Baron, Kevin Kanter, Paul Reynolds and Peter Baron. Also, present were Diane Rohrbough, Tina Baron, Jean Kanter and Rose Reynolds.

Others Chapter Members attending the Joint Meeting were Former President-General Edward Butler and his Lady Robin, Bob and Prissy Hancock, Bud and Ginger Davenport, Jack Cowan and Corinne Cowan Staacke DAR (sister), Reuben Perez and Chris Hummel and his friend Joan Headley.

REVOLUTINARY WAR PRESENTATION GIVEN TO NEW MEXICO MIDDLE SCHOOL 8TH GRADE CLASSES

Compatriot Frank Rohrbough and Lady Diane have given numerous American Revolutionary War Period presentations to Elementary School Classes when their grandchildren were stu-

dents at Double Eagle Elementary School in Albuquerque, New Mexico. At the invitation of Mr. Martin they gave presentations on November 15th this year to all five 8th Grade Classes totaling about 125 students at Desert Ridge Middle School in Albuquerque.

(Photo at Right) Compatriot Frank Rohrbough spoke about General Washington - The Spymaster in Chief. He explained the operations of the Culper Spy Ring which operated in New York City during the period 1780-1783.

Following his presentation, Lady Diane spoke about the Camp Followers of the American Revolutionary War. She explained why many family members followed their soldier fathers, brothers or other relatives to the Continental Army. She discussed what services they performed while in camp.

The Rohrbough's set up their table display showing items that a soldier would use during the War and the items a family member would bring to support a sponsoring soldier while in camp. The table display provided a "hands-on" experience for the students which complimented Mr. Martin's teachings on the American Revolution and Early American History.



FEATURED SPEAKER FOR DECEMBER MEETING

Our Guest Speaker for the December 11th Chapter Meeting was Berta Rodrigues, City of San Antonio 2020 Census Administrator. Her topic addressed several aspects of the 2020 Census.

Rodrigues noted that 2020 is the first census that will rely primarily on internet self-response. Gone are the days where paper forms were available at local libraries and handed out at schools. People will have to either fill out a form online or call the Census Bureau to give their answers over the phone, Rodrigues said. Some census tracts will receive paper forms. For example, if a census tract has a high population of seniors, that mail-out will have a paper form" Rodrigues said. She explained what is going to happen during that Census process and its importance the governance of our country. Following her presentation, she took many questions from attendees about how the collection of information would be used to align Congressional seats within the House of Representatives and allocate federal funding to the States and Districts for the next decade.

(Photo at Right) For her presentation, President Whittenburg presented her "The War Man: The True Story of a Citizen-Soldier Who Fought from Quebec to Yorktown" by Robert A. Mayers.



2020 OFFICERS

The following Officers were elected by acclamation at the December 11th Chapter Meeting:

President: George Whittenburg

1st Vice President: Kevin Kanter

2nd Vice President: Ellert Weitzel

Recording Secretary: Michael Bowles

Corresponding Secretary: Frank Rohrbough

Sergeant at Arms: Frank Rohrbough

Treasurer: Kenneth McAnear

Registrar: Peter Baron

Historian: Larry Loop

Chaplain: James Taylor

Genealogists: James Taylor

Chancellor: Edward Snyder

NOTE: Officers will be Inducted at the Chapter Gala on January 18th.

CHAPTER SERVICE AWARDS

President Whittenburg thanked Chapter members for their service to the Chapter during the past year.

(Photo Right) Members receiving Chapter Service Medal 1st Oak Leaf Cluster (OLC) shown from Left to Right: Robert McConnell (ROTC Awards), George Whittenburg (President-Elect) and Richard Weitzel (Sgt at Arms)

(Photo Lower Right) Harold (Bud) Davenport (6th OLC) (Veterans Programs), James Taylor (7th OLC) (Chaplain and Genealogist), Frank Rohrbough (7th OLC) (Newsletter Editor and Color Guard Commander) and Stephen Rohrbough.



CHAPTER SERVICE AWARDS (CONT'D)



(Photo Left) The following members received the Bronze Roger Sherman Medal (BRSM) shown from Left to Right: Michael Bowles (Programs) and David Brooks (Chairman Veterans Committee).

(Photo Right) Compatriot Stephen Rohrbough received the Chapter Service Award (9th OLC) for his longstanding service as Chairman

of the Awards and Decoration Committee. **(Photo Lower Left)** Past Chapter President Robert Hancock received the Chapter Service Award (5th OLC) for his continuous service to the Chapter during 2019 supporting the Annual Gala and the planning and



conduct of the Anniversary of the Battle of Medina in August.

(Photo Right) Compatriots Paul Reynolds (3rd OLC) (Chairman ROTC Awards Cmt), Kevin Kanter (Treasurer) and Larry Loop (2nd OLC) (Chairman Youth Education Committee).



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: Monty Monroe, Texas State Historian

Reservations: Send name/s and select meal choice of

- Filet Mignon \$55 or
- Petroleum Club Shrimp \$45 for each person in your party.

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

Mr. Kevin Kanter, 508 Wilderness Way, New Braunfels, Texas 78132. **Checks must be received by January 10, 2020.**

Dress: Men - Black Tie or a dark suit or Revolutionary War Period Dress

Ladies: Formal evening gown or cocktail dress

For Additional Information: Contact President Dustin Whittenburg at dustin@WhittenburgTax.com.

CHAPTER AWARDS (CONT'D)

(Photo at Right) President Whittenburg presented the Chapter Certificate of Appreciation to Compatriot Jason Bourgeois for his service as a Color Guardsman during the year. He transferred his SAR Membership from the Cincinnati SAR Chapter recently but has been active with our Chapter since he moved to San Antonio earlier this year.

(Photo at Right) President Whittenburg presented Chapter Service Medal to Robert Watson for his service to veterans. **All other Officers and Committee Chairman who were**

not present at the December Chapter Meeting will be presented their Chapter Service Awards at Annual Gala on January 18th, 2020.



ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMING EVENTS

Next Executive Committee Meeting: Wednesday, January 8, 2020, 11:00 A.M., La Fonda Mexican Restaurant in Alamo Heights.

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 2020.**

Annual San Antonio SAR Gala: (See Invitation Above)

Operation Ancestry Research: Training Sessions will be an-

nounced as they are scheduled. Wounded Warrior Family Support Ctr., Ft. Sam Houston, TX; (**All Members are invited to participate.**)

Annual George Washington Parade in Laredo, TX: Saturday, February 22, 2020. Texas SAR will **NOT** attend this year's Parade due to hotel logistical conflicts.

Salute to Veterans Week: February 10-13, 2020, Shavano Park VA Clinic, 350 Lockhill Selma Rd, Suite #200.

Texas Society 125th Annual Meeting: March 26-29, 2020 at The Westin Hotel at the Woodlands, TX. For details, go to Texas SAR Webpage at <https://www.txssar.org>. Click on "Events".

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

www.sarsat.org