



THE SAN ANTONIO COMPATRIOT

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

Compatriot Kevin Kanter, President — Compatriot Frank Rohrbough, Editor

Jul-Aug 2021



PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

The San Antonio Chapter has come roaring back after months of enforced inactivity. As you will see in this edition, we have participated in several activities during this period. Most notably our “command performance” at the Hyatt Regency Hill Country Resort on July 3rd, placement of our Chapter Wreath at the Independence Day memorial held at Ft. Sam Houston National Cemetery where I was honored to provide the Benediction, representation at the Battle of Medina Memorial Ceremony and most recently at our first Compatriot Grave Marking Ceremony at Ft. Sam Houston National Cemetery. Our contingent of Color Guard members have braved the heat, humidity, and a small amount of rain to represent the San Antonio Chapter and SAR. This summer’s Board of Manager Meeting was held virtually on August 7th with 6 of our members attending. I encourage everyone to make plans to attend the Fall BOM held in Clear Lake, Texas, October 7 – 10. Registration information may be found at the State SAR Website, https://www.txssar.org/pdf/brochure_BOM2021.pdf.



In order to “catch up”, we held a special July breakfast meeting at Paesano’s in Alamo Heights on Saturday, July 17th that was well attended. Our Chapter Essay and Oration Winners presented their winning essay and oration to members attending. We attempted to hold a second breakfast meeting at Magnolia Pancake Haus in August but sadly we did not have sufficient members commit to attend without the chapter taking on an unreasonable financial commitment to meet the minimum charge. I strongly encourage everyone to make use of our online registration on our website to communicate that you will attend our monthly meetings. The email address for online registration is txsarch4reservations@gmail.com.

We were the victims of a widespread email “scam” early in August. Several members were sent an email, allegedly from me, asking for “gift cards” that would then be directed to veterans. As soon as I was notified, I sent an email to all members asking you to disregard that email. We were not the only SAR Chapter to be targeted as I have been advised that this happened to many chapters throughout SAR. Unfortunately, before I could send the email, we fell victim to the scam and a wire transfer was sent. A police report was made and restitution of the funds that were wired has been made. ***If you receive an email from “me” or any other officer asking for financial contributions, please contact me or another member of the Executive Committee to confirm.***

Please make sure and review the “Coming Events” as we have no intention of slowing down as we close out the year. While we have several members who are prepared to wear our Continental uniforms, many of the activities that we participate in does not require Continental dress and attendance is open to all members. Finally, please continue to keep each other in your daily devotions. We have had several Compatriots and spouses facing health issues and if nothing else, we can all pray for their restored health and return to normalcy.

Respectfully, *Kevin Kanter*

DONATIONS TO SERVE VETERANS AT AUDIE MURPHY VETERANS MEMORIAL MEDICAL CENTER

Because of the Coronavirus Pandemic, all Veteran Service Organizations have cancelled their services to the VA Volunteer Services Office (VAVS) at the Audie Murphy Veterans Memorial Medical Center in San Antonio. Our Chapter had provided a two-person team to operate the Popcorn Concession each Friday where we receive donations for each bag of popcorn we “sell”.

Because of the loss of these revenues for the past year, several of our chapter members have made donations to the VAVS so they can continue to meet the needs of hospitalized patients. All chapter members are invited to make donations until our Popcorn Concession can be reactivated – possibly later this Fall. Any amount will help – maybe \$10 to \$20. Send your check to VAVS addressed to **Voluntary Services, Audie Murphy VA Hospital, Attn: Scott Traeger, 7400 Merton Minter Blvd., San Antonio, TX 78221.**

CHAPTER CELEBRATES INDEPENDENCE DAY

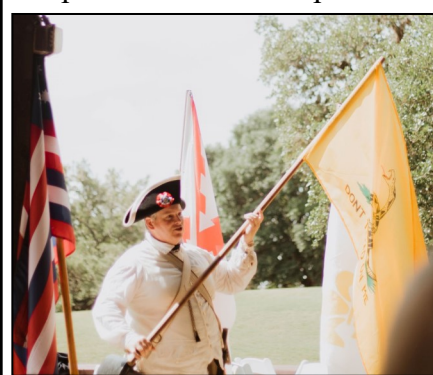
At the Invitation of the Hyatt Regency Hill Country Resort and Spa in San Antonio, the San Antonio Chapter conducted its **10th Educational and Historical Independence Day Event** for hotel guests visiting the resort on July 3, 2021. The event was held at 10:30 A.M. in the Luckenbach Pavilion near the golf course. This was the 244th anniversary of our nations Declaration of Independence from England.

(Photo Right) The Chapter Color Guard included Guardsmen Peter Baron and Frank Kebelman and Flag Bearers Stephen Rohrbough (US Flag) and Jason Bourgeois (Texas Flag). They



opened the event with the Posting of Colors and closed the event with the Retirement of Colors.

Compatriot Frank Rohrbough, Past Chapter President served as the Master of Ceremonies. Sixteen members participated in this year's event. He welcomed approximately 130 hotel guests to the event to celebrate the founding of our country. Chapter President Kevin Kanter spoke on "What SAR Is" and does. Chapter Historian Compatriot Larry Loop gave the overview on "Why We Celebrate Independence Day".



He noted that as British subjects, the British Parliament had placed heavy taxes on them and increasingly denied them the freedoms they expected and self-rule they wanted.

(Photo Left) 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 and the Regimental Uniforms that were approved by the Continentals Congress in 1778. He explained the various Battle Flags of the Revolution highlighting the Gadsden Flag "Don't Tread On Me" and what it means, to patriots. He explained that it unified resistance to oppression of liberties: oppression both by one's own government and by foreign powers. It began as an early symbol of defiance to the tyrannical King

George and the British government during the American Revolution. To the Continental soldiers, most specifically the Continental Marines, it represented what they were fighting for.

Additionally, Compatriot Baron provided an overview of the guns used by 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 four times in one minute. He stated that the musket was not very accurate beyond 50 yards and thus during a 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 in formation — shoulder to shoulder 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 Campbell Baron rang the bell as a salute to each of the Original Colonies as they were announced. We closed the Program with the playing of the song composed by Country Artist Lee Greenwood "God Bless the USA". The guest joined in the singing of the song and standing, as many do for this great tribute and to honor our great country.

To allow greater interaction for the hotel guests, demonstration tables were set up where guests could visit each table to learn more about the various aspects of the Revolutionary War. These included: Weapons and Accouterments, Revolutionary Period Uniforms, Making a Powder Horn, Flags of the Revolution, Medical Practices during the War, Currencies of the Colonies, Patriot Ancestor Stories, Family Genealogy Charts, Camp Followers of the Revolution, and Coloring Book Sketches depicting events of the Revolution.

INDEPEDENCE DAY (CON'TD)



(Photo Left) Major Scott Woodard, USA (Ret) Director at the US Army Museum at Ft. Sam Houston spoke about the “Practice of Medicine during the American Revolution”. The tools of the practice were addressed at his Demonstration Table. Shown are guests who are learning how each of the instruments were used when soldiers were injured and what medicines were given when treating a patient.

(Photo Right) Compatriot Fred Soupiset addressed how powder horns were made for holding black powder and demonstrated the tools used to make them. Some were highly

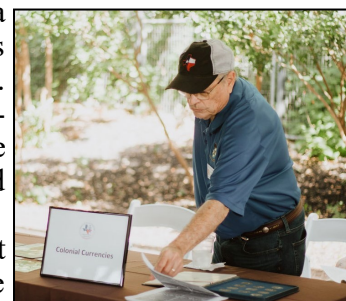


decorated with symbols of battles in which the maker fought.



(Photo Left) Lady Diane Rohrbough, a member of the George W. Kendall Chapter DAR, spoke on what camp followers (families of the soldier, usually a husband, father or son) did in support of the Continental Army as it moved about the colonies fighting the British Army. She described the benefits they received and the tasks they preformed for their sponsoring soldier while in camp and the service they provided to other soldiers.

(Photo Right) Compatriot Mike Bowles staffed a demonstration table where he described the currencies used in the colonies during the American Revolution. Revolutionary money was referred to as 'Continental' - the paper money issued by the Continental Congress. He provided each guest with a handout to better understand the types of currencies used in colonial times.



(Photo Left) Compatriot Bob Hancock told guests about his 50 caliber flint lock rifle. He explained that the rifle is a more accurate weapon used for targets up to 250 yards away, but that it would take a seasoned soldier about 90 seconds to reload the weapon. Usually, the “snipers” stood in discreet location to fire their weapons and take out specific targets.

(Photo at Right) At the conclusion of the event Compatriot Baron gave instructions to young recruits from the hotel on loading and firing the 75 caliber musket. Each guest wore the regimental coat and tri-corner hat to fire the weapon. Over 30 guests took turns shooting the “Big Gun”.



CHAPTER PRESENTED SAR AWARD CERTIFICATES TO EAGLE SCOUTS

(Photo Right) Compatriot Frank Keelman, our Chapter Eagle Scout Committee Chairman, presented SAR Eagle Scout Certificates (shown right to left) to Caleb and Jackson and their father Mark at a special Troop 90 Eagle Scout Court of Honor. The event was held on Sunday, August 8th at University United Methodist Church. Caleb and Jackson have been members of the Boy Scouts of America for over ten years. Mark has been the Scoutmaster of this troop, one of the largest and most active in Alamo Area Council, for several years, and earned his Eagle rank as a youth. An audience of about one hundred people attended the event as Caleb and Jackson joined the ranks of Scouts who have earned this prestigious Eagle Scout honor.





CHAPTER SET TO MARK GRAVE SITES OF DECEASED CHAPTER MEMBERS

As a Rifleman with the **San Antonio Memorial Services Detachment** at the National Cemetery Fort Sam Houston, Texas Lt. Colonel Kebelman, USMC (Retired) has gained experience in committal services of veterans interred at Ft. Sam Houston Cemetery. Compatriot Kebelman proposed a Grave Marking Program to recognize forty-five Chapter Compatriots who have passed and are interred in local San Antonio area cemeteries. The primary purpose of this program is to honor the memories of those who did so much for SAR and our Chapter.

President Kanter stated “We are looking for volunteers to participate in Patriot Grave Marking ceremonies. This activity is an excellent way to honor our patriots and compatriots that have passed.” This program does not require that you attend in uniform and is open to everyone. Frank Kebelman has prepared an excellent program that has been approved by the Executive Committee. Our “walk-through” will be held on **Saturday, September 4th at 9:00 A.M.** at the Administration Building located on Harry Wurzbach at the entrance to the National Cemetery at Ft. Sam Houston in San Antonio. If you are interested in participating, **please contact him at kebelman@gmail.com.**

PASSING OF COMPATRIOT BRIAN LOVELACE

Compatriot Lovelace was the Son-in-Law of our Chapter Presi-



dent Kevin Kanter and his wife Jean. Their daughter Krystle Lee-Lovelace was the loving wife of Brian. Brian’s passing was unexpected as he was a physical fitness trainer, exercise every day and in very good health.

Both of their sons Jake and Luke are members of the San Antonio Chapter SAR through their mother’s line to Patriot Ancestor Jehiel Smith who was a Private in the Ct. Line. His discharge papers were signed by General George Washington. He enlisted in Feb, 1778, discharged in June, 1783. He was in battles of Trenton, Springfield and the capture of Cornwallis. Brian’s Patriot Ancestor was William Dendy who provided supplies and civil service to the cause in South Carolina.

His Obituary reads: “George Brian Lovelace was born on December 27th, 1986, in Corpus Christi, Texas and went to meet his Creator at the age of 34 on August 16th, 2021 in Round Rock, Texas. His cause of death was medical issues related to the Covid virus.

Brian grew up in Corpus Christi, Texas and graduated from Flour Bluff High School. He held various jobs including Personal and Physical Fitness Trainer and Sales with Texas Sizzle BBQ Sauce and Aqua Life water solutions. Brian was a strong Christian man as well as a fantastic family man. Brian was known as a strong, frequent witness for Christ.

Brian was so happy to be married to Krystle with whom he shared great dreams and plans for the future. He so enjoyed and loved his role as father to sons Jake (ten years old) and Luke (three years old). He and Jake were active with Cub Scouts, camping pinewood derby and many others. Brian and Krystle were active and supportive of their church, raising their children as Christians. They both are active with their extended family, frequently getting together for meals, birthdays, and various other enjoyable activities. Brian is survived by his wife, Krystle Lee-Lovelace, sons, Jake and Luke; parents, George Lewis and Judy Johnson Lovelace; sister, Kristi Krouse (Nathan); niece, Allie and nephews, Connor and Weston; In-laws Kevin and Jean Kanter, and sister-in law, Caitlin Kanter.

A visitation for Brian will be held Saturday, August 21, 2021 from 10:00 A.M. to 11:00 A.M. at City Reach Church, 3502 Hatch Rd, Cedar Park, TX 78613, followed by a celebration of life at 11:00 A.M.

Fond memories and expressions of sympathy may be shared at www.wefishleander.com for the Lovelace family.”

BATTLE OF MEDINA REVISITED

With the relaxation of COVID Restrictions this year, the 208th Anniversary of the Battle of Medina Memorial Ceremony was held on Saturday morning, August 14, 2021 in remembrance of the Battle of Medina that was fought on August 18, 1813. According to writings of Judge Robert H. Thonhoff, author, historian and former Karnes County Judge, the Battle of Medina was fought between approximately 1,800 men in the Royal Spanish Army and approximately 1,400 men in the Republican Army of the North, which included about 400 Spaniards, 400 Tejanos, 200 Native Americans, and about 400 men from the Eastern States of the newly established United States of America. In fact only 5 men have been identified who previously fought in the American Revolution and were involved in some way in the Gutierrez-Magee Expedition. Only Peter Sides has been proven to have fought in both the American Revolution and also fought in the Battle of Medina where he died.

Direct descendants of Peter Sides are eligible for membership in the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR), and the Sons of the Republic of Texas (SRT). Descendants directly related to any of the 3,200 men who fought in this battle on either side are eligible for membership in the SRT.

Over the past 21 years the SAR, DAR, SRT, Daughters of the Republic of Texas (DRT), the Daughters of the War of 1812, and descendants of the men who fought here have dedicated markers to the men who died in this battle. These lineage organizations have participated in the yearly Memorial Ceremonies that are held closest to August 18th. **(Photo Below-Left)** Shown from right to left are Texas SAR



Color Guard Commander Blair Rudy and Robert Duckworth (William Hightower Chapter), Compatriots Kevin Kanter and Frank Rohrbough (San Antonio Chapter), Compatriot Ed Sellers (US Flag Bearer) and David Hamaker (Texas Flag Bearer) (Freedom Chapter) and Compatriot Stephen Rohrbough (San Antonio Chapter). Compatriot David Hamaker is a 6th generation descendant of Revolutionary War Patriot Peter Sides who died at this Battle. Compatriot Hamaker was inducted to SAR in July 2018. Others SARSAT members included Bob Hancock, Kenneth McAnear and Dick Weitzel.

Compatriot Hamaker spoke at this Memorial Service stating how Patriot Peter Sides came to Texas to fight for the Texians Independence from Spain. Following this Memorial Service the Texas SAR Color Guardsmen drove to the Battle of Medina Site to conduct a Memorial Service in memory of Patriot Peter Sides and all those who perished in this historic battle — the largest ever fought on Texas soil.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMING EVENTS

Next Chapter Executive Committee Meetings: September 8th and **October 13, 2021** at La Fonda Mexican Restaurant, Alamo Heights (Meetings are held the 2nd Wednesday each month 11:30 A.M.)

Chapter Meetings: September 15, and October 20, 2021; Petroleum Club (7th Floor), 11:30 A.M. Reservations are required via txsarch4reservations@gmail.com (Meetings are held the 3rd Wednesday of each month.)

Chapter Grave Marking Program: Our second event will be held at Ft. Sam Houston National Cemetery on **October 2, 2021 at 9:00 A.M.** All members are welcome to attend this event. For more information, contact Compatriot Frank Keelman at Keelman@gmail.com.

Texas SAR Board of Managers Fall Meeting: October 7 -10, 2021 at Clear Lake, TX at the Hilton NASA Hotel. More details about

Hotel Reservations and Registration is posted on the Texas SAR webpage at: <https://www.txssar.org>. Click on the "Events" Tab.

For more information, please go to our Chapter Website at:

www.sarsat.org