



The San Antonio Compatriot

TEXAS SOCIETY OF THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION



Sept-Oct 2024

Compatriot Blair Rudy, President
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Issue #5

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Chapter Meetings

Chapter Executive Committee Meetings: 2nd Wed., 11:30 AM
 Oct 9th & Nov 13th
 La Fonda Restaurant
 8633 Crownhill Blvd
 (Reservations not needed)

Chapter Meetings:
 3rd Wed., 11:30 AM,
 Oct 16th & Nov 20th
 Petroleum Club
 8620 N. New Braunfels

Reservations are required:
txsarch4reservations@gmail.com

President's Message

Compatriots,
 Fall began with a burst of activity and no better way to begin than to induct and welcome new members, which we did in our October meeting. Congratulations to brothers Brett and Kirk Mills and to our U.S. Spaceforce active duty guardian, Ryan Simmons. Huzzah! (Pg 2)



Compatriot Judge Butler's legacy and contribution to SAR and the chapter through many years of service is unparalleled. Recently, the DAR Green Mountain Boys chapter presented Judge Butler with the DAR **Hannah White Arnett Bronze Medal of Distinction** for his devotion and contribution to furtherance of DAR. Congratulations Judge. (Pg 3)

September 17 was Constitution Day and we tried something new this year sponsoring a reading of the original U.S. Constitution, which was signed on September 17, 1778 and ratified June 21, 1778, on the lawn of the Blanco County Courthouse in Johnson City. We invited the public to read several pages of the document aloud as well, however, we did not read the Bill of Rights as the first ten (10) amendments were added later and as noted, this was the original and parts would sound foreign or completely different than our current version. The reading went well and took about 45 minutes. Hopefully with better and earlier planning, we can get more to people will participate. (Pg 4)

One very important birthday was noted as the U.S. Air Force celebrated 77 years. Huzzah to our compatriots and family members who have served the wonderful branch of our Armed Forces. (Pg 6)

(Cont. Pg 12)



Member's Corner



New Members: The general membership luncheon on September 18th was highlighted by the induction of three new members into the chapter. These talented and enthusiastic new member's will certainly help the chapter reach its goals and objectives and we welcome them to the "ranks!" Especially noteworthy is that Compatriot Simmons is still serving on active duty in the military Space Command.



**Induction Ceremony from left to right:
Brett Mills, Kirk Mills, Ryan Simmons, President Blair Rudy**

Compatriot Massingill Award: Compatriot Jim Massingill has been a major contributor to the success of the chapter over the years due to his tireless efforts serving in several capacities to include chapter president and chaplain. For all that he regularly does, Jim was awarded the Chapter Bronze Service Award oak leaf cluster.

Congratulations Jim!



**L-R: President Rudy
Jim Massingill**



Member's Corner



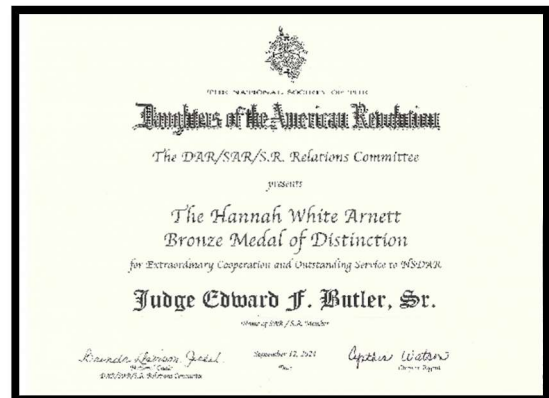
Judge Ed Butler Honored by DAR: There is not much more one can say about the SAR achievements of Judge Ed Butler, past SAR President General. He has pretty well done it all when it comes to SAR and is a great ambassador to the local, state, and national SAR organizations. He has held office at the local, state, and national levels to include SAR President General. With all the honors he has received and seemingly no more available, the DAR Green Mountain Boys chapter found another honor to bestow on this outstanding individual.

Judge Butler was awarded the DAR's highest award, the **DAR Medal of Honor**, in 2017 and is the only SAR President General to be so honored. Now to accompany that distinguished award, the DAR Green Mountain Boys chapter presented Judge Butler with the **Hannah White Arnett Bronze Medal of Distinction** in recognition of his "unselfish devotion, tireless efforts, and assistance to the DAR; and who has dedicated his time, energy, talents, and/or resources in support and furtherance of the DAR.

Jeanne Kanter, past DAR Regent and presenter, said that "Judge Butler's many years of providing historical programs, support of DAR events, and encouragement of collaboration with local DAR chapters qualified him to be recognized by our chapter as a very deserving recipient."



L-R: Jean Kanter, Judge Butler,
Regent Cindy Watson



Visit this link to learn more about Hannah White Arnett:
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hannah_White_Arnett



Member's Corner

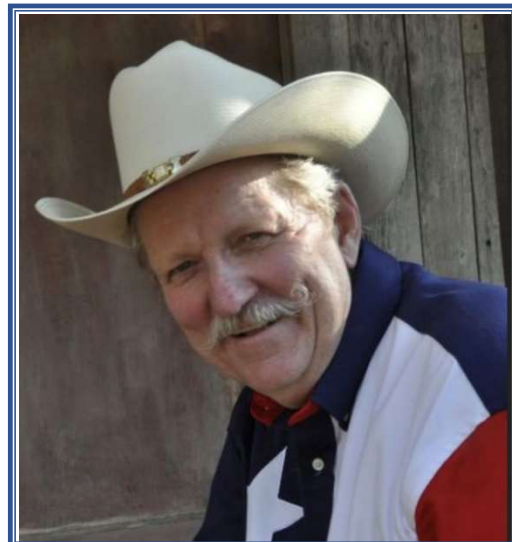


Constitution Day Reading: On September 17th, President Blair Rudy celebrated the special national day by reading the entire original Constitution, minus the Bill of Rights, which did not contain the first ten amendments, that were not added until December 15, 1791, on the steps of the Blanco County Courthouse in Johnson City, Texas about 75 miles north of San Antonio. Approximately 20 area residents and area dignitaries attended the event and participated with President Rudy in the reading. A flag certificate was presented to "Blanco County," represented by the Blanco County Commissioner Tommy Weir, in recognition for the flag that flies over the Courthouse daily. SAR members in attendance were President Rudy, Compatriots Ron Finch, Mike Bowles, and Boerne SAR President Dale Tidwell. (See Pg 12 for more details)



L-R: Blanco County Commissioner Tommy Weir, President Rudy, Ron Finch, Dale Tisdale, Mike Bowle

David Bowles (1943-2024) passed away peacefully on September 21, 2024, at the age of 80, from pancreatic cancer. David was a very active chapter member and a past President (2009-2010). David served in the U.S. Navy. After the Navy, he worked in several industries before starting Dabowpay - a merchant services company offering mobile pay, e-commerce, and in-person payment solutions now led by his daughter Sherri. David had a passion for his family history and storytelling. This inspired him to become an author and publisher where he chronicled the journeys of his ancestors in a five book series called "Westward Sagas." David also served on President Clinton's Small Business Advisory Council. He was laid to rest in Prosper, TX. The family asks for donations be made to the 100 Club of San Antonio, Prosper United Methodist Church, Tunnel to Towers Foundation, or the American Cancer Society if desired. Compatriot David Bowles will be missed.



Compatriot David



Chapter News



USO Warrior and Family Support Center Donations: Chapter Compatriots partnered with DAR Green Mountain Boys Chapter to present a \$429.28 donation to Mr. Paul Crisostomo, USO Warrior and Family Support Center at Ft. Sam Houston Operations Specialist, for the purchase of recycling containers for the USO. This combined donation promotes two major objectives. One, and arguably the most important, is to support our military troops and to help with the military's and specifically, the USO's conservation efforts. Another major and important objective is to further the collaboration between the Sons and Daughters of the American Revolution. The event was a great success.



L-R: Kevin Kanter, Ron Finch, Bob Watson, Paul Crisostomo, Jannette Kirts, Diana Cloutier, Cindy Watson, Jean Kanter



Chapter News



Happy Birthday Air Force: Compatriot Frank Rohrbough led a “salute” to the U.S. Air Force during the September chapter meeting. Additionally, Frank joined two others at the Audie Murphy VA Memorial Hospital to celebrate the 77th Anniversary of the establishment of the U.S. Air Force on September 18, 1947. The event was set up to greet over 30 Air Force Veterans. The veterans were also given Air Force caps and Lapel Pins.

To review a bit of history. President Woodrow Wilson formally transferred aviation from the Army Signal Corps to be under the Secretary of War on July 24, 1918. The Army Reorganization Act of 1920 accomplished several things, but one of the goals was to establish the Air Service as a combatant arm of the Army. The Air Service initially concentrated flying training in Texas.

In June 1930, the Headquarters of the Air Corps Training Center was established at Lackland Army Air Field. In 1931, the Army established the Air Corps Training Center at Randolph Field, San Antonio Texas. It soon became recognized as the "West Point of the Air," The National Security Act of 1947 redesignated the Army Air Corps and created the Department of the Air Force on September 18th, 1947. Gen. Carl A. Spaatz was appointed as the first USAF's Chief of Staff.



L-R:
Albert Owens, Cathy Miller (Soldiers' Angels)
Compatriot Frank Rohrbough

Sources: <https://connectveterans.org/>
<https://www.dafhistory.af.mil/>



Chapter News



Boerne Labor Day Parade: Compatriot Frank Rohrbough and seven members from the Boerne SAR Chapter, dressed in colonial attire, participated in the Boerne Annual Labor Day Parade. Boerne chapter President Dale Tidwell enlisted the chapter's Boat Float, which portrays an Ore Boat used for the Crossing of the Delaware River. This action led to the Battle of Trenton where General Washinton's Army defeated the Hessians. This victory buoyed the colonial fighters to press on to defeat the British.



President Dale Tidwell (Left), Boerne Chapter Members, and Compatriot Frank Rohrbough (Front – Right)

Compatriot Patrick Patterson (1949-2024):

Compatriot Patterson was a member of the Boerne Chapter. Compatriot Frank Rohrbough and President Rudy participated in the color guard service (below) for his funeral in Boerne August 28, 2024. Compatriot Patterson was very active in his chapter serving as chapter registrar and other positions. Additionally, he was an author and wrote two books about his family heritage.



L-R:
Pat Blackmon (Boerne), Frank Rohrbough (SA), President Dale Tidwell (Boerne), Larry Kinder (Boerne), President Blair Rudy (SA)



Chapter News



Gold Star Family Memorial: On October 4th, Compatriots Blair Rudy and Larry Loop participated in the dedication of the Gold Star Family Monument in Veteran's Square, located near the Tobin Center. In attendance were DAR and SAR members, who are recognized as Gold Star family members. Compatriot Larry Loop is a gold star son from World War II.

Private Carlin E. Loop, Army Air Corp, Medical Division lost his life in 1944 in a B24 Liberator plane that crashed in Papua New Guinea where he was deployed in World War II. The plane was not found until 1983 and his remains and the remains of 21 other passengers were returned to their families for burial.

The gold star designation dates to World War I, when families displayed small banners with either a blue or gold star. A blue star was displayed for every immediate family member serving in the armed forces. If their service member died or was killed while serving in the military, the family placed a gold star over the blue star to let the community know that their loved one died while serving.

Gold Star Mother's Day is observed on the last Sunday of September. The Gold Star Wives was formed before the end of World War II and the Gold Star Lapel Button was established in August 1947

Currently, all Gold Star Family members are recognized for the sacrifices a family member makes when they die in service to the nation. The strength of our nation is our military made up of its soldiers who gain strength from their family's support.



L-R: Compatriot Larry Loop
President Blair Rudy



Candy Rudy, DAR
President Blair Rudy

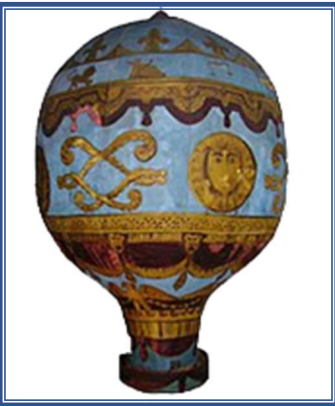
Sources:

<https://www.militaryonesource.mil/>

<https://www.army.mil/goldstar/>



Miscellaneous



Invention of Hot Air Balloon

Most think of the Wright Brothers when pondering aviation and think flying is a relatively new concept. However, research shows that among many things that occurred during the revolutionary war era, so did aviation as described here.

Curious as to why smoke rises, the French Montgolfier brothers, Joseph-Michel and Jacques-Etienne, conducted experiments with various light weight materials and came to the conclusion a balloon filled with hot air would rise like the smoke they observed.

In the late 18th century, on June 4, 1783, the brothers launched the first hot air filled balloon. The first flight reached an altitude of about 1,000 meters (3280 feet). Later that same year, on September 19, the first “manned” flight was launched. In a small balloon carrying a sheep, duck, and rooster they studied the effects of flight on living creatures. Shortly after conducting some tests, on November 21, 1783, Jean-François Pilâtre de Rozier and François Laurent d'Arincourt flew the first human flight. This brief, but historic flight, was groundbreaking and laid the foundation for modern aviation.



The first military use of a hot air balloon happened in 1794 during the battle of Fleurus, when the French used the balloon. Jean-Pierre Blanchard became the first person to fly a hot air balloon in various countries, including the United States, the Netherlands, and Germany. His most notable flight crossed the English Channel heading to the Dover Castle accompanied by John Jeffries, which occurred on January 7, 1785.

Source:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hot_air_balloon



Miscellaneous



Happy Birthday Navy

The U.S. Navy is the second oldest military branch. It was originally established on October 13, 1775, when the Continental Congress authorized a few small ships to protect American shipping and combat British naval power during the American Revolutionary War. The Navy faced many challenges during this time due to limited resources and inexperienced personnel, but it still played a crucial role in key victories, such as the Battle of Valcour Island and the triumph at Yorktown.

At the end of the Revolutionary War in 1783, the Navy experienced periods of decline and a need for restructuring, particularly after the Treaty of Paris in 1783. Congress saw no need to continue funding the Navy and directed the Continental Navy to sell its ships and return the sailors to civilian life. After a brief 10 year respite, Congress realized the need to continue to defend the nation's seaborne commerce and once again established the Navy as an active service branch in 1794.

President George Washington, urged Congress to authorize the construction or purchase of six frigates to protect American shipping. The Naval Act of 1794 established a permanent standing navy on 27 March 1794. The Naval Act ordered the construction and manning of six frigates and, by October 1797, the first three were brought into service: USS United States, USS Constellation, and USS Constitution, which is still an active commissioned vessel of the United States Navy, making it the oldest commissioned warship afloat in the world. Though it no longer serves in combat, it remains an active-duty ship with a crew of Navy personnel, who maintain and sail it for ceremonial purposes. The USS Constitution, also known as "Old Ironsides," is berthed in Boston at the Charlestown Navy Yard.



USS Constitution

The modern day U.S. Navy is a powerful force capable of projecting American power and influence across the world. It is responsible for maintaining freedom of navigation, conducting maritime operations, and promoting stability and security in international waters. October 13th recognizes the courage and commitment of all the sailors defending American interests on the high seas.

Sources:

<https://connectveterans.org/>
<https://www.dafhistory.af.mil/>
<https://allhands.navy.mil/>
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_Navy



Miscellaneous



British General Burgoyne Surrenders at Saratoga

The Battle of Saratoga, (September – October 1777) was pivotal to the outcome of the Revolutionary War. The American army defeated the far superior British army of 7500 soldiers, which gave the colonies hope that independence was possible and also aided in securing badly needed foreign support to win the war.

General Horatio Gates and his American soldiers exhibited superior defenses against General Burgoyne's forces on Bemis Heights, just south of Saratoga. Although the British held off the Americans when the two armies battled, the British losses were over 600 soldiers. Burgoyne's battered forces waited for reinforcements, but none came. This victory was arguably one of the most significant of the Revolutionary War because the defeat of General John Burgoyne's army, which ended his attempt to control the Hudson River Valley. This victory convinced King Louis XVI that the Americans could stand up to and defeat the mighty British Army. Additionally, after the British humiliation at Saratoga, France entered into an alliance with the Americans, which tipped the war in favor of the Americans. After the Saratoga victory, General Benedict Arnold was called a hero for his bravery on the battlefield. This lofty title was soon lost following his betrayal and defection to those remaining loyal to the King .

Source:

<https://www.battlefields.org/learn/revolutionary-war/battles/saratoga>

SAR Education Fund

The SAR Education Center and Museum will house galleries and exhibits telling the story of the American Revolution. Our state president, Tracy Pounders, has asked us to share a video with our members showcasing the Education Center and Museum being developed by the National SAR at the National Headquarters in Louisville KY.

Please watch this short, but exceptionally well done YouTube video and consider donating to this outstanding endeavor.



(Copy and paste the link in your browser if necessary)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kUYHP9jtdMk>



Miscellaneous



(President's Msg Cont.)

Unfortunately, the chapter had to say goodbye to a long tenured past president, David Bowles on September 21. See David's tribute on page 4.

Lastly, we were honored to join with the San Antonio community the unveiling and dedication of the Gold Star Family Memorial. Our past president and current Youth Awards Committee chair Larry Loop is a WWII Gold Star Son. (Pg 8)

November is all about Veterans and we have a full plate of activities. on November 4 and 5, Compatriots will greet and thank veterans for their service at the Shaveno VA clinic. November 9 will have the chapter will joining forces with the Boerne Chapter for a parade in downtown San Antonio. We will form up at the United States Military Veterans Parade Assn. Lastly, on November 16, a dedication of the new Blanco County Veterans Monument in Johnson City will occur. Specifics to be released soon.

Save the dates. All members are welcome to any of these chapter events and we urge you to participate as you can. Hope to see you there.

Huzzah!

Blair

(Constitution Day Cont.)

There are 27 amendments to the Constitution. The first ten amendments are the Bill of Rights, not added until December 15, 1791. The 13th and 14th amendments caused the removal of the notion of the 3/5ths of non-free persons for taxation purposes. Also, no longer in effect is the first line of Section 3 regarding the selection of U.S. Senators by the respective state legislatures. This was modified with adoption of the 17th amendment. Some wonder if that was a good idea.

Totes for Veterans. Each year we "pass the hat" to collect donations to cover 10 totes that are given to needy veterans to help out for the holidays. We generally need \$500 in donations to provide the 10 totes to the VA for distribution. As last year, donations will be collected at the November chapter meeting. Our members are always generous supporting this effort so please be prepared to once again help out our veterans and their families.



Miscellaneous



2025 Dues Notice

Compatriots,

For those of you who have a deliverable mailing address, your 2025 Dues Notices should be arriving in your home mailbox within the next few weeks. These are sent Bulk Mail to your address of record as of September 1st. If you do not receive one by Thanksgiving, please look for your notice online, and help us get your address corrected.

Note: 2025 dues calculations include a \$3.00 annual assessment to defray expenses which the state will incur in hosting the 2029 National Congress in San Antonio.

Note: *Life and Perpetual Members, and those whose dues equal "\$0.00" will NOT receive a bulk-mailed notification. If you wish to receive a Membership ID Card, go to the [Online Dues Payment page](#) and enter your National SAR# and Name. An invoice with your membership ID card will be presented for printing.*

Texas SAR has voted that Junior Members will not need to pay dues for 2025. Keep in mind that your dues are considered late on **January 1, 2025**. If they are still unpaid 30 days later - NSSAR will drop you from the rolls and you will start to show a gap in your service and not get your magazine. So please pay them online or by mail as soon as you can to help your Chapter and avoid a lapse in your SAR Service! As in previous years, you have 3 options for paying your dues.

Online/Paypal (option 1) - We encourage everyone to use this option, and pay your dues by credit card through Paypal. **Click or copy and paste this link:**

<https://www.texassar.org/dues.htm>

enter your National SAR # and Name as it appears on your Membership Certificate. Then select your primary chapter and any others you maintain dual membership with and follow the checkout procedures. This is operational on the [TexasSAR.org](https://www.texassar.org) website NOW. PayPal fees have been removed for 2025 Dues payments.

As mentioned, this online Paypal form also allows for secondary (dual) chapters to be added for those wishing to pay as a dual member.

(Cont. Next Page)



~~(Dues Continued)~~

Miscellaneous



U.S. Mail (option 2) - You simply take the bottom section of the dues invoice you receive in the mail and send a check for the amount indicated with the pre-addressed

Chapter Dues Statements - it only includes dues for your Primary Chapter, State Dues, and National Dues where applicable.

US Mail (option 3) - Use this option if you want to pay by check, but did NOT get a dues notice in the mail or you want to pay NOW for whatever reason, click or copy the following link:

<https://www.texasar.org/!!TXS!!SAR!!/invoice.htm>

Download your dues notice online, print it out , and mail it back in with a check. This option is available NOW on the TexasSAR.org website.

If you have forgotten, the ID & password, contact Bob Watson at beaglebud@satx.rr.com.

Donations - As many of you are aware, our society has many beneficial funds that you can donate to for great purposes. Each year, when you renew your membership is a great time to make a donation to one of several great options. All Donation \$ will be allocated as you indicate on the form. Please review the items listed in the donations section of the online dues payment page, and support these worthwhile programs. Thank you for your continued support of our programs!

Please do NOT mail to older addresses - those have been closed - USE THE ADDRESS ON THE RETURN ENVELOPE or the ONLINE DUES NOTICE ONLY. If you or your bank mail it somewhere else, there is no guarantee it gets to us or that you will be credited. Getting these in on time is important for your Chapter and you. The sooner your dues are in, the sooner our books are cleared with NSSAR and the funds available to your Chapter in the Spring - and no more reminder calls !

SAR and your chapter greatly appreciate your support!



Membership Milestones

Congratulations and a thank you goes to these members for their continued support of SAR for so many years.

5_yrs of Service

Levi Jansma

15_yrs of service

Matthew Brady

James Schellenberg

30_yrs of service

Oliver Chamberlin

40_yrs of service

Clarence Bell

Birthdays

September

Maxie

Perdue

Albert

Gallatin

Arnulfo

Alvarado

Lyle

Embrey

William

Hall

Jon

Sandidge

James

Burns

Matthew

Springer

William

Woodland

Eugene

Holmes

Leslie

Lentz

Robert

Watson

Walter

Scull

James

Crowther

Frank

Nichols

Jason

Bushman

October

Oliver

Chamberlin

Charles

Carvajal

Frederic

Soupiet

Lawrence

Hancock

Larry

Lockett

John

Jansma

Edward

Snyder

Harvey

Hubbard

William

Woodland

Kenneth

Pfeiffer

Richard

Cordova

John

Baines

Jeffrey

Hoppe

Kenneth

Watson



Note:
Event Point of Contact
indicated in the
CONTACT boxes

Coming Events

NOVEMBER 2024

November

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2
					Fall BOM Meeting Nov. 1-3:	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Daylight Savings Time	Shavano Park Veterans Clinic -9:00- 11:30****					Veterans Day Parade-9:00am San Antonio **
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	Veterans Day		Executive Committee 11:30*			Veterans Day Event -Johnson City- 9:30***
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
			Membership Meeting 11:30*			
24	25	26	27	28		
				Thanksgiving Day		

CONTACTS

- * Blair Rudy
- ** Frank Rohrbugh
- *** Blair Rudy
- ****Bob Watson

DECEMBER 2024

December

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
						DAR-SAR Holiday Meeting #
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
			Executive Committee 11:30*			Grave Marking Event- Ft. Sam Houston ##
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
			Membership Meeting 11:30*			
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
			Christmas			
29	30	31				

CONTACTS

- #Frank Rohrbough
- ## Frank Keelman