

The Texas Compatriot



TEXAS SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION



SUMMER 2008

TXSSAR Committees

Archives/History/Yearbook Committee
Auditing Committee (CPA or extensive auditing experience)
CAR Liaison Committee
Color Guard/Flag Committee
Compatriot/Newsletter Committee
Contests, Medals and Awards Committee
DAR Liaison Committee
Expansion and Membership Committee
Finance Committee
Genealogy Committee
Information and Technology Committee
Knight Essay Committee
Long-Range Planning Committee
Patriots Fund Project Committee
Patriots Fund Endowment Committee
Promotion and Media Relations Committee
Richey-Rumbaugh Oration Committee
State Meetings Committee
Veterans Committee
Eagle Scout Committee
JROTC Committee
CAR Essay Committee
Elementary Poster Committee
Membership Retention Committee

Compatriots,

The State Society has begun 2008, with many new and exciting ideas and initiatives. One of those initiatives is the revitalization of all our working committees. We have reviewed the list of current working committees and created new ones, i.e., the Patriots Fund Endowment and Genealogy committees. We have removed any and all non-functional committees (those that never meet).

Prior to and subsequent to our recent State Meeting in March 2008, many Texas Society Compatriots requested they be assigned to at least one of our State working committees. Because the State Society wants to honor those requests for working committee membership, we would like to ask all Compatriots to review the Texas Society's Committees List (refer to the TXSSAR Committees sidebar) and select a maximum of two (2) committee(s) from which we can select the ones that you would like to be assigned.

If you would like to become a member of an exiting committee, or even to suggest a new committee, please contact Staff Secretary Donald W. Pugh at email dpugh1931@sbcglobal.net or phone 979-265-6464 or myself at shife@nctv.com phone 903-432-3130. If you need to write, Don Pugh's address is 113 Meadowbrook, Lake Jackson, TX 77566-4710. My address is 212 Tanglewood Drive, Lakeway Estates, Tool, TX 75143-1236

It is refreshing that many of our Compatriots want to be associated with the operational aspects of how our Society functions. This gives us the distinct unity of working together for the benefit of the Texas Society. The more compatriots we have on working committees, each having new ideas and are forward thinkers will help us develop a working model that perpetuates our Society for years to come.

While most, if not all, of our committees meet at the three annual State meetings (go to www.txssar.org and click on TXSSAR Events), all will be encouraged to attend and participate at those meetings. This will hopefully increase compatriot attendance and interest, not only at the chapter level, but in becoming more involved in the everyday functional operations at the State level.

Again, thank you for your interest in serving your Society as a committee member. I look forward to working with each of you during the 2008 – 2009 year.

Fraternally,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Harry M. Fife, Jr.".

Harry M. Fife, Jr.

TXSSAR President



**TXSSAR BOARD OF MANAGERS MEETING
AUGUST 1-2-3, 2008 TYLER, TEXAS**

Come join us in Tyler, one of the most beautiful cities in East Texas. Tyler offers many attractions, including the largest municipal rose garden in the nation. Historical places include the Dewberry Plantation, Goodman Museum, McClendon House, Camp Ford, Roseland Plantation and the Historical Aviation Museum at Tyler Pounds Regional Airport. At our Saturday lunch we will be entertained by the Capt. William Barron Chapter School Flag Program group dressed in uniform. At the Saturday night banquet we will listen to patriotic songs by our chapters own "Three Majors and a General" group. On display Saturday will be a wonderful collection of Civil War artifacts and weapons for our membership and their wives to view.

***IMPORTANT:** Hotel reservations must be made directly with the HOLIDAY INN SELECT and the special rate and accommodations can only be guaranteed until the cutoff date of 07/18/08. The number of rooms is limited.

*Hotel reservations must be made by telephone. Call the HOLIDAY INN SELECT in Tyler at 903-561-5800. The hotel address is 5701 South Broadway, Tyler, TX. 75703. Keep your confirmation number in the event you need to refer to it at a later date.

*You must identify yourself as being affiliated with the "SAR" or "Sons of the American Revolution" and request the special rate of \$82.00/night (taxes not included) for a standard room (one king bed or two double beds). THE ABOVE RATE INCLUDES BREAKFAST. Parking is free for guests.

BOM MEETING REGISTRATION FORM				
INDIVIDUAL INFORMATION				
NAME			GUEST	
OFFICE/ CHAPTER	PHONE		E-MAIL	
ADDRESS			STATE	ZIP
ATTENDANCE INFORMATION				
DATE AND TIME OF ARRIVAL				
ARE YOU STAYING AT THE HOLIDAY INN SELECT? YES NO				
ACTIVITY		COST	# ATTENDING	TOTAL
Meeting Registration Fee (members only)		\$35.00		
Saturday Lunch		\$25.00		
Saturday Night Banquet		\$30.00		
Ladies Tour-Tyler Rose Museum (Lunch is separate)		\$15.00		
		Total:		

Checks to be made out to the "Capt. William Barron Chapter #25. Mail to Michael J. Everheart, 16986 CR 3215, Winona, TX. 75792-5748.



Minutes From the 113th Annual Meeting of the Texas Society of the Sons of the American Revolution

Opening Session Friday March 28, 2008 4:30 PM

Meeting called to order by President George West

Color Guard presented the colors

Pledges to the US and Texas flags and to the SAR by president elect Harry Fife

Invocation by Chaplain Wendell Edwards

Color Guard posted the colors and retired

Welcome by K.M. Van Zant chapter President Clyde McMurray, who also thanked the following compatriots for their hard work in putting on the convention; Don Goodman, Bob Truitt, James Alderman and Don Pray. President McMurray then read a proclamation from the Hon. Robert N. Plank, mayor of Arlington. He then presented certificates of appreciation to hotel representatives Sue Boeker and Mary McConnell.

President West then introduced the following special guests who made brief comments; President General Bruce Wilcox and Treasurer General Ed Butler.

Sunny Hall brought greetings from the TXDAR and presented a check for \$1,000 to President West for the CAAH.

President West then introduced the head table

President West then called on VP Americanism Stephen Rohrbough to present awards to chapters and individuals.

On motion by Mark Hansen and second followed by an affirmative vote, the reading of the minutes from the previous meeting was waived.

President West then presented various Presidents awards to compatriots and special guests.

It was announced that officer reports would begin tomorrow and that the President's Reception would be held that night in the hotel atrium.

President West then adjourned the meeting until 9:00 AM the following morning.

First General Session Saturday March 29, 2008 9:00 AM

President elect Harry Fife called the meeting to order in the absence of President West

Color Guard posted the colors and retired

President elect Fife introduced the special guests; PG Bruce Wilcox, Treasurer General Ed Butler, Historian General David Sympton, PG Nathan White and NSSAR Membership Committee Chairman Joe Dooley.

PG Wilcox was called upon for comments and briefly discussed the upcoming SAR trip to Scotland. He then spent time discussing the new building and plans for renovation.

President elect Fife announced that there would be a table set up outside the meeting room to sell raf e tickets.

President elect Fife then called for officer reports

Secretary Bill Marrs announced that membership was up compared to this same time last year.

Staff Secretary Tom Lawrence reminded everyone to check their mail boxes periodically.

Treasurer Jim Jones went over the proposed budget for 2008 and a motion was made and seconded to accept the proposed budget which was passed. . He then talked about Patriots Fund donations, the status of our bank account and reminded everyone to make their 990N filings to IRS.

Coastal Registrar Art Hall commended Dan Stauffer for his efforts to enroll new members. He estimated it is taking approximately 6 weeks for approval of applications to come back.

Inland registrar Mike Radcliff discussed supplemental applications which are pended.

Chancellor Bob Clark went over the meeting rules and stated that he knew of no pending litigation.

President elect Fife then called on national officers for comments.

Treasurer General Ed Butler reported that we are a 13 million dollar organization.

Historian General David Sympson discussed the History Huddle approach he started several years ago. He also discussed the history of the Fulton Conway building.

PG Nathan White discussed membership retention, the upcoming Congress in Sacramento and the CAAH project.

National Trustee Tom Green talked about the vote on the proposed building at the recent Leadership meeting. Stephen Rohrbough VP Americanism presented more awards to chapters and individuals, followed by more Presidents awards.

President elect Fife then called for more officer reports.

Chaplain Wendell Edwards spoke about the importance of notifying him of deaths.

Historian Don Stone thanked Tom Whitelock, Jim Johnson and Ray Cox for their help and mentioned that there were still books available for sale on the history of TXSSAR.

Webmaster Charles Baker made a brief report

It was announced that the Society of the War of 1812 breakfast would be held at 7:00 AM Sunday morning.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:00 AM.

Second General Session Saturday march 29, 2008 3:00 PM

President George West called the meeting to order.

Color Guard presented the colors and retired

Invocation by Chaplain Edwards

Officer reports continued

District VP # 1 Bill Holcombe reported that both of his chapters are doing well,

District VP # 2 Bill Harper reported on his districts activities

District VP # 5 Vic Smith gave his report

District VP # 6 Mark Hansen reported on his 3 chapters and made a statement about his 2 small chapters that "they do the best they can with what they have".

District VP # 7 Don Pugh reported on his very active district.

District VP # 8 Ray Cox spoke about a grave marking coming up in a few months.

District VP # 10 Mike Everheart talked about the upcoming BOM in tyler and the upcoming state convention in Freedonia

District VP # 11 Willie Walker gave a brief report

President West then called for committee reports.

Advisory Committee report given by Dick Robinett

Archives/History report given by Don Stone

Audit Committee report given by Wendell Edwards who stated that the audit report was good.

Color Guard/Flag Committee report given by Jim Johnson announced the new commander will be Mike Radcliff and the new regional commanders Peter Rowley and Marvin Morgan

Finance Committee report given by Jim Jones who said that a copy of the report was placed in all of the mailboxes.

Patriot Fund Trustees committee report was given by George West. Jim Jones read a resolution from the Trustees asking that the Contest Medals & Awards and Patriot Fund projects committees get together and work out the details of what contestants expenses will be paid by the Patriot s Fund

Nominating Committee report was given by Tom Green who read the slate of nominees. The nominations were closed without any further nominations. Patriot Medal Selection Committee report was given by Tom Green who read the list of 2007 awardees; peter Rowley, Arnold Seidule, Wendell Edwards, Ray Cox, Charles Baker

Promotion and Media Relations Report given by Jim Johnson

Resolution Committee report given by Bob Clark who reported that there were no resolutions

Oration Committee report given by Peter Rowley

Special Committee report given by Nathan White who discussed the CAAH campaign in Texas
State Meetings Committee report given by Don Pugh who reported on the upcoming state meetings and introduced the new chairman of the committee, Larry Stevens. Don also spoke of the need to review the agreement between the state and the chapters as far as allocation of revenue from the state convention.
Ray Cox gave a brief report on Yahoo Messenger and the possibilities of having an electronic meeting.
Perpetual Fund Committee report was given by Tom McCormick who said the fund lost about \$300 this year and it was not yet self sufficient.
Long Range Planning Committee report was given by Tom Green who proposed having all state officers serve for two year terms to aid in the problem of getting people to run for office. Then he proposed raising the stipend for the state president from \$300 per month to \$350 per month.
President West called for new business.
Graham Martin moved that the nominations be closed and the slate of officers be elected by acclimation which was seconded by Bob Coker. The motion passed.
Motion was made and seconded that the stipend for the state president be raised to \$350 per month. Motion passed. Motion was made by Tom Green to increase the term of all state officers to two years. After discussion the proposal was referred to the Long Range Planning committee for further study.
Joe Dooley candidate for Genealogist General was recognized.
Historian General David Sympson talked about SAR history
Stephen Rohrbough presented more awards followed by more Presidents awards.
Chancellor Bob Clark cautioned about political activity by SAR members on SAR Talk or during meetings
Meeting was adjourned at 5:15 PM

Submitted by,
Tom Lawrence
Staff Secretary

**Minutes of the TXSSAR BOM March 30, 2008
Crowne Plaza Hotel, Arlington, Texas**

Sunday, March 30, 2008

President Harry Fife called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

Color Guard presented the colors.

Chaplain Wendell Edwards led the invocation.

Don Pugh led the group in the National Anthem

Chaplain Wendell Edwards led the annual Memorial Service to remember those members who died during the last year.

Announcements

President Fife announced that his email address was shfife@nctv.com. He also announced that anyone who

wished to serve on a committee should let him know as soon as possible.

Resolutions

President Fife announced that the TXSDAR had made a donation of \$1000 to the TXSSAR for the purpose of sending the money to NSSAR for the Center for Advancing Americas Heritage and that he recommended that the TXSSAR respond with a proportional gift to the TXSDAR in the amount of \$200 to use as they wished. Past President Tom Green moved that the resolution of the gift be approved. It passed unanimously.

Past President Tom Green, recommended that the monthly stipend for the State President be increased \$50 monthly to a total of \$350 monthly, payable quarterly to begin April 1, 2008. The recommendation was approved unanimously.

New Business

District Vice President Mark Hansen moved that TXSSAR Board of Managers have two meetings per year, one at the State Convention and the other in August. Treasurer Jim Jones seconded the motion. After considerable discussion it was moved by Staff Secretary Don Pugh that the motion be tabled and referred to the Long Range Planning Committee to come with a recommendation at the Tyler BOM. The motion passed by a majority vote.

State Secretary Bill Marrs announced that those members who held dual memberships in other Texas Societies will in the future pay those dual dues directly to the chapters involved. The State will no longer collect nor keep track of dual memberships.

Meeting Recessed at 10:05 a.m. and Reconvened at 10:15

Past President Tom Green as chair of the Nominating Committee moved that the term of office for State Officers be for two years. This was to attempt to assist in the identification of persons to serve in state offices. After considerable discussion, President elect Tom Lawrence suggested that this task be added to the agenda of the Long Range Planning Committee and to report whenever a recommendation was ready for presentation, but no later than the October Board of Managers meeting. The motion died for lack of second.

President Harry Fife adjourned the meeting at 10:45.

**Submitted by Don Pugh
TXSSAR Staff Secretary**

TXSSAR History Compilation

We still have approximately 200 History volumes in stock. These are the only compiled history of our Society. An order form is on our TXSSAR website.

Your gifts and purchases of the history books are much appreciated.

Sincerely,
Don Stone
TXSSAR Historian

TXSSAR Officers

<u>Full Name</u>	<u>State Officer Title</u>	<u>Phone</u>	<u>E-Mail</u>
Harry M. Fife, Jr	State President	903-432-3130	shfife@nctv.com
Thomas E. Lawrence	State President-Elect	281-893-5450	tlawrence01@sbcglobal.net
W. M. "Bill" Marrs	State Secretary	254-773-3493	sartech@hotmail.com
Donald W. Pugh, DMA	Staff Secretary	979-265-6463	dpugh1931@sbcglobal.net
James T. Jones, Jr	Treasurer	979-690-8631	txssartreas@verizon.net
Arthur H. Hall	Registrar (Coastal Group)	903-675-5441	arthall@mycvc.net
Michael J. Radcliff	Registrar (Inland Group)	972-985-7644	mike-john@juno.com
Robert M. Clark, Jr.	Chancellor	214-528-2400	RMC@robertmclark.net
Wendell E. Edwards, PhD	Chaplain	903-886-6615	weelle@koyote.com
Thomas M. Whitelock	Historian	214-534-3476	tmwpromo@yahoo.com
Stephen W. Rohrbough	Vice President, MP&R	210-496-9429	swrohrbough@sbcglobal.net
Col. Wm. H. Holcombe, Jr	District 1 Vice President	915-856-8914	holcombewh@aol.com
William G. Harper	District 2 Vice President	806-353-2858	Billharper55@hotmail.com
George W. Harcourt	District 3 Vice President	210-822-1960	gharcourt@satx.rr.com
John W. Knox	District 4 Vice President	512-477-3750	john@johnwknox.com
Victor A. Smith	District 5 Vice President	817-573-9132	smithvs@charter.net
J. Mark Hansen	District 6 Vice President	972-562-2143	hansen@vialaw.com
Allan M. Henshaw	District 7 Vice President	281-894-8084	Allan_Henshaw@aigag.com
Raymond W. Cox	District 8 Vice President	281-454-6074	coxmr@earthlink.net
Joe Bruce Barrett	District 9 Vice President	956-534-1776	joebrucebarrett@yahoo.com
Michael J. Everheart	District 10 Vice President	903-877-4501	everheart@tyler.net
William K. Walker	District 11 Vice President	72-529-1562	olddog9999@sbcglobal.net
Charles E. Luna	Chairman, President's Council	903-675-8155	cluna@m3pro.com
George T. West, PhD	Trustee-Elect	806-655-9385	gtwest@arn.net
W. M. "Bill" Marrs	Alternate Trustee-Elect	254-773-3493	wmarrs@hotmail.com
Lance H. Salge	Editor of Compatriot	281-265-0733	articles@texascompatriot.com
H. Charles Baker, PhD	Web Master	214-343-0717	hbaker@engr.smu.edu



President Harry Fife was welcomed by his many "FANS" when he recently spoke at a meeting of the Dallas Chapter.

Forefront left to right -
Compatriots Tom Smith, John Morton, and Harry Fife

Contributed by Tom Whitelock

2009 TXSSAR Convention

submitted by Charles Luna

Start thinking about setting time aside to attend the 2009 State Convention. Information has been posted at this web site: <http://txssar2009.info/>

Patriot Ancestor in Indiana reinterred at Fort Bliss in El Paso, Texas

Past president George West and Tom Green both forwarded the below article from VP District 1, Bill Holcombe, and felt that although the event occurred several months ago, it is important that our members are aware of these efforts in El Paso.

Gentlemen,

About six years ago W. A. (Bill) Luckey, 4114 Edgar Park Avenue, El Paso, TX 70004, SAR#133332, TXS-SAR#6318, a member of the Col. Turner R. Sharp Chapter #9, requested information concerning the possibility of having the grave of his patriot ancestor, Michael Ehler, properly recognized and cared for in the State of Indiana. At that time, the grave was located on a farm in that state, and the possibility of the farm being sold to developers was a factor of concern to Bill Luckey. Therefore, he contacted numerous government officials in Indiana and received no significant help or evidence of interest in this matter. The answer to his request for TXSSAR help was to refer this matter to the SAR State organization in Indiana because the TXSSAR could not become involved in the care of graves of patriot ancestors in other states.

Bill Luckey then entered into negotiations with the owner of the property where the grave was located, and the property owner allowed him to have the grave excavated and to take possession of the remains of the patriot ancestor. Bill Luckey then began the process of recording the excavation in the Indiana County records. During that process, the Indiana County representatives indicated that the record of excavation had to be submitted to the proper office in the State of Indiana and that the officials of the Indiana State archeological office wanted a complete archeological dig at the property to verify the thoroughness of the excavation.. When Bill Luckey brought this to the attention of the property owner, the property owner would not allow a complete archeological dig on his property. The Indiana County representative then advised Bill Luckey that, since he now had possession of the remains, he should have the remains interred in a local cemetery in El Paso without any other action on his part.

Bill Luckey then contacted officials at the Fort Bliss National Cemetery in El Paso, Texas, who arranged to have the remains interred in that cemetery on November 5, 2007. Arrangements were made with the Fort Bliss cemetery at that time to procure a proper headstone commemorating the event which was then put in place in the cemetery in mid January 2008.

Bill Luckey has requested that the Fort Bliss National Cemetery sponsor a memorial service with full military honors, a twenty-one gun salute, and the playing of "Taps" to commemorate the grave at 2:00 PM on Friday, February 22, 2008. The Fort Bliss Cemetery officials have agreed to the date and time of the ceremony, and they are forwarding the request for support of full military honors to the military commander at Fort Bliss. The Fort Bliss National Cemetery rules do not allow the placing of grave markers other than properly procured headstones on graves within the cemetery.

Members of the Col. Turner R. Sharp Chapter #9, TXSSAR will be in attendance. TXSSAR color guard members and other TXSSAR members are cordially invited to attend the ceremony. The local El Paso TXSSAR chapter is a small chapter with a very small two man color guard which will appear in Revolutionary War uniform. Therefore, the chapter does not plan to sponsor an official SAR Ceremony in competition with the proposed military ceremony to be conducted at the Ft. Bliss National Cemetery.

By postal mail, I am sending a copy of a front page article which was published on January 19, 2008, in the "El Paso Times" containing some details of this activity to each non-El Paso addressee of this message.

George West, since I do not have the name of the acting Editor of the TXSSAR newsletter, please forward this information to him for future publication.

Bill Holcombe
VP, District 1
TXSSAR

COLOR GUARD CALL TO THE COLORS

Jim Johnson, Color Guard Commander TXSSAR (March 2006-March 2008)

The participation of the TXSSAR Color Guard at the 117th NSSAR Congress last July in historic Williamsburg, Virginia was excellent. We hope to see as many of you as possible in the NSSAR Combined Color Guard at the 118th NSSAR Congress in Sacramento, California this July.

I would like to thank those chapters that awarded flag certificates during the 2007 calendar year. Due to your efforts the Texas Society is eligible to receive the Furlong Award, an honor given to state societies in which the majority of chapters award flag certificates. The Texas Society received the Furlong Award, for flag certificates given during the 2006 calendar year, at the 117th NSSAR Congress in Williamsburg. If your chapter did not participate in the Flag Certificate program last year, "shame on you". Make it a chapter challenge and goal to do so in 2008. Please continue to send Willie Walker, the TXSSAR Color Guard Archivist and Historian, your Color Guard Medal status information, photographs, and material concerning your chapter's color guard activities for inclusion in the Color Guard Yearbook. His e-mail is olddog9999@sbcglobal.net. His address, for non-computer compatriots, is 3302 Brentwood, McKinney, TX 75070. Color guardsman William Holcombe of Col. Turner R. Sharp Chapter #9 informs us that a memorial service was held at 2:00 P.M. Friday, February 22nd in the Fort Bliss National Cemetery with full military honors, a twenty-one gun salute, and the playing of "Taps" to commemorate the grave of recently interred revolutionary war soldier, PVT Johann Michael Ehler, ancestor of compatriot Bill Luckey. Members of the TXSSAR Color Guard were in attendance

Many upcoming TXSSAR Color Guard events are posted on the TXSSAR Website (www.txssar.org). Additional information may be obtained by contacting the Color Guard Commander in your area. Peter Rowley is Northern Commander (ewfarm87@airmail.net) and Don Stone is Southern Commander (dlsorkes1638@consolidated.net).

The Texas Society Color Guard posted the colors at the Opening Night Ceremonies of the Texas Society DAR 109th State Conference, March 13, 2008, held at the Hilton Dallas Lincoln Centre. The TXSSAR Color Guard also participated in the 108th TXDAR meeting held in Houston on March 16th, 2007. Color Guard Members from the southern region also participated in the Annual George Washington's Birthday Parade in Laredo. They actively provide color guards for NATZ Ceremonies in the Houston area, and various grave marking ceremonies in Texas and Georgia.

As of the March 2008 TXSSAR Annual Meeting, Compatriot Mike Radcliff is the new Color Guard Commander of the Texas State Society Sons of the American Revolution Color Guard. Mike has done an excellent job as the Northern TXSSAR Color Guard Commander these past two years. He has also served as Coordinator of the TXSSAR Color Guards for the U. S. Citizenship and Immigration Services Naturalization Ceremonies in the North Texas District. In the last two years I have attempted to emphasize the importance of attitude and focus prior to color guard activities. Since we are not our ancestors, or re-enactors, or a military unit, we will always be a little more "spit than polish". We are "performers" performing symbolic rituals to honor our ancestors. The "color guard section" of the Texas Society History Volume II, as well as recording our history, provides helpful suggestions for keeping in step, purchasing uniforms, and other procedures. I thank you for a "memorable" two years. It has been a privilege to serve as your Commander.



Members of the TXSSAR Color Guard pose with new citizens after the MLK Naturalization Ceremony held at St. Andrew United Methodist Church, Plano, TX January 20th, 2008."

L-R Chris Casey, Mike Radcliff, Peter Rowley, Dick Arnold, Jim Johnson, and Dan Reed.

George Washington Parade Laredo, Texas

submitted by Ron Barker



PineyWoods Members at the Laredo George Washington Parade with Laredo SAR Chapter 61 February 23, 2008. Over 100,000 viewed the parade.

Margaret Montgomery DAR event Sugar Land-Feb 2008

Dear Compatriot Green and SAR,

The three Color Guard members in attendance at the Margaret Montgomery DAR event in Sugarland were Compatriots John Kenton Thompson of the Freedom Chapter, Jim Raines of the Freedom Chapter, and Pat "Webb" ? of the Katy Texas Chapter.

Great fun and we all enjoyed meeting these fine folks and hearing a wonderful fife and drum presentation.

I was unable to get a picture of the event, but with the Houston Chronicle and excellent DAR website, we should be able to gain a picture of the event.

John Kenton Thompson
President
Freedom Chapter - Conroe / The Woodlands

Emails regarding "The Liberty Bell"

Dear Houston Area Color Guardsmen,

I am forwarding Jim Johnson's email about possible donations for the "Liberty Bell." For those of you who attended the National Conference in Dallas, this is the Liberty Bell that was provided to us for display in the 2nd floor mezzanine of the hotel outside the conference room. Many of you probably have pictures of your group posed with it.

Please excuse any duplication of email listings.

**Ray Cox
PineyWoods Chapter #51**



Texas Society Color Guard Command Staff and Color Guard,

If you would like to contribute to getting the "Liberty Bell" back on the road please contact Captain Northcraft.

**Jim Johnson
FSCGC**

Folks and Compatriots,

You may have heard of the serious vehicle wreck that occurred to David Hall and his beloved "Liberty Bell" this past Sunday evening. David was badly hurt and is recovering at JPS hospital Ft Worth. He's been a very good friend to both the "DAR" and "SAR". David is strapped for funds and I'm requesting some \$ help to repair the Bell, Trailer and Truck. We must get this Bell back on the road ASAP! Two ways you can help.

1. Access his web site www.proclaimliberty.us and look for the Donation button. 2. Send a check made out to "Proclaimliberty/David Hall" and indicate which Chapter you belong to so your Chapter gets credit for your donation. Forward the check to me - "Captain Bob Northcraft "

319 Creekside Dr. Keller, TX 76248. If you have questions please call me @ 817-300-3618.

In the name of Liberty I thank you for your support.

**Cheers,
Captain Bob Northcraft
Color Guard Commander
SAR Chapter Dallas
PS: Please give this email wide distribution.**

President George West and wife, Judy, visit District 7

All of the chapters in District 7 meet on two Saturdays of each month except for the Alexander Hodge Chapter and it was possible to meet with the other five chapters on January 12 and January 19, 2008. President West and Judy were accompanied by District Vice-President, Dr. Don Pugh.

January 12 meetings started with a breakfast meeting at the Briar Club in Houston with the Paul Carrington Chapter, Elmer Remkes, President. Along with President West, Past State President and National Trustee Tom Green was present along with State Staff Secretary Tom Lawrence. President West brought greetings from the State Society and National Trustee Green presented information about the impending vote at the National Leadership Meeting in relation to the purchase of the new Headquarters Building.

Lunch found the Wests at Beaumont at Lamar University Cafeteria meeting with the Paul Revere Chapter, Rev. Tom Harding, President. Also present were officers and members from the Beaumont and Port Arthur DAR Chapters. Among other duties, President West presented the Alexander Hamilton Medal to Floyd Miller from the State Society. The Alexander Hamilton Medal is presented to Compatriots who have donated a total of at least one-thousand dollars to the Patriot Fund. Judy West spoke briefly regarding the Ladies Auxiliary of the SAR and was able to enlist several new members to the Auxiliary. President West presented a program "George Washington, the first United State Director of Central Intelligence." The Paul Revere Chapter and the Beaumont Chamber of Commerce presented the Wests with a remembrance gift.

Dinner was celebrated with the Cradle of Texas Chapter at the Bay City Country Club in Bay City, Dr. Tillman Daniel, President. President West presented a program and demonstration of the Brown Bess Musket which was one of the primary weapon used in the Revolutionary War by the common foot soldier or militiaman. Featured in the program was the recently enlarged color guard which presented the colors. President West presented Arnold Seidule, Jr., the Silver Good Citizenship Medal for his extensive community service in the Brazosport area. President West also inducted the new officers of the Cradle of Texas Chapter.



President West - Carrington chapter in Houston



Floyd Miller & President West - Paul Revere chapter in Beaumont



Officer Induction - Cradle of Texas chapter



Color Guard members - Cradle of Texas chapter



“The Flag Man” - Galveston

On Thursday, January President West and Judy journeyed up to Conroe to meet with the Freedom Chapter in District 8, Ray Cox, District Vice-President.

Saturday, January 21 meetings began with President West and Judy meeting with the Bernardo de Galvez Chapter, Number 1 at the Pelican Club in Galveston for lunch. The Galvez Chapter was joined in a joint meeting with the Galveston DAR chapter. John P. Gulley, Jr. is the president of the Galveston Chapter. This was a celebratory meeting of the chapter filled with a myriad of introductions and awards. National Trustee Tom Green presented a local Vietnam Veteran the Flag Award. He was honored because he stands on the Seawall with a large American Flag and waves it to all passersby all year long. He is locally known as the Flag Man. One of the important presentations was the honoring of one of the new members of the chapter, John Pete Lenos, who has subsequently signed up his son Jeffery, and two grandsons, Jared Lenos and Zachary Powers as members of the SAR. Jared Lenos and Zachary Powers were inducted by President West at the meeting. He also helped submit DAR applications for daughter Kelly Lenos Powers and grand-daughters, Karlie Powers and Kristen Lenos. He subsequently submitted CAR applications for grandchildren: Lexie Powers, Kylee Powers and Jordan Lenos. All of these were presented at the meeting.

President West also presented five year memberships to Bruce Roberts, Edward de la Houssaye II, John P. Gulley, Jr., John P. Gulley III, Kenneth W. Vaughan, and James C. Cantrell II. Fifteen year membership pin and certificate was presented to Jessie Vaughan, Jr. and Twenty year membership pin and certificate was presented to Richard Peterson. A thirty-five year membership pin and certificate was presented to Captain Gordon R. Robinson by forty-four year membership member, Clark Wright. President West presented his talk “George Washinton, the First United States Director of Central Intelligence. While in Galveston, the party had the opportunity to visit the site of the founding of the TXSSAR at the site of the old Tremont Hotel in the Strand area of the City.

The final meeting of this series was with the Major John White Chapter along with the Goose Creek DAR chapter in Baytown at the Larry’s Cajun Restaurant. John P. Adams, Jr. is the president of the chapter. President West led an informative discussion of the use of DNA in genealogical research to a very interested audience.



John Pete Lenos - Galveston



Captain Gordon R. Robinson: 35 SAR years - Galveston



Texas’ first SAR chapter - Galveston



George West - Major John White Chapter



**DAR Constitution Day Luncheon
in Houston**
submitted by Tom Green

Here are several photos of the SAR Color Guard men who attended the DAR Constitution Day Luncheon this past September at the Houston Junior League building. Matress Mac was the main speaker and you will see the SAR men who joined me to present the Colors for the meeting. The Paul Carrington Chapter was the co-host of the event. The crowd was so large that we had trouble finding a path-way to walk in to advance the Colors.



Athens Chapter Elects 2008 Officers

At the January meeting of the Sons of the American Revolution Athens Chapter, officers for 2008 were elected and installed. Harry M. Fife, Jr., SAR Texas Society President-elect and a chapter member, administered the oaths of office. Fife was later appointed chapter chancellor.

Installed were Roald "Skip" Gustafson, president; James G. Robertson, 1st vice president; Ernest Holland, 2nd vice president/historian; Sam Whitten, secretary/treasurer; Arthur H. Hall, registrar; David V. Cason, Sgt. At Arms; and Johnny Goforth, Chaplain.

The Sons of the American Revolution is a patriotic, historical and educational society, involved in a number of activities at the local, state and national levels. A few of its purposes include perpetuating the memory of Revolutionary War patriots, encouraging historical research of the American Revolution, preserving the records of Revolutionary War patriots, observing and celebrating patriotic holidays, and marking the locations of the Revolution events and its soldiers' places of burial.

Among its annual youth activities, the SAR Athens Chapter currently conducts Revolutionary War era theme poster competition among area elementary schools; promotes merit badge counseling among BSA Cherokee District scout troops; presents an SAR Scholarship Award to the outstanding Eagle Scout; presents the Outstanding JROTC Cadet Award; and promotes the SAR High School Essay Contest.

Other activities include chapter public service awards for

law enforcement, fire safety, emergency medical service, as well as for acts of heroism. Included is recognition to individuals and companies for correctly displaying the United States Flag. Also, clothing, magazines and sundry items are collected from chapter members for donations to the Dallas VA Hospital veterans.

Any male at least 18 years of age who is a lineal descendant of a qualifying ancestor, who supported the colonial war against England for American independence, is eligible for membership in the Sons of the American Revolution.

Qualifying ancestors include those persons who served in the Continental Army or a state militia, who provided supplies or a service to the colonial cause, who served on political bodies supporting the revolution, or who signed oaths of allegiance for American independence.

The chapter was chartered in 1994, and has consistently increased its membership in Henderson County and a few surrounding counties. Five members were added in 2007, bringing chapter membership to 42. There are five chapter dinner meetings and six business meetings per year.

For membership information concerning the Sons of the American Revolution, contact Art Hall, chapter registrar, at 903-675-5441. Also, chapter information is available at www.athens54txsar.org.

Pictured front from left: James G. Robertson, Roald "Skip" Gustafson, Sam Whitten, Ernest Holland.

Pictured back from left: Harry M. Fife, Jr., David V. Cason, Johnny Goforth, Arthur H. Hall.



Distinguished Service Medal

If you check out our web site you will find a new section under For Members which lists the winners of the Distinguished Service Medal. It is an impressive list and particularly impressive is that two Texans have won the Gold DSM from national. Congratulations to Allan Henshaw from Paul Carrington and to PG Nathan White from McKinney for that honor.

Tom Lawrence

Essay and Oration Awards given by Paul Carrington Mar 8, 2008 Region 6

Rumbaugh Oration Contest 1st Place winner - Maurice Henderson a student at G. C. Scarborough High School, Houston was recognized this day during the annual Paul Carrington Chapter breakfast. Awards, certificates and checks were presented by Elmer R. Remkes Past Chapter Pres. to Derek Hill for the award for the Knight Essay Contest and Maurice Henderson for the oration contest. Paul Carrington Chapter Compatriots, Donald L. Lefeber/ Oration Chair and Floyd Guest/ Knight Essay Chair were successful in encouraging Region 6 participation. The next competition level is set at the Texas Society SAR State Convention.

Region 6 is composed of the following TXSSAR Chapters: Maj. White, Baytown; Paul Revere, Beaumont; Freedom, Conroe; Bernardo de Galvez, Galveston; Paul Carrington, Houston; PineyWoods, Kingwood; Cradle of Texas, Lake Jackson; Alexander Hodge, Sugarland; and Rankin, Katy. All Region chapters are encouraged during 2008 - 09, to enlist a chapter member as the Essay and/or Oration Contest Chairman to promote and organize completion. National Rules are outlined at the NSSAR web site, www.sar.org to retrieve info. and forms.

Submitted by Region 6 Chair - James E. Mitchell,
PineyWoods Chapter at Kingwood, TX

Important TXSSAR Dates

- June 1 - Will your chapter have a local Independence Day presence?
- Jun 14 - Flag Day (observed)
Fly your flag and honor others that correctly do so with a Flag Certificate.
- Jul 4 - Independence Day (observed)
- Jul 5-9 - Annual Congress (Ntl Convention)
Sacramento, California
- Jul 18 - Cutoff for Aug BOM special hotel rates
- Aug 1-3 - BOM Meeting - Tyler
- Sep 1 - Begin working with schools on
Poster, Oration, and Essay contests
- Sep 15 - Article deadline for Compatriot
- Sep 17 - Constitution Day (observed)
- Oct 1 - How many Flag certificates has
your chapter issued?
- Oct 15 - Chapter have any Veteran's Day plans?
- Oct 19 - Victory at Yorktown (observed)
- Oct 24-26 BOM Meeting - Temple/Killeen
- Nov 11 - Veteran's Day (observed)
- Dec 1 - Chapter issued a Fire, Police, or
Teacher award yet?
- Dec 8 - TXSSAR Anniversary (observed)
- Dec 15 - Bill of Rights Day (observed)
- Jan 15, 2009 - Article deadline for Compatriot
- Mar 19-22, 2009 - TXSSAR Convention
Nacogdoches

The Texas Compatriot

Editor: Lance H. Salge

Articles should be submitted to
articles@texascompatriot.com

Deadlines for submission:

Fall.....September 15, 2008
Winter.....January 15, 2009
Spring.....April 15, 2009
Summer.....June 15, 2009

Color versions are available on the TXSSAR web
site at:

TXSSAR.org/compatriot