



# The Texas Compatriot

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Spring 2012 Issue

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**Robert M. Clark**  
President,  
TXSSAR  
2012-2013

★ **Upcoming Dates: Fall BOM, October 5-6, Hilton Garden Inn, Temple, TX** ★

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## President's Report

Fellow Texians,

Thirty six years ago I joined the SAR at the age of 28. That was 1976, the Bicentennial year of our country's Independence, and a time of heightened recognition of our heritage. I was sponsored by Lloyd Bockstruck who later became the National Society SAR Librarian General and received the Gold Good Citizenship medal about ten years ago. As many of you know, Lloyd was head of the Genealogy Department of the Dallas Public Library until his recent retirement. As I have told others, I believe that I may hold the record as the slowest promoted member in TXSSAR – 36 years from joining to president.

A month before I became State President, I attended the Laredo George Washington Birthday Celebration, which included marching in that city's great parade and attending the Laredo Chapter meeting. On March 1-3, I attended the NSSAR Spring Leadership Meeting in Louisville, Kentucky. As President-Elect, I also later attended and swore in new officers in the Brazos Valley Chapter in Granbury, the Hill Country Chapter in Kerrville, the Robert Rankin Chapter in Katy, the Piney Woods Chapter near the Woodlands, the Paul Carrington Chapter in Houston and the McKinney Chapter. In addition, I brought greetings from the TXSSAR to the Children of the American Revolution Texas State convention in Houston on March 16. On March 24 in San Antonio, our 2012 Texas Society officers, were sworn in by the National Society Presi-

dent General Larry J. Magerkurth. Since that time, I have addressed and sworn in new members in the Dallas and Plano Chapters. On May 6, my wife Kimberly and I hosted a reception at our home for the newly-elected Texas State DAR Regent and Board, with over 125 DAR members from across Northeast Texas in attendance. I addressed the Edmund Terrill Chapter in Sherman and the William Barron Chapter in Tyler, as well as the Daughters of the Republic of Texas at their annual meeting in Austin. I marched with our Color Guard in the PolkaFest Parade in Ennis and attended the Memorial Day activities in Duncanville and at Restland Memorial Park in Dallas.

I hope that as many of my Texas compatriots as possible will join us in Phoenix, Arizona from July 7 to 11 for the 2012 SAR National Congress. This event has something for everyone. It includes my favorite event, which is the Texas contingent as a group going to dinner on Saturday evening after the host state's reception. I hope many of you, along with your families, can attend some or part of the National Congress.

In the next issue of *The Texas Compatriot*, I hope to describe what happened in Phoenix, as well as introduce a number of our superb state officers from across Texas. It gives me great pleasure to serve as your 98th Texas Society SAR President. Our Society has been in continuous existence since 1896, and as I write this, I realize that I have been a member of TXSSAR for about one-third of the Society's history. I hope to uphold its long traditions.

Respectfully,

*Robert M. (Bob) Clark*

# Chapter News

## ATHENS POLICE DETECTIVE RECEIVES AWARD

**D**etective William Carlow of the Athens Police Department was the recipient of the Law Enforcement Commendation Medal from the Sons of the American Revolution Athens Chapter #54. The department selected Detective Carlow to be honored with the SAR annual medal and certificate coinciding with Law Enforcement Month. Sam Whitten, chapter secretary/treasurer, assisted by Wayne Stafford, chapter historian, presented the award at a ceremony held May 9 at Athens City Hall.

Compatriot Whitten noted that Detective Carlow began his law enforcement career in April 1993 as a detention officer for the Henderson County Sheriff's Department and concurrently served as a reserve officer between October 1994 and January 1995. In March 1995, Carlow was employed as a police officer for the Athens Police Department.

During the course of his employment, Carlow has obtained an Advanced Police Officer Certificate and has served as a field training officer. He is the four-time recipient of the department's Officer of the Year award and has also been named the Athens Rotary Club Officer of the Year. In October 2008, Carlow was assigned to the Criminal Investigation Division where he assumed the position of Detective.

The Law Enforcement Commendation Medal was created to recognize persons in the law enforcement field who have served with distinction and devotion. Awardees must have made a contribution in the public safety field, which substantially exceeds the requirements and expectations of their job descriptions. By this award, the SAR seeks to promote good law enforcement and show its high regard for those persons who are dedicated to the preservation of law and order.



Shown from left: Chief Buddy Hill, Detective William Carlow, Sam Whitten, Detective Sergeant Don Yarbrough and Lieutenant Bill Gurley.



# Chapter News



Regan Wilkinson



Lejla Gregory



Taylor Sherrell



Lauren Berry



Nathan Rue

After considering several historical events, these Acton, Texas 7th grade Middle School Students selected the Revolutionary War as most meaningful and chose to research, write, and produce a play rather than create a website as several other schools were doing. They won first place in the local Granbury ISD History Fair, then the Regional History Fair. The SAR Brazos Valley Chapter #45, meeting in Granbury, was privileged to have them make a full-dress presentation at a chapter meeting on Saturday, April 28. Their presentation centered on the birth of our nation with skits from the beginning of the Revolutionary War to its Yorktown end.

The play started by showing the oppression levied by King George. Perspectives from Martha Washington and Betsy Ross were included. Paul Revere and Sybil Ludington rode to warn of the British coming. George Washington led patriots into battle and Molly Pitcher fought at their side. The Declaration of Independence was signed, and much more. The play effectively used several coordinated prop-sets and was also enhanced with costume changes. The students and teacher remained after the program to discuss their motivation and to field numerous questions, which they handled with ease. The students stole the hearts of all who attended. This SAR meeting was inspiring to everyone present — a reflection of our past shining into the possibilities of our nation's future.



Mrs. Kathy Spradlin  
Teacher



# Helping Veterans and Telling the SAR Story at the Same Time

by Joseph Benham, Chaplain and Past President, Hill Country Chapter (Please contact me at [jove@ktc.com](mailto:jove@ktc.com))

**H**ere are six ways to help veterans and tell the SAR story at the same time.

1. **Contact** veterans organizations in your area and ask how your chapter can help or complement what they're doing for former servicemen and women.

**Examples:** Our Hill Country Chapter supplies speakers, masters of ceremonies, music and wreath-presenters for Memorial Day and Veterans Day events at our county War Memorial, organized by the Vietnam Veterans of America (we'll also be able to offer a color guard for those and other patriotic ceremonies as soon as one more Compatriot gets his Revolutionary War Uniform). Through our annual "Socks and Jocks" program, members of our chapter donate cash to buy underwear, toilet articles and special diabetic socks that the VA doesn't provide. If any cash is left over, we buy coupon books for patients to use in the hospital canteen.

2. **Locate** the nearest Veterans Hospital or Texas Veterans Home and organize visits to the men and women who'll be there for weeks, months or quite possibly the rest of their lives.

Many of those veterans have outlived most or all of their families and friends, while others simply have been abandoned by their relatives.

**NOTES:** Don't give up if some veterans say that they don't want visitors. Most do, and some of those who reject you at first will come around later, apologizing and explaining that they mistook you at first for salespeople or members of some religious group trying to convert them. Don't opt out of this important way of helping veterans because, "I wouldn't know what to say." Just smile and ask a few questions such as, "Where did you serve in the military?" and "Did you grow up here in (that community)?" It's likely that from then on, all you'll have to do is listen.

3. **Organize** a speaker's bureau to help spread the word on the SAR's helping veterans. Every community big enough to have an SAR chapter almost certainly has civic clubs, church groups, Parent-Teacher Associations and others that are always looking for new programs. You surely have Compatriots who teach in the public schools, community colleges or Sunday schools, have been active in Toastmasters, etc. – and are veterans or the sons of veterans, or both. They can go out and talk about the importance of our veterans, and how the SAR is supporting them.

4. **Attend** funerals and memorial services for veterans whenever possible – especially those who served in World War II. We're losing our WWII veterans at the rate of more than 1,000 per day – not surprising when we consider that the war ended more than 65 years ago, meaning that unless he lied about his age to join the Army, Navy or Marine Corps, every veteran of that conflict is well into his eighties or nineties. **SAR** participation means a lot to the families and friends, even if the deceased was not a member of the SAR.

**NOTES:** Make sure that the priest, rabbi or pastor who will be conducting the service knows of the SAR's involvement. Usually, they will at least mention the SAR, and sometimes, they or the family will welcome remarks by a representative of the SAR. Messages of condolence are very much in order. There usually is a line in the obituary to the effect that "Messages of condolences can be sent to the family by going to [glotzfuneralchapels@xyz.com](mailto:glotzfuneralchapels@xyz.com) and following directions." The message need not be long or flowery: an expression of sympathy from the SAR, followed by an appreciation of the veteran's service to their country is sufficient.

5. **PUBLICIZE** SAR participation. Someone in your chapter surely has a digital camera or a "smart phone" that takes photos. When your Compatriots are speaking, posting the colors, or whatever, take photos and email them to your local and area news media. With a few phone calls to news desks, you can easily compile a list of email addresses for papers, TV stations and local magazines that are interested in seeing your photos. As soon as possible after the event, email the best photos to those addresses, with captions identifying, L-R, the people and explaining what they're doing. **NOTE:** Always provide the name, phone number and email address of someone in your chapter who can be contacted for more information and/or clarifications.

6. **AGAIN, TEAMING UP** with veterans organizations is important. A Compatriot or SAR delegation can mesh with the rifle squad, bugler and flag-bearer from the American Legion, AMVETS, VFW, DAV and/or Vietnam Veterans to pay respects to deceased veterans, and hold Memorial Day and Veterans Day observances. If your chapter has a color guard, offer their services – but do so ahead of time; don't just show up and say "We're here to post the colors" or whatever. I'll be happy to try to answer any questions or clarify any of the above. I hope that these suggestions are helpful for other chapters.





# Texas independence: 199<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Bloodiest Battle in Texas History

**T**he public is invited to attend the 199<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Battle of Medina on **Saturday, August 18, 2012**, at a site in Atascosa County overlooking the Galvan Creek, where we believe between 800 and 1,300 men died on August 18, 1813. This was the bloodiest and largest loss of life of any battle in Texas history, and it occurred about 20 miles south of San Antonio, Texas. **The ceremony will begin at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, August 18, 2012, and everyone interested in Texas history is invited. Due to the heat, we will only be at the battle site for about one hour** so that each Society can rededicate their marker to American Revolutionary Patriot Peter Sides, the Sons of The Republic of Texas marker for Benjamin Allen, the Mayflower Society marker for Samuel Adams and all the other men who fought and died in this battle. The SAR, DAR, SRT, DRT, The Daughters of the War of 1812 Society, and the Mayflower Societies will all re-dedicate their markers, making this one of the most honored and dedicated historic sites in Texas. Our combined Color Guard will present the Colors to begin the ceremony and fire a musket salute to all those who participated in this battle on both sides to conclude the event. Everyone will then retire to Pleasanton, Texas, for lunch on your own, and then reconvene at the **Pleasanton Church of Christ located at 1003 North Main Street for an air-conditioned history seminar from 1:00 p.m. to approximately 3:30 p.m. in the church meeting hall. Again this year, the Atascosa County Historical Commission members will graciously provide us with refreshments at the church during the symposium.**

The afternoon history seminar will present the latest research on the Gutierrez-Magee Expedition and the last event, the Battle of Medina. Several speakers will be featured, including Robert Thonhoff, an award winning author; Richard G. Santos, author of 37 books, over 3,000 articles and dozens of documentaries. Other speakers include Al McGraw, Archeological Studies Program for TxDOT; Dan Arellano, author and historian; and Tom Green promoter of the event. These are all great speakers and historians, so you don't want to miss this symposium.

To reach the site for the 10:00 a.m. outdoor ceremony, proceed south from San Antonio on Highway 281 some 15 miles from the intersection of Loop 410 South and Highway 281, to the community of Espey, Texas, at the intersection of U.S. 281 and FM 536; then turn right (west) onto the Old Pleasanton Road, and then left onto Bruce Road where signs will direct you to the ceremony. For additional details, contact Tom Green, at (281) 922-1118, or (832) 687-3474. Wear a hat and comfortable shoes and bring water and a lawn chair that will not easily sink into the sand!

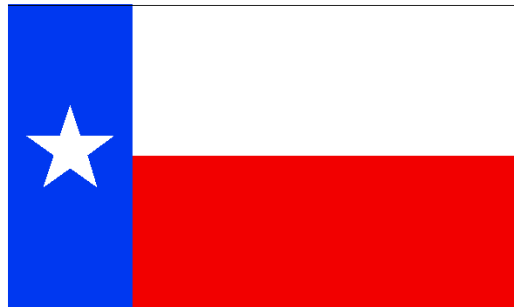
*(Continued Page 7)*

(Continued from Page 6)

The Battle of Medina was between the Republican Army of the North consisting of approximately 1,400 men, called the Gutierrez-Magee Expedition by historians, and a Royal Spanish Army commanded by General Joaquin de Arredondo consisting of approximately 1,800 men. The Republican Army of the North was truly a diverse group, consisting of Tejanos, Native Americans, and adventurers from the U.S.A. with at least one African-American named Thomas. This was at a time in history when only about 2,000 people lived in San Antonio, then called *San Fernando de Bexar*. At least 5 Patriots of the American Revolution were involved in the Gutierrez-Magee Expedition, and at least one of these Patriots fought and died in the Battle of Medina. Peter Sides, is one of over 50 Patriots of the American Revolution believed to have been buried in Texas. Direct descendants of Peter Sides are eligible for membership in both the Sons and Daughters of the American Revolution and The Sons and Daughters of The Republic of Texas. Some of the descendants of Peter Sides will be in attendance for the re-dedication of a Sons of the American Revolutionary Patriot Grave Marker. A Grave Marker will also be re-dedicated by the Sons of the Republic of Texas, as descendants of all the approximately 3,200 men who fought on both sides of this battle are possibly eligible for membership in the SRT and the DRT. The descendants of Benjamin Allen, who is also proven to have died in the battle, will re-dedicate the SRT marker. One of our objectives is to honor the many other participants on both sides of this battle, which is the land battle with the largest loss of life in Texas history. Toward that end, descendants of the Spanish soldiers, Native Americans and the native Tejano participants have also been invited to attend this annual commemorative ceremony.

Earlier in the expedition the Royal Spanish Army surrounded the Republican Army of the North for four months at the La Bahia Presidio near present day Goliad, Texas. This is believed to have been one of the longest sieges in American military history, and is the reason La Bahia today flies the Emerald Green flag of the Republican Army of the North as one of the nine flags flown over La Bahia.

Prior to the August 18, 1813 Battle of Medina, the Gutierrez-Magee Expedition formed the Republican Army of the North, won all the preceding battles, and declared Texas free from Spain. This included a battle at Nacogdoches, a four month siege of the Presidio La Bahia, the Battle of Rosillo, and the Battle of Alazan. On April 6, 1813, Bernardo Gutierrez de Lara, and his junta, wrote and signed the First Texas Declaration of Independence. Come join us and learn more about this all but forgotten part of our history.



**H**ave you considered joining a Color Guard and helping to expand the "Face of the SAR"? There are a number of good reputable sources for custom-made uniforms, both wool and polyester. Wool is historically authentic but more expensive, whereas polyester is more comfortable in Texas. You can't fire a flintlock musket wearing polyester, as it will melt part of your uniform. (Re-enactors always wear wool.) For specific information on both types, send an email to [hc\\_baker@sbcglobal.net](mailto:hc_baker@sbcglobal.net)

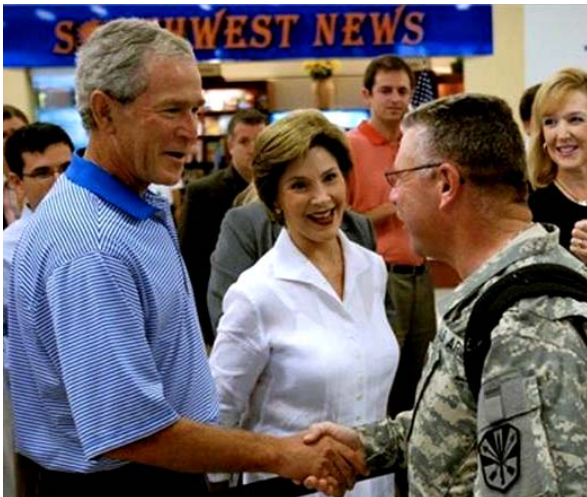




Compatriot Tom Carswell of the Hill Country Chapter #31 presented well-deserved Good Citizenship Medals to three members of the Vietnam Veterans of America: Bill Cantrell, Art Modgling, and Jack Scott. The three veterans were recognized for showing their patriotism where it counts. They provide an honor guard at military funerals, march in various patriotic parades such as Memorial Day, Independence Day, and Veterans Day, and also started a local Amvets Chapter. One of the three is already a member of the SAR: Compatriot Bill Cantrell is active in the Hill Country Chapter,

**“Thank you for your service, soldier.”**

The daily R&R flights into DFW Airport have finally ended as the war in Iraq has wound down. In fact, a number of members of Plano, McKinney, and Dallas Chapters have participated in greeting the troops from time to time. You never know who will be there, but it’s always a tearful moment when a soldier holds his baby for the first time. One day recently, a well-known SAR Compatriot and wife were “just two citizens” in the crowd of well-wishers.





# Serendipity\*

\* Merriam-Webster defines serendipity as “the gift of finding valuable or agreeable things not sought for.”

**T**he National Museum of the Pacific War in Fredericksburg, is perhaps the highest-quality historical attraction in Texas.

Fredericksburg is about 50 miles due west of Austin on U.S. 290. The Museum was originally called the Admiral Nimitz Museum because Pacific Fleet Admiral Chester W. Nimitz lived in the hotel owned by his grandfather during his early childhood. The first phase of the Museum was actually built into the hotel. Although 26 nations were in the great alliance against the Axis Powers during World War II, the war against Japan was primarily an American war.

The National Museum of the Pacific War is dedicated to perpetuating the memory of the Pacific Theater of World War II in order that the sacrifices of those who contributed to the Allied victory may never be forgotten. The Museum hosts many special events throughout the year, including re-enactments, demonstrations of WWII weapons, and discussions of the tactics and strategies that won the war. The next re-enactments will be on June 9-10 and June 30-July 1. A War Dog Demonstration is scheduled for July 14. The next major event of the Museum is the 70th Anniversary Remembrance of the Battle of Midway on August 17, 2012. More details may be found at

<http://pacificwarmuseum.com>

Major sections of the Museum include the

33,000 square-foot George H. W. Bush Gallery, which tells the story of WWII in the Pacific and East Asia from Pearl Harbor to Tokyo Bay; Invasion Beach, a 3-acre site showcasing landing craft, tanks, and artillery; the Pacific Combat Zone, a 3-acre indoor and outdoor exhibit area that features spectacular artifacts, including a fully restored WWII veteran PT boat; the Japanese Garden of Peace, a gift from Japan to honor Admiral Nimitz for his wise administration and his respect for the Japanese people and their culture in the post-war years; and the Plaza of Presidents, a striking outdoor tribute to the ten American Presidents who served in the Armed Forces during World War II.



The Nimitz Hotel, site of the original museum.



The George H. W. Bush Gallery



The Invasion Beach



Pacific Combat Zone: Fully-Restored PT Boat



The Japanese Garden of Peace



Plaza of Presidents

## PICTURE FROM THE PAST



**T**his picture was taken some time ago.. The man above is now a member of TXSSAR. Can you guess his identity? Hints are interspersed throughout this issue of the Texas Compatriot, and his identity will be revealed elsewhere in this issue.

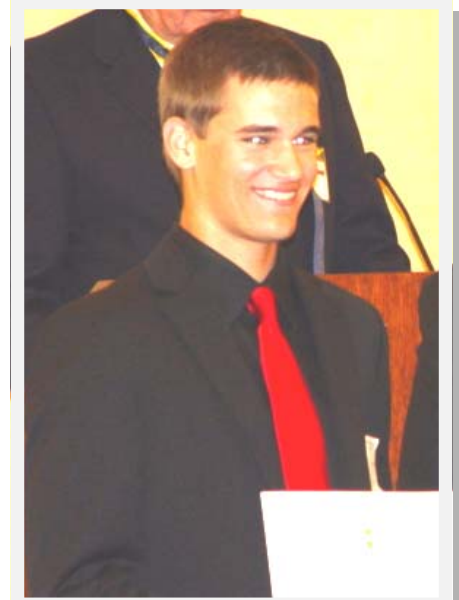
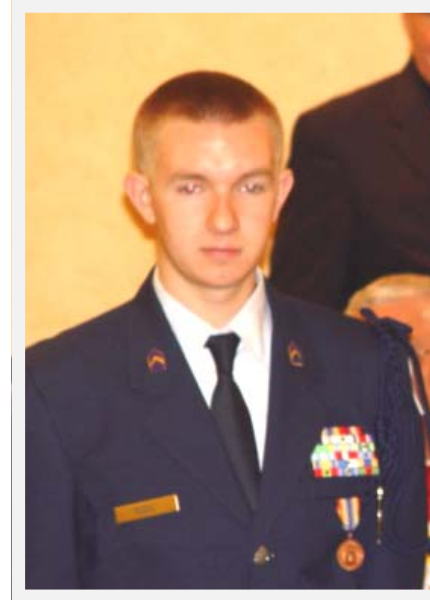
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Alternate Trustee	James T. Jones, Jr.		



# Remembering the 2012 Youth Awards Luncheon

One of the highlights of the TXSSAR Annual Meeting each year is the Youth Awards Luncheon which is always held on Saturday. Seeing those Oration Contest finalists competing for cash and scholarships makes us wonder whether we could ever have done as well, especially with the pressure of a thousand eyes focused on them. The winners are presented below. Thanks, Russell Dart, V.P. ACMA (Americanism, Certificates, Medals, and Awards), for presenting a great program!



Clockwise, from above: **Bode McKay** of Kerrville won the Robert Ritchie Oration Award and will proceed to the Joseph S. Rumbaugh Historical Oration Contest at the National Congress. He gave a memorable presentation on Benedict Arnold. **Brandon Payne** of El Paso received the Eagle Scout Scholarship Award. **Jared Reese** of Katy was recipient of the Enhanced JROTC Scholarship Award. **Alexander Scheel** of Houston won the George S. and Stella M. Knight Scholarship Award for his essay entitled “The Aftermath of a Battle and How it Helped Win a Revolution.” The text of Alex’s essay is posted on the TXSSAR.ORG website. **Ms. Morgan McMillan** of the Denny Anderson Society in San Antonio won the Children of the American Revolution Essay Award. This contest is sponsored by TXSSAR for members of the CAR.

In all categories, the Youth Awards have a strong education/patriotism component. For example, the Eagle Scout contestants must be passed by the Boy Scout Board, must not have reached their 19th birthday during the previous calendar year, must complete a 4-generation genealogy chart, and must submit a 500-word essay on the American Revolution.



**AMERICANISM TRIVIA QUIZ.** Correct answers from the Winter issue are revealed Below. New Compatriot **Richard Colley** of the Corpus Christi Chapter #14 (sworn in January, 2012) got 100% on the Winter quiz.

### The Battles of Lexington & Concord:

1. Paul Revere arranged with his friend, John Pulling, to hang one or two signaling lanterns in the steeple of the Old North Church in Boston, to indicate by what route the British would be coming: "one if by land, two if by sea." What were the actual alternate routes? **"By land" meant over Boston Neck. "By sea" across the Charles River.**
2. Who were the two couriers, besides Paul Revere, who rode to warn the minutemen that the British were coming? **William Dawes and Dr. Samuel Prescott also rode as couriers to warn the minutemen.**
3. The Patriots had observed that General Gage was planning some kind of military operation. What person in Gage's headquarters do many historians believe tipped off the Patriots? **Gage's wife, Margaret Kemble, was a patriotic American from New Jersey.**
4. On what date were the battles of Lexington and Concord fought? **April 19, 1775. This date is known as "Patriots Day" and is a state holiday in some states.**
5. On Lexington Green, Captain John Parker commanded about 77 militiamen. After he saw that the British outnumbered them three to one, what did Parker tell them to do? **Seeing**

**their hopeless situation, he told them to disperse. As they began to leave, a shot was fired. Then British regulars fired two volleys, killing 8 and wounding 8 of Parker's men. After the second volley, Parker's men fled. Later in the day, many of them returned and sought revenge by firing on the British column as they retreated from Concord.**

6. After searching the town of Concord and finding few arms there, the British retreated and were harassed along their line of march by a continuing gathering of Patriots. Where did the worst fighting take place during the British retreat? **At Menotomy (now Arlington). As many as 5,500 men may have fought there. It was at Menotomy that Captain Samuel Whittamore, an 80-year-old veteran of the French and Indian War, stood his ground after his companions fled. He shot and killed 3 British soldiers, before he was shot, clubbed, and bayoneted 13 times, before being left for dead. Whittamore lived for 18 more years, through the Revolutionary War and the ratification of the U.S. Constitution.**

7. Which side lost more men at Lexington and Concord and in the fighting during the British retreat? **Of the British, 273 men were killed, wounded or missing. For the Americans, 49 were killed, 41 wounded, and 5 were missing. Most of the British were killed during their retreat when patriots shot at them continuously from behind trees, stone fences, and from houses.**

**NEW AMERICANISM TRIVIA QUIZ.** (answers in the Fall Issue.) Send in your answers to [hc\\_baker@sbcglobal.net](mailto:hc_baker@sbcglobal.net)

### Preparations for War — 1775

1. Who led the surprise raid on the British Fort Ticonderoga on May 10, 1775, capturing about 100 cannons?
2. Following Ticonderoga, who led the next surprise attack on what British post?
3. Immediately after Lexington and Concord, patriots gathered to besiege the British in Boston. When the patriots learned that the British planned to seize Dorchester Heights, they moved swiftly to fortify Bunker Hill. Where and when was the Battle of Bunker Hill actually fought? Who won?
4. What member of Congress nominated George Washington to be the Commander in Chief of the Continental Army, and who seconded the nomination? On what date?

### **PICTURE FROM THE PAST**

The "Mystery Person" pictured on Page 10 has sometimes been associated with an historical event of the Texian Republican Army of the North.



5. How many lashes did the Congressional Articles of War allow for punishing a soldier in the Continental Army in 1775?
6. Congress established a pay scale for various ranks of personnel in the Continental Army. What amounts were to be paid to the various ranks?
7. Who designed the first money for the Continental Congress in 1775, to provide payment for the army?
8. Daniel Morgan raised a company of 96 riflemen in Virginia and marched them to Boston to help the Continental Army. The rifle was more accurate and had a longer range than a flintlock musket. What is the difference between a musket and a rifle?
9. One disadvantage of a rifle in comparison with a musket was that it could not be fitted with a bayonet. What did bayonet-less riflemen carry as an additional weapon?

**AMAZING HISTORY:** British Colonel Patrick Ferguson patented his breech-loading rifle in December, 1776. In a demonstration for King George III in the previous summer, Ferguson had shown that his rifle was clearly superior to the British muskets, in accuracy, range, and number of shots per minute. However, the rifle was viewed with suspicion by the military establishment, including General Howe. Howe ordered 200 of the rifles and put them in storage. The outcome of the war might have been different if the British had used the Ferguson rifle instead of the musket.

#### MORE AMAZING HISTORY

(Thanks to Editor Larry Stevens of *Pine Shavings*, the Newsletter of the Piney Woods Chapter #51, for digging up this amazing story.)



The Treaty of Alliance between France and the United States was concluded at Paris and signed on February 6, 1778. The treaty ensured that neither France nor the United States would conclude a peace with England until the independence of the US was recognized. It also had provision for the defense of France should England attack.

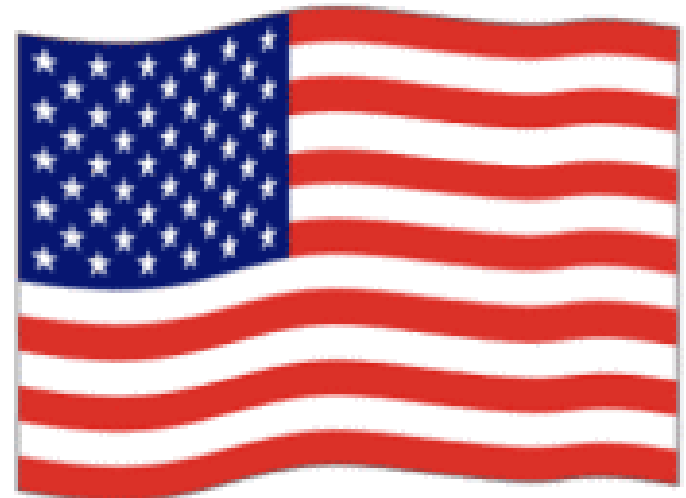
Knowledge of the Alliance came to Washington on May Day, 1778. A week later George Washington celebrated the Alliance in festivities at Valley Forge. The length and breadth of Washington's exuberance upon the arrival of the good news can not be more effectively shown than in the fact that two soldiers awaiting execution in camp were pardoned and restored to the ranks by Washington in testimony of his joy.



The "Mystery Man" pictured on Page 10 is Thomas B. Green III. Tom is a former President of TXSSAR, a member of the Alexander Hodge Chapter (#49) in Pearland, and a popular speaker at SAR and other patriotic events. Tom is also the coordinator of the annual commemoration service at the site of the Battle of Medina 20 miles south of modern San Antonio. The battle was fought on August 18, 1813, between the republican forces of the Gutiérrez-Magee expedition, who called themselves "the Republican Army of the North" under Gen. José Álvarez de Toledo y Dubois and a Spanish royalist army under Gen. Joaquín de Arredondo. This bloodiest battle ever fought on Texas soil took place twenty miles south of San Antonio in a sandy oak forest region then called *el encinal de Medina*. See details on pp 6-7..

# Running the "Gauntlet"

The Dictionary defines "Gauntlet" as "a double file of men armed with weapons (as clubs) with which to strike at an individual who is made to run between them." However, in TXSSAR, it is the nickname for the event at the Saturday night Annual Banquet, wherein new recipients of the coveted Patriot Medal pass between two lines of past recipients to receive their congratulations. The 2012 Class of Patriot Medalists consisted of (left to right) **Robert D. Northcraft, Gary N. Sisson, Drake M. Peddie, Frank Rohrbough, and John K. Thompson**. Below left, the new class prepares to be greeted by the outstretched hands of well-wishers holding not clubs but cameras at the TXSSAR 2012 Annual Meeting.





ORDER YOUR PATRIOTIC QUILT RAFFLE TICKETS NOW



Overall size 67" x 80"

## Ladies ' Fundraiser

The 2011-2013 fundraiser is the handmade patriotic quilt, pictured at left. Proceeds will go to the TXSSAR Patriot Fund in support of expenses and awards for the various youth contests, such as CAR Essay, Knight Essay, Oration Contest, Eagle Scout, ROTC/JROTC awards, Sea Cadet award, Poster Contest, and American History Teacher Awards.

Tickets are one for \$2 or three for \$5. Please make all checks to LATXSSAR .

Check the LATXSSAR webpage for handouts, donation forms etc: <http://TXSSAR.org/LA>

Raffle Tickets can be obtained by contacting

**Sue Lenes**

**4401 Ableside Drive**

**League City, TX 77573**

**281-316-2202**

[msuelenes@comcast.net](mailto:msuelenes@comcast.net)

Please include your name, date, amount of donation, address, email address, phone number and cell phone number. Also, please include a SASE (Self Addressed Stamped Envelope) for your drawing tickets.

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From the Editor: I have received nothing but positive comments about the new experimental “landscape” format of *The Compatriot*. Therefore, this format will continue. Please send comments to [hc\\_baker@sbcglobal.net](mailto:hc_baker@sbcglobal.net)

The Newsletter Committee has approved three new features in *The Texas Compatriot*: “Serendipity,” “Picture from the Past,” and “Americanism Trivia Quiz.” For Serendipity, The Winter issue featured an article about the Nance Farm in DeSoto. This issue features **The National Museum of the Pacific War** in Fredericksburg, TX. If you know of a “Serendipitous” place in Texas, please let me know, so we can share it with the members. I would love to feature a different serendipity from different parts of Texas in each issue of *The Compatriot*. Also, note the “Picture from the Past” on Page 10. Let’s have a different “Mystery Person” in each issue, for members to guess. Send articles with pictures to [hc\\_baker@sbcglobal.net](mailto:hc_baker@sbcglobal.net)

Finally, please observe the following deadlines for submission of items for *The Compatriot*. September 15 for the Fall Issue, January 15 for the Winter issue, and May 15 for the Spring issue.

H. Charles Baker, Compatriot Editor  
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#### PATRIOTS FUND

Compatriots are reminded that donations to the Patriots Fund in any amount are always welcome and are tax deductible as allowed for a 501(c)(3) organization. Remember that this fund supports all of our youth programs and contests. This includes the following: Knight Essay, Poster, CAR Essay, Eagle Scout, Oration, Junior and Senior ROTC, Sea Cadets Awards, and the American History Teacher Awards.

Individuals who give \$500 to the Patriots Fund receive the Alexander Hamilton lapel pin. Individuals donating \$1,000 will earn the Alexander Hamilton Medal. Recognition will be given at the Annual Meeting in March.

There is a new form for the submission of Patriot Fund Donations. It can be found at the following location on the web:

[www.txssar.org](http://www.txssar.org)

Click on Contests, then on Contributions