



# The San Antonio Compatriot

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

JUNE 2007

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Compatriots:

At our May Meeting, we presented our Law Enforcement Officer Award to Agent Denise Stone for her work in breaking up a ruthless criminal drug ring that was rooted in San Antonio. We are proud to recognize her and her co-workers who worked diligently for two years that led to the arrest of 30 co-conspirators and seizing \$20 million in cocaine and \$4.5 million in currency. We were honored to have Agent Joe Arabit, Agent Stone's boss, as our speaker. He gave a most informative and enlightening review on the Drug Enforcement Agency's operations in south Texas and its fight against drug crimes – particularly in the eradication of illicit methamphetamine labs operating in Texas and Mexico. A special thanks goes to Ed Heath for arranging for these special guests to attend our meeting and be recognized for their valued services to our country.

We have a very special speaker for our June 27<sup>th</sup> Meeting. We are honored that **Compatriot George West, President of the Texas Society SAR, will address our Chapter.** President West will fly in from Amarillo for the day to join us.

## TXSSAR PRESIDENT GEORGE WEST TO ADDRESS CHAPTER ON JUNE 27TH

### SPECIAL PROGRAM

President George West will fly into San Antonio on June 27th to meet with the chapter. President West will be our speaker and will induct the new members. Please see page 2 for information to make your reservation.

President West has instituted a project to collect from each and every Texas Society Compatriot a one page narrative or vignette of his Compatriot ancestor or ancestors for those with supplemental certificates. Please bring your contribution to President West's program to the meeting. Along with those from other chapters they will be bound and be a valuable source of information for posterity.

### NEW MEMBERS APPROVED

Several men have been approved for membership. President West will induct those who will be present at the June meeting. See page 2 for the names of the newly approved Compatriots.

### MAKE PLANS TO ATTEND THE AUGUST BOM

The August BOM will be held at Tapatio Springs Resort on 3-5 August. For special room rates call 800 999-3299. The registration fee is \$35.00 by mail and \$45.00 at the door. Saturday lunch is \$17.00 and the Saturday Gala Banquet is only \$30.00. See the Texas Compatriot or the TXSSAR website for the registration form.

### HONORING OUR HISTORY

Our chapter celebrated its 77th anniversary at the April chapter meeting. At left former chapter presidents Jim Massingill, George Harcourt, Stephen Rohrbough and current president Frank Rohrbough join to cut the cake that was served to the crowd.



GEORGE S. & STELLA M. KNIGHT ESSAY CONTEST Stacey Chan, (third from right) from Earl Warren H.S., who was awarded first place from our chapter (President Rohrbough presenting the certificate) and third place from TXXSAR was honored with her parents (at right) and Audrey Eldridge, her counselor, (second from left) for her achievement. At far left is Compatriot David Bowles, chairman of the George S. & Stella M. Knight Essay Contest. Statewide there were 148 contestants.



# C H A P T E R ~ R E P O R T S

## V E T E R A N S / M I L I T A R Y

In May 224 magazines and 13 books were delivered to Audie Murphy Veterans Hospital. Please continue to bring books and magazines to the EC and general meetings. The donations are truly appreciated by the Veterans.

## E X E C U T I V E C O M M I T T E E

The meeting was held on May 17th at Earl Abel's. Compatriots present were: John Holije, Ed Butler, John Knobelsdorf, John Orr, Stephen Rohrbough, Ed Heath, Joe Ware, David Bowles, Harry Long, Jim Massingill, John DuPree, Clarence Bell, George Harcourt and the chapter president presiding - Frank Rohrbough.

## W E B M A S T E R

The website continues to undergo improvements. Please come visit and see the new photo gallery. As always at: [www.sarsat.org](http://www.sarsat.org)

*John Knobelsdorf, Webmaster*

## L U N C H E O N R E S E R V A T I O N S

All compatriots who plan to attend Chapter Meetings on a regular basis are invited to add their names to the Standing Reservation List. To do so, contact Compatriot Jay Higginson by calling (210) 666-3321 and Cell (210) 884-6900 or e-mail him at [jhigginson@aol.com](mailto:jhigginson@aol.com)

**RESERVATIONS FOR THE JUNE MEETING NEED TO BE MADE BY FRIDAY THE 23RD OF JUNE.**

*The Standing Reservation List shown below shows those members who have agreed to routinely attend our regular Chapter Meetings and have a meal reserved for them. Members on the Standing Reservation List who will not attend an upcoming meeting must notify Compatriot Jay Higginson in advance of the meeting so they will not be charged for the meal.*

Clarence Bell, David Bowles, Judge Ed Butler, Hermann Edwards, Jerry Fulenwider, Robert Gallatin, George Harcourt, Ed Heath, Jay Higginson, John Hollje, Philips C Huck, John Knobelsdorf, Harry Long, Jim Massingill, John Orr, Dogan Perese, Tommy Richardson, Frank Rohrbough, Stephen Rohrbough, John Rothermel, Ed Snyder, Courtland Snyder, Brad Stephenson, Max Strozier, Chaplain James Taylor, Joe Ware

## N E W L Y A P P R O V E D C O M P A T R I O T S

San Antonio chapter # 4 of the Texas Society of the Sons of the American Revolution is pleased and honored to welcome the men listed below as compatriots.

Max Starcke Strozier, Lee Branch Oliver, Dustin Ian Oliver, Devin Jae Oliver, John Baines and James Henry Plunkett

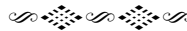
Compatriot Herman Henry James has received a supplemental certificate.



In photo at right Compatriot Roger Malcolm Bowles, accompanied by his wife, and brother Compatriot David Bowles (far right) is inducted into the chapter by president Rohrbough.



At left: Agent Joe Arabit addresses the crowd at the May meeting which included two officers from the Alamo Heights Police Department who were special guests of Compatriot Philips Huck.



At right: the Law Enforcement Officer Award is presented to Agent Denise Stone by chapter president Frank Rohrbough.



## CHAPTER PRESIDENT'S REMARKS FROM APRIL AND MAY

**President's Remarks for April 2007:**

Dear Compatriots: Well, the TXSSAR Annual Meeting in March and hosted by the San Antonio Chapter was a grand success. For those members who attended some or parts of this Meeting, thank you for coming and supporting TXSSAR.

President Tom Green expressed his heart-felt appreciation for the strong showing and great support given by the Chapter members who made this event so successful. Of course, key to the success of this undertaking was the planning and sterling leadership of Compatriot George Harcourt and the many members who served on the various committees. A special thanks goes to Compatriot Jim Massingill, Courtland Snyder and the Registration Committee, Compatriot Ed Butler for the Genealogy Seminar that preceded the TXSSAR Convention, Pat Taylor and Robin Butler who hosted the Ladies Hospitality Room and Diane Rohrbough and Marie Rohrbough for their invaluable work on the Silent Auction.

Of particular note is the work of our Publicist, Jerry Fulenwider, who arranged for Compatriot Ed Butler and me to join the staff at KENS TV for the "Great Day SA" program on March 20<sup>th</sup> where we were able to promote the SAR and its goals and principles. We promoted the Genealogy Seminar and informed the viewers that, given the special service of many Creoles, Native Americans and Hispanics who served under General Bernardo de Galvez during the American Revolution, they may be descendants of those revolutionary heroes when Spain was an ally supporting the American Colonies and thus may be eligible for membership in SAR.

Because of our funding raising efforts – the Rifle Raffle and the Silent Auction – over \$3,800.00 was donated to TXSSAR's Patriot Fund. I understand that this is the largest donation by any Chapter during a TXSSAR Meeting. This was made possible because of the strong support of you, our members, who sold the raffle tickets and contributed items to the Silent Auction. Thank you one and all.

Compatriotly Yours,

*Frank Rohrbough*

**President's Remarks for May 2007:**

Dear Compatriots: At our April Meeting, we celebrated the 77<sup>th</sup> Anniversary (April 19<sup>th</sup>) of the founding of our Chapter. Thanks to George Harcourt, we had a celebration cake to commemorate this historic event. Past Presidents Jim Massingill, Stephen Rohrbough, and George Harcourt joined me in the cake cutting ceremony. For this ceremony we used a 1750s British replica sword to cut the cake. So, '**Happy Anniversary**' to all the members who were unable to attend.

Thanks to Compatriot Bowles, we had a winner of the George and Stella Knight Essay Contest this year. I presented Ms. Stacey Chan her Award Certificate and a \$100 check as part of our Youth Awards Program. Stacey read her sterling essay titled "Thomas Paine's Inspiration Words" noting the writings of Thomas Paine that united the colonies in launching the war for independence from England. We are proud that Stacey's essay took 3<sup>rd</sup> Place in the Texas Society Knight Essay Contest. Stacey is a Senior at Earl Warren High School and plans to attend the University of Texas at Austin this fall. We were pleased that Stacey's parents and Ms. Audrey Eldridge, her school counselor, were able to join us for this Youth Awards Ceremony.

Roger Bowles, brother of compatriot David Bowles, was inducted into SAR and our Chapter. Although Roger resides in Austin, we are hoping that he will be able to join us on a regular basis.

On April 23<sup>rd</sup>, Compatriot Stephen Rohrbough joined compatriots from the William Hightower and Boerne Chapters of SAR in the annual Pilgrimage to the Alamo. Past Presidents of TXSSAR Tom Green and Dick Robinette placed the Chapter's SAR Wreath in front of the Alamo to commemorate the freedoms gained by those who died at the Alamo in 1836.

While many compatriots who helped make the annual TXSSAR Meeting in March a great success were presented Chapter Certificates of Appreciation, special recognition was given to two spouses who made the Silent Auction a most successful event. Diane Rohrbough and Marie Rohrbough were both presented the very special Martha Washington Medal for their extraordinary work in support of the Sons of the American Revolution by displaying the items donated along with bidder sheets with each item, monitoring and securing the room and collecting the monies at the close of the auction.

Summer is fast approaching and we have many opportunities to participate in local events to highlight our Chapter and SAR. We are currently planning to participate in events on Memorial Day (May 31<sup>st</sup>), Flag Day (June 14<sup>th</sup>) and Independence Day (July 4<sup>th</sup>). For sure we have 3 events on July 4<sup>th</sup> where we will join the Granaderos y Damas de Gálvez at Ft. Sam Houston National Cemetery (10:00 AM), the Cannon Salute at the Parade Ground at Ft. Sam Houston (12:00 PM) and the Chapter's Let Freedom Ring Ceremony (which is being planned at the Alamo at (1:30 PM). **All members** (with and without revolutionary period uniforms) **are welcome to participate in these patriotic tributes**, so mark you calendars now. More details will be provided next month.

May is Law Enforcement Month. We will present our Law Enforcement Officer Award at the meeting on May 23<sup>rd</sup>. I hope you will support us in giving appropriate recognition to a real local hero. Please plan on attending the meeting and extending your personal greetings to our award winner.

I am getting more comments every month that many of our members would like to change location of our Chapter Meetings. The Executive Committee will address this matter at the May EC Meeting. Following discussions, options will be provided to those attending the May Chapter Meeting. If you wish to express your preferences, please attend the meeting.

Compatriotly Yours,

*Frank Rohrbough*

## CHAPTER OFFICERS FOR 2007

PRESIDENT ~ FRANK ROHRBOUGH  
830 537-5452 ~ [FRANKR@GVTC.COM](mailto:FRANKR@GVTC.COM)

PRESIDENT ELECT ~ JAY HIGGINSON  
210 666-3321 ~ [JHIGGINSON@AOL.COM](mailto:JHIGGINSON@AOL.COM)

VICE PRESIDENT ~ DAVID BOWLES  
210 481-1110 ~ [DAVID@DABOW-INC.COM](mailto:DAVID@DABOW-INC.COM)

CHANCELLOR ~ BRADLEY STEPHENSON  
210 733-9696 ~ [BSTEPHENSON71@AOL.COM](mailto:BSTEPHENSON71@AOL.COM)

TREASURER ~ JAY HIGGINSON  
210 666-3321 ~ [JHIGGINSON@AOL.COM](mailto:JHIGGINSON@AOL.COM)

GENEALOGIST ~ REV. JAMES TAYLOR  
210 494-2300 ~ [TAYLORFOR2@HOTMAIL.COM](mailto:TAYLORFOR2@HOTMAIL.COM)

CHAPLAIN ~ REV. DR. JAMES TAYLOR  
210 494-2300 ~ [TAYLORFOR2@HOTMAIL.COM](mailto:TAYLORFOR2@HOTMAIL.COM)

HISTORIAN ~ JIM D. MASSINGILL  
210-481-2110 [J\\_MASSINGILL@EARTHLINK.NET](mailto:J_MASSINGILL@EARTHLINK.NET)

SGT-AT-ARMS ~ JOHN DUPREE  
210 391-9575 ~ [JDUPREE4@SATX.RR.COM](mailto:JDUPREE4@SATX.RR.COM)

RECORDING AND CORRESPONDING SECRETARY ~ GEORGE HARCOURT  
210 822 1960 ~ [GHARCOURT@SATX.RR.COM](mailto:GHARCOURT@SATX.RR.COM)

THIS NEWSLETTER IS EDITED AND PRODUCED BY GEORGE HARCOURT. CONTACT HIM WITH ANY SUBMISSIONS, SUGGESTIONS, ADDRESS CHANGES OR COMMENTS. **AN EDITOR AND PUBLISHER IS SOUGHT** - CONTACT G. HARCOURT.

## MEETINGS ON THE HORIZON

DATES/MEETING TYPE	CHAPTER	LOCATION
3-5 August 2007 - BOM	Boerne	<a href="#">Tapatio Springs Resort</a> 800-999-3299
2007 October BOM	Plano-McKinney	<a href="#">Southfork Hotel, Plano</a>
2008 State Conference	K. M. VanZandt	Fort Worth



## CHAPTER CALENDAR

### CHAPTER MEETINGS

#### JUNE 27TH • WEDNESDAY

LUNCH • BARN DOOR  
11:30 A.M. • \$17

**SPEAKER • TXSSAR PRESIDENT  
GEORGE WEST**

#### SEPTEMBER 26TH • WEDNESDAY

LUNCH • LOCATION TBA  
11:30 A.M.

**SPEAKER • TEXAS STATE SENATOR  
JEFF WENTWORTH**

#### OCTOBER 24TH • WEDNESDAY

LUNCH • LOCATION TBA  
11:30 A.M.

**SPEAKER • PETE VAN DE PUTTE  
CEO DIXIE FLAG**

#### NOVEMBER 14TH • WEDNESDAY

LUNCH • LOCATION TBA  
11:30 A.M.

**SPEAKER • JERRY PATTERSON  
TEXAS LAND COMMISSIONER**

### EC MEETINGS

**ALL MEETINGS AT 11:30 AM**

JUNE 21ST - THURSDAY  
ALDINO'S AT THE VINEYARD  
\$18 • PER PERSON

SEPTEMBER 20TH - THURSDAY  
OCTOBER 18TH - THURSDAY  
LOCATION TBA

**ALL ARE INVITED TO PARTICIPATE**

### WEB SITES

SAN ANTONIO CHAPTER #4  
[WWW.SARSAT.ORG](http://WWW.SARSAT.ORG)

TEXAS SOCIETY  
[WWW.TXSSAR.ORG](http://WWW.TXSSAR.ORG)

NATIONAL SOCIETY  
[WWW.SAR.ORG](http://WWW.SAR.ORG)

# P R E S I D E N T ' S R E M A R K S C O N T I N U E D

Because of his very busy schedule, this will be the only opportunity for members to hear from President West and share some time with him. **I hope we can show our appreciation by having a good turnout for him. Please make your reservations with Compatriot Jay Higginson NLT June 22nd at (210) 884-6900.**

If you checked the temperatures lately, you know summer is here. We have several great opportunities to participate in local events that allow us to highlight our Chapter and SAR. We are currently planning to participate in events on Independence Day (July 4<sup>th</sup>). On July 4<sup>th</sup> we will join the Granaderos y Damas de Gálvez at Ft. Sam Houston National Cemetery (10:00 AM), participate in the Cannon Salute at the Parade Ground at Ft. Sam Houston (11:15 AM) and conduct our Chapter's [Let Freedom Ring Ceremony](#) at the Alamo at 1:30 PM (meet at 1:00 PM). All members (with and without revolutionary period uniforms) are welcome to participate in these patriotic tributes, so mark you calendars now. Further, we have a late update on the 400<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Founding of Jamestown Celebration that is being hosted by the San Antonio Area DAR. It will be on Sunday, July 15<sup>th</sup>. This special event will be held at the San Antonio Garden Center at Funston and N. New Braunfels, 1800-2100. For reservations contact Compatriot Joe Ware @ [Patriot505@aol.com](mailto:Patriot505@aol.com) or call (210) 493-9207 for more information. Or go to our [web site](#) for details.

I am getting more comments every month that many of our members would like to change location of our Chapter Meetings. The Executive Committee will address this matter at our next EC Meeting on June 21 at Aldino's Italian Restaurant at the Vineyard (Blanco and Loop 1604). We need your feedback and invite you to complete the Chapter Survey attached to this Newsletter. Options will be provided to those attending the June Chapter Meeting. If you wish to express your preferences, please attend the meeting. If you cannot attend the Chapter Meeting this month, please mail the survey back to our Secretary Compatriot George Harcourt. His address is provided at the end of the Survey.

Compatriotly Yours,

*Frank Rohrbaugh*

## JUNE'S SPOTLIGHT COMPATRIOT

Thank you for the support! I was just selected for the Air Mobility Command's Safety Officer of the Year award. They wanted my bio for their magazine and I've attached it in this e-mail. I am still a Captain, though I will pin on Major next March. I've been at McGuire AFB, NJ for about seven months now and really enjoy it. Of course, NJ does not compare for Charleston or San Antonio—you can't beat the moderate winter climate! Jennifer and I have one daughter, Madison, and another daughter due in June. I'm still flying the C-17 and just upgraded to Evaluator (the highest position possible for an aircrew member). My Squadron (and I) will be deploying to Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar in September for four months. While deployed, we will be providing critical cargo, convoy relief, and aeromedical evacuation in to and out of Iraq and Afghanistan every day.

Medals include: Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal, Air Force Achievement Medal, Combat Readiness Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Global War On Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, and Humanitarian Service Medal.

The one nice thing about living in NJ is that I am only three hours from D.C. I've been to the DAR library and National Archives once already for research and found several new ancestors who qualify. I can't wait to go back. I wish I could say when I might return to San Antonio. Unfortunately, I just don't know. I am receiving the newsletter thanks to Mr. Harcourt and enjoy the material every month. I hope the Chapter is still strong!

Very Respectfully,

*Myers*

**AMC Safety Officer of the Year Award**  
 Capt Myers S. Gray,  
 437 AW, Charleston AFB, SC

Capt Myers S. Gray was the Chief of Wing Flight Safety for the 437th Airlift Wing, Charleston AFB, SC.

As the Chief of Flight Safety, Capt Gray had a significant impact while overseeing the Wing's flight safety program. His contributions included an outstanding rating on AMC's Program Evaluation Visit and the development and implementation of a virtual safety read file providing aircrew members the latest safety information at their fingertips. He investigated and authored 53 reportable mishaps, identifying critical engine malfunctions, noncompliant cargo and shipping procedures, and aircraft flight control issues.

Capt Gray worked with C-17 simulator instructors at Charleston to incorporate "lessons learned" into flight training programs. He briefed 500+ military and civilian aviators on midair collision avoidance, and worked on multiple occasions with squadron commanders to deliver a personal safety message to everyone leaving the base on long holiday weekends.

Capt Gray was raised in Austin, TX, commissioned through Texas Christian University ROTC in 1998, and attended pilot training at Laughlin AFB, TX. Other assignments included Randolph AFB as a C-21 Instructor Pilot and Charleston AFB as a C-17 Instructor Pilot. He is currently a C-17 Instructor Pilot with the 6th Airlift Squadron at McGuire AFB.

# SURVEY OF CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP PREFERENCE ON LOCATION OF MONTHLY CHAPTER MEETINGS (2007)

The Executive Committee is seeking your opinion regarding preferences for time and location of our monthly chapter meetings. Please complete this brief survey and add your comments so that the Executive Committee can consider your needs and preferences.

**Factors to consider:**

- 1) **Day and time of Meeting** - weekday vs. weekend
- 2) **Location of Meeting Place** – distance, ease of access, quality of facilities and quality of food
- 3) **Cost of Meals** – under \$15, \$15-\$19, \$20 to \$24, and \$25 and above
- 4) **Access to Location** – driving time from home or work to meeting location (Under 20 minutes, 20–30 minutes, 30-45 minutes and over 45 minutes)

**P L E A S E   C I R C L E   T H E   O P T I O N   Y O U   P R E F E R .**

**Day and Time of Meeting**

MEETING DAY:	A. Any weekday	B. Saturday	C. Specific weekday _____
MEETING TIME:	A. Noon	B. Evening	C. Other _____

**Location of Meeting Place**

- #1: Barn Door Restaurant (on N. New Braunfels Ave) (Meal Cost – \$18)
- #2: Earl Abel’s (Old Austin Highway) (Meal Cost – Approx. \$12)
- #3: Petroleum Club (Near Broadway and Loop 410) (Meal Cost – \$20)
- #4: Aldino Italian Restaurant @ Vineyard (Blanco and Loop 1604) (Meal Cost – \$20)
- #5: Oak Hills Country Club (Fredericksburg Road) **ONLY available on Saturdays** (Meal Cost – about \$25)

**Cost of Meals**

- |               |              |              |                   |
|---------------|--------------|--------------|-------------------|
| A. Under \$15 | B. \$15-\$19 | C. \$20-\$24 | D. \$25 and Above |
|---------------|--------------|--------------|-------------------|

**Access to Meeting Location (from your location)**

- |                     |                    |                  |                    |
|---------------------|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| A. Under 20 minutes | B. 20 – 30 minutes | C. 30-45 minutes | D. Over 45 minutes |
|---------------------|--------------------|------------------|--------------------|

**Program/Speaker Preferences**

- |            |                   |             |          |
|------------|-------------------|-------------|----------|
| A. History | B. Current Events | C. Military | D. Other |
|------------|-------------------|-------------|----------|

**Reasons for attending meetings:**

The primary reason I **attend** the monthly meeting is:

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The primary reason I **don’t attend** the monthly meeting is:

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**Comments:**

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**Return Completed Survey to:**

George Harcourt  
810 Wiltshire Avenue  
San Antonio, TX 78209-2849