

# THE SAN ANTONIO COMPATRIOT

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

Compatriot Robert Hancock, President — Compatriot Frank Rohrbough, Editor

Jan-Feb 2015



# PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

**Happy New year!** It is indeed an honor for me to have been elected your Chapter President for a second term; thank you for your continued support and confidence in me! We have a great group of Chapter Officers again for this year; they will be

supported by an outstanding Executive Council. I set six goals for the Chapter this past year and we accomplished all but one. We still need a review and an update of our Chapter Bylaws. As a new goal for 2015, I would like to see more member involvement in our Chapter Events! There are two areas where we need member support - youth education and service to veterans. Compatriot Jay Lewallen, Chair of the Youth Programs, is looking for a member to take on our expanding Youth Poster Program. Compatriot Frank Rohrbough needs more members to volunteer one day (a 5-hour session) a month to help with our Popcorn Concession event at the Audie Murphy Memorial VA Medical Center. The monies collected go to provide needed services to veterans in the hospital. I have been encouraged to hear some of new members ask "what can I do to help?" Please, let take advantage of that. We have 38 members who are late in paying their 2015 Dues. Last year, Compatriot Schuyler Crist did an outstanding job retaining our Chapter members. If you are one of these members, please contact him right away.

Our year is off to a fast start again! We held a mini-reception for veterans at the Shavano Park VA Clinic in early February during "Salute to Veterans" Week. Three of us participated with **President-General Lindsey Brock and TXS SAR President Bob Cohen** in the **Annual George Washington Parade** in Laredo on Saturday, February 21st. Finally, I thank you for your support; I will do my best not to disappoint you. Compatriotly, Robert Hancock

# **NEW OFFICERS INDUCTED FOR 2015**

At our January 21st Meeting, President

Robert (Bob) Cohen, Texas Society SAR, installed the new officers for our Chapter for 2015. The following members were elected by the members at the December 17, 2014 Chapter Meeting: **Robert Hancock**, President (2nd Term); **Thomas Small**, President Elect, **Paul Reynolds**, Recording Secretary; **Frank Rohrbough**, Corresponding Secretary & Sergeant At Arms; **Ben Wallis**, **Jr**, Chancellor; **Jim Massingill**, Treasurer; **James Taylor**, Genealogist and Chaplain; and **William Clanton**, Historian.

We were honored to have as our Guest Speaker Compatriot Bob Cohen, President, TXS SAR. (**Photo at Right**) President Cohen shared his goals for the



Texas Society focusing on branding our SAR and using a short "Elevator Speech" to tell anyone we meet about SSAR and its programs. He gave a wonderful historical overview of Spain's contribution to the American Revolution noting that without Spain's support in keeping the British occupied in along the Gulf Coast and on the Mississippi River, the Revolution might not have succeeded. His source was a book titled "Spain and the Independence of the United States—An Intrinsic Gift" by Thomas E. Chavez. The book is based on primary research in the archives of Spain. In short, the information found provides a clearer understanding of world events during the middle to late 1700s, the Colonies struggle for independence from Great Britain and corrects a longstanding omission in its history. President Cohen strongly recom-

mended the book to all TXS SAR members.



Following his remarks, President Cohen inducted the officers who were elected in December by administering the SAR Oath of Office. (**Photo at Left**) From left to right are inductees who were present: Tom Small, Jim Massingill, James Taylor, and Frank Rohrbough. In closing, President Cohen noted that the Texas Society was planning its upcoming State Conference in Houston, TX at the Marriott Hotel on March 26-29, 2015. He encouraged members to attend the State Conference if possible. He expressed his personal appreciation for our Chapter hosting the social gathering to welcome he and First Lady Jane.

# SAR Participates in George Washington Parade in Laredo

Compatriot Tom Green, TXS SAR Past President, took charge to recruit a multi-state SAR group to participate in the Annual George Washington Birthday Celebration Parade in Laredo on Feb 21st. Joining in at the International Bridge Ceremony at A.M. was President General Lindsey Brock, Registrar General Larry Guzy and leaders of TXS SAR delegation including President Bob Cohen, Past Presidents Tom Green and Jim Jones. Others notables attending the Parade include TXS SAR Command Commander John Thompson.

The George Washington Parade is sponsored by the world renowned Budweiser Brewing Co. Leading the Parade were the highly recognized Clydesdale Horses pulling the historic Budweiser Beer Wagon. It is estimated that 350,000 plus parade viewers line the 2 mile parade route. Other attendees from the San Antonio Chapter included President Bob Hancock and Compatriots Frank Rohrbough and TXS SAR Past President Stephen Rohrbough. As NSSAR national event, it counts towards award of SAR Silver Color Guard Medal.



(Above) Leading the Procession to the International Bridge Ceremony are (L-R) President-General Lindsey Brock,, Registrar-General Larry Guzy, Past TXS SAR Presidents Tom Green, Jim Jones, and current TXS SAR President Bob Cohen, Compatriot Tom Jackson and TXS SAR Color Guard Commander, John Thompson.

See more photos on page 6.

Laredo Chapter Hosts SAR Members in George Washington Parade: Due to the concerted efforts of Compatriot Rick Ramirez, President of the Laredo SAR Chapter, TXSSAR Members and their Ladies (several wearing period clothing) participated in this years' Parade. The chapter provides a float for those who prefer to ride. Following the parade, President Ramirez hosted all SAR guests and their ladies to a Chapter sponsored meeting in the Ballroom at the Ramada Plaza Hotel. The Bronze Bernardo de Galvez, which was struck in 2010, is presented to SAR members who participate for the first time in this historic Parade. (Photo at right) Shown are those who participated in the Parade, to include TXSSAR's former First Ladies Marie Rohrbough and Dianne Jones.



#### **Chapter Inductions**

After the Induction of Officers for the Chapter, TXSSAR President Bob Cohen inducted Charles Allen as a

new members into the Sons of the American Revolution. As is our custom, Compatriot Allen gave some remarks about his Patriot Ancestor John Peter Tintle. Patriot Tintle was born in 1765 of parents who had recently arrived from Germany under contract to work in the American Mining and Iron Works Company located in Ringwood, New Jersey. Patriot Tintle enlisted at age 17 in Colonel Moses Hazen's Regiment of the New Jersey Continental Troops on October 14, 1782. He was discharged at war's end on June 17, 1783. References to his service record are located in National Archives Pension File W6289. Patriot Tintle died on 12 March 1829. **More Inductions are shown on Page 4.** 



#### **Chapter Selects Poster Contest Winners**

On Wednesday, January 28, 2015, our SAR chapter sponsored an Award Ceremony at Hardy Oak Elementary to honor 32 students who had entered the SAR Poster Contest and to present awards to the winners in the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grades and for the three overall winners. The Theme of the NSSAR Contact was the "Battles of Lexington and Concord". The overall winner was Julia Bland, a 5<sup>th</sup> grade student. (See Photo at Right) Her poster will be forwarded to compete with other entries at the TXS SAR contest.

The entire 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade study body, about 400 students,

was invited into the cafeteria to participate in the ceremony and to congratulate the winners.

After the awards were given, the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade students were dismissed and the 5th grade students remained to hear our hour-long SAR presentation by Bob Hancock, Frank and Stephen Rohrbough, Fred Soupiset and Jay Lewallen, all of whom were in uniform. These presentations described our respective Patriot ancestors, their life styles, clothing and uniforms, the battles they fought and the weapons used. The question and answer period was over 20 minutes, allowing



students to ask specific questions.

One of the highlights came from the seven enthusiastic history teachers present. They stated that they expanded their coverage of the American Revolution this year to 4 ½ weeks in anticipation of the SAR Poster Contest and our presentations. They also mentioned they expected to repeat this ceremony next year and would probably have an even a greater number of student wanting to enter our Poster Contest.

#### **National Salute to Veterans Week**

Veterans Appreciation Week: During the week of February 9-13, 2015 the Veterans Administration conducted a national program celebrating "National Salute to Veterans Week across the country at all Veterans Health Care systems. Our Chapter participated in this annual event by hosting a Reception at the Shavano Park Veterans Clinic for all veterans who had scheduled appointments Monday thru Thursday. We

provided refreshment to include veggie trays, fruit trays, baked goods and bottled water to every veteran. Each veteran was greeted, offered refreshments and heart-felt "thank you" for their service to our country. Members participating in this year's event included President Bob Hancock, Past TXSSAR President Stephen Rohrbough, Compatriots Bud Davenport, and Byron and his wife Billie Howlett.



(Above) Compatriot Bud Davenport and President Bob welcome two veterans at the Shavano Park Clinic.

National Salute to Veterans (Cont'd): On Friday, February 13th, President Bob Hancock, and Compatriot Jack Cowan joined the Gold Star Mothers and over 30 other volunteer organizations at the Audie Murphy Medical Center to meet and greet hospitalized veterans. Each veteran was presented a hand-crafted Valentine Card made by local children from area schools, churches, scouting units and other supporting organizations.

This participation with other Veteran Organizations is a qualifying event for the Award of the National Society's Partners in Patriotism Banner to SAR Chapters. The Banners are presented each year at the National Congress.



(Above) Compatriot Stephen Rohrbough and President Bob Hancock (sitting) offer veterans some refreshments while they wait for their appointment.

# **Chapter Conducts Another Tool Box Distribution to Wounded Warriors**



On January 31st the San Antonio Chapter of SAR hosted its 4th distribution of Tool Boxes to the Wounded Warriors living in the Operation Homefront Village in San Antonio. (**Photo at Left**) Event Coordinator James Taylor led the program on behalf of the National Society SAR to honor soldiers and their families residing in the Greater San Antonio area. He spoke of the importance of this program as a means of helping warriors transition back to the community following treatment of their wartime injuries. Chapter President Robert Hancock welcomed the Wounded Warriors and their families to the event and stated "The gift of toolboxes is our way of saying welcome home."

The Tool Box Project was founded by Clarence "Bud" Shepherd, a WWII veteran and founder of Resource Exchange Association in North Carolina. The Tool Boxes are assembled from donations made by Industry Businesses, to include major suppliers of tool products, as a Community

Service Project supporting Wounded Warriors and their Families. A Tool Box, valuing up to \$1,000, is gifted to each Purple Heart recipient when they are ready to move to a private home with their family. The first distributions started in June 2013 in partnership of Operation Homefront here in San Antonio. With the distribution of 19 Tool Boxes at this event, we have now distributed 99 Tool Boxes. The Tool Box Project's goal is to gift over 48,000 Tool Boxes to Wounded Warriors across the country over the next few years. (**Photo at Right**) All of the families expressed their personal appreciation for the gifting of the Tool Boxes.

Others participating in the program were Compatriot Stephen Rohrbough, Past President, Texas Society SAR and Frank Rohrbough, Chapter Color Guard Commander.



# Chapter Awards Presented to Two Sterling Chapter Members



(Photo at Left) Each year the Chapter President is allowed to present one Distinguished Service Medal to a member who has provided extraordinary services to the Chapter and to the local community. President Hancock recognized Compatriot Jay Lewallen because of his great work to activate our Poster Contest at Hardy Oaks Elementary School. (See page 3) (Photo at Right) Compatriot Peter Baron, Past Chapter President, was presented two Awards for his service to the Chapter this past year. President Hancock presented him the Chapter Service Award and the Certificate of Appreciation.



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#### **Chapter Induction**

At our February Chapter Meeting President Hancock inducted Kenneth Bradley Watson into SAR. Accompanying Brad is his daughter Courtney.

Brad's Patriot Ancestor was Bailey Anderson, Sr. who was a Private in the South Carolina and Virginia Militias. His name appears in Texas Roll of Patriots as one of 46 Revolutionary War Heroes buried in Texas.



#### Chapter Membership Survey

A Membership Survey was sent to about 240 members via e-mail asking their preference of time, day, place and cost for our Chapter Meetings. Disappointingly, only 30 replies were received. **Results:** 83% favored noon meetings; 83% preferred weekday meetings with strong support for Wednesdays; 87% favored cost range \$20 –\$25 and 80% favored the Petroleum Club over 4 other options.

President Hancock reported the results at the January Chapter Meeting.

# Lady Robin Butler Recognized For Service to SAR



Past Chapter President James Taylor presented the Lydia Darragh Medal to Lady Robin Butler, wife of Past President General, NSSAR (09-10), for her long-standing and valued service that brought members into SAR and the San Antonio Chapter during his 2nd term as Chapter President.

#### Guest Speaker Addresses US Constitution

Professor Stephen Boyd, Professor of History, at UTSA was

our Guest Speaker at our February 18th Chapter Meeting. His early research, which examined the contract clause of the Constitution and the Whiskey Rebellion, addressed the question of 1789 why b y the Constitution had been accepted as the basis for governance within United States. Hancock presented him a book "George Washington".



# ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMING EVENTS

Chapter Business Meeting: Lion & Rose Pub, Sonterra Blvd 410, 2nd Thursday each month at 11:30 A.M. Next meetings are on Mar 13th and Apr 10th)

Chapter General Meeting: Usually held at the Petroleum Club on 3rd Wednesday each month at 11:30 A.M to 1 P.M. Next Meeting is on March 18th.

#### **Special Events:**

The Annual Meeting of the Texas Society of SAR will be held at the Houston Marriott North, 255 N. Sam

Houston Pkwy East, Houston, TX during the period March 26-29, 2015. For Reservations, go to www. txssar.org and click on "Events".

• Frank Tejeda Middle School History Faire, Saturday, March 28th, 9AM - 4 PM. Again, this year, Compatriot Fred Soupiset will show students how to make a powder horn. All members are invited to participate in this history-filled event and meet with students telling them of your Pa-

triot's contribution to the cause of liberty. Contact Compatriot Jay Lewallen at jlewa@satx.rr.com to learn more.

• Operation Ancestry Research: Training sessions are on Mar 23rd and April 20th at the Wounded Warrior Family Support Ctr., Ft. Sam Houston, TX starting as 1 P.M. (All Members are invited to participate.)

For more, go to our Chapter Website at: www.sarsat.org.

#### George Washington Parade (Cont'd)





(Above) As the sponsor of the Parade, Budweiser's Famous Clydesdale Horses lead the Parade. (Above right) The SAR Color Guardsmen are led by President-General Lindsey Brock and his First Lady Billie. (Below Left) SAR Delegation shown in mass. (Below right) Shown (L-R) caring the SAR Parade Banner are President Hill Country Chapter Jim Barkley and Past TXSSAR Color Guard Cmdr Frank Rohrbough. (Bottom Left) The SAR Color Guardsmen looking their finest for Parade Viewers. (Bottom Right) Compatriot Tom Green in the SRT Van.







