

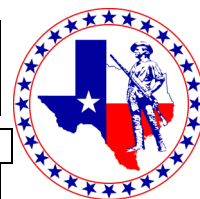


THE SAN ANTONIO COMPATRIOT

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

Compatriot Roy Leonard, President — Compatriot Frank Rohrbough, Editor

Jan-Feb 2018



PRESIDENT'S REMARKS



I want to thank everyone again for your confidence shown in electing me as your Chapter President for 2018, and my sincerest appreciation for the support each and every one of you gives to the office. Dustin Whittenburg is joining our leadership team as 1st Vice President; George Whittenburg will serve as 2nd Vice President. Many of the other stalwart officers and committee chairman from 2017 agreed to serve this year as well. Their long and loyal service will be invaluable to us all as we plan for and conduct our coming events in 2018, staying focused on maintaining our community engagements and remaining true to our core objectives.

In January, under the able leadership of President Loop, our Chapter conducted a wonderful and fun-filled Chapter Gala. Our Keynote Speaker was Lt. General Tom Jaco, USA Retired, and former 3rd U.S. Army Commander, and his wife. Also, attending was our current President of the Texas SAR John Beard and his First Lady Mary Claire. It was an honor to have President Beard install our officers for 2018 at the Gala Celebration. For more details, **go to Page 2.**

On January 27, we attended a Scout Camp Out for Troop #285 at Pike Davis Ranch where we provided a color guard, and gave an historical presentation on the American Revolution – the uniforms, weapons and a soldier's experiences, based on our patriot ancestors' roles in the battles of the Revolution. Go to **Page 5.** In February, we supported the Veterans Affairs National Program in "Salute to Veterans Week" by hosting Mini-Receptions each morning and afternoon at the Shavano Park VA Clinic each day during the period of February 12 -15, 2017. On Friday February 16th, we participated with many other Veterans Supporting Organizations to "Salute" Veterans at the Audie Murphy Memorial Medical Center. For more details, **go to Page 4.**

On February 17th we joined the Laredo Chapter for the 121st George Washington's Birthday Celebration & Parade in Laredo, Texas, to include an impressive ceremony showing international cooperation on the International Bridge that morning. For more details, **go to Page 3.**

We will continue participating in SAR's Youth Contests to include Americanism Poster Contest and the Eagle Scout Award where each will compete at the Texas Society Annual Meeting for State Awards.

There are many opportunities to participate in our Chapter events in the coming months. Paul Reynolds will need volunteers to present the JROTC and ROTC medals to high school and college students; if there is a school with a JROTC / ROTC unit near you, then please help us by becoming our "Chapter Liaison" to their program. Kevin Kanter, our new Chapter Treasurer, will continue to serve as Chairman of our Education Programs; he is coordinating our annual support for the Tejada Middle School History Fair on April 7th. Because this date conflicts with our Texas SAR Annual Conference, Compatriots Jay Lewallen and Fred Soupiset will participate as our representatives at this longstanding educational event. They will need some help, so if you want to participate let me know. Look on our Website for events and committee chairmen. Being a committee chairman is not necessary. Give a little in time and receive a great reward in satisfaction. The events are uplifting.

We have changed locations for our Executive Committee (Business Meeting) to Denny's Restaurant located on Blanco just south of Loop 410. The next EC meeting will be on 15 March, 2018. You are welcome to attend these monthly planning sessions. We will continue conducting our Chapter Meetings at the Petroleum Club on the third Wednesday of the month, with a brief recess for July and August.

Compatriotly, *Roy Leonard*

NEW OFFICERS INDUCTED FOR 2018

(Photo Below) At our January 20th Chapter Gala, President John Beard, Texas Society SAR, installed the new officers for our Chapter for 2018. The following members (shown from right to left) were elected by the members at the December 13, 2017 Chapter Meeting: **Roy Leonard** President, **Compatriot Frank Russell**, Recording Secretary, **Peter Baron**, Registrar, **Dustin Whittenburg**, President Elect, **George Whittenburg**, Vice President, **Joe Ware**, Historian, **Kevin Kanter**, Treasurer, **Ed Snyder III**, Chancellor, and **James Taylor**, Genealogist and Chaplain. Others elected members but not in the photo or not present are: **Bud Davenport**, Sergeant-At-Arms, **Frank Rohrbough**, Corresponding Secretary,

In his closing remarks, President Beard stated that the Texas Society was planning its upcoming State Convention in Richardson TX April 5-8, 2018. He encouraged members to attend the Convention if possible. He expressed his personal appreciation for our Chapter hosting him and First Lady Mary Claire.



Lt. General Tom Jaco, USA (Ret) Was Our Guest Speaker



We were honored to host General Jaco as our Guest Speaker. General Jaco was commissioned in 1959 and served in the US Army for 34. years. In his final assignment, he was the Commanding General of the Fifth United States Army and Fort Sam Houston, Texas. He retired in 1994. Since retirement General Jaco has been a consultant for various government agencies, a Director for Government Personnel Mutual Insurance Company and he is an active volunteer in the San Antonio Community. In 1998 Governor George W. Bush appointed General Jaco to the Texas Land Board.

In appreciation for his visit, Former Chapter President Bob Hancock and his Lady Prissy presented a large Gift Basket from the famous Castroville Bakery to Tom and Carolyn.

Chapter Gala (Cont'd)

Before the Installation of Officers for 2018, outgoing President Loop recognized the services of Cynthia Watson, a DAR Member, who completed 5 SAR Applications for prospective members under the TSDAR's "Finder Form Program". She was presented the SAR Martha Washington Medal. This Program was developed by Jane Cohen (Chair of the "Texas DAR-SAR Relations Committee) and approved by TSDAR Regent Judy Osler in 2016. President Loop noted that this joint effort has resulted in 19 applications being completed in 2017.



(Photo at Left) As noted at the top of the page, Texas SAR President John Beard installed the Chapter Officers for 2018. In appreciation for his attendance, he and his First Lady Mary Claire were also presented a large Gift Basket from the Castroville Bakery.

SAR Participates in George Washington Parade

Former Texas SAR President Thomas (Tom) Green continues to recruit a multi-state SAR group to participate in the Annual George Washington Birthday Celebration Parade in Laredo. The 121st Parade was held on February 20th and we were there again for the 16th year.

Former South Central District (SCD) Vice-President-General Stephen Rohrbough, the senior National Officer present, lead the procession to the International Bridge for the opening Ceremony at 8:00 A.M.. Accompanying him was the Texas SAR delegation including Drake Peddie, State Society Secretary as the senior State Officer and Former Texas SAR President Thomas Green. Other notables participating were Former Texas SAR Color Guard Commander Ron Walcik and Stuart Hoyt, Texas SAR Southern Command Commander and 6 other SAR members.

As a NSSAR National Event, participation in this event counts towards the award of SAR Silver Color Guard Medal.



(Above) 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-goers line the 2.5 mile parade route to observe the 160 plus entries that include school bands, debutants floats, marching units, dancing units, etc.

Laredo Chapter Hosts SAR Members in George Washington Parade: For the 16 year, Compatriot Rick Ramirez, President of the Laredo SAR Chapter, there were who 10 Texas SAR Members and 3 Ladies 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 Medal which was struck in 2010, were presented to SAR members who participate for the first time in this historic Parade.

The Parade began in 1898 and is the anchor Event for 27 Festival Events over a 33 day period starting in late January.

For details, go to <http://www.wbcalaredo.org>.

(Photo at Right) Shown are Chapter Members and Ladies who participated in the Parade. Attendees from the San Antonio Chapter included President Roy Leonard and his First Lady Debra, Former VPG Stephen Rohrbough and Former Texas SAR Color Guard Commander Frank Rohrbough. In the Center of the photo is the Texas SAR Event Coordinator Thomas Green.



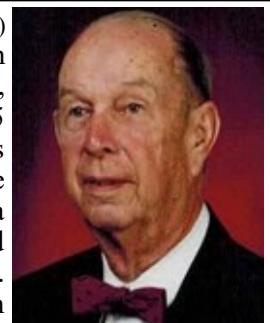
Passing of Compatriot John Hollje

born in Paris, TX Nov. 7, 1924; died Feb. 9, 2018. He was preceded in death by his wife of 55 years, Beverly Hollje, his niece Meg Charles, his brother Reinhardt Hollje and his parents John and Margaret Hollje. He is survived by his sisters Gretchen Womach and Prudence Richards from Ft. Worth; his daughters Stephanie Bromley from Mobile, Al and Pamela Lehmann from Germany; his grandson Garret Bromley; nephews Marshall, Tony, Andy and David Womack and Keith and Gregg Hollje; great - nieces Lara Kuhlman and Celia Rivera. He received his B.S. in Chemical Engineering from the University of TX and became an engineer in WWII Army and at Standard Electric. He served 34 years in the Army, 4 in active duty and 30 in the Reserves. The fact he was an Eagle Scout and earned numerous awards throughout his life, like at Counter Intelligence School and in Sons of the Republic, proved his solid character.

John was inducted in to SAR on October 16, 1990 and an active member of the San Antonio Chapter. His interment was at San Jose Burial Park on February 16, 2018. The following Chapter members attended his funeral services — Edward Butler, George Harcourt, John McCammon and Al Gallatin.

(Photo at Right)

Compatriot Lt. Col. John Buford Hollje, age 93,



President Leonard Inducts New Member Into SAR



(Photo at Left) At the February 21st Chapter Meeting, President Roy Leonard inducted Melvin McElfresh into the San Antonio Chapter, Texas Society SAR.

Compatriot Melvin McElfresh was inducted through his fourth great-grandfather Richard Mackelfresh/McElfresh (1724-1808). Richard took the Oath of Fidelity in Montgomery County, Maryland in 1778. The Oath was administered by his first cousin Edward Burgess. Both men were grandsons of Scottish Immigrant David McElfresh of London Town, Maryland.



(Photo at Far Right) Compatriot McElfresh was sponsored by Compatriot Larry Luckett who pinned the SAR Lapel Pin on his lapel.

McElfresh provided a brief statement about his Patriot Ancestor and agreed to prepare his Patriot Ancestor's Story for the National Society SAR.

National Salute to Veterans Week

Veterans Appreciation Week: During the week of February 12—16, 2018 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 greatly appreciate the \$50 donation made by the H.E.B Store Manager Mr. Jaime Lozano (located at De Zavala and IH-10) for his support of Veterans receiving care at the Clinic. We provided refreshment to include veggie trays,

fruit trays, baked goods and bottled water to every veteran. Each veteran was greeted, offered refreshments and given a heartfelt "thank you" for their service to our country. President Roy Leonard, joined 9 members in this year's event; they included Larry Loop, Stephen Rohrbough, Compatriots Bud Davenport, Frank Rohrbough, Dave Brooks, Dick Weitzel, Richard Wright, Michael Bowles and Paul Reynolds.



(Photo at Right) Former Chapter President Larry Loop and Compatriot Frank Rohrbough greeted World War II Army Air Corps 96 year old Veteran Jim Veltri during our reception at the Shavano Park VA Clinic on February 13th. Veltri was a navigator aboard a B-17 bomber. Stationed in Foggia, Italy, he flew 52 missions targeting petroleum refineries and manufacturing plants in Germany. This aircraft "... flew more than 290,000 sorties in the European Theatre of Operations and dropped in excess of half a million tons of bombs". *Encyclopedia of Aircraft of WWII*,

National Salute to Veterans (Cont'd): On Friday, February 16th, Compatriots Frank and Stephen Rohrbough joined 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 in July.

(Photo at Right) Compatriots Stephen Rohrbough (in early Continental Line Uniform from Virginia at left) and his twin brother Frank Rohrbough (in Virginia Continental Line Uniform at right) attended the Official Salute Celebration and the Audie Murphy Memorial Medial Center. In the middle is the Ms. Joyce Brown, the Director of the VA Volunteer Services Office at the South Texas Veterans Health Care System in San Antonio, TX. Ms. Brown officiated at the Annual Salute to Veterans Week Event.



Chapter Participates in Campout for Troop 285

(Photo at Below) In January 2014, our Chapter was invited by Scout Master Bill McAllister, Troop 285, to participate in Troop 285's annual Campout at the Pike Davis Ranch located north of Johnson City. Our historical presentation was an hour long event covering a wide range of Revolutionary activities to include uniforms, battle flags, weapons and firing of our muskets. It was well received.



We received a second invitation in the fall 2017 to participate in another Annual Camp on January 27th. We decided to do a scaled down version similar to what we do at school history fairs. Compatriots Jay Lewallen and Fred Soupiset conducted a Table Demonstration where by they explained their uniforms, weapons and the art of making a powder horn for their black powder guns. Other member attending this event were Compatriot Stephen Rohrbough and Chapter President Roy Leonard. Later that evening during the Scout Banquet, Scout Master Bill McAlister presented on behalf of our Chapter, five (5) SAR Certificates of Appreciation to deserving scouts who achieved the rank of Eagle Scout. The scouts recognized were: **(ENTER NAMES)**

February Chapter Meeting Highlights

Guest Speaker Scott Woodward

On February 21st, Scott Woodward from the US Army Museum



at Ft. Sam Houston gave a superb presentation on the practice of medicine during the American Revolution. He explained how battle wounds were treated and what medicines and procedures were used to treat illnesses within the Continental Army. Looking on is Compatriot Paul Reynolds who is viewing the table display of instruments used to remove bullets from gun shot wounds and amputations of limbs when needed. Woodward explained how General Washington directed the inoculation of the troops to prevent them from contracting small pox that was prevalent throughout the colonies at that time. Through this innovated process, General Washington was able to maintain a viable and fit Army through the spring of 1778 and return it to the battlefield in June of that year. For his presentation, Mr. Woodward was presented a book "Secret Six" by Brian Kilmeade.

Other Service Awards

Immediate Past President Dave Brooks presented several SAR Chapter Service Awards to members who served in 2017 but were not present at the December 2017 Chapter Meeting. In photo at left is Bob McConnell for assisting in presentation of ROTC Awards; at Center are Paul Reynolds for serving as Recording Secretary, Bob Brady for assisting in Eagle Scout Award and Kevin Kanter as Chair of our Education Program. At right is Frank Rohrbough for his leadership to mustering our members who serve Veterans at the Audie Murphy VA Hospital.



February Chapter Meeting Highlights (Cont'd)

At the Chapter Meeting on February 21st, President Leonard presented the SAR Eagle Scout Award to Danial Wolfer, III. He was sponsored by Compatriot Bob Brady.

One of the criteria for receiving the Award is the writing of an Essay about the American Revolution. Daniel selected Rifleman Timothy Murphy from Northumberland County. His essay reads in part: "This man is considered to have been one of the few individuals of such low rank to have a direct impact toward ending the war. This is because of his skill and accuracy with the Kentucky rifle, because of the importance of the men he took down, and because of his other exploits on the field of battle. During the First Battle of Saratoga, Murphy was asked to take down British General Simon Fraser. With one shot, he mortally wounded General Fraser who would later die the next day. The General's aide-de-camp rode up to take command, but Murphy did the impossible again and took down the General's aide-de-camp."

Daniel was awarded the SAR Eagle Scout Medal and a \$250 check. He is our nominee to the Texas SAR Society's Eagle Scout Competition. For more on Timothy Murphy, go to <http://dmna.ny.gov/historic/articles/murphy.htm>.



President-General's "Certificate of Patriotism"

If you have served in the US Military, you are eligible to receive recognition for your service through the NSSAR Veterans Recognition Program and receive a "Certificate of Patriotism" from the President-General of the National Society Sons of the American Revolution.

Within the past two years, NSSAR Veterans Recognition Program has consolidated the 6 Veterans Corps Programs and continue to review and publish "Certificates of Patriotism" for those SAR members who served in WWII, Korean War, Vietnam War, Southwest Asia, Special Operations and Military Service Veterans Corps Programs and have not previously been recognized for their military service.

For more information about this Program and preparation of the "Veterans Corps Survey Form", please contact David Brooks, Chairman of the Chapter Veterans, by email at amydavebrooks@att.net.

Announcements and Coming Events

Chapter Business Meeting: Denny's Restaurant located inside Loop 410 on Blanco on the 2nd Thursday each month at 11:30 A.M. Next meeting is on March 15th)

Chapter General Meeting: Petroleum Club (7th Floor) on 3rd Wednesday each month at 11:30 A.M to 1 P.M. Next Meeting is on March 21st. Reservations are required via reservations@sarsat.org.

Operation Ancestry Research: Training sessions will be scheduled individually as needed. Training will be conducted at Wounded Warrior

Family Support Ctr., Ft. Sam Houston, TX. (All Members are invited to participate when announced)

Texas Society SAR Annual Conference: Texas SAR will hold its Conference April 5-8, 2018 Hyatt Regency Hotel (North Dallas), Richardson, TX. For Reservations, go to www.txssar.org and click on "Events".

Frank Tejada Middle School History Faire: Saturday, April 7, 2018, 9AM - 4 PM. (All members are invited) Contact Compatriot Larry Loop at lloop1@gvvc.com to

learn more.

Pilgrimage to the Alamo: April 23, 2018 4:00 PM. Assembly will be at 3:30 PM at the Municipal Auditorium (Tobin Center). (All members are welcome). For details, please contact Frank Rohrbough at frankr@gvvc.com.

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