



THE SAN ANTONIO COMPATRIOT

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

Compatriot Kevin Kanter, President - Compatriot Frank Rohrbough, Editor

Nov-Dec 2021



PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

Compatriots: Season's Greetings to you all. Jeannie and I hope that each of you

have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year's celebrating with your family and friends. As my year as President comes to an end on January 29, 2022, I thank the many members who have helped to make my time as President extremely rewarding despite the COVID Pandemic restrictions that we all experienced. I really enjoyed working with all members who have actively served our Chapter in some way, whether as a Chapter Officer, Committee Chairman or Committee Member. I thank them for their services throughout this past year. For Chapter Service Awards see **Page 6**.

We had a challenging year. The Chapter received many awards from both State and National Societies of SAR this year based on the great work done by Past President George Whittenburg in 2020. I expect to see some additional Chapter Awards next year based on your efforts this year.

Once again, I regret that the COVID Restrictions precluded us from conducting several events, such as Annual Chapter Gala in January, School History Fairs, or supporting our Veterans at the Audie Murphy South Texas Medical Center. However, we were pleased to conduct our Annual Hyatt Regency Hill Country Resort Independence Day Historical Celebration on July 3rd, attend the Annual Battle of Medina Commemoration in August and the Texas SAR Board of Mangers Meeting in Clear Lake in October. We joined the San Antonio de Bexar DAR Chapter for the Joint DAR-SAR Annual Christmas Luncheon on December 4th. For details, see **Page 3**. We had three of our members participate in the Wreaths Across America Annual Event and placed wreaths at the headstones at the San Antonio National Cemetery on December 18th. (See **Page 5**).

At the Chapter Meeting on December 15th we conducted our annual election of Officers for 2022. Many of the Officers agreed to serve another year as noted on **Page 6**. Because of their service we have good continuity in our programs for the coming year. I am excited to continue serving as your President for another year and look forward to growing our membership and supporting our community and the Texas Society of SAR next year.

We need to grow our Color Guard as a number of our members who have served with distinction are no longer able to perform as Guardsmen or Flag Bearers. Please consider purchasing a Revolutionary Period Uniform and join us for the various events for the coming year, such as our Annual Independence Day Historical Program at the Hyatt Regency Hill Country Resort in July. There are plenty of clothiers who can help you. For sources, contact Compatriot Frank Rohrbough at frankr@gvvc.com.

In closing, I wish all Chapter members a healthy, happy and prosperous New Year. It has been an honor to serve you as your President. Respectfully, *Kevin Kanter*



DONATIONS TO SERVE VETERANS AT AUDIE MURPHY VETERANS MEMORIAL MEDICAL CENTER

Because of the Coronavirus Pandemic, our Popcorn Concession has been **closed indefinitely**. Due to the loss of these revenues for the past year, we are inviting our chapter members to make a donation to the VAVS so they can continue to meet the needs of hospitalized patients. Any amount will help – maybe \$10 to \$20. Send your check to VAVS and mailed to **Voluntary Services, Audie Murphy VA Hospital, Attn: Scott Traeger, 7400 Merton Minter Blvd., San Antonio, TX 78221**.

GUEST SPEAKER SR. SOCIETY PRESIDNET NORALYN RIPPS, DENNY ANDERSON CAR CHAPTER



(Photo Left) In the absence of Chapter President Kevin Kanter, Chapter Vice President Richard Weitzel conducted the Chapter Meeting on November 18, 2021 that was held at the Petroleum Club. He introduced our Guest Speaker, Senior Society President Noralyn Ripps from the Denny Anderson Children of the American Revolution (CAR) Chapter. She provide a wonderful review of the Chapter's mission and develop young members to become leaders and conduct chapter meetings. Most importantly, they learn about the founding of our country and its Constitution and how to become good citizens within their commu-

nity.

(Photo Right) In support of the CAR, our Chapter makes an annual donation to the Denny Anderson CAR Chapter. VP Weitzel presented a \$100 check to Senior President Ripps to help fund their chapter's annual project.



INDUCTION OF NEW MEMBER

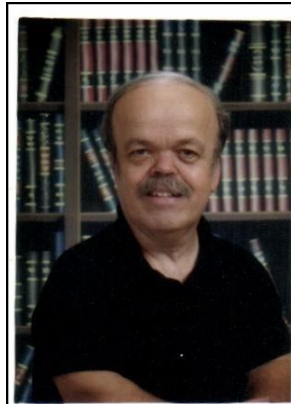
At the November 18, 2021 Chapter Meeting Compatriot Timothy Millington was inducted into the Sons of the American Revolution San Antonio Chapter by Vice President Richard Weitzel. His Patriot Ancestor is Andrew (Nickell) Nicholas who resided in Augusta Co. Virginia for his Patriotic Service where he paid a Supply Tax in 1783. Andrew (Nickell) Nicholas (b: c 1756; d: 6 Oct 1838) was Timothy's 4th Great Grandfather who lived near Monroe county, VA. He was a farmer and married to Elizabeth Erwin (b: c 1755; d: 3 Apr 1835). They had 11 children.

Earliest Nicholas descendant who came to Texas was Hugh Lynch Nickell (1850-1934), great grandfather, at the age of 29 who was a farmer in Guadalupe County, Texas based on 1880 US Census.



DEATH OF COMPATRIOT WILLIAM HOWE

We are saddened by the death of Compatriot William Howe. His obituary reads: "William (Bill) Wayne Howe passed away on January 24, 2021 in San Antonio, Texas. He was born on November 19, 1942 in Leaksville, North Carolina to Howard William Howe and Edna Lee Abernathy. Bill graduated with a Bachelor of Arts and a Master of Education Degree in counseling in 1974 from Trinity University. He dedicated 33years of service as a counselor for the children of SAISD and had a great impact on many of them before he retired in 2005. Bill is survived by his beloved wife, Lyudmila Howe; daughter, Suzanne Saxson; sisters, Marie Koschelew (Peter) and Katie Olsen (John); grandchildren, Joseph Was (Ciara) and Jacob Was." He was active member of the San Antonio Chapter Sons of the American Revolution.



ANNUAL JOINT DAR-SAR CHRISTMAN LUNCHEON



(Photo Above) Shown left to right are NSSAR President General (2009-2010) Edward Butler, Chapter President Kevin Kanter, Past President Robert Hancock, Past President Jack Cowan, Roger Huff, Color Guard Commander and Flag Bearer of the United States Flag Frank Rohrbough, Past TXSSAR President and Texas Flag Bearer Stephen Rohrbough, Guardsman of National Colors Larry Loop, Compatriots Randy Fleisher, Harold Black, Max Strozier, Chris Smith, Lan Kelly, Michael Bowles and Yancy Swearingen. In all we had seventeen members and twelve spouses of our Chapter attended the Annual Joint DAR-SAR Luncheon hosted by the San Antonio de Bexar DAR Chapter at the San Antonio Country Club on Saturday, December 4th. Attending with President Kevin Kanter was his wife Jean. President Kanter led the SAR Members in the Pledge to the Sons of the American Revolution. Chapter Regent Karen McCloskey welcomed all members and their guests. She was a gracious hostess recognizing our Chapter President Kevin Kanter and our Chapter Color Guard.

TWO SAN ANTONIO CHAPTER MEMBERS WIN DAR'S HIGHEST AWARD

(Photo Right) The San Antonio de Bexar Chapter announced at this luncheon on December 4, 2021 that John Delavan Baines had been selected to receive the **2021 DAR Medal of Honor**. This award is given to an adult man or woman who is a United States citizen by birth and has shown extraordinary qualities of leadership, trustworthiness, service and patriotism.

Since its creation in 1972, this most prestigious award by the National Society DAR has been presented to fewer than 2,000 individuals across the United States and overseas. This award is only presented once each year. The DAR has about 3,000 chapters worldwide, and each is authorized to nominate one individual. It is a credit to the San Antonio De Bexar DAR Chapter that two of their nominees have won this award in the past four years - some might say amazing, as Judge Edward Butler, President General of the SAR in 2009-2010 was the winner in 2017. What is even more amazing is that John Baines and Judge Ed Butler are both members of the San Antonio #4 Chapter.

Compatriot Baines will be presented his medal and certificate at the Texas DAR Annual Convention in Houston, TX in March 2022.



CHAPTER CONTINUES TO MARK GRAVES OF CHAPTER COMPATRIOTS

(Photo Right) In November and December our chapter members continued to mark the graves of our Compatriots interred at the Ft. Sam Houston National Cemetery. Those members participating in this event shown from left to right are: Richard Weitzel, Jim Massingill, Frank Kebelman (Guardisman), Frank Rohrbough (Commander), Chapter President Kevin Kanter, Larry Loop, Chaplain Paul Reynolds and Mike Bowles.



On November 13th we marked nine graves of Compatriots: Lt. Colonel (US Army) Malcolm R. Dixon, Captain (USAF) John Thomas Dibrell, Jr., Colonel (US Army) Thomas Garnett Morehead, Commander (US Navy) Edward Courtland Snyder Jr., Colonel (USAF) Earl John Berryhill, Lt. Colonel (US Army) Henry Harold Griffis, Colonel (US Army) Thomas Reynolds Sandoz, Lt. Colonel (USAF) Kenneth Edmond Ingram, and Colonel ((US Army) Robert Gordon Springer.

On December 11, 2021 we marked eleven graves of Compatriots: Colonel (US Army) Meredith Eklund Murphy, Lt. Colonel (US Army) Raymond Francis Frost, Lt. Colonel (USAF) Philip Cebern Musgrave, Colonel (US Army) Wilks Chapmen, Major (USAF) John Claud Lee, Commander (US Navy) John Samuel Henderson, Lt. Colonel (US Army) John Felix Arnaud, Jr., Lt. Colonel (USAF) John Moore Clemens, Sr., Colonel (USAF) Norman Miller Schofield, Brigadier General (USAF) Charles E. Williams, Jr., and Lt. Colonel (USAF) Rufus Edward Barnes, Jr..



(Photo at Left) A formal service was conducted at each gravesite based on a Program using the following sequence: Presentation of Colors, Invocation, Pledge of Allegiance to the US Flag, Recitation of the Pledge to the SAR, Biographical Sketch of Compatriots Service to Country and to SAR, Placement of a US Flag, Bouquet of Flowers and SAR Grave Marker, Musket Salute followed by sounding of Taps, Benediction and Retirement of the Colors. This six minute event was conducted with dignity to render respect for our Compatriot and his service to our country during major conflicts to include World War I, World War II, Korea and Vietnam.

(Photo at Right) These grave marking events were made special through the participation of our wonderful bugler Ms. Michelle Poczobut who played Taps for each grave marked. She will be recognized for her service to veterans at our Gala Dinner on January 29, 2022.

With these grave markings we have completed 35 such events at Ft. Sam Houston National Cemetery. Other grave marking for our Chapter Compatriots will be scheduled in other area cemeteries' in early 2022.



WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA (WAA) EVENT HELD AT SAN ANTONIO NATIONAL CEMETERY



(Photo Left) On National Wreaths Across America Day, it is WAA's mission to "Remember, Honor and Teach" about the many ways veterans have served our country. Those who have passed are honored with wreath-laying ceremonies at Arlington National Cemetery, as well as at 2,800 additional locations in all 50 U.S. states, at sea and abroad. Throughout the year WAA works in a number of ways to show veterans and their families that we will not forget — we will never forget — those who have served. This year 1.4 million WAA Wreaths were placed at Veteran Cemeteries across America. Over 2600 wreaths were placed at the San Antonio National Cemetery this year which is the most wreaths placed to date and only 500 short of 3100 grave sites in the cemetery.

On December 18th WAA Wreaths were placed at the foot of each gravestone to honor each veteran for their service. The person placing a wreath respectfully states the veterans name and states "Thank you for your service" and renders a hand salute.

(Photo Right) The host organization for this event was the San Antonio Young Marines. It is a local youth education and



service program for boys and girls, ages 8 through completion of high school. The Young Marines promote the mental, moral, and physical development of its members. The program focuses on character building, leadership, and promotes a healthy, drug-free lifestyle. The Young Marines strongly support

the U.S Marine Corps' Youth Drug Demand Reduction efforts. During the Opening Ceremony seven cadets placed a wreath on the ground in front of the presentation platform for each of the seven Uniformed Services.

(Photo Left) The Young Marine Color Guard presented the National Colors for the Opening Ceremony; The National Anthem was sung and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.



We joined with the Daughters of the Union Veterans of the Civil War (DUVCW) to order 43 Wreaths this year for placement at the historic San Antonio National Cemetery and the Ft. Sam Houston National Cemetery.

(Photo Left) Participants from our Chapter included President Kevin Kanter and Compatriots Frank Rohrbough and Jerry Collins. We placed a total of 150 wreaths at the grave-stones in the San Antonio National Cemetery this year.

Despite the heavy rain that stopped just minutes before the event started, the Director of the San Antonio Young Marines organization stated that this was the largest gathering of volunteers to attend this local event since its beginning in 2013. Thus, all 2600 wreaths were placed at headstones in about 45 minutes.



2022 OFFICERS

The following Officers were elected by acclamation at the December 15th Chapter Meeting:

President: Kevin Kanter

1st Vice President: Ellert (Dick) Weitzel

2nd Vice President: Paul Reynolds

Recording Secretary: Michael Bowles

Corresponding Secretary: Frank Rohrbough

Sergeant at Arms: Frank Rohrbough

Treasurer: Larry Luckett

Registrar: Peter Baron

Historian: Larry Loop

Chaplain: Paul Reynolds

Genealogists: James Taylor

Chancellor: Edward Snyder

NOTE: Officers will be Inducted by Texas SAR President Drake Peddie at the Chapter Meeting (Virtual) on January 29, 2022.

CHAPTER SERVICE AWARDS

President Kevin Kanter thanked Chapter members for their service to the Chapter during the past year. Awards were given at our December 15, 2021 Chapter Meeting.

TXSSAR Chapter Service Medal and Certificate (18)

Jason Bourgeois, Dec 15, 2021 – Medal

Jerry Collins, Dec 15, 2021 – Medal

Frank Kebelman, Dec 15, 2021 - Medal

Robert Watson Dec 15, 2021 – 1st OL Cluster

Michael B. Bowles, Dec 15, 2021 – 2nd OL Cluster

Roy H Leonard, Jr., Dec 15, 2021 – 2nd OL Cluster

Eilert Richard Weitzel, Dec 15, 2021 – 2nd OL Cluster

Dustin S. Whittenburg, Dec 15, 2021 – 4th OL Cluster

Larry L. Loop, Dec 15, 2021 – 5th OL Cluster

Paul K. Reynolds, Dec 15, 2021 – 5th OL Cluster

Robert N. Hancock, December 15, 2021 – 7th OL Cluster

George Ronald Powell, December 15, 2021 – 7th OL Cluster

Edward C. Snyder III, Dec 15, 2021 – 7th OL Cluster

Peter T. Baron, Jr., Dec 15, 2021 – 9th OL Cluster

James C. Taylor, Dec 15, 2021 - 9th OL Cluster

Frank G. Rohrbough, Dec 15, 2021 – 9th OL Cluster

Stephen W. Rohrbough, Dec 15, 2021 – 11th OL Cluster

George W. Harcourt, Dec 15, 2021 – 13h OL Cluster

CHAPTER AWARDS FOR 2021



(Photo Top Right)

From L to R is President Kanter presents Clusters to Larry Loop, Dustin Whittenburg and Paul Reynolds.



(Photo Right) President Kanter presents Medal to Jerry Collins.

(Photo Above) President Kanter (center) presented the Chapter Service Certificates and Medal or Cluster as shown left to right to Bob Watson, Dick Weitzel, Jason Bourgeois, and Mike Bowles.

(Photo Bottom Left) President Kanter, Frank Rohrbough, James Taylor and Bob Hancock.



(Photo Bottom Right)

President Kanter presents Clusters to Stephen Rohrbough and George Harcourt.



PRELIMINARY TREATY OF PARIS IS SIGNED

On this day in history, November 30, 1782, the preliminary Treaty of Paris was signed, bringing the hostilities of the American

Revolution to a close. The British government became more disposed to achieving peace with the Americans after the surrender of General Charles Lord Cornwallis and the loss of several of its possessions to France and Spain.

The United States was prevented from dealing directly with Great Britain due to its alliance with France, having promised that it would not negotiate with Britain without them. Nonetheless, messages were exchanged between Ben Franklin in Paris and Prime Minister, Lord Shelburne's peace commissioner in Paris, Richard Oswald, seeking common ground on which a preliminary peace could be formed.

The United States demanded full recognition by Britain as a sovereign nation, removal of British troops from its territory and fishing rights off Newfoundland. At first, Britain wanted the United States to remain as British possessions, but with greater autonomy. This was rejected by Ben Franklin, who wanted all of Canada for the United States as part of the deal. Britain rejected this proposal.

The negotiations continued in secret and John Jay and John Adams joined Franklin. Due to the exposure of some secret meetings between Britain and France and to his distrust of the French, John Jay, began negotiating directly with the British, against the wishes of Franklin and unbeknownst to France. Formal talks began in September and the remaining difficulties were ironed out over the next two months.

Two days after America's 4th peace commissioner, Henry Laurens, arrived, a preliminary agreement was signed on November 30, 1782, which recognized the United States and established its boundaries, roughly being from the Mississippi to the Atlantic and from the Great Lakes to Florida. The preliminary Treaty of Paris also granted the US the right to fish off Newfoundland and granted both Britain and the US the right to use the Mississippi River.

Congress was to "earnestly recommend" to the states that they refund any property taken from Loyalists during the war and creditors on both sides were given full rights to recover all debts. Prisoners were to be released on both sides and all American property was to be left undamaged by British troops when they left.

The preliminary Treaty of Paris was ratified by Parliament on January 20, 1783 and by Congress on April 15. A ceasefire was declared by Britain on February 4 and by America on April 11th. The final official Treaty of Paris was signed by the commissioners on September 3, 1783, ratified by Congress on January 14, 1784 and by Great Britain on April 9, 1784. The ratified documents were exchanged once and for all in Paris on May 12, 1784, bringing the American Revolution to an end.

<http://www.revolutionary-war-and-beyond.com>

(**Note:** Based on this historical vignette our Chapter Historian Larry Loop gave a presentation about Treaty and noted the boundary of the new nation at the December 17th Chapter Zoom Meeting.)

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMING EVENTS

The Annual Chapter Gala, January 29, 2022 at 6:00 P.M. Reservations are required by sending your check to Chapter Treasurer Jerry Collins 18106 Cadera Way, San Antonio TX 78259 **NLT January 19th.** For more details see our Chapter News Release which was emailed to All Chapter Members on December 12, 2021. A follow up News Release will be sent to members in early January.

Next Chapter Executive Committee Meetings: January 12th and February 9, 2022, La Fonda Mexican Restaurant, Alamo Heights (Meetings are held the 2nd Wednesday each month 11:30 A.M.)

Chapter Meetings: Because of the Chapter Gala there will be **no January Meeting.** The February Chapter Meeting will be held on February 16, 2022. (Meetings are held the 3rd Wednesday of each month.)

Texas Society of SAR 126th Annual Conference: March 31—April 3, 2022 in Richardson, TX; The Registration Form and Hotel Reservation Information will be posted on the TXSSAR Website at www.txssar.org.

For more information, please go to our Chapter Website at:
www.txssar.org/SanAntonio