



# 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

Jan-Feb 2021



## PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

Compatriots: It has been a tumultuous and challenging 2020. Both for our Chapter and for life as we know it in a pandemic environment. I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their dedication and commitment to our organization, paying particular attention to our Executive Board and our immediate Past President, George Whittenburg. Our participation in many of the activities that we associate with our mission had been severely curtailed, but everyone certainly performed "yeoman's duty" in ensuring that we tried to carry on while maintaining a "safe environment".

I sincerely thank you for the opportunity to serve as your President for 2021. I'm hopeful that we can eventually pick back up with face-to-face meetings, activities and celebrations that we have all come to expect from our organization.

Our 2021 Executive Committee is comprised of some new members and tenured familiar faces. I am looking anxiously forward to implementing new ideas and programs and resurrecting some that have been placed on the back burner, while enjoying the successes of those activities that make our organization one of the premier chapters in TXSSAR.

With the loss of our beloved Membership Chairman, Henry Garcia, I have appointed Bob Watson to take the reins and I have no doubt that he will continue Henry's legacy and he already has some good ideas to implement to help our chapter flourish and grow. Among the new/revised programs is that of the Mentor Program. This program is meant to make our new/potential members feel welcome in our organization and provide some "hand holding" to our new members to help them integrate successfully. If you are interested in becoming a Mentor, please reach out to Bob at [beaglebud@satx.rr.com](mailto:beaglebud@satx.rr.com). Additionally, Frank Keberman has accepted the Chair of our Scouting Committee. His involvement with the Scouting organization in Bexar County will ensure that we are able to increase our visibility to Scouting and allow us to promote SAR Eagle Scout Scholarships.

On that same subject, we are actively seeking someone to take on the position of Publicity Chair. This position will require someone to "tell our story", by seeking the cooperation of newspaper, Internet, radio and television professionals to assist him in getting out the word about our Society.

Until we can once again break bread in familiar fashion, I encourage everyone to attend the many "Zoom" events that will be taking place. Our monthly meetings are currently held using Zoom on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every month at 5PM to allow our working members and opportunity that they may not have during our gatherings at the Petroleum Club, and we will be featuring many interesting speakers who have agreed to enlighten us with many topics that we will find interesting. Compatriotly, Respectfully, *Kevin Kanter*



## DONATIONS TO SERVE VETERANS

Because of the Coronavirus (COVID -19), all Veteran Service Organizations have cancelled their services to the VA Volunteer Services Office (VAVS) at the Audie Murphy Veterans Memorial Medical Center in San Antonio. As a reminder our Chapter provides a two-person team to operate the Popcorn Concession each Friday where we receive donations for each bag of popcorn we "sell". These donations average about \$600 per month. These monies go into a Veterans Service Account that supports the personal needs of hospitalized veterans and all other veterans who receive health care services in the South Texas Regional Health Care System.

Because of the loss of these revenues since March, several of our chapter members have made voluntarily donations to the VAVS so they can continue meeting the needs of these patients. To continue these donations, chapter members are invited to make voluntary donations until our Popcorn Concession can be reactivated – possibly in the Fall. Any amount will help – maybe \$50 or more. State that your "donation be credited to the Sons of the American Revolution, San Antonio Chapter No. 4. Make the check payable to **GPF 7021** and put in the memo section of your check "Popcorn Fund, SAR, San Antonio Chapter." Send your donation to: **Voluntary Services, Audie Murphy VA Hospital, Attn: Scott Traeger, 7400 Merton Minter Blvd., San Antonio, TX 78221**. Thank you for supporting our Veterans Programs.

### CHAPTER OFFICERS FOR 2021

The following Officers who were elected by acclamation at the December 17th Chapter Meeting and were Installed by Texas SAR President Drake Peddie at our Chapter Meeting (Virtual) on January 21, 2021.

- President:** Kevin Kanter
- 1st Vice President:** Ellert (Dick) Weitzel
- 2nd Vice President:** Jason Bourgeois
- Recording Secretary:** Michael Bowles
- Corresponding Secretary:** Frank Rohrbough
- Sergeant at Arms:** Frank Rohrbough
- Treasurer:** Jerry Collins
- Registrar:** Peter Baron
- Historian:** Larry Loop
- Chaplain:** Paul Reynolds
- Genealogists:** James Taylor

### JANUARY CHAPTER MEETING

Our January Chapter Meeting was held as a virtual meeting due to the COVID Pandemic Restrictions. Texas SAR President Drake Peddie was our special guest and installed the officers. Outgoing President George Whittenburg noted the Chapter Awards for our Officers, Committee Chairman and other selected members had been presented at the Executive Committee Meeting on January 13, 2021. Most notable was the presentation of the SAR Distinguished Service Medal and Certificate to Larry Loop for his work to greatly expand our the Youth Awards Program, finding candidates for the Oration, Essay and Poster Contests. A Chapter President may only present this Award once per year. Our newly installed Chapter President Kevin Kanter took over the meeting and closed the Zoom Meeting thanking Jean Kanter for hosting it.

### SELECTION OF 2021 CHAPTER YOUTH AWARDS CONTEST WINNERS

The following students were selected as our 2021 **George S. and Stella M. Knight**

**SAR Essay Contest** that was held on February 10<sup>th</sup>.

- First Place - **Anastasia Royal – Priest** attends Great Hearts Northern Oaks High School. Ms. Anastasia Royal-Priest’s essay titled “Who Is to Credit for the Existence of the Declaration of Independence”. She was given a \$500 cash award. Further, her essay was selected as the 2020 Knight Essay Youth Contest 2<sup>nd</sup> Place winner for the Texas SAR State Contest on February 28th. As the Texas SAR 2<sup>nd</sup> Place winner Ms. Royal-Priest will be presented the State 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Award Certificate signed by the Texas SAR President and a \$750 Scholarship. The Scholarship will be awarded to the College/ University Finance Office wherever she is going to go to school. Certificate will be sent to you for presentation by your chapter. **(Photo at Right)**



- Second Place - Tied for this award were Lucy Garrison (Construction Careers Academy at Earl Warren High School) and Chloe Boerner- Martinez (John Jay Science and Engineering Academy). Lucy’s topic was “Gun Control: The Overlooked Cause of the Revolutionary War”. (Lucy’s Photo is shown on Page 5.) Chloe’s topic was “Jacksonian Image”. Each received a \$250 cash award.



**(Chloe’s Photo Left).** The San Antonio Chapter received seven outstanding essays from various high schools throughout the city. Since an SAR chapter can only submit the first place essay to the State Contest, our Youth Contest Chairman, Larry Loop, contacted surrounding area SAR chapters to determine if they had a candidate for the Essay Contest this year. If not, they could accept our second and third place contestants as their chapter winner. As a result, we were able to give two additional essays contestants a chance to compete in the State Essay Contest.

## TEXAS SAR ANNUAL CONFERENCE

In lieu of a live in-person state convention for 2021 President Peddie opted for an online convention as we did in August 2020. The meeting will be conducted in the same manner and should finish up by late afternoon on Saturday. The schedule is as follows:

**Friday, April 16 - 7:00PM - 8:30PM**  
**Saturday, April 17 - 9:00AM - 4:00PM.**  
 Registration is required. That can be done by Paypal online at [https://texassar.org/reg\\_apr21.htm](https://texassar.org/reg_apr21.htm). Each chapter will be allotted a specific number of delegates as determined by the state secretary who will be providing that information to chapter presidents in the next week. Only registered members submitted by their chapter president are considered voting delegates. Members **MUST** registered to join the meetings on Friday and Saturday.

## FEBRUARY CHAPTER MEETING

Despite the “Winter Storm of the Century” that hit Texas starting on Valentines Day, our Virtual Chapter Meeting was held to conduct the business of the Chapter. Our Guest Speaker was State Chairman of Medals & Awards, John Hamlin who spoke about the various SAR Medals and Awards that members and chapter can seek in the Texas Society of SAR and how to qualify for them. (Screen Shot of Attendees)



## CHAPTER YOUTH AWARDS (CONTINUED)

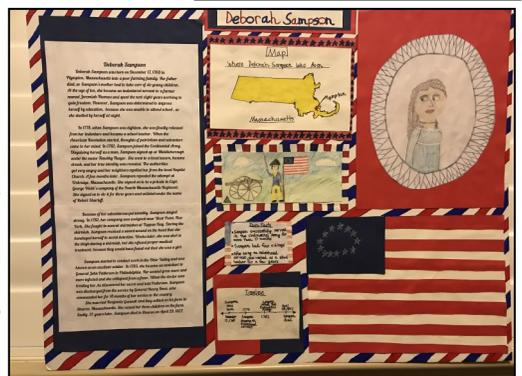
Our Chapter Winners for the **Joseph S. Rumbaugh Oratorion Contest** were video recorder and selected on January 16, 2021. The winners were:

- **First Place** - Lucy Garrison (Earl Warren High School). She was awarded a \$500 cash award for her topic “Gun Control: The Overlooked Cause of the Revolutionary War”. (Photo Right)
- **Second Place** - Hailey Soupiset, granddaughter of Compatriot Fred Soupiset, was awarded a \$200 cash award for her topic “Liberty, Death and the Covid-19 Era”. (Photo Below)



Our Chapter Winners for the Hardy Oaks Elementary School **Poster Contest** were selected at our Executive Committee Meeting on February 10<sup>th</sup>. The winners were:

- **First Place** - Emma Phillips “Poster Deborah Sampson” received a cash award of \$50. (Poster at Right)
- **Second Place** - Camille Howard “Poster Betsy Ross” cash award \$35.
- **Third Place (tie)** - Braelynn Reyes “Poster Deborah Sampson” cash \$25.
- **Third Place (tie)** - Aubrey Ovalle “Poster Abigail Adams” cash \$25.



## MEMORIAL RESOLUTION FOR COMPATRIOT COLONEL ALBERT C. METTS, JR. USA (RET)

WHEREAS, The hand of death on 4 February 2021 entered our ranks and removed from our midst, COMPATRIOT ALBERT CASWELL METTS, JR., our venerable and esteemed brother in arms, and

WHEREAS, COMPATRIOT METTS was born on 24 April 1921 at Clarksville, Coahoma, Mississippi. He was the son of Albert Caswell Metts and Gladys Marie Oliver, whose ancestors founded our nation. COMPATRIOT Metts resided in San Antonio, Bexar, Texas. A memorial service was held for him on 5 March 2021. Following which, his earthly remains were placed at eternal rest at the Sunset Memorial Park Cemetery in San Antonio, Bexar, Texas, and

WHEREAS, by virtue of the proven patriot service during the Revolutionary War of his ancestor Lieutenant Rueben Long of the Virginia line who served from 26 September 1776 until final Victory, and

WHEREAS, COMPATRIOT METTS successfully proved his direct lineage from the above patriot, and was admitted to membership in the National Society, Sons of the American Revolution on 27 April 1981 as member number 118709 and simultaneously was granted membership in the Texas Society, Sons of the American Revolution, member number 4699, and

WHEREAS, COMPATRIOT METTS was an active member of the San Antonio Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution, and during that 39 year period participated in the activities of the chapter, thereby contributing to its success, and having served as Honorary Chapter President since 2010. Compatriot Metts' service to SAR has been recognized by his having received the War Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Texas Centennial Medal, Silver Good Citizenship Medal, Bronze Good Citizenship Medal, TXSSAR Bronze Service Medal, and

WHEREAS, COMPATRIOT METTS was also an active member of the Magna Charta Barons, the Plantagenet Society, the Military Order of the Crusades, the Society of Colonial Wars, the National Society of the American Colonists, the General Society of the War of 1812, the Jamestowne Society, the Family of Bruce Society in America, the San Antonio Genealogical and Historical Society, King and Queen County (VA) Historical Society, Callaway Family Association, Overall Family Association, Order of Washington, the Sovereign Colonial Society-Americans of Royal Descent, Colonial Order of the Crown, the Sons of Confederate Veterans, the Order of the First Families of Mississippi, and the First Families of Tennessee through all of which he promoted patriotism and honor, and

WHEREAS, COMPATRIOT METTS graduated from the United States Military Academy at West Point, and was during his lifetime a professional Army Officer, having retired after 33 years with service in the Second World War, Korea and in Vietnam, was recognized for exemplary service with a Silver Star, the Legion of Merit with Oak Leaf Cluster, the Bronze Star, and numerous additional Commendations, and

WHEREAS, COMPATRIOT METTS was preceded in death by the lovely Betty Metts who so graciously served her community and ancestors with years of service to the DAR and CAR, and is survived by his loving and devoted children and grandchildren, and

WHEREAS, upon his death, our country and state lost a loyal citizen whose devotion never faltered. He was one of the most zealous and faithful defenders of the principles for which our patriotic ancestors fought in the battle against the British for American Independence. In his quiet and unassuming way he did much to promote the progress and development of his country and the happiness of those around him. He was a good, quiet and modest person and enjoyed the respect, esteem and admiration of all who knew him.



## MEMORIAL RESOLUTION FOR COMPATRIOT ALBERT C. METTS, JR. (CONTINUED)

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the San Antonio Chapter, Texas Society, Sons of the American Revolution as follows:

FIRST: That this chapter has lost a loyal and devoted member. To his family and friends we express our thanks for sharing his life with us and extend our profound condolences at his passing from our ranks.

SECOND: That this country and state have lost an honorable, upright and honest citizen, who was always ready to spend his life and give his service for that which he believed to be right and for the best interests of his country and state. To that end we dedicate ourselves anew to the continuance of the service to the country which his lifetime so well performed. We further Resolve that we are pledged again to cherish, maintain and extend the institutions of American freedom, to foster true patriotism and love of country, and to aid in Securing for mankind the blessings of Liberty

THIRD: That for the purposes of perpetuating the memory of his life and fidelity to the purposes of the Sons of the American Revolution, and his steady devotion to duty, duplicate copies of this Resolution shall be entered into the minutes of this chapter, which he loved so well, and delivered to his family. The Resolution will also be read to chapter members attending a regular monthly meeting and will be displayed on the chapter Internet web page. The Resolution may also be submitted to the Texas Society for publication in a future edition of The Texas Patriot, its magazine.

FOURTH: That a duplicate of this Resolution shall be bound together with other similar Memorial Resolutions of the San Antonio Chapter, Texas Society, Sons of the American Revolution into a minimum of three books.

Copies of this book will be donated to:

1. The San Antonio Public Library,
2. The Library of the National Society, Sons of the American Revolution in Louisville, Kentucky,
3. Chapter Genealogist, San Antonio Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution.

FIFTH: As a token of our love and respect for our Compatriot, we have purchased a suitable book on the American Revolution or about one of its many patriots. That book will be donated to a local Public School Library in San Antonio with an inscription referencing COMPATRIOT ---- METTS.

THIS RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE SAN ANTONIO CHAPTER, SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION IN SAN ANTONIO, BEXAR COUNTY, TEXAS

THIS THE 10th DAY OF MARCH, 2021.

**(Photo at Right)** The Funeral Services of Colonel Metts was held in a private ceremony on March 5, 2021 at the Sunset Memorial Park and Funeral Home located at 1701 Austin Highway in San Antonio. It was a dignified service with the Memorial Honor Guard from Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery; they rendered a 15 gun Salute honoring Colonel Metts for his service to country. Beautiful eulogies were given by Grandson's Charlie Kennamer and John Kennamer during the Memorial Service. They are the sons of Virginia Kennamer, daughter of Albert Metts.



Also attending the Service was Albert C. Metts, III, a member of the San Antonio Chapter, Chapter President Kevin Kanter and Compatriot Frank Rohrbough **(Photo at Left)**

A Special Tribute to Colonel Albert Metts, Jr. and his wife Betty was given at the Chapter Meeting on April 19, 2017 recognizing his and Betty's many contributions and services to the Texas Societies of the Sons, Daughters and Children of the American Revolution.



## CONFEDERATION CONGRESS APPROVES NEW CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

On this day in history, February 21, 1787, the Confederation Congress approves a new Constitutional Convention to be held at Philadelphia beginning on May 14, 1787. The Articles of Confederation, which was the first governing document of the United States, had proved to be too weak for the government to function effectively.

Some of its weaknesses included that each state had one vote, regardless of size, giving disproportionate power to small states; Congress could not regulate interstate and foreign commerce, making it easy for states to undercut each other on import/export prices; there were no federal courts and no president; to pass a law, there had to be a 2/3 vote of the states; changes to the Articles required a unanimous vote; and Congress had no power to tax or raise money. It could only ask the states for money, and they usually didn't pay.

Calls for changes to the system were made for years, but early in 1786, the state of Virginia requested that all the states get together at Annapolis, Maryland to come up with suggestions for changes to the Articles regarding matters of trade and commerce. The Annapolis Convention met from September 11 to 14, but with delegates present from only five states, New York, New Jersey, Delaware, Pennsylvania and Virginia. Four other states had appointed delegates, but they failed to arrive on time, while four others didn't even appoint delegates.

The delegates, including Alexander Hamilton, James Madison and John Dickinson, all agreed that major changes were necessary to the Articles regarding trade, but there were so few representatives present that they didn't feel they had the authority to act. Instead, they put together a proposal to Congress and the states that all thirteen states should meet the following May to make serious amendments to the Articles of Confederation that would permanently remedy its weaknesses.

Congress received the proposal and, though there were great differences between the members about how far the changes should go, they passed a resolution on February 21, 1787 that stated, "It is expedient that on the second Monday in May next a Convention of delegates who shall have been appointed by the several States be held at Philadelphia for the sole and express purpose of revising the Articles of Confederation."

The Convention met in May and, rather than modifying the Articles of Confederation, came up with an entirely new governing document – the Constitution of the United States, which took effect on March 4, 1789.

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

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMING EVENTS

**Texas Society SAR 126<sup>th</sup> Annual "Zoom" Conference:** April 16-17, 2021; Registration Form and Information is on the TXS-SAR Website. Go to: [https://www.txssar.org/reg\\_apr21.htm](https://www.txssar.org/reg_apr21.htm). (See page 3 for details). (Frank Rohrbough)

**Next Chapter Executive Committee Meetings:** Scheduled for March 10th and April 14, 2021,

La Fonda Mexican Restaurant, Alamo Heights (Meetings are held the 2nd Wednesday each month 11:30 A.M.)

**Chapter Meetings:** Scheduled for March 18 and April 22, 2021 and held Virtually (**Tentative**) at **5:00 P.M.** A News Release will be sent out before each Zoom Meeting with instructions how to "Join the Meeting". (Please note

that Meetings are held the 3rd **Thursday** of each month until we return to In-Person Meeting.)

**For more information, please go to our Chapter Website at:**

**[www.sarsat.org](http://www.sarsat.org).**