



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

May-Jun 2022



PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

Compatriots: Greetings! We've had an excellent spring and have entered the heat of Summer. As usual, we have had a busy May and June. Our chapter continues to grow, and we have added several new members with many more applications in the pipeline.

One of our main challenges currently is finding Compatriots to help our potential members with their applications. We are looking for anyone with experience to assist us. This is an excellent way to work toward obtaining the Liberty Medal.

Another area where we need help is with our JROTC/ROTC Chair. Paul Reynolds did an outstanding job as Chair until he was called back to Ohio. He has left all the information to continue for us to run this very important project, so someone just has to pick up and run with it. If you are interested in this position, please contact anyone on the Executive Committee. This is a great position for any Veteran or anyone interested in recognizing military oriented youth in our area high schools and universities.

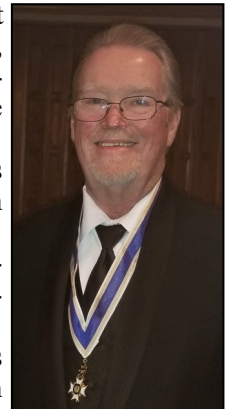
We were fortunate enough to listen to State President Jim Kuykendall at our June meeting and his vision for growing SAR as well as our State organization and local chapters. He also outlined the new Mentor Program. Being a new member is always a challenge to know where you "fit in". Our new members need someone to take them by the hand and show them what SAR has to offer and how they can become involved in our great organization. I strongly encourage everyone to review the Mentor Program on the State website https://www.txssar.org/!!TXS!!SAR!!/pdf/Mentor_Application_Form.pdf and get involved.

Speaking of websites, please visit the State Website www.txssar.org. There is a wealth of information on the site, and it is updated with many of the new initiatives frequently. If you can't access the Private Side of the website (for members only), please reach out to any Executive Committee member and they will be glad to tell you how to access it.

Although we will be taking July and August off from our monthly chapter meetings, we have several activities lined up for July and August and I encourage everyone to become involved. Among those are the Independence Day Celebration presented at the Hyatt Regency Hill Country Resort on July 3rd, the 4th of July Patriotic Ceremony at Ft. Sam Houston National Cemetery, and the Battle of Medina on August 20th.

Finally, I've received messages and emails from many of you in response to requests that appear to come from me asking that you purchase gift cards, send money, schedule meetings, etc. If you check the email address, although it appears to originate from "Kevin Kanter", if you click on the "details" you will find that the actual email address is not mine. **Do not respond to these emails in any fashion!** This has been a scam for a few years and all the State organizations, and many Chapters have been subject to this.

I hope that you all have a pleasant and enjoyable vacation season and when we return to our next meeting in September we can hit the ground running for the completion of another successful year for the San Antonio Chapter. Please watch for upcoming activities either through email, our chapter website (<https://www.txssar.org/SanAntonio/>) or our Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/sarsatx>. Respectfully, *Kevin Kanter*



DONATIONS TO SERVE VETERANS AT AUDIE MURPHY VETERANS MEMORIAL MEDICAL CENTER

Because of the Coronavirus Pandemic, 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. Our Chapter had provided a two-person team to operate the Popcorn Concession each Friday where we receive donations for each bag of popcorn we "sell".

Because of the loss of these revenues for the past year, several of our chapter members have made donations to the VAVS so they can continue to meet the needs of hospitalized patients. All chapter members are invited to make donations until our Popcorn Concession can be reactivated – possibly in the Fall. Any amount will help. Such donations should be sent to VAVS addressed to **Voluntary Services, Audie Murphy VA Hospital, Attn: Scott Traeger, 7400 Merton Minter Blvd., San Antonio, TX 78221.**

COMPATRIOT FRANK KEBELMAN EARNS SERVICE TO VETERANS TWO OAK LEAF CLUSTERS



(Photo Left) Compatriot Frank Kebelman has continued to serve on the Memorial Service Detachment at Ft. Sam Houston National Cemetery as a rifleman at veterans funeral services during 2021 and to this day. He provided over 956 hours of services and earned 17,910 USS Stark Points in 2021 in service to veterans to earn 5 Oak Leaf Clusters (or 1 Silver Leaf Cluster) for his Service to Veterans Medal which was awarded to him in 2020. This extraordinary service to veterans is most note worthy since he performed these service in one year.

Based on this performance, Compatriot Kebelman was nominated by the Texas Society SAR for the NSSAR General William Westmoreland Award in January 2022. While he competed very well against eight other candidates, we are disappointed that he was not selected for this prestigious — once in a lifetime — award. Additionally, Compatriot Kebelman has been actively organizing and conducting seven Compatriot Grave Marking Events beginning in September 2021 through May 2022 to honor our Chapter Members who are interred at Ft. Sam Houston National Cemetery and other local cemeteries in the greater San Antonio area. To date, our chapter has completed 54 Memorial Services for our deceased compatriots. For more, see page 6 of this Newsletter.

THREE COMPATRIOTS ATTEND THE LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE SPONSORED BY THE MILITARY ORDER OF THE WORLD WARS



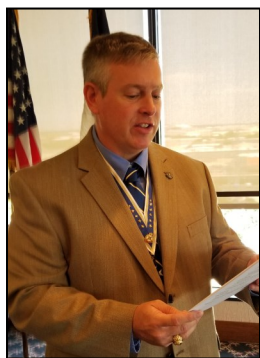
Compatriots Peter Baron, his son Campbell and Cousin Steven Warner of the San Antonio Chapter SAR attended the Youth Leadership Conference sponsored by the Military Order of the World Wars (MOWW). This year the Conference was held during the week of June 20th on USS Lexington in Corpus Christi, Texas. There were 38 students and 11 staff present.

This Conference is a Multi-Day Youth Leadership Conference (YLC) is a free educational conference giving US high school students the chance to develop leadership skills via patriotic education. Students attending public, charter, and private high schools or who are home-schooled usually participate as juniors or seniors. Single-day YLCs are available for elementary and secondary school students. MOWW interviews, selects, and pays for YLC attendance.

On June 20th Compatriots Baron wore their Colonial Period Uniforms and gave a 90-minute presentation on the Founding of our Nation and its Flags. Later that day, the attendees were instructed on the Brown Bess and spent 60 minutes firing the musket off the flight deck of the USS Lexington.

Compatriot Peter Baron participated in two YLC Conferences last summer at Schriener University in Kerrville Texas giving presentations on the American Revolution.

CHAPTER PRESENTS ANNUAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AWARDS AT MAY CHAPTER MEETING



(Photo Left) Compatriot Peter Baron reads the Citation to accompany the presentation of the SAR Law Enforcement Award to Officer Tyler Sauvage. The Citation reads: “Officer Tyler Sauvage is a six-year veteran of the San Antonio Police Department and is currently assigned to West Safe Division.

Officer Sauvage graduated from the San Antonio Police Academy on 24 January 2016. He has served in the Patrol Division, Street Crimes, West Side Safe and been assigned to an Auto Theft Task Force.

Officer Sauvage is a graduate of Taft High School and has a Criminal Justice Degree from Angelo State University, Class of 2015.

On the 16th of April 2021 Officer Sauvage was involved in a critical incident. In the regular performance of his duties, he was attacked by gunfire. During the exchange,

Officer Sauvage’s radio was struck hindering his ability to request assistance. He was wounded in the hand and was struck in his body armor. The wound to his hand effected his return fire. These challenges were defeated by his determination, training, and experience.

We recognize Officer Tyler Sauvage for this honor, sacrifice, and commitment to duty; these actions reflect great credit on himself, his family, the San Antonio Police Department, and the Citizens of San Antonio. Recognized this 18th Day of May 2022 by the San Antonio Chapter, of the Texas Society Sons of the American Revolution.”



(Photo Right) President Kevin Kanter presented the Law Enforcement SAR Medal and Certificate to Officer Sauvage with our grateful appreciation for his service the San Antonio community.

(Photo Left) Shown from left to right are Kathleen Sauvage, Tyler Sauvage, President Kevin Kanter and Captain Steven Trujillo. Compatriot Baron presented a bouquet of flowers to Kathleen for her attendance and loving support to her husband.



(Photo Left) Deputy Chief Chris Benavides was our Guest Speaker for this meeting and spoke about the current status of police security and public safety in San Antonio. He addressed the issue of illegal immigrant's coming across the Texas border into San Antonio, crime issues and the homeless residing in the city. In general, he stated that many of the immigrants are just passing through the city and moving on to other destinations. As for the homeless problems he noted that it was far less a problem in our city than in Austin, Dallas or Houston and that the Mayor and City Council have been supportive of the Department’s actions to maintain safety across the city. He stated that he was proud of Officer Sauvage’s handling of the “shoot-out” and that his training was critical to his successful defense during the event. Chief Benavides thanked the Chapter for recognizing Officer Sauvage’s service to the community.

(Photo Right) West Patrol Commander Captain Steve Trujillo also spoke about Officer Sauvage’s actions during the event and provided more details of how he remained calm and returned fire even though his weapon had been damaged and his hand injured. His training prepared him to perform his duties under very difficult and unexpected circumstances.



TEXAS SOCIETY SAR PRESIDENT JIM KUYKENDALL SPEAKS AT OUR JUNE CHAPTER MEETING



(Photo Left) Our Guest Speaker for our June Chapter Meeting was Texas Society SAR President Jim Kuykendall. He spoke to us about his goals for the year were recruiting, mentoring and retaining members. We need to show our love of country and the pride for what our patriot ancestor fought. He noted that America was born of ideas; that all men are created equal; these are God given rights that cannot be taken away by any person. From them we have freedom to pursue happiness, worship God and speak freely, celebrate our Flag and July 4th, our Independence Day. He noted three areas of emphasis which SAR is committed to: Patriotism, History and Education. He noted that SAR sponsors Youth Awards Program, such as essay and oration contest for students, based on historical and patriotic themes. He asked us to “Recruit – Mentor – Develop New Members”.

He stated he had approved a new Mentor Pin that would be given to current members who took new members under their care and become active in the conduct of chapter programs and events and to educate them on ways to

grow chapter membership. Mentors are critical to growth of the chapter, its activities and its many programs.

Following his remarks President Kuykendall recognized that the Chapter had undertaken the Compatriot Grave Marking Program that had been approved by the National Society in 2017 and launched a Program to Mark the Graves of past Compatriots interred in cemeteries around the San Antonio Area. Since September 2021 he noted that seven Grave Marking Events have been conducted which included 54 Memorial Services for our compatriots honoring their service to our country during World War II, Korea and Vietnam Wars and as active members in the San Antonio Chapter and the Texas Society SAR. Through the skillful leadership of Compatriot Frank Keelman ten of our Chapter Members have participated in 15 or more Memorial Services to earn the SAR Grave Marking Medal and Certificate.



(Photo Left to Right) Those receiving the Medals include: Compatriots Kevin Kanter, Frank Rohrbough, Larry Loop, Frank Keelman, Mike Bowles, Jim Massengill, Dick Weitzel, Stephen Rohrbough (in absentia), Blair Rudy (in absentia), and Paul Reynolds (in absentia).

President Kuykendall witnessed the induction of four new members into the SAR and the San Antonio Chapter. These included three members of the Woodland Family and Dr. John Bell. More about them are noted on Page 5. President Kuykendall extended his personal greetings to each of them.

(Photo Right) For his attendance, President Kanter presented President Kuykendall a book Titled “The American Revolution — A Historical Guidebook” by Frances H. Kennedy.



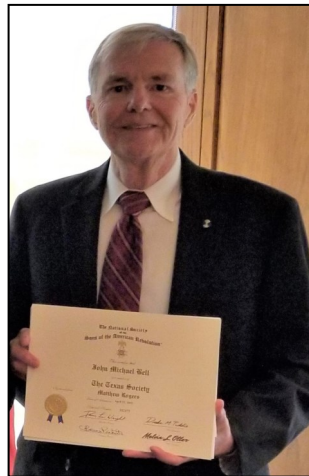
INDUCTION OF FOUR NEW MEMBERS

(Photo Right) President Kevin Kanter inducted three members of the Woodland Family — William Woodland (father) and sons William Woodland III and Samuel Woodland during the Chapter Meeting. Their Patriot Ancestor is Raleigh Roebuck, a Soldier of the 4th Virginia Regiment.

The following was taken from his Pension Application:

“That he entered the service of the United States under Arthur Smith Captain and John Guthridge Lieutenant and the other officers he does not recollect. The officers of regiments were Colonel Stephens [Adam Stephen], Charles Lawson (Major) Charles Scott Brigadier General that he entered the service as an enlisted soldier for two years, sometime in the spring of 1776 and was discharged in February 15th 1778 which discharge he produced in open Court a copy of which is hereto annexed. That at the time he entered the service he resided in the County of Isle of Wight in the State of Virginia that he was a volunteer that he was in several skirmishes but that the first battle he was in that deserved the name was at Trenton [December 26, 1776] in New Jersey with the Hessians the next was at the same place with the British [January 2, 1777]. The third at Princeton [January 3, 1777] in the same State that the troops of which he was one took shipping at Norfolk in Virginia from thence Elk River that [paper torn, text missing] crossed the Brandywine, that the Battle of Brandywine [September 11, 1777] he was sick at Philadelphia in Pennsylvania that he served in Colonel Stephen's Regiment and he knew the officers before mentioned, that he knows of no person in this State that served with him whose testimony he can procure.”

[Veteran was pensioned at the rate of \$80 per annum commencing March 4th, 1831, for service as a private for two years in the Virginia Continental line.]



(Photo Left) Compatriot John Bell Patriot Ancestor was Matthew Rogers. Matthew Rogers (1755-1808) (P-281227) is my great⁵-grandfather. He was a private under his brother Capt James Rogers in George Rogers Clark's campaign in IN and IL against the British (1778-79). He was recruited out of PA (along with other family members) and awarded land in northern KY for his service, settling in Nelson County.

While Matthew Rogers' military service is not fully known, General George Rogers Clark's Campaign is well documented. It is likely that Matthew Rogers participated in some of these events. The following is drawn from the files of Wikipedia. “In December 1777, Clark presented his plan to Virginia's Governor Patrick Henry, and he asked for permission to lead a secret expedition to capture the British-held villages at Kaskaskia, Cahokia, and Vincennes in the Illinois country. Governor Henry commissioned him as a lieutenant colonel in the Virginia militia and authorized him to raise troops for the expedition.^{[14][21]} Clark and his officers recruited volunteers from Pennsylvania, Virginia, and North Carolina. Clark arrived at Redstone, a settlement on the Monongahela River south of Fort Pitt on February 1, where he made preparations for the expedition over the next several months.^[22] The men gathered at Redstone and the regiment departed from there on May 12, proceeding on boats down the Monongahela to Fort Pitt to take on supplies and then down the Ohio to Fort Henry and on to Fort Randolph at the mouth of the Kanawha. They reached the Falls of the Ohio in early June where they spent about a month along the Ohio River preparing for their secret mission.^{[14][22]} Patrick Henry had been a leading land speculator before the Revolution in lands west of the Appalachians where Virginians had sought control from the Indians, including George Washington and Thomas Jefferson.^[23] In July 1778, Clark led the Illinois Regiment of the Virginia State Forces of about 175 men and crossed the Ohio River at Fort Massac and marched to Kaskaskia, capturing it on the night of July 4 without firing their weapons.^[24] The next day, Captain Joseph Bowman and his company captured Cahokia in a similar fashion without firing a shot. The garrison at Vincennes along the Wabash River surrendered to Clark in August.^[14] Several other villages and British forts were subsequently captured, after British hopes of local support failed to materialize. To counter Clark's advance, Hamilton recaptured the garrison at Vincennes, which the British called Fort Sackville, with a small force in December 1778.^{[25][26]}”

COMPATRIOT GRAVE MARKING EVENT



Compatriot Frank Kebelman has continued to lead our Chapter through another Grave Marking Event. On May 21, 2022 we conducted our 7th Grave Marking Event at Ft. Sam Houston National Cemetery. **(Photo Left)** From left to right are Blair Rudy, Frank Kebelman (Master of Ceremonies), Stephen Rohrbough (US Flag Bearer), Michael Bowles (Flag Placement Detail), Fred Soupi-set (Texas Flag Bearer) and Richard Weitzel (Flower Placement Detail). Also attending was Michelle Poczobut, our wonderful bulgi-est who played Taps at each of the five Memorial Services. We honored five of our chapter compatriots.

They are:

- **Colonel Will Joe Cummings**, US Army, Retired, served thirty years in the Medical Corps including tours in Korea and Vietnam.
- **Warrant Officer Roger Wilton Ridings**, US Air Force, Retired, served in Army Air Corps after World War II for two years and later served on active duty in Korea and Vietnam.
- **Herman Lee Ward**, former Technical Sergeant 5, served in the US Army from January 1941 to August 1945 in the field artillery during World War II.
- **Colonel Bryan Wells Brown, Jr.**, US Air Force, Retired, served during World War II in the Army Air Corps as an aviation cadet. He received the Silver Star and numerous Air Medals during his service in World War II and Korea.
- **Colonel Robert Morris Reese**, US Army, Retired, served in both World War II and the Korean War. In addition to being a member of the Sons of the American Revolution, he was an active Scottish Rite Mason for over sixty years, and a member of the American Legion and the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

To date our chapter has completed 54 Memorial Services under the Compatriot Grave Marking Program that was established by the National Society in 2017 for deceased SAR members. To earn the Compatriot Grave Marking Medal a member must participate in a minimum of 15 Compatriot Grave Marking Events. Members who have received this Medal are noted on Page 4.

Coverage of our chapter events are included in each of the Chapter Newsletters (which are published bi-monthly) in September-October 2021 thru this Newsletter.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMING EVENTS

Next Chapter Executive Committee Meetings: No Meeting in July! Next Meeting will be held on August 10, 2022 at **La Fonda Mexican Restaurant in Alamo Heights** (Meetings are held the 2nd Wednesday each month 11:30 A.M.)

Chapter Meetings: No Meetings in July-August 2022! We

will resume our **Chapter Meetings on September 21, 2022** at the Petroleum Club (7th Floor), 11:30 A.M. Reservations are required via txsarch4reservations@gmail.com. (Meetings are usually held the 3rd Wednesday of each month.)

Annual Independence Day Historical Program: July 3, 2022

Hyatt Hill Country Resort at 10:30 A.M. in the Luckenbach Pavilion.

Annual Patriotic Day Program: at Ft. Sam Houston National Cemetery (Assembly Area) at 10:00 A.M., July 4, 2022.

For more information, please visit our Chapter Website at: <https://www.txssar.org/SanAntonio/>