



# THE SAN ANTONIO COMPATRIOT

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

Compatriot Richard Weitzel, President - Compatriot Frank Rohrbough, Editor

Mar-Apr 2023



## PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

Compatriots: It's been a busy Spring and portends to be an even busier Summer!

We've been busy presenting JROTC and ROTC Medals to deserving Cadets in Bexar County, completed a Compatriot Grave Marking Ceremony in April and attended the Annual TXSSAR State Meeting which was held March 30 to April 2, 2023.

While at the State Meeting in Spring, Texas we received many notable Awards. Past President Kevin Kanter was awarded the Patriot Medal, Blair Rudy received the Color Guardsman of the Year, several members were presented Medals and Certificates for their work at the State level. For more details, see **page 3 and 4**. Dustin Whittenburg moved from State Secretary to State Chancellor and Kevin Kanter was selected as State Secretary and retained his positions as District Vice President for District IX and as State Chaplain.



We attended the annual Fiesta Texas and provided the Color Guard at the Pioneer Ball as well participating in the Pilgrimage to The Alamo. **See page 5.**

As a reminder our Chapter will host the 2024 Annual Texas SAR Meeting which will be held at the Doubletree Hilton Hotel. For those involved in past state meetings, you know there is a lot of preparation that must be undertaken, but it's an opportunity for our Chapter to shine. I encourage all of our members to serve at some level during the planning phase and during the meeting, especially with Member Registrations, Receptions, and the Silent Auction. Information will be forthcoming.

We will continue to pursue our initiative to honor our past compatriots on Grave Marking Ceremonies in the coming months, participate in several Color Guard opportunities, conduct our annual event at the Hyatt Regency Hill Country Resort on July 3rd, represent our Chapter and SAR at the Annual Independence Day Celebration at Ft. Sam Houston National Cemetery on July 4th, and the commemoration of the Battle of Medina on August 19th.

Although we will take a couple of months off from our Chapter Meetings during July and August, we need to focus on those events which are planned for the Fall. Our Chapter continues to grow as our Registrar and Assistance Registrar are busy assisting potential members with the completion of their application.

Our newly-elected State President Sam Massey shared his vision during his address at the 128<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention as mentioned above. His desire is to grow our membership and just as importantly, *mentor* our new members. He asked chapters to grow their membership.

I ask everyone to be on the lookout for opportunities to present Flag Certificates to any neighbor or business that you see that flies our colors *appropriately*. If you see a likely candidate, please let our Flag Committee Chair, John Booth know so he can follow up on your lead. His email is [jvbooth@me.com](mailto:jvbooth@me.com).

As a new initiative on **Page 10** is a listing of our members who have reached an Anniversary as noted. Such listings will be posted to our Chapter Website on a recurring basis.

As a reminder all members who are an Event and Committee Chairman please report chapter activities that take place during the year using the Chapter Activities Report Form. Use the URL noted below, then go to the "Docs" tab and click on "Society Docs & Forms". This Form must be sent to Compatriot Blair Rudy who is responsible for preparing the Chapter's Annual Reports.

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, *Dick Weitzel*

## GUEST SPEAKER FOR MARCH CHAPTER MEETING

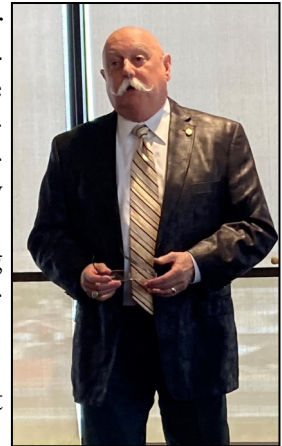
The Speaker for this Chapter Meeting was Compatriot Blair Rudy, 1st Vice President, who spoke on the Articles of Confederation Adopted March 1781. The document was debated between July 1776 and November 1777. During that time the states managed themselves. Ratification was March 1, 1781, almost 5 years in the making and only lasting 8 years.

The Articles of Confederation were more of a treaty between states than a unifying national doctrine. It was a challenging and necessary stepping stone with lessons learned and doctrine needed to pave the way for our Constitution.

The four major issues with why the Articles of Confederation failed were:

- Congress did not have the power to tax leaving states to donate funds or not towards the war effort.
- Congress did not have the power to regulate foreign trade or interstate commerce. States made their own agreements.
- There was no Executive Branch to lead, coordinate or enforce the congress decisions.
- There were no national courts or judicial system to resolve individual or states grievances.

The states were exceptionally weary of a strong central government. After all they were fighting and dying against another strong central government and the most powerful military in the world. They knew daily the tyranny of a centralized government and were incredibly cautious of immense power held in the hands of a few, even well intentioned men.



## LIFE SAVING AWARD PRESENTATION

**(Photo Right)** Upon the recommendation of Compatriot Daniel Farris, the Executive Committee approved the awarding of the SAR Life Saving Medal and Certificate to Officer Justin Morin of the Seguin Police Department. President Richard Weitzel presented the Medal and Certificate during the Chapter Meeting on March 15, 2023 at the Petroleum Club. Officer Morin was recognized for his quick action by recognizing the urgent

need to provide medical care to a victim of a motorcycle accident. Doctors commented that the treatment provided by Officer Morin effectively stopped the bleeding and saved the victims life.

**(Photo Left)** Also attending the luncheon were many friends, family and other fellow officers from the Seguin Police Department. Specifically, Megan Buddenhagen, the wife of the victim, spoke of her appreciation for the timely and life-saving response of Officer Morin. Additionally, Chief Brady stated that he was very proud of Officer Morin and his remarkable service to the community of Seguin.



## CHAPTER WINS MANY STATE AWARDS

The Texas Society conducted its 128th Annual Convention as an “In-Person” Meeting on March 30 — April 2, 2023 with over 100 members attending the General Sessions. During these proceedings President Jim Kuykendall acknowledged the work of the State Officers and Committee Chairmen for their work and due diligence. Many of the State Committees conducted virtual meetings to achieve the National and State Society goals and objectives this past year.

San Antonio Chapter attendees included Past TXSSAR President (2013-2014) Stephen Rohrbough, Chapter President Richard Weitzel, Past Chapter Presidents Kevin Kanter, Frank Rohrbough and Larry Loop. Other attendees were Chapter 1st Vice President Blair Rudy and Color Guardsman Jason Bourgeois.

Noteworthy are those elected to serve as State Officers for 2023-2024 who are Kevin Kanter as State Staff Secretary, State Chaplain and District IX Vice President and Dustin Whittenburg as State Chancellor.

Because of the sustained work of chapter members under the able leadership of President Kevin Kanter during his term of service in 2022, we achieved many of the goals and objectives of our Chapter, the Texas Society and the National Society Sons American Revolution.

Below are the State Awards that were presented to the San Antonio Chapter.

- **The John Bruce Stuart Jr. Memorial Award—Gp. 4 (100+ Members):** Awarded to the Chapter that best meets the criteria based on Veterans activities in the past year. **1st Place — San Antonio Chapter #4.** Of significance is the fact that over 80 percent of the USS Stark Points reported were earned by Compatriot Frank Keelman for his service to veterans as a member of the Memorial Service Detachment at Ft. Sam Houston.
- **Texas SAR Flag Presentation Awards:** Given to Chapters having recognized an Individual, Company, or Organization for the proper display, maintenance, and care for flying the Flag of the United States during the past year. A White Star is presented to a Repeat Winner from the previous year. **3rd Place — San Antonio Chapter #4.**
- **Colonel Joe M. Hill Patriot Fund Award:** For total contributions to the Fund that exceeds the total of the previous year. **1st Place — San Antonio Chapter #4.**
- **The Ross Shipman Award:** Chapter with the best Newsletter for the calendar year. **1st Place for Large Chapters - San Antonio Chapter #4.**
- **Joseph S. Rumbaugh Oration Contest:**  
Our Chapter Winner is Rebecca Ann Crisp. Her topic was “The Principle of Popular Sovereignty”. She placed 5th in the State Contest on April 1st and received a \$150 Award. As our Chapter winner she also received a first Place Award of \$500. She attends the Louis D. Brandeis High School in San Antonio. **(Photo Right)**
- **The Americanism Elementary School Poster Contest Award:** This contest promotes interest in American History in support of the Texas School Fifth (5th) Grade Curriculum. The posters are judged on artistic merit, creativity used to express the annual theme, originality of presentation, and show evidence of research done by the student. Our first place winner is Christopher Bowles for his poster on “Henry Knox”; he received a \$50 Cash Award from our chapter. Our second place winner is Daniel Whittenburg for his poster on “Daniel Webster”; he received Award \$35 Cash Award. Christopher’s poster was advanced to the State Contest on April 1st where he placed 6<sup>th</sup>.



For Other State Awards, see Page 4.

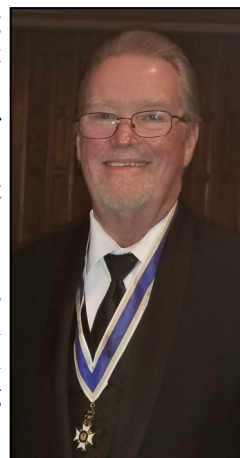
## OTHER STATE AWARDS (Cont'd)

Our Chapter members received other notable SAR Awards that deserve special mention.

**SAR Patriot Medal.** The medal is sterling silver and bears the portrait of Compatriot General of the Army Douglas MacArthur on the obverse within the inscription, "The National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution." The reverse is inscribed "Awarded for Patriotic Service to the Society SAR". This Award can only be given one time and is limited for State Societies to one Medal for every 500 members each year. For our Texas Society which has over 3200 members the TXSSAR Awards Committee can select up to six Patriot Medals Recipients each year.

**(Photo Right)** Compatriot Kevin Kanter was awarded the Patriot Medal for his long and dedicated service within the Texas Society SAR, San Antonio Chapter President for two years and State Chaplain and District IX Vice President over the last two years. The Patriot Medal is the highest award given for service at the state or chapter level. It represents long, faithful and outstanding service to the Texas Society SAR.

Compatriot Kanter joins 18 other chapter members who have been awarded the Patriot Medal. These include: R.S.D. Lockwood (1971), Oliver B. Chamberlain (1972), Elmer Ware Stahl (1977), Dan B. Meadows, III (1981), Kenneth E. Ingram (1982), Thomas F. Bresnehen (1984), Harry C. Long (1992), Joseph M. Ware (1997), Louis E. Hawley (1999), John Harrell (2001), Edward F. Butler (2003), Stephen W. Rohrbough (2005), George Harcourt (2010), James C. Taylor (2011), Frank G. Rohrbough (2012), Peter Baron (2013), Jimmie Massingill ((2016) and Dustin Whittenburg (2022).



Other Awards were also presented to the following members:

- **Kevin Kanter** — Received the SAR Silver Roger Sherman Award for his dedicated services at the State level as State Chaplain and District IX Vice President.
- **Blair Rudy** — Was selected by the Color Guard Committee as the TXSSAR Color Guardsman of the Year for 2023 for his long and dedicated service as a Color Guardsman for many years at the Chapter and State level.
- **Frank Rohrbough** — Received the Meritorious Service Medal for his service as Chair/man of the Veterans Committee and advancing service to veterans by having additional members appointed as NSSAR Representatives or Deputy Representative to Texas Veterans Affairs Medical Centers.
- **John Jansma** — Received the Lafayette Volunteer Service Award for service performed at the NSSAR Headquarters or other significant volunteer work when forty (40) hours of volunteer service have been accumulated. To date, Jansma has performed 160 hours of volunteer service to NSSAR.
- **Jason Bourgeois** — Received the National Silver Color Guard Medal.

## COMPATRIOT BLAIR RUDY RECEIVES SOUTH CENTRAL DISTRICT SAR AWARD

Compatriot Blair Rudy serves as Color Guard Commander for South Central District (SCD) starting in August 2021 when Compatriot Larry Steven, Past President of the Texas Society, was the District Vice President and ends his term of service in August 2023 when Kansas Society hosts the District Meeting.



The District includes five states — Texas, Arkansas, Missouri, Oklahoma and Kansas — which require Commander Rudy to travel to SCD Annual Meetings in Richardson, TX in August 2021 and Bentonville, AR in August 2022.

Vice President General NSSAR of SCD **Charles McLemore of Arkansas** presented the SAR Silver Roger Sherman Medal to Commander Rudy for his two year's service during the Texas Society Annual Meeting in Spring TX in April 2023.

## CHAPTER PARTICIPATES IN TEXAS FIESTA EVENTS



On April 22nd the San Antonio Chapter Color Guard participated in the Opening Ceremony of the 102nd Annual Patriotic and Historic Ball hosted by the State Association of Texas Pioneers which was held at the San Fernando Ballroom located near the San Fernando Cathedral in downtown San Antonio, TX. **(Photo Left)** Shown from L-R are Guardsman Jay Lewallen, US Flag Bearer and Commander Frank Rohrbough, Texas Flag Bearer Fred Soupiset and Guardsman Jason Bourgeois. This event is the official opening of Texas Fiesta Week

with King Antonio bringing “Greetings” and well wishes for “Viva Fiesta”.

**(Photo Right)** On Monday, April 24, 2023, the Chapter participated in the Annual Pilgrimage to the Alamo where many Fiesta Organizations processed at 4:00 PM from the Municipal Auditorium (Tobin Center) to Alamo Plaza. Attending were President Richard Weitzel (Center ) and from L-R are Compatriots Fred Soupiset (US Flag Bearer), Robert Watson, Frank Rohrbough and Blair Rudy (Wreath Bearer) who presented the Chapter Wreath for placement on the lawn in front of the Alamo. The Daughters of the Republic of Texas are the host of this solemn event where many patriotic organizations supporting them honored the 189 men who died at the Alamo on March 6, 1836. Compatriot George Harcourt, a member of the Sons of the Republic of Texas, respectfully recited each of the deceased names.



## APRIL COMPATRIOT GRAVE MARKING EVENT



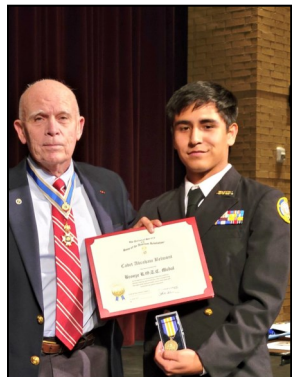
On April 22nd seven members from Houston served as Color Guardsmen while Larry Lockett, Dan Farris, Stephen Rohrbough were the grave decoration detail. Compatriot Kebelman was the Master of Ceremonies.

The following deceased compatriots were honored: **Col. Jedediah H. Hills, LtCol. Edward Hartline, Earl Wesley Clifford, Dr. Michael Lee Boland**, are interred at Ft. Sam Houston National Cemetery, and **Donelson Caffery Gillis Sr.** at Sunset Park Cemetery.

Others attending from the Freedom Chapter were Ed Sellards (15 services), David Hamaker (15 services), Loren Johnston (10 services), Loren’s wife (DAR member), Susan Hutchison -Johnston, Don Hayes, Bill Meyers and Rita Schimpff, DAR/UDC member.

## PRESENTATION OF ROTC AND JROTC AWARDS

Under the able leadership of John Bell, Chairman ROTC Awards Program, 48 JROTC High Schools and 3 ROTC at local Universities were sent SAR Medals and Certificates to recognize outstanding cadets for 2023. **(Photo Right)** Compatriots Michael Bowles and Bob Watson (in colonial uniform) attended the Judson High School JROTC Awards Program that was held



on April 6, 2023 in the Performing Arts Center. They presented Cadet Dylan Barrett the Sons of the American Revolution Bronze Medal and Citation. Bowles also presented a Medal and Certificate to Cadet Emmett Decker, LEE JROTC Awards Ceremony on April 26, 2023.



**(Photo Left)** Compatriot Frank Kebelman presented the Sons of the American Revolution Bronze JROTC Medal and Certificate to Cadet Abraham Delmont at the Marshall High School Awards Program on April 12th. **(Photo Below Left)** Compatriot Tom O'Brien attended the Johnson High School Army JROTC Awards Program on April 14th. He presented the SAR



Bronze Medal and Certificate to Cadet Connor Throckmorton for his leadership role in the JROTC Program. **(Photo Right)** On April 19th Compatriot George Harcourt presented Cadet Sergeant Jaxon Rutherford the SAR Bronze Medal and Citation for his leadership with Company Bravo as a Squad Leader.



## COMPATRIOT BLAIR RUDY PARTICIPATES IN NATIONAL COLOR GUARD EVENT



On April 22, 2023 47 guardsmen, including our Compatriot Blair Rudy, participated in the Texas Society Color Guard in the Gainesville, TX Parade event recog-

nizing eight United States Military Veterans who have received the Medal of Honor. Many veteran organizations including the VFW attended the event which qualifies participating SAR chapters for the National Partners in Patriotism Award.

SAR Color Guardsmen from Oklahoma and Arkansas also attended the event. Twelve first time participants earned the Bernardo de Galvez Bronze Color Guard Medal. Seven WWII vintage aircraft buzzed the crowd but the OMG flyover was made by a Viet Nam Era Huey helicopter which made several very slow and low passes. Thump, thump, thump! Several years ago the flyover was moved to the start of the parade so as to not distract the parade participants and flag bearers!

While this event coincides with the beginning of Fiesta Texas in San Antonio members of the SAR might want to consider attending the Parade of Honor in Gainesville, TX next year.

## CHAPTER CELEBRATES ITS 92ND BIRTHDAY

Our Chapter celebrated its 92nd Birthday since its founding in April 1930. Gathering for this occasion with President Richard Weitzel were 10 Past Presidents. Their year of service is noted in parentheses.



(Photo Above) Shown from left to right are: Kevin Kanter (Jan 2021-Jan 2023), Stephen Rohrbough (Mar 1998-Mar 2000), Jim Massingill (Mar 2001-Mar 2002), David Bowles (Jan 2009-Jan 2010), Edward Butler (Mar 2002-Mar 2004), George Harcourt (Apr 2005-Dec 2005), Richard Weitzel (Current), Larry Loop (Jan 2017-Jan 2018), Robert Hancock (Jan 2014-Jan 2015), James Taylor (Jan 2011-Jan 2012 and Jan 2013-Jan 2014) and Frank Rohrbough (Jan 2007- Jan 2008).

Our chapter was founded in 1930 during the heart of the depression. A time when San Antonio was suffering unemployment lines, bread lines, families selling their children and a run on San Antonio's City – Central Bank. Six successful gentlemen came together to form a chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution in those dire times. These men were all prominent businessmen and had ties to one another through their business dealings in lumber and banking as well as family relationships. Most likely they were not affected by the economic depression as was others lower in economic stature.

Founders were: **Jack Beretta** b1889 in Laredo Texas. He was also King Antonio XI in 1929.

**Francis L Hillyer** b1857 Owned the Fowlerton Lumber Yard near San Antonio. **S. W. Scott** b1864 Rancher and had affiliations to Frost Bank. **Albert C McDavid** b1887 and was Texas State President in 1936 and SAR National Historian. **Herbert Spencer**, Businesses were Lumber and Terrill Hill Homes. **Alexander Spencer**, Brother of Herbert Spenser, was the first chapter president of our chapter and had family connections with Frost, Vance and Tobin, all prominent names in San Antonio.

## SAR BRONZE GOOD CITIZENSHIP MEDAL PRESENTED TO ROBERT BENAVIDEZ



President Weitzel spoke of Robert Benavidez as having compiled a magnificent record of public service to Texas and Bexar County, one that now spans six decades of personal involvement and leadership in support of Texas history. He was the driving force behind the expansion of the annual 6 March events at Alamo Plaza in honor of the heroes who sacrificed themselves on the morning of 6 March 1836. Mr. Benavidez has served as a Past Chapter President, Alamo Chapter, Sons of the Republic of Texas (SRT) and is an active national officer in that society. Robert Benavidez's uncommon dedication to San Antonio and Texas stands as a testament to his patriotism, leadership and self-sacrifice. His actions reflect great credit upon himself, Bexar County and the great state of Texas. Thus, President Weitzel presented him the SAR Bronze Good Citizenship Medal and Certificate.

## ON THIS DAY IN HISTORY

### **Congress declares a permanent ceasefire!**

On this day in history, April 11, 1783, Congress declares a permanent ceasefire with Great Britain, bringing the hostilities of the American Revolution to an end. The American Revolution began as a result of increasing efforts of Parliament to control her American colonies. After the French and Indian War ended in 1763, Parliament attempted to extract more taxes from the colonists in order to make up the heavy debt incurred during the war and to pay for soldiers stationed in the colonies to police the territory gained in the war.

The colonists rejected the taxes primarily because they had no representation in Parliament and they believed this "taxation without representation" was unfair. They believed governments should govern "with the consent of the governed." Parliament continued with various schemes of taxation over the next decade and the colonists became increasingly rebellious. Britain eventually occupied Boston, which was viewed as the center of the resistance. After the war broke out on April 19, 1775 at Lexington, the Americans soon surrounded Boston and forced the British to leave the city. This illustrates the problem Britain had for the entire war. She was able to control the cities with an occupying army, but controlling the entire countryside was impossible. The territory was simply too large to control, even for the largest army in the world.

After France, Spain and Holland joined the war on the American side, Britain was faced with a world war, with theatres from the Caribbean to the Mediterranean to India. She was actually forced to withdraw soldiers from North America to defend other areas and create a new American strategy. This resulted in the Southern Strategy in which Britain withdrew from the north and tried to capture the southern colonies. Again, the large cities were easy to take, but the countryside was impossible.

Southern commanders such as Nathanael Greene were able to wear out the army of British General Charles Cornwallis by drawing them into long marches inland. Eventually, Cornwallis was forced to flee to the coast, hoping for reinforcements. A large French fleet blocked the reinforcements from landing at Yorktown, Virginia and George Washington was able to trap Cornwallis and force his surrender. The surrender of Cornwallis' army disheartened Parliament enough that it was ready to concede the war. Peace negotiations began and the preliminary Treaty of Paris was signed on November 30, 1782. Parliament ratified the preliminary treaty on January 20, 1783 and declared a ceasefire on February 4. Congress declared a ceasefire on April 11, 1783 and ratified the treaty on April 15. After more negotiations, the final Treaty of Paris was agreed to by Congress on January 14, 1784 and by Parliament on April 9, 1784, with final copies of the document exchanged in Paris on May 12, 1784.

## ON THIS DAY IN HISTORY

### **George Washington Elected the first President!**

On this day in history, April 14, 1789, George Washington learns he has been elected the first President of the United States. The first presidential election under the new US Constitution was held from December 15, 1788 through January 10, 1789. At that time, each state set its own rules for conducting elections and choosing electors for the electoral college, who would then vote for president. The electors had to be chosen by January 7, 1789. Each state was given a number of electors equal to its number of senators plus its number of representatives in the House of Representatives. Some states chose their electors by popular vote, others were chosen by their legislatures, or by a combination of the two. After the electors were chosen, they were to meet in their respective states on February 4 to cast their votes for president. These votes were then transmitted to New York City, where the federal government was then meeting, to be counted by Congress.

The first Congress began officially on March 4, 1789, but all the members were not yet present. A quorum of members did not exist in the House of Representatives until April 1st and in the Senate until April 6. Since this was the first day that both houses could meet in an official joint session, the electoral college votes were counted on this day. John Langdon of New Hampshire had been elected President Pro Tempore of the Senate. This was the highest position in the Senate and the leader of the Senate in the absence of the Vice-President. Since there was no Vice-President yet, Langdon took the responsibility of tabulating the votes. He opened, counted and announced the votes to Congress. Once it was determined that George Washington had won and John Adams had come in second, Langdon dispatched a Certification of Election and a letter to each of them to inform them of their victories.

Washington's letter was sent by the hand of Charles Thomson of Philadelphia, the longtime Secretary of the Continental Congress. Thomson arrived at Mount Vernon on April 14, 1789. He stood in the Large Dining Room in Mount Vernon where he announced to George Washington that he had been unanimously elected the first President of the United States. The humbled Washington immediately wrote a short letter to Senator Langdon that said: "*Sir, Having concluded to obey the important & flattering call of my Country, and having been impressed with an idea of the expediency of my being with Congress at as early a period as possible; I propose to commence my journey on Thursday morning which will be the day after tomorrow. I have the honor to be with sentiments of esteem Sir Your most obedt. servt. G. Washington*" Washington arrived in New York City to great fanfare on April 23rd and was sworn in as President on April 30 at Federal Hall.



## GUEST SPEAKER FOR APRIL CHAPTER MEETING

Our Speaker for our April 19th Chapter Meeting was Compatriot Michael Bowles, Recording Secretary. After a year of research on the “Spirits of the American Revolution” he prepared a wonderful presentation on the history of Madeira Wines in the Colonies.

It reads in part: “The story began with the marriage of the King of England to a Portuguese Princess in 1662. The King, to please his bride, ordered that British Colonies could only import wine from Madeira

with little or no English tax or tariff. Next, the wine makers of the small Portuguese Island about 300 miles off the coast of Morocco discovered that their wine would ship to India and taste better than it did when it left Madeira. Over time merchants found that the heat and wave action actually improved the taste.

By 1776 the American Colonies were importing over 25% of Madeira’s production. John Hancock was very instrumental in the importation and distribution of Madeira Wine. George Washington was known to drink Madeira every evening. John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, John Jay, and Thomas Jefferson all enjoyed Madeira. Madeira was used for a toast at the signing of the Declaration of Independence. Washington, James Madison and Jefferson kept detailed records of their purchases of Madeira. In 1794 Washington is documented to have imported 750 gallons to his home in Philadelphia. The tradition of Madeira Wine revived after prohibition. In 2009 Barack Obama honored his historic predecessors and toasted his inauguration as President with a glass of Madeira Wine.”



## FLAG PRESENTATIONS

On Saturday, February 25th, our Chapter was pleased to support and participate in a **Community Flag Retirement Ceremony** organized by the

San Antonio DAR Chapter. The event was held at the Park Hills Baptist Church and featured a host of speakers from the greater Patriot Community.

Numerous Chapter members were in attendance and Past Chapter President & current Chaplain, Kevin Kanter, represented the Texas SAR and presented a wonderful speech including a full reading of the Declaration of Independence.

As part of this event, the San Antonio DAR and SAR Chapters collected over 200 old Flags in need of retirement. These retired flags will now be sent to Sunset Chapel on Austin Highway for respectful burning.

If you missed the event, but would still like to retire an old Flag, you may contact Flag Chairman, John Booth at (210-360-9697) and he will add it to the collected Flags being sent to Sunset Chapel.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS, COMING EVENTS AND REPORTS

**Independence Day Event:** Monday, July 3, 2023 at the Hyatt Regency Hill Country Resort, 10:30 AM. All members are welcome.

**Next Chapter Executive Committee Meetings:** Scheduled for May 10 and June 14, 2023, La Fonda Mexican Restaurant, Alamo Heights (Meetings are held the 2nd Wednesday each month 11:30 A.M.)

**Chapter Meetings:** Scheduled

for May 17 and June 21, 2023 at the Petroleum Club at **11:30 A.M.** A News Release will be sent out before each Meeting for making reservations. Those Compatriots with Standing Reservations should use [txsarch4reservations@gmail.com](mailto:txsarch4reservations@gmail.com) to notify the Treasurer if they will NOT attend the Meeting. This will avoid the Chapter paying for meals incurred by their absence.

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

[www.txssar.org/SanAntonio](http://www.txssar.org/SanAntonio)

**Reminder:** Event and Committee Chairman please report chapter activities using the Chapter Activities Report Form. Use the URL above, then go to the “Docs” tab and click on “Society Docs & Forms”.

## San Antonio Compatriot Milestones

### 5 Yrs of Service

Christopher Janak

John Jansma

Ernest Kerr

Brian Scott

Joshua Galaviz

Ryan Galaviz

Kenneth McAnear

Brian Lavezzari

Mark Lavezzari

Benjamin Lavezzari

Jesse Royall

Jason Green

Patrick McCloskey

Christopher Petty

Samuel Smith

Jonathan Springer

Matthew Springer

Edward Elmer

Matthew Elmer

John Hale

Major Russell

George Whittenburg

### 10 Yrs of Service

Martin Cohick

Frederic Soupiset

Gerald Ball

Robert Hancock

Bobby Vernor

Jake Lee

Lan Kelly

George Powell

Joseph Berkley

### 25 Yrs of Service

James Raymond

Michael Raymond

John Wilmeth

Jerry 'Jay' Higginson

Richard Wilmeth

David Taylor

Kenneth Parsons

Robert Dorsey

Jerry 'Jay' Higginson

### 15 Yrs of Service

Robert Cordova

James Sutton

Peter Baron

Rueben Perez

John Baines

John Hinnant

### 65 Yrs of Service

Barent Dutcher