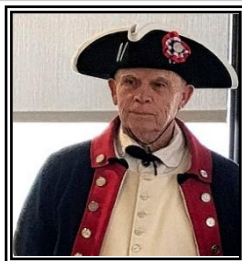




Mar-Apr 2025
Editor: Compatriot Bob Watson
beaglebud@satx.rr.com

Compatriot Frank Kebelman, President
kebelman@gmail.com

Issue #2



President's Message

SAR Mission Statement
*The Sons of the American Revolution
honors our Revolutionary War patriot
ancestors by promoting patriotism,
serving our communities, educating and inspiring future
generations about the founding principles of our Country.*

Dear Fellow Compatriots,

The chapter has been very busy and received many awards for our service to San Antonio and Texas. At the annual Texas State Convention in April, Larry Loop received the Patriot Medal, the highest award for distinguished service to SAR. Larry, the entire chapter is proud of your exemplary service record. Other awards included honors for our 2024 Americanism and Stark Reports, and Bob Watson, newsletter editor, was recognized for producing the 2024 chapter Newsletter of the Year.

Dustin Whittenburg was installed as the president elect of the Texas Society. He is the first chapter member to achieve this since Stephen Rohrbough in 2013/2014. We know he will do well as leader of our Society.

Individual recognitions included a Gold Galvez Medal, Color Guardsman of the Year and a George Washington Fellowship. We can also be proud of the tremendous effort our chapter officers have expended to present JROTC medals to our many local high schools and colleges, and John Bell's superb leadership of the JROTC/ROTC program which ultimately resulted in a San Antonio JROTC cadet being named as the Texas State Outstanding Cadet, the very first recipient of this award in the highly competitive new program. All of our efforts display the chapter's commitment to community service, and our continuing efforts to strengthen our ties with the dear ladies of our sister society, the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Looking forward with much anticipation as a busy summer season fast approaches beginning with Memorial Day (26 May), the U.S. Army 250th Birthday & Flag Day (both on 14 June), the Hyatt Hill Country Resort program, Independence Day and the many 250th Anniversary festivities that lie ahead this summer. We need every chapter member to help us support these activities. Please reach out to me or any of our chapter officers if you are available to participate. All are welcome to join us.

Warmest regards,
Frank Kebelman, President

Chapter Meetings

Executive Committee Meetings:

2nd Wed. 11:30 AM
May 14th & June 11th
La Fonda Restaurant
8633 Crownhill Blvd
(Reservations not needed)

Chapter Meetings:

3rd Wed. 11:30 AM,
May 21st & June 18th
Petroleum Club
8620 N. New Braunfels
Reservations are required:
txsarch4reservations@gmail.com

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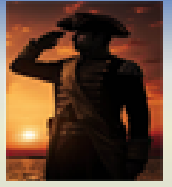
Miscellaneous

History of Dueling – 16

Milestones – Attach. 1

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Member's Corner



Grave Marking Award: To receive this award, an individual must participate in 15 grave marking ceremonies. Compatriot Mike Giglio completed the requirement and was presented the award at the March general membership meeting. Congratulations Mike for a job well done and your dedication to SAR.



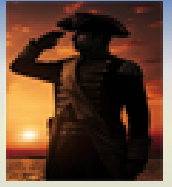
L-R: Mike Giglio, Frank Kebelman

Ross Shipman Award

Outstanding Electronic Newsletter (Group 3) -

Large Chapter: The chapter was presented with the Ross Shipman Award at the annual State Conference. Even though it was presented to your trusty editor, it takes a village as they say. Could not have done it without all of the input from compatriots who took pictures at events, provided specific event information, and proofreading. You should be proud that SA Chapter #4 was recognized.





Member's Corner



Hannah White Arnett Medal of Distinction

The Hannah White Award is presented to a SAR member by a DAR chapter for unselfish devotion, tireless efforts, and assistance to the DAR and, who has dedicated his time, energy, talents, and/or resources to the organization in support and furtherance of the DAR.

On April 10th, the DAR Green Mountain Boys Chapter presented Compatriot Bob Watson the Hannah White Arnett Medal of Distinction. According to the citation, over the years, Bob has assisted the DAR chapter behind the scenes with computer support, volunteer hours for several of the DAR projects, but especially the design, formatting, and producing the DAR chapter's annual yearbook. Additionally, he prepared powerpoint presentations and was a guest speaker at one of the luncheons discussing how his life was changed by the Vietnam War. He helped deliver and plant the DAR Liberty Tree to the USO. In representing SAR together with DAR, Bob participated in Operation Pull the Weeds, Wreaths Across America events, helped at our joint membership drive at the ARC, and supported the recycling donations to the USO. The DAR Green Mountain Boys Chapter thanks and appreciates Bob's support.



L-R: Jean Kanter, DAR/SAR/SR
Committee State Chair,
Bob Watson
Cindy Watson, DAR Chapter Regent



L-R: Bob Watson,
Cindy Watson, DAR Chapter Regent



Member's Corner



New Members: The chapter was pleased to induct three new members at the April 16th general membership meeting.

Frank LeBlanc, Kyle Neumann, and Jonathan Shoebottom took the oath and provided a brief background of their patriots. We welcome all three to the chapter and look forward to their participation in our many activities.



L-R: Frank LeBlanc, Kyle Neumann,
Jonathan Shoebottom,
President Frank Kebelman



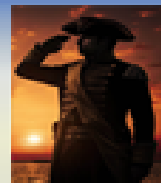
Sponsor members presenting the
lapel pin:

L-R: Blair Rudy, Frank LeBlanc,
Kyle Neumann, Judge Butler,
Jonathan Shoebottom;
Larry Luckett



L-R: Larry Luckett, Blair Rudy,
Judge Butler, Frank LeBlanc,
Kyle Neumann, Jonathan
Shoebottom, President Kebelman

Individual Special Awards: Several Members received individual awards for extraordinary service to the chapter. George Harcourt received the Grave Marking Medal, Ed Snyder was awarded the Henry Knox Achievement Medal, and Blair Rudy was presented a Certificate of Appreciation for his work in planning, organizing, and conducting the annual Gala. President Frank Kebelman was named the state Color Guardsman of the year. Congratulations to these members who continue to be the backbone of the chapter.



Chapter News



DAR Commemorates Patrick Henry Speech: We have all read and heard about Patrick Henry's speech "Give me Liberty or Give me Death." As part of the America 250th programs, the DAR Green Mountain Boys Chapter, requested our color guard to present the colors for their Patrick Henry commemorative program. DAR's program was filled with skits, speeches, and great table decorations. In addition, for SAR support, the color guard members were presented with a Certificate of Appreciation.



L-R: Peter Barron, Kevin Kanter, DAR Regent Cindy Watson reviewing program



L-R: Color Guard Peter Barron, Kevin Kanter, Bob Watson, Frank Kebelman



L-R: 1st Vice Regent Deanna Trussel presenting Certificates of Appreciate to Peter Barron, Bob Watson, Kevin Kanter, Frank Kebelman



Chapter News



Youth Essay Contest Winner: The chapter was blessed at the March General Membership Meeting by having Ms. Lenna Farris, a senior at Taft High School and daughter of Compatriot Dan Farris, present her Youth Contest essay titled "The Fight for Rights: Ratification of the Bill of Rights." Lenna placed first at the chapter level in the contest and will compete at the state level in the upcoming State Conference. Should she win at the state level, she will then compete at the National Conference. Each level of competition awards scholarship money.

Pictured here is President Kebelman presenting Lenna with a Certificate of Appreciation and a book titled "The Warriors", a Revolutionary War themed book.



Guest Speaker: The chapter was honored to have Debbie Werner, Regent, San Antonio De Bexar DAR Chapter, as our guest speaker at the April General Membership meeting. Regent Werner spoke on the various national, state, and local chapter programs DAR is conducting and how SAR and DAR can work together to better accomplish our goals and objectives. Regent Werner was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation, an autographed copy of Judge Butler's book on Spanish involvement in the Revolutionary War, and a bouquet of flowers. Thank you Regent Werner for an inspiring presentation.



**Regent Debbie Werner and
 President Frank Kebelman**



Chapter News



Medal of Honor Parade: The Medal of Honor is the highest military award for valor, which can be bestowed upon an individual for action against an enemy force. As the commander in chief, the Medal of Honor is usually presented by the President of the United States, in the name of Congress, to the individual.

In 2001, Gainesville, Texas became the only city in America to host the nation's highest decorated hero's annually, to promote patriotism and celebrate the heroism of the recipients. There are multiple events throughout the week and the celebration culminates with a parade.

This year, chapter color guard members participated as part of the SAR state color guard team.



Compatriot Compatriot Blair Rudy, front left, and the State Color Guard Team

Medal of Honor: The chapter strives to present a historical vignette at each general membership Meeting. Being that March 25th is Medal of Honor day, we were delighted to hear a very interesting, short presentation by Compatriot Dan Farris, chapter historian, on the history of the Medal of Honor. Dan provided many interesting statistics about the Medal highlighting its significance and meaning. It was pointed out that the Medal of Honor Museum is located in Arlington, TX. Thank you Dan for your research and exceptional presentation.



Compatriot Dan Farris



Chapter News



Gala Awards: Most know that the chapter conducts its annual Gala in January of each year to induct new officers for the coming year and present awards for individual and chapter activities. What many may not realize is the amount of work involved in preparing and organizing the Gala. This year was no different and President Kebelman (on left) presented these individuals with a certificate of appreciation for the extra work they did to ensure the 2025 Gala was a resounding success and by all standards, it was! The chapter thanks you for making this year's Gala an event to remember.



L-R: President Kebelman, Brenna Farris, Dan Farris, Mike Bowles, Ron Finch

Both past president Blair Rudy and his wife Candy contributed to the Chapter's 2024 success through their hard work and dedication to SAR. Not only did Blair perform his expected duties during the year, but along with Candy, worked tirelessly to ensure the annual Gala was a roaring success. For these efforts, President Kebelman presented them with a certificate of appreciation during the State Conference in March.



L-R: Blair Rudy, Candy Rudy, President Kebelman



Chapter News



Special Recognition & Awards

SAR and DAR have a similar mission in the community and we always like to recognize DAR members whose achievements have made a difference. Recently, two of our compatriot DAR spouses were recognized at the annual DAR state convention for such achievements. Compatriot Mike Bowles' wife, Sharon, distinguished herself for becoming the 1000th graduate of the DAR membership course.

Jean Kanter, Compatriot Kevin Kanter's spouse, is the DAR liason to the VA and veterans programs. She was recognized for the significant efforts she has made to ensure the veterans are not forgotten.

Congratulations ladies for efforts above and beyond the norm.

Congratulations
1000th Graduate!
Sharon Bowles
 San Antonio de Bexar Chapter

Jean Kanter
 Green Mountain Boys Chapter
 Audie L. Murphy Memorial Veterans Hospital

The SAR Flag Certificate is presented to companies or individuals that fly the United States flag solely for patriotic purposes. The Army Residence Community (ARC) is a retirement community that flies the flag properly daily. Presidnet Kebelman (in colonial Attire) presented the SAR Flag Certificate to the ARC CEO, Steve Fuller, and the Chief of Maintenance for displaying the flag daily at the ARC.



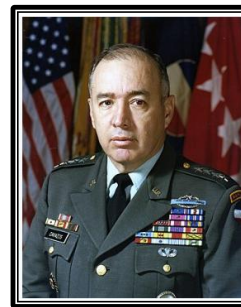


Chapter News



General Richard Cavazos

In honor of the coming 250th anniversary of the founding of the U.S. Army and the 164th anniversary of the Medal of Honor, members of four chapters of the Texas Society SAR Color Guard gathered at the grave of General Richard E. Cavazos, U.S. Army retired, one of the most decorated Soldiers in American history. General Cavazos, a native Texan, grew up on the famous King Ranch and joined the Army in 1951 after graduating from Texas Technical College (now Texas Tech) where he played football and was an ROTC outstanding graduate. In 1953, 1st Lieutenant Cavazos earned the Distinguished Service Cross during the Korean War for extraordinary heroism in leading his infantry company in repeated night assaults against a heavily defended North Korean hilltop position. Wounded himself, he displayed exceptional courage and leadership during those assaults and later while returning alone several times to rescue wounded men who were left on the battlefield when his company was ordered to withdraw. His Distinguished Service Cross was recently (posthumously) upgraded to the Medal of Honor and in 2023, Ft. Hood, one of the largest American military bases, was renamed Ft. Cavazos. General Cavazos was the Army's first Hispanic Brigadier General as well as its first Hispanic four star general. Respected and admired by all who served with him during his 33 year career, General Cavazos earned every combat award our country can bestow, and now lies quietly at Ft. Sam Houston National Cemetery in Section PG, Site 51. Next time you're in San Antonio, take the time to visit his grave, and offer a prayer to this gallant American, a true Texas hero.



General Richard E Cavazos



General Richard E Cavazos Grave Marking Service



Chapter News



SAR State Conference

The chapter was recognized for the hard work put in by the many volunteers by being present with several awards at the State Conference, March 27th - 30th. Congratulations and thanks for all that participated in the various chapter activities to make this happen.



L-R: Patriot Fund Award, Most New Members Under age 50, Texas Flag Certificate

Wreaths across America

Honoring our fallen heroes is a major goal for the chapter and is an ongoing effort. The chapter has been local sponsors of Wreaths Across America for the past few years. Wreaths are laid at the grave of each veteran who served in defense of our nation. While the wreaths are laid at the veterans' graves during December, we have set up our account early in an effort to increase our participation this year. We are requesting you step up and help us with this endeavor. To purchase your wreath, use the link provided on the chapter website (texassar.org/SanAntonio/) to access our sponsorship page. Select the "Docs" tab then "Society Docs & Forms" in the dropdown and look for the Wreaths Across America link under "Chapter Documents" Again, we ask that you participate with us in this very important event. Contact Compatriot Kevin Kanter at kevinkanter@icloud.com



Chapter News



Patriot's Day: Patriots' Day, celebrated the third Monday in April, recognizes the battles of Lexington and Concord as well as the aftermath of the "shot heard 'round the world." The day is celebrated with historical reenactments, sporting events and parades.

On 19 April, members of the Chapter participated in a Patriots' Day event at the San Antonio Genealogical and Historical Society monthly meeting. Blair Rudy dressed in colonial attire, presented the colors to open the event. Peter Baron, also in colonial attire, presented an historical vignette on the significance of the day and the profound impact of the events at Lexington and Concord 250 years ago. Other chapter members in support of the event were Larry Luckett and Scott Atkinson.



Blair Rudy



L-R: Larry Luckett, Scott Atkinson, Blair Rudy, Peter Baron



Chapter News



Pilgrimage to Alamo: The 107th Pilgrimage to the Alamo took place on April 28th. The Pilgrimage is a walk to honor the Alamo heroes and the heritage of Texas. The Pilgrimage began in 1918 as a tribute to the fallen soldiers of the Battle of the Alamo on San Jacinto Day. It consists of a processional of military, community groups, and individuals who walk from the Tobin Center Vietnam War Memorial and culminates with a wreath laying ceremony at the Alamo. The chapter participates each year.



L-R: Bob Watson, Frank Kebelman, Kevin Kanter, Frank Rohrbough, Ron Finch, Randy Fleisher



L-R: Ron Finch, Frank Rohrbough, Randy Fleisher, Bob Watson

JROTC Awards: One of the chapter's largest programs is the JROTC Outstanding Cadet program. Each year the chapter contacts and arranges to present an award to the outstanding JROTC cadet chosen by the cadre, not the chapter. This year, the chapter connected with 49 high schools and three universities. Compatriot John Bell is the chairman of the JROTC program and does a masterful job coordinating and organizing the chapter's involvement. We did not have enough volunteers this year to personally present the award to each cadet, however, we did do in person presentations to many of them. While colonial attire is a nice touch and adds to the presentation, it is by no means required. The number of ceremonies is the highest during April, and continues the end of the year.

Please mark your calendar for next year to participate in this great program. The event takes approximately one hour of your time and the cadets and cadre appreciate the attention. Additionally, your involvement helps the chapter compete for national awards. Contact John Bell at bellbunch5@att.net for questions on how to get involved or to add your name to the list of volunteers for next year. Once you do it, you will see what you have been missing and wonder why you hadn't done it earlier. (Cont. Awards - pg 14)



Chapter News



(Awards Cont.)

Flag Certificate: The chapter presented Flag certificates during the awards program for outstanding and constant display of the U.S. Flag during the year. Two of the presentations are shown here.

Flag Certificates



L-R: Compatriot Walt Skull, Judson JROTC SMSGT Ret., John Carbon



L-R: Compatriot John Bell, Rev. Scott Brown, TMI President

Outstanding Cadets

Limited space precludes photos of all recipients from the 49 high schools, but congratulations to all.



L-R: Southside H.S. Cadet, Compatriot Mike Bowles

It should be noted that this Southside cadet was named the outstanding SAR state cadet in a very competitive program. She is top in her class and an outstanding representative of her school. Congratulations!



L-R: Compatriot Walt Skull, Judson JROTC Cadet



Chapter News



Chapter Birthday: The chapter celebrated its 94th birthday during the April 16th membership meeting. Each year a cake is presented at the meeting and a ceremonial “cutting of the cake” with the chapter sword is done. After pictures and the short ceremony, the cake is shared with those in attendance.



Past President General Judge Butler
 cutting the cake surrounded by past
 presidents in attendance.
 L-R: Richard Weitzel, Rev. Taylor, Kevin
 Kanter, Dustin Whittenberg, Gary Neal,
 George Harcourt, Blair Rudy.



The Cake



Patriotic Ball: The 104th Patriotic & Historical Ball took place on 4-26-2025. The first Ball took place in 1919 to honor San Antonio's military personnel, and is held annually. The evening is various patriotic ceremonies, speeches, and dancing. A highlight of the evening is a visit from King Antonio of the Texas Cavaliers.

L-R: Frank Kebelman, Mike Giglio, Frank Rohrbough, Randy Fleisher, Greg Surovic



Miscellaneous



Dueling

A Matter of Honor: Dueling in one form or another has been around for centuries. Duels were often fought over insults, business disputes, political conflicts, or matters of the heart. Often, legal disputes were settled through duels, with the time, place, and weapons, being directed by the judge. Judicial disputes required both parties to deposit some form of guarantee to ensure their appearance.

In some cultures, such as in tribes throughout medieval Europe, disputes were settled by fighting where it was believed that the Gods would intervene to protect the righteous. Knights in the Middle Ages engaged in single combat to prove bravery, settle disputes, or win favors.

The modern duel emerged in Italy and spread across Europe, particularly France and England in the 16th-18th centuries. It was the way that aristocrats and military officers defended their personal honor. Formal rules, to dictate conduct, included proper challenges, weapons used (usually swords or pistols), and the appointment of seconds, who ensured fairness were established.

The 18th century, flintlock pistols were established as the common weapon, which made duels deadlier. The duel between Alexander Hamilton and Aaron Burr in 1804, which ended in Hamilton's fatality is likely the most famous duel.

Due to changing social norms, legal bans, and the rise of modern legal systems, dueling fell out of favor in the 19th century with many countries criminalizing the practice. Some military officers continued dueling into the early 20th century, but it became increasingly taboo.

Dueling was outlawed in the military by the 69 Articles of War, which Congress passed in 1775 to govern the Continental Army during the American Revolution. It was also outlawed in the 101 Articles of War, which was the basis for the military's justice system from 1806 until 1951

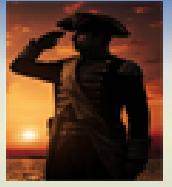


Sources:

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Duel>

<https://www.britannica.com/topic/duel>

Hamilton – Burr Duel Depiction



Membership Milestones

Congratulations and a thank you goes to these members for their continued support of SAR for so many years.

5_yrs of Service

Barclay Houston
Bryan Houston

10_yrs of Service

Larry Luckett

15_yrs of service

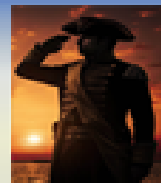
George Becknell
Harold "Bud" Davenport

25_yrs of service

Hal Jennings
Jeffrey Hoppe

30_yrs of service

Randolph Lockwood



Membership Milestones

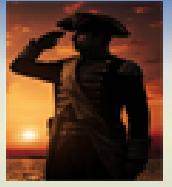
Birthdays

March

Owen	Gurecky	Albert	Metts
Barent	Dutcher	Major	Russell
Roy	Leonard	Hildebrand	Petty
Dale	Addington	George	Saidler
Thomas	Atkinson	Dustin	Whittenburg
Rueben	Perez	John	Bell
Robert	Johnson	Robert	Brady
Robert	Leonard		

April

Benjamin	Lavezzari	Peter	Grether
Ryan	Simmons	Ernest	Hanavan
Kenneth	McAnear	Brandon	Ware
Kristofor	Normand	Jeffrey	Butler
Roland	Salatino	David	Elsey
Parker	Lewallen	Robert	Kruger
Wesley	Williams	Gene	Munson
Arthur	Sandoval	James	Daniell
Yancey	Swearingen	Jett	Leonard
Edwin	Trebesch		



Note:
 Event Point of Contact
 indicated in the
CONTACT boxes

Coming Events

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
May				1	2	3
Welcome Home event at airport 11:00*	4	5	6	7	8	9
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Mothers Day			Executive Committee 11:30*			
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
			Membership Meeting 11:30*			
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
	Memorial Day					
CONTACT * Frank Kebelman						

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
June	1	2	3	4	5	6
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
			Executive Committee 11:30*			Flag Day Army's 250 th Birthday
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
Fathers day			Membership Meeting 11:30*		Summer	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					
CONTACT * Frank Kebelman						