

The Texas Compatriot

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Stephen W. Rohrbough President, TXSSAR 2013-2014

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President's Message

ellow Compatriots,

Happy New Year! I hope you all had a blessed Christmas with family and friends and closed out 2013 with many good experiences. I hope that you all welcomed 2014 and the New Year with good health and safe travels.

The Board of Managers (BOM) meeting at the Hilton Garden Inn in Houston, TX, October 11–13, 2013 was a resounding success. My letter inviting fellow TXSSAR Compatriots to attend this BOM, turned out to be everything I promised. The three Chapters (Freedom, Piney Woods, and Robert Rankin) hosting the meeting did an absolutely First Class job in planning, coordinating, organizing, and executing the meeting. The teamwork between the leaders of these Chapters was outstanding and the plan came together like clockwork. I am most pleased with the outcome and what was accomplished for TXSSAR.

The "Meet the Candidates" forum for Officers running for National offices for 2014-2015 was excellent. Attendees got to meet the candidates and learn what their goals were, how they planned to achieve them, and how SAR will benefit. Most positions were uncontested, but we got to hear their messages and meet

them. Only two positions were contested—Treasurer General and Librarian General. Larry Cornwell (Alabama SSAR) and Mike Tomme (Georgia SSAR) are running for Treasurer General; and Larry Guzy (Georgia SSAR) and Bruce Pickett (Alabama SSAR) are running for Librarian General. Candidates in each race presented their credentials and what they wanted to do if elected. Afterwards, the BOM endorsed all uncontested candidates. By close votes, the BOM endorsed Mike Tomme for Treasurer General; and Larry Guzy for Librarian General. [Editor's Note: Larry Guzy is now running for Registrar General.]

President Pamela Wright, Texas Society DAR joined us for dinner on Saturday evening and extended greetings from the Texas Society DAR. I presented President Wright with the SAR Martha Washington Medal for her service during the term of President Bob Clark. I also presented her the SAR Daughters of Liberty Medal and Certificate for her continued support of the Texas Society and working together for the benefit of both DAR and SAR Societies.

As the BOM came to an end, I know we have the skills and talent to host the 2018 National Congress in Houston, as we did when we did in Dallas, in 2006.

From September 2013 to the end of January 2014, we have visited nine Chapters, including Texas Tech (Lubbock), Panhandle Plains (Amarillo), Alexander Hodge (Sugarland) Plano Chapter, Athens Chapter, Dallas Chapter, San Antonio Chapter, Independence Chapter (College Station), Laredo Chapter, and Heart of Texas Chapter

(Salado). I talked about "German Immigration to Pennsylvania in the mid 1750's" while wearing my First Virginia Regimental period Uniform with a Red collar and cuffs, Round Hat, and appropriate accoutrements. Marie talked about the Ladies Auxiliary Quilt program for this year and sold tickets to raise money for the Patriots Fund. This year's quilt is designed, pieced, and quilted by artist Phoebe Hartline who lives in the Texas Panhandle and is a member of LATXSSAR. This quilt being made by a noted artist means that it is one of a kind, a true heirloom, and a collector's dream.

Most Chapters were installing new Officers, so I inducted them for their term of office for 2014. It was great to see outstanding support for SAR with excellent leadership and active programs across the board. I really appreciated seeing District Vice-Presidents at every Chapter I visited, including District VP Bill Harper (District 2), Edward Heath (District 3), Ron Walcik (District 4), Drake Peddie (District 6), Larry Casey (District 7), John Thompson (District 8), and Peter Rowley (District 11). Thank you for the special support to this great society.

Marie and I attended three joint DAR, SAR, and CAR events. The first was on September 21 with the "Constitution Day Celebration" hosted by two Amarillo DAR Chapters at the Amarillo Club. The Club is on the 16th floor of the highest building in Amarillo. We had a fantastic view of the panhandle plains. George West and I wore period uniforms, presented the Colors, and told the story of our respective uniforms. I was impressed with the speaker from the VA hospital who spoke on the U.S. Constitution and the Bill of Rights from which we derive our liberty and guarantee for a land of free men. I wondered why SAR does not give recognition and celebrate Constitution Day in a similar fashion as does DAR and add it to our calendar of events?

On November 9, 2013, we attended the 100th Anniversary of the Alamo Chapter DAR (San Antonio) at the Petroleum Club in San Antonio. The San Antonio SAR Chapter hon-

ored a San Antonio Police Officer for her heroism in saving the life of her fellow Police Officer in a shooting incident recently. She was presented a SAR Heroism Medal and Certificate for her service. The picture and presentation were in the *San Antonio Express* the next week.

On December 7, Marie and I attended the traditional joint meeting of the San Antonio de Bexar DAR (San Antonio), San Antonio SAR Chapter, and Denny Anderson Society CAR for a Christmas celebration at the San Antonio Country Club. As usual, I participated in the Color Guard and presented the Colors with TXSSAR Commander Frank Rohrbough commanding the unit. This annual event is special to SAR, DAR, and CAR as this year we were privileged to hear the famous Texas Children's Youth Choir from San Antonio, TX. This group, made up of children age 7-17, have traveled all over the U.S. and Europe for many years.

We have successfully had several meetings on "GoToMeeting.com" with District 8 and the Houston area Chapters. On December 15 and 22, 2013, we had meeting with DVP John Thompson and Chapter Officers. We had a very good agenda to discuss National, State, and local topics. These are informational and training sessions for State, District, and Chapter Officers. District VPs are the catalyst for the introduction and education of Chapter Officers. It is an opportunity to learn how to perform important duties and take responsibility and credit for what is done in the Chapter. Preparing Chapter Annual Reports and receiving credit for the work and activities in the Chapter is a key element of using this new technology.

On February 22, 2014, we will participate in the 118th Annual George Washington Parade in Laredo, TX. We will be part of the famed Bridge Ceremony with City dignitaries from Nuevo Laredo, Mexico and Laredo, TX. They will meet at the center of the bridge, exchange greetings and join their counterparts on the US side for the day. After the Bridge Ceremony, we will be one of

175 units, including bands and floats with Debutantes in gorgeous Ballroom gowns that can easily compete with the gowns worn in the San Antonio Celebrations during Fiesta. It is the largest George Washington Celebration and parade in the US, with over 200,000 people in attendance.

President General Joseph Dooley will lead the SAR participants and other National Officers with Color Guardsmen and wives marching and/or riding on the Laredo Chapter SAR float. As is the long standing practice, the Laredo Chapter will hold its Annual meeting and all out of town SAR and TXSSAR guests will attend this wonderful event. It is sponsored by Compatriot Rick Ramirez and his brothers and family members.

At the National level, TXSSAR Officers and wives will attend the 2014 Spring Leadership meeting in Louisville, KY on February 27-March 1, 2014. The big topic of the day is the funding for the Center for Advancing America's Heritage (CAAH), one of five of President General Joe Dooley's PG Initiatives. TXSSAR contributed \$2,750 to support three of the five PG' Initiatives for 2013-2014 - \$1,500 with a 100% match from Mr. and Mrs. Sam Powell's \$1.5 million gift in 2012; \$750 for the USO Initiative recognizing the three major airports in Texas including DFW, HIA, and San Antonio; and \$500 to Mount Vernon Ladies Association for George Washington Portraits to go to two Elementary Schools in Texas, specifically Pin Oak Middle School in Katy, TX and Saint Mary's Hall in San Antonio, TX. TXSSAR will be recognized for its participation in the PG Initiatives during the National Congress in 2014 in Greensboro, S.C.

If you haven't made a donation to the CAAH, please consider doing so, as soon as possible, and receive the pin for a \$500 donation and the Lamplighter Medal and Certificate for a contribution of \$1,000. Contributions can be spread over time and may still be matched 100% by Dr. Sam Powell and his wife, with their donation of \$1.5 million during the 122nd National Congress in Phoenix, AZ in July 5-12 2012. Contact Linda Dunn at NSSAR at (502) 589 -1776 for more information.

The TXSSAR Annual State Meeting is set for March 27-30, 2014 in San Antonio. It will held be at the Omni Hotel at the Colonnade at Wurzbach and IH-10 West. This is the same hotel where TX DAR held their Annual Meeting in 2012. It is a step up in hotel facilities and dining from the hotels we normally use for State Meetings. We negotiated a great rate at \$99 per night and reserved 2012 food pricing as well. We get more value for our money than we have with hotels in the past.

We have invited Genealogist General Larry Cornwell to make a presentation of "Best Practices for Handling SAR Membership Applications." With his 3-year experience as Genealogist General, he will tell us how to make the best use of time and energy when working with prospective members. Also, Compatriot and Mrs. Larry Cornwell will present "General and Mrs. Richard Montgomery" during the Saturday night Banquet. I know you will enjoy this special program.

In closing, I invite all members to attend the TXSSAR Annual State Meeting. Please see your personal invitation included in this edition of the Newsletter. I recommend that the President, President-Elect, and Registrar of every chapter attend this meeting.

I truly believe that it is the most important meeting of the year. It is here that you learn what is happening at the State and National level, that you can share with your chapter members who normally do not attend meetings above the chapter level. Please make your hotel reservations and mail in your Registration Form. Both forms are on the TXSSAR.org website.

Stephen W. Rohrbough

TXSSAR President, 2013-14

Swan Song

hen I submitted the Fall, 2013, issue of the *Texas Compatriot* to President Rohrbough, I said, "Let's think in terms of the Winter Issue being my last. I have some contractual commitments that are going to be really hard to meet if I continue as Editor beyond that point." Well, this is it (my last). It's not that I don't love to do this for my Brother Compatriots in Texas; it's just a shortage of hours in the day!

I am pleased to announce that your new Editor of the *Texas Compatriot* is **Mark Remington** of the San Antonio Chapter. Mark will handle the Spring Issue due out about June 1. Mark and I have been exchanging emails and phone calls, and we are both committed to as smooth a transition as possible. Mark's physical and email addresses are shown on Page 16.

When I took the reins in 2011, I determined to make the *Texas Compatriot* more educational and even fun. Three new features were introduced: "Serendipity," "Americanism Trivia Quiz," and "Picture from the Past." The first two features have been successful, but not enough TXSSAR officers will admit that they are old enough to have "old pictures."

Please give Mark your encouragement when you see something you like, and be slow to criticize or you may find yourself as the next editor.

I want to echo Stephen's encouragement to attend as much of the TXSSAR Annual Meeting as you can. It will open your eyes as to what this great organization can be. Also, see the LATXSSAR quilt on Page 15; it will look great on your king-size bed!

Finally, I want to highlight the Wounded Warrior Tool Box project on page 6. That's a terrific patriotic project that all chapters could be involved in.

I was talking with Stephen the other day about the lack of good articles on interesting topics submitted by TXSSAR Chapters. There are up to 8 chapters that keep the material coming. Are the other 40+ chapters doing anything interesting? Don't send Mark pictures of old men sitting around; I can see that in the gallery of ancestors in my own home. Take a look at the Chapter and Color Guard news on pp. 4-9, and see if any of it could be used by your chapter.

Sincerely,



H. Charles Baker

Editor, Texas Compatriot, 2011-Winter, 2014



ill Country Chapter by Joseph Benham

tudents from high schools in Boerne, Fredericksburg and Kerrville are winners in the annual Knight Essay Contest sponsored by the Hill Country Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution.

Sean Schaffer of Boerne Champion High School will receive \$300 and a certificate, and will have his essay entered in the competition at the state level. He wrote about Robert Morris, who masterminded the financing of much of the fight for American independence but is known, according to Shaffer, as "The Forgotten Patriot."



Sean Schaffer

Zachary Boothby's essay "One Nation Under God," on the role of religion in the American Revolution, and Noah Harper's portrait of George Washington, "The Character of an Honest Man," tied for second. Each will receive \$150 and a certificate. Boothby is from Kerrville Tivy High School and Harper attends Heritage Academy in Fredericksburg.

Fourth place, with \$100 and a certificate, goes to Tivy's Benjamin Solder for an essay on the influence of Benjamin Franklin on American society, "The Cultural Shift in the Fight for Freedom."

Thirty-nine other students from area high schools will receive certificates for their entries.

The Hill Country Chapter of the SAR also sponsors oration and poster contests for students in various age groups, and recognizes the teachers of the winners, as well as the schools that they attend.

The National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution is one of the nation's oldest and largest patriotic organizations for men, with chapters in every U.S. state and many foreign countries. Its missions include promoting respect for our Founding Fathers, Revolutionary soldiers and sailors and their sacrifices in winning U.S. independence; encouraging respect for the American flag, supporting veterans, active duty military, and ROTC programs, and taking part in patriotic events such as those at the War Memorial on the grounds of the Kerr County Courthouse on Memorial Day and Veterans Day.

Members are men who can document having at least one ancestor who served in state militias or the Continental Army under George Washington, or in the Colonial Navy or Marines, or helped the Revolutionary cause with donations of such things as weapons, ammunition, uniforms, medical supplies, blankets, cash and food for the fighting forces and their livestock.

Genealogical expertise is available to men who are interested in joining the SAR and believe that they may qualify.



Kerrville Fire Department

Fausset, EMT of the Year; Kirk Scheel, Firefighter SAR; Mark Beavers, Asst. erald Irion, he Hill Country Chapter gave its EMT and Fire Safety Awards to members of the

SAR; Roy

Winston Scott,

Fire Chief;

of the Year; Jim Barkley,



axahachie History teacher and SAR Compatriot Bill Covington gave a presentation to the Arlington Chapter on American Revolution coins and currency. See display at lower right

Arlington Chapter by John Anderson



rlington Chapter #7 Reorganized Jan. 11, 1994. This is their 20th Chapter Anniversary. Front row: Bob Wehr, Ray Wehr, Roger Wehr. Standing: Bill Covington, Ron Carter, Richard Coffey, Sonny Parks, Kevin Jorrey, Dennis Walton, John Anderson, David Friels



San Antonio Chapter by Frank Rohrbough

During 2013, the San Antonio Chapter has held two distributions totaling 41 tool boxes to Wounded Warriors who have received Purple Heart Medals. Each tool box contains nearly \$1000 worth of tools from such quality sources as Snapper, Stanley, Husky, and Home Depot. The tools were made available via Resource Exchange Association (REA) in cooperation with Operation Homefront. The goal is to provide 48,000 tool boxes to Wounded Warriors in all 50 states. The boxes are provided by NSSAR.



Omar Hernandez, who was awarded two Purple Hearts and a Silver Star, expressed his appreciation for his tool box.

allas Chapter by H. Charles Baker



or the last five years, the Dallas Chapter has annually manned an SAR Recruiting Table in the Jane Douglas Continental DAR House during the State Fair of Texas. Information sheets are filled out by Fair visitors who think they might be eligible for SAR membership. These sheets are mailed to SAR chapter registrars in the visitors' hometowns. Above, Dallas Chapter President Robert Kittrell and Secretary Alan Petersen are loaded and ready for visitors. The display includes a Bedford Flag, a courting candle, a pre-Civil War flintlock rifle, historic US flags, and informational items about SAR.

Prazos Valley Chapter by Kathy Hanlon

The Compatriots of the Brazos Valley Chapter, TXSSAR, are proud to have one of America's heroes among their ranks and have been actively supporting Major Edward B. McDonald, a SAR Compatriot and Army officer currently deployed to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Major McDonald became a member of the Sons of the American Revolution during a unique ceremony held during a regular chapter meeting where a videoconference was arranged by Jim Hanlon, Registrar, to allow for Major McDonald to take the SAR Oath. The videoconference also afforded compatriots an opportunity to ask questions and speak directly with Major McDonald as he was stationed at the Judge Advocate General's Legal Center and School located in Charlottesville, Virginia, and preparing for deployment. Already an attorney, Major McDonald was attending the center's graduate-level division, accredited by the American Bar Association, to complete studies for the Master of Laws degree in Military Law. The center, operated by the United States Army, educates military, civilian, and international personnel in legal and leadership skills.

Major McDonald, a descendant of Revolutionary War patriot Job Broughton, joined the National

Guard upon graduation from high school, in addition to serving as a ROTC Cadet during his college years. He was commissioned into the U.S. Army as a 2nd Lieutenant in December of 1998 and served five years on active duty, part of that time in Korea. He received many awards and honors during those years and was eventually promoted to Captain. Upon discharge from the Army in August of 2002, he enrolled at the University of Louisville School Of Law and was sworn in as an attorney in October of 2005 in Frankfort, Kentucky. Upon graduation from the university, Major McDonald reenlisted in the U.S. Army and was subsequently deployed to Iraq where he spent one year. Following various tours where Major McDonald was stationed at posts across the United States and assignments as a Judge Advocate, Major McDonald was selected to attend the Judge Advocate General's Legal Center and School to further his studies.

Upon completion of his studies at the law center in May, 2013, and shortly after becoming a member of the Sons of the American Revolution, Major McDonald deployed to Afghanistan. His wife, Laura, and two young daughters, Caroline and Sarah Grace, remain stateside until Major McDonald's deployment ends in June, 2014.



Compatriot Major Edward Brandon McDonald

COLOR GUARD NEWS



orth Texas Color Guards by Drake Peddie.

Members of North Texas Chapters present the colors as an honor guard at DFW National Cemetery on September 27, 2013, for US Army KIA SSgt Robert E. Thomas. From left: Drake Peddie (Plano), Walt Thomas (East Fork Trinity), Dan Reed (Plano), John Greer (Ambassador Fletcher Warren), Blair Rudy (Plano), and Jim Johnson (Denton).

Retiring a flag by Tom Whitelock.

When retiring a flag, first separate the canton (stars) from the field (stripes) using scissors. Then it is no longer a flag. It may be burned or buried, depending on preference. (Some people cut the stripes apart, depending on preference.) At right, George Ramphrey, H. Charles Baker, Tom Whitelock, and Robert Kittrell assist DAR members in a flag retirement during the State Fair of Texas



COLOR GUARD NEWS



SSAR Leadership Meeting by John K. Thompson.

Preceding the NSSAR Leadership meeting in Louisville, Kentucky, a presentation of the George Washington portrait was made to the Highland Middle School in Georgetown, IN. This was immediately followed by a program on the History of US Flags by TXSSAR Past-President Tom Green. The date was Thursday, September 26, 2013, and the flag presentation was made to nearly 350 5th and 6th graders at the school. This event was a coordinated effort by NSSAR and the Mount Vernon Ladies' Association. Pictured in uniform above are Tom Green and John K. Thompson, with NSSAR officials Doug Cox and Lance Carter

Serendipity*

* Merriam-Webster defines *serendipity* as "the gift of finding valuable or agreeable things not sought for.



The Forts of Charleston Harbor

(Fort Moultrie and Fort Sumter)



The 13 States

General George Washington, Commander in Chief of the Continental Army, had his hands full with the British in the northern colonies, mainly Southern Massachusetts to New Jersey. He appointed General Nathaneal Greene as Commander (with full power) of the Southern Army, from Delaware to Georgia.

Charleston, SC was viewed by the British as a strategic city to establish a stronghold in the South. Sullivan's Island on the north side of the entrance to Charleston Harbor, was named after Florence O'Sullivan, the first lighthouse keeper of the harbor. Fort Sullivan was built by the colonists to protect the town from British warships.



The bulwarks around Fort Sullivan were built using horizontal palmetto trunks with sand filler. Col. William Moultrie was given command of the fort. He designed the "Liberty Flag" and flew it over the unfinished fort. The Liberty Flag is today known as the Moultrie Flag.



The Moultrie Flag

Fort Sullivan was incomplete when Commodore Sir Peter Parker and 9 worships attacked it on June 28, 1776. The spongy palmetto trunks caused British cannonballs to bounce off and in some case hit British ships. After a 9-hour battle, the British were force to retire. Moultrie was promoted to Brigadier General, and the fort was renamed Fort Moultrie in honor of his successful defense. The

palmetto tree was honored by the State of South Carolina. It is today known as the Palmetto State. The

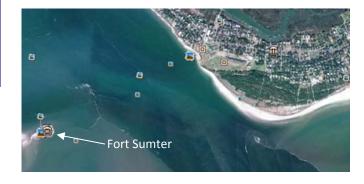


The flag of South Carolina State today

palmetto tree replaced the word "Liberty."

The British losses in the Battle of Fort Moultrie prevented the British from attacking Charleston again until 1780. Charleston was captured briefly by the British and then retaken by Gen. Nathaneal Greene near the end of the war.

Following the War of 1812, Congress authorized the building of fortifications all along the Atlantic Coast. Four forts were to be built in a ring across the en-



trance to Charleston Harbor. These were Moultrie, Sumter, Johnson, and Castle Pinkney. Sumter was named after General Thomas Sumter, a Revolutionary War hero. It was never finished.

The problem was lack of bedrock under the proposed fort. The satellite picture clearly shows the huge sandbar halfway across the harbor. Large rocks had to be shipped from northern states. South Carolina declared secession from the United States on December 20, 1860. On December 26, U.S. Army Major Robert Anderson, without authorization from Washington, secretly moved two companies of men from Fort Moultrie to unfinished Fort Sumter. Less than half of the cannons were in place, and little ammunition was available. An impasse continued until April



Confederate Flag inside Fort Sumter in 1861



The Union began trying to retake Sumter in 1863. This is an interior picture of the fort in 1864



11, 1861, when the South Caroline militia demanded surrender of the Fort. At 4:30 a.m. on April 12, the Confederates began a 34-hour siege of Fort Sumter, which began the Civil War.



Fort Moultrie restored to Civil War era condition today



Restored Fort Sumter today

Commercial boat tours of the area are available today, and both forts have been restored. The area is administered by the National Park Service. Both the Park Headquarters and Fort Moultrie are located at 1214 Middle Street on Sullivan's Island and are accessible by car.

From Mount Pleasant & US 17: From US Highway 17, follow the signs for SC 703 and Sullivan's Island. Take SC 703 to Sullivan's Island. Cross the Intracoastal Waterway at the Ben Sawyer Bridge. Continue straight on Ben Sawyer Boulevard to Middle Street. Turn right at the stop sign onto Middle Street. The Fort Moultrie Visitor Center and parking is 1.5 miles away on Middle Street.

Fort Sumter is accessible only by boat. For more information, including ferry locations for Fort Sumter, google "Fort Sumter National Monument."

PRESIDENT GENERAL'S INITIATIVES for 2013-14

resident-General Joe Dooly has declared several initiatives for this year, all of which were distributed via the DADA Mailer at the request of TXSSAR President Steve Rohrbough. All of these initiatives involve a significant commitment of Joe's personal assets, including his beautiful hair, his money, etc. It is therefore our duty to relieve Joe of as much as possible of both his hair and his money..

Here is a summarization of these initiatives.

First is CAAH (our capital fund raising campaign for the Center for Advancing America's Heritage) accompanied with a \$1 million dollar challenge;

http://www.sar.org/node/2042

two Mount Vernon Ladies Projects; http://www.sar.org/node/2043

Memorial, Markers, and Monuments Dedications;

http://www.sar.org/node/2044

USO contributions to support our troops at airports and local organizations;

http://www.sar.org/node/2045

and Membership Retention. http://www.sar.org/node/2046

The Texas Society of the Sons of the American Revolution

Compatriot Stephen Rohrbough, President Requests the honor of your presence at the

Youth Awards Luncheon

Reception and Banquet for the Installation of Officers

And

Presentation of the Patriot Medal Saturday, March 29, 2014

The Omní Hotel — San Antonio, Texas

Awards Luncheon at Noon

Reception at 6:00 P.M.

Annual Banquet for Installation of Officers and

Presentation of the Patriot Medal at 7:00 P.M.

Reservations Required

Black Tie Optional

Search On-Line for your Patriot in order to determine whether their NSSAR Patriot and Grave Record has been updated or needs updating. Over 50,000 have been updated.

NSSAR / effort for searching a Patriot & Grave Record Revolutionary War Graves Registration

Before setting out to complete a RevWar Patriot's Grave Update form found online at www.sar.org website, follow a few steps:

- 1. Check to see if the patriot's grave has already been updated recently. To do this access www.sar.org, drop down MEMBERSHIP, click on PATRIOT SEARCH.
- 2. Click on the blue words: Search the PATRIOT & GRAVE INDEX. Type in the surname and/or first initial. Click on SEARCH. When searching databases, minimum identifiers may yield the best results. Example: The result for entering the surname Head reveals all the Head Family surnames that are available on our NSSAR Index.
- 3. In this way, each of you might consider adding any changes and additional source data that you may desire for your NSSAR Patriot and/or Supplemental Patriot Ancestor.

James E Mitchell,
Chairman, TXSSAR Patriot and Graves Committee



AMERICANISM TRIVIA QUIZ. Correct answers from the Quiz in the Spring issue are revealed below. Nobody answered all of these correctly.

<u>1776</u>

- 1. In the middle of December, 1776, who wrote a pamphlet that began with the words "These are the times that try men's souls: The summer soldier and the sunshine patriot will, in this crisis, shrink from the service of his country; but he that stands it Now, deserves the love and thanks of man and woman"? Thomas Paine wrote *The Crisis* while retreating across New Jersey with Washington's army. After the loss of New York and during the ensuing retreat, the morale of the army plummeted to a very low point. Some men were deserting to the British.
- 2. Which river did Washington's army cross to attack the Hessian troops at Trenton, New Jersey? The Delaware River. Washington was determined to raise his army's morale by obtaining a victory over an isolated outpost of 1,400 Hessians (German mercenaries under the command of Col. Johann Rall.
- 3. When did Washington cross the river? On the night of December 25, 1776, the army was ferried over by John Glover's regiment.
- 4. What type of boats did Washington use to cross the river? Durham boats, named after their builder, Robert Durham, who had been building them since 1750. The boats were 40-60 feet long, 8 feet wide, and 2 feet deep. Each had a mast with two sails. They were able to carry horses and artillery as well as men.
- 5. Did the Hessian commander have prior knowledge that Washington was marching toward him? Yes. Though Rall had the information, he probably had not read it. While drinking wine, playing cards, and partying on Christmas night, he had been handed a note informing him that the American army was marching against the town. He stuck it in his pocket where it was found after his death.

- 6. What future American president was wounded in the Battle of Trenton? James Monroe, fifth President of the U.S., was the last president who was a Founding Father. He was one of few Americans wounded in this battle, in which over 100 Hessians were killed or wounded, and over 900 were taken prisoner.
- 7. In the Battle of Trenton, why did Col. Charles Scott of the Fifth Virginia Regiment tell his men to fire at the legs of the enemy? Because each man wounded in the leg would require two men to carry him off the battlefield.

<u>1776-77</u>

NEW AMERICANISM TRIVIA QUIZ. (Answers in the Spring Issue.)

- Name the other two commanders Washington assigned to cross the Delaware with separate forces to assist in his attack on Trenton.
- 2. Writing of the Battle of Trenton, what historian wrote, "Yet it may be doubted whether so small a number of men ever employed so short a space of time with greater or more lasting results upon the history of the world"?
- 3. Why has 1777 been referred to as "Year of the Hangman"?
- 4. In what battle did Washington risk his life by riding between the opposing lines to rally his troops?
- 5. Where did Washington's army gather for winter quarters after the victories at Trenton and Princeton?
- 6. What new state was granted independence on January 16, 1777, and essentially became a free republic?

Send in your answers to Compatriot Editor Mark Remington as follows:

markremingtonSAR@gmail.com

LATXSSAR

Here is your chance to own a beautifully hand crafted king size quilt!

Ladies Auxiliary of TXSSAR

Patriotic Quilt Project







This fundraiser is conducted to support the TXSSAR Patriot Fund for youth programs.

Please help us raise funds for this worthy cause.

Contact Angela Peik, Vice President, TXSSAR Ladies Auxiliary
For tickets, phone 254-421-0430 or email akpeik@hotmail.com
1 ticket - \$2
3 tickets - \$5
Please make all checks payable to LATXSSAR

Designed, pieced and quilted by Phoebe Hartline, member of LATXSSAR

Texas Society SAR
PMB 363
9090 Skillman Street, Suite 182-A
Dallas, TX 75243--8262

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Permit No. 136

From the Editor: The Newsletter Committee unanimously approved a new procedure for the 2013 Ross L. Shipman Newsletter Contest. Awards will be announced at the 2014 TXSSAR Annual Meeting. Chapter Newsletter Editors should send one copy each of their four best newsletter issues for 2013 in one single batch of hardcopies to the Newsletter Editor, as shown below. Only hard-copy print-outs will be accepted. This includes newsletters that are normally distributed electronically. All batches must be delivered by U.S. Mail no later than January 1, 2015. A maximum of four newsletter issues per chapter will be accepted for judging. If a chapter publishes more than four issues per year, the Chapter Newsletter Editor should submit what he considers his best four. While black-and-white issues will be considered, color issues may have a competitive advantage.

Finally, please observe the following deadlines for submission of items for *The Texas Compatriot:* September 15 for the Fall Issue, January 15 for the Winter issue, and May 15 for the Spring issue.

Dr. H. Charles Baker

Compatriot Editor, 2011-Winter 2014

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Mark Remington

Compatriot Editor, Spring 2014 to ?

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SAVE THESE DATES:

2014 ANNUAL MEETING: Thurs. to Sunday, March 27-30 OMNI San Antonio Hotel, San Antonio, TX

See details at <u>TXSSAR.org</u> under "Events," as they are developed.