



THE SAN ANTONIO COMPATRIOT

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

Compatriot James Taylor, President — Compatriot Frank Rohrbough, Editor

Jan-Feb 2011



PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

Greetings Compatriots and Friends, Many times this year, Peter Barron has told me it was almost time to take over for him. Now that he has completed his year as president we all need to formally recognize the great job he did in leading us to "The best SAR Chapter in TEXAS and in the National SAR." I may be prejudice in this statement, but he has done an outstanding job and setting mighty high standards for me to follow. Thank you for entrusting me with the privilege of being your chapter president for the coming year. We have "hit the ground running" for 2011. Our State President Jim Jones and President Elect Bill Marrs were present for the installation of this year's Officers and Executive Committee. We have participated in 35 events so far including Honoring our Veterans at the VA Hospital and participating in the largest George Washington Parade in the world in Laredo the weekend of 18-19 February. I have committed each of us to the recruitment of new members, with a goal of 40 for the year and 20 Supplements. We are well on our way to reaching these goals, we have 3 applications approved, 9 new and 10 supplements at National. Ten others are in the process of being completed. Now it's your turn. Genealogist Peter Barron is anxious to help you get your applications prepared. Compatriot Frank Rohrbough and myself are also helping. Youth and Education is central to our continual success, contacting school and local communities to encourage participation in our youth activities and awards program for essay and oral contests for ROTC and Local High School students is a primary goal. Compatriots Jay Lewallen, Bob Brady and Bud Davenport are already presenting programs to the youth in our community. Our color guard is a most visible asset, these compatriots devote considerable time to present SAR to our communities. New compatriots are always welcome. Come and join us, for fun and education, see Commander, Frank Rohrbough for how you can become involved too. He will tell you about an opportunity to serve the Veterans at the VA through its Popcorn Concession. Thank you again for the opportunity to follow in the footsteps of our great president leaders of the Past and leaders of the Present. I am humbled by this opportunity and will endeavor to do my best to keep SASAR on top.

Fraternally, James Taylor

NEW OFFICERS INDUCTED FOR 2011

At our January 20th Meeting, President Jim Jones, Texas Society SAR, installed the new officers for 2011. The following members were installed: James Taylor, President and Chaplain; Edward Heath, President-Elect; Bob Brady, Recording Secretary; Frank Rohrbough, Corresponding Secretary & Sergeant At Arms; John Dupree, Treasurer; Robert Clark, Registrar; Jim Massingill, Historian; and Peter Baron, Genealogist.



(Shown at Left) President Jones administers the SAR Oath of Office to Compatriots (left to right) Frank Rohrbough, Robert Clark Peter Baron, James Taylor, Ed Heath and Bob Brady.

Following the induction ceremony, President Jones spoke of the State of the Texas Society and the upcoming State Conference in Ft. Worth at the Sheraton Grand DFW Airport Hotel in Irving, TX on March 24-27th. The Annual Meeting is being hosted by the Dallas Chapter. The meeting kicks off with a Genealogy Seminar on Thursday from 1-4 PM. Cost is only \$20 per person. Committee Meetings will be held on Friday, March 25th. The General Session begins on Friday afternoon at 4 PM and continues through Sunday morning. For more details, go to the TXSSAR webpage "public site" at "txssar.org" and click on the "Events" tab. (Shown at Right) Outgoing Chapter President Peter Baron expressed his appreciation to TXSSAR President Jim Jones for visiting our Chapter and inducting the Chapter Officers for 2011. In doing so, he presented him a book entitled "The Alamo Heroes and their Revolutionary Ancestors".



Chapter Holds History Fair at Little Flower Catholic School:

On February 11th, we spoke to the 5th and 8th grad students at Little Flower Catholic School about Early American History and with focus on the American Revolution. Participating in the program were Compatriots Stephen and Jay LeWallen. More specifically, Compatriot Peter Baron focused on camp life and the personal articles used by the Militia and Continental Army in the 1770's. He spoke on a variety of subjects including the uniforms of the revolution and how they changed from the early years of the militia and the establishment of a stan-

dard uniform by General Washington during the winter encampment at Valley Forge in 1778. Compatriot Frank Rohrbough spoke on the spies of General Washington during the Revolution and how the "Culper Spy Ring" gathered intelligence on the British while they occupied New York City. The highlight of the program was the firing of a replica of a 1770's British Musket in the parking lot of the school. The students were really impressed with commands given for firing the musket and how loud it sounded. They were excited to have their teacher fire the weapon.



Compatriot Baron speaks to the students about the uniforms, weapons, currency and flags of the American Revolution. Compatriot Frank Rohrbough shared the program speaking on "Washington's Spies" during the American Revolution.

AN EXCERPT ON "EVALUATION OF WEAPONS AND TACTICS IN THE BATTLE OF KINGS MOUNTAIN"

By Roland Salatino, San Antonio Chapter's Eagle Scout Award Recipient for 2010

A jewel often skimmed over or forgotten altogether in our classrooms and textbooks, the Battle of Kings Mountain in 1780 "was of mighty portent. History has done scant justice to its significance, which rightly should place it beside Lexington and Bunker Hill, Trenton, and Yorktown, as one of the crucial engagements in our long struggle for independence." The momentous defeat of the British-led and supplied Loyalist forces at the hands of a coalition of Overmountain militiamen (Patriots) had an incredible result: the battle at Kings Mountain stopped the British from gathering together all the southern colonists who still remained loyal to the crown, forming a huge army and crushing the rebellious Patriots. The rag-tag amalgam of angry Patriots snagged victory from the Loyalists thanks to two primary things: the difference in guns, and the difference in how those guns were used. A weapon, of course, is only as good as the hands that carry it and the Loyalists, trained for open-field, firing squad tactics, were poorly suited to defending an elevated, rocky, flat-topped hill. The Patriots, on the other hand, were accustomed to hunting small, fleet-footed animals for food and hiding behind trees for cover as they fought off Indian raids. The Patriots learned to fire with frightening accuracy before swiftly finding cover behind rocks and trees to reload. The Patriots lived by their rifles and knew them well. They knew, for example, that when firing upward, they had to compensate for the natural tendency to under-shoot a target; the hill-defending Loyalists had little clue as to why their .75 caliber lead balls hurtled harmlessly over the heads of the oncoming Patriots. The Loyalist bayonet charges did pose a threat, but the colonists were able to rely on their considerable skill with tomahawks to hold their ground. In the end, the Patriots' use of the American long rifle and better woodland fighting tactics allowed them to overtake the mountain and kill British Major Patrick Ferguson, setting a history-changing cornerstone in the formation of our United States.

For more, see the full Essay on our SASAR Chapter Webpage. This Essay advanced to TXSSAR for further competition.



(Above) Compatriots Frank Rohrbough, John Orr and James Taylor attended the Veterans Appreciation Program held on February 18th at the Audie Murphy Medical Center in San Antonio.

COMPATRIOTS SHOW APPRECIATION TO VETERANS

The Veterans Affairs conducts an annual Appreciation Week each year in February to show their appreciation for the services given by millions of members who have served in the military over the years, especially those who have suffered the wounds of war. This recognition begins with a Reception in the Recreation Center where visiting Veterans Service Organizations and other

military dignitaries are welcomed and asked to take handmade Valentine Cards made by Elementary School Students in area schools to veterans getting care in locations—such as wards, waiting rooms and lobbies—throughout the Medical Center. Our Chapter operates the Popcorn Concession on Fridays each week; so we wore our period uniforms and greeted veterans with a Valentine Card when they

came by our Concession. Funds raised through the sell of Popcorn are turned into the Volunteers Services Office and provided to veterans who are hospitalized and are in need of personal articles such as toothpaste, toothbrushes, shaving items and hair spray. The event allowed us to pay our respect to our veterans and extend our appreciation to them for their service to our country.

SAR Goes to George Washington Parade in Laredo

SAR Chapter dual member President-General David Sympson and First Lady Evelyn led the multi-state SAR group in the 113th Annual George Washington Birthday Celebration Parade in Laredo on February 19th. The Sympson's were accompanied by other national officers including Registrar General Lindsey Brock and wife Billie traveled from Jacksonville, FL while Jack and Shelia Manning

came from Boston. Other SAR members traveled from North Carolina and Arizona. Leading the large TXSSAR delegation is President Jim Jones and his First Lady Diane. The George Washington Parade has an estimated 200,000 plus parade viewer along the 3 mile route; it is now a NSSAR national event, and counts toward the Silver Color Guard Medal. This parade may be the largest event participated in by the SAR each year.



(Above) President-General David Sympson and his First Lady Evelyn led the SAR contingent. Following behind them are other TXSSAR dignitaries, including President Jim Jones (with Texas Flag).



(Photo at Left) Five members of the chapter participated in the Parade this year. Shown from left to right are Color Guard Commander Frank Rohrbough, Immediate

Past President Peter Baron, Past President-General Edward F. Butler, Past President Stephen Rohrbough and current President James Taylor. The Liberty Bell Float provided by Caleb Hall—a prospective member of SAR - has appeared at many veterans funerals across the country.



(Above Left) SASAR Chapter President James Taylor is shown with Ladies Diane Jones (right) and Barbara Stevens (left). (Above Right) Color Guard Commander Frank Rohrbough carries the Easton Flag (1777).

SAR and DAR Members Participate in GW Parade: Because of the strong efforts of Compatriot Tom Green and hospitality and marketing efforts of Rick Ramirez, President of the Laredo SAR Chapter, over 50 SAR Members and their spouses (many wearing period clothing) participated in this year's Parade. Following the parade, President Ramirez and his family hosted over 100 SAR guest and their ladies to a Chapter sponsored luncheon at the Holiday Inn Ballroom. Compatriot Tom Green presented the TXSSAR Bernardo de Galvez Medals and Parade Pins to all new participants in the Parade. The Bernardo de Galvez Medal was struck in 2010 specifically for SAR Color Guardsmen who participate in the Parade.



Death of Compatriot Ross Lovelace Shipman

Ross Lovelace Shipman died February 27th . He was born on November 20, 1926 in Jackson, Mississippi, the second son of Brigadier General William Smylie Shipman and Jeanette Lovelace Shipman. He graduated from Marion Institute in Marion, Alabama and immediately volunteered for the U.S. Army Parachute Troops. After receiving his parachute wings at Fort Benning, Georgia, he served in Luzon, Philippine Islands and Japan with the 127th Parachute Engineer Battalion of the 11th Airborne Division.

After World War II he graduated from the University of Mississippi with a degree in Geology and was a member of Delta Psi Fraternity. He then became employed by the Humble Oil and Refining Company and assigned to West Texas. He left Humble in 1955 to become a Petroleum Consultant in West Texas and in 1960 he opened an office in Corpus Christi, Texas. In 1967 he became the Associate Executive Director of the American Geological Institute in Washington, D.C. In 1971 he returned to Texas as the Associate Vice President for Research for The University of Texas in Austin where he retired in 1986. He then became President and CEO of Live Oak Energy Co. and after a second retirement, he again hung out his shingle as a Petroleum Investment Consultant.

Ross served as President of the Texas Section of the American Institute of Professional Geologists, he was named an honorary member in 1986. He was a Certified Petroleum Geologist #70 by the American Association of Petroleum Geologists. He is registered Professional Geologist #12. He was a Fellow of the Geological Society of America, a Fellow of the Geological Society of London and a Chartered Geologist in Great Britain. Ross was appointed to the Texas Coastal and Marine Council in 1979.

Ross was State President of the Texas Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, State Governor of the Society of Colonial Wars, President of the Patrick Henry Chapter of the SAR, Governor of the San Antonio Colony of Mayflower Descendants, Governor of the San Antonio Company of the Jamestown Society, Commander of Hood's Brigade Camp of the Sons of the Confederate Veterans, and a member of the Order of the First Families of Mississippi.

He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Lois Pegrin Shipman, his daughter Smylie Shipman Anderson of Austin, his grandson Ross A. Anderson and wife Lisa and sons Ross and Trey of San Antonio, granddaughters Shelby Anderson of Dallas, and Jacque Anderson Pritchard and her husband Judd and son Jack of Fort Worth.

Memorial Services were held at St. Mark's Episcopal Church in San Antonio; services were conducted by Rev. Jonathan Wickham on March 4th at one o'clock. Memorial contributions may be sent to the Boy Scouts of America or St. Mark's Episcopal Church Memorial Fund.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMING EVENTS

Chapter Round Table: Lion & Rose Pub, Blanco at Loop 410, 1st Tuesday of each month at 5 P.M. (Mar 1st and Apr 7th)

Chapter Business Meeting: Lion & Rose Pub, Sonterra Blvd 410, 2nd Thursday each month at 11:30 A.M.(Mar 10th and Apr 14th)

Chapter General Meeting: Petroleum Club on 3rd Wednesday each month at 11:30 A.M to 1 P.M. (Mar 16th and Apr 20th)

Special Events:

- **Frank Tejada Middle School History Faire**, Saturday, April 2nd, 9AM - 4 PM.
- **Fiesta de los Ninos Parade**, Port of San Antonio (Kelly AFB) Saturday, April 9, 11AM. (Parade starts at noon)
- **Pilgrimage to the Alamo, Monday**, April 11, 3 PM, assemble in front of the Civic Auditorium.

For more information, contact Compatriot Frank Rohrbough at frankr@gvvc.com or Compatriot Jay Lewallen at jlewa@satx.rr.com.

To learn more about our many Chapter events, go to our Web-page :

Chapter Website: www.sarsat.org.