



# THE SAN ANTONIO COMPATRIOT

San Antonio Chapter Sons of the American Revolution

Compatriot James Taylor, President — Compatriot Frank Rohrbough, Editor May-June 2011



## PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

The Long Hot summer is upon us but it has not slowed down the mission of our SAR. Educational programs have taken center stage with programs at Harris Middle School and Boerne Middle School North. We presented SAR's Good Citizenship Medal to Mrs. Charlott McReynolds, a History Teacher from the Floresville Independent School District. (See Page 3 for more details). The Color Guard continues to make impressions on all that see them perform. Before Memorial Day ceremonies at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery, your Color Guard led the way for Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts and other volunteer youth and adults in placing 100,000 flags to honor our Veterans who are buried there. On June 18th, we joined the Boerne Chapter Color Guard for the Burgess Fest Parade giving SAR another opportunity to show our colors and present our organization to the public.

A new Program is being established at the Wounded Warrior Center, BAMC where our wounded warriors and families will be able to trace 5 generations of their families, thanks to Ancestry. They are providing a Library Copy of their genealogical programs to help our military to focus on other things in their healing and recovery time. **We need volunteers to help teach them to use this research program once a month.** Volunteers will be trained in the use of Ancestry.Com.

July brings our SAR National Congress where San Antonio will received an award for being the BEST CHAPTER in the NATION. I am the only candidate for Chaplain General and will join a talented team of Leaders for this coming year. Many other NSSAR awards, ribbons and streamers will be presented to the San Antonio Chapter during the TXSSAR Board of Managers' Meeting that will be held on July 29-30 in Houston, Texas. Several of our members will be attending the meeting.

Thanks for the privilege of being your President. *James C. Taylor*

## CHAPTER CELEBRATES MEMORIAL DAY

On May 27<sup>th</sup> our chapter participated in the Opening Ceremony of the Scouts Annual Flag Placement Event at the National Cemetery at Ft. Sam Houston, TX. The VA had provided small (3X5 inch) US flags for the scouts from the San Antonio Area to place beside all 100,000 Veterans' Grave Markers in the cemetery.

The event honors all veterans who have served our country throughout pervious and current wars. Shown at the right is our Chapter's Color Guard with some of the Cub Scouts. The Color Guardsmen include from left to right: Compatriots Peter Goebel (Past Color Guard Commander of NSSAR), Frank Rohrbough (Commander Southern Command TXSSAR), Jay Lewallen (Youth Education Coordinator, SASAR), James Taylor (President SASAR) and Ed Heath (President-Elect SASAR).



### Chapter Makes Presentation at Harris Middle School:

Mr. Josh Duelm, a History teacher from Harris Middle School (NEISD), invited our Chapter to make a presentation to 40 of his students on May 25th. Compatriot Jay Lewallen offered several Revolutionary Period topics from which Mr. Duelm selected two topics for presentation to his History Classes. Compatriot Frank Rohrbough spoke on "Washington's Spies" and the critical role that spies of General Washington played during the Revolution. Special focus was given to how the "Culper Spy Ring" gathered intelligence on the British while they occupied New York

City from 1776 to 1781. Compatriot Lewallen focused on the uniforms of the revolution as worn by the militia and the Continental Army. He explained how the uniforms evolved from the early years of the war to the establishment of a standard uniform by General Washington during the winter encampment at Valley Forge in 1778. Special attention was given to the differences of the musket (short range) and the rifle (long range) on the battlefield. The advantages and disadvantages of each weapon continue to draw discussions and debate among our compatriots.



(Above) Compatriot Jay Lewallen speaks to the students about the uniforms and weapons used in the American Revolution.

**NSSAR Online Store Reopens.** On May 19th, President General J. David Sympson asked the following be passed to all Compatriots. His message reads: **"I would like to announce to you after a two and a half month absence, the NSSAR Merchandise Store is back online. The Store can be found at <http://store.sar.org>, or by going to the "Compatriots" tab on [www.sar.org](http://www.sar.org), and then selecting SAR Store found at the bottom of the list. The "new" store went online Sunday May 15th, and has been operational since. The "new" store has several improvements, and will make life easier for our members. One of the new features allows you to search [www.sar.org](http://www.sar.org) for a product by title or SKU# and find it on the store website. One of the biggest new benefits of the "new" store is the use of a single set of login credentials. If you have a user account on [www.sar.org](http://www.sar.org), you can (and should) use that to login at the store at check out. You will no longer have to remember a separate set of login credentials for the 2 different websites (<http://store.sar.org> and [www.sar.org](http://www.sar.org)). If you did have a set of login credentials for the old store site (prior to March 2011) those will no longer function, and you should "throw them out". Please take the time to stop by the new store (<http://store.sar.org>), and browse around. Please let your local State Society and Chapter members know that the online store is back in Business. If you have any issues, comments or questions please feel free to contact the Webmaster**



At left are Compatriot Frank Rohrbough and his wife Diane discussing Camp Life during the American Revolution with students.

Students at Double Eagle Middle School in Albuquerque NM participate in Colonial Days as part of their Early American History Week. Fifth Grade students assume the roles of American Revolution Patriots, their persona and clothing.

### E. C. Snyder SAR Scholarship

The E. C. Snyder SAR Scholarship is presently available to students enrolled in the JROTC program at San Antonio area high schools. This currently encompasses forty schools.

Twenty three cadets applied for the E. C. Snyder SAR Scholarship. The Scholarship Committee reviewed the seven applications that met all of our requirements. Cadet Adrianna

Godinez from Southwest High School was selected to receive our Second Annual Scholarship. The E. C. Snyder SAR Scholarship is funded for several years, but is looking to expand to additional annual scholarships. Tax Deductible contributions to the Scholarship Fund are encouraged and welcomed. **For further information Contact Compatriot Courtland Snyder (210-877-2032).**

**Chapter Inducts Two New Members:** Mark Remington and his son Mark Remington III were inducted at the May Chapter Meeting. Their membership has been approved by the National Society, but their Membership Certificates had not been received in time for this ceremony. Because we found that they were given their NSSAR numbers, President James Taylor agreed to conduct the Induction at the May Meeting. Both received their SAR Pins and were welcomed into the Chapter.

Mark and Compatriot Bob Brady had been researching the family genealogy for quite some time and with the approaching summers when the Chapter takes a recess, we really wanted to get them into the chapter. Mark's Patriot Ancestor is Benjamin Remington; he served as an officer in the Continental Army. Mark is the Alumni Relations and Giving Coordinator at St. Mary's Hall; he also teaches several classes and the private school.



(Above) On May 18th, President James Taylor (Left) inducted Mark Remington and his son, Mark, as our newest members during our Chapter Meeting at the Petroleum Club. Looking on is Compatriot Bob Brady who assisted them in researching their family genealogy to gain membership in SAR.

### Law Enforcement Award Given to Local Hero:

Special Agent, Paul Ramirez of The San Antonio Office of the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) was the recipient of the our SAR Law Enforcement Award for 2011. Agent Ramirez was unable to attend this award ceremony as he was on a special assignment, but his daughter Megan Del Castio, who works at the U.S. Attorney's Office, came and accepted the award for her father. Special Agent in Charge, Mauricio Fernandez spoke of Agent Ramirez' accomplishments by summarizing his work in very difficult circumstances and highlighting the narcotic problem in South Texas. At the right are pictured from left to right Chapter President, James Taylor, Megan Del Castio, Special Agent in Charge, Mauricio Fernandez, Chapter President-Elect, Compatriot Edward Heath,



### Chapter Recognizes Floresville Teacher



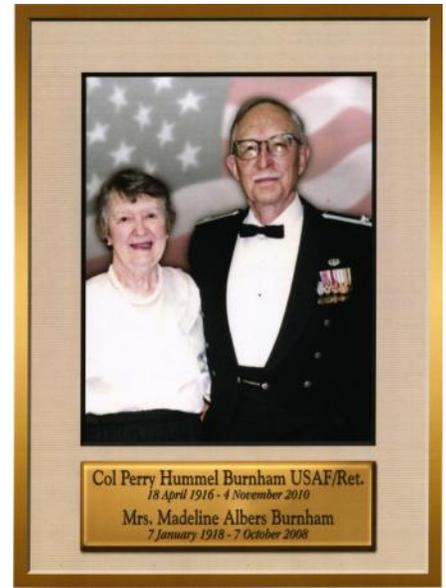
(Left) At the May Meeting, Chapter President, Rev. James C. Taylor presented SAR's Good Citizenship Medal to Mrs. Charlott McReynolds, a History Teacher from the Floresville Independent School District. SAR Good Citizenship Medals have been awarded to worthy citizens since 1898. She was selected by her District Managers because of her sustained and exceptional performance in the classroom setting - teaching 8<sup>th</sup> grade students and helping them discover the legacy of liberty

that the first Patriots bravely bequeathed America. Mrs. McReynolds offered some comments on what it means to be a teacher revealing her passion for teaching and for the development of her students. One of her favorite quotes is: "Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it" by George Santayana. Mrs. McReynolds is Chairman of the Social Studies Department, the department in which History is taught.

## PASSING OF CHAPTER COMPATRIOTS

### Two Compatriots are Laid to Rest at Ft. Sam Houston:

- **Compatriot COL Perry Hummel Burnham** NSSAR # 62731, Died 4 November 2010; his funeral and internment was conducted at the Ft. Sam Houston on Thursday, May 26th, 2011, at Ft. Sam Houston. The church service was held in the Main Chapel at Ft. Sam at 10 AM, followed by a "committal service" at the National Cemetery at Ft. Sam Houston at 11:45 a.m. with full military honors. Perry's wife, Madeline Albers Burnham, passed away on October 7, 2008. Both urns containing their ashes were placed in a niche in the columbarium. Compatriot Burnham was admitted to membership in the National Society, Sons of the American Revolution on 11 November 1943 and simultaneously was granted membership in the Utah Society, Sons of the American Revolution, before transferring to the Texas Society on 18 January 1978. At the church services, President Taylor read and then presented the family our Memorial Resolution. He was an active member of the San Antonio Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution, and during that 32 years participated in the activities of the chapter, thereby contributing to its success, and has been recognized as an Honorary Chapter President since 1998. Compatriot Burnham has received the SAR War Service Medal, the SAR Meritorious Service Medal (2), the SAR Silver Good Citizenship Medal, the SAR Bronze Good Citizenship Medal (2), and the TXSSAR Bronze Service Medal (3).
- **Compatriot Gilbert Trevino** was laid to rest at Fort Sam National Cemetery on 1 July 2011 at 1:30 PM when he received full military honors. A memorial service was held for him on 4 April 2011 at The Towers where he lived. Compatriot Trevino was an active member of the San Antonio Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution since gaining membership in SAR in September 2001. Compatriot Trevino was recognized for his service with the SAR War Service Medal with WWII device, the SAR Outstanding Citizenship Award, and with Certificates of Appreciation for support of the SAR JROTC program, thereby contributing to the success of the Chapter. Several of our members attended the internment services as requested by his wife and in honor of his service to our country and to our Chapter and the Sons of the American Revolution. A copy of a Memorial Resolution was presented to Mrs. Trevino at the Internment.



The framed picture above was on display at the Funeral Services held on May 26th at the Main Chapel at Ft. Sam Houston honoring Compatriot Perry Burnham and his wife Madeline. May they rest in peace.

We are most grateful for the generous \$5,000 donation that Compatriot Perry H. Burnham, bequeathed to our Chapter in January. The funds as he requested will be used "by and for the benefit of our local chapter only".

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMING EVENTS

**Chapter Business Meetings:** Lion & Rose Pub, Sonterra Blvd 410, usually held on the 2nd Thursday each month at 11:30 A.M. (next Meetings are on July 14th and August 11th. )

**Chapter General Meeting:** Petroleum Club on 3rd Wednesday each month at 11:30 A.M to 1 P.M. (No Meetings will be held in July or August; the next Meeting will be held on September 21st.)

### Special Events:

- **July 3rd:** At 4 PM our Chapter will

conduct an Independence Day and Historical Educational Event at the Hyatt Regency Hill Country Resort for the guests of the Resort. All members are invited to participate in this event and tell their story to the children about their Patriot ancestor.

- **July 4th:** At 10 AM our Chapter will. Participate in a Wreath Laying Ceremony at the New Pavilion at the National Cemetery at Ft. Sam Houston. **All members are welcome.**
- **July 4th:** At 11:30 AM our Chapter will participate in the "Salute to the

Union" at the Main Parade Ground at Ft. Sam Houston. **All members are invited to attend** this Bell Ringing and Canon Firing display.

For more information, contact Compatriot Frank Rohrbough at frankr@gvtc.com.

**To learn more about our many Chapter events, go to our Chapter Webpage :**

**[www.sarsat.org](http://www.sarsat.org)**