



THE SAN ANTONIO COMPATRIOT

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

May 2009

President's Message

Recently a compatriot who has not been to a SAR meeting in years called me about a non-SAR issue. During the conversation, he mentioned that he thought the San Antonio Chapter of SAR should do more to support patriotism. He sounded surprised when I told him that during the last year the Chapter's color guard had attended 8 patriotic events and the chapter marked 2 patriot soldiers' graves, participated in 4 public parades, held a flag retirement ceremony, and awarded 2 flag certificates to area businesses for patriotically displaying the American Flag.

He was not aware that SA-SAR presented a fire safety medal to our Fire Chief, a law enforcement medal, 4 well deserved heroism medals, and an EMS medal. He didn't know the SAR Knight Essay Contest was made available to 77 Bexar County High Schools, and each year the Chapter makes a donation to the Children of the American Revolution. I advised the Compatriot that, thanks to a large donation from Compatriot Ed Snyder and several other members, we had recently set up a substantial scholarship fund JROTC students. When I offered him the opportunity

continued on page 2

79TH ANNIVERSARY MEETING A GREAT SUCCESS

The April meeting was the second one at the Petroleum Club. We have had increasing attendance since moving the meeting to the Petroleum Club, and we hope that you will consider joining other members of the San Antonio Chapter for our regular meetings.

Contact Peter Baron to make your reservation for the Wednesday May 20th meeting at 210-913-3458 or reservations@sarsat.org



In April, two new compatriots were inducted into the San Antonio Chapter by PG nominee, Judge Ed Butler. Paul Ruckman a Karnes county rancher, and Jack Chisenhall a local business owner, (from left to right).

APRIL SPEAKER – NANCY BRENNAN

Nancy Brennan was our guest speaker at the April 15th meeting. Ms. Brennan was introduced by Rueben Perez. She is a certified genealogist associated the San Antonio Genealogical and Historical Society and a prominent DAR having held many offices including Regent. Ms Brennan provided information regarding genealogical research using printed materials and the internet. Ms. Brennan cautioned us to be sure to use documents that are well researched and which agree with each other. She provided seven hints for those working with genealogical records. Members found this very helpful, and asked that the hints be repeated here.



Website: <http://www.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~txsaghs2/>

1. **Use original documents wherever possible.** Many of these documents are not available on film, and some are even available online via the internet.
2. **Use good, well documented books.** Remember that even using the best resources, mistakes can be perpetuated.
3. **Newspapers now go back to the early 1700's.** The SA Genealogical Library has access to the New England - continued on page 3



Peter Baron at the TXSSAR annual meeting in Nacogdoches in March. (above)



David Bowles presents Jerry Fulenwider with Chapter Service Medal with Oak Leaf Cluster. (above)

Past chapter presidents and current president at the 79th Anniversary of the chapter. (at right)

to make a donation to the scholarship fund, he quickly brought the conversation to a close.

I would have liked to have told him about our participation in the Tejeda Middle School History Fair and other Chapter activities. Like most organizations, the 20/80 rule prevails in SAR, meaning that 80% of the work is done by 20% of the members. All of our events last year were carried out by 12% of the San Antonio Chapter's membership.

Our color guard consists of only 8 members who pay their own way to these events, which are sometimes many miles away. Your Executive Committee at the April meeting reluctantly voted to cancel the July 4th "Let Freedom Ring Event" at the Alamo as there were three events scheduled within a six-hour period. The Alamo event was the one that would take the most of our time and financial resources, as well as risk the health of our volunteers on a hot July afternoon. If more active members participated, we could do much more to promote patriotism and support our youth and servicemen.

As Patriot Thomas Paine wrote so many years ago: "These are the times that try men's souls. The summer soldier and sunshine patriot will, in the crisis, shrink from the service of their country; but he that stands it now, deserves the love and thanks of man and woman."

Fraternally yours, *David Bowles*

CHAPTER CELEBRATES 79TH ANNIVERSARY OF ITS FOUNDING ~ 19 APRIL 1930



S. Rohrbough, J Massingill, J. Ware, E. Butler, F. Rohrbough, G. Harcourt, J. Higginson, R. Shipman, D. Bowles, H. Long, A. Metts and chapter member C. Bell (from left to right)

PILGRIMAGE TO THE ALAMO & FIESTA DE LOS NIÑOS

Chapter members Stephen Rohrbough Frank Rohrbough, Peter Baron, and George Harcourt represented the chapter in the Pilgrimage to the Alamo on April 20th. (photo on immediate right).



At the Fiesta de los Niños chapter members P. Baron, S. Rohrbough, F. Rohrbough and Jack Cowan are at pictured at far right, along with other participants.

The Chapter participated in the 3rd annual Fiesta de los Niños Parade and Festival on 18 April 2009. The San Antonio Chapter Color Guard led the parade. Special Thanks to Compatriot John Orr for his display and lecture on period flags. Compatriot Baron kept the participants attention with repeated firings of the Brown Bess. We look forward to participating next year. Compatriots in attendance were: Frank Rohrbough, Stephen Rohrbough, Peter Baron, James Taylor, John Orr, and Jack Cowan.

On the second Saturday in June and August, Rev. James Taylor, Chapter Genealogist, will be at the San Antonio Genealogical & Historical Society's building to assist in genealogical research necessary for SAR membership. Rev. Taylor will be there from 10 AM until noon.

The San Antonio Genealogical & Historical Society is located at 911 Melissa Avenue near Blanco Road. Call James Taylor for information at 210-387-8189 or jamestaylor22@live.com.

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

The E.C. Snyder Scholarship fund and The E.C. Snyder Scholarship program are well established and fully underway. Flyers and announcements have been distributed to all of our contact schools. The fund is prepared to award a \$1,000 scholarship for a graduating JROTC student in the 2010 school year. The fund balance is over \$27,500. In this unstable economy we are always looking to strengthen this fund. The intention is to be able to both increase the amount of the scholarship and the number of recipients. Please consider a tax deductible contribution the fund.

APPLICATIONS AND QUESTIONS: scholarship@sarsat.org

BRENNAN, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Historical Society and the New England Genealogical Society. It is worth a visit just for those memberships. (Membership is \$36 yearly)

- 4. **Examine naming patterns.** Many ethnic groups use distinctive naming patterns and these patterns can be ancestral clues.
- 5. **Do timelines.** You can 'google' the word 'timeline' and see numerous free examples of timeline programs. Timelines are extremely valuable when determining and comparing the birth-baptism-marriage-family-work-ownership lines of ancestry. All gaps should be noted and researched.
- 6. **Use the internet.** It is almost impossible in today's world not to make use of this extraordinary tool. Some excellent research sites include: (All begin with www.)

Footnote.com	(includes original documents)	not free
Familysearch.org	(covers 6 states; an LDS site)	free
USGenweb.com	(state and county searches)	free
Ancestry.com	(complete family search)	not free

- 7. **Try something unusual.** Some examples include: (All begin with www.)

Blacksheepancestors.com	(Prisoners/executions)	part free
Genealogytoday.com	(Look for funeral cards)	part free
Ancientfaces.com	(Original photos; limited)	free
Findagrave.com	(Grave/gravestone searches)	free
Deadfred.com	(Deceased ancestors; limited)	free

"Try something unusual"
Brennan

THESE RESOURCES ARE AVAILABLE AT THE SAN ANTONIO GENEALOGICAL & HISTORICAL SOCIETY

~ 2009 CHAPTER OFFICERS ~

President—David Bowles
210-490-9955
david@dabowinc.com

Chancellor—Bradley Stephenson
210-733-9696
bstephenson71@aol.com

Historian—Jim D. Massingill
210-481-2110
j.massingill@earthlink.net

President-elect—Peter Baron
210-913-3458
ptbaron@hotmail.com

Treasurer—Peter Baron
210-913-3458
ptbaron@hotmail.com

Sgt-at-Arms—Frank Rohrbough
830-537-5452
frankr@gvtc.com

Vice Pres—Rueben Perez
210-492-3929
rperez106@satx.rr.com

Genealogist—Rev. James Taylor
210-494-2300
jamestaylor22@live.com

Secretary—George Harcourt
210-822-1960
gharcourt@satx.rr.com

Chaplain—Rev. James Taylor
210-494-2300
jamestaylor22@hotmail.com

Your chapter invites you to become more involved. Call any officer for information. We look forward to hearing from you.

MEETINGS ON THE HORIZON

DATE/MEETING TYPE

National Congress July 4-8, 2009
2009 Summer BOM July 31—Aug 2
2009 Fall BOM Oct 30—Nov 1
2010 State Conf, Mar 19—22

CITY

Atlanta
Lake Jackson
Richardson
Houston



New SAR member
Campell
Bronner
Baron



Important web sites
San Antonio Chapter # 4
www.sarsat.org

Texas Society
www.txssar.org

National Society
www.sar.org

Chapter Meetings

Lunch RSVP to Peter Baron: reservations@sarsat.org

- ◆ May 20th Wednesday Lunch Petroleum Club
11:30 AM \$23 Speaker — Eric Vazquez — FBI
- ◆ June 17th Wednesday Lunch Petroleum Club
11:30 AM \$23 Speaker — Tommy Adkinson
Bexar County Commissioner

NO GENERAL MEETINGS IN JULY / AUGUST

Everyone is invited to participate in ALL meetings

EC BUSINESS MEETINGS (11:30 AM)
LION & ROSE PUB — BLANCO at LOOP 410
MAY 14th (Thursday) & JUNE 11th (Thursday)

PUB NIGHTS — LION & ROSE PUB — 2ND TUES 5 PM
BLANCO AT LOOP 410

SENATOR WENTWORTH AWARDED THE SILVER GOOD CITIZENSHIP MEDAL AND CERTIFICATE



Texas State Senator, Jeff Wentworth, receives the TXSSAR Silver Good Citizenship award from the San Antonio chapter #4 of TXSSAR at the Capitol in Austin. From left to right: Stephen Rohrbough, SAR Secretary General and President General nominee Judge Ed Butler, Senator Wentworth, chapter president David Bowles, chapter Color Guard Commander Frank Rohrbough.

**TXSSAR SUMMER BOARD OF MANAGERS MEETING
JULY 31 – AUGUST 1, 2, 2009 – LAKE JACKSON**

Please complete the information below for your hotel reservations at the CHEROTEL. IMPORTANT: Rates and accommodations can only be guaranteed before July 16, 2009.

Cherotel Hotel
Attn: Reservations
925 Highway 332
Lake Jackson, TX 77566
979-297-1161
1-800-544-2119

Special Room rate \$89 per night plus applicable taxes. Reservations may be made by calling the 800 number above. You must mention SAR to get this rate. This rate and accommodations are only guaranteed through July 16, 2009 and is on a first-come-first-serve basis.

REGISTRATION

The Registration Fee for the TXSSAR Member is \$35.00. Meals and other events are extra as noted below. Please mail a check for registration, meals and other events payable to Cradle of Texas Chapter #33 along with this form to:

Russell Dart,
3315 S. Peach Hollow Circle
Pearland, TX 77584-2039.

NAME _____ GUEST _____
SAR CHAPTER _____
TITLE/OFFICE _____
STREET ADDRESS _____ CITY _____
TELEPHONE _____ EMAIL: _____
DATE AND TIME OF ARRIVAL _____

REGISTRATION (Member only)

SATURDAY LUNCH _____(NUMBER) @ \$20.00 each \$ _____
SATURDAY BANQUET _____(NUMBER) @ \$30.00 each \$ _____
TOTAL TO BE MAILED \$ _____

Ladies tour on Saturday morning will be gratis. They will have lunch at a local restaurant in and will order from the menu, "Dutch treat." Number attending ladies event _____.

We will be reserving a room at a local seafood restaurant for Friday evening arrivals by 8 pm. Please reserve spaces for _____ persons for me. "Dutch treat, order from menu."

Note: There will be no refunds for food or registration after July 23, 2009. The hotel has a 24 hour cancellation requirement. If you plan to go on the historical tour you must make reservations on that sheet separately. We plan to leave at 7:45 a.m. for the tour and you should make your hotel reservations accordingly.

**THE NEXT TXSSAR BOM MEETING WILL BE
JULY 31–AUGUST 2 IN LAKE JACKSON.**

For full size registration form go the TXSSAR website for an easy download—TXSSAR.ORG or contact George Harcourt and he will send you the form.

**THE FALL TXSSAR BOM MEETING WILL BE
OCTOBER 30–NOVEMBER 1 IN RICHARDSON.**

Registration forms will be available soon

**SCD SAR MEETING WILL BE AUGUST 21-22
AT THE DFW WESTIN**

Registration forms will be available soon

Chapter compatriots (from left to right) Frank Rohrbough, George Harcourt, Stephen Rohrbough, and Peter Baron prepare for the solemn Pilgrimage to the Alamo on Monday, April 20, 2009.

