



SEPTEMBER 2006

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I hope everyone has had a safe and enjoyable Summer. Your Chapter officers have taken some time off, but we have also been busy planning for an active remainder of this year.

As you will read in this issue, we have decided on a new luncheon meeting place. This decision came after careful consideration and experimental dining out by several of our members. I look forward to seeing everyone in our new location later this month.

Thanks to the energetic participation of our members, this year has proven to be one of our most active ever. We still have several goals to accomplish, and I would like to ask for your help in doing so.

First, we would like to participate in the Joseph S. Rumbaugh Historical Oration Contest: <http://www.sar.org/youth/rumbaugh.html>. As you may know, many San Antonio high schools have exemplary debate, oration, and forensics teams. If we could find a member to lead this effort this year, we could recognize outstanding students while also promoting American History, justice, freedom, and other SAR ideals. Do we have any volunteers? Please contact me.

Second, we would like to participate in our state's Outstanding American History Teacher Program. This highlights educators who teach the history of the American Revolution

Continued on Page Three

NEW LOCATION IN SEPTEMBER FOR CHAPTER MEETINGS THE BARN DOOR

Our chapter has a new meeting place. It is a San Antonio institution, the Barn Door. In response to suggestions from members for a change President Dogan Perese announced at the August executive committee meeting we would begin meeting at the Barn Door. The luncheon selection for the meeting on Wednesday, 27 September 2006 is Grilled Chicken Breast, tossed salad, mashed potatoes, vegetable, rolls, tea or coffee, sales tax and gratuity for only \$17.00. There is a map on page six. Reservations must be made by Noon Monday the 25th, with Compatriot Dogan Perese - see pages 3 and 4 for further information. The City of San Antonio Emergency Manager, Nim Kidd - a District Fire Chief, will be the speaker.

CHAPTER PARTICIPATES IN COMMEMORATION OF THE BATTLE OF MEDINA

Frank Rohrbough, pictured at right, Ed Heath and George Harcourt represented our chapter at the ceremony. Refer to the July issue for the description of the battle. The issue is available online at our web site. Tom Houston, shown below left, traveled from Houston. Tom Green, TXSSAR President, master of ceremonies greets descendants of one of the men who fought at Medina, center photo.



SAN ANTONIO CHAPTER HONORED AT NATIONAL MEETING

For its work in 2005 our chapter was presented the "Activities Award" at the July 2006 national meeting in Dallas. A streamer for our flag and a certificate were delivered to the chapter by Judge Ed Butler at the August EC meeting.

NEWSLETTER SCHEDULE

This is one of the quarterly mailed newsletters - it is also emailed to those providing an email address.. The November issue, in which the slate of candidates for Chapter office will be published, will also be mailed. The October and December issues will be electronic. To receive those issues send your email address to George Harcourt - see page four. If you have no email address and would like a copy of those issues please contact George Harcourt and request a mailed copy. The cost mailing a copy of all of the 12 monthly newsletters to a member exceeds the dues collected on the chapter level. You are encouraged to receive your copy of the newsletter by email and it is in color too! Copies of recent newsletters are available on the website.

ALL FOUR STANZAS

I have a weakness--I am crazy, absolutely nuts, about our national anthem.

The words are difficult and the tune is almost impossible, but frequently when I'm taking a shower I sing it with as much power and emotion as I can. It shakes me up every time.

I was once asked to speak at a luncheon. Taking my life in my hands, I announced I was going to sing our national anthem--all four stanzas.

This was greeted with loud groans. One man closed the door to the kitchen, where the noise of dishes and cutlery was loud and distracting. "Thanks, Herb," I said.

"That's all right," he said. "It was at the request of the kitchen staff."

I explained the background of the anthem and then sang all four stanzas.

Let me tell you, those people had never heard it before--or had never really listened. I got a standing ovation. But it was not me; it was the anthem.

More recently, while conducting a seminar, I told my students the story of the anthem and sang all four stanzas. Again there was a wild ovation and prolonged applause. And again, it was the anthem and not me.

So now let me tell you how it came to be written.

In 1812, the United States went to war with Great Britain, primarily over freedom of the seas. We were in the right. For two years, we held off the British, even though we were still a rather weak country. Great Britain was in a life and death struggle with Napoleon. In fact, just as the United States declared war, Napoleon marched off to invade Russia. If he won, as everyone expected, he would control Europe, and Great Britain would be isolated. It was no time for her to be involved in an American war.

At first, our seamen proved better than the British. After we won a battle on Lake Erie in 1813, the American commander, Oliver Hazard Perry, sent the message "We have met the enemy and they are ours." However, the weight of the British navy beat down our ships eventually. New England, hard-hit by a tightening blockade, threatened secession.

Meanwhile, Napoleon was beaten in Russia and in 1814 was forced to abdicate. Great Britain now turned its attention to the United States, launching a three-pronged attack. The northern prong was to come down Lake Champlain toward New York and seize parts of New England. The southern prong was to go up the Mississippi, take New Orleans and paralyze the west. The central prong was to head for the mid-Atlantic states and then attack Baltimore, the greatest port south of New York. If Baltimore was taken, the nation, which still hugged the Atlantic coast, could be split in two. The fate of the United States, then, rested

to a large extent on the success or failure of the central prong.

The British reached the American coast, and on August 24, 1814, took Washington, D. C. Then they moved up the Chesapeake Bay toward Baltimore. On September 12, they arrived and found 1000 men in Fort McHenry, whose guns controlled the harbor. If the British wished to take Baltimore, they would have to take the fort.

On one of the British ships was an aged physician, William Beanes, who had been arrested in Maryland and brought along as a prisoner. Francis Scott Key, a lawyer and friend of the physician, had come to the ship to negotiate his release. The British captain was willing, but the two Americans would have to wait. It was now the night of September 13, and the bombardment of Fort McHenry was about to start.

As twilight deepened, Key and Beanes saw the American flag flying over Fort McHenry. Through the night, they heard bombs bursting and saw the red glare of rockets. They knew the fort was resisting and the American flag was still flying. But toward morning the bombardment ceased, and a dread silence fell. Either Fort McHenry had surrendered and the British flag flew above it, or the bombardment had failed and the American flag still flew.

As dawn began to brighten the eastern sky, Key and Beanes stared out at the fort, trying to see which flag flew over it. He and the physician must have asked each other over and over, "Can you see the flag?"

After it was all finished, Key wrote a four stanza poem telling the events of the night. Called "The Defence of Fort M'Henry," it was published in newspapers and swept the nation. Someone noted that the words fit an old English tune called "To Anacreon in Heaven" --a difficult melody with an uncomfortably large vocal range. For obvious reasons, Key's work became known as "The Star Spangled Banner," and in 1931 Congress declared it the official anthem of the United States.

Now that you know the story, here are the words. Presumably, the old doctor is speaking. This is what he asks Key

Oh! say, can you see, by the dawn's early light,
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming?

Whose broad stripes and bright stars, through the perilous fight,

O'er the ramparts we watched were so gallantly streaming?

And the rocket's red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof thro' the night that our flag was still there.
Oh! say, does that star-spangled banner yet wave,
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

"Ramparts," in case you don't know, are the protective walls or other elevations that surround a fort. The first

stanza asks a question. The second gives an answer

On the shore, dimly seen thro' the mist of the deep,
Where the foe's haughty host in dread silence reposes,
What is that which the breeze, o'er the towering steep,
As it fitfully blows, half conceals, half discloses?

Now it catches the gleam of the morning's first beam,
In full glory reflected, now shines on the stream
'Tis the star-spangled banner. Oh! long may it wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave

"The towering steep" is again, the ramparts. The bombardment has failed, and the British can do nothing more but sail away, their mission a failure.

In the third stanza, I feel Key allows himself to gloat over the American triumph. In the aftermath of the bombardment, Key probably was in no mood to act otherwise.

During World War II, when the British were our staunchest allies, this third stanza was not sung. However, I know it, so here it is

And where is that band who so vauntingly swore
That the havoc of war and the battle's confusion
A home and a country should leave us no more?
Their blood has washed out their foul footsteps' pollution.

No refuge could save the hireling and slave
From the terror of flight, or the gloom of the grave,
And the star-spangled banner in triumph doth wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

The fourth stanza, a pious hope for the future, should be sung more slowly than the other three and with even deeper feeling.

Oh! thus be it ever, when freemen shall stand
Between their loved homes and the war's desolation,
Blest with vict'ry and peace, may the Heav'n - rescued land
Praise the Pow'r that hath made and preserved us a nation.

Then conquer we must, for our cause is just,
And this be our motto--"In God is our trust."
And the star-spangled banner in triumph doth wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

I hope you will look at the national anthem with new eyes. Listen to it, the next time you have a chance, with new ears.

And don't let them ever take it away.

--Isaac Asimov, March 1991

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Judge Butler just ran across the last 4 volumes of "Chronicles of the Revolutionary War" which our chapter bought as a fund raiser. We paid \$5.00 and sold them for \$10.00 you might want contact Compatriot Butler to obtain a copy. Judge58@aol.com or (210) 698-8964

WEB SITES

SAN ANTONIO CHAPTER • WWW.SARSAT.ORG
TEXAS STATE SOCIETY • WWW.TXSSAR.ORG
NATIONAL SOCIETY • WWW.SAR.ORG

2007 TEXAS STATE CONGRESS • SAN ANTONIO COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

CONTACT GEORGE HARCOURT
SEE PAGE SIX FOR DETAILS

SPOTLIGHT ON A SAN ANTONIO CHAPTER COMPATRIOT

MYSTERY COMPATRIOT

This compatriot is presently a Commissioner on the San Antonio Crime Prevention Commission and serves on the Board of Directors of the 100 Club of San Antonio. He was a founding member and past president of "The Business Crime Council of South Texas.

He also served as one of the first civilians on the San Antonio Police Review Board with sworn police officers in recommending disciplinary action to the Chief of Police in matters of Internal Affairs. He was selected Business Leader of the year in 1994 by his peers at the Greater San Antonio Chamber of Commerce. Congressman Lamar Smith appointed him to the "White House Conference on Small Business in 1995.

Memberships include National Federation of Independent Business, Alamo Executives Association, Texas Independent Automobile Association and Life Member of the Texas Association of Business and Chamber of Commerce. He is also the author of a historical novel series set at the time of the Revolutionary War.

He frequently speaks on crime prevention and conducts seminars on check and credit card fraud. Past seminar clients have included SBC, Pep Boys, Michael's, San Antonio Chamber of Commerce.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

INCOME STATEMENT

Income Statement	
January through August 17, 2006	
Income	
Donations	\$ 2,265.00
Dues - Chapter allocation	\$ 1,865.00
Meal Revenue	\$ 1,450.00
Total Income	\$ 5,580.00
Expense	
Awards and Medals	\$ 644.00
Meal Expenses	\$ 1,385.50
Miscellaneous	\$ -
Printing, Postage, etc	\$ 477.90
Supplies	\$ 807.50
Website fees	\$ 62.25
Total Expense	\$ 3,380.15
Net Income	\$ 2,199.85

L U N C H E O N R E S E R V A T I O N S

All compatriots who plan to attend Chapter Meetings on a regular basis are invited to add their names to the Standing Reservation List. To do so, just contact Compatriot Perese by calling 210 826 5633 or e-mailing him at DOGAN@PERESE.COM. We must confirm the number of reservations by the Monday preceding the meeting. It is important you make a reservation in advance. The cost of the meal is \$17.00.

**STANDING RESERVATIONS ARE ENCOURAGED
WEDNESDAY 27 SEPTEMBER AT 11:30 A.M.**

NATURALIZATION CEREMONIES FOR NEW CITIZENS

The Chapter plans to renew its participation in the Naturalization Ceremonies conducted by the US District Court for new citizens. We hope to serve as the Color Guard for a few of these ceremonies during the year and be present to welcome these new citizens. Wearing of Revolutionary Period Uniforms will catch the eye of these new citizens and allow us an opportunity to inform them of our heritage.

The next naturalization ceremony is at Laurie Auditorium on September 29th (Friday) at 2 PM. Judge Primomo will introduce us as part of the ceremony.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR AND LET COMPATRIOT DOGAN PERESE KNOW IF YOU ARE ABLE TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS IMPORTANT CEREMONY

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

as part of their school curriculum. More information is available through our state chair, William Walker, at olddog9999@sbcglobal.net. The deadline to submit applications is January 1. This is a great way to recognize your children's or grandchildren's teachers. Do we have any volunteers? Please contact me.

We have several other activities under way. These include conducting the Knight Essay Contest—thank you Compatriot George Harcourt for your six years of service and welcome to David Bowles as the new chairman; managing the Americanism Elementary School Poster Contest—thank you Compatriot Herman Edwards and your wife, Jean, for your initiative; searching for an Eagle Scout scholarship recipient—thank you Compatriot Jay Higginson; continuing and expanding our ROTC/JROTC Recognition Program—thank you Compatriot Courtland Snyder for an extensive and successful program; and many more.

You see what other chapter members are doing. Now, do we have any volunteers for the Oration Contest and the History Teacher Program? Please contact me.

Fraternally yours, Dogan Perese

The Star-Spangled Banner

—Francis Scott Key, 1814

O say, can you see, by the dawn's early light,
 What so proudly we hail'd at the twilight's last gleaming?
 Whose broad stripes and bright stars, thro' the perilous fight,
 O'er the ramparts we watch'd, were so gallantly streaming?
 And the rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
 Gave proof thro' the night that our flag was still there.
 O say, does that star-spangled banner yet wave
 O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

On the shore dimly seen thro' the mists of the deep,
 Where the foe's haughty host in dread silence reposes,
 What is that which the breeze, o'er the towering steep,
 As it fitfully blows, half conceals, half discloses?
 Now it catches the gleam of the morning's first beam,
 In full glory reflected, now shines on the stream:
 'Tis the star-spangled banner: O, long may it wave
 O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!

And where is that band who so vauntingly swore
 That the havoc of war and the battle's confusion,
 A home and a country should leave us no more?
 Their blood has wash'd out their foul footsteps' pollution.
 No refuge could save the hireling and slave
 From the terror of flight or the gloom of the grave:
 And the star-spangled banner in triumph doth wave
 O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

O thus be it ever when free-men shall stand
 Between their lov'd home and the war's desolation;
 Blest with vict'ry and peace, may the heav'n-rescued land
 Praise the Pow'r that hath made and preserv'd us a nation!
 Then conquer we must, when our cause it is just,
 And this be our motto: "In God is our trust!"
 And the star-spangled banner in triumph shall wave
 O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!

T H E N A T I O N A L A N T H E M A N D T H E F L A G

When the national anthem is played or sung, citizens should stand at attention and salute at the the first note and hold the salute through the last note. The salute is directed to the flag, if displayed, otherwise to the music.

C H A P T E R ~ R E P O R T S

R O T C

This month we start actively working on the Chapter's 06-07 school year JROTC/ROTC program. We will be contacting each unit (28 High School and 3 University) that we support to ensure they are aware of the SAR program and our participation in it. We will be particularly stressing the Enhanced JROTC Program. This program invites the JROTC Unit to nominate a particularly outstanding Cadet/Midshipman for a special award. Among the criteria are an essay, academic standing, and leadership. Of those nominated, the Chapter will select one to nominate to State, and State will select one to nominate to National. Awards are made in the first part of 2007. Should you have any questions or if would like to help, contact Courtland Snyder at 210-877-2032 or snyder63@satx.rr.com

M E M B E R S H I P & G E N E A L O G Y

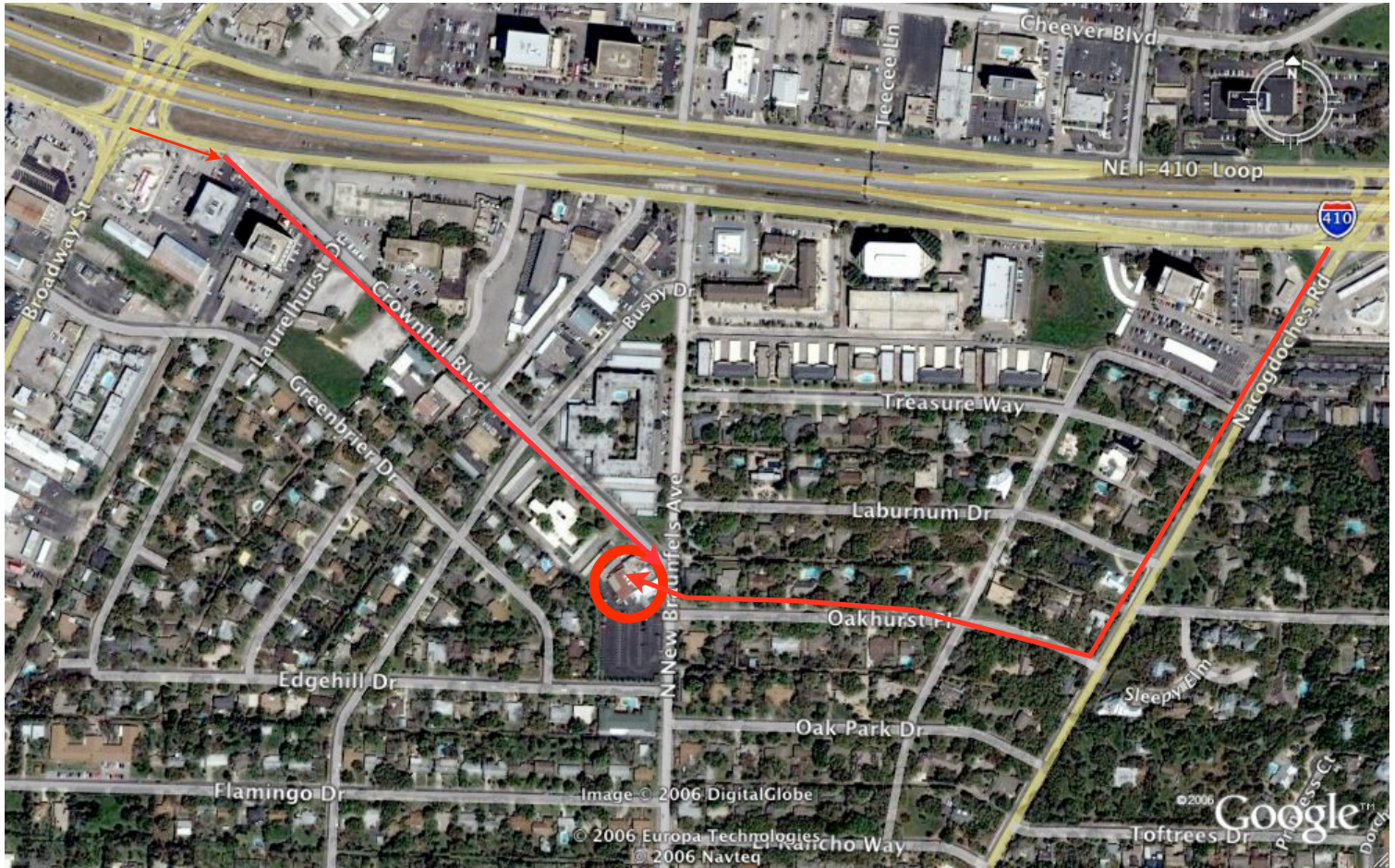
We have received the Membership Certificates for these new and welcome members to the chapter:
 HAROLD O'HANLON ATKINSON ~ TOMMY GENE RICHARDSON ~ DONALD EUGENE CHILD
 JOHN JAY ORR ~ HERMAN ISAAC EDWARDS ~ HARRY EUGENE MCNAIR, JR. - CURTIS FIELDS ANDREWS

T R E A S U R Y

See page 3 for Income Statement. October issue will contain the Balance Sheet. Note that without donations the Net income year to date would have been \$65.15. Thank you generous donors. The Chapter will be facing some expenses for improved web site, newsletters and other items. Nevertheless we expect to end the year in fiscally sound condition.

V E T E R A N S / M I L I T A R Y

In August 90 magazines and 3 books were delivered to Brook Army Medical Center - BAMC. Please continue to bring books and magazines to the EC and general meetings. The donations are truly appreciated by our present and past service men and women. We have begun donating in alternate months to Audie Murphy Veterans Hospital and to BAMC.



THE BARN DOOR IS LOCATED AT 8400 NORTH NEW BRAUNFELS where Crownhill and Oakhurst intersect with North New Braunfels

The is no access from the frontage road to North New Braunfels due to construction.

Directions from Broadway at Loop 410:

Take Loop 410 Access Road East at Broadway and take first right on to Crownhill (immediately after Broadway) to North New Braunfels and turn right at the Barn Door and enter the parking lot on right.

Directions from Nacogdoches at Loop 410:

Take Loop 410 Access Road to Nacogdoches Road and turn right, Go 4 blocks to Oakhurst and turn right, Go to end of Oakhurst and turn right on North New Braunfels, the Barn Door is on left.

2007 STATE MEETING - SAN ANTONIO

San Antonio, Chapter # 4 of the TXSSAR, has been honored to host the 2007 meeting of the TXSSAR. The meeting will take place in March of 2007 Our honor carries a great responsibility to meet the requirements of our organization and that of TXSSAR. For that purpose committees are being organized to plan and execute those plans to insure the meeting is of the highest quality and is representative of our chapter.

George Harcourt is chairman of the Host Committee. Volunteers are sought for the following committees - chairmanships and committee members both are needed:

- ★ Registration
- ★ Publicity
- ★ Silent Auction - at Gala Dinner
- ★ Ladies Events • Tours
- ★ Ladies Hospitality Suite
- ★ Entertainment for Saturday Gala Banquet
- ★ Audio/Visual
- ★ Luncheon - Saturday
- ★ Banquet- Saturday
- ★ Scrapbook and Poster Display

- ★ Friday Night Host Chapter Reception
- ★ Goody Bags and information packets
- ★ Programs and printed materials
- ★ Merchandise Sales

We need a great many of our compatriots to lend a hand during the planning process and even more during the event. Please contact George Harcourt, see page four for contact information, and offer yourself for service in this undertaking. Many thanks to those who have responded to offer assistance. Committee meetings will start in October.