

The San Antonio Compatriot

STATE CONVENTION MARCH 16TH-18TH

EC MEETINGS - NEW LOCATION

NEXT MEETING MARCH 22ND

Please make your reservations with Frank Rohrbough for the next general chapter meeting. See page four for contact information.

The speaker at our general membership meeting on March 22nd will be Dr. Bruce Daniels, a new full professor of history at UTSA. Dr. Daniels is a colonial historian.



MESSAGE FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

What does our chapter do? This continues our presentation of our chapter activities.

In the last newsletter we covered the JOT Program led by Compatriot Courtland Snyder. Now I encourage everyone to join in the Color Guard led by Compatriot Frank Rohrbough.

Two years ago we formed a Color Guard consisting of about five individuals dressed in Revolutionary War era attire.

Most of us purchased our wardrobes from a source near Dallas at a cost of about \$300.

The cost has been a small part of our experience. Since acquiring our uniforms, we have participated in new citizen naturalization ceremonies; Independence Day celebrations; homecoming welcomes to Iraq.

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2006 TEXAS SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION STATE CONVENTION MARCH 16TH-18TH, 2006 SUGAR LAND, TEXAS

Please call one of the numbers below for your hotel reservation at the Marriott Sugar Land Town Square before February 23, 2006. Marriott Sugar Land Town Square 16090 City Walk (at the intersection of Highway 59 South and Highway 6 South) Sugar Land, Texas 77479-6539

Reservations for the event will be made by individual call-in directly with HOTEL at 281-275-8400 or Marriott Reservations at 800-228-9290 prior to the February 23rd cut off date. Nothing is to be mailed to the hotel, all reservations are to be made over the phone. All guests should identify themselves as members of the Texas Society of the Sons of the American Revolution group in order to obtain the organization's rate. Single or Double occupancy is \$89.00 per night. Hotel room rates are subject to applicable state and local taxes (currently 13%) in effect at the time of check-in. In the event a guest wishes to cancel a reservation, the deposit is refundable if notice is received before 48 hours prior to the day of arrival and a cancellation number is obtained. The hotel is within walking and driving distance to several restaurants, retail shops, and right next to First Colony Mall.

CONVENTION REGISTRATION

The registration fee for the 2006 TXSSAR State Convention is \$30.00 per person. There will be 2 meals that will need to be paid for separately as well. Saturday Luncheon at \$22.00 per person and the Saturday Banquet at \$36.00 per person. Please mail a check for the registration and your meals payable to ALEXANDER HODGE CHAPTER SAR along with the rest of this form to : Joe Updyke, Treasurer - 2722 Glen Echo Lane - Missouri City, Texas 77459 • 281-437-8188

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

The San Antonio chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution is a not-for-profit organization operating on limited funds. We are obligated to pay First Presbyterian Church for the exact number of meal reservations we guarantee based on compatriot reservations. When you make a reservation and do not attend the chapter is required to pay for that reservation. **We must therefore bill you for any unpaid reservation.** We appreciate you covering the costs of any no-shows and thank you for your continued support and cooperation. **Any cancellation of a reservation to avoid billing must be made at least one week prior** to the event by calling or emailing Frank Rohrbough (contact information on last page of the newsletter). You are encouraged to place your name on the standing reservation list. The dining room has a capacity limit of about 30. The First Presbyterian Church policy requires that we confirm the number of reservations at least one week in advance of the meeting. They do not make provision for any meals in excess of that confirmed number, **thus it is imperative you make a reservation at least one week in advance. Standing reservations are accepted.**

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS CONTINUED

As Compatriot Ed Butler has said, our color guard serves as one of more recognizable and best ways of promoting the Sons of the American Revolution. I know from experience at naturalization ceremonies that the new Americans are thrilled to have their pictures taken with the Color Guard. During a recent funeral of a chapter member, family members have come up to me and thanked me for my presence and for the functions provided by our chapter.

We need additional members--especially those who would be willing to play instruments. Please contact our Color Guard Commander, Frank Rohrbough, if interested. If you are simply curious, just come out for one of our events and see us in action and see the attention we attract.

I hope to see you at our monthly luncheon,
Sincerely,
Dogan Perese
President

W E B S I T E

Our website address is: <http://sarsat.org>

The site is updated on a regular basis. Copies of the news letters are available at the site. The Newsletter is available on the web site as a PDF document. Should you have comments or suggestions regarding the web site please contact John Knoblesdorf at jcksatx@satx.rr.com

H A V E Y O U P A I D Y O U R D U E S ?

If you have not paid your 2006 dues please contact George Harcourt. An update of past due memberships will be in the April news letter. Our mail list will be adjusted in May to include only paid members.

CHAPTER PARTICIPATES IN GEORGE WASHINGTON PARADE IN LAREDO

Compatriots Frank and Stephen Rohrbough participated in what is reportedly the worlds largest George Washington Parade on February 18th in Laredo Texas. While the Laredo SAR Chapter did not have an entry this year - but plan to have a float in 2007 - our compatriots did team up with Compatriot Tom Green, President Elect TXSSAR, and the Sons of the Republic of Texas. Unofficially, there were over 150 entries, from floats to bands and more, celebrating the occasion of George Washington's Birthday that was on February 22nd. More than 200,000 parade goers witnessed the Parade often calling out "there is Gen Washington" upon seeing Compatriot Frank Rohrbough dressed in his Virginia Revolutionary Regimental Uniform. Please plan to participate in this festive parade on February 17, 2007 and ride on the Laredo Chapter SAR Float or march along if you prefer.

NATURALIZATION CEREMONIES

Our Chapter has been invited to attend two naturalization ceremonies for new citizens at Laurie Auditorium on May 15 (Monday) and on September 29th (Friday). While we have not been invited to present the Colors, we hope to do so in due course – like we have done in previous years. Other naturalization ceremonies will be conducted at the Institute of Texan Cultures as follows: MAR 09, APR 13, JUN 22, JUL 27, AUG 31, OCT 26, NOV 16 and DEC.

If we have members attend these ceremonies from our Chapter, Judge Primomo, the presiding US District Judge, will introduce us. While all members are welcome to attend or witness these ceremonies, members who have Revolutionary Period Uniforms would provide an added attraction. If you can attend one or more of these historic ceremonies, please contact Compatriot Frank Rohrbough at frankr@gvtc.com. This is an excellent opportunity for us to welcome new citizens to America and share with them our American Heritage.

WASHINGTON'S NAVY: APRIL 1775-MARCH 1776

In April 1775, following the opening salvos of the Revolution at Lexington and Concord, the American militia effectively trapped the British army in Boston. Throughout the summer, additional detachments of American militia arrived in Boston to bolster the siege lines. The only land approach to Boston, a narrow neck connecting the city to the mainland, prevented the Americans from launching an attack to drive the British away. On June 16, 1775, the British attempted to break the American defensive line by attacking the militia's fortified positions at Breed's Hill. The defeat of the British in this assault, recorded as the Battle of Bunker Hill, demonstrated the inability of the British to break the American siege. Though neither side could gain ground in land battle, time favored the British. Thanks to the Royal Navy and its command of the sea, the British army could be supplied and reinforced at will, thus holding the city indefinitely. The Americans, on the other hand, soon found themselves without the food or ammunition necessary to hold their positions.

George Washington appreciated the limitations placed on his tactical options by local geography and severe shortages in military equipment. With few field guns and scant gunpowder, Washington appealed to the Continental Congress for supplies. The new nation, with its empty coffers and lack of military structure, did not have the means to resupply Washington's army. In an attempt to remedy the shortage, Washington chartered the fishing schooner Hannah to raid British shipping of valuable military supplies. Though Washington had no intention of establishing an American navy, the Hannah became the first of eleven vessels chartered to aid the revolutionary cause. Over the six months of the American siege of Boston, "Washington's Navy" captured some fifty-five prizes, provided much-needed supplies to the troops, and boosted the efforts of naval-minded members of Congress who sought to create a national naval force.

SAN ANTONIO CHAPTER - TEXAS SOCIETY OF THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION - MARCH 2006
CHAPTER OFFICERS FOR 2006 & CHAPTER CALENDAR

President ~ Dogan Perese
210 826 5633 ~ dogan@perese.com

VP ~ Frank Rohrbough
(830) 537-5452 ~ frankr@gvvc.com

Chancellor ~ Office Open

Treasurer ~ Jay Higginson, Jr.
210 666 3321 ~ jhigginson@aol.com

Genealogist ~ Rev. James Taylor
210 494-2300 ~ taylorfor2@hotmail.com

Chaplain ~ Rev. James Taylor
210 494-2300 ~ taylorfor2@hotmail.com

Historian ~ Jim D. Massingill
210 520 8525 j_massingill@earthlink.net

Sgt-at-Arms ~ Color Guard Commander~ Frank Rohrbough
(830) 537-5452 ~ frankr@gvvc.com

Recording and Corresponding Secretary ~ George Harcourt
210 822 1960 ~ gharcourt@satx.rr.com

CHAPTER CALENDAR

**MARCH 22ND
WEDNESDAY**

Lunch - First Presbyterian Church
11:30 a.m. - \$10.00

**APRIL 26TH
WEDNESDAY**

CHAPTER ANNIVERSARY MEETING
Lunch - First Presbyterian Church
11:30 a.m. - \$10.00

**MAY 24TH
WEDNESDAY**

Lunch - First Presbyterian Church
11:30 a.m. - \$10.00

EC meeting

**March 16th - Thursday
11:30 a.m.**

**Golden Corral on IH 10 West
between Medical and Wurzbach**

SAN ANTONIO CHAPTER
TEXAS SOCIETY OF THE SONS OF
THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION
810 WILTSHIRE AVENUE
SAN ANTONIO, TX 78209