



The Texas Compatriot

Published three times per year by the Texas Society, Sons of the American Revolution

Fall, 2011 Issue

October 1, 2011



William Marrs
President, TXSSAR
2011-2012

With the advent of September, we have attended the National Congress, have completed our Summer Board of Managers meeting, and are looking forward to beginning various programs.

The Texas Society contingent was one of the largest groups attending the NSSAR National Congress, held this year in Winston-Salem North Carolina. Many of us have deep roots in that state and the neighboring states of Virginia, South Carolina, Kentucky, Tennessee and Georgia. Your President visited cousins and cemeteries from Arkansas to Georgia. At Congress, we passed several Constitution and By-laws changes but best of all, we did not have a dues or fees increase. Some in the leadership warned that we are facing increases as we complete the second phase of the Museum and Headquarters building on West Main Street in Louisville.

Our Chancellor General discovered that our Bylaws have over time failed to follow the Congressional Charter regarding the selection of Trustees. Several proposals were made by various states but in the end, the Florida proposal was approved. Now states can nominate their outgoing State President, an Alternate Trustee and if the state chooses, the Past President Generals who were/are members of the State Society.

Another major change was the removal of a class of youth membership called "Youth Registrant." There were several administrative problems associated with the Youth Registrant and with the advent of the "junior" membership — use of the Youth Registrant had decreased to the point where it was not economical to maintain it. All Registrants currently on file will be maintained until their 29th birthday at which time they have to join or be dropped from the roles. This Bylaws action leaves the "junior" member in place. After approval, "juniors" dues are Five Dollars.

The TXSSAR Summer Board of Managers (BOM) meeting was sponsored by the Freedom Chapter of Conroe. We added a member roundtable on Friday night after dinner. Despite the fact that your President arrived late, it started on time and seemed to be very well received. My purpose in organizing this event was to give attendees a chance to meet informally and get to know each other better as well as discuss the issues we face as an organization. We only quit when the hotel staff demanded the room to set up for the next day. Committees started early Saturday on the business of the Society.

Upcoming Dates

Fall Board of Managers Meeting Oct. 28-30

TXSSAR Annual Meeting Mar. 22-25

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

President's Message & Schedule	1-2
Serendipity	3
Color Guard News	4-6
In Memorium	8
News around Texas, Genealogy	9-12
Americanism Trivia Quiz	13
Ladies Auxiliary Fundraiser	14-15
Editorial	16

(Continued on Page 2)

Our BOM noon luncheon was outstanding. It recognized the Boy Scouts and featured a long time Adult Scout leader, Judge David Hittner; Judge Hittner is currently a Senior Federal Judge, US District Court, Southern District of Texas. Originally a New Yorker, Judge Hittner got to Texas just as soon as he could. He practiced Law until he was nominated to the Federal Bench by President Reagan in 1986. He is a member of the National Council of the Boy Scouts of America, Executive Board member of the Houston Council of the BSA, a distinguished Eagle Scout, holds the Silver Beaver and Silver Antelope and is a Vigil Honor Member of the Order of the Arrow. He has received a 60 year service award from the BSA for his continuous service as a youth and as an adult.

Judge Hittner spoke on the values a boy gains from Scouting. He believes that the things Scouts learn prepares them for a successful and fulfilling life as adults and that in turn, adults must share by serving as adult leaders for a new generation of boys. Judge Hittner was a delightful speaker with serious moments interspersed with levity, resulting in a standing ovation upon completion. Judge Hittner was presented with the Silver Good Citizenship medal by Boy Scout Committee Chairman Charles Luna and President William Marrs.

With the opening session of the BOM, reports were heard from committees. Of special significance was the report of the State Meetings committee which recommended that one BOM in the summer to fall was enough considering the other methods available to committees to conduct business. Again, we were short a number of officers and members who were in other countries, on vacations, attending conflicting events, etc. Because this short attendance has existed for a number of years, the Board of Managers voted

to combine the Summer and Fall Board of Managers meetings beginning in the fall of 2012. This meeting will be shortly before the National Leadership conference

Our Speaker for the Evening Banquet was Matt Stiner, Director of Development and Outreach for Veterans Justice Outreach, a division of the National Association of Drug Court Professionals. In this capacity, Mr. Stiner is responsible for developing and implementing Veterans Treatment Courts across the nation. Stiner is a fourth generation Marine who served in Iraq and was the recipient of the Combat Action Ribbon for his service. He holds Bachelors and Masters degrees in Political Science. He now works near Washington, DC. He brought a passionate message to our group about the need to keep Veterans out of court and pointed toward fulfilling and useful lives. He explained how Treatment Courts work to keep jail time down and veterans supported while they recover from their wounds, both physical and psychological.

After the Banquet, Compatriot & Mrs. David Hall were able to position the Liberty Bell at the Hotel entrance. Banquet participants and members of the public were able to ring the bell. Our thanks to the Halls for bringing the bell.

I want to thank Chapter President James Kuykendall, Jim O'Neal, Ray Reed, Steve Cannon and other members of the Freedom Chapter who worked hard to make the meeting a good one. I believe we are off to a good start. ♦

President's Schedule (September– January)

September 2011

- Sept 8-Fredonia Chapter—Nacogdoches
- Sept 10-Programming Meeting—College Station
- Sept 17-Col Turner Sharp Chapter—El Paso
- Sept 21-Texas Tech Chapter—Lubbock
- Sept 27-Independence Chapter, Bryan—Col.Sta.
- Sept 28-Oct 1, 2011-Leadership Conf.—Louisville

October 2011

- Oct 11-Bluebonnet Chapter — Marble Falls
- Oct 28-30-BOM—Galveston

November 2011

- Nov 17 -Nathan Gann Chapter—Lufkin

December 2011

- Dec 3 - Rededication of the Evans marker,
- Dec 8, -East Texas Chapter, Longview

January 2012

- Jan 3-Joint meeting of Plano & Denton Chapters—
Officer Installation
- Jan 12-Athens Chapter installation
- Jan 28-Boerne Chapter Installation

If your chapter wants a visit from the President, please contact me at pres@txssar.org. If you believe you have a visit scheduled in this time frame and you do not see it above, contact me. ♦



COLOR GUARD NEWS

While it may be argued that any appearance of an SAR Compatriot in a public event is the “Face of the SAR,” it’s safe to say that more people see the SAR in the form of a Color Guard in a parade, grave marking ceremony, flag retirement, or other event than in any other context. Therefore, to most people, the Color Guard is the “Face of the SAR.”

The TXSSAR Chapter, regional and state color guards are making more appearances and finding more diverse ways to represent the SAR than ever before, and this trend will continue.

This year’s National Color Guard Commander is J. Michael “Mike” Tomme (pronounced Tommy). The National Vice Commander is Texas’ own Michael J. Radcliff. Barring unforeseen events, Radcliff will in two years become the first-ever National Commander from Texas.

At the State level, Marvin Morgan is the TXSSAR Color Guard Commander. Peter Rowley is his Adjutant and will likely become the next State Commander. H. Robert Northcraft is the North Texas Commander, and Frank Rohrbaugh is the South Texas Commander.

Delafield Grave Marking

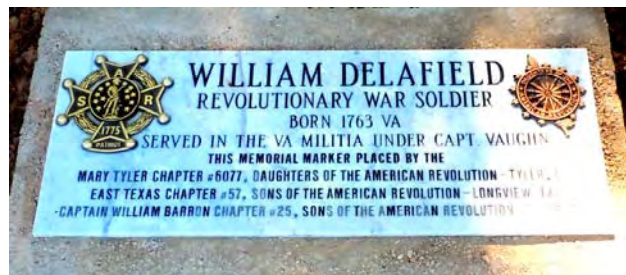
On a hot Saturday, August 6, members of the Mary Tyler Chapter, NSDAR; the Capt. William Barron Chapter and East Texas Chapter, TXSSAR; about 30 Color guardsmen from all over Texas; and numerous guests gathered in the LaGrone United Methodist Church Cemetery northeast of Longview, to honor the memory of Revolutionary War Soldier William Delafield. Delafield was but a lad of 16 when he served in the Virginia militia in 1779. At age 22, he moved to Georgia and received a land grant based

on his Revolutionary War service. His son Nicholas settled in Harrison County, Texas in 1846, and William joined him by the early 1850’s. According to Harrison County descendants, William lived with or near his son Nicholas. They are both believed to be buried in a private plot near their home about five miles northwest of Hallsville, but the graves in the plot have been lost and can no longer be identified.

Based on this and other research, placing the marker near other relatives seemed logical. ◇



This Welcome sign and refreshments greeted early arrivers.



The jointly completed grave marker.



Michael Everheart opened the program



Diversity of uniforms at the grave marking was typical of diversity among the armies of the different colonies during the War.



These reenactors provided plenty of smoke and sound.

COLOR GUARD NEWS

Battle of Medina Commemoration

One of the lesser known items of Texas History is that the Texans seeking independence from Mexico referred to Texas as the "Republic of the North," and their army was called the Republican Army of the North. The Texans declared their independence from Mexico early in 1813.

On August 18, 1813, the Spanish Army, led by Gen. José Joaquín de Arredondo, killed nearly 1400 members of the Republican Army of the North. Only about 55 members of the Spanish Army were killed. This decisive Battle virtually wiped out the (first) Republic of Texas. It occurred at Medina, in Atascosa County, about 20 miles south of what is today known as San Antonio.

There is a good article at txssar.org/medina.htm, and an interactive map showing the location at txssar.org/medina_map.htm

Members of the SAR, DAR, SRT, DRT, and others



gathered together on August 20, 2011, to commemorate this battle. ◇



Boom!



Boom!

COLOR GUARD NEWS



Compatriots from the Heart O' Texas Chapter Larry Peik, Bill Marrs, Tom Northern, and Ron Walcik, along with the Patriot Guard, honored Army Sgt. Glenn Michael Sewell who was killed in action in Iraq. (Picture courtesy of the Heart O' Texas Chapter)



Members of the TXSSAR Color Guard who attended the 2011 National Congress included (standing) Larry Stevens, Joe Dooley, Stephen Tanner, Tom Green, John Greer, Jim Jones, Mike Radcliff, Lindsay Brock, Peter Gobel; (kneeling) Robert Clark, Jim Mitchell, Jim Johnson, and Ron Barker. (Picture: Piney Woods Chapter)



Members of the Dallas Chapter Color Guard lined up with Members of Cub Scout Pack 890 and Boy Scout Troop 890 to march in the Dallas Lake Highlands July 4 parade. Thirteen scouts carried the flags of the 13 colonies, each boy with a sash identifying his colony, and the rest of the boys carried the banners and helped the SAR with historic flags of the Revolutionary War Period. (Picture: Dallas Chapter)

COLOR GUARD NEWS

Micajah Williamson Grave Marking

Several of our TXSSAR Compatriots stopped off for a grave marking ceremony in Washington, Georgia, while on the way to the 2011 National Congress. The Patriot honored was Col. Micajah Williamson, ancestor of brothers Robert Williamson (LASSAR) and Dale Williamson (TXSSAR). Shown gathered around Micajah Williamson's headstone are (left to right) Robert Williamson; a local descendant of Micajah; Dale Williamson; Tom Owens, President of the Washington, GA Chapter of GASSAR, who arranged the logistics of the ceremony, U.S. Army Col. Peter Goebel (TXSSAR); Tom Green (TXSSAR); and Robin Towns, Regent of the local DAR Chapter. Kneeling is

Jim Mitchell of the Piney Woods Chapter of TXSSAR. It was the local DAR chapter that arranged for the move of Col. Micajah Williamson's remains from his farm to the Washington, GA cemetery in the 1930's. Col. Williamson was second in command of the local militia during the American Revolution, and was involved in the Battle of Kettle Creek. After the War, he established and named the town of Washington, GA at the intersection of two roads. This was the first town in America named for George Washington.

Below right is the GASSAR Color Guard performing the actual ceremony marking Col. Micajah Williamson's grave.



Shown above is the CG of Van Zandt Chapter (Ft. Worth) in the White Hills Parade on July 4. Shown are Donald Goodman, Gerry Gieger, Russell Leavens, (seated), Raymond Leftwich, and James Alderman.



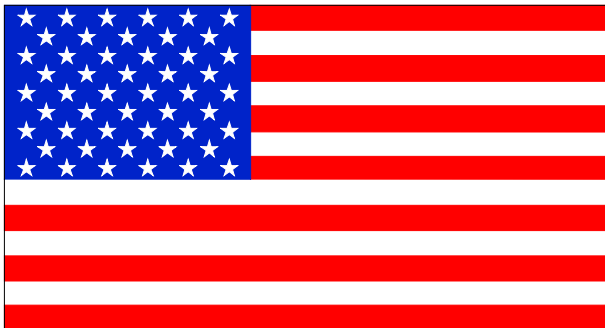
Have you considered joining a Color Guard and helping to expand the "Face of the SAR"? There are a number of good reputable sources for custom-made uniforms, both wool and polyester. Wool is historically authentic but more expensive, whereas polyester is more comfortable in Texas. You can't fire a flintlock musket wearing polyester, as it will melt part of your uniform. (Re-enactors always wear wool.) For specific information on both types, send an email to hc_baker@sbcglobal.net

In Memoriam

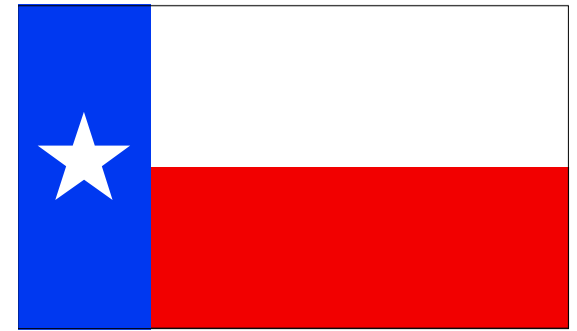
Don Pugh passed away on August 29 as a result of complications following a fall. The retired Academic Dean of Brazosport College, and former TXSSAR Staff Secretary, loved the SAR, loved TXSSAR, loved his Cradle of Texas Chapter, and loved to show people around his world. Those of us who took the two bus tours prior to the two BOMs hosted by the Cradle of Texas Chapter could not escape the excitement and enthusiasm he had for everything about the Brazosport area



and how it truly was the Cradle of Texas. He knew people and places and could get us into places that only special people even knew existed. We visited inside the house where Stephen F. Austin lived when Texas was only a dream, and we visited the site of the Battle of Velasco (1832) and learned how it related to the Goliad Massacre, the Alamo, San Jacinto, etc. Don was a walking encyclopedia of Texas history, and he will be missed. ◇



Dr. Donald W. Pugh
1931-2011



CHAPTER NEWS

Athens Chapter



Sgt. Robert Powers of the Henderson County Sheriffs Office was the recipient of the Law Enforcement Commendation Medal from the TXSSAR Athens Chapter. The office command staff selected Sgt. Powers for the SAR annual medal and certificate. By this award, the SAR seeks to promote good law enforcement and show its high regard for those persons who are dedicated to the preservation of law and order.

Left to Right: Sheriff Ray Nutt, Major Botie Hillhouse, Deputy Cayce Hampton, Captain Bryan Tower, Sam Whitten (Athens Chapter Secretary/Treasurer), Lt. Kalon Rollins and Sgt. Robert Powers.

Photo by Wayne Stafford

HEAR YE, HEAR YE!!

Bernardo de Galvez Chapter #1 is hosting the Fall Board of Managers Meeting on Friday-Sunday, October 28-30, at the Hilton Galveston Island Resort. Be sure to register for the meetings at TXSSAR.ORG — click on Events. Registration for lodging is separate. You must call the hotel to make your lodging reservations: 1-409-744-5000

Bernardo de Galvez Chapter



The Bernardo de Galvez Chapter recently honored two World War II heroes. Above: Ivan Hammond and wife Aline Hammond were honored on the occasion of his being sworn in to SAR, for his service on Iwo Jima. President Pete Lenex is on the left, and Compatriot George Dershiemer on the right. Below: Gus Taylor, a prospective member, was honored for his service in the Korean War.



Virginia Revolutionary Patriots

By Gerald W. Irion

Texas Coastal Registrar

There are two relatively obscure lists of Virginia residents that identify persons who will qualify as Patriots of the Revolutionary War period. Since most people are not aware of them, it seemed appropriate to write an article that would expose the lists to more applicants for either new or supplemental submissions.

I

The first of these was called to my attention many years ago by Lloyd Bockstruck and is called **“A Short Census of Virginia – 1779”** by **William H. Dumont** and it was published in the National Genealogical Society Quarterly in December 1958 in Vol. 46, No. 4, pp 166-215. The list contains around 2200 names and many researchers have used it as a partial substitute for the missing 1790 Virginia Census. The useful feature of this list for Sons of the American Revolution is that all of the people listed including over 140 women and a few people from North Carolina will qualify as Patriots. The names are listed alphabetically with the county of residence which helps a great deal.

By 1779, as many of you know, the British had been circulating counterfeit continental money to cause inflation of the currency issued by the Continental Congress at the time. The issues involved series' of bills dated May 20 1777 and April 11 1778 and a resolution was passed that invited people to bring in those bills to exchange them for “good” money. Those residents that did exchange the money are the ones on the list and the author has qualified an ancestor on the list through SAR. Most Loyalists dealt only in hard currency so wouldn't have Continental Currency to trade in.

You can “Google” the name of the publication and find portions of it on-line for certain counties. Some libraries have copies of the whole list published separately in book form but none appeared to be available on-line. The author has a copy of the list and if you want to check out a name, please let me know.

Be aware that the ability to prove that the person listed is the ancestor being claimed is still a necessary requirement as in any application. In other words, you would have to have some evidence of your ancestor being in the appropriate county and show that there were no others of the same name to conflict with the person on the list. If the name is an unusual one, the process is easier than if it is common.

II

The second listing of people qualifying to be patriots was identified recently through certain acts of the Virginia Legislature published in Henning's Statutes at Large which you can find on-line. Again, while the lists aren't new, it is advantageous to point out the qualifying features of the acts.

In October of 1777 (Chapter II) the Virginia Legislature passed “an act for raising a supply of money for public exigencies”. This act was clearly for payment of Revolutionary War expenses and established taxes to be used for that purpose. Thus it would be similar to the supply taxes in Pennsylvania. Land, personal property, and “tithables” were taxed. Included were taxes for “manors, messuages, lands, and tenements, slaves, mulatto servants to 31 years of age, horses, mules, and plate” as well as many other items such as cattle, cash on hand, marriage licenses, ordinary licenses, wages, hogsheads of tobacco, certain liquors, etc. etc. A tax of “five shillings per poll upon all tithables above the age of 21 years “(except soldiers and a few other exceptions) was levied. An earlier act of the Legislature required persons to sign an oath of allegiance and they were given a certificate to show that they had done that. This act required that they show that certificate or pay double taxes.

This temporary tax was levied for 6 years beginning in 1778 and extended at least until 1782 when the taxes were made permanent by a subsequent act discussed below. Therefore, if one can find such a tax list for 1778 through 1781, and find a person on it who did not pay double taxes, that person will qualify as a patriot. The bad news is that tax lists of this timeframe are not readily available. The Virginia Archives has them for some counties and I am sure a few are available in other places and in various publications.

The good news is that in 1782 these taxes were made permanent (see Hening's Statutes, November 1781, Chapter XL) and although the requirement to show an oath of allegiance was dropped, the taxes were still for support of the government of Virginia in paying for expenses related to the War. So a person appearing on the lists in 1782 and early 1783 (and not showing to have paid double taxes) until the War was declared over in September of 1783 will qualify as a patriot. Since the taxes were due in April, both years would qualify. The acceptance of this tax as a patriotic action has been accepted by our newly elected National Genealogist General after consultation with the head of the Genealogy Committee.

The good news mentioned above is that most every county in Virginia has either a Land Tax list or a Personal Property Tax list (or both) for 1782

and 1783 available through LDS microfilm. Many counties have both lists available. Therefore while the tax from 1778 through 1781 is much harder to find, the lists for 1782 and 1783 is much more available.

These lists will contain thousands of people that will qualify as patriots but again as a cautionary note, there is still the burden to prove that the person on the list is the person in your lineage. ◇



The Bedford Flag

The only flag carried by a Patriot that flew over the Battle of Concord Bridge, where the embattled farmers stood and “fired the shot heard ‘round the world.” As a result of Paul Revere’s ride, this family flag was carried by Minuteman Nathaniel Page to the battle. Today, it is housed in the Library in Bedford, MA. ◇

In Memoriam

Compatriot Donald George Pray, a long-time member, former Chapter President, and most recently Treasurer of the Major K. M. Van Zandt Chapter (Fort Worth) recently passed away. He held degrees in Physics and Mechanical Engineering, and he served as Cubmaster, Scoutmaster, and Explorer Advisor, plus many other areas of community service. ◇



American Revolution Exhibit

On display at University at North Texas

All Compatriots, their family members and the general public are invited to visit a very special collection presentation of memorabilia and historical documents during August-December.

This exhibit is tentatively entitled: “Our Forefathers and Their Sons: The American Revolution and the ‘Sons’ Groups Who Followed.” We’re highlighting materials from our collections about the American Revolution and notable patriots, then some examples from the national SAR organization, and finally filling several cases with items related to TXSSAR

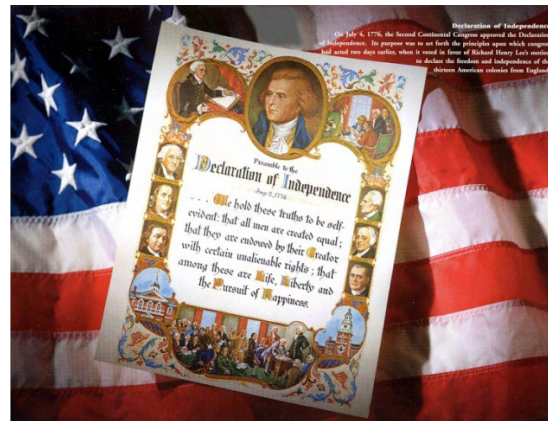
It’s in room 437 of Willis Library (the Rare Book Room) and the exhibit will be open for viewing M-F 8-5.

Plan your visit soon - it’ll come down around mid-December.

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION – CONTACT:

Jennifer K. Sheehan, Ph.D. Curator of Rare Books UNT Libraries 1155 Union Circle #305190

Denton, TX 76203-5017 940-565-2768 Jennifer.Sheehan@unt.edu



AMERICANISM TRIVIA QUIZ.

Correct answers will be revealed in the Winter issue of the Com-patriot. Send your answers to hc_baker@sbcglobal.net before the next issue for special recognition.

Prelude to War:

1. Were the majority of the British people in favor of a war against the Americans?
2. On average, how long did it take a ship to travel from Britain to America?
3. The patriotic colonists called Americans who were British sympathizers "Tories" or "Loyalists." What was the favored punishment for Tories found in the midst of the Patriots?

4. What British action precipitated the Battles of Lexington and Concord?
5. At what age was a man required to enroll in the militia?
6. What was the approximate population of the American colonies on the eve of the war?
7. What was the largest city in the colonies during the war?
8. What was the most populous state in the colonies at the war's beginning, and what was the least populous?
9. At the time of the war's beginning, what fraction of the colonists were originally from Britain?

10. Who were the Hessians?

11. What percentage of the British army in America were Hessian troops?
12. How many troops did Britain have in America at the start of the war?
13. In what year did the "Boston Massacre" occur, and how many Americans were killed?
14. In what colony were the first minutemen regiments organized, and where did they get their name?
15. Name the reigning King of England during the war.

LADIES' AUXILIARY ANNOUNCES FUNDRAISER FOR THE PATRIOT FUND

The LATXSSAR (Ladies' Auxiliary of the Texas Society of SAR) is collecting funds to support the TXSSAR Patriot Fund expenses. This fund supports the youth programs of the Texas Society including the following:

- ◆ CAR Essay Awards
- ◆ Knight Essay Contest Awards
- ◆ Oration Contest Awards
- ◆ Eagle Scout Awards
- ◆ ROTC/JROTC Awards
- ◆ Sea Cadets Awards
- ◆ Poster Contest Awards
- ◆ American History Teacher Awards

Donations to LATXSSAR to assist in the fundraiser will provide chances to win the Patriotic Quilt shown on Page 15. A donation of \$2 will provide one chance; a donation of \$5 will provide three chances.

You can mail your contribution to Sue Lenés. Include Your name, date, amount of donation, mailing address, email address, phone number, and cell phone number.

Also, please include a SASE (Self Addressed Stamped Envelope) for your drawing tickets.

MAIL TO: Sue Lenés
4401 Ableside Drive
League City, TX 77573
281-316-2202
msuelenes@comcast.net

ORDER YOUR RAFFLE TICKETS NOW



Overall size 67" x 80"

Ladies' Fundraiser

The latest fundraiser for the 2011-2013 term is a patriotic quilt, pictured at left. Tickets can be obtained by contacting Sue Lenes (contact information on Page 14). As you can see, most of the quilting is finished, except in the center section.

Tickets are one for \$2 or three for \$5. Please make all checks to LATXSSAR .

This fundraiser is conducted to support the TXSSAR Patriot Fund's expenses for youth programs. Please help us raise funds for this worthy cause.

Check the LATXSSAR webpage for handouts, donation forms etc: <http://TXSSAR.org/LA>

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From the Editor: It has seemed odd to me that while we have converted from a primarily mailed newsletter to a primarily electronic delivery, the format has continued to be that of an 8½ by 11-inch letter style. With permission from President Bill Marrs to experiment, I decided to see how a computer screen format would look. This page should fit on your computer screen without your having to scroll up and down to see a full page. Please let me know how you like this format. Send comments to hc_baker@sbcglobal.net

Also, you will note on Page 3 an illustrated article on the American Freedom Museum in East Texas, that I discovered on the way back from the William Delafield grave marking. Barbara and I think this museum is terrific. Do you know of a place in Texas that you would like to share with your TXSSAR Compatriots? Let me hear from you. I would love to feature a different serendipity from different parts of Texas in each issue of The Compatriot. Send articles with pictures to hc_baker@sbcglobal.net

Finally, please observe the following deadlines for submission of items for The Compatriot:

September 15, January 15, and May 15.

H. Charles Baker, Compatriot Editor

8600 Skyline Drive #1005

Dallas, TX 75243-4167

hc_baker@sbcglobal.net

PATRIOTS FUND

Compatriots are reminded that donations to the Patriots Fund in any amount are always welcome and are tax deductible as allowed for a 501(c)(3) organization. Remember that this fund supports all of our youth programs and contests. This includes the following: Knight Essay, Poster, CAR Essay, Eagle Scout, Oration, Junior and Senior ROTC, Sea Cadets Awards, and the American History Teacher Awards.

Individuals who give \$500 to the Patriots Fund receive the Alexander Hamilton lapel pin. Individuals donating \$1,000 will earn the Alexander Hamilton Medal. Recognition will be given at the Annual Meeting in March.

There is a new form for the submission of Patriot Fund Donations. It can be found at the following location on the web:

www.txssar.org

Click on Contests, then on Contributions