



The Texas Compatriot



Official Publication of the Texas Society
Sons of the American Revolution ©
Spring 2018

FROM THE PRESIDENT: John Beard



My fellow Compatriots:

This is my final President's Message to my fellow Compatriots. It has truly been an honor for me to serve as president of Texas SAR for the 2017-2018 year. I have had the opportunity and privilege to meet with many chapters around this great state. I am always impressed with how dedicated the Compatriots are in representing Texas SAR in their communities.

Every meeting is a little different. I try to share the positives with the chapters that I visit in the hope that a couple of them will add some additional positive activities to their programs. In case I don't make it to your chapter, I'll share some of these activities with you now:

- Have a roll call where each chapter member gives the name of his Patriot ancestor and some brief history on his or her service.
- Present a Texas Challenge Coin to a new member when he is inducted.
- Present a Texas Challenge Coin to the guest speaker.

Dickens on the Strand Parade: an unforgettable experience



SAR Color Guard, from left: Stu Hoyt, South Region Color Guard commander (William Hightower Chapter); Tom Jackson, Texas president-elect, Gene Shaner, Larry Tidwell and Sam Massey Jr. (all of Bernardo de Galvez Chapter); Jim Clements (Patrick Henry Chapter); John Loper (Galvez Chapter); and Tom Jones (Hightower Chapter). The ladies in the carriage are Catherine Massey and Sue Lenes. The event was Dickens on the Strand in Galveston Dec. 2, 2017. Bernardo de Galvez Chapter sponsored the event and hired the carriages to transport the ladies. See story on Page 2.

- Encourage chapter members to bring their Texas Challenge Coin to the meeting or require them to acquire another one at the meeting.
- Remember recently deceased Compatriot member(s) with a special program.
- Conduct the meeting before, or after, food is served.

In looking to the future, as we ended 2017, TXSAR could boast of 3,100-plus members in good standing. With that, we will be able to present a sixth Patriot Medal in 2018. This is

another milestone for Texas SAR.

The state convention will be April 5-8, 2018, at the Hyatt Regency North Dallas. The East Fork Trinity and Plano Chapters are once again putting together an outstanding event. If you haven't attended one of these meetings, please give this one a try. I don't think you'll be disappointed. Following the convention, Texas SAR will be hosting the 2018 SAR Nation-

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SAR Color Guard performs at North Texas charity event

On Veterans Day 2017, an SAR Color Guard group participated in the presentation of the colors at Sky Ball XV, a black-tie event that supports the Airpower Foundation. The event was held at Hanger 5 of American Airlines at the DFW International Airport.

Five Compatriots from the North Texas area participated: Bill Watts, Gary Lovell, Bill Covington, Dave Davidson and Ted Wilson.

We were invited to participate after the Sky Ball sponsors saw us present the colors at the Patriot Ball in April 2017 and were impressed with our work. Also presenting at th Sky Ball

were the JROTC for the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines plus a pipe-and-drum group from New York City. (We later learned that this group included firemen and policemen who were some of the first to respond on 9/11.)

The sponsors wanted the Saturday closure of their three-day event to include representatives of groups that had fought for the independence of the United States. Each group was assigned a position and took their cue as directed. The JROTC for the Navy and Marines were on the left side of the stage, while the Army and Air Force were on the right side of

the stage.

The pipe-and-drum group lined up beside the SAR Color Guard at middle front. At the appropriate time, the pipe-and-drum group marched forward and performed for five minutes and then lined up in front of the stage. A two-minute video titled "We Took an Oath" played and, at its close, the designated drummer began playing.

The JROTC of each service began marching, with the Army being the first to ascend the stairs to the stage and cross to the other side. They were followed by the Navy, Air Force and then Marines. As the Marine JROTC was climbing onto the stage, the SAR Color Guard moved forward to take their place at center stage. We were all in a single line across the stage as the National Anthem was sung by Steve Amerson. At the close, each group exited as instructed.

Other highlights of the event included the introduction of 17 of the 73 Medal of Honor recipients who were honored for their valor in combat. Seven students from Grapevine Colleyville ISD were recognized with challenge coins representing courage, commitment, integrity, sacrifice, citizenship and patriotism.

Actor Gary Sinise was there to give information about his foundation and how it helps veterans and their families. All told, more than 2,700 attended that night.

The event raised more than \$3.1 million for various charities that support veterans.

Closing out the evening, the Beach Boys performed in concert honoring our nation.

Dickens on the Strand: An Unusual Parade — to say the least

On the first Saturday in December, Galveston pulls all the stops to celebrate the holiday season with a Dickens experience in a section of town near the port called the Strand. Folks come from near and far to partake of this festive occasion. The local Bernardo de Galvez Chapter of the SAR has an entry each year and invites the state SAR Color Guard to join them in the parade. A few of us from the Austin/San Antonio area drove over to participate. Stopping along the way for gas about 150 miles out, we met a family heading to the parade.

Arriving early, Bernardo de Galvez Chapter members invited us to join them for their induction of officers and pre-parade luncheon.

It was such fun seeing so many people in Dickens-period Victorian clothing as we approached the Railroad Museum and the muster point for the parade.

The parade is just the start of a very big traditional party for the Christmas season. We were told that, as the end of the parade moves towards the finish line, everyone closes into the street and begins to celebrate, thus the reason so many of the spectators were dressed for the occasion.

Since we had a four-hour drive home, we did not join in the fun. In addition our Continental uniforms were a little out of style and it was getting increasingly warm by that time of day. If you'd like to partake of an unusual parade, add it to your calendar for the first Saturday in December 2018.

Stu Hoyt, President, WH#35, TX SAR

Please have your say

Compatriots:

We need each of you to reply to two questions:

1. Are you willing to receive the Texas SAR newsletter *The Compatriot* via email only instead of receiving a printed copy via US postal service?

2. Are you interested in being on a new email list to get news and updates regarding the Texas SAR Color Guard?

* To respond, or request clarification, reply to this at *The Compatriot* mailing address found on the back page. Please respond only once.

* Upon receiving your answers, you will be entered in a special raffle to be drawn at the state meeting.

* If we do not print and mail *The Compatriot* to you, the savings per issue is about \$1 for the Texas SAR.

Note: We plan to continue to print and USPS mail *The Compatriot* to members without access to read online.



Galvez Chapter President John Hamlin and Registrar Pete Lenes award a Good Citizenship Medal to Galveston County Sheriff Henry Trochesset.

FROM THE PRESIDENT *Continued from Page 1*

al Congress in Houston in July. There are currently 240-plus rooms booked at the hotel. Tom Jackson and his team are doing a great job in making sure that attendees, wives and guests will have a very memorable experience in Houston.

In closing, I would like to once again have us consider and review the objectives of our organization, Texas SAR.

The objectives of this society are declared to be patriotic, historical and educational, and shall include those intended or designed to perpetuate the memory of those, who by their services, or sacrifices, during the war of the American Revolution, achieved the independence of the American people:

- to unite and promote fellowship among their descendants;
- to inspire them and the community at large with a more profound reverence for the principles of the government founded by our forefathers;
- to encourage historical research in relation to the American Revolution;
- to acquire and preserve the

records of the individual services of the patriots of the war, as well as the documents, relics, and landmarks;

- to mark the scenes of the Revolution by appropriate memorials;
- to celebrate the anniversaries of the prominent events of the war and of the Revolutionary period;
- to foster true patriotism;
- to maintain and extend the institutions of American freedom; and to carry out the purposes expressed in the Preamble of the Constitution of our country and the injunctions of Washington in his farewell address to the American people.

Again, I have been truly honored and blessed to have served as your Texas SAR president. I would like to especially thank my wife, First Lady Mary-Claire Beard for supporting me during this service in office. Thank you, Mary-Claire!

In closing, may God continue to bless the USA, Texas and Texas SAR.

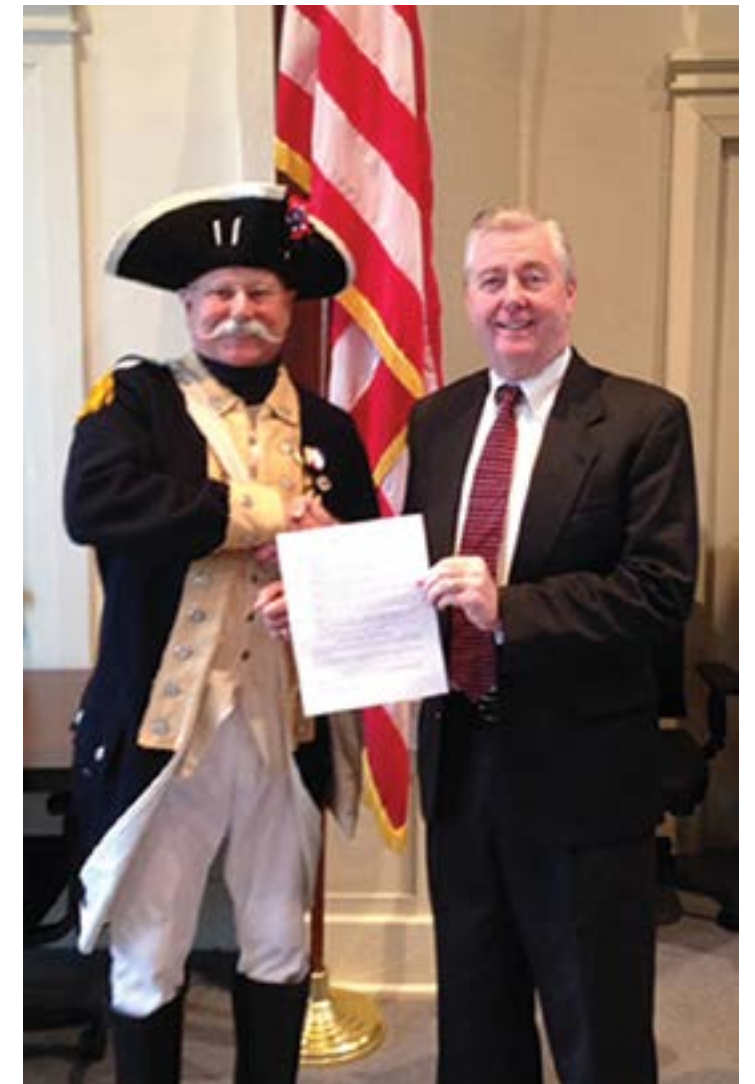
John Beard
President, Texas SAR



Above: President Beard presents East Fork-Trinity Compatriot Stephen Johnson with the War Service Medal for his service in Vietnam along with a pin recognizing his Purple Heart.



Above: A full house of members of Patrick Henry Chapter No. 11 and Thankful Hubbard Chapter DAR celebrate the holiday with their annual joint luncheon at Austin's historic Château Bellevue (Austin Woman's Club). Other joint luncheons were held in College Station and other sites around the state. Right: County Judge Brett Bray with Blair Rudy. The judge read in full the George Washington's Birthday proclamation into the record of the Blanco County Court of Commissioners meeting. Restoring the original designation of Feb. 22 is gaining momentum across the state. Below, left: The Military Order of the Purple Heart annual George Washington Dinner with the Alexander Hamilton and Patrick Henry Chapters at the Austin Club. Below, right: a multi-chapter Golor Guard appeared at the traditional parade on the border with Mexico in Laredo.



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Texas chapters celebrate Washington's birthday



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NSSAR National Congress Volunteers, please note:

The Texas SAR will be providing monogrammed shirts to all members who work as volunteers at the National Congress in Houston. This will include volunteers at the hotel and the three tours. We need to place orders for the shirts as soon as possible and need to know your shirt size. Sizes range from small, medium, large, x-large and 2x-large, etc. Remember that members do not have to register for the congress to be a volunteer and there will be a special thank-you banquet for volunteers.

Please contact:

Larry H. Blackburn

Volunteer Coordinator at lhblackburn@sbcglobal.net

(281) 960-8859

Amendment proposed for action at Texas SAR Annual Conference

The following proposed amendment to the Texas SAR Constitution, approved at the last Board of Managers meeting, is being published no less than thirty (30) days prior to the state convention, as provided for in Article XI of the Constitution, which says:

ARTICLE XI – AMENDMENTS

This Constitution may be superseded by a new Constitution, amended, or in any manner changed, at any Annual Meeting of the Society or at any special meeting called for that purpose. A copy of such proposed New Constitution, Amendments, or change shall be provided to the President and Secretary of each Chapter of the State Society by the State Secretary not less than thirty days prior to the Annual Meeting at which the same is to be voted upon. Notice of such proposed New Constitution, Amendments, or change may be given by the deposit of said copy by the state Secretary in the United States Mail, first class postage prepaid, not less than thirty-three days prior to said convention and separately addressed to each President and Secretary at the last known mailing address of each respectively, or by e-mailing it to each President and Secretary not less than thirty-three days prior to said convention and separately addressed to each President and Secretary at the last known e-mail address of each respectively as shown by the records of the State Secretary, shall constitute a compliance with the requirements of this provision. Any change

voted by the members at the meeting shall be incorporated therein upon final adoption. A two-thirds vote of the delegates present shall be required for adoption.

ARTICLE V – OFFICERS

SECTION 1. The officers of this Society shall be a President, President Elect, State Secretary, Staff Secretary, Communications Secretary, Treasurer, Registrar(s), Historian, Chancellor, Chaplain, Vice President for Americanism Contests and Awards, and District Vice Presidents, whose duties shall be those as shall be prescribed by the Bylaws. They shall be elected by a majority vote of the delegates present at the Annual Meeting of the Society, be installed at the Annual Meeting at which they were elected, shall hold office for one year and until their successors are elected and qualified. Any other officer except the President may hold the office of Chancellor.

SECTION 2. At each annual meeting of the State Society there shall be elected Vice Presidents, each to be designated as a District Vice President, except as otherwise specifically prescribed by Section 1 of Article VI of the Bylaws of the State Society.

SECTION 3. All nominations of officers shall be made from the floor. Nominations made by committee for such purpose shall be considered nominations from the floor.

SECTION 4. Assistants. Due

to the large geographic area that this Society serves, the occasional need for specialists, and the amount of workload assigned from time to time to this Society's officers, any officer identified in Section 1 may appoint assistants to assist them with their duties of office, with the consent of the Board of Managers. Once appointed and approved, the assistant shall have the title "Assistant" followed by the associated office, and shall have such authority and perform such duties as approved by the Board of Managers, consistent with the office. The term of appointment shall expire on the last day of the Annual Meeting following appointment, unless otherwise specified by the Board of Managers. In the absence of the Chaplain or a duly appointed Assistant Chaplain at an event of this Society, the President may appoint a Chaplain Pro Tem for the duration of the event without the consent of the Board of Managers.



State Officers and Committee Chairmen, please note:

As a reminder, please send your Activity/Meeting reports (in Word format) to David Temple by March 1, 2018, so that they can be organized and uploaded to the Texas SAR website before the state convention. The time period covered will be from the BOM meeting in October through Feb. 28, 2018.

Thank you for all that you do for SAR.

Kind regards,

John Beard
President, Texas SAR

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... a message from the state secretary

Chapter presidents:

It is time to send your chapters list of delegates for the 2018 Annual Texas SAR Convention. A PDF for chapter eligible delegate allocation is on the website.

The rules for determining delegates to the Texas SAR Annual Convention are described in Article XX of the Texas SAR by-laws, page 14 >> <http://www.txssar.org/cgi-bin/dada/mail.cgi/r/chpres/967782581472/>

"Each local chapter will receive one delegate-at-large, plus one delegate for every seven (7) members or major fraction thereof of each Local Chapter, provided, however, that any Local Chapter having less than seven (7) members shall be entitled to one (1) delegate. The delegate shall be selected in accordance with the rules prescribed by each Local Chapter, provided, however, that all delegates must be members of the Texas Society in good standing."

An active member, delinquent in paying dues, shall not be eligible to actively participate in any annual or special meeting of this society, unless his delinquency is cured at least (60) days before the date of such society meeting as shown by the records of the state secretary.

What this means is that anyone who has not been marked as paid by the State Treasurer and accounted for by the state secretary by Feb. 5, (60 days prior to the convention), will NOT be eligible to be a delegate for the upcoming state conference. Additionally, that list on Feb 5, will determine how many delegates each chapter will receive. Once the number is determined, these numbers will be provided via DaDa email to all Texas SAR chapter presidents and district VPs.

Then each chapter is responsible for providing the state secretary with the following information, no later than March 5, (30 days prior to the convention) with the proposed chapter delegates who meet the following requirements:

- 1) Active Texas SAR Member as of Feb. 5, per published list.
- 2) Primary or dual member of the chapter they will represent.
- 3) Will be in physical attendance at the meetings of the convention in Richardson, TX.

Upon arriving at the convention, chapter delegates will receive their voting credentials/ID. This is another good reason to get all your chapter dues paid in early and on time to maximize your potential delegates for the convention general sessions.

Regards,

Drake Peddie

State Secretary - Texas SAR
email sec@txssar.org questions or comments

Compatriot News

Hounds:

A few words from Compatriot Editor Jim Dougherty



Wow! What great pictures we continue to receive of chapter activities around the state! Holiday parade for Galveston's Dickens on the Strand and Washington's birthday celebrations from around our great state — these all are tributes to those Compatriots who plan, participate and record TSSAR history.

I would make one request when you submit photos. Please send with your e-mail a short identification of the event, date, and spelling of individuals' names in the photo and contributing photographer. This will help us give credit, where credit is due.

Keep up the good work and I look forward to submissions of activities up to July 4th for the next issue of the magazine.

Challenge Coins available

The tradition of the Challenge Coin goes back many years and is well known in the military. Now the Texas Society Sons of the American Revolution has a Challenge Coin of its own.

Proceeds from the sales of the Challenge Coins go to the Perpetual Fund. Coins were provided by PG Joe Dooley.

The minimum order is five coins. The desired order is 10. The chapter should send a check payable to TXSSAR in the amount of \$100 for 10 to the following address:

John Beard
3738 Palmetto Creek Drive
Kingwood, TX 77339

Coins will be mailed to the requested address.



The Texas Compatriot
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Taking a little history back to school

By *Stu Hoyt*, President, WH#35, TX SAR

Sons of the American Revolution: Who are we?

SAR is dedicated to assisting our members, schools, teachers and the general public in their efforts to sustain and preserve our history and constitutional principles. This statement is found at the heading of the home page on the SAR website. From that, I translate the responsibility of the chapter and its members is to bring the history of our ancestors to the local schools.

Today, this is a challenging task. American History (especially of the Revolution) is only taught in a few grades in first through 12th grade. Even then, the schedule is so demanding for teachers that it often is glossed over, at least in the eyes of the SAR and what we understand of that period of growth in our country.

Ask the average student just finishing history classes about the Revolution when George Washington's birthday is celebrated and it is not likely that you will get an an-

swer, let alone the correct one. In our last few meetings at state conferences, the subject of getting a foot in the door at any public school has become a serious issue.

Three years ago, in a conversation with my grand-twins, I asked them when they would cover American History at their charter school. The answer was this fall semester. I offered my services to their teacher and he accepted. He had twins in the fifth grade of that school and they, too, were studying American History. He asked if I would be willing to talk to their five fifth-grade classes. That was the start.

The eighth-grade teacher moved on, but the fifth grade has asked me back for three years in a row. I do a three-part presentation with the students. Depending on the time allotted, I first get them into the subject with an interactive talk. Last year, I introduced my Revolutionary family into a "Do you know your grandparents?" and walked them through the Revolution. This year I asked them not to take things for

granted by comparing what we do and have today with how they dealt with the same issues back then. I allow for a short Q&A and then invite them to see my display of historic replica.

The students are very receptive, attentive, inquisitive, and respectful. The teachers talk up the impending visit so the students are excited when the day arrives. It is a win-win for all. The chapter can report these sessions in the annual report. I present the teachers with a Certificate of Appreciation and memento of the Revolution. Last year, I had documents of the Revolution framed and presented. This year, the SAR education department provided DVDs of the Revolution, which I presented to the teachers along with a chapter SAR pen. This will be time well spent.

Each year, the state struggles to find applicants to fill the "History Teacher of the Year" award. Here's your chance. The first step is to ask.