



May 2009

President's Message

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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. The chapter also 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

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THE SAN ANTONIO COMPATRIOT

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

Induction of New Members —

April 2009 was the second meeting of the Sons of the American Revolution, San Antonio Chapter at the San Antonio Petroleum Club, just north of Highway 410 on New Braunfels Ave. 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 the regular meeting if you have not attended recently.



In April, we inducted 2 new members into the San Antonio Chapter.

Jack Chisenhall, and Paul Ruckman, (on left).

April Speaker — Nancy Brennan

Nancy Brennan (pictured at right) was our guest speaker at the April 16 meeting. Ms. Brennan was introduced by Rueben Perez. She is a genealogist associated with the San Antonio Genealogical and Historical Association and Library and provided information



regarding genealogical research concerning our ancestries. 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, but some are 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 Historical

See Brennan, p. 3



Peter Baron at
TSCAR Conference

offered him the opportunity 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 Tejada 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 75th Birthday in April



Past Presidents at
the 75th Birthday
Cake Cutting

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The Pilgrimage to
the Alamo activity is
the picture below,
on the left;
The Fiesta de los
Niños on the right
below.

Pilgrimage to the ALAMO & Fiesta de los Niños



David Bowles pre-
sents Jerome Fulen-
wider with Chapter
Service Medal with
Oak Leaf Cluster



The Chapter participated in the 3rd annual Fiesta De Los Ninos 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 pictured above right are: Peter Baron, Stephen Rohrbough, James Taylor, Frank Rohrbough, and Jack Cowan.

Saturdays at the San Antonio Genealogical Library

On **second Saturdays (except July)** Rev. James Taylor, Chapter Genealogist, will be at the San Antonio Genealogical and Historical Library to assist interested individuals in genealogical research necessary for SAR membership. Rev. Taylor will be there from **10 AM until 1 PM**.

The **San Antonio Genealogical and Historical Society library** is located at 911 Melissa Ave., San Antonio, TX. Call Rev. James Taylor for information at 210-387-8189 or www.sarsat.org.

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. We are prepared to award a \$1000 scholarship to a graduating JROTC student for the 2010 school year. The fund balance is over \$27,500. However, in this unstable economy we are always looking to strengthen our fund. The intention is to be able to both increase the amount of our scholarship and the number of recipients. Please consider a tax deductible contribution the fund.

Applications and Questions: San Antonio Chapter, SAR scholarship@sarsat.org

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Historical Society and the New England Genealogical Society. It is worth a visit just for those memberships.

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: (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**

The above resources are available at the SA Genealogical Historical Association and Library

CHAPTER OFFICERS FOR 2009

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Your Chapter invites you to be involved. Call any Officer for more 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 Conference, Mar 19—22

CITY

Atlanta
Lake Jackson
Richardson
Houston



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 (ALL AT 11:30 AM)
LION & ROSE PUB — BLANCO AND LOOP 410
MAY 14TH (THURS) AND JUNE 11TH (THURS)

PUB NIGHTS — LION & ROSE PUB — 2ND TUES 5 PM
410 and Blanco Rd. location



Senator Wentworth receives Silver Good Citizenship Medal.

Registration Form

TXSSAR BOM October 30-November 1, 2009

Holiday Inn Select, Richardson, TX

Hosted by the Dallas Chapter

(Each Member should use a separate form.)

SAR Member Name: _____ Chapter: _____

Chapter Office (if any): _____ TXSSAR Office (if any): _____

Mailing Address: _____ E-mail Address: _____

City/ZIP: _____ / _____ State: _____

Telephone #: _____ Confirm E-mail Address: _____

Name of Spouse (if attending): _____

Names of other Guests: _____

Estimated Day and Time of Arrival: _____

Do you or any guest have special dietary or disability requirements? (Please Circle One): Yes No
If yes, please describe: _____

EVENT # People Cost Total

Registration Fee (SAR Members only): \$35

Saturday Men's Luncheon Buffet: \$18

Saturday Night Banquet (Men and Ladies): \$20

Friday Afternoon Tour of New Dallas Cowboys

Stadium (Men & Ladies):

TBA in June**

Saturday Ladies' Tour of Crow Asian Art

Collection (Bus loads at hotel at 9:15 a.m.):

\$15 (includes bus to Arts

District, to NorthPark, to Hotel)

Saturday Ladies' Lunch/Shopping (NorthPark Mall): Dutch Treat ----

TOTALS (Include check to TXSSAR BOM)

** If you show interest in Friday tour, we will e-mail you with the prices of this tour, including bus transportation, when known.

MEMBERS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR MAKING THEIR OWN HOTEL RESERVATIONS.