



The Texas Compatriot

Texas Society
Sons of the American Revolution



Special Commemorative Edition

Issued on 15 August 2009

119TH ANNUAL CONGRESS
NATIONAL SOCIETY OF THE
SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION
ATLANTA, GEORGIA
JULY 4–JULY 8, 2009



President General Edward F. Butler and First Lady Robin Butler

MEMORIAL SERVICE

Sunday, July 5, 2009 The Color Guards from the various states assembled for their annual review by the President General Appleby. Texas was represented on this occasion by eleven color guardsmen.



After the review the men boarded buses for the First Baptist Church of Marietta for the two o'clock service. The service honored the memory of the more than two hundred compatriots who died during the 2009-2010 term.



Left: D. Williamson & L. Stevens
Right: J. Mitchell & G. West



Above: J. T. Jones
Below: P. Rowley



Above: P. Goebel & T. Green
Below: R. Barker



Front: , Ron Barker, Peter Rowley, Larry Stevens, Ton Green Middle: Joe Dooley, Art Munsford, George West, Jim T. Jones, Back: Dale. Williamson, Peter Goebel, Jim Mitchell

In Memory of Our Texas Compatriots

*Gilbert Ronald Aldis
Gene Atkinson
James L. Bracey
Garland Drew Bridges
August Emile Caron
James Ira DeLoache
Allan Koonce Dray*

*Samuel Patrick Evans
James Jefferson Ferrell
Thomas Hance Flinn
William Nicholas Foster
Charles William Geelan
Herman William Green
Adin Harry Hall
Carl Bruce Henry
John A. Hord*

*Lloyd Hanks Hudson
Roy M. Huffington
James Kenneth Ingram
James Samuel Knisley
Early A. Limmer
Edward Lee Lundie
Allen Coleman McGuire
Robert Balcom McKay
Wayne Curtis Pedigo*

*Carl Wade Peters
James Kenneth Pore
Tommy Gene Richardson
Ray Lee Satterfield
Edsel Duane Shelton
Billie Earle Smith
William Glenn Smoak
Boniface Gerard Trosclair
Chester R. Upham*

Youth Awards

Thanks to the very hard work of our chapters Texas again shone during the youth contests and awards.



ORATION

The Texas candidate again this year was Philip Hayes. Philip was the winner of the Tyler Chapter contest and the state competition in March. Those of you who were fortunate enough to hear him speak will understand why he was selected as the national winner. Philip was accompanied to Atlanta this year by his mother.



To the right Philip is pictured with President General Appleby receiving his first place certificate and check. His winning oration can be viewed on the TXSSAR Website.

Below: Tyler Chapter President Stephen Lee (far left) and Texas State Orations Chairman Peter Rowley (far right) are pictured with Philip and his mother.



Above Compatriot John Knox, TXSSAR Chairman of the **Eagle Scout** program is pictured with the winner Gerrit Bakker from Michigan.

Texas state **JROTC** winner, Heather Wilhelm, placed second in the National Enhanced JORTC competition.

POSTER CONTEST

The Texas State poster contestant placed second in the national competition. Pictured to the left TXSSAR President-Elect James Jones accepts the award from TXSSAR President Tom Lawrence. The Texas contestant, Naail Bhai, was sponsored by the Alexander Hodge Chapter.





On July 4th the Georgia Society of-fered a moving celebration of the date.

During the cocktail hour various readers participated in the reading of the Declaration of Independence. Pictured at right are Robin and Judge Edward Butler reading from the document.



Pictured above are our two video men, Stephen Lee, of the Tyler chapter and his son Matt.

The work of the sessions was long and issues were weighty. The PG Appleby below is explaining to the ladies that the Cameo Ceremony scheduled for mid-morning and already delayed over two hours will be delayed further. Since many of these ladies are former First Ladies, do you think they were surprised?



Texas Delegates Don Stallings, George West and Jim Jones taking a break from the sessions.



First Lady Raylene Appleby provided an opportunity for the ladies attending to participate in a service project. Lunches were prepared for needy children. The ladies were encouraged to drop by the hospitality room and decorate paper bags with brightly colored markers. Then, after the Sunday Memorial service, the women filled these bags with health snacks for the children. It was truly a rewarding experience for all who participated.

Pictured at left: Ladies filling lunch bags

TUESDAY NIGHT BANQUET

The Tuesday Banquet is the night of celebration of the past term. President General David Appleby presided. The President General awards were given this evening. The National Society Gold Medal of Distinguished Service, the most coveted of all, was presented to Judge Edward F. Butler. This award may only be presented once during the tenure of a President General. The



Texas delegation was proud to witness one of our own receiving this honor. (see photo left) Other awards presented during the Congress are listed on page 16.

The speaker for the evening was U. S. Representative from Missouri Roy Blount.



Mickey Jo and Judge Tom Lawrence with First Lady Raylene Appleby.



Judge Nathan White, Past President General and his wife Wanda.



Judy and George West



Peter Rowley and Sandy Craig



James T. and Dianne Jones



Ron & Conni Barker, Harry Fife and Jim Mitchell (standing)



Sylvia and William Marrs



TEXAS STATE RECEPTION



After the banquet the Texas Delegation was hosted at a reception by President General Edward Butler and his lady Robin. What a treat it was with wines and beers from the Lone Star State. There was even Vodka from Dripping Springs. [Willie Nelson's stomping grounds.] A little piece of Texas deep in the heart of Georgia!



PG Butler, Mickey Jo and Tom Lawrence

The suite was decorated with Texas flags, flag napkins and coasters and a Texas flag pillow. Everyone felt right at home.



Art Munsford and Tom Green



Pat and James Taylor, Stephen Rohrbough and PG Butler



Jim Jones, David Sympson, Harry Fife and Matt Lee.



Steve Vest and friend



Harry Fife, Don Stallings and Judy West



The Rohrbough Brothers—Frank, Stephen and Leonard



TEXAS RECEPTION



PG Butler and Larry Magerkurth



Peter Goebel, Matt Lee, Peter Baron, Jonathan Goebel and PG Butler.



Matt Lee, Tom Green (foreground)

David Bowles & Harry Fife (background)

Peter Baron, Peter Goebel & PG Butler



Matt Lee and Jonathan Goebel



Ron Barker, Stephen Lee and Peter Rowley

PRESIDENT GENERAL EDWARD F. BUTLER REMARKS



President General Appleby
 General Officers
 Distinguished guests
 Compatriots and ladies

Before I start my remarks I think it is fitting at this time to tell you I would not be here as your President General tonight without the hard work and sacrifices of my lovely wife, your First Lady, Robin. Please join me in giving her a warm round of applause.

Now, as a matter of personal privilege, I want to introduce some members of my family who honor me by their presence here tonight. Please rise when your name is called:

- My SAR nephew **Steve Butler and his wife Laurie** from Oakland, TN
- My SAR great nephew **Beau Butler** from Osceola, AR
- My First Cousin **Dr. Ron Clemmons, and his wife Nancy**, from Birmingham
- Their son **Scott Clemmons and his wife, Amy**, also from Birmingham.

Ron, will you and Scott please step up to the Podium. (Birmingham chapter president please assist me.) (Swearing –in ceremony—see photos at end of remarks

While they are getting back to their seats, I want to tell you that Robin and I had planned on bringing our four children, three grandchildren and her mother to participate in tonight’s events. After the stock market fall in October, 2008, we decided that they would just have to watch these events on a DVD. Instead of paying for them to be here, we decided that it would be better if we paid off our pledge early. Mr. Treasurer General, here is our check for the balance of our pledge, which was not due for 18 months. I hope that many of you in the audience will also pay off your pledges early.

Now, I want to recognize and welcome some members of my San Antonio chapter. This chapter has won the President General’s Award three out of the past four years. Please rise when your name is called:

- Texas State Vice President & former Chapter President - **Stephen Rohrbough**
- Former Texas State Vice President & former Chapter President - **Joe Ware and his wife Nita**. Joe and Nita have made both trips to Paris and several to Mexico.
- Former Chapter President **Frank Rohrbough and his wife Diana**, a DAR Genie. (Frank is also a former President of the Alexandria, VA SAR Chapter)
- Texas State Historian & Chapter President Elect - **Peter Baron**

- Chapter Chaplain and Genealogist **Rev. James Taylor and his wife Pat**.
- A new transfer, Former President of the Empire State Society, Trustee of the Empire State Society, and former Color Guard Commander, **Col. Peter Goebel**.
- And current Chapter President **David Bowles**.

David, please come to the podium.

[Editor’s note: At this point in the evening the Texas State Delegation and the PG Butler’s own San Antonio chapter took the floor for a series of presentations and awards to our newly elected President General Ed Butler and First Lady Robin Butler. The photos covering these presentations is included herein]

Before I start my remarks, I want to recognize the Texas SAR delegation. Will all Texas members and their families please rise.

I thank you for your presence, and I thank you for your service.

It is indeed an honor to be standing before you tonight as your President General. Like many of you, for years I was just a SAR member, working on a committee and going to chapter and state meetings. It was 9 years ago that I attended my first national meeting in Louisville. I came to answer the call of PG Larry McClanahan, who asked me if I would assume the position of Ambassador to Mexico and Latin America. My task was to form the SAR Mexico Society. Robin and I made 8 trips to Mexico and spent 47

PRESIDENT GENERAL EDWARD F. BUTLER—REMARKS CONT'D

days in that country seeking members. The following February, we had 22 residents of Mexico and 112 dual members in the new Mexico Society.

Since that time I have served as a General Officer for 7 years. During this time several men have had a pronounced impact on me.

I want to thank President General **Stuart McCarty** for being a role model for me. He is a true gentleman.

Through President General **George Brandau**, I have learned humility. It was my distinct honor to roast him last year at the Fall Leadership meeting. PG **Clovis Brakebill** showed all of us how to record SAR history, with his book, *Revolutionary War Patriots buried in Texas*.

President General **Larry McClanahan** (my 3rd cousin, 9 times removed), got me involved on the national level. He has served as my mentor, and to him I owe much. Thank you Betty, for letting us spend time together.

Presidents General McClanahan, Brandau, with Rice Aston, Howard Horne, and another distant cousin, **Karl Hoffman** have all encouraged me all along the way and have provided valuable help at each step.

President General **Hank McCarl** taught me how to keep a stiff upper lip through adversity. Hank told me "Don't sweat the small stuff, Ed; and its all small stuff".

President General **Roland Downing** has shown me how to focus on

fundraising, and we all owe him a debt of thanks for getting us the \$1,000,000 Drinkard Estate gift.

President General **Nathan White** has shown me how to squeeze a nickel so hard the buffalo squeals.

President General **Bruce Wilcox** has been a wonderful teacher on how hard work and dedication can lead to success. He has been the hardest working PG I've seen.

Finally, and certainly not least, it has been a pleasure to follow President General **David Appleby** through the offices of Chancellor General, Treasurer General, Secretary General and now as PG. He has been very easy to work with. He took the time to warn me of impending problems, and helped me at each step. David, thank you for your friendship.

So, I follow a long line of great men who have led this organization over many years.

I also want to thank **Tom Green**, past Texas State President, who followed Robin and me down the isle with his personal gold tasseled Texas state flag. This flag has been all over the country, from the Alamo and San Jacinto to the National Congress in Dallas, and at Yorktown. He took it to Barre, Vermont, where we honored **Ira Hobart Evans**, the founder of the Texas Society – and a Medal of Honor winner. He also carried it to the top of the mountain at King's Mountain during the annual memorial ceremony. He also took it to Greensborough, NC, where he visited the Guilford Courthouse Battlefield.

Tonight, I wish to share with you a few of my goals for the next year. In a nutshell, we should:

MODERNIZE
PUBLIZE, and
SOCIALIZE

The SAR needs to step boldly into the 3rd Millennium.

We need to start making DVDs to communicate with our chapters and members all over this nation. We are putting together a professional team to handle this now.

Our web site should be modernized so that we can register for meetings online, and so that applicants can apply for membership online.

Increased interaction with other lineage societies can only enhance our membership.

There are many ways we can publicize our society, and I intend to explore them all. When Robin and I come to visit you, we are asking that you get me scheduled to appear on your local morning TV show or radio talk show. We are also going to ask you to submit a news release about our visit to your local newspapers. Hopefully, we can present some awards to deserving folks in your area that will warrant some media coverage. To assist in this effort, I will appoint a **SAR Publicist**, and ask the By-Laws Committee to draft a proposed by-law amendment to create the office of VPG of Publicity and Public Relations. Frank Hodalski has agreed to tackle this job.

I'm told that many members won't join the Color Guard because they can't afford to buy the uniform.

PRESIDENT GENERAL EDWARD F. BUTLER—REMARKS CONT'D

This is understandable as many of our members are retired and live on a fixed income. So, I am asking that a new **SAR HONOR GUARD** be formed and work with the Color Guard.

These would be members, who will wear a navy blue blazer with the SAR Blazer patch, gray slacks, light blue dress shirt for day time activities and white shirt for evening attire, with a SAR tie. For a very modest investment, we can put a substantial number of our members in uniform to appear at SAR functions.

I think it is time for SAR to create a new flyer to attract new members. This new publicity piece should add two new elements:

- a) The fact that 17 of our recent US presidents have been members of SAR, and
- b) Pointing out all the discounts and membership benefits that Judge Tom Lawrence has gotten for us. Thank you Tom.

My team is already hitting the road running. My appointments to the **Executive Committee are:**

PG David Appleby
William Marrs, my travel coordinator
Larry McClanahan
Bob Bowen
Tom Jacks

I am appointing **Judge Tom Lawrence** as **VPG of the International District.**

There will be new Genealogy and History Seminar Committee. The Committee will promote seminars all over the country, which will bring us wonderful publicity.

Larry McClanahan and Harry Fife will head up a new **Honors committee**, to send birthday and anniversary cards to our Presidents Generals and First Ladies; cards of condolence; and to pay appropriate respect to the widows of SAR members. We need to pay more attention to the ladies who have been with us throughout our SAR lives.

Bill Allerton will head up a new Task Force to allow SAR to put Revolutionary War Prints in classrooms all over this country. In the early 20th Century, our SAR leaders provided pictures of George Washington to schools. When Robin and I went to vote in the 2008 primaries, our party had a caucus in an American history class room. There were no pictures of George Washington Crossing the Delaware; no picture of the Signing of the Declaration of Independence. No US Constitution or Bill of Rights. Nothing! I was shocked.

When I attending school, for all 12 years, each classroom had two or three prints of paintings about the founding of our country and our Revolutionary War Leaders. Now our educators don't even call it history anymore – it's now called Social Science. The founding of our country and the principals upon which it was founded play second fiddle to the Social Revolution. Instead of honoring George Washington, John Adams and Thomas Jefferson, they extol the virtues of Martin Luther King, Malcolm X, and Caesar Chavez.

Hopefully, we can restore this worthwhile project. We must do

all within our power to expose our children to their heritage. What better way than to start in the classroom.

Larry McClanahan will also head up all our Ambassadors as the new Ambassador General, which I am also asking the By-laws committee to prepare for a vote.

Who better to head up a new Museum Acquisitions Committee, than Larry McKinley who serves as a docent for the Smithsonian?

Rod Hildreath will be serving as my *Charge de Affairs* and will head up a group of *Aides de Camp*, to assist me and the First Lady at national meetings and as we travel. Again, the By-laws Committee will be asked to waive some of their magic woofle dust over this new program.

As you leave tonight, you will find a series of posters in the lobby with the names of all Committee Chairmen and Members. If you got left off a committee that you had expressed an interest in being on, just contact me.

Within the next few days, each newly elected general officer and committee chairman will receive a letter from me, setting forth my goals for the coming year, and asking for their extra effort to achieve those goals.

We must finish the renovation of our new facility. To do that I ask each of you to dig into your pockets once again.

Without being distracted from our goal of enhancing our present programs and completing the con-

PRESIDENT GENERAL EDWARD F. BUTLER—REMARKS CONT'D

struction of the CAAH, it is my opinion that the SAR – down to the chapter level – needs to become **more social**, and must include our wives in our activities. The number of new members that we recruit each year continues to go up, but we can't seem to keep most of them beyond the first year.

This year I am asking each state and chapter to institute **one new social event**, to which prospective members and their wives will be asked to attend. Such social events might include:

- Picnic or swimming party.
- Military Ball or cocktail party
- Christmas or other holiday party
- Pot luck supper
- An afternoon or evening at a sporting event.

If we have fun together we are more likely to work well together, and with greater knowledge about our programs we must improve.

- President General Rice Aston took us to Paris in 2003



Newly elected President General Butler and First Lady Robin as the oath of office is administered.

- President General Roland Downing joined us on a MXSSAR Cruise
- President General Bruce Wilcox led us through Scotland and England, and
- President General David Appleby, led us back to Paris last September.

This year, there will be two exotic SAR trips. Inspector General Larry Magerkurth has organized a wonderful meeting in Honolulu, followed by a one week cruise through the romantic Hawaiian Islands. This will be Sep. 3 – 13, 2009.

Then, Robin and I will be leading a group through Spain May 10 - 24, 2010.



Swearing in of Ron and Scott Clemmons

I encourage each of you to join Robin and me on these two trips.

So, remember, the theme for this coming year is:
Modernize
Publicize, and
Socialize.

In conclusion, **LET'S HAVE SOME FUN IN SAR THIS YEAR.**

**God Bless You
God Bless America, and
God Bless the SAR**

Thank you



First Lady Raylene Appleby presents First Lady Robin Butler with the First Ladies cameo. We were so lucky to have this ceremony during the banquet. The long session in the afternoon prevented it being presented during the business meeting and allowed more of the ladies to share the experience.

Pictured below Judge Tom Lawrence, TXSSAR President is presenting President General Butler with the "Admiral in the Texas Navy Certificate", signed by Gov. Perry



One of the most impressive features of the installation ceremony is the transfer of George Washington's signet ring. The property of the NSSAR it is used once a year when it is placed on the finger of the newly installed President General. Above President General and Robin Butler display the ring. Each retiring President General is given a replica of the ring.



Above TXSSAR President Tom Lawrence presents First Lady Robin Butler with a certificate signed by Texas Governor Rick Perry which certifies she is a "Yellow Rose of Texas." Also pictured Aide de Camp Peter Baron.



Frank Rohrbough , one of the many members of the San Antonio chapter to attend the installation, presented First Lady Robin Butler with a beautiful red-white and blue bouquet.

Pictured right President General Butler confers the insignia of the office of Aide-de-Camp to John Knox of the Patrick Henry TXSSAR chapter, Peter Baron of the San Antonio TXSSAR chapter and Col. Joe Ware.



Judge Butler is well known for his passion for the education of the role of the Spanish in the American Revolution. He has worked in so many ways to highlight their contribution and has a SAR trip planned to Spain in 2010. His chapter celebrated this love with their gifts to the President General.



Right top & middle: David Bowles, President of the San Antonio chapter, presents a Spanish flag to PG and Robin Butler. It is the Cross of Burgundy Flag and was the flag used in the Colonization of the Americas.



TXSSAR President Tom Lawrence and his lady Mickey Jo are pictured during the banquet procession of NSSAR General Officers. Tom was appointed Vice President General of the International District by President General Butler.



Rev James Taylor, Genealogist, awarded PG Butler a copy of Spanish Observers and the American Revolution 1775-1783 (by Light Townsend Cummins) as a gift from the San Antonio Chapter

Below: Nita and Col Joe Ware



Below: Dale Williamson and James Mitchell



Left: Peter Baron

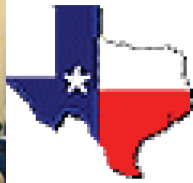
Right: George West, Tom and Mickey Jo Lawrence

Below right: PG Butler and James Mitchell

Below Left: Matt Lee, Robin Butler, Tom Green and PG Butler

Bottom left: PG Butler & with Missouri member

Bottom right: Diana and Frank Rohrbough, Stephen Rohrbough



Wednesday Banquet



Wednesday Banquet



Texas State Society Sons of the American Revolution



Frank & Diana Rohrbough, Robin & Ed Butler, Pat and James Taylor



Dianne & Jim Jones



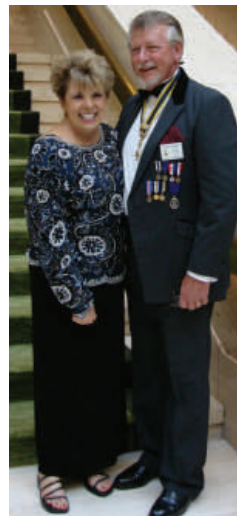
Mickey Jo & Tom Lawrence, Dianne Jones and Barbara Stevens



James T. Jones, Don Stallings, Ron Barker and Larry Stevens



PG Nathan White and Lady Wanda



Sandy Craig & Peter Rowley



Ron & Conni Barker

NSSAR AWARDS

TXSSAR won the following awards:

- Furlong Memorial Award for flag certificate presentations,
- Senator Robert A. Taft Award for enrolling the largest number of new members,
- Robert L. Sonfield Award for the largest numerical increase of members,
- Arthur J. Trimble 1776 Trophy for the largest number of reinstatements,
- C.A.R. Activities Award for documenting our work with the C.A.R.,
- Edwin B. Graham Award for sponsoring the 1st Place Winner in the Oration Contest,
- The Officers Attendance Award for both our President (**Harry M. Fife**) and Trustee (**George T. West**) attending all national meetings.

TXSSAR Chapters won the following awards:

- The President General Activities Award
Robert Rankin Chapter
- The Americanism Liberty Bell Award
Robert Rankin Chapter
- USS Stark Memorial Award, Honorable Mention
Dallas Chapter
- Partners in Patriotism Certificates
Ambassador Fletcher Warren
Hill Country
Independence
Liberty
Plano
Robert Rankin
San Antonio

TXSSAR Compatriots won the following awards:

- Liberty Medals:
Ray E. Walls
Boyd C. Beyer
- Liberty Medals with one Oak Leaf Cluster:
Victor A. Smith, Jr.
Richard L. Robinett
Donald W. Pugh
William M. Marrs
Thomas B. Green, III
- Liberty Medals with multiple Oak Leaf Clusters:
Daniel B. Stauffer (4)
Michael J. Everheart (3)

- NSSAR Certificates of Appreciation
Edward F. Butler (Secretary General, Member of the SAR Foundation Board and Chairman Strategic Planning Committee)
- Nathan E. White** (Executive Committee, SAR Foundation Board)
- George H. Brandau** (Chairman of the NSSAR Council of Presidents General)
- Thomas E. Lawrence** (Chairman of the Americanism Committee and Member Services Committee)
- William M. Marrs** (Chairman of the Information Technology Committee)
- Harry M. Fife** (Chairman of the NSSAR Task Force for Registration, Education, and Reporting)

Editor's Note:

This Special Commemorative Edition of the Texas Compatriot was developed to celebrate the election and installation of Texas Compatriot Edward F. Butler to the highest office of the NSSAR. It also strives to recognize the contributions of the many members of TXSSAR at the national level.

This publication will not be mailed to members but is being made accessible through the TXSSAR website.

The photos taken were provided by attendees. Not every event in the whirlwind week is covered. There was an attempt to cover most of the events in which Texas members were involved, but there is no coverage of the two field trips nor the genealogy seminar. Significant votes and decisions will be covered in the Fall 2009 issue of the Texas Compatriot.



Three new **George Washington Fellows** were recognized this year at the George Washington Fellows luncheon. They were Constance Barker [PineyWoods chapter], Peter T. Baron [San Antonio chapter] and Harry M. Fife, Jr [Athens chapter]. PineyWoods member Don Stallings also became a Fellow this Congress, he will be recognized in 2010.



Minuteman Award:

Two compatriots with joint membership in the TXSSAR were presented the prestigious Minuteman award. Those compatriots were Joe Dooley of the Virginia Society and Peter K. Goebel of the Empire State Society. Peter now lives in Texas and is active in the San Antonio chapter.

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