



Bernardo de Galvez Chapter #1

THIRD QUARTER 2024 NEWSLETTER

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Although some chapters do not hold meetings during the summer months, our chapter has always continued to meet even though activities are at a slower pace. During the next three months, our chapter will be promoting the SAR Youth Award Program and SAR JROTC Scholarship Program as well as our chapter JROTC scholarship program. Our Color Guard will be participating in special events – Veterans Day, Dickens on the Strand and Wreaths Across America. Of course, all of our members are encouraged to attend these special events.

One of the major activities of the chapter will be selecting a slate of officers for the 2025, and their installation in December. As a volunteer organization, it is essential that members participate by both attending its meetings and volunteering to participate in its operations. None of the positions on the Executive Committee require an excessive amount of time; this is also true, for the committee positions. I strongly urge members to take an active role in the operation of the chapter by volunteering to fill various positions on the executive committee and/or other positions. I know that there is a lot of talent within the chapter that has not utilized to date.

The Chapter Color Guard needs new members to participate in special events throughout the year. The Color Guard Commander Frank Steele has found a more reasonable source for uniforms with respect to the cost. Militia uniforms are much more reasonable with respect to cost, and much more comfortable to wear in our hot climate. There may be some uniform items available that have been donated by previous members. Please contact Frank Steele or myself for additional information.

SECRETARY'S MESSAGE

This is your Newsletter! Please provide any articles, information or photographs you would like to see in the newsletter to Secretary John Loper at jloper@lopergroup.com. If you have any suggestions for improving the Newsletter, please let me know. Our meeting attendance has improved this year, and we hope some of our new members will begin to play a more active role in Chapter activities.

CHAPTER MEETING PRESENTATIONS



During the July meeting, Librarian Irene Walters gave an excellent presentation on genealogical resources available at Houston Public Library's Family Historic Research Center at the Clayton Library Campus. She provided details on both physical holdings and electronic access availability. She also provided guidance on conducting family research and reminded everyone that library cards are available on-line and are free to Texas residents. The presentation was well received by all. Everyone is encouraged to learn more about the library located at 5300 Caroline in Houston. Irene Walters was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation, recognizing her excellent presentation on Clayton Library resources during our July meeting.



During the August meeting, Messrs. John Espinosa and John Shradar gave an excellent presentation

on Los Granaderos y Damas de Galvez and the Galvez Statue project. The purpose of Los Granaderos is to educate and inform people about Spain's support of the American Revolution. At the Battle of Pensacola, Bernardo de Galvez was the only Spanish Captain to lead his ships to attack the British (Solo Mio), ending the Revolutionary War. The Galvez statue project is still underway but needs a large financial donor to ensure completion. John Espinosa and John Shradar were presented with Certificates of Appreciation for their excellent presentation on Los Granaderos y Damas de Galvez and the Galvez Statue project.

SEPTEMBER SPECIAL MEETING

GEORGE WASHINGTON CHAPTER (DAR) AND BERNARDO DE GALVEZ CHAPTER (SAR) MEETING



The Washington Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) invited members of the Bernardo de Galvez Chapter to join them at their meeting to celebrate DAR Constitution Week and to post the Colors. Chapter Color Guard Commander Frank Steele and Color Guard Members Billy Mayo and Matthew Hewitt posted the Colors at the beginning of the meeting. At the conclusion of the guest speaker's program, Bernardo de Galvez Chapter President Billy Mayo presented Regent Susan Polk with the Martha Washington Medal and a Certificate of Appreciation to the George Washington Chapter for their continued cooperation with and support of the Bernardo de Galvez Chapter. Other Compatriots attending the meetings included, David Zwahr, Jon Zwahr, Josiah Labay, Robert Cassat, William Sullivan and Aries Hewitt

CHAPTER AWARDS



Compatriot Guy Taylor, Jr. received his 10-year Member Service Pin during the August meeting.

NEW SAR YOUTH AWARD

National NSSAR has approved a Youth Video Contest starting in the upcoming year. Contestants include all Middle School and High School students, and entries may be submitted by an individual or a group. Video lengths should be 3 to 5 minutes. Prizes for the 2024-2025 school year will be \$1,500 for 1st Place and \$500 for 2nd Place. The 1st Place winner will also receive a stipend of up to \$1,500 to reimburse expenses to attend the NSSAR National Congress. The Deadline for submissions at the National Level is 15 February.

It is time to contact schools about all our Youth Awards Programs including JROTC Awards and Scholarships. The school youth programs include the Brochure Contest, the Poster Contest, the Essay Contest, the Oration Contest and the new Video Contest. The information about these contests and the requirement submission dates are posted on the public Texas SAR Web site.

The Chapter JROTC scholarship program is separate from the State and National programs. The local JROTC units will be provided the application procedures and due dates for this program.

CHAPTER GROUP PHOTOS



July Chapter Meeting



Standing: Jon Zwahr, Billy Mayo, John Espinosa, Robert Adams, Albert Gonzales, John Shradar,
 John Loper, Guy Taylor, David Zwahr, Frank Steele and Jay Creech.
 Seated: Pete Lens, Clark Wright and Louis Garza.

2024 CHAPTER CALENDAR

- 19 Oct – Chapter Meeting – Dick Grey – “Under Fire”
- 11 Nov – Veterans Day – Color Guard Event – Seabrook Memorial Park
- 16 Nov – Chapter Meeting – Election of Officers
- 07 Dec – Chapter Meeting – Installation of Officers
- 07 Dec – Dickens on the Strand
- 14 Dec – Wreaths Across America



For information and updates, please refer to the Bernardo de Galvez Web Page (www.bdgsar.org) or Facebook Group (Bernardo de Galvez Chapter #1 SAR).