



BERNARDO DE GALVEZ CHAPTER Second Quarter Newsletter

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The past three months have been a busy period for our chapter. We have had ROTC/JROTC Awards, Youth Awards, First Responder Awards and Eagle Scout Honor Courts. Our Chapter Color Guard have included a Memorial Day ceremony and 130th George Washington Chapter (DAR) event.

I appreciate some of you volunteering to serve on a committee, but we need many more volunteers if we are to accomplish our mission. Please volunteer to spend a few hours on a committee to help out.

Your attendance at our monthly meetings are important to show support of our mission and to recognize those receiving awards – First Responders, Youths, etc.

The Mission of the SAR

The Sons of the American Revolution honors our Revolutionary War patriot ancestors by promoting patriotism, serving our communities, and educating and inspiring future generations about the founding principles of our country.

CHAPTER OFFICERS

President: John R. Loper

1st Vice-President: Guy Taylor, Jr.

2nd Vice- President: Matthew D. Hewitt

Secretary: Clark Wright

Treasurer: Robert M, Cassat, Sr.

Registrar: David Zwahr

Color Guard Commander: Mathew D. Hewitt

Photographer: Jon Zwahr

Chaplin: Msgr. James B. Anderson

SECRETARY'S MESSAGE

This is your Newsletter! Please provide any articles, information or photographs you would like to see in the newsletter to Secretary Clark Wright at cpwright2@verizon.net. If you have any suggestions for improving the Newsletter, please let me know.

Editor-in-Chief

Clark Wright

Send articles and photos to:
cpwright2@verizon.net

CHAPTER MEETING PRESENTATIONS



At the May meeting, Captain Hector Echevarria Commander of the JROTC in La Porte gave us a rundown of the program emphasizing teamwork and academics. The students do this with numerous programs such as archery, and a ground school for pilots. Hector seemed particularly enthusiastic regarding their archery program, being awarded statewide recognition and able to participate in the national competition.

In June, local historian and author Kathleen Maca was the guest speaker and provided an excellent presentation and discussion of her book “Galveston’s Tremont House Hotel.” Her book covers the history of the “Tremont Hotels” from 1839 to the present. On the 8th of December 1896, compatriots from all over Texas met at the Tremont Hotel and organized the Texas Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. Chapter President John Loper presented Kathleen Maca with a SAR Certificate of Appreciation for her outstanding presentation.



YOUTH AWARDS



At the April meeting, President John Loper presented Collin Adams with a certificate and a check for being the third place winner in the SAR Americanism Elementary School Poster Contest at the state level; she had previously received a certificate and a check for being the winner at the chapter level.



In June, Ball High School student Benjamin Crossno was recognized as the chapter winner in the SAR George S. & Stella M. Knight Essay Contest; his essay also placed 5th at the state level. After the reading of his essay on Nathan Hale, Chapter President John Loper presented him with the SAR Essay Medal and Certificate as well as a cash award. His essay was very informative and well-received. Pictured above from left to right: Chapter President John Loper and Benjamin Crossno with his parents.

The Freedom Chapter had extra entries in the SAR George S. & Stella Knight Essay Contest, so our chapter adopted one of their entries in addition to our own entry. Nicole Wells essay titled “The Untold Hero” (about Private Thomas Carney) was awarded second winner at our chapter and received both a certificate and a monetary award.

Since the Robert Rankin Chapter also had an “overflow” of brochure entries, our chapter agreed to adopt some of the entries. Of the entries received, our chapter selected the below entries as our chapter winners in the SAR Middle School Brochure Contest. Certificates and cash awards were presented to the winners by their school teachers.

1. *The Battle of Lexington & Concord* prepared by Bella Eden Shabelansky
2. *Bill of Rights* prepared by Reethi Kavalpatti
3. *The Declaration of Independence* prepared by Scarlett Garcia.

FIRST RESPONDER AWARDS



At the April meeting, President John Loper awarded Dickinson Police Department Officer Daniel Ammons the SAR Life Saving Medal in recognition of his saving human lives under emergency conditions as demonstrated by his quick actions to administer Narcan on three separate occasions.



At the April meeting, President John Loper awarded Christian Narvaez the SAR Law Enforcement Commendation Medal in recognition of his outstanding achievement and dedication to the maintenance of law and order as demonstrated by his performance in interdiction operations. Officer Narvaez is a member of the La Marque Police Department Crime Suppression Unit.



At the April meeting, President John Loper awarded Galveston County Sheriff Officer Jeremy Ornelas the SAR Life Saving Medal in recognition of his saving a human life under emergency conditions as demonstrated by his quick life-saving actions for an inmate in the Jail Housing Unit.



At the April meeting, President John Loper awarded Henry A. Trochesset the SAR Law Enforcement Commendation Medal in recognition of his outstanding achievement and dedication to the maintenance of law and order during his years as Sheriff of Galveston County. Henry A. Trochesset is also a member of the Bernardo de Galvez Chapter.



At the April meeting, President John Loper awarded Texas City Police Department Investigator Shelbi Webb the SAR Law Enforcement Commendation Medal in recognition of her outstanding achievements and dedication to the maintenance of law and order as demonstrated by her unwavering efforts in protecting children from internet crime.

ROTC/JROTC AWARDS



At the Ball High School JROTC Awards Program in April, President John Loper awarded the SAR Bronze R.O.T.C. Medal to Cadet Captain Juan Estrada in recognition of his outstanding leadership qualities, military bearing and excellence, thus exemplifying the high ideals and principals which motivated and sustained our patriot ancestors. Cadet Estrada was also the recipient of a Bernardo de Galvez Chapter Scholarship Award. Pictured above from left to right are President John Loper, Cadet Captain Juan Estrada and Past President Billy Mayo.

At the La Porte High School JROTC Awards Program in April, President John Loper awarded the SAR Bronze R.O.T.C. Medal to Cadet Major Colt Nicholus Rawls in recognition of his outstanding leadership qualities, military bearing and excellence, thus exemplifying the high ideals and principals which motivated and sustained our patriot ancestors.



At the Clear Creek Independent School District JROTC Awards Program in May, Chapter President awarded SAR Bronze R.O.T.C. Medals to cadets in recognition of their outstanding leadership qualities, military bearing and excellence, thus exemplifying the high ideals and principals which motivated and sustained our patriot ancestors. Those receiving awards were Cadet CPT Ryan Reddy (Clear Creek HS), Cadet 1LT Carson Hough (Clear Lake HS), Cadet 1SG Shaun Smith (Clear Brook HS), Cadet CPT Colbey Smith (Clear Springs HS) and Cadet PFC Ozias Walker (Clear Falls HS).



At the Texas A & M Maritime Academy Awards Program in April, President John Loper awarded the SAR Silver R.O.T.C. Medal to Midshipman Kade Johansen in recognition of his outstanding leadership qualities, military bearing and excellence, thus exemplifying the high ideals and principals which motivated and sustained our patriot ancestors.



During the May meeting, Cadet Major Colt Nicholus Rawls was awarded a Bernardo de Galvez Chapter Scholarship by Chapter President John Loper. He had previously been awarded the SAR Bronze R.O.T.C. Medal.

COLOR GUARD ACTIVITIES



At the Memorial Day Ceremony at the Veterans Memorial Park in Seabrook, the Chapter Color Guard participated in the ceremony by posting the Colors and playing Taps. The chapter Color Guard consisted of Compatriots John Loper, Matthew Hewitt, and Billy Mayo. Other chapter members attending this ceremony were Compatriots Thomas Loper, Austin Loper and Caleb Loper.



At the celebration of the 130th Anniversary of the George Washington Chapter of the DAR that was held at the Galveston Artillery Club, SAR Color Guard members from of the Bernardo de Galvez Chapter and the Alexander Hodge Chapter participated in the ceremony by posting the Colors. The SAR Color Guard members from left to right were Billy Mayo, John Loper, Hugh Ferguson, Carl Hill, Steve Barber and Matthew Hewitt.

CHAPTER GROUP PHOTOS



APRIL CHAPTER MEETING

Seated From Left to Right: Arthur Bryam, Louis Garza, Wendy Jones, Collins Adams, Aries Hewitt and Jon Zwahr. Standing From Left to Right: David Zwahr, Albert Gonzales, Robert Adams, Billy Mayo, John Loper, Guy Taylor, Doylton Davis, Matthew Hewitt, Robert Cassat and Henry Trocheset.



MAY CHAPTER MEETING

Seated From Left to Right: Clark Wright, Louis Garza, John (Pete) Lenes, Billy Mayo, Jon Zwahr. Standing From Left to Right: John Loper, Robert Adams and



David Zwahr

JUNE CHAPTER MEETING

Seated From Left to Right: Lori Crossno, Benjamin Crossno, John (Pete) Lenes, Billy Mayo and Clark Wright. Standing From Left to Right: Jon Zwahr, David Zwahr, Kathleen Maca, Mr. Crossno, John Loper, Hugh Ferguson, Robert Carter, Guy Taylor, Robert Cassat, William (Rick) Sullivan, Ron Schoolcraft and Robert Gindratt.

2025 CHAPTER CALENDAR

- 19 Jul - Chapter Meeting at Kelley's in La Marque
- 23 Jul - Bernardo de Galvez Birth in 1746
- 27 Jul - Bernardo de Galvez Birthday Party Hosted by Bernardo de Galvez Chapter of CAR
- 16 Aug - Chapter Meeting at Kelley's in La Marque
- 29 Aug - 244 Anniversary of the Battle at Fort Motte, N.C.
- 01 Sep - Labor Day
- 17 Sep - Constitution Day
- 20 Sep - Joint meeting with the G. W. Chapter of DAR
- 18 Oct - Chapter Meeting at Kelley's in La Marque
- 19 Oct - 1782 Victory at Yorktown, VA.
- 11 Nov - Veterans Day
- 15 Nov - Chapter Meeting at Kelley's in La Marque
- 06 Dec - Chapter Meeting at Kelley's in La Marque & Installation of Officers
- 06 Dec - Dickens on the Strand
- 13 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