

BERNARDO DE GALVEZ CHAPTER
Third Quarter 2026 Newsletter

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The 3rd Quarter of the year has been very exciting, with some great speakers and additional applications of new members being forwarded to NSSAR. I would still encourage everyone to consider assuming a new responsibility this year on a committee and to strive for perfect attendance. We also celebrated Independence Day and participated in DAR Constitution Week, Honor Flights Welcoming Home Veterans and Cub Scout Liberty in Action Event. Since new sources for less expensive uniforms have been found, I encourage you to join our chapter Color Guard. Thank your for your support this quarter.

The Mission of 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 P. Wright
Treasurer: Clark P. Wright
Registrar: David M. Zwahr
Color Guard Commander: Matthew D. Hewitt
Photographer: Jon A. Zwahr
Chaplain: Msgr. James B. Anderson
Newsletter Editor: Billy C. Mayo

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

WELCOME

NEW CHAPTER MEMBERS

Ralph Wayne Dorchester
Richard Allen Ferris
George Clark Johnson IV
George Clark Johnson V
Benjamin Wyatt Johnson (Junior Member)
Daryl Gene Lott
Timothy Gene Lott
Lynden Wayne Lynch Jr. (Transferred In)
Christopher Glenn Moody
Randall Charles Moody
Michael Mark Rogers
Brian Scott Shaver
Wyatt Scott Shaver (Junior Member)

Applications at NSSAR (Being Processed)

Dale Richard Dempsey
Sebastian Foley Manero
Jackson Christopher Morlock
Aidan Shawn Patrick Welch
Nakia Welch

CHAPTER MEETING PROGRAMS

JULY MEETING



Historian and author of "Rising Sons" Joe Wearmouth was the guest speaker at the July meeting. His presentation was on the Battle at Fort Griswold and the burning of New London by the British Army under the command of Benedict Arnold. It was both very informative and well-received by chapter members. Chapter President John Loper presented Mr. Wearmouth with a Certificate of Appreciation for his excellent program.

AUGUST MEETING



At the August meeting, guest speaker Richard Gray of the Harmony Lodge in Galveston presented an excellent program on "Freemasonry in Texas." He provided an interesting history of masonry and the role that masons played in the American Revolution as well as the Texas Revolution. Freemasonry is the largest and oldest non-religious fraternal organization in the world. The program was well received and enjoyed by all of the members. Chapter President John Loper presented him with a Certificate of Appreciation for his program.

SEPTEMBER MEETING

The September meeting was held jointly with the George Washington Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution in celebration of Constitution Month. For the past several years, the George Washington Chapter of the DAR has requested that our Color Guard post the colors at their luncheon and invited our members to attend their meeting.

CHAPTER AWARDS



During the July meeting, Compatriot Robert Hanegan was awarded the Bronze Bernardo de Galvez Medal for his service in the Chapter Color Guard at local, state and national events. Pictured above from left to right are Chapter President John Loper, Robert Hanegan and Chapter Color Guard Commander Matthew Hewitt.

COLOR GUARD ACTIVITIES



The Bernardo de Galvez Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) celebrated the 4th of July by joining the Bernardo de Galvez Society of the Children of the American Revolution (CAR) on their float in the Friendswood Parade. The Bernardo de Galvez Chapter Color Guard members and compatriots marched in front of the float or rode on it. Color Guard members of the Bernardo de Galvez Chapter of the SAR were John Loper, Matthew Hewitt, Robert Hanegan and Billy Mayo; compatriots in the parade were Jon Zwahr, Aries Hewitt and Robert Adams.



On September 19th, the Bernardo de Galvez Chapter Color Guard posted the colors at the George Washington Chapter of DAR Constitution Week Luncheon, which was held at the Galveston Artillery Club. Color Guard members pictured above were John Loper, Matthew Hewitt, Billy Mayo and Robert Hanegan. Other SAR chapter members attending the event were David Zwahr, Jon Zwahr and Dolyton Davis, Jr.





September 19th, Bernardo de Galvez color guard members participated in the Honor Flight Color Guard at Hobby Airport, welcoming veterans returning home. Color Guard members participating were John Loper and Robert Hanegan. Other chapter members attending were David and Jon Zwahr.

On September 21st, Color Guard members John Loper and Robert Hanegan attended the Cub Scout Pack 957 Meeting where the scout members earned the Liberty in Action badges. They joined the cub scout members in posting the Colors and participated in their activities. Pictured from left to right are Robert Hanegan, DAR member Catherine Gill and John Loper.



CHAPTER GROUP PHOTOS



July Meeting Group Photo

Seated: William Adriance, Aries Hewitt, Louis Garza, Clark Johnson, Aidan Welch and Jackson Morlock Standing: Clark Wright, Robert Adams, Jon Zwahr, Guy Taylor, John Loper, Billy Mayo, Matthew Hewitt, Joe Wearmouth, Robert Hanegan, Nakia Welch, Peter LaValle and David Zwahr.



August Meeting Group Photo

Seated: Clark Wright, Robert Hanegan, Diane Hanegan, Steve Zwahr, Louis Garza, John (Pete) Lenes and Richard Gray. Standing: John Loper, David Zwahr, Guy Taylor, Nakia Welch, Aidan Welch, Robert Adams, Zachary Adriance, William (Bill) Adriance, Doylton Davis, David Hewitt, Billy Mayo, Jon Zwahr, Robert Gindratt, Austin Pruitt and Jeffery O'Brien. Note: Several members and guests who were in attendance departed prior to the photo.

FUTURE CHAPTER EVENTS

17 OCT – Chapter Meeting at Kelley's @ 11:30 AM

11 NOV – Veterans Day **

21 NOV – Chapter Meeting at Kelley's & Election of 2027 Officers

05 DEC – Chapter Meeting at Kelley's & Swearing in of Officers

05 DEC – Dickens on the Strand Parade **

08 DEC – 130th Birthday of the Bernardo de Chapter and of the Texas Society of SAR

19 DEC – Wreaths Across America **

16 JAN – Chapter Meeting at Kelley's @ 11:30 AM

15 FEB – President's Day

20 FEB – Chapter Meeting at Kelley's @ 11:30 AM

22 FEB – George Washington's 295th Birthday

20 MAR – Chapter Meeting at Kelley's @ 11:30 AM

28 MAR – Easter

**** (Color Guard Event)**

Note: Chapter members are encouraged to attend Color Guard events.

MERCHANDISE

Bernardo de Galvez Chapter Items

Please refer to the chapter's website Bernardo de Gálvez Chapter #1 - Sons of the American Revolution for information on purchasing caps and shirts with the Bernardo de Galvez or the SAR logo. You may bring your own caps or shirts to have the logos embroiled on them. Two sources are Embriodry Plus, 330 Genesis Blvd, Unit C, Webster, TX (phone number 281-332-0200 and Top Gear, 1019 53rd Street, Galveston, TX (phone number 4090766-7571).

A new shipment of the Bernardo de Galvez Chapter Coins have arrived. See the Chapter Treasurer Clark Wright to purchase them.

NSSAR Items

There are many items on the NSSAR website StoreFront – Sons of the American Revolution Merchandise Online Store that members may order; for example, caps, shirts, ties, etc. There are also several America 250th items available. All members can order the SAR Members Badge and name tag; however, most medals have to be awarded at the chapter, state or national level.

Color Guard and Militia Uniform Items

There are several sources for Color Guard and militia uniform items.

Townsends (Townsends) is well known but expensive. Total wool uniform can cost more than $ 1400.

One of our members found a source on eBay that was much more reasonable (Royal Military Jackets); he obtained a uniform there for about one half of the cost as compared to Townsends.

A new source for light-weight uniforms is available from https://heritagecostumes.com/collections/revolutionary-war-costumes . **You can get a complete uniform minus the shoes and shirt for around $300.**

The chapter has some uniform items available if you are interested in obtaining a uniform please contact the Color Guard Commander Matthew Hewitt at mdhewitt2015@gmail.com.



Bernardo de Galvez

23 July 1746 — **Macharaviaya, Spain**

30 November 1786 — **Tacubaya (Mexico City), Mexico**

Bernardo Vicente de Galvez y Madrid, 1st Count of Galvez was a Spanish military leader and government official who served as colonial governor of Spanish Louisiana and Cuba; he later served as Viceroy of New Spain.

At the age of 16, Bernardo de Galvez was a career soldier and was a veteran of several wars in Europe, the Americas and North Africa. Under orders of the Spanish Crown King Charles III, he supported the colonists and their French allies in the American Revolution; he helped facilitate vital supply lines and frustrate British operation in the Gulf coast. Under his command, Spanish troops achieved several victories on the battlefield – conquering West Florida and eliminating the British Naval forces in the Gulf of Mexico. This campaign resulted in the formal return of all Florida to Spain under the Treaty of Paris.

Galvez role in the American war effort made him a hero in both Spain and the newly independent United States. The U.S. Congress hung his portrait in the U.S. Capitol in 2014, and he also became one of only eight people to have awarded honorary U.S. citizenship.