



# The Texas Compatriot



Official Publication of the Texas Society  
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LATE SUMMER 2017

## FROM THE PRESIDENT: *John Beard*

Compatriots:

We had a good contingent from Texas that attended the NSSAR national congress in Knoxville, TN. A photo from the congress is on page 8. The Knoxville Congress had the largest attendance of any congress to date, with nearly 600 compatriots and their spouses. From what I heard, everyone enjoyed their experience. With the congress comes a new slate of national officers that are being led by President General Larry Guzy of Georgia. PG Guzy is a dual member with Texas as well. There are going to be many exciting things happening with the national organization in the coming months. I will not spoil the excitement for you but would suggest that you check the national website frequently in the months to come at [www.sar.org](http://www.sar.org).



This leads me to the 2018 Congress, which is being hosted by our Texas Society. Compatriot and President-Elect Tom Jackson is the chairman of the Host Society Committee. He is charged with developing and coordinating all the activities for

## State Senate issues proclamations for Washington's Birthday and 2018 SAR National Congress



**AUSTIN** — Lt. Gov. Dan Patrick (fourth from right) joins State Sen. Donna Campbell and SAR compatriots for a ceremony officially recognizing George Washington's Feb. 22 birthday and honoring the Texas Sons of the American Revolution 2018 National Convention in Austin. Following the July 24 ceremony in the Lt. governor's Capitol apartment, the delegation moved to the senate gallery, where the compatriots were recognized by the full senate. See story on page 6.

which Texas SAR is responsible for managing and presenting at the congress. This is a large task and Tom will need all our support to make this a success. I have no doubt that Texas SAR will help make this event successful. In some of the key positions: Chairman of the Man-

power Committee is compatriot Larry Blackburn; former PGs Ed Butler and Nathan White are providing input in various areas as well as helping obtain speakers to help get the congress off to a good start; compatriot Jim Clements and Patrick

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# Dr. James Edward Heath

May 3, 1935 - June 27, 2017

Dr. James Edward Heath, 82, of Buchanan Dam, Texas, passed away June 27, 2017.

He was the son of Max Levi Heath Sr. and May Blossom McNutt Heath. He was born May 3, 1935, in Evansville, IN.

While still in college, he married his high school sweetheart Muriel Maxine Shoemaker, on April 2, 1955.

Dr. Heath received his Ph.D. in zoology from UCLA. Most of his academic career was spent at the University of Illinois, where he not only taught but did groundbreaking research in the fields of temperature adaptation and neural physiology of animals.

He is listed in "Who's Who in the World."

He was head of the Department of Physiology and Biophysics from 1977 to 1982. He authored more than 100 scientific papers and edited more than 50 volumes of scientific journals.

After retiring to Buchanan Dam, he became active in community affairs and ancestral societies. He was a member of the Friends of the Lakeshore Library and taught boat and water safety classes.

He served on the Lake Buchanan Citizens' Advisory Panel, the Llano County Appraisal District (2008-2011) and was president of the Hill Country Bird and Wildflower Society (1998-2000).

He served as president multiple times of Bluebonnet Chapter Sons of the American Revolution and was Texas state president in 2005-2006. He also served as president of Davy Crockett Chapter of the Genealogical Society of the War of 1812 in 2001-2003.

He was Texas state president (2006-2008) and national deputy president general (2009-2012). He was reelected Texas state president last year and was serving at the time of his death.

He was particularly proud to have



Dr. James Edward Heath

been named an "Honorary Texan" by both houses of the Texas Legislature and Gov. Rick Perry in 2009.

He is survived by three daughters: Cynthia Maxine Heath-Smith (Michael E.), Pamela Diane Heath Diewald (Charles D.) and Jessica Scott Heath Breitbarth; nine grandchildren: April Audietis (Jon), James Diewald (Melina A.), Heather Smith, Barbara Diewald, Susan Diewald, Charlotte Munoz (Jared M.), Scott Breitbarth, Max Breitbarth and Thor Breitbarth. He was preceded in death by his parents and brother, Max Heath.

Funeral and celebration of life services were July 4, 2017, in Kingsland.

- Donations may be sent to:
- The University of Illinois Foundation  
1305 W. Green St.  
Urbana, IL 61801  
The gift should be for the James E. Heath Award for Excellence in Teaching, Department of Molecular and Integrative Physiology.
  - The Patriots' Fund,  
Texas Society Sons of the American Revolution  
Russell Dart, Treasurer  
3315 South Peach Hollow Cr.  
Pearland, TX 77584-2039

## FROM THE PRESIDENT- continued from page 1

Henry Chapter contingent are developing some new and innovative publicity presentations; compatriot George Harcourt of San Antonio is lending his experience and expertise as well. The 2018 Congress will be at the Westin Memorial City Mall in Houston.

There will not be a need for an overflow hotel as we will have the entire facility. The Texas SAR website has more information about the organization and activities. I would ask each of you to find a way to help. Attending the congress would be one way to do that. Volunteering would be another. Here is the link to the Congress Planning website ([http://www.txssar.org/cong\\_committees.htm](http://www.txssar.org/cong_committees.htm)).

The fall Board of Managers meeting is going to take place at the Hilton Galveston Resort Hotel in Galveston Oct. 13-15. John Hamlin and the Bernardo de Galvez Chapter are hosting this event. The Oration Contest will be held again this year at the BOM. President General Larry Guzy will also be on hand. If you haven't attended one of these meetings, it's time to get started. The registration is open on the Texas SAR website.

One of PG Guzy's initiatives — in concert with NSSAR target for the 250th Anniversary of the Declaration of Independence — is to grow the national SAR membership to 64,000. We are currently at approximately 35,000. This is an ambitious goal, but it is achievable. We will need to streamline the application process and change the way we market our organization

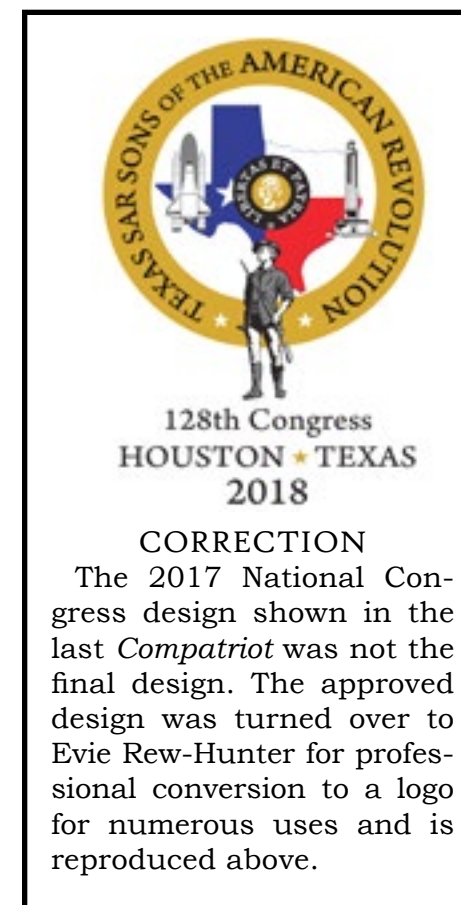
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and conduct its business. One of the keys is how do we attract potential members to get involved in the application process. Please direct any ideas you may have on this to compatriot Jim Clements and his publicity committee. Another of PG Guzy's objectives is to increase youth membership and youth participation in the organization. This will require modern techniques to get young people's attention and kindle their desire to join.

There is an SAR youth membership available. The annual dues through age 18 are only \$5 per year. For your children and grandchildren, the application process is simple. Please check with your chapter registrar, or contact one of the state registrars, for details. These are also available on the Texas SAR website.



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Volunteers for the Operation Ancestor Search program at Fort Hood facilities. From left: Jim Scott, Jim Nelson, Harry Walden and Ray DeVries.

## Ancestry team working with vets

By Jeffrey Gammon

Patrick Henry Chapter serving the Austin area has led the Operation Ancestor Search (OAS) program at Fort Hood for the past two years. During that time, volunteers from Patrick Henry and Alexander Hamilton Chapters have helped more than 175 wounded warriors from privates to colonels find their families. OAS sessions are held twice a month from 1 to 3:30 p.m.

OAS is a free national genealogy training program for wounded warriors, their families, and the medical and installation staff responsible for their care. OAS provides participants with the knowledge and tools to conduct their own genealogy research as they recover from their injuries at military and VA medical centers across the US. OAS was developed by the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution and is operated through its state societies and local chapters across the country.

Many wounded warriors have a long road to recovery and spend months, if not years, recovering from their injuries. OAS gives these heroic men and

women a respite from the constant reminder of their injuries and rehabilitation. OAS provides the following benefits for the participants: A sense of accomplishment, independence and personal fulfillment; a personal connection with families and possible relatives who previously served in the military; reduced stress, a social outlet, and help with re-integration back into their hometown community.

In April, Patrick Henry and Alexander Hamilton Chapters expanded their successful OAS program to the VA Medical Center in Temple. The volunteers hold two sessions per month from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Domiciliary Residence. Eventually, the program will expand into the hospital for the patients there and possibly into the nursing home at the VA Center.

Reaching out to veterans is a privilege and honor for our chapters. We appreciate the sponsorship of Ancestry.com and the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution for Operation Ancestor Search. There's always room for other chapters to form an OAS team in local areas, too.



# JULY 4, 2017 ... THE SAR AROUND TEXAS



From top left, clockwise: Members of **Patrick Henry Chapter** get a little help at Austin's Allandale Parade. They started the day in Wimberley and moved north for two other events. Charles Motz IV leads the New Braunfels parade. Compatriot Don Chandler, 93, with Melba Shaw, Vanessa Valdovvinos and her son at the combined SAR/DAR/CAR parade in New Braunfels. **Major K.M. Van Zandt Chapter** prepares for the Fort Worth parade (photo courtesy Valentine Photography). Rockwall SAR strikes a noble pose before the North Texas parade. The **Captain William Barron Chapter** in Tyler was joined by family and friends in their East Texas parade. Last two pictures: After a day full of parades, Patrick Henry Chapter presented the colors and fired a salute at the Round Rock Express baseball game. From left: Quinn Baker of the Fife and Drum Corps, Stu Hoyt, USAF veteran and member of **William Hightower Chapter** in New Braunfels and Gary Chapel, USN vet and member of **Patrick Henry Chapter** (photo courtesy of Round Rock Express press office). Many thanks to all who sent tons of great photos from the Fourth. – Editor



# The challenge!

by Stu Holt, President, William Hightower #35 Texas SAR

July 24 was a red-letter day for a delegation of SAR compatriots culminating in Texas' officially recognizing George Washington's birthday.

It all started with a challenge! I challenged my chapter's Proclamation Committee to go out to the different governmental entities and get them to provide us with a proclamation for George Washington's birthday. They came back with 10 proclamations from local mayors and I added one from the Governor, with the help of Jim Clements, president of Patrick Henry Chapter. Jim and I have been involved with local politics for a while so we used some influence to get a signed proclamation from the governor. Our goal was to get a "photo-op" signing, but it was difficult to corner the governor with the Legislature in session.

It is interesting to note that Texas has the largest SAR Society in the world and the largest George Washington parade (Laredo) in the nation. The state celebrates Martin Luther King Day and Cinco de Mayo but does not recognize George Washington's birthday. We did at one time but, when the federal government voted to implement the Uniform Monday Holiday Act in January 1971, Texas like many other states, migrated to Presidents Day, which falls between Feb. 15 and 21, but never on the 22nd.

There are only four states that celebrate Washington's Birthday, as a stand-alone date, but our great state is not one of them.

George Washington maneuvered between the Continental Congress and his "rag-tag" army to keep this country together for eight years. He pulled every string to supply his army with the basic

necessities. He gave up a prestigious opportunity to become a farmer after the peace treaty was signed. He used his influence in Congress to make the government stronger and, when Madison couldn't muster a quorum for a convention, he used his name and agreed to be president of the Constitutional Convention to make it happen. He then committed to eight years, overcoming much adversity, to be the first president of the United States of America. That is why he is referred to as the "Father of our Country," and yet we no longer celebrate his birthday in this state.

The TX SAR is working to turn that around, but it will not happen all at once and it will take the effort of every member of our society.

We took the first step having the Texas Senate recognize us, and our petition, to declare Feb. 22 as George Washington Day. We want to challenge every chapter in the state to commit to obtain a George Washington Day proclamation from every government organization in their area. It would be nice to take proclamations from the 254 counties to petition the Legislature to reestablish Feb. 22 as George Washington Day.

We can provide chapters with an example proclamation.



SAR compatriots in Texas Senate chamber.

## Compatriot News

### Hounds:

A few words from  
Compatriot Editor  
Jim Dougherty



This issue of the *Texas Compatriot* has been great fun to compile. In late June, I sent out a call for content in light of the many activities of chapters around the state for Memorial Day and those anticipated for the Fourth of July. Many thanks for all of the submissions! Only wish I could have used more.

The pictures were great and I especially appreciate the identifying caption information. It's always fine seeing the faces of compatriots, but it is even nicer putting *names* to those faces.

After conferring with the Compatriot Treasurer, it has been confirmed that the first *Texas Compatriot* under my editorship came out in Fall 2016 and was paid for in that year's budget. So that means this "Summer" issue is only the second for 2017. So expect a third issue sometime during the holiday season.

Also, many thanks for the emails with positive comments on the publication.

We continue to add a few tweaks to the layout. In the last issue we changed the masthead on the cover to *Remsen Script*, a typeface created by my multi-talented friend Brian Willson in Maine. He grew up in Austin.

The typeface is taken from a colonial appeal for commercial cooperation across the Atlantic. This futile document survives to this day on a three-page broadside, finely engrossed by a penman of the period and passed down through the Remsen family.

## Compatriot reenlists in Marine Corps

**SAN ANTONIO** — Staff Sergeant James William (Will) Dougherty, member of Patrick Henry Chapter in Austin, will return to the United States Marine Corps soon.

According to recruiters, Dougherty, 33, is believed to be the first Texas NCO to reenlist in at least the past two years. He previously served three tours in Iraq over his first eight years in the Corps. He graduated from the University of Texas at Austin with a degree in history and government. He capped his senior year by serving as president of the UT-Austin Veterans' Association.

He married Blythe Storrar Dougherty in February. His parents are *Texas Compatriot* editor Jim Dougherty and Jane Ulrich. His compatriot ancestor is Thomas Connell Sr. (1783–1835).

The couple will be relocating for schooling in his new MOS.

## Help Wanted

Volunteers are needed for the Registration and Credentials Desks for the 2018 National Congress in Houston. Four people are needed for morning and/or afternoon duty and as tour captains for the three planned tours.

Please provide name, email address and phone number to compatriot Larry Blackburn at [lhblackburn@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lhblackburn@sbcglobal.net) for volunteer opportunities.

## Source found for linen uniforms

By Bill Watts

Over the past two years I've been asked where to purchase uniforms. I didn't have an answer until now.

On July 5, 2017, I visited the offices of James Townsends in Pierceton, IN, to discuss making uniforms for SAR members made of linen and not wool. I have a linen uniform that I made for myself and it is very comfortable in hot weather. The head seamstress at Townsends looked at my uniforms and after a long discussion decided to talk to Mr. Townsends. The next day I received a call informing me that Townsends will make linen uniforms for the SAR.

According to the 1779 General Order concerning uniforms:

1. New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island and Connecticut: deep blue coats with white facing and lining.

2. New York and New Jersey: deep blue coats with buff facing and white lining.

3. Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland and Virginia: deep blue coats with scarlet facing and white lining.

4. North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia: deep blue coats with light blue facing and white lining.

5. Light Dragoons: blue coats with white facing.

This is a new product and is not in the company catalog or on line. To inquire, or place an order, call (800) 338-1665 (ask for Michael).

Townsends offers the coat for \$345 with your choice of white facing (Stark White), buff (Vanilla), scarlet or red facing (Crimson) and light blue facing (Wedgewood Blue). Sizes 48 and up cost \$20 extra. If the yellow buttons are requested, the brass upgrade is an additional \$35. The coat will have a breast pocket for cell phone or gloves on the left side of the uniform.

I've ordered mine for my North Carolina patriot ancestor.



Captain William Barron Chapter in Tyler took part in the 2017 Memorial Day ceremony in Memorial City Park. From left: compatriots Don Majors, Michael Hurley, John Bolton, Smith County Sheriff Larry Smith, compatriots Cliff Johnson, Dennis Brand and Matthew Lee. See July 4th celebrations on pages 4 and 5.

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## Board of Managers to meet in Galveston

On behalf of the Bernardo de Galvez Chapter #1 of the Texas Society SAR it is an honor to welcome all Texas compatriots to the Texas Society 2017 Board of Managers (BOM) meeting in Galveston Oct. 13–15, 2017. The Hilton Hotel and Resort on Seawall Boulevard is headquarters for the event. Call the hotel at (409) 744-5000 to reserve accommodations.

Please identify yourself as being affiliated with the Texas Sons of the American Revolution to get the special discounted rate of \$179 plus applicable taxes.

If planning a vacation, this special group rate will be honored, subject to availability, for one day preceding and two days following the meeting. Rooms are limited and hotel reservations must be made before Sept. 22. Cancellations must be made directly with the Hilton.

To register for the BOM meeting,

forms are online at [www.txssar.org](http://www.txssar.org). Go to “Events October BOM.”

The registration fee is \$40 per compatriot. Registration at the door is \$45. Registration cancellation cutoff is Oct. 1. After that date we are unable to make refunds.

The raffle items include a Revolutionary-era replica sword and a replica flintlock pistol (non firing.)

Tickets are \$5 each, or five for \$20. Items will be raffled separately.

The Saturday evening banquet offers meal choices of either sweet-tea-brined pork chop at \$50, or pan-grilled redfish with blackened shrimp at \$55.

Price for the Saturday Youth Luncheon is \$40 and will be a deli-style buffet.

## Texas well-represented at '17 National Congress



Some of the members of the Texas delegation of Sons and Daughters pose for a souvenir photo at the National Congress in Tampa, FL. Photo courtesy *Mama Razzi foto*.