

# THE GALVESTON GAZETTE

NEWSLETTER OF THE BERNARDO DE GÁLVEZ CHAPTER #1,  
TEXAS SOCIETY, SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION



Bill Whatley, Bernardo de Gálvez  
Chapter #1 2014 President

## UPCOMING EVENTS

FEBRUARY 15  
Monthly Meeting – 12pm; Nick’s  
(formerly Casey’s) at 38<sup>th</sup> & Seawall

FEBRUARY 17  
Presidents’ Day (Observed)

MARCH 15  
Monthly Meeting – 12pm; Nick’s  
(formerly Casey’s) at 38<sup>th</sup> & Seawall

MARCH 27 – MARCH 30  
TXSSAR Spring Convention



Bernardo de Gálvez

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

As we enter the New Year I can’t help but to think about what our Chapter has accomplished the past few years. Our membership has increased by appreciable numbers. We have a goal to add seven new members this year.

The Board is working on more ways to communicate with Chapter members and we will start by bringing back the Chapter Newsletter beginning this month.

I think all of you know our number one goal for the year is to get the Bernardo de Gálvez statue erected in Menard Park on the Seawall.

As your President, I am proud and honored to serve this great Chapter. I look forward to working with all of you.

- Bill Whatley



For more information about the Bernardo de Gálvez Chapter #1, including information on becoming a member, please visit our website at: <http://bdgsar.org>.

## GALVESTON 175<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY GALA

The Annual Meeting of the Galveston Chamber of Commerce held on January 24 was a wonderful event. The Bernardo de Gálvez Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution was recognized as one of the “Firsts in Texas”, and was presented with an award. Our President, Bill Whatley, joined the Granaderos y Damas de Gálvez (photo at right) in opening the meeting that focused primarily on Chamber awards and recognition.

Our booth was quite impressive (see photo below). Eric Kaposta brought the miniature of the Gálvez statue and a recent painting that served as a backdrop. Pledge cards were distributed that requested commitments from attendees for contributions to the statue project. Over \$1600 in pledges were received at the event, and promises for much more. Several influential members of the community gave us leads



to organizations that bestow gifts, and offered their support. These leads and pledges are being followed up as time permits.

One question that was asked was, “How many of your members have donated to the statue?” After some research, the answer to that question proved to be a little elusive. It would be helpful if the members that have not made a contribution to the statue fund would at least contribute enough to buy a brick (\$100). Our commitment to this project would be more credible if 100% of our members donate at least \$100.

Overall, the Chamber of Commerce Annual Meeting was a successful fund raising event.

- Bill Adriance



*“What do you say? ...Shall I swear to defend Louisiana?” – Bernardo de Gálvez to the citizens of New Orleans, 1779*



New compatriot Bobby O'Bryan is welcomed into the SAR at the January meeting.

## NEW COMPATRIOTS

### BOBBY O'BRYAN

By descent from Joseph Landry

## AWARDS

### WAR SERVICE MEDAL

Bobby O'Bryan  
Ralph Stenzel

### BRONZE TEXAS SERVICE MEDAL

David Dersheimer

### EAGLE SCOUT AWARD

Ryan Van DeWalli



Eagle Scout Ryan Van DeWalli receives the SAR Eagle Scout Award at the January meeting.

## OUR PATRIOT ANCESTORS: HENRY SHANER

### Brief Bio:

- Born: 02 FEB 1761;  
Bucks Co., PA
- Service: Private, 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Pennsylvania Line  
Regiment
- Died: 06 JAN 1832;  
Upper Milford  
Township, PA
- Ancestor of compatriot  
Andrew Shaner

A photograph of a handwritten payment record. The names are written in cursive, and the amounts are written in numbers. The names listed are Christians Miller, Peter Bowman, Mich. Shubert, Henry Shaner, Baltis Christ, and Henry Landry. The amounts are 1.5, 1.5, 1.5, 1.5, 1.5, and 1.5 respectively.

Christians Miller	1.5
Peter Bowman	1.5
Mich. Shubert	1.5
Henry Shaner	1.5
Baltis Christ	1.5
Henry Landry	1.5

Payment record for Henry Shaner (third name from the bottom).

Henry Shaner was born Heinrich Schöner, the youngest child of Heinrich and Maria Elisabeth. Records of the Tohickon Union Reformed Church in Bedminster, PA show Henry was born February 2, 1761 and baptized eight days later. Church records also reveal his mother passed away two days after his baptism. Henry's father passed away six years later.

Henry served as a private with the 3<sup>rd</sup> Pennsylvania Line Regiment. Witnesses testified in Henry's widow's pension application that he took part in the 1775 expedition into Canada and subsequently fought in the Battle of Quebec on December 31, 1775, presumably under the command of Col. Benedict Arnold. Surviving payroll records for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Pennsylvania show payments made to Henry in August, September, October and November of 1776. Regimental returns from the Valley Forge winter encampment of 1777-78 show he was present with his regiment throughout the six-month ordeal.

After the war, Henry wed Mary Magdalena Starner in the spring of 1798. They settled in the area of present day Allentown, PA and had nine children together. In 1820, Henry purchased 83 acres of land at a Sheriff's sale in Upper Milford Township, Lehigh County. He sold the land in 1831 to a daughter and her husband.

Henry died January 6, 1832 in Upper Milford Township. He is buried in the Zionsville Evangelical Lutheran Congregation cemetery, Old Zionsville, PA.

## THIS MONTH IN THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

February 4, 1776 – The general order of the day at the American camp in Cambridge (MA) called for the colonel of each regiment to identify the number of fire arms needed by his men and a method for obtaining them.

## BERNARDO DE GÁLVEZ STATUE PROJECT

The Bernardo de Gálvez Chapter #1 of the Sons of the American Revolution is raising money to sculpt a statue of Bernardo de Gálvez to be displayed in Galveston's Mernard Park at the corner of 27<sup>th</sup> Street and Seawall Boulevard.

The chapter is asking for help to fund the construction of this statue and its pedestal. All donors will be recognized in perpetuity on the statue and bricks at the site. Through these donations, the city's namesake, Bernardo de Gálvez, will be memorialized for helping to save the American Revolution by supplying Washington's army and defeating the British in battles along the Mississippi River and in the Gulf of Mexico.

Donations can be made through the project's website at <http://galvezstatue.org> or by mail to P.O. Box 1, Galveston, TX 77553, or call 409-939-0205 for pick up.

For more information, please visit <http://galvezstatue.org>.



Miniature of the Gálvez statue.

## 2014 BERNARDO DE GÁLVEZ ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

*CHAPTER MEETINGS ARE HELD THE 3<sup>RD</sup> SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH*

**February 17**  
Presidents' Day

**May 26**  
Memorial Day

**September 17**  
Constitution Day

**March 27 – March 30**  
TXSSAR Spring Convention

**June 14**  
Flag Day

**November 11**  
Veterans' Day

**April 15**  
Patriots' Day

**July 4**  
4<sup>th</sup> of July Parade, Galveston

**December 5**  
Dickens on the Strand

*"Patriotism is as much a virtue as justice, and is as necessary for the support of societies as natural affection is for the support of families." - Benjamin Rush*