

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

AUGUST 16

Monthly Meeting – 11am; Nick's
(formerly Casey's) at 38th & Seawall

SEPTEMBER 20

Constitution Day Luncheon with
George Washington Chapter
(Galveston) DAR

OCTOBER 18

Monthly Meeting – 11am; Nick's
(formerly Casey's) at 38th & Seawall

OCTOBER 19

Victory at Yorktown

NOVEMBER 11

Veterans Day

NOVEMBER 15

Monthly Meeting – 11am; Nick's
(formerly Casey's) at 38th & Seawall


MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

As your Chapter President, I am happy to report that Bernardo de Gálvez Chapter #1 is embarking on another great year. We are well on the way of meeting all of our yearly goals. Attendance at our monthly meetings has continued to improve. Members have been attentive in our Chapter events such as Memorial Day in Seabrook and the July 4th Parade in Galveston.

A great big thank you to all the board members and other members as well for making 2014 a banner year for our Chapter.

I would like to leave everyone with a reminder that we will be meeting with DAR in September and will be honoring DAR and SAR Members. I will provide meeting information when it becomes available.

- Bill Whatley



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

124TH ANNUAL NSSAR CONGRESS

By Larry Tidwell
Vice-President, Bernardo de Gálvez Chapter #1



Another successful National Congress was held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in Greenville, S.C. This year's congress was packed with lots of meetings and events, including full days of business and committee meetings, lunches and formal dinners, three battlefield tours and the election of our

National Officers. The battlefields toured were Kings Mountain, Cowpens and Ninety-Six. All three locations are National Parks.

The election results for the 2014-2015 term are Lindsey Cook Brock, President General; Thomas E. Lawrence, Secretary General; John Michael "Mike" Tommie, SR., Treasurer General; John L. Dodd, Esq., Chancellor General; John D. Sinks, Genealogist General; Larry Guzy, Register General; Robert Forrest Towns, Historian General; C. Bruce Pickett, Librarian General; Edward Paul Rigel, Sr., MD, Surgeon General and Randy D. Moody, Chaplain General.

The National Public Service and Heroism Awards Committee thanked all the state societies and chapters who submitted information this year. Twenty-two states were represented, with a total of

259 submissions. TXSSAR gave out the most Public Service and Heroism Awards among all of the state societies. TXSSAR gave out a total of 58 medals. Our chapter gave out four of those. Only six chapters in the nation gave out each of the four medals this year.

Our chapter was one of those recognized. We should be proud of that fact and should strive to do the same thing next year.

Compatriots James Mitchell and VP Larry D. Tidwell were proud to represent our chapter as voting delegates at the National Congress this year. We encourage every member to strive to make next year's congress in Louisville, Kentucky.



Bernardo de Gálvez Chapter #1 compatriots Larry Tidwell (VP) and James Mitchell at the 2014 NSSAR Congress held in Greenville, SC.

Did you know? The SAR has its origins in an organization known as the Sons of Revolutionary Sires, which formed in 1876 during America's centennial celebrations. The NSSAR was organized 13 years later on 30 April 1889.

CERTIFICATES/AWARDS

- 123 FLAG CERTIFICATES PRESENTED TO DATE; GOAL OF 100 FOR 2014
- ALL ROTC/JROTC MEDALS FOR 2014 HAVE BEEN AWARDED
- THE CHAPTER HAS WELCOMED SIX NEW COMPATRIOTS SO FAR IN 2014
- PUBLIC SERVICE/HEROISM AWARDS PRESENTED IN MAY:
 - FIRE SAFETY – MIKE WISCO, GALVESTON FIRE CHIEF
 - LAW ENFORCEMENT – HECTOR DOMINGUEZ, GALVESTON P.D.
 - EMS COMMENDATION – THOMAS LEIGH, GALVESTON EMS
 - HEROISM – MICAH FOWLER, LIFE GUARD

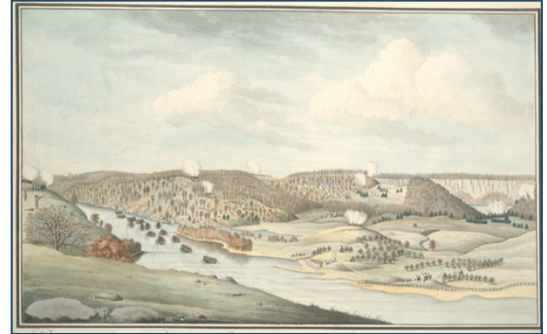


Members of the Bernardo de Gálvez Chapter #1, TXSSAR celebrate Independence Day with their families in Galveston.

OUR PATRIOT ANCESTORS: MANUEL DERSHEIMER

Brief Bio:

- Born: 1755; Pennsylvania
- Service: Private, 3rd Company, 2nd Battalion, Northampton County (PA) Militia; “Flying Camp”
- Died: 05 August 1798
- Ancestor of compatriots George and David Dersheimer



A view of the attack on Fort Washington by British and Hessian brigades on November 16, 1776. Artwork by Thomas Davies (1737-1812).

Manuel Dersheimer joined the cause for Independence as a volunteer with the Pennsylvania Flying Camp. He was attached to Captain Heller’s third company, second battalion, Northampton County (PA) militia.

Manuel saw action at the Battles of Long Island and Fort Washington on Manhattan Island. The Continental’s were stationed at Harlem Heights, near Fort Washington in November of 1776. Under the command of General Nathan Greene, Fort Washington was the only point on Manhattan Island still held by the Americans. The British attacked at 10:00 A.M. on the morning of November 16. A second British assault began at noon. With the British relentlessly firing on the Continentals who had withdrawn into the garrison, Fort Washington was surrendered.

Manuel, along with others captured at Fort Washington, was held on a prison ship in New York Harbor. With the help of other captured Patriots, Manuel was able to escape and return to Pennsylvania. Upon his return, he rejoined Captain Heller’s company and fought in the Indian Wars with General Anthony Wayne, helping to secure the northern frontier in the Ohio territory.

AMERICAN REVOLUTION HISTORY

August 16, 1777 – British and Hessian forces are defeated at the Battle of Bennington, Vermont, which is fought entirely in New York.

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 27th 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 3RD 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
4th 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