

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

NOVEMBER 11
Veterans' Day

NOVEMBER 15
Monthly Meeting – 11am; Nick's
(formerly Casey's) at 38th & Seawall

NOVEMBER 27
Thanksgiving Day


DECEMBER 6
Dickens on the Strand, Color Guard
Luncheon and Parade; Chapter
Anniversary and Rededication

DECEMBER 20
Monthly Meeting – 11am; Nick's
(formerly Casey's) at 38th & Seawall

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Because this will be the last newsletter for 2014, it is also the last article I will write as your President of the Bernardo de Gálvez Chapter. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for allowing me to serve as your President for 2014. I feel that the Chapter has made some favorable progress this year. We have added several new committees that will enhance our Chapter in the future. Our membership is growing in appreciable numbers and attendance at our monthly meetings is continuing to improve. I am amazed and thankful for all the support that all of you have provided me this year. Our Patriots would be proud of our service to the Sons of American Revolution.

- *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>.

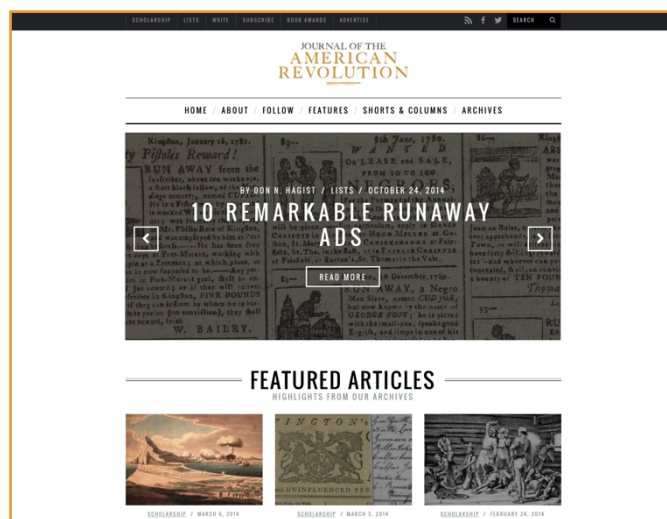
JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

By Andy Shaner
Secretary, Bernardo de Gálvez Chapter #1

If you're like me, you may find yourself frustrated sometimes with what seems to be a lack of credible, and accessible, information on the American Revolution. Sure, there are a plethora of books on Amazon's virtual shelf, but I sometimes question the credibility of the information in those books (and the authors). Though I like to think I can read at a relatively high level, the language I have encountered in some books make them somewhat difficult to read, or just plain boring. Finally, historical non-fiction books can be, I believe, incredibly long. Or maybe I'm just lazy.

I think I may have found a solution to my issues of questioning credible content and authors, boring narrative and personal sloth.

A few months ago I stumbled across the online "Journal of the American Revolution." The journal's goal is to: "Make serious history more approachable among a diverse audience and regularly deliver original, unique and interesting material to our readers. It's edutainment, or a business casual approach to scholarship, if you will." One aspect of JAR that I find refreshing (other than being free) is it will accept manuscripts from professional and amateur historians. I think this is a great strength as it recognizes the time and care that amateurs put into their own research. The first article I read was a review of the first three



The online "Journal of the American Revolution" launched in January 2013. To date, the journal houses over 400 articles by nearly 70 authors. In almost two years, the journal has attracted more than 360,000 readers.

episodes of the AMC series "Turn." From that article I followed a link to the JAR website and began browsing articles. I was impressed with what I saw. Unfortunately, I don't get to the website very often, but I signed up for its monthly newsletter as a reminder to visit the site at least once a month. The articles in JAR will never replace more comprehensive discussions found in books, but, so far, I have found JAR to be an excellent resource for the casual student of American Revolution history. See for yourself at <http://allthingsliberty.com>.

*Did you know? Amazon's best selling book (based on sales) in the "U.S. Revolution & Founding History" category is *Madison and Jefferson* by Andrew Burstein.*

CERTIFICATES/AWARDS



John Loper receives his SAR membership certificate at the October chapter meeting.



John Hamlin receives his SAR membership certificate at the October chapter meeting.



Gordon Robinson receives his SAR 40th Anniversary certificate at the October chapter meeting.

OUR PATRIOT ANCESTORS: AUGUSTINE COMER

Brief Bio:

- Born: 1757; Shenandoah County, Virginia
- Service: Private, Captain Langdon's Company, 12th Virginia Regiment
- Died: 22 July 1824
- Ancestor of compatriots John P., Jeffrey and Jared Lenes and Zachary Powers



American forces lay siege to the Chew House during the Battle of Germantown. Engraving by Christian Schussele (1824-1879).

Private Augustine Comer was born in 1757 in Shenandoah County, Virginia. Augustine Comer enlisted in the 12th Virginia Regiment on Easter Monday, 1776. He served in Captain Langdon's Company, Colonel Neville's Brigade under General Scott. He fought in the battles of Brandywine, Germantown, Monmouth, Stoney Point and Charlestown, South Carolina.

Private Comer was discharged at Charlestown after completing his enlistment. Before he could leave Charlestown, he was captured by the British and held as a prisoner of war for two weeks. He escaped from the British and joined General Marion's Light Horse. He also served under Generals Sumter and Greene. His second discharge came about three weeks before the surrender of General Cornwallis. He served four and one half years.

Augustine Comer died July 22, 1824.

AMERICAN REVOLUTION HISTORY

November 21-23, 1780 – A force of 300 Continentals from Connecticut, commanded by Major Benjamin Tallmadge, captures the fort at Coram (Smith Point), Long Island, NY without encountering any resistance. He burns over 300 tons of hay and is later praised by Congress for this action.

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 6
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