



Bernardo de Galvez Chapter #1

December 2021 Newsletter

FROM THE PRESIDENT

BY Bill Mayo



Since April of this year, COVID19 and its mutations Delta and Omicron have continued to have a serious impact on our nation as well as other countries. However, with the vaccines that are now available, many of us have resumed a somewhat normal life. We have continued to use ZOOM as a resource for speakers from outside our immediate area for our monthly meetings and for conducting Executive Board Meeting. In July the monthly chapter meetings were moved from Landry's in Galveston to Kelley's in La Marque. The reason for the move was two-fold. First, there was no access to ZOOM at Landry's, and there was at Kelley's. Secondly, since most of the chapter members live on the mainland, it was hoped that more members would attend the meetings if was held in a more central location with less traffic congestion. This newsletter will cover the period from 1 May to 31 December of this year.



New Members Sworn In

During the April Chapter Meeting, new members Joshua Labay, John Merritt and Robert Segers were sworn. It is also a pleasure and honor to swear in new members.

During this meeting, the Bernado de Galvez Chapter also honored the following “First Responders” for their heroic acts and service. Jeff Mullin, Kevin Knight and Kevin Anderson of the Galveston County Beach Patrol were awarded the Heroism Certificate and Medal for their heroic efforts in rescuing boaters; Dain Buck received the Life Saving Certificate and Medal for his efforts since he had received a Heroism medal in previous years. The Law Enforcement Award was presented to Retired Captain Ronald W. Schoolcraft of the Texas City Police Department for his many years of service. The Emergency Services Award was presented to Juan Genea-Butler of the League City EMS for outstanding service.



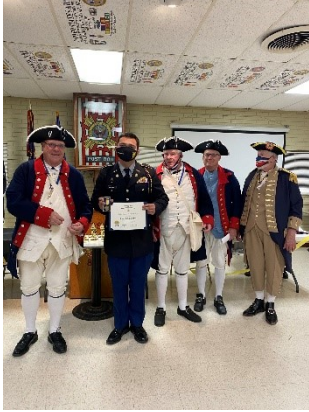
First Responders Awards

Other activities during April included members attending the following events on ZOOM: “The 245th Adoption of the Halifax Resolves,” and the TXSAR Annual Sate Meeting.

The Bernado de Galvez Color Guard also presented Silver NROTC Awards to cadets Midshipman 3/C Bradley Dube and Midshipmen 1/C Jon Matjani of the Texas A & M Marine Academy on April 23rd.



Due to COVID restrictions, a Bronze JROTC Award was provided to the Dickinson Independence School District for presentation to C/2LT Sigourney Martinez.



The month of May saw the chapter involved in several different activities. On the 7th of May, Chapter Compatriots attended the JROTC Award ceremony for cadets at Ball High School in Galveston and presented the Bronze JROTC Award to C/CPT Jacob Praker, Jr.

JROTC Awards were provided to the Clear Creek I.S.D ROTC program office to be presented to the following on the 8th of May: C/1LT Milezka Aponte (Clear Creek H. S.), C/SSG Parker Bourns (Clear Lake H. S.), C/MSG Connor Kueck (Clear Brook H. S.), C/1LT Hunter Theroux (Clear Springs H. S.) and C/CPT Daniel Castagna (Clear Falls H. S.).

On the 8th of May, some chapter compatriots attended the “240th Anniversary of the Battle of Pensacola” via ZOOM.

Members of the chapter attended the League City Council Meeting on the 11th of May to present the Fire Safety Award to Steve Jones of the League City Fire Department, who was unable to attend the April Chapter Meeting. Bronze Good Citizenship Certificates and Medals were also presented to League City Mayor Pat Hallisley and League City Secretary Dianna Stapp.



Steve Jones Receiving the Fire Safety Award



Mayor Pat Hallisley Receiving Award



Dianna Stapp Receiving her Award

At the May 15th monthly chapter meeting, awards were given out to the winners of the Essay, Oration, Brochure and Poster contests. The chapter winner of the Joseph S. Rumbaugh Oration contest was Troy Nguyen, whose subject was “Patriotism Knows No Age.” Troy’s oration was outstanding, and went on to win at the district and state level. Kendall Coney was chapter winner in the George S. and Stella M. Knight Essay contest; she read her essay “ Women: The Backbone of the American Revolution.” Lorien E. Wolter was winner of the Sgt. Moses Adams Memorial Middle School Brochure Contest and discussed her brochure, while displaying it. The Americanism Poster Contest winner was Beau Brabham, a member of the C.A.R. Member. All the contestants are to be commended on submissions to the various contests. In addition to Medals and/or Certificates, all winner received cash awards of varying amounts.



Troy Nguyen



Kendall Coney



Lorien E. Wolter



Beau Brabham

On May 16th some chapter compatriots were able to attend the 250th Annual Patriots’ Day in Alamance County, North Carolina via ZOOM. With the availability of ZOOM, our chapter has been able to attend several celebrations that normally would be too far from our residences to travel to. It has also allowed the chapter to have guest speakers using the ZOOM platform. Until this pandemic has become history, I can foresee ZOOM playing an important role in our chapter.

The Bernado de Galvez Color Guard participated in the Memorial Day Service held at the Seabrook Memorial Park. This has been an annual event for our chapter for the past several years. COVID has reduced the attendance at this memorial service but has not cancelled it. However, the absence of the scouts and other organizations has been noticeable.



Compatriots Gene Shaner, John Loper, William Adriance and Billy Mayo

On the 12th of June, Compatriots Billy Mayo and John Loper attended an Eagle Scout Honor Court to present a Certificate of Recognition to Miles Ellsworth Quigley for his outstanding achievement and exceptional leadership as evidenced by his attainment of the rank of Eagle Scout.



On June 17th Chapter President Mayo and Compatriot Labay attended the 125th Anniversary Tea of the George Washington Chapter of the DAR.

During the monthly chapter on June 19th, the attending members approved a motion to move the chapter meetings from Landry's in Galveston to Kelley's in La Marque. In stead of having a guest speaker, the program consisted of various members discussing their patriot ancestors. A new Compatriot Louis Garza was sworn in and presented his Certificate and Rosette.



At the 17th July Chapter Meeting, Compatriot Clark P. Wright was our guest speaker and spoke on the “History of the Texas Society of SAR from 1896 until 1936.” He was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation for excellent review of the history of SAR in Texas. Zackary Adriance was presented with his 5-Year Membership Certificate and Pin.



Clark Wright Receiving Certificate of Appreciation



Zackary Adriance Receiving his 5-Year Member Certificate

On a sadder note, a memorial for deceased Compatriot William Henry Hall was held by his son Andrew W. Hall on the 20th of July at Mario’s in Galveston. Compatriot Hall died on the 25th of January in 2020, but his memorial service was delayed due to COVID. President Mayo presented a Memorial Certificate for William Hall to his son Andrew.

In August, Chapter activities began with President Mayo and other chapter members attending the Texas SAR Summer BOM via ZOOM on the 7th of the month. On the 21st of August, the chapter had the pleasure of having Doryn Danner Glenn from the Galveston County District Clerk’s office serve as it guest speaker at its monthly meeting. As Chief Deputy and Director of Governmental Affairs, she presented an excellent program on “Researching Court Records” and the valuable information that one might find in them. She was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation for her presentation.





The Bernado de Galvez Chapter lost one its faithful members on the 16th of September; Merlin Eugene Shaner, Chapter Treasurer and Color Guard member died after a short illness. He was a life member of both the National Society and the State Society. He will be greatly missed by his compatriots.

On September 18th, the Bernado de Galvez Chapter attended the George Washington Chapter of the DAR Constitution Week Luncheon at the San Luis Resort in Galveston in lieu of having a monthly meeting. This has been the practice for the past several years. However, this year the activities were scaled back due to COVID.



Color Guard Members: Clark Wright, Bill Adriance, Hugh Ferguson and John Loper



On the 4th of October, Bernado de Galvez lost another of its faithful and key members. Compatriot John Michael Hamlin, Chapter Secretary and Color Guard Member, passed away after a lengthy illness. As Secretary, he played a key role in the Awards Program and in the Youth Contests Programs in our chapter. He also served at the Texas SAR Vice President for Contests, Medals and Awards as well. John was also past president of the Bernado de Galvez Chapter. He will be sorely missed by his fellow Compatriots.

From the 8th through the 10th of October, our chapter hosted the Fall Board of Managers (BOM) meeting. This was the first in-person BOM meeting that the state society held since the COVID19 pandemic and enjoyed a great turn-out for this event. Texas SAR President Drake Peddie presented William Adriance and Billy Mayo the Silver Roger Sherman Award for their efforts in hosting the BOM. Other chapter members receiving Certificates of Appreciation were Zachary Adriance, Albert Gonzales, Hugh Ferguson, John Loper, Ronald Schoolcraft, Clark Wright, David Zwahr, David Garza and Joshua Labay. I appreciate the support from chapter members in the hosting of this event with a special thanks to William Adriance.

At the 16th October monthly meeting, Clark Wright served as our guest speaker and continued his presentation on the “History of the TXSSAR from 1936 to Now” with emphasis on newspaper articles that he had acquired. For his excellent presentation, he received another “Certificate of Appreciation” from President Mayo.



The funeral of John Michael Hamlin was held at the National Cemetery in Houston on the 8th of November. Several members of the Bernado de Galvez Chapter as well as other chapters attended the services. A second service was held at a church in Nassau Bay, which some members attended as well.

Compatriots at the Funeral of John M. Hamlin

On the 13th of November, the Bernado de Galvez Color Guard members Hugh Ferguson and Billy Mayo attended the Veteran Day Services at Seabrook Memorial Park along with members of the George Washington Chapter of the DAR. The normal celebration day was changed from the 11th, so that the George Washington Chapter could celebrated the 100th Anniversary of the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier as well. Due to COVID the attendance was not as great as normal but service was still well attended.



At the November 20th Chapter Meeting, the guest speaker was Mike Bunn; he is the Director of the Historic Blakeley State Park in Spanish Fort, Alabama. His program on the “Fourteenth Colony” was presented via ZOOM and was very informative and well received. His book on the “Fourteenth Colony” is available on AMAZON. A Certificate of Appreciation was mailed to him. After his program, an election was held for Chapter Officers for the year 2022. The following slate of candidates were approved and will serve as indicated: President (Billy Mayo), 1st Vice President (Hugh Ferguson), 2nd Vice President (Zachary Adriance), 3rd Vice President (Josh Labay), Secretary (John Loper), Registrar (David Zwahr) and Treasurer (Bill Adriance). Compatriot Robert E. Gindratt was presented with his 5-Year Membership Award. Marshall A. Parker was unable to attend and received his 5-Year Award by mail. Albert S. Gonzales was presented his TXSSAR Certificate of Appreciation for assisting with the Fall BOM by President Mayo.





At the December 4th Chapter Meeting, Compatriots were honored with the presence of the Texas Society President Drake Peddie, who administered the oaths of office for the Chapter Officers elected for the year 2022.

President Drake Peddie Swearing in of Officers

After the swearing in ceremony, President Peddie provided information on what was happening at the state level. The chapter was also honored with the presence of past State President Thomas Jackson, who provided comments as well.



President Peddie



Thomas Jackson

After the meeting was adjourned, President Peddie, Thomas Jackson, Billy Mayo, Bill Adriance, Zachary Adriance, and Hugh Ferguson departed for the Dickens on the Strand Parade. With exception of 2020, this has been an annual event for the Bernado de Galvez Chapter. Compatriot Bob Johns joined them for the parade in Galveston.

DICKENS ON THE STRAND PARADE



From Left to Right: Drake Peddie, Bob Johns, Thomas Jackson, Zachary Adriance, Bill Adriance and Hugh Ferguson. Billy Mayo was in the carriage.



Hugh Ferguson, Billy Mayo, Zackary Adriance, Thomas Jackson, Bill Adriance, Drake Peddie and Bob Johns.

The final activity for the Bernado de Galvez Chapter was the participation in the “Wreaths Across America” on the 18th of December. As in the past, the Bernado de Galvez Color Guard participated in the activities, and some members and their families attended the wreath laying as well. A Boy Scout joined the Color Guard to satisfy one of his requirements for becoming an Eagle Scout.

WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA



RECAPPING

CHAPTER EVENTS FOR 2021

NEW MEMBERS SWORN IN

William R. Belcher

Louis Garza

Arden Hill IV

Scott Johnson

Joshua Labay

John Merritt

Robert (Mike) Segers

Jeremy Stonecipher

CHAPTER DEATHS

John M. Hamlin

David H. Peterson

Capt. Gordon R. Robinson

Merlin E. Shaner

AWARDS PRESENTED BY CHAPTER

CHAPTER PAST PRESIDENT PIN AND CERTIFICATE (William Adriance)

CHAPTER DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD (John M. Hamlin)

MEMORIAL CERTIFICATES (William H. Hall and John M. Hamlin)

NEW MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATES (Arden C. Hill IV, Louis A. Garza, William R. Belcher, Scott W. Johnson and Jeremy E. Stonecipher)

BRONZE GOOD CITIZENSHIP AWARD (John M. Hamlin, Mayor Pat Hallisley & Dianna Stapp)

MEMBER SERVICE AWARDS (Zachary L. Adriance, George E. Blanford, Jay E. Floyd, Robert E. Gindratt and Marshall A. Parker.)

CERTIFICATES OF APPRECIATION (Richard Brock, James R. Clements Jr., Clark P. Wright, Doryn Danner Glenn, Clark P. Wright, David E. Garza, Joshua Labay and Mike Bunn)

EAGLE SCOUT CERTIFICATES (Joshua Demel and Miles Ellsworth Quigley)

**BRONZE JROTC MEDALS & CERTIFICATES (Milezka Aponte, Parker Bourns,
Connor Kueck, Hunter Theroux, Daniel Castagua, Jacob
Praker Jr. and Sigourney Martinez)**

SILVER R.O.T.C. MEDALS & CERTIFICATES (Bradley Dube and Joh Matjani)

CHAPTER ORATION AWARD (Troy Nguyen)

CHAPTER ESSAY CONTEST AWARD (Kendall Coney)

CHAPTER BROCHURE AWARD (Lorien E. Wolter)

CHAPTER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL POSTER AWARD (Beau Brabham)

HEROISM AWARD (Jeff Mullin, Kevin Knight & Kevin Anderson)

LIFE SAVING AWARD (Dain Buck)

EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE AWARD (Juan Genea-Butler)

SAR ZOOM EVENTS ATTENDED BY CHAPTER MEMBERS

242nd ANNIVERSARY OF THE BATTLE OF KETTLE CREEK

BATTLE OF MOORE CREEK ANNUAL CELEBRATION

240th ANNIVERSARY OF GUILFORD COURTHOUSE

TEXAS SAR STATE CONVENTION

240th ANNIVERSARY OF THE BATTLE OF PENSACOLA

250th ANNUAL PATRIOTS' DAY IN ALAMANCE COUNTY, NORTH CAROLINA

SUMMER BOARD OF MANAGERS MEETING

AWARDS PRESENTED BY TXSSAR TO OUR MEMBERS

PATRIOT MEDAL (William L. Adriance)

**SILVER ROGER SHERMAN AWARD (John M. Hamlin, William L. Adriance
& Billy Mayo)**

**TXSSAR CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION (Zachary L. Adriance, Albert S.
Gonzales, Hugh R. Ferguson Jr., John R. Loper, Ronald W.
Schoolcraft, Clark P. Wright and David Zwahr)**

AWARDS PRESENTED BY TXSSAR TO OUR CHAPTER

ROSS SHIPMAN NEWSLETTER SINGLE SHEET AWARD

PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD

FLAG PRESENTATION AWARD

**CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION (For Supporting “Partners in Patriotism and
“Wreaths Across America”)**