

PELICAN



PATRIOT

A Semi-annual publication of the Louisiana Society Sons of the American Revolution Vol. 4, No. 1

*Celebrating 126 years*

*Louisiana Society Sons of the American Revolution organized May 15, 1890*



*Louisiana Society  
Sons of the American Revolution*

### *President's Message*



Gentlemen:

I will begin with one of my favorite quotes from John Adams, in which he is speaking to the yet unborn generations that will come after him and his own generation. "Posterity: you will never know how much it has cost my generation to preserve your freedom. I hope you will make good use of it." Those words beg us, command us, to reflect on how much we are currently doing to preserve that freedom purchased

almost 240 years ago through the sacrifices of our very own ancestors. Are we doing all we can to preserve that freedom for ourselves? More importantly, are we doing all we can to secure that freedom for our children and grandchildren, and preparing them to do likewise?

Do not forget about our three initiatives for this year. Each chapter is encouraged to 1) participate in at least three youth awards programs, 2) support our veterans by partici-

All Chapter Presidents have been given the hard numbers that their chapters must achieve for goals two and three. As chapter members, I encourage all of you to support and help your chapter achieve all of these goals. Feel free to call or email me if you need any assistance.

Over the past month, I had the honor of attending the National Society, SAR Annual Congress. The Louisiana Society was honored with many awards, including a personal check from the President General for participating in six youth awards. In addition, we received several flag streamers for participation in various programs, and came in third in the Genealogist General's Award for having the fewest denied applications for membership. Several items came up for a vote before the Congress, including a dues increase, which was soundly defeated. In addition to the business of Congress, there was plenty of time for leisure, and several of us were able to tour the battlefields of Lexington and Concord and Bunker Hill, and hike the Freedom Trail, which includes cemeteries where patriots such as John Hancock, Samuel Adams, Paul Revere, and Crispus Attucks and the others who died during the Boston Massacre rest in peace. Next year the Congress will be held in Knoxville, Tennessee, and I encourage everyone who can to attend.

I look forward to seeing all of you at our next Board of Directors meeting in Covington on September 10th. In the meantime, continue to check our website ([www.lassar.org](http://www.lassar.org)) for any updates.

In patriotic service, and praying that God bless each of you and your families,  
Tony L. "Bo" Vets II, President  
Louisiana Society, SAR



Left: Bo & Tony Vets at John Hancock's grave.

Below: Bill Stone (ALSSAR Trustee) Bo and Tony Vets at the Concord Bridge holding a Bedford Flag.



## The Story of La Belle Changing History, But it Doesn't End Here

### By Rueben Perez

Have you ever wondered about the first colonization of Texas...who they were and where they came from? The first answer would normally be, "*That's easy, the Spanish were the first to settle a colony in Texas.*" Another question would be, "*Who established the first fort in Texas?*"

Our story begins in the late 17th century with the race to claim and colonize North America. Spain had claimed Florida and New Spain including what is now Mexico and much of the southwestern part of North America. Britain claimed the northern Atlantic seaboard, and France claimed much of what are now Canada and the Illinois Country. In 1681, French explorer René-Robert Cavelier Sieur de La Salle launched an expedition down the Mississippi in search of the Pacific Ocean, instead he found a route to the Gulf of Mexico and on April 9, 1682 claimed the Mississippi River for Louis XIV and named the territory Louisiana. Hernando De Soto, 140 years before, had explored and claimed the area for Spain. Believing France could split Spanish Florida from New Spain, La Salle proposed establishing colonies at the mouth of the Mississippi, as well, as having a location to attack Nueva Vizcaya to gain control of the silver mines in New Spain. In October 1683, Spain declared war on France. King Louis XIV agreed to back La Salle for his expedition.

La Salle's original plan for the expedition was to sail to New France and down the Mississippi River to the mouth to establish the colony. King Louis gave La Salle the use of two ships, the *Le Joly* and *La Belle*. The *Le Joly* being the larger ship would carry the disassembled ship *La Belle* to North America and overland to the Illinois Country. *La Belle* would be reassembled at the Mississippi to carry supplies downstream. The King changed his mind and decided to have La Salle's expedition sail across the ocean and directly into the Gulf of Mexico to spite Spain.

Prior to leaving La Rochelle, France on July 24, 1684 La Salle leased two additional ships. Altogether, he now had four ships: *Le Joly* a 36-gun man of war, the 300-ton store ship *L'Aimable*, the barque *La Belle*, and the ketch *St. Francois*. The ships carried a total of 300 people, including 100 soldiers, 6 missionaries, 8 merchants, over a dozen women, children, artisans and craftsmen. The ships on the expedition carried enough food and water for themselves and passengers; usually just enough for a one way trip. On their way they would stop at islands to refresh their supplies. On this expedition, "Colony kits" were included for the settlers, which they needed to establish their new homes. In Santo Domingo, Spanish privateers captured the *St. Francois* carrying a full load of supplies, provisions, and tools for the colony. During the 58-day voyage to Santa Domingo, two passengers died and one woman gave birth to a child. The remaining ships continued their route in search of the mouth of the Mississippi. On December 18, 1684 La Salle's expedition entered the Gulf of Mexico that Spain had claimed as its territory.

None of the members on the expedition had been in the Gulf of Mexico or knew how to navigate it. Before leaving Santo Domingo, the sailors were warned the currents flowed east in the Gulf. LaSalle's maps were inaccurate and because of his miscalculations in latitude of the mouth of the Mississippi River, the expedition failed to find the mouth of the Mississippi and ended up in Texas

### **Landing in the wrong place changed the course of history.**

In early 1685, La Salle's expedition landed at Matagorda Bay in Spanish Texas, 400 miles off course west of the mouth of the Mississippi. Whatever could go wrong for La Salle did, as the voyage was plagued with misfortunes such as: the captured ship, miscalculation, poor navigation, missing the Mississippi entirely, and landing on the Texas coastline. The mishaps would not stop there. *La Belle* navigated the pass into Matagorda Bay with ease. The captain of *L'Aimable* refused assistance from one of La Salle's pilots to guide the ship into the bay and grounded the *L'Aimable* on a sandbar. The men attempted to salvage and recover food, cannons, and provisions from the *L'Aimable* for several days, but a strong storm hit and sunk the ship. The Karankawa Indians looted the wreckage and La Salle's soldiers went to their village to reclaim their supplies. The soldiers also took items that belonged to the Karankawa creating hostilities between the Indians and the Frenchmen.

Captain Beaujeu, having fulfilled his mission, returned to France aboard the *Joly* in mid-March, 1685, taking some of the colonists with him and leaving approximately 180 remaining colonists. La Salle's troubles continued as he searched for a suitable location for the colony. La Salle found a location at Garcitas Creek, which had freshwater, fish, and good soil and named it Rivière aux Boeufs for the nearby buffalo herds. Fort Saint Louis was constructed on a bluff overlooking the creek.

La Salle and his men took several short expeditions. Late October 1685, La Salle reloaded *La Belle* for a longer expedition. He took 50 men, plus the Belle's crew of 27 and while the land expedition traveled in canoes, the *Belle* followed along the coastline. The new captain of La Belle was always drunk and many of the sailors did not know how to sail. The La Belle was battered by storms and sank to the bottom of Matagorda Bay in 1686.

**“Navio Quebrado” or “broken ship”** The destruction of La Salle's last ship *La Belle* left the settlers stranded on the Texas coast, with no hope of help for the French colony.

### **BUT THE STORY OF LA BELLE DOESN'T END HERE.**

After the Spanish learned of the French intrusion into their territory they sent several expeditions to find them. On one of the expeditions, Spanish Captain Martin de Rivas and Captain Pedro de Yriate left from Vera Cruz and sailed along the Gulf Coast on December 25, 1686. They reached Matagorda Bay on April 4, 1687 and dispatched several canoes from their ships where they discovered *La Belle* describing it as the broken ship with three fleurs-de-lis on her stern. For 309 years the remains of *La Belle* rested on the bottom of the muddy Matagorda Bay. It wasn't until 1995 when diver Chuck Meide discovered the cannon of *La Belle* with two crests – one for King Louis XIV of France, the other for the Admiral of France identifying the sunken *La Belle*.

Scientist evacuated *La Belle* from the bay and preserved the remains of the ship by a freeze-dried technique. Along with *La Belle*, almost two million artifacts were carefully cleaned, treated, and sent to Texas A&M for conservation.

The remains of La Belle were reassembled and are now on exhibition at the Texas Bullock museum in Austin, Texas and opened to the public. The La Belle ship changed the course of Texas history and provides us with an in-depth understanding of early Texas history. More of the story will be covered in Part II on the ill-fated colony and French explorer René-Robert Cavelier, Sieur de La Salle.

## Part II

### The Ill-Fated Colony, Fort, and French Explorer Rene-Robert Cavelier, Sieur De LA Salle

In the first part of the story we discussed French explorer René-Robert Cavelier, Sieur de La Salle's vision to establish a French colony at the mouth of the Mississippi River. Through a navigation miscalculation, he overshoots the Mississippi River by 400 miles and the expedition landed in Spanish Texas at Matagorda Bay on February 20, 1685. From the beginning, the expedition was plagued with misfortunes starting on July 24, 1684, when four ships left La Rochelle, France, with almost 300 people, including 100 soldiers, 6 missionaries, 8 merchants, and over a dozen women and children. La Salle's ketch Saint Francois carried a full load of supplies, provisions, and tools to establish a colony; unfortunately, Spanish privateers captured the ship, leaving La Salle three remaining ships. When the ships entered Matagorda Bay, the Aimable a store ship was grounded on a sandbar at the mouth of the bay at Pass Cavallo and sunk. Several disenchanted crew and colonists, along with an engineer returned to France with Captain Beaujeu on the man-of-war ship Le Joly. Beaujeu after completing his mission in continued to plague La Salle during a short exploration expedition. The La Belle battered by storms, sank to the bottom of Matagorda Bay in 1686. The destruction of La Salle's ship left the settlers stranded on the Texas coast, with no hope of help in sight for the French colony, now reduced to 180 settlers.

**BUT THE STORY DOESN'T END HERE, NOW FOR THE REST OF THE STORY...**

The location of the settlement La Salle established is on the right bank of the Garcitas Creek in southern Victoria County. Often referred today as Fort St. Louis, initially the settlement had no name and was referred to as a "habitation of the Riviere aux Boeufs [Buffalo River] near the bay of Saint Louis." The present day location of the settlement established by La Salle is five miles above the Garcitas creek mouth in Lavaca Bay. The first identification of the site was made over 300 years ago when Spanish general Alonso de Leon located the French settlement, located eight cannons belonging to the French, and buried them when he left.

Housing for the settlers was practically non-existent and supplies to build them limited. Timbers were cut down and hauled to the colony for shelter. In addition, the settlers removed timbers and supplies from the wrecked ship *Aimable* to use in the settlement. Henri Joutel later wrote, "I can testify that [this work] caused the death of more than thirty people, as much from the punishment they received as from the affliction." A house of four rooms was built consisting of thin planks for the roof and covered in bison hides. One of the rooms was for La Salle, another for the Recollet fathers, persons of rank, and a room for storage. One of the huts built by the priest served as a chapel for the settlers.

Lodgings for the soldiers, women, women and girls were made of logs or stakes, side by side, with plastered clay and soil, and thatched roof made from reeds. The Chapel of Fort Saint Louis was probably used during the twelve-day celebration of Christmas 1688 and 1689.

La Salle continued his celebration in hopes of locating the Mississippi River. The first journey was to the far west and down to the Rio Grande to the present day Langtry. La Salle made two other attempt going east to find the river and to seek help. On the second attempt going east, he made it to East Texas near the Hasinai villages. Seventeen men including La Salle were on the expedition when they were camped near present Navasota. The men started to quarrel over the division of buffalo meat and that night killed La Salle's nephew and two other men. The following day La Salle was killed, along with two men. Another two men were killed shortly thereafter and two men left the expedition to join the Caddo Indians. Henri Joutel let the remaining six men back to Canada and eventually returned to France. King Louis was informed about the lost settlement and La Salle, but did not send aid to the colony.

In January 1687 when La Salle left the colony on his expeditions, the numbers of settlers remaining were less than 50 of 180 earlier. Many settlers died from Karankawa Indian attacks, disease, malnutrition, unknown poisoned food sources, hostile environment, and even alligators in Garcitas Creek that killed a settler and caused havoc. Gabriel Minime, Sieur de Barbier, physically challenged, was left in charge of the 23 remaining colonist consisting of women and children, disabled, or those who were in La Salle's disfavor. In Joutel's journal he describes seeing 5,000 to 6,000 bison at a time, the colonist's small gardens, La Salle's moods, brutal behavior and his assassination.

Jean Baptiste Talon provides another eyewitness account and the Indian massacre of Christmas 1688 which spared only the children. Madame Barbier gave birth to the first European child recorded in Texas. Barbier and the child (only known as Baby Barbier) were saved by an Indian woman during the massacre. The Indian males cruelly killed the baby of a few months and mother when they returned back to the village. Following the dreaded massacre, only a few children survived. A young boy named Jean Baptiste Talon, his two younger brothers, an older sister, another young lad and a previously orphaned Parisian named Eustache Breman were saved and reared by some compassionate native women.

On April 22, 1689, General Alonso de Leon, leading a troop from Coahuila, came upon the ruined settlement and discovered six houses, no defensive walls, and eight cannons without cannon balls. The Spaniards burned the buildings and buried the cannons. They were discovered over 300 years later by archeologists from the Texas Historical Commission where Alonso de Leon had buried them.

General Alonso de Leon, April 22, 1689 after finding the colony writes, *“Three leagues down the creek we found it. Having halted with the forces about an arquebus-shot away, we went to see it, and found all the houses sacked, all the chests, bottle-cases, and all the rest of the settlers’ furniture broken; apparently more than two hundred books, torn apart and with the rotten leaves scattered through the patios—all in French. We noted that the perpetrators of this massacre had pulled everything [the colonists] had out of their chests, and divided the booty among themselves; and that what they had not cared for they had torn to pieces, making a frightful sack of all the French possessed.”* He goes on to report, *“We found three dead bodies scattered over the plain. One of these, from the dress that still clung to the bones, appeared to be that of a woman. We took the bodies up, chanted mass with the bodies present, and buried them. We looked for the other dead bodies but could not find them; whence we supposed that they had been thrown into the creek and had been eaten by alligators.”*

Jean-Baptiste Talon, nine-years old, is credited with telling the story of the brutal end of La Salle’s ill-fated colony earlier known as “Riviere aux Boeufs” or Fort Saint Louis. Talon describes the horrible massacre of Christmas 1688 while watching his mother fall before his eyes and killed by the Karankawas. Jean Baptiste and Berman were later rescued by the Teran de los Rios expedition in 1691. Jean was one of the five children who lived among the Indians and taken to Mexico to live as servants in the house of Viceroy Conde de Galve.

The demise of Rene-Robert Cavelier, Sieur de La Salle’s vision of establishing a French colony on the mouth of the Mississippi did not come to fruition, however, what he left behind are everlasting. The little colony struggled through hardships and heart-breaks, never achieving the status of a real fort with only cannons facing out the four corners without cannonballs, nor being called “Fort Saint Louis.” The colony’s claim to fame are that the first Christian house of worship in Texas not situated on the Rio Grande, the first recorded European marriage in Texas and what is believed to be the first European birth baptismal in Texas.

La Salle’s intrusion into Texas gave the Spanish impetus for further exploration and settlement of the Gulf region. The Spanish, still skeptical of a French invasion, under the provincial governor of Marques de San Miguel de Aguayo established the presidio Nuestra Senora de Loreto de la Bahia in 1722 on the site of the former La Salle colony.

Although his life was cut short, La Salle's vision and accomplishments were critical in the shaping of North America. He explored the Great Lakes region and Ohio and Mississippi valleys, blazing a trail to the mouth of the Mississippi on the Gulf shore in 1682. In the naming it *La Louisiane* in honor of the French monarch, Louis IV. Later, in 1803, the United States acquired much of that land from France. La Salle is truly a persons who changed history.

## **Bibliography:**

Bullock Texas State History Museum – Austin, Texas.  
Fort St. Louis—Texas Beyond History.

[www.texasbeyondhistory.net/stlouis/](http://www.texasbeyondhistory.net/stlouis/)

*French colonization of Texas.*

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/French\\_colonization\\_of\\_Texas.](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/French_colonization_of_Texas)

*How La Belle Changed History.* [Www.thestoryoftexas.com](http://www.thestoryoftexas.com).

*La Belle- The Exhibit.* The Bullock Texas State History Museum,

[www.thestoryoftexas.com](http://www.thestoryoftexas.com)

*La Belle (ship).*

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/La\\_Belle\\_\(ship\).](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/La_Belle_(ship))

Rams, Mary G., *La Belle and Fort St. Louisiana*, Texas State Historical Association, Texas. Almanac.

Weber, David J. *The Spanish Frontier in North America*. Yale University Press, 1992.

Weddle, Robert S. "LA SALLE EXPEDITION' *Handbook of Texas Online*.

<http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/upl01>, accessed November 10, 2015. Uploaded on June 15, 2010. Modified on November 9, 2015. Published by the Texas State Historical Association.

Weddle, Robert S. "LA SALLE EXPEDITION," *Handbook of Texas Online*.

. <http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/uel07>

Weddle, Robert S, "LA SALLE'S TEXAS SETTLEMENT," *Handbook of Texas Online*.

<http://www.tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/uel07>, accessed August 09, 2015.

Uploaded on June 15, 2010. Modified on October 30, 2011. Map of Matagorda Bay. Texas State Historical Association.

.Published with permission of **LAGRANADA**



# *Highlights from the 2016 LaSSAR State Convention*

## *Lake Charles, Louisiana*

Two amendments were presented and voted on:

1) The purpose of the amendment was to increase the number of members of the Board of Directors from 8 to 10.

2) The purpose of this amendment was to delete two of the “or” signatories to the LASSAR checking account and other banking requirements. The amendment allows the Treasurer and First-Vice President to be on the accounts.

Both amendments passed.

It was decided, that in the future, an award would also be given to the 2nd place winner or the Orations Contest.

### Contestant Winners

Eagle Scout Scholarship:	Warren Pat Davie, III	Pierre George Rousseau Chapter
Orations Contest:	Luke Kirk	Attakapas Chapter
Knight Essay:	Emma Woodruff	General Philemon Thomas Chapter
Outstanding JROTC Cadet	Ruston Keller	Pierre George Rousseau Chapter
Poster Contest	Dylan Kennedy	James Huey Chapter



Dylan Kennedy, 5th grade student at Central Elementary School in Calhoun, LA won the state poster contest. Shown with Dylan & his poster are Ted Brode, James Huey Chapter President, West Monroe, Dylan's parents, and state SAR President Bo Vets

Dylan's poster "Winter at Valley Forge" represented Louisiana at the NSSAR National Convention in July in Boston, MA.



James Huey SAR Chapter in West Monroe collected over 375 items for the Northeast Louisiana War Veterans home in Monroe. Shown with some of the items are Ted Brode, President; Jim Miller, Steve Ray, Gerald Graves, & Fred Hamilton.



## LOUISIANA COLOR GUARD BUILDING NEW CONTACT LISTS AND REORGANIZING

After some years now I feel that things have gotten a bit out of hand. This is especially true with regards to communications. We have a Color Guard (CG) manual, Commander, have awarded some CG medals, and have participated in a good number of events; but as time has gone on things seem to have gotten a bit sketchy. So what I would like to do is sort of reorganize or rededicate or reinvigorate our CG. Our CG is easy to join. To join, all you need is a uniform and the desire to honor your ancestors and our veterans in general. Our chapter chose a uniform for all CG members so as to have a uniform impression. We chose what we thought our name sake would have likely worn. Others use exactly what their ancestor wore. But this is not reenacting so costumes are perfectly in order. Some use continental, some use a general's or naval officer's uniform/costume. The CG does not put an excessive strain on members with too many events. We have only a few memorials/events in which we participate so there is no constant demand on your usual schedule.

### I. Here are some things I'd like to see:

1. A CG membership of **15 or so men** (that is about 3 – 5 percent of our membership).
2. Solid and **dependable contact** with all members – perhaps through a Facebook page if someone would like to manage such. (I use email but not everyone does!)
3. Enough men with **working firearms** that we can fire salutes when appropriate.
4. Enough men with firing and non-firing weapons to **look good** presenting, posting, retiring colors.
5. To “look good” means **knowing commands** and movements. So ....
6. A **meeting time** convenient to most for drill or even a ‘turkey shoot’/Militia day
7. **Advance warning** (invitation) to events planned by chapters

### II. Here are, in my thoughts, some things we need to do and pretty much right away:

1. Have interested and already active CG members contact me so that I can prepare
  - a. New email lists and
  - b. New contact lists
  - c. All ‘lists’ built around the contact method preferred by the members.
2. Have chapters contact me and schedule far in advance a CG presence at events. (The “Pelican” is where I will check first – here you could publish information about your event and invite CG participation.)

### III. My contact:

By regular US mail: Ted Brode 683 Caples Road, West Monroe, LA 71292

By email: [tbrode@comcast.net](mailto:tbrode@comcast.net) (I watch this!)

By Telephone: (318) 323-3961 ... leave a message I routinely check messages and even get an email alert that I have a new message.

## *Some thoughts shared by Compatriot James E. "Jim" Mitchell*

Here are several intertwined but significant small stories that I desire to share regarding the prelude to the Dec, 1776, thru Jan, 1777 *Trenton & Princeton Campaign*.

*Backdrop:* In 2012 Anne and my adventure at Washington Crossing, Pennsylvania began on Fri., Sep 14, 2012. Utilize, <[itouchmap.com/latlong.html](http://itouchmap.com/latlong.html)> and enter "**Washington Crossing, PA**" for a colorful space satellite photograph at the bridge crossing opposite Washington Crossing Inn on Hwy 532 near the Historic Park. We visited this site in preparation for the Sat., Sep 15<sup>th</sup>, SAR 'Massing of the Flags' with over one hundred uniformed SAR Color guardsmen at Independence Hall's common shared geographically between new Constitution Center and Independence Hall in the heart of downtown Philadelphia. This SAR event was sponsored by the Philadelphia Continental Chapter to celebrate the 225<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Signing of the U.S. Constitution.

As a native Louisianan, I was not familiar personally with the topography of Gen. Washington's river bank encampment some miles west of the present bridge over the Delaware that shares a state line with New Jersey. Trenton is only a few miles north from **Washington Crossing State Park**, PA. Searching out an online feature, there was 'Washington Crossing Historic Park' where, I found the *Thompson-Neely House* mentioned.

A young Capt. Alexander Hamilton was an officer for the *New York State ompany of Artillery* that had several, small artillery pieces. For days before 2 separately held *councils of war* by Gen. Washington he finally deciding with his general officers' staff to assault, Trenton barracks, Hamilton was running a severe fever, coughing and convalescing at the colonial brick, Thompson-Neely House, turned into a HQ field hospital. Hamilton's health concerns were common among many soldier of the American army that Dec. 1776. Disease and illness among the Continental army accounted for more loss of life than battle casualties!

Personally touching for my wife and I on Sep 14, 2012, was a moment together for a picture as we stood upon the Pennsylvania side of the shallow Delaware River dotted with many scenic tiny, wooded islands. We were only, several hundred yards from the Thompson-Neely House. Before our eyes were over thirty (30) US Military, DVA Burial Branch, headstones carefully erected after Mar, 1964 in a line parallel atop a five foot elevated, levee with mixed fall colored trees a few dozen yards from the river's edge. Of over 30 headstones only, one was identified as Capt. James Moore. All the remaining bones that had accidentally been discovered in excavating the levee for a state floor project were, "Unknown." Park Commissioner, Frederick Banks was responsible for submitting to the DVA Burial Branch applications for the 'Unknown' soldiers and Capt. Moore's headstone to preserve and to memorialize their Revolutionary War service.

Despite Capt. Alexander Hamilton's admission to the field hospital with the sick and dying American soldiers occupying the Thompson-Neely House, he recovered enough to walk out of the field hospital and climb into a Durham (aka long-boat) boat for the Christmas Day assault, overseen by Washington. Many of the sick had only arrived marching into Washington's camp on the Delaware in a snow storm on Dec 20<sup>th</sup>. They were attached with Maj. Gen. John Sullivan's (2,200 men) Division.

For our part, my wife and I also visited the Washington Crossing State Park HQ with replicas of the Durham boats that were utilized to cross American forces over the Delaware in the snow and icy weather on Christmas night. We learned first-hand that a myth exists that the Hessians were drinking and celebrating that Christmas. It primarily the severe *cold weather, freezing icy conditions* that kept the Hessians and Gen. Johann Rall warm, inside the Trenton barracks.

Gen. George Washington after the British evacuation of New York City on the final date of 12 noon on Nov, 25, 1783 Washington sometime at a later date visited a New Jersey farming friend, John Honeyman.

So, after the war, a quiet rumor circulated that John Honeyman, had been a volunteer spy in his occupation as a local New Jersey stockman, who on occasion would 'walk-in' to a British or Hessian post with fresh meat that allegedly was a result of slaughtering stray animals. Honeyman, the rumor was passed along, had previously volunteered his scouting skills to reconnoiter British army numbers and to identify British regts opposing Washington's forces within New Jersey. Honeyman had met Washington at his Dec, 1776 winter camp before the 1<sup>st</sup> of Washington two councils of war, and had furnished voluntarily a *report* upon the Trenton barracks.

Allegedly Honeyman agreed with Washington to voluntarily return to Trenton with a note that was a "*false report*" to give Gen. Johann (John) Rall (1725-76) that Washington's army was too sick and snow bound to offer a threat over Christmas!?

Gen. Rall's body after the American forces successfully assaulted the Trenton barracks that Christmas Day was searched and a note written in *English language* was recovered, allegedly. Surviving, Hessian officers advised however, that Rall had not personally met Honeyman, nor had Gen. Rall read the hand written note supplied him, but kept it within his pocket for a *later translation*!?

When the first few American field artillery pieces were positioned in the ice and snow at the Trenton barracks, there was Capt. Alexander Hamilton's New York State Company of Artillery with 36 men and two guns but Capt. James Moore had died overnight that Christmas Eve.

His grave was the only soldier's grave marked with his identity because of a letter that Alexander Hamilton had written Moore's parents in New York, to inform them of his grieve at the death and loss of their son, his friend and comrade –Jas. Moore. At a much later date following Capt. Moore and hundreds of other American burials along the Delaware River near the Thompson-Neely House, field hospital -Moore's parents arrived in a wagon with a pillow style granite marker lovingly memorializing their son's memory and their own grief at his loss of life.

On the crisp, colorful fall, Sep 14<sup>th</sup>, 2012 my wife, myself and ten other society members and SAR Ladies Auxiliary shared a 'Wreath Laying' ceremony with bell ringing and printed program at the headstones of the thirty "Unknown(s)".

Anne & my *last act that day* was, alone together, we drove a rental vehicle to another cemetery situated 40 miles from Washington Crossing State Park, and we searched the cemetery rows until we located the grave of Park Commissioner Frederick Banks and his wife. Upon the ground at their twin granite headstone, we set a bouquet of flowers and a small American Flag for the kindness shown in 1964, the American unknown(s)!

In the future, I offer you another important, seldom told story of Col. John Glover's Massachusetts and Connecticut (Amphibious, watermen) Bgde. of Maj. Gen. John Sullivan's Division at Washington Crossing, Pennsylvania that Dec, 1776. [They had orders from the Massachusetts Militia to march to fight with Gen. George Washington's forces in the Battle of Long Island, and retreat south across New Jersey to camp at Washington Crossing after the fall of Fort Washington, (Manhattan) on Nov 16, 1776 to British Gen. William Howe.] But that's another story!



Our Lady of the Lake School in Mandeville, LA celebrated Colonial Days May 17, 2016. Compatriot Leonard Rohrbough spoke to the students on flags of the Revolution, early days and flag etiquette. Members of the local DAR Chapter spoke to the group on several heroines of the Revolution including Molly Pitcher and Abigail Adams. Pictured L\_R: Leonard Rohrbough, Lucinda Manint, DAR, Glenda Nanz, DAR and Stacy Dempsey, DAR and Frank Rohrbough, TXSSAR.



Leonard Rohrbough, Pierre Georges Rousseau Chapter, and his brother, Frank, of the San Antonio, TXSSAR Chapter presented a program on weapons and accouterments of the Revolutionary War period to the Pierre De Mandeville Chapter, LSDAR on May 17, 2016



Pictured for L\_R: , Lucinda Manint, incoming chapter regent Pierre De Mandeville Chapter, LSDAR, Frank Rohrbough, Leonard Rohrbough and Marie Porche, outgoing chapter regent.



Lt. Commander Shane Blanchard presents the SAR JROTC medal from the James Huey Chapter to Jayden Sebastian Ferguson. Jayden is a student at West Ouachita High School in West Monroe, LA.



Louisiana Society SAR with a Texas SAR Color Guard member, left to right, James E Mitchell, Bdo. de Galvez Chapter, Galveston, Texas joined flagman, Robert Hess of Attakapas Chapter, Lafayette, LA; and, Theodore 'Ted' Brode with his grandson of James Huey Chapter at West Monroe, LA for the annually held 'Avenue of Flags' memorial ceremony at Orange Grove Cemetery in Lake Charles, was held at 9:00 AM. Hundreds of visitors walked and drove through the cemetery to admire over 700 flags set out in only, one hour by Boy Scouts, trained leader adults and volunteer families this year. This city sponsored annual event has continued since the 1980s with flags donated by veteran families of those who died in war times. Local TV Station KPLC, again covered the annual event.



## Proposed Bylaws Amendments Concerning Genealogy, 2016

John D. Sinks, Genealogist General & Jim L. Faulkinbury, Chairman, Genealogy Committee

14 May 2016

Proposed Bylaws Amendments were emailed to undisclosed recipients from SAR Headquarters on May 2<sup>nd</sup>. Some of these are on genealogical matters and were not fully explained. In the interests of space, we will summarize these proposed amendments rather than quote them, provide details about them, and state our position on them. We will not cover proposed amendments on other matters.

**Bylaw 1, Section 1.** Eliminate the requirement to submit duplicate applications to National.

*Discussion.* This was recommended unanimously by the Genealogy Committee to the Bylaws Committee. The widespread availability of photocopiers and scanners has made submission of duplicate copies obsolete. The requirement for duplicate copies has not been enforced in years. We fully support this proposal.

**Bylaw 1, Section 2.** Require applications for junior membership to be on the oath of (signed by) a parent or guardian.

*Discussion.* This was submitted by a staff member to the Bylaws Committee. The Genealogy Committee, Membership Committee, and the Genealogist General were not consulted. Contrary to the email message, it is not “what has been an accepted practice.” Standard practice is for a parent or guardian to sign for a very young child, but older junior applicants very often sign their own applications. This practice is in accord with Genealogy Policy 6.1002a: “Junior Members (under age 18) may sign their application or an adult family member (parent or legal guardian) may sign on their behalf.” We are unaware of problems which have resulted from the policy and practice. If there is a problem, it should be addressed in Genealogy Policy rather than clutter the Bylaws. We know that minors can testify in court, although certainly not if they are extremely young children. The proposed change is contrary to C.A.R. practice and we are concerned that it will create a bad image for the SAR among C.A.R. members. We are opposed to this proposal.

**Bylaw 1, Section 5.** Tighten the wording to eliminate vagueness and an inherent contradiction in the present wording.

*Discussion.* The rationale cited in the email is that the Genealogy Committee recommended this change to the Bylaws Committee, but that is not the rationale the Genealogy Committee cited for the change. The reasons for the changes are:

1. The phrase “may be” introduces unneeded and undesired latitude to demand additional documentation.

2. The language currently in the Bylaw contradicts its stated purpose: certain specified close relatives of present or former members need prove only their relationship to the present or former member "...even if one or more of present or former member's links back to the patriot ancestor are not documented sufficiently to satisfy current requirements." The current language includes a provision that if there are questions about the lineage, the application is not eligible for grandfathering. If documentation is does not meet current standards then *ipso facto* the lineage is in question, contradicting the stated objective. When Article 1, Section 5 was amended several years ago, it was widely explained that it was unacceptable to approve lineages known to be wrong (although the service must remain proven according to current standards). (SAR has long had a higher standard for service than lineage.)
3. The requirement that service be "fully documented" is inconsistent with long established SAR practice recognizing that acceptable documentation of a single service is sufficient. "Fully documented" is also unclear. Does this mean that every patriotic activity of an ancestor must be documented, so that omitting jury service while proving service in the militia falls short? Does it mean that the starting and ending dates of a tour of military duty must be proven? No obvious interpretation of full documentation makes sense.
4. The broad term "Revolutionary Service" is accurate and eliminates ambiguity with Patriotic Service.

These changes are designed to remain true to the intended purpose of the grandfathering provision in the Bylaws, but make the language accurate. We fully support this change.

**Bylaw 1, Section 6.** Add a requirement that a Memorial Application "be signed by the submitting SAR family member...."

*Discussion.* The email states that the purpose is to clarify the procedure for Memorial Memberships. This was submitted by a staff member to the Bylaws Committee. The Genealogy Committee, Membership Committee, and the Genealogist General were not consulted. At the present time, there is no restriction on who can submit a memorial membership, provided that the deceased is within two links of a member of SAR in good standing. We are not aware of problems that have arisen from the lack of restrictions. The proposed change, however, raises questions where there were none before. Suppose a widow and her late husband were parents of a son who is a member of SAR in good standing. Is the widow considered an SAR family member who can submit a Memorial Application for her late husband, or for her father (son's grandfather)? If not, what is the harm in allowing her to sign an application. Suppose that a deceased man's son-in-law and grandson by that son-in-law are members of SAR in good standing. Is the son-in-law considered an SAR family member for purposes of honoring his father-in-law, or must the grandson submit the application? The proposed restrictions do not seem to serve a useful purpose and raise questions where there are none at present. If a change is in order, it could be made in Genealogy Policy and not clutter the Bylaws. We oppose this amendment.

**Bylaw 18, Section 1.** Add the Genealogy Committee to the list of standing committees. The description of this Committee's function is in accord with its current role.

*Discussion.* Genealogy is a critical for every lineage society, including the SAR. As methodology in the field of Genealogy evolves and more records pertaining to activities during the Revolution become available, the SAR must adapt the policies and guidance for which is

responsible. Also, the Genealogy Committee is presupposed in other bylaws of the SAR even though it is not authorized in the Bylaws. Bylaw 9 states, "The Genealogist General shall examine all applications for membership in the Society and shall approve those applications found to be in accordance with the policies, criteria and procedures established by the Genealogy Committee and the provisions of this Constitution and Bylaws." The responsibilities and duties of the Genealogy Committee are not defined in the Bylaws, however. Bylaw 9 also assigns the Genealogy Committee an ongoing role in advising the President General in case of an appeal of a decision of the Genealogist General:

The President General may, before rendering an opinion on the matter, seek advice and counsel of the Genealogy Committee. This committee shall respond to the President General within thirty (30) days from the date the matter was referred to them.

We fully support this amendment.

## **MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVANCE AT THE SOUTHEAST LOUISIANA VETERANS CEMETERY, SLIDELL, LA**



Officers, Dr. Richard Dickey, Rodney McKelroy and Leonard Rohrbough, of Pierre Georges Rousseau Chapter, Louisiana Society Sons of American Revolution presented a wreath during second Memorial Day observances held at the Southeast Louisiana Veterans Cemetery near Slidell. Large crowds along with representatives from several patriotic organizations to include the DAR were present and participated in the ceremony. Representing the Virginia Continental Line, Compatriot Rohrbough fired his Brown Bess with the Honor Guard.





### **THE AMERICAN FLAG**

***Did you know that at military funerals, the 21 gun salute stands for the sum of the numbers in the year 1776.***

***Have you ever noticed how the honor guard pays meticulous attention to correctly folding the American flag 13 times? You probably thought it was to symbolize the original 13 colonies, but we learn something new every day!***

***The 1st fold of our flag is a symbol of life.***

***The 2nd fold is a symbol of our belief in eternal life.***

***The 3rd fold is made in honor and remembrance of the veterans departing our ranks who gave a portion of their lives for the defense of our country to attain peace throughout the world.***

***The 4th fold represents our weaker nature, for as American citizens trusting in God, it is to Him we turn in times of peace as well as in time of war for His divine guidance.***

***The 5th fold is a tribute to our country, for in the words of Stephen Decaur, "Our Country", in dealing with other countries, may she always be right; but it is still our country, right or wrong.***

***The 6th fold is for where our hearts lie. It is with our heart that We pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, Indivisible, with Liberty and Justice for all.***

***The 7th fold is a tribute to our Armed Forces, for it is through the Armed Forces that we protect our country and our flag against all her enemies, whether they be found within or without the boundaries of our republic.***

***The 8th fold is a tribute to the one who entered into the valley of the shadow of death, that we might see the light of day.***

***The 9th fold is a tribute to womanhood, and Mothers. For it has been through their faith, their love, loyalty and devotion that the character of the men and women who have made this country great has been molded.***

***The 10th fold is a tribute to the father, for he, too, has given his sons and daughters for defense of our country since they were first born.***

***The 11th fold represents the lower portion of the seal of King David and King Solomon and glorifies in the Hebrews eyes, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.***

***The 12th fold represents an emblem of eternity and glorifies, in the Christians eyes, God the Father, the Son, and Holy Spirit.***

***The 13th fold, or when the flag is completely folded, the stars are uppermost reminding us of our nations motto, "In God We Trust."***

***After the flag is completely folded and tucked in, it takes on the appearance of a cocked hat, Ever reminding us of the soldiers who served under General George Washington, and the Sailors and Marines who served under Captain John Paul Jones, who were followed by their comrades and shipmates in the Armed Forces of the United States, preserving for us the rights, privileges and freedoms we enjoy today.***

***There are some traditions and ways of doing things that have deep meaning. In the future, you'll see flags folded and now you will know why. Share this with the children you love and all others who love the symbol of "Liberty and Freedom."***

## 2017 LASSAR Officers

<b>President:</b>	Tony L. "Bo" Vets, II (EM)	<a href="mailto:bogator1228@aol.com">bogator1228@aol.com</a>
<b>1st VP:</b>	W. Tom Angers (ATT)	<a href="mailto:thomas.angers@lusfiber.net">thomas.angers@lusfiber.net</a>
<b>2nd VP:</b>	Sandy McNeely (NAT)	<a href="mailto:colgrampaw@aol.com">colgrampaw@aol.com</a>
<b>3rd VP:</b>	John F. McKay (GPT)	<a href="mailto:jmckay@mckaylawfirm.net">jmckay@mckaylawfirm.net</a>
<b>Secretary:</b>	Chris Achee (GPT)	<a href="mailto:c.w.achee@gmail.com">c.w.achee@gmail.com</a>
<b>Asst. Sec:</b>	John Oliver (GAL)	<a href="mailto:oliver1040@bellsouth.net">oliver1040@bellsouth.net</a>
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Ted Grant (GPT)	<a href="mailto:ELvieaug02@aol.com">ELvieaug02@aol.com</a>
<b>Chaplain:</b>	John Johnson (GAL)	<a href="mailto:johnjohnsoncis@yahoo.com">johnjohnsoncis@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Chancellor:</b>	Michael S. O'Brien	<a href="mailto:msobaal@aol.com">msobaal@aol.com</a>
<b>Surgeon:</b>	David Maraist, MD (ATT)	<a href="mailto:dvm@lusfiber.net">dvm@lusfiber.net</a>
<b>Registrar:</b>	Clifford Normand (GPT)	<a href="mailto:Clifford.Normand@att.net">Clifford.Normand@att.net</a>
<b>Historian:</b>	Mike Sawrie (EM)	<a href="mailto:mike.sawrie@yahoo.com">mike.sawrie@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Genealogist:</b>	James Jones (GAL)	<a href="mailto:jimjones09@gmail.com">jimjones09@gmail.com</a>

LASSAR Chairman appointed for SAR Library.

Chris Achee of the General Philemon Thomas Chapter, LASSAR as our state point of contact for the NSSAR Genealogical Library. He will keep us informed of items of interest to our state society as well as being our advocate for the NSSAR Genealogical Library.

His contact is:

Christopher Achee

38244 Mindi Ct.

Gonzales, LA. 70737-6086

(225) 229-0838

[c.w.achee@gmail.com](mailto:c.w.achee@gmail.com)

### Directors:

Steve Carnahan (OP)	<a href="mailto:steve@carnahan.com">steve@carnahan.com</a>
Henry Grace (GPT)	<a href="mailto:hgrace5366@aol.com">hgrace5366@aol.com</a>
Hamilton, Fred (JH)	<a href="mailto:fredh@suddenlink.net">fredh@suddenlink.net</a>
Mike O'Brien (ATT)	<a href="mailto:msobaal@aol.com">msobaal@aol.com</a>
Jim Padgett (BT)	<a href="mailto:jamesjlab@comcast.net">jamesjlab@comcast.net</a>
Patrick Ryan (EM)	<a href="mailto:bunkie44@bellsouth.net">bunkie44@bellsouth.net</a>
Norman Umholtz (GW)	<a href="mailto:numholtz@aol.com">numholtz@aol.com</a>
Tony L. Vets(NAT)	<a href="mailto:tonyvets@bellsouth.net">tonyvets@bellsouth.net</a>
Tom Williams (GAL)	<a href="mailto:tnewtwins@gmail.com">tnewtwins@gmail.com</a>

### Past Presidents:

Leonard Rohrbough (PGR)	<a href="mailto:liontree@bellsouth.net">liontree@bellsouth.net</a>
James Morock, MD (EM)	<a href="mailto:jankma@aol.com">jankma@aol.com</a>
Tony Vets (NAT)	<a href="mailto:tonyvets@bellsouth.net">tonyvets@bellsouth.net</a>
Steve Ray (JH)	<a href="mailto:Kermitt1141@aol.com">Kermitt1141@aol.com</a>
Bob Hess (ATT)	<a href="mailto:robert.hess@lusfiber.net">robert.hess@lusfiber.net</a>
Jerry Haynes (OP)	<a href="mailto:jerrhayn@yahoo.com">jerrhayn@yahoo.com</a>

### National Trustees from the Southern District:

Trustee: Tony L Vets, (NAT)	<a href="mailto:tonyvets@bellsouth.net">tonyvets@bellsouth.net</a>
Alt. Trustee : Tony L. "Bo" Vets, Jr. (EM)	<a href="mailto:bogator1228@aol.com">bogator1228@aol.com</a>

If you have any news you'd like to have included in the next PELICAN PATRIOT, send it to Fred Hamilton at [fredh@suddenlink.net](mailto:fredh@suddenlink.net) .

Thanks!

**ALEXANDRIA** - Enemund Meullion Chapter  
Patrick Ryan, Pres. – [bunkie44@bellsouth.net](mailto:bunkie44@bellsouth.net)  
Brent Morock, Sec. – [tegrecon@gmail.com](mailto:tegrecon@gmail.com) Web-  
site - <http://sites.google.com/site/emclassar> Meets  
every other monthly at noon on 3rd Saturday , plus October  
@ Copeland's Restaurant, Alexandria

**BATON ROUGE** - General Philemon Thomas Chapter  
A.D. Riley, Pres. – [adriley71@bellsouth.net](mailto:adriley71@bellsouth.net)  
Christopher Achee, Sec. – [c.w.achee@gmail.com](mailto:c.w.achee@gmail.com)  
Website - [www.sarbr.com](http://www.sarbr.com)  
Monthly at noon at Baton Rouge Country Club, Baton Rouge

**MANDEVILLE/COVINGTON** -  
Pierre Georges Rousseau Chapter  
Rodney McKelroy, Jr., Pres. – [rodney.mckelroy@usdoj.gov](mailto:rodney.mckelroy@usdoj.gov)  
Richard Dickey, MD, Sec./Treas. – [finooo@charter.net](mailto:finooo@charter.net)  
Meets April, September & December  
Contact Chapter for more information

**LAKE CHARLES** - Oliver Pollock Chapter  
Samuel Manuel, Pres. – [sammanuel@peoplepc.com](mailto:sammanuel@peoplepc.com)  
Wilton Wallace, Sec. – [wiltonwallace@mindspring.com](mailto:wiltonwallace@mindspring.com)  
No regular meetings – Memorial Day Avenue of Flags Contact  
Chapter for more information

**LAFAYETTE** – Attakapas Chapter  
Rogers Romero, Pres.. – [rommo1@aol.com](mailto:rommo1@aol.com)  
Michael Lunsford, Sec. – [michaellunsford@me.com](mailto:michaellunsford@me.com)  
Meet Monthly, except March, June, July, & August on 3rd  
Thursday @ Don's Seafood, Lafayette 6pm

**MONROE** - Benjamin Tennille Chapter  
Fred Huenefeld, Jr. Pres. – [fhuenefe@bellsouth.net](mailto:fhuenefe@bellsouth.net)  
Marcel H. Bloch, Sec. – [marcbud@comcast.net](mailto:marcbud@comcast.net)  
Meets monthly at noon on 2nd Monday  
@ Jade Garden Restaurant, Monroe

**NATCHITOCHEs** – Natchitoches Chapter  
Charles "Sandy" McNeely, Pres. – [colgrampaw@aol.com](mailto:colgrampaw@aol.com)  
Truman Maynard, Sec. – [trumaynard@suddenlink.net](mailto:trumaynard@suddenlink.net)  
Monthly at noon on 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday  
@ Merci-Beaucoup Restaurant, Natchitoches

**NEW ORLEANS** - George Washington Chapter  
Norm Umholtz, Pres. – [NUmholtz@aol.com](mailto:NUmholtz@aol.com)  
Bradley Hayes, Jr, Sec. – [bradley.t.hayes@usace.army.mil](mailto:bradley.t.hayes@usace.army.mil)  
Meets monthly @ 11:30 a.m. on 2<sup>nd</sup> <sup>t</sup> Wednesday at  
two-tonys.com at 8536 Pontchartrain Blvd.  
New Orleans, La phone 504-282-0801.

**SHREVEPORT**- Galvez Chapter  
John T. Oliver, Pres. [oliver1040@bellsouth.net](mailto:oliver1040@bellsouth.net)  
Thomas N. Williams, Sec. – [tnewtws@gmail.com](mailto:tnewtws@gmail.com)  
Meets monthly at 11:30 am on 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday  
@ Shreveport Club, Shreveport

**WEST MONROE** - James Huey Chapter  
Theodore H. Brode, Pres. – [tbrode@comcast.net](mailto:tbrode@comcast.net)  
Steve Ray, Sec.— [Kermitt1141@aol.com](mailto:Kermitt1141@aol.com)  
Meets monthly on 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday (Except Dec. & Feb.)  
@ BBQ West, West Monroe 7:00PM

&

### *Did You Know?*

Louisiana Society Sons of the American  
Revolution is in the NSSAR Southern District.  
Other states in this District are: Alabama,  
Mississippi, and Tennessee. Check out the  
Southern District Webpage at [http://  
www.tnssar.org/sd-sar.htm](http://www.tnssar.org/sd-sar.htm)

*LASSAR's Pelican Patriot*  
*William F. "Fred" Hamilton, Editor*  
*1711 Broadway Ave*  
*Ruston LA 71270*  
*Email: [fredh@suddenlink.net](mailto:fredh@suddenlink.net)*  
*Phone: 318-255-1946 (home)*

*Visit the LASSAR WEBSITE @ [www.lassar.org](http://www.lassar.org)*

## LASSAR Happenings 2016-2017

9/10//2016	LSSAR Board Meeting Covington, LA
9/29-10/1/2016	NSSAR Fall Leadership Conference Louisville, KY
2/17-18/2017	ALSSAR State Conference Birmingham, Al
3/2-4/2017	NSSAR Spring Leadership Conference Louisville, KY
3/17-18/2017	MSSAR State Conference & Southern District Meeting Olive Branch, MS
3/24-25/2017	TNSSAR State Conference Franklin, TN
4/7-8/20-17	LSSAR State Conference Alexandria, LA
7/7-13/2017	127th NSSAR National Congress Knoxville, TN



President Bo Vets at the Louisiana National Guard State Workshop  
August 6, 2016

*In case you can't remember:*

**New Applications: \$11%.00 to NASSAR & \$19.00 to LASSAR; Family Plan (additional applications submitted at the same time and within three generations) NSSAR \$65, LASSAR \$19. NASSAR dues went up \$5 for 2016 and will apply for any applications submitted to national after Nov. 1, 2015**

**Supplemental: \$60.00 to NASSAR & \$7.00 to LASSAR – Family plan for supplemental: \$60.00 for first member and \$30.00 for other family member to NASSAR & \$7.00 to LASSAR**

**Note: National dues increased \$5 for 2016**



## **THE ELOPEMENT OF LOS ADAES**

By Rueben M. Perez

### **MARGARITA VICTORIA GONZÁLES**

#### **Victoria Maria de Gonzal Gonzáles**

B abt. 1721

D Unknown

Married to Jean Baptiste Dion Des Pres Derbanne, born about 1710 and died between 1752 – 1766 in Natchitoches, Louisiana. Eloped 1736, Los Adaes Natchitoches, Louisiana.

Children: Marie de l'Incarnation Gonzal Derbanne. (Maria Luisa Berban)

Victoria's father is Lt. Joseph González, a forty-year Spanish veteran and acting commandant at Presido Los Adaes. He was born in Saltillo about 1700 and married María Gertrudis de la Cerda in Monclova in 1720. The roster of Los Adaes in 1731 listed him as commandant.

#### **STORY:**

One of my favorites stories is about the French, Indians, and Spanish coming together in Los Adaes when Victoria and Jean eloped. Jean Baptiste Guhyon DesPres Derbanne was the son of Francois Derbanne and Jeanne de la Grand Terre, a Chitimach Indian. He was born at Dauphine Island in 1710 and followed his parents to the newly build Fort St. Jean Baptiste at Natchitoches founded 1714-1715. During the first few years of existence, the French fort did not have a priest. The soldiers and settlers attended Mass at the Spanish mission church at Fort Adaes, about 17 miles away. The situation between the Spanish and French were strained, but out of necessity they traded freely.

It was during church services that Jean Baptiste spotted the beautiful Victoria Maria Gonzal e Gonzáles, daughter of Lt. Governor, General Jose Maria Gonzáles. Jean Baptiste 26-year old by 1736 had a budding romance with 16-year-old Victoria that her father disapproved due to the age difference with the Frenchman and his Indian mother. Gonzáles fearing the worst in April 1736 following a service, Victoria failed to come out of the church with the rest of the family one Sunday morning. Gonzáles was informed that Victoria had slipped out of the church by a side door being seen with the Frenchman and both had disappeared. The Spanish garrison followed the

immediate orders of Gonzales and lost no time in searching for the couple. With trails covered and guards posted, there was no sighting of the eloping couple. The Frenchman had taken his precious Victoria right under the nose of his nose of Gonzáles and the garrison at a place of worship. Excitement hit a peak at Los Adaes in the quest for Victoria, not a trace of them to be seen.

Unknown at the time, the couple quietly got into a small boat and rowed down the stream to a lake to the north. Jean and his three companions had secretly hid a canoe in the nearby stream by the church. With difficulty navigating the stream due to being shallow, the group finally made it to the outlet of the lake. Oaring to the far side of the lake, they entered a larger stream that flowed gently into the Red River. Coming to the end of their destination, at the post of St. Jean Baptiste, a French Jesuit was waiting. It was night-fall when Victoria Maria and Jean Baptiste Guyon DesPres Derbanne said their marriage vows before Father Vitry. The little church made of mud and planks was decorated and a crowd added to the festival of the event. With music playing, Jeanne de la Grand Terre mother of the groom sat in the place of honor as mother of the groom. Merrymaking would continue in Natchitoches honoring the young couple. Over in Los Adaes, the Spanish capitol, Gonzáles was disappointed and embarrassed. This was not the first international marriage as all remembered that Juchereau de St. Denis had wed a Spanish Vice-roy's daughter.

The marriage produced one daughter, Marie de l'Incarnation Gonzal Derbanne. In time she would marry a Frenchman and had eight children. Jean lived until 1766 and Victoria continued to live at Natchitoches until her death. Maria Luisa Berban (Spanish for Derbanne) and other descendants of Jean and Victoria would move to Villa de San Fernando de Bexar, Province of Texas.

The lineage eventually would descend down to Juana Navarro Perez Alsbury, ancestor, Alamo survivor, and great grandmother of Granadero Rueben and Dama Dorothy Perez of Granaders y Damas de Gálvez / San Antonio Chapter.



Public domain

The story is part of Rueben's forthcoming book, *Heritage Trails – A Collection of Stories of San Antonio's Past*

Acknowledgement goes to Dama Yolanda Kirkpatrick who provided the genealogy line and elopement story to Rueben and Dorothy

Copied with permission of Rueben Perez

*Seersucker group at National Congress in Boston  
Southern District breakfast*



L-R: Jim Morock, Jim Maples (ALSAR), Mike Wells (ALSAR), Mike Schenk (MSSAR), Gerry Brent (MSSAR, new VPG), and Bill Stone (ALSAR).



L-R: Jim Morock, Jim Maples, Bill Stone, Gerry Brent, Mike Wells, Mike Schenk, and Toby Winston (MSSAR).

*Highlights from State Conference*  
*Lake Charles, Louisiana*  
*April 22-23, 2016*



Jerry Haynes installing Bo Vets as President of Louisiana Society Sons of the American Revolution. Seated is Michael Wells, Vice-President General Southern District.



LSSAR Color Guard L-R: Bob Hess, Attakapas Chapter; Tony Vets, Natchitoches, Chapter; Leonard Rohrbough, Pierre Georges Rousseau Chapter; Norm Umholtz, George Washington Chapter; & Steve Ray, James Huey Chapter



Officers & Directors being sworn in at the 2016 Annual Conference:

L-R: Tony Vets, Norm Umholtz, Fred Hamilton, Mike Sawrie, Cliff Normand, Ted Grant, Jon Oliver, Sandy McNeely, Bo Vets, and Jerry Haynes



Our Eagle Scout Award  
Winner:  
Warren Pat Davie, III  
from  
Pierre Georges Rousseau  
Chapter,  
Mandeville/Covington, LA  
with Bob Hess



Above is Orations Award Winner Luke Kirk, sponsored by Attakapas Chapter, Lafayette, LA with Tom Angiers; Below is LSSAR President Jerry Haynes with JROTC Award Winner Ruston Kellar sponsored by Pierre Georges Rousseau Chapter, Mandeville/Covington, LA





John McKay with Knight Essay Award Winner Emma Woodruff and her mother. Emma was sponsored by the General Philemon Thomas Chapter, Baton Rouge, LA.



**Ladies Auxiliary of the Louisiana Society Sons of the American Revolution  
Annual Meeting in Lake Charles**

Front Row, Left to Right: Beverly Thornton (Alabama), Rita Grant (General Philemon Thomas), Mary Umholtz (George Washington), Charlotte Romero (Attakapas), President, Cheryl Morock (Enemund Meullion), Sandy Brent (Mississippi)  
 Back Row: Katherine Hess (Attakapas), Elizabeth Wells (Alabama), Rebecca Rohrbough (Pierre Georges Rousseau), Secretary, Marlene Sawrie (Enemund Meullion), Treasurer, Karen Vets (Natchitoches), Linda Normand Vice-President, (General Philemon Thomas), Laura Schenk (Mississippi), Diane Seales (Alabama), Cheryl Gott (Louisiana Bayou Chapter DAR)



The Louisiana Society Sons of the American Revolution proudly presents the Louisiana Society State Medal, honoring cherished Patriot and esteemed leader, General Bernardo de Galvez, and his vital contributions, as well as those of Spain, to the War for Independence. The reverse side of the medal features one of General Galvez's victories at the Battle of Baton Rouge. Among other victories are those at Manchac, Natchez, Mobile, Pensacola and St. Louis. The medal may be purchased and worn by any active member of the SAR, not limited to the members of LASSAR, nor to the descendents of the Galvez Patriots. Only medal sets (large and mini medals) are being produced (after pre-order sales) @ \$40 per set (postage included).

Large Medal



(Shown in full color)

Mini Medal



*Note: Actual medal is **not** in color. Ribbon drape is the red Cross of Burgundy on white background. The medal is bronze-colored with 3-D figures and inscriptions.*

*Note: Medals may be worn by pin mount or by bar mount.*

(Detach bottom portion and mail with payment. **Please print clearly.**)

### LASSAR Galvez Medal Order Form (pre-order sale)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

NSSAR Member No.: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone: Home (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Work (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Cell (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Medal Sets ordered: \_\_\_\_\_ (\$40 per set)

Total payment enclosed (postage included): \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check or money order payable to:

Enemund Meullion Chapter SAR

Mail order form with payment to:

James A. Morock, Sr. MD  
3915 Maywood St.  
Alexandria, LA 71302-2526

For more info call: (318) 442-5776

or email: jamkma@aol.com



# SAR BERNARDO DE GALVEZ LARGE Medal

W/REGISTRATION MARKS ©



## Medal Specifications

32 mm x 32 mm x 3 mm, Soft Enamel, 3-sides Polishing, and 3-sides Brushing

## Ribbon Specifications

37 mm x 35 mm, Attachment - 2 long posts on metal plate

The dimension and size of both ribbon and medals to comply with the regulations prescribed by the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution.

# SAR BERNARDO DE GALVEZ MINI Medal

W/REGISTRATION MARKS ®



## Medal specifications

18 mm x 18 mm x 2 mm, Soft Enamel, 3 –sides Polishing, and 3-sides Brushing

## Ribbon Specifications

17 mm x 35 mm, Attachment – 2 long posts on medal plate

The dimension and size of both ribbon and medals to comply with the regulations prescribed by the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution.

## SOUTHERN DISTRICT SAR MEMBERSHIP MEDAL



The Southern District SAR Membership Medal was approved, as submitted, by the 2015 SAR Medals and Awards committee at the Spring Leadership meeting in Louisville. The VPG will have medals for sale.

The Medal is available, without restriction, to any member of the Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi and/or Tennessee societies. As planned, 100 medals were presold and ordered for production. Distribution will begin at the Southern District SAR Meeting at Congress. A new District Logo is a residual benefit.

Proceeds from the sale of the medal will support the Walter Buchanan “Buck” Meek Award Fund that recognizes the state society with the largest numerical increase of George Washington Endowment Fund members. Special thanks are extended to the District Logo/Emblem Committee who made this possible – Michael P. Schenk (MS), Chair, Thomas E. Jacks (LA), James K. Stone (TN), James (Jim) J. Thweatt (TN), Thomas Robert (Bob) Thomas (AL), and Michael (Mike) C. Wells (AL). Also, I am especially appreciative that the Valentine Sevier SAR Chapter and its Treasurer Cleo G. Hogan agreed to serve the Treasury role during initial medals sales.





## *The Ladies Auxiliary of the Louisiana Society Sons of the American*

Revolution was founded in January, 2015. Our purpose is to support both the State and the National SAR societies in promoting membership, in furthering the SAR objectives and patriotic activities, and in raising funds. These funds will be donated to the LASSAR for youth programs at the state level. The dues are only \$10 for the year or a one-time payment of \$100 for life membership. Membership in the National Ladies Auxiliary is automatic with membership in the Ladies Auxiliary of the LASSAR. There are no additional dues for National membership.

We amended our bylaws to expand membership to include any women who support the SAR and its purposes. They need not be related by bloodline or by marriage to SAR members. My challenge to each member is to recruit one additional new member so that we may continue to grow. Good sources are family, friends, DAR members, and the wives and daughters of SAR members.

The general membership meets once a year at the LASSAR Annual State Meeting in April. The Board of Directors meets in September and in January. The Auxiliary meetings always coincide with those of the LASSAR. Members who are not on the Board are always welcome and strongly encouraged to attend the Board meetings. Please come to one of our meetings and see what goes on.

Our major fundraiser is the Silent Auction at the Annual State Meeting. We encourage chapters to donate something to generate excitement and bidding! Donations for auction include individual items, perhaps a weekend fishing trip or a stay at a vacation condo, handmade items, goodies, such as, food, wine, products unique to the area, patriotic items, books, tailgating supplies, LSU, sports items (fishing, hunting, golf), children's toys and books, spa selections (the list is endless ) in a basket or not. Winning bidders will be announced at the banquet. For those chapters that prefer to make a cash donation, we suggest passing the hat at every chapter meeting, starting as soon as possible.

We also have a Split the Pot Donation (AKA 50/50 Raffle), with raffle tickets sold throughout the banquet.

The money we collect is earmarked for awards at the state level for youth programs, such as the orations competition, the essay contest, the poster and brochure contests, and for Eagle Scouts, JROTC and ROTC. The youth of today are the future of our country. We are proud to these support programs.

The Ladies Auxiliary Pin (shown above) is available for \$10.

For any additional information, please contact: Cheryl G. Morock 3915 Maywood St. Alexandria, LA 71302 318-442-5776 [cgmrock@aol.com](mailto:cgmrock@aol.com)



# Ladies Auxiliary

of the

Louisiana Society

Sons of the American Revolution

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Husbands Name: \_\_\_\_\_

SAR Member: \_\_\_\_\_

NSSAR Membership #: \_\_\_\_\_

Chapter: \_\_\_\_\_

Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

Annual Dues - \$10.00

Life Member Dues - \$100.00

Amount Paid \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to:

Karen B. Vets

504 Oak St.

Colfax, LA 71417

**Make checks payable to : Ladies Auxiliary - LASSAR**

## September Board Meeting Information & Registration Form

Please inform your attendees to call central reservations at [800-321-2211](tel:800-321-2211) to make reservations, they must ask for the Louisiana Society Sons of the American Revolution Room Block in order to reserve a room at the special rate. Should any attendees have any question or concerns about the hotel the direct number is [985-871-0244](tel:985-871-0244).

**In order to assist with making reservations, I created a reservation link (below) for you to send to your guests.** The guest has to click on the link, which has the group information already filled in, fill in their information and they have a reservation.

In order to qualify for Marriott Rewarding Events points your block must utilize a minimum of 10 rooms on any given night of your room block.

Thank you for choosing Marriott!

Cordially,

**HEATHER SAUTER**

Event Specialist

o [985.867.1723](tel:985.867.1723) f [985.867.9938](tel:985.867.9938) e [heather.sauter@marriott.com](mailto:heather.sauter@marriott.com)

Courtyard by Marriott Covington

101 Northpark Boulevard

Covington, Louisiana 70433

Here is the reservation link your guests can use to make online reservations:

**[Book your group rate for Louisiana Society Sons of the American Revolution](#)**

You will find the information for your online reservation link below. If you have questions or need help with the link, please do not hesitate to ask. We appreciate your business and look forward to a successful event.

---

**Louisiana Society Sons of the American Revolution**

**Start date:** 9/9/16

**End date:** 9/11/16

**Last day to book:** 8/19/16

Marriott hotel(s) offering your special group rate:



**Pierre Georges Rousseau Chapter**  
**Louisiana Society**  
**Sons of the American Revolution**  
*St. Tammany Parish, Louisiana*

**Registration for LASSAR Board of Directors Meeting**  
**Saturday September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016**

Compatriot's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_

Ladies Auxiliary Member Yes \_\_\_ No \_\_\_

Chapter Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Office Held: \_\_\_\_\_

\$35 Registration Fee to cover meeting room and refreshment expenses send to Pierre Georges Rousseau Chapter Secretary/Treasurer, Dr. Richard Dickey at the following address:

58090 Liberty Oaks Lane

Slidell, LA 70460

Paid: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Cash:

\_\_\_\_\_

*(Don't send cash through USPO system)*