

## Chapter Members Honor Those Who Gave All (May 31, 2021)



To honor the men and women who gave their lives in defense of the United States, the Atchafalaya Chapter held a Memorial Day ceremony at the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Catholic Church cemetery in Platteville. In addition to Atchafalaya chapter members, the ceremony was attended by clergy and members of the public. The ceremony included presentation of colors, prayers, and patriotic readings. The cemetery in which the ceremony was held contains the remains of many soldiers who served during the Revolutionary War era under General Bernardo de Galvez. The associated church parish dates to the Spanish regime in Louisiana.

## Fire Safety Medal Awarded to Chief Breaux (May 10, 2021)



The Atchafalaya Chapter was privileged to honor Don Breaux, Chief of Pierre Part Fire and Rescue, with the SAR's Fire Safety Medal. Mr. Breaux has been a leader within the organization for 39 years and continues to serve as Chief after 38 years. Chief Breaux became a first responder in 1982 and an EMT in 1984 and has responded to several thousand emergencies in his career. He said that the most difficult situations that he has encountered are those that dealt with children. As is common with most great leaders, Chief Breaux credits the organization's success to the team of people with whom he works.

## Chapter Presents Bronze Good Citizenship Medal (February 24, 2021)



Leo Grizzaffi, Hayes Bailly, and Randall Domingue represented the Atchafalaya Chapter in awarding Rylie Theriot the SAR's Good Citizenship medal on February 25, 2021. Rylie, a senior at Central Catholic High School in Morgan City, has accepted an appointment to West Point where she plans to pursue a career as a JAG officer in the U.S. Army. Rylie will also play softball for the Black Knights. Rylie is known as someone who possess tremendous leadership skills and mental toughness as a student and athlete. Her principal, Pete Boudreaux, said that Rylie is the type of person that "you would want to share a foxhole with."

#### **Chapter Learns About Jean Rodrigue and the Rodrigue Family (February 24, 2021)**



Compatriots from the Atchafalaya Chapter attended the Pierre Part-Belle River Genealogical Society meeting in Pierre Part to hear an excellent presentation from T. J. Blanchard (2nd from right) about the Rodrigue family who migrated from Portugal to Canada and finally to Louisiana. In addition to serving as the president of the PPBRGS, T. J. serves the SAR's Atchafalaya Chapter as the registrar, historian, and genealogist. T. J. and his son, Dr. Andre' Blanchard, who serves as the Atchafalaya Chapter's director-at-large, are lineal descendants of Jean Rodrigue, who served under General Bernardo de Galvez at the battles of Manchac and Baton Rouge during the Revolutionary War era.

## Organizing President Awarded (February 13, 2021)



Founder and past president of the Atchafalaya Chapter, David Solar, was awarded the Distinguished Service Medal by his compatriots at the Chapter's February 3, 2021, meeting. Solar was presented the award because of his tenacity and persistence while working diligently to establish the new Chapter.

Solar had been a member of the General Philemon Thomas Chapter for about five years when he said that he and compatriot Leo Grizzaffi, Sr. recognized a few members of the Chapter were from St. Mary and Lafourche Parishes.

Although his and Grizzaffi's Patriot Ancestor served under General Washington, they recognized that those parishes surrounding St. Mary were probably rich with descendants of Patriots who served under General Galvez. Solar was encouraged and assisted by Grizzaffi and the two began the process of organizing the new chapter.

Solar, recognized as congenial and outgoing by his compatriots, continues to work diligently to recruit new members and ensure that the Chapter is successful in accomplishing its mission.

## Chapter President Speaks to Kiwanis (January 6, 2021)



Randall Domingue, representing the Atchafalaya Chapter, spoke to the Houma Kiwanis Club on January 6, 2021. The presentation covered the missions and values of the SAR along with specific information about how the organization supports youth, veterans, law enforcement officials and first responders. The presentation also included information about past U.S. Presidents, Medal of Honor recipients, Supreme Court Justices and other prominent citizens who were members of the SAR.

Information about some of the Atchafalaya Chapter member's Patriot ancestors was presented to the audience. The attendees were given some history about General Bernardo De Galvez and the men who served under his command, many of whom have lineal descendants in the Atchafalaya Chapter's area of operations.

## Organizing Meeting Held in Thibodaux (August 10, 2019)

