



# Ladies Auxiliary Texas Society Sons of the American Revolution



Volume 2: Issue 1

Winter 2012

## President, Catherine Massey:

Seventeen attended the LATXSSAR meeting on Saturday morning in Temple, TX. TXSSAR



First Lady and Ambassador of the Ladies Auxiliary, Kim Clark was in attendance as well as past TXSSAR First Lady, Sylvia Marrs.

After the meeting we had lunch with the SAR and then

left early to go to Saledo to shop. I have never been there and it was a treat (and I do not like to shop). It was good to see everyone and make new friends.

We added two life members to our membership. Please attend the Annual Conference meeting next spring where we will draw the winning ticket for the handmade quilt. Thank you Barbara Stevens for making the quilt and for all of you who are selling and buying quilt

chances for the 2011-2013 LATXSSAR Fund Raising Project to support the TXSSAR Patriot Fund expenses.

The Patriot Fund supports the youth programs of the Texas society including the following:

- CAR Essay Awards
- Knight Essay Contest Awards
- Oration Contest Awards
- Eagle Scout Awards
- ROTC/JROTC Awards
- Sea Cadets Awards

We are well on our way to meeting our goal of \$3000. Send your money into Sue Lenes. Check out the LATXSSAR website for more information.

We will elect new officers next meeting 2013. If you would like to serve, please contact the nominating committee: Catherine Massey, Angela Peik, and Eileen Walcik.

### LATXSSAR WEBSITE



You will find meeting minutes, budgets and news posted there.

Visit the website and check it out: <http://www.txssar.org/LA/>

**Meeting Minutes  
Oct 6, 2012  
have been posted to the  
LATXSSAR site**

*Note from the Editor:* Well everything started out well to have a LATXSSAR Newsletter. But best laid plans often go awry and those loosely made are doomed. This editor had plans to issue a newsletter in conjunction with each of our meetings which would document our activities during the meeting and the periods in-between. Unfortunately, first family emergencies and then other things just got in the way. Therefore, after one issue the newsletter languished due to lack of attention on my part. Therefore, there is much to cover.

This Newsletter will be more of a History of the LATXSSAR for 2011 –2012 than a newsletter per se. I have therefore organized it in more of a reverse chronological manner. You will find the following sections:

1. 2012 October BOM — Temple, TX
2. 2012 NSSAR Meeting—Phoenix, AZ
3. 2012 Annual Meeting— San Antonio, TX
4. 2011 Fall BOM —Galveston, TX
5. 2011 Summer BOM — Houston, TX
6. 2011 South Central District Meeting—Overland Park, KS
7. 2011 NSSAR — Winston-Salem, KS

Other activities of the ladies which have been reported will be included where they fit in the chronology. **I apologize to those who have not been identified in the photos. I try to identify everyone. If you are someone you know are not identified in a photo, please let me know and I will correct the on-line issue.**

## Temple, Texas —October 2012 — Business Meeting

We had a very productive business meeting on Saturday morning. President Catherine Massey presided. Other board officers Susanne Fife and Sue Lenes were in attendance. Minutes are posted on the LATXSSAR website.

Linda Edwards sent her treasurer's report which indicated the following balances: Operating fund — \$3526.99; Lifetime Dues: \$1875; and Patriot Fund Fundraiser (Quilt); \$2611. Our goal is \$3000. Sue received \$110. after the meeting was adjourned bring the total to \$2721.

Sue Lenes reported that quilt sales were slowing but she is still targeting \$3,000. She targets getting as many of the tickets sold and returned to her by February 1, 2013 as possible. After a discussion it was decided we would

sell tickets at the Annual Meeting to collect as much money as we can.

The Temple chapter outdid themselves with great refreshments and wonderful hospitality. After an abbreviated lunch with the men the women were off to Salado for an afternoon of shopping.

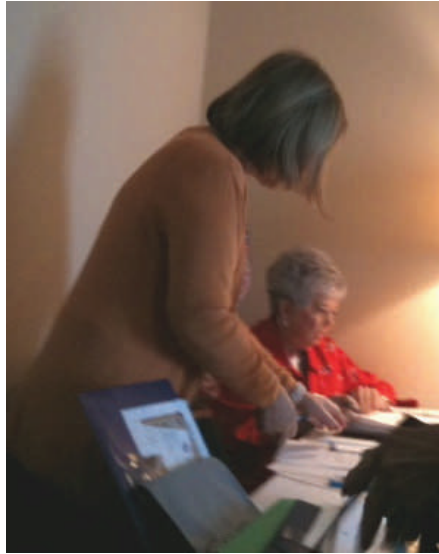
Linda Edwards' membership report noted that we have 119 regular members including 26 life members.

A Nominating Committee was formed at the meeting. The following candidates have been identified by the committee at this time:

President: Sue Lenes  
Vice President: Angela Peik  
Secretary: Eileen Walcik

The full slate will be sent to members before the next meeting.

## October 2012 — Business Meeting



Left: President Catherine Massey and Secretary Susanne Fife prepare for the meeting.

Above: Sue Lenas, Joyce Adair and Mary Thompson enjoy the hospitality room and the fellowship.



Left: First Lady Kim Clark and Barbara Baker Above: Sylvia Marrs, Judy West and Dianne Jones [all former First Ladies of Texas SSAR];

Bottom left: Sue Lenas & Catherine Massey;  
Below: Eileen Walcik, Angela Peik, Marge Dersheimer and Barbara Baker





## September 2012 — Washington's Crossing, PA

Summers always offer opportunities to celebrate Revolutionary War events. Forth of July is the biggest. But this year was the 225th Anniversary of the Signing of the Constitution. The Philadelphia SSAR chapter organized a march down the mall in front of Constitution Hall to memorialize this occasion. SAR members and their wives from all over the nation converged on Philadelphia. In all there were 120 color guardsmen and 25 wives attired in colonial dress who marched on the 17th of September. Texas was well represented with the following compatriots and their wives:

- James T. Jones and Dianne,
- Stephen Lee and Anna,
- Jim Mitchell and Anne,
- Larry Stevens and Barbara,
- Ron Barker and Conni (Yes, they are in CA now but they have maintained their TX membership).

The photos on the next page were taken after the march down the mall. (See photos next page)

The Jones, Barkers and Stevens used the opportunity to visit Valley Forge, Trenton and the Washington Crossing State Park.

During this trip the TX and CA members above took the opportunity to mark the grave of Capt. James Moore at the Washington's Crossing park. He died of camp fever Christmas day, the day Washington's troops crossed the Delaware. Photos of these activities are included below. Jim and Anne Mitchell did all of the research to organize the marking. The printed programs gave a comprehensive history of Capt Moore. It was so nice to be joined by four members of the California society too.



Pictured at the gravesite of young Capt. James Moore are the Texas color guard their ladies: Jim Mitchell, James T. Jones, Dianne Jones, Anne Mitchell, Barbara Stevens, Ron Barker, Connie Barker and Larry Stevens.



## September 2012 — Independence Hall, Philadelphia, PA



LASSAR members love to participate with their husbands in activities. Some of the ladies that we see in Texas on occasion were there: From left third Joanne Chewning (GA), Barbara Stevens (TX), Dianne Jones (TX), Un Hui Yi (CA), Cilla Tomme (GA), Billie Brock (FL), and end Laura DeVenney (MO)



TXSSAR (l-r): Anne & Jim Mitchell, Jim & Dianne Jones, Stephen & Anna Lee and Barbara & Larry Stevens



## Phoenix, Az—July 2012 — NSSAR Annual Meeting



Dianne Jones, Carole & Mike Ratcliff and Barbara Stevens at Donor Breakfast—

The National meeting was held at the Arizona Biltmore, a Franklin Lloyd Wright inspired resort, with quite an art deco flair.

The Ladies Auxiliary had a hospitality room with wonderful food. They had silent auction items from all the state organizations. Sylvia Marrs brought a basket for Texas.



Barbara Stevens with Carol and Mike Ratcliff

The ladies had shopping outings. Just ask Sylvia Marrs, word is Bill had to rent a trailer to get them back home.

Phoenix was HOT. But the host society was so cordial and all of the planned activities were indoors. Even the memorial was inside with no marching to the church.





# Phoenix, Az—July 2012 — NSSAR Annual Meeting



Sylvia Marrs, Mike & Carol Ratcliff, Larry and Angela Peik



Sylvia Marrs, Mike & Carol Ratcliff



\_\_\_, Eileen & Ron Warlick, \_\_\_\_, Nathan & Wanda White



Sylvia Marrs and Barbara Magerkurth

First three photos are at the Texas Dinner, Sylvia and Barbara Magerkurth are in the Ladies Hospitality Room, Zippra & Conni are at the Ladies Luncheon and the bottom left photo is from an informal gathering

Zippra Morgan and Conni Barker at Ladies Luncheon



Standing: Tom Green, Robin Butler talking to Margo Green; Seated: Anna Lee



# LATXSSAR — March 2012 — San Antonio—Meeting



Chaplain Mary Louise Gulley

Left: President Catherine Massey presents a Certificate of Appreciation to Charles Baker for his work on our website

Our March meeting in San Antonio was a well attended affair. Besides the Texas members and a very large group from San Antonio we were fortunate to have the NSSAR First Lady Barbara Magerkurth, Billie Brock and Cilla Tomme.

Gifts were presented to First Lady Magerkurth. President Catherine Massey presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Dr. Charles Baker. Dr. Baker developed our website and maintained it for three years helping our organization get started in the electronic age. Dr. Baker is husband of member Barbara Baker.

The ladies enjoyed lunch and shopping at the Mexican Market.



Billie Brock, Eileen Walcik, \_\_\_\_, Sylvia Marrs, \_\_\_\_, Diane Lewallen,



D. Rohrbough, A. Lee, Z. Morgan, D. Jones, MC Beard



## LATXSSAR — March 2012 — Meeting



LATXSSAR Officers Linda Edwards, Susanne Fife, Catherine Massey and Sue Lenes



First Lady Barbara Magerkurth is presented a tray as a gift from the LATXSSAR.



## San Antonio, Tx—March 2012 — TXSSAR Annual Meeting

At our March Annual Meeting in San Antonio we took the opportunity to toast and roast our outgoing First Lady Sylvia Marrs. It was an opportunity to thank her for a job well done and also to celebrate the many accomplishments of her term as the First Lady of Texas.

Barbara Stevens presented Sylvia with several items:

1. In the first picture: Sylvia is given a tote bag of quilt panels like the ones used in the raffle quilt as a thanks for her incredible sales.

2. In the second photo: Sylvia is presented with an Emergency Indian Drum to keep in her car to avoid future incidents where she is traveling to give her Indian presentation WITHOUT her drums.





# San Antonio, Tx—March 2012 — TXSSAR Annual Meeting



Dagney and Peter McLellan and John Beard



TXSSAR President Bob Clark and his lady Kim



President General Larry Magerkurth and his Lady Barbara



Stephen and Anna Lee with Charles and Betty Luna



Left: Margo Green and Judy West



Right:

Left: Stephen Rohrbough, Pat and James Taylor, Barbara Magerkurth; background: Zippa Morgan, Anna and Stephen Lee, Marvin Morgan and Barbara Stevens





## San Antonio, Tx—March 2012 — TXSSAR Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of the TXSSAR met in San Antonio. It was a wonderful time for the LATXSSAR. NSSAR President General and First Lady Larry and Barbara Magerkurth were in attendance.

Outgoing TXSSAR President Bill Marris and his First Lady Sylvia presented gifts from the Texas Society.

Former First Lady Dianne Jones presented gifts to Sylvia and Color Guard Commander Marvin Morgan gave yellow roses and a Yellow Rose of Texas certificate to Sylvia Marris.



*Photos Below:*

- *Top left: Marvin Morgan, Ed Butler, Bill and Sylvia Marris*
- *Top right: Dianne Jones and Sylvia Marris*
- *Bottom left: Bill and Sylvia Marris*
- *Bottom right: Barbara Magerkurth and Sylvia Marris*





# Winter 2011-12



Left: Sue Lenes



At the luncheon at the Dickens on the Strand

Right: Wm & Sylvia Marris



In December of 2011 the Bernardo de Galvez Chapter of Galveston sponsored a luncheon for SAR Compatriots and their ladies who attended the annual Dickens on the Strand parade. It was great fun. President Marris and wife Sylvia attended.

Pictured below are most of the participants in the February 2012 annual George Washington Parade in Laredo. The Laredo SAR chapter sponsored the event and treated the attendees to lunch at their meeting afterwards



LATXSAR members, Karen Tanner, Barbara Stevens, Dianne Jones, Sylvia Marris and Susanne Fife joined NSSAR First Lady Barbara Magerkurth, Cilla Tomme and Billie Brock as "camp followers" with their soldiers on a cool morning in February 2012 at the George Washington Parade in Laredo, Texas



## Galveston — October 2011 — TXSSAR BOM



The October 2011 Board of Management meeting was held in Galveston. The Bernardo de Galvez Chapter hosted the meeting at the San Luis Resort. Many of us enjoyed the costumed revelers at the Convention Center next door.

The following officers were present: President Catherine Massey; VP Sue Lenex; Treasurer/Registrar Linda Edwards and Secretary Susanne Fife.





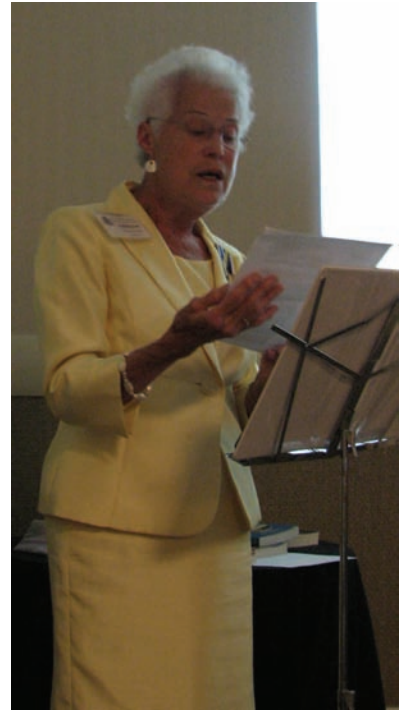
## South Central District Meeting Overland Park, Kansas August 2011



The SCD Annual meeting was hosted by KSSSAR with VP General Harry Fife presiding. TXSSAR ladies attending included: Susanne Fife, Sylvia Marrs, and Dianne Jones.

These meetings are a lot of fun and give ladies a chance to connect, learn what is going on in other states and pick up great information. At this meeting Dr. Orriene Denslow, of the Oklahoma state society, presented a program on “Great Women of the American Revolution.” In 1974 DAR produced a set of 36 medals honoring women of the revolution. Dr. Denslow has collected all of these. She presented brief biography on the following ladies: Catherine Van Rensselaer Schuyler, Dicey Langston, Faith Trumbull, Molly Hays, Kate Barry, and Elizabeth, Grace and Rachel Martin. The programs at these meetings are always special. At the Dallas SCD meeting our own Susanne Fife presented a program on Martha Washington.

Our own First Lady Sylvia Marrs was there and was seen everywhere selling chances on our quilt. Way to go Sylvia!





## TXSSAR — July 2011 — Houston, TX



The July 2011 was held in Houston. Members visited the Museum of Natural History. See above.



At our Business Meeting Sue Lenes, VP, presided with Treasurer/Registrar Linda Edwards and Chaplain Mary Louise Gully.



Mary Claire Beard, Zippra Morgan, Mary Thompson, Anna Lee, JoAnn Alderman, Pat Taylor, Barbara Baker, Joyce Adair, Kay Stone, Maxime Heath, and Marge Dersheimer



## NSSAR — July 2011 — Winston-Salem, NC

The Texas Dinner is a tradition at National usually arranged by the TXSSAR President and First Lady. It is always a great time for the delegates and their wives to get together and enjoy the night together.



Above: Standing: Dianne Jones, Seated: Stephen and Anna Lee and Barbara Stevens

Below: James and Pat Taylor, Bob and Jane Cohen and Sylvia Marrs



Above: Susanne and Harry Fife, Jack Manning  
Below: Nathan and Wanda White



Below: Robin Butler





## NSSAR —July 2011 — Winston-Salem, NC

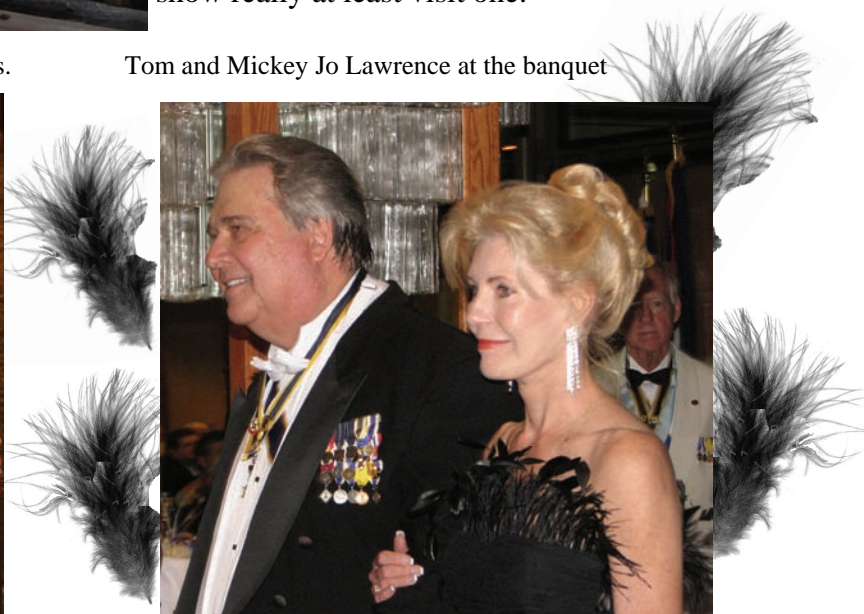


The NSSAR National Congress in Winston-Salem was great fun for all. There were two trips to historic Moravian settlements of Bathabra and Old Salem. These were excellent trips back to Colonial days.

The fellowship was fantastic. Anyone who has not attended a national congress show really at least visit one.

Above Wanda and Nathan White in one of the workshops.

Tom and Mickey Jo Lawrence at the banquet



Above left: Mike and Carol Radcliffe

Above right: Dianne Jones on bus to Old Salem

Right: Colonial dress at the banquet Barbara Stevens, unknown, Lisa Gregory (CA) Ron Barker, Conni Barker, Dianne Jones and Un Hui Yi (CA)





# Christmas in the Colonies

How our Colonial ancestors spent their Christmas day depended greatly on where they lived and where their families originated.

Families in the areas of New England, settled by the Puritans did not celebrate Christmas. In fact, there was a fine of five shillings if one was found celebrating Christmas. They did not celebrate any of the Saint's days celebrated by the Catholic Church or the Church of England. Their faith was a sober faith of Thank-giving days and hard work.

To demonstrate the influence of the Bostonians on the formation of our government one needs only look at the First Congress of the United States which met on Christmas Day in 1789. No holiday or feasting for the delegates, just hard work.

Down in New York, founded and influenced by the Dutch, things were different. The Dutch Christmas traditions were transported to the New World. They celebrate Christ's birth, calling it *Kerstyd*. But they also celebrated Sinterklaas. Many will remember this tradition of gift-giving. Children put their shoes outside their doors hoping they would be filled by a visiting St. Nicolas on December 6th. Alternatively, they hung stocking by the fireplace. These early Dutch traditions were adopted by other New York cultures, probably because the treating of the children became an issue of peer pressure. As the holiday of Sinterklaas became more universal it was combined with the *Kerstyd* and celebrated a couple of weeks later.



Things were rather different in the South as well. In Virginia, their Christmas, like the areas of England from whence they came, were a period of leisure to enjoy feasting, visiting, dancing, and games. The early Virginia settlers, though suffering though so many hardships did not forget Christmas. In 1609 Captain John Smith wrote that "Christmas amongst the Salvages: where wee were never more merrie, nor fedde on more plentie of good oysters, fish, flesh, wild fowle, and good bread, nor better fires in England then in the drie warme smokie houses of Kecoughtan [Hampton]."

Like in their homes the Virginians celebrated with Twelfth Night Balls and feasting. Some writings recalled the firing of guns. There are other indications from diaries that the day passed in many households without much notice. Jefferson and others recorded small gifts to children and servants. And even as early as

Colonial times newspapers advertised toys for children. There is a menu for one of George and Martha Washington's Christmas meals.

George and Martha Washington were married on Twelfth Night in 1759. George was 27 and Martha was a young widow of 26 with children. George and Martha entertained lavishly at Christmas.

The Christmas meal would typically have fish, flesh and fowl, soups, vegetables like sparrow grass, pickled fruit, meat and fruit pyes, and pastries. Martha's receipts included ones from her mother-in-law Mrs. Custis and are available in reproduction Colonial cookbooks.



## LATXSSAR *Membership*

### Membership:

SAR chapters are encouraged to conduct a membership drive at their local meetings. One does not have to attend state meeting to be an LATXSSAR member!

A membership form is included on our website. A copy of the form is also included as the last page of this newsletter. Dues are \$5/year or \$100 for a lifetime membership.

The latest fundraiser for the 2011-2013 term is a patriotic quilt, pictured left. Tickets can be obtained by contacting Sue Lenex (contact information on website). Tickets are one for \$2 or three for \$5. Please make all checks to LATXSSAR. This fundraiser is conducted to support the TXSSAR Patriot Funds expenses for youth programs. Please help us raise funds for this worthy cause. Check the LATXSSAR webpage for handouts, donation forms etc. <http://www.txssar.org/LA/proj-11.htm>



### **Mary Lynn Johnson**

May 12, 1938—December 22, 2011

Dr. Mary Lynn Johnson, wife of Compatriot James Johnson, departed this life 22 Dec 2011 in Cornville, AZ. Professionally Dr. Johnson was a world renowned scientist in the field of combustion chemistry and air pollution. To those fortunate enough to know her she was famous for her programs on colonial life done with artist-husband Jim.

### **Corrine Robertson**

February 5, 1923—February 25, 2012

Corrine Robertson, wife of the late Compatriot James G. Robertson, died Feb 25, 2012 in Dallas. Mrs. Robertson was a member of DAR, DRT, Colonial Dames, and the Jamestown and Huguenot Societies. She had a lifelong love of family and genealogy.

### **Nancy Louise Schwart**

October 29, 1947—July 30, 2012

Nancy Schwart, wife of Compatriot Robert Schwart, passed away in Bryan, TX on 30 July 2012. Nancy was a member of DAR, DAC and Daughters of 1812. She was an long time participation in the UMC sanctuary choir and hand bell choir.



## LATXSSAR NEEDS YOU!

**Take several copies of this membership form to your chapter meetings!**

The purpose of the Texas Auxiliary is to maintain an association of eligible ladies who are interested in the patriotic, historical, and educational objectives and purposes of the Texas Society of the Sons of the American Revolution or TXSSAR, to foster fellowship among relatives of TXSSAR members, to be of help to TXSSAR and its chapters when asked, and to help further the objectives and patriotic activities of the Society.

### MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION FORM

*[Please fill out this form and submit with your dues]*

#### Member Information

<b>Date:</b>					
<b>Name:</b>					
<b>Address:</b>					
<b>City:</b>		<b>State:</b>		<b>Zip:</b>	
<b>e-mail</b>			<b>Telephone:</b>		
			<b>Cell:</b>		

#### TXSSAR Information

<b>SAR Chapter Affiliation</b>	
<b>SAR City:</b>	
<b>SAR Contact:</b>	
<b>SAR Contact Relationship:</b>	

#### Dues Submission

*Please select annual dues or lifetime membership*

<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Annual Dues</b>	\$5.00	
<input type="checkbox"/> <b>Lifetime Membership</b>	\$100.00	
<b>Amount Paid:</b>		

Send Application and dues check to:

**Linda Edwards, Treasurer/Registrar**  
**2813 McCarley**  
**Commerce, TX 75428**