



The Texas Com Patriot

Official Publication of the Texas Society
Sons of the American Revolution ©



Fall 2019

Happy Holidays
from the
officers of the
Texas Society
Sons of the
American
Revolution!

From the president

David J. Temple

We just completed our Fall Board of Managers meeting in Arlington, where your officers and committees carried out the business of your society. If you did not get a chance to join us, I hope that you will plan to do so in the future. It benefits us all to see how the Texas Society operates and we welcome your interest in participating.



With the start of school, contest season is beginning, so look at the websites for the various contests on the Texas Society website. Most all of the contest pages have been updated with deadlines and prizes provided. Remember most contests have chapter, state and possibly a national deadline. While you are at it encourage your chapter to present a Flag

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DAR-SAR honors World War II vet with Distinguished Citizen Medal



The Austin Colony Chapter of the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution, joined by the Texas SAR, honored the late Richard Arvine Overton with the DAR Distinguished Citizen Medal. At the time of his death, Overton was the oldest surviving World War II veteran and an icon in the Austin community.

The medal was presented on Nov. 14 to Overton family members by Kate Johanns, Regent Austin Colony, and Susan Greene Tillman, Regent Texas Society DAR, with Gaylon Finklea Hecker. SAR was represented by Stu Hoyt, Wayne A. Courreges Jr. and James Clements.

In photo at the Overton family plot in the Texas State Cemetery, from left, are James Clements, Gaylon Finklea Hecker, Volma Overton Jr., Adrienne Overton, Stu Hoyt and Wayne Courreges Jr.

President's Message, Continued from Page 1

Certificate if they have not yet done so. Let's help every chapter present at least one this year.

In March 2020 we will hold our 125th Annual Meeting of the Texas Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. We have approval to strike an anniversary medal for this special year and hope to have medals for sale before the annual meeting. It is amazing that we have continued the traditions, aims and promotion of the patriotic goals of our society

for 125 years. We commemorate the people and events of the American Revolution, preserve its records and seek to educate our countrymen so that they will never forget. We have more work to do.

Thank you for all you do to continue the legacy of the great men and women who sacrificed to give us freedom. God bless America!

On behalf of the officers of Texas SAR, may I express best wishes for a wonderful holiday season and bountiful 2020.

Newsletter update

NEWSLETTER EDITORS:

Please forgive this late notice, but it has come to your *Texas Com Patriot* editor's attention that entries for the national newsletter contest are due Dec. 15. Submit only one issue that you think is your best example to the national office in Louisville. GOOD LUCK!

Korean Conflict vet repatriated, receives final honors



KERRVILLE - On Friday, July 26, the Texas SAR Hill Country and Southern Command Color Guard of the Texas Society Sons of the American Revolution were honored to participate as the Color Guard in funeral services to pay our last respects to Army Cpl. Billy Joe Butler as he returned home to Kerrville, TX from POW Camp Hofong, North Korea.

Cpl. Butler served in Charlie Company, 2nd Engineering Combat Battalion. His company was overrun by the advancing Chinese forces and he was captured on Nov. 28, 1950. He died in captivity on Jan. 3, 1951, at only 19 years old. His remains were returned home as one of the 50 servicemen returned by North Korea in negotiations with President Trump.

Cpl. Butler received full military honors with services provided by U.S. Army Chaplain Major Scott W. Thompson.

There was an overflow in attendance for his services at the First United Methodist Church of Kerrville, with thousands of others lining the route to Nichols Cemetery, where Billy Joe Butler was laid to rest.

Present from the Texas SAR were: Pat Blackburn, Bourne Chapter; Frank Rohrbough, San Antonio Chapter; James Clements, Texas SAR state secretary, Patrick Henry Chapter Austin; Robert Hites, Patrick Henry Chapter Austin; Gerald Irion, Hill County Chapter Kerrville; Bob Smith, president of Hill County Kerrville; Blair Rudy, William Hightower Chapter New Braunfels.

Arlington site chosen for new Medal of Honor Museum

At the Color Guard meeting at the Texas SAR Fall BOM, it was announced that the future site of the National Medal of Honor Museum would be in Arlington, Texas.

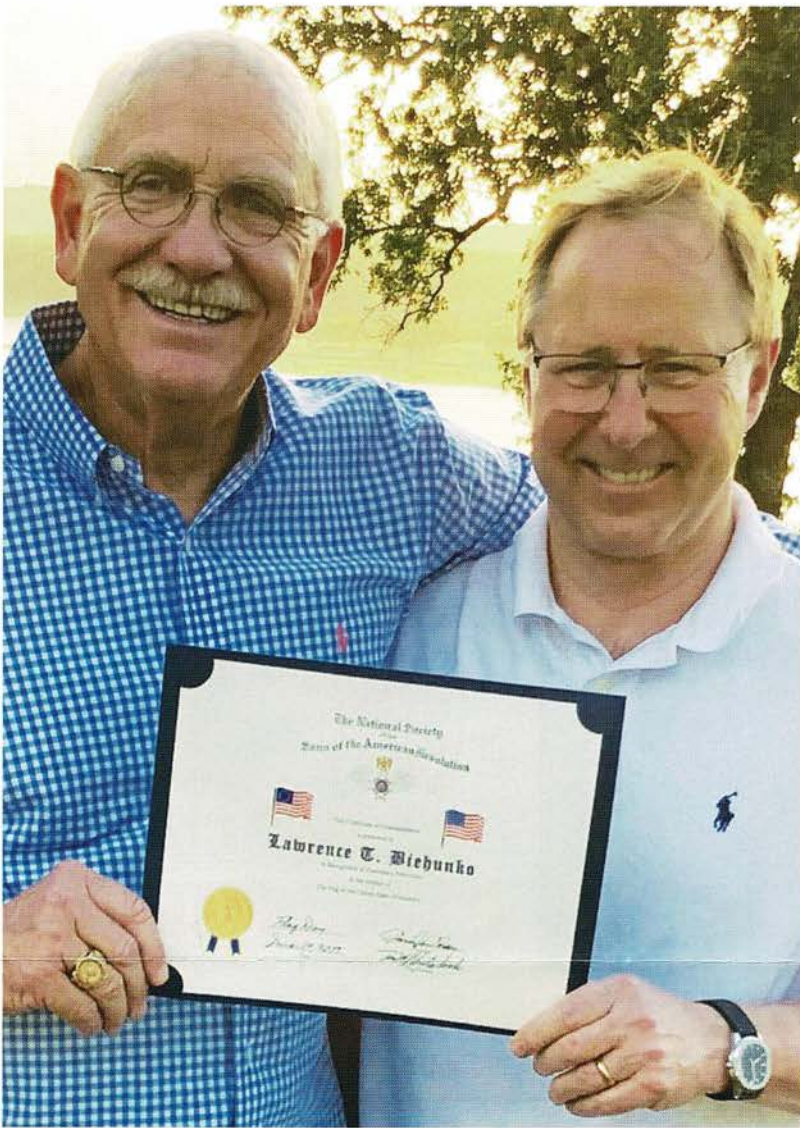
The proposed site will be in the vicinity of the new Texas Rangers baseball stadium and

is expected to be in operation by 2024. The Texas SAR Color Guard participates in the annual Medal of Honor Parade in Gainesville the first weekend in April.

We mustered 42 members in uniform from 15 chapters at this BOM.



Texans honor Virginia patriots



SAR member Kip Rolland (left) presented Terry Biehunko with a SAR Certificate of Commendation for his history of patriotism in the display of the flag of the United States. Terry has displayed Old Glory correctly and with reverence in front of every home he has owned over the past 40 years. Terry is a former special agent with the U.S. Secret Service and presently works for the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Two Van Zandt Chapter dual members participated in the marking of 16 patriot graves in Portsmouth, VA, on June 1. Doug Schwetke presented the Van Zandt Chapter wreath at both ceremonies and his brother, Bill Schwetke, commanded the Color Guard. The Culpeper Minute Men Chapter of the Virginia Society sponsored the events. The graves of patriots Antonio Bilisoly, Richard Blow, William Moffatt, Jesse Nicholson, and Edward Honeycutt were marked at Cedar Grove Cemetery. The graves of Revolutionary patriots James Barron, Robert Benson, John Braidfoot, Henry Brown, Joseph Grice, John Key, Isaac Luke Sr., Bernard Magnien, Hugh McPherson, Jacob Stobo, and Willis Wilson were marked at Trinity Episcopal Church.

*Of special
note for Texas
SAR*

The Texas Patriot



"Stuff happens!" Dallas Chapter President Tom Van Fossen, Dallas Secretary Tom Whitelock, State President Temple, and Dallas Registrar Jerry Pinkerton are happy just before they realize they were scheduled to march behind a horse troop in the Lake Highlands July 4 parade.



By George, it's **George** again! Compatriot Jim Horton, aka for the day George Washington, delights the crowd during the Wimberley parade.

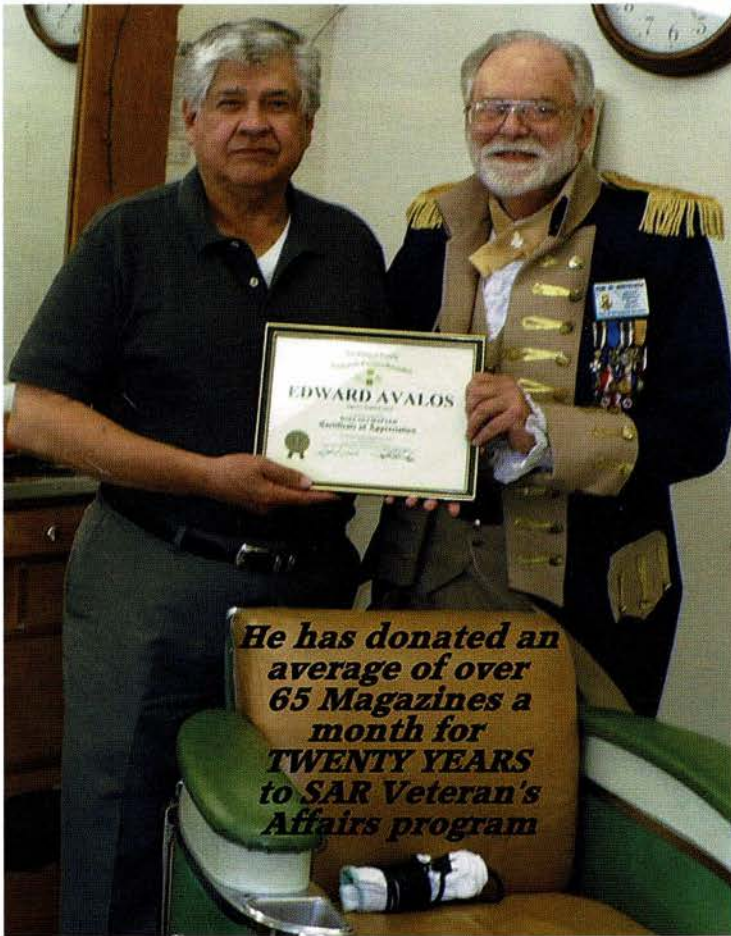
A glorious 4th around the state



Members of the combined Central Texas chapters once again provide the Color Guard for the July 4 baseball game at Dell Diamond in Round Rock. The game capped off a day-long schedule of appearances in parades in Wimberley and Austin.

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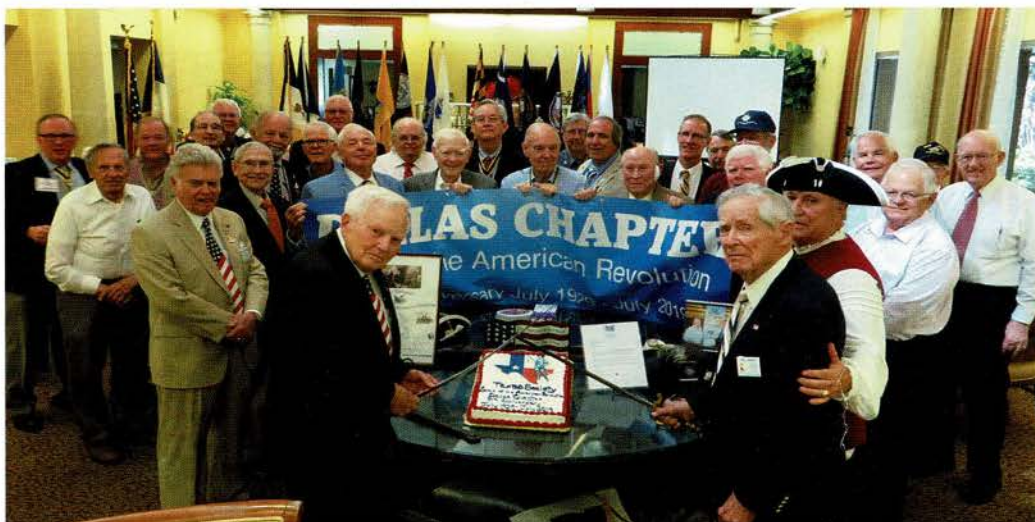




For the past 20 years, Edward Alvos (left) of Abbots Barber Shop in Dallas has contributed magazines each month to the Bonham and Lancaster VA hospitals through the Dallas SAR Chapter - veterans affairs program. He has donated a total of 15,600 publications, which is just about the same number of hair trimmings that fell to the floor from compatriot Whitelock's head during haircut appointments.
 – Tom M. Whitelock

George Washington (aka Mark Collins of San Antonio Chapter) performed with Patrick Henry and William Hightower Chapters providing the Color Guard for the Veterans Runway of Honor ceremony in New Braunfels. Participants included Stu Hoyt, Don Chandler and Tom Jones from William Hightower; Kenneth Tooke, Wayne Courreges, Ron Moulton and James Clements from Patrick Henry.

... also around the state



Dallas Chapter celebrated their 90th year with a celebratory cake at their July meeting. Congratulations on this great occasion! In photo (center, left) TXSSAR Chaplain Frank Pounders, who is 90 years old this year prepares to cut the Dallas Chapter 90th Anniversary cake, while at right compatriot Paul Cooper Jr. claims the privilege based on his being the oldest member of the chapter at 101 years.

Mustering for Flag Day Correction



At the gate of the AMVETS Post 115 are, from left, Robert Hite, LTC, U.S. Army, recently returned from a one-year tour in Iraq; Jim Clements of Patrick Henry Chapter, and Stu Hoyt of William Hightower Chapter.

The Sons of the American Revolution has long recognized the need to promote Flag Day, June 14. The Second Continental Congress commemorated the adoption of the flag on June 14, 1777. President Wilson issued a proclamation officially establishing June 14 as Flag Day, but it was not until Aug. 3, 1949, that a National Flag Day was established by an Act of Congress. However, it is not a federal holiday.

Members of Patrick Henry and William Hightower Chapters mustered early to assist AMVETS Post 115 in Kyle to post flags along their fenceline on the street side of their property to commemorate Flag Day. Then they went to visit a veteran nearby who has suffered a stroke and to present a flag certificate to his wife for their dedication to honoring the etiquette established for the American flag as they fly "Old Glory" on a pole above their home. – Stu Hoyt

Veterans recognition certificate guidelines outlined for online application

The latest listing of the SAR Veterans Corps members has been posted.

Please log in to: [/sar.org/](http://sar.org/)

1. Place your mouse on the "Members" tab at the top of the "Home" page.

2. This opens a pull-down menu where you can click on "SAR Committees."

3. With the SAR Committees page open, please scroll down to close to the bottom of the page where you will find: *Vet-

erans Recognition Committee*. Click on that.

4. That will open the *_Veterans Recognition Committee_* page.

5. On this page, you can view the PDF file that lists all *Veteran Corps Compatriots* by State Society.

The *Veteran Corps Compatriots* listing also shows the current number of SAR members per state society and the number of Certificates the Veterans Recognition Committee

State Adjutant David Kinsey called to our attention that there were some incorrect State Color Guard officer listings on Page 5 of the summer edition of the *Texas Compatriot*. We regret the errors and make these corrections:

Ted Wilson	Chairman
Ted Wilson	Commander
David Kinsey	State Adjutant
Sonny Replogle	Northern Commander
Robert (Bob) Kubin	Northern Adjutant
Blair Rudy	Southern Commander
Allen Green	Southern Adjutant
Northern Command Voting Members:	
James Alderman, Jerry Cope, Jim Hanlon, T.L. Holden, Jim Johnson, Drake Peddie, William Sekel, Walt Thomas, Thomas Van Fossen, Tom Whitelock.	
Southern Command Voting Members:	
Wayne Courreges, Tom Green, Mike Greco, Stu Hoyt, Sam Massey, Mel Oiler, Frank Rohrbough, John Thompson, Larry Tidwell, Ronald Walcik.	

Views expressed in this magazine do not represent the views of the national, state, or any local chapter of Sons of the American Revolution. – Editor

has printed for each Society.

The average percentage of certificates printed based on total SAR members is only 6.14%.

Unfortunately, many societies are significantly lower, including some at 0%.

Please encourage your veteran members who are not members of a SAR Veteran Corps to complete the Veterans Corps application.

The Veterans Recognition Committee stands ready to provide any assistance.

Thank you.



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