



The Texas Com Patriot

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Sons of the American Revolution © 2024
Winter 2024

WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA IN MONTGOMERY

by David Hamaker

The Freedom Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution, hosted Wreaths Across America at The Montgomery New Cemetery on Saturday, December 16th, 2023. It was our honor to celebrate the mission of our veterans, to Remember the fallen, Honor those that serve and that are currently serving, and Teach the next generation the values of freedom. The Freedom Chapter color guard presented the colors and opened the ceremony with a prayer and pledges. The United States of America was founded on the ideals of Freedom, Justice and Equality. We thank those who gave their lives to keep us free, and we will not forget you.



It was a beautiful day, after the rain we had the day before. With our many volunteers, we placed 140 wreaths to remember and honor our veterans for Christmas. It was a great day! It was also the 250th anniversary of the Boston Tea party!

We would like to thank the many people that attended the

wreath laying, including Congressman Morgan Luttrell and Mayor Byron Sanford. Thank you to the local businesses for the sponsorship of the wreaths, the Lions Club for their sponsorship, as well as the refreshments. Thank you to the DAR Coughatti Trace, DAR Heritage Trace, and DAR Margaret Montgomery chapters for their help and the many volunteers that assisted us in this endeavor.



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**Is Your Chapter
Publicizing Its Activities?**

Every Texas SAR Chapter has many activities and events that are NOT being shared outside the respective chapter.

Is this your chapter?

Every Chapter President should appoint a member of the chapter to report chapter news, activities, or events (especially Color Guard) to the editor of *The Texas Compatriot* for inclusion in the quarterly newsletter.

Information on how to submit articles and photos is located on the last page.

Mark Your CALENDAR

2024

May 27	Memorial Day
July 4	Fourth of July
Jul 10-16	NSSAR Annual Congress, Lancaster, PA
Jul 27	Texas SAR Summer BOM (ZOOM)



NSSAR Mission Statement

The Sons of the American Revolution honor our Revolutionary War patriot ancestors by promoting patriotism, serving our communities, and educating and inspiring future generations about the founding principles of our Country.

REPEAT ARCHIVE ANNOUNCEMENT

Effective last May 2023, the University of North Texas Special Collections library halted our Texas SAR Archive donations.



They expressed economic staffing issues but left us wondering whether there were other reasons. Subsequently beginning last summer, various DADA Chapter President emails, Newsletters and other announcements were issued. And the Texas SAR Archives Committee was expanded to address the issue. What to do in the future, what to do about the past and other issues are all concerns.

That committee gained Texas Compatriot professional archivist commitments last summer and has addressed and still addressing several issues. Please bear with us while our future Texas SAR Archive policy and procedures are ironed out.

Meanwhile, UNT Special Collections will not accept your donations. Please temporarily halt all your chapter archives. A new process should be announced this year, and your Archive backlog will be addressed. Just a hint, your archive files were probably already electronic. Save them for instructions for PDF conversion and you'll be ahead of the game.

Thanks for your patience.

John Anderson

Texas SAR Historian; historian@texassar.org.



GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON'S SEAL RING

A little known fact about the Sons of the American Revolution is that it possesses an extremely valuable seal ring! This single most valuable property owned by the SAR is a small circular object, about seven-eighths of an inch in diameter, which rests in darkness, untouched for three-hundred sixty-four days of the year, emerging for only one night annually when a new President General is installed. It shares its space in a safety deposit box with the deed to the SAR Headquarters building, an insurance policy, some stock certificates, and an affidavit about the ring's own origins.

This precious possession is the seal ring owned and worn by General George Washington.

The ring itself is of gold, with a thin band and delicate shank. It is a perfect size ten on a modern mandrel. There is no maker's mark or any inscription whatsoever on the inside. On each outer surface, the metal of the shank is deeply incised to give in raised relief a stem, three leaves, and a three-part bud or flower at the top, too worn to identify. The annulus of the crown is oval, surrounding and holding in place the setting of light orange carnelian in which is incised the Washington crest: a shield with three stars at the top and two transverse bands beneath; surmounted by a crown containing a griffin; underlain by a ribbon bearing the Latin words *Exitus acta probat*. These words come from line 85 of the second *Heroides* of Ovid, and are translated literally as *The outcome proves the deed*. A common variation is *The end justifies the means*.



Almost as interesting as the ring is its original box, which was also used by General Washington. It is made of varnished wood, possibly birch or fruitwood, and measures three inches wide, three and nine-sixteenths inches long, and one inch high. On its cover is a shield, one inch long and three quarters of an inch wide, inlaid of ivory, much crackled with age. A small brass knob at the front of the lower half controls the catch.



Inside, the lid is lined with lavender silk, now brown and hanging in shreds. A pin holds a card loosely in place in the top pad, stating, "General Washington's Seal Ring. Statement and Affidavit under bottom pad." The bottom pad is covered with velvet, once lavender, but now faded to brown except around a center post where the ring securely rests.

On the rare occasions when the ring is worn, it attracts the greatest of attention and excitement. People look at it with awe and almost reverence. Their greatest wish is to touch it. The ultimate thrill is to be allowed to slip it over the end of a finger and off again. Occasionally there is a skeptic who questions its authenticity, despite the affidavit of William Lanier Washington and the great care given by the SAR to

(Continued on page 32, see Seal Ring)

BIG COUNTRY CHAPTER & WAA

Chapter President Gary Spargo & Vice President Alan Huffines participate in Wreaths Across America at the Texas State Veterans Cemetery, Abilene on 16 Dec 2023.



Compatriots Jim Dunn, Alan Huffines, Ken Holmes, & Gary Spargo commemorate the 250th Anniversary of the Boston Tea Party, on 16 Dec 2023. Replica East India Company tea chests researched and constructed by Compatriot Clifford Brite.



Chapter President Gary Spargo and Chaplain Roger Weaver install new Compatriot Matthew Turner, LT (j.g.) USN, on 19 Dec 2023. Matthew was home on a short leave from his base in Sigonella, Italy.



REMEMBERING OUR VETERANS

Compatriot Blair Rudy stood and reflected as Vice President District 8 Frank Keberman, USMC Lt. Col. (ret.) places a wreath and offers respect to the most recently interred soldier in the plot at the historic San Antonio National Cemetery during Wreaths Across America in December 2023.

They attended many markers but Blair stated this photo seems to capture more than wreath laying to him.



ALEXANDER HODGE CHAPTER #49, HAS FIRST MEETING FOR 2024

January 30, 2024, the Alexander Hodge Chapter's first meeting of the new year was commenced by Chapter President Carl Hill at 6:00 pm at the Spring Hill BBQ in Missouri City.

The introduction of Special Guest included Texas SAR Officers, Sam Massey, Texas SAR President, and his wife Catherine, along with District 7 Vice President Richard L. Zdunkewicz.

President Massey spoke briefly on efforts to build a Texas SAR Monument in recognition of the 250th Anniversary of the American Revolution, as well as other new Education Programs associated with the 2026 recognition. Richard Zdunkewicz, District 7 Vice President, is the Chairman of the GoFundMe account for the Project to raise funds for the Texas SAR Monument.

President Massey also participated with Chapter President Carl Hill to award Certificates of SAR Membership to Alexander Hodge Chapter's new members. The newest members are Don Burns, Jason Barnes, Scott Hutchison, and John Placette.

A special recognition was also made for Mrs. Betrice Mistriot, who made a generous donation to the Alexander Hodge Chapter in remembrance of her husband Mr. Shelby Mistriot.

The Meeting was enhanced by the Chapter's Speaker for January, Mr. Flem Rodgers. Flem is an expert in the arms used during the American Revolution and gave an excellent presentation along with a display of his personal collection of arms.



C.A.R. STATE PROJECT UPDATE

UPDATE ON TEXAS SOCIETY CHILDREN OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION STATE PROJECT "LIBERTY LIVES IN THE LONE STAR STATE!"

Dear SAR Compatriots:

On behalf of the Texas Society Children of the American Revolution, I am pleased to share an update with you on our 2023-2024 State Project: "Liberty Lives in the Lone Star State!" Since June, our members have learned about the Declaration of Independence and U.S. Constitution and how they are living, breathing documents that shape our nation still today. As we approach our nation's 250th birthday, it is more important now than ever that Texas kids are able to experience these documents and the impact they had on the American Revolution - in their own backyards!

We are thrilled that this year's T.S.C.A.R. State Conference will be held at The Morris Family Center for Law & Liberty at HCU (our project beneficiary) April 5-6, 2024! To date, we have been able to raise over half of our fundraising goal in order to:

- ensure 1,776 Texas kids experience the Center, including taking home their very own tricorne hat and pocket Constitution;
- provide 250 classroom book sets on our founding documents for educators to share with their students;
- purchase 1 historically accurate teaching lectern for year-round use in the Center; and
- provide a herd of stick ponies to teach students more about Paul Revere's ride.

But we still need your help! Last year's National Assessment of Educational Progress scores released confirmed that most young people are struggling to understand how government works and the importance of civic participation. Examples include nearly one-third of eighth grade students not being able to accurately describe the structure or function of government, and almost half being unable to identify key concepts from the Declaration of Independence or U.S. Constitution. Imagine what DAR and C.A.R. could do to bring history to life for Texas kids if each chapter simply sponsored a visit for 10 students (\$100), 4 classroom book sets (\$200), or 5 stick ponies (\$300). Please consider sharing with your chapters and members that your project donation at <https://tscar.net/Donate> (or check written to: T.S.C.A.R.,

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mailed to: Libby Deakyne, 1102 Greenbriar Ln, Arlington, TX 76013) will help us reach our goal and WILL make a difference by providing access to experiential history for kids here in Texas! I look forward to seeing you at the Texas Society SAR State Conference in San Antonio this April.

Liberty Lives!

Libby Deakyne

2023-2024 T.S.C.A.R. State President



PLANO SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA FOR KIDS

Members of the North Texas Color Guard presented and posted the Colors for the Plano Symphony Orchestra's Concert for Kids on February 20, 2024.

Plano Symphony presents a series of concerts every year to introduce students to orchestra music. They contact Bob Johns and request us to provide a Color Guard to present and post the Colors. In total, the symphony puts on eighteen of these concerts over February and March. One week each month. One concert the first day and two every day after.

The Color Guardsmen were Dan Hamilton, Bob Johns, David Fautheree, Brent Harshman, and William Graham.



MONTGOMERY (CONT'D)



BEN FRANKLIN AT VENTANA

Ben Franklin visited Ventana Retirement Community in North Dallas on his birthday and talked about his life. Many at Ventana learned some things that are not widely known, such as his military service and some of his lesser known experiments and inventions. Bill Watts of the Dallas Chapter has been presenting Dr. Franklin for many years and has a variety of props that he uses during his presentation.



RAY HARGIS FUNERAL

The funeral service for Ray Hargis on February 21, 2024, was well attended. Ray was a long time member of the Edmund Terrell Chapter in Sherman, Texas. He was the current President of the Chapter and will be missed. Tom Milson presented Linda Hargis a memorial certificate and a Vietnam Veterans Survivor pin at the ceremony. The North Texas Color Guard presented the Colors.



2024 February 21st Ray Hargis Funeral Service
Tracy Pounders, Bill Watts, Randal van Heyst, Michael Petridis
Brent Harshman, Gary Barker and Gary Sisson

BERNARDO DE GALVEZ CHAPTER



At the December meeting of the Bernardo de Galvez Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR), President Samuel Massey of the Texas Society of SAR (Texas SAR) swore in the 2024 officers of the Bernardo de Galvez Chapter. The chapter officers are Billy Mayo (President), William Adriance (1st Vice President), Frank Steele (2nd Vice President), John Loper (Secretary), Robert Cassant (Treasurer), Registrar (David Zwahr), Webmaster (Clark Wright), Chaplain (Monsignor James Anderson), and Photographer (Jon Zwahr). After the meeting, color guard members from the Bernardo de Galvez Chapter and other Texas SAR chapters departed for Galveston to participate in the Dickens on the Strand Queen Parade.



The Bernardo de Galvez Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) organized the participation of Texas SAR Compatriots in the Dickens on the Strand Parade on December 2, 2023. This state color guard event was attended by Texas SAR President Samuel Massey and compatriots from various chapters of the Texas SAR.

Compatriot Robert E. O'Bryan was presented with a Sons of the American Revolution 10-Year Member Service Certificate and Pin by Bernardo de Galvez Chapter President Hugh Ferguson at the December chapter meeting.



At the January Meeting of the Bernardo de Galvez Chapter of the Texas Society of the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR), President Billy Mayo swore in Roger Dimmick as a new member of SAR and presented him with his membership certificate.



At the January meeting of the Bernardo de Galvez Chapter of the Texas Society of the Sons of the American Revolution,

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Compatriot Robert Adams was recognized for his service to the chapter during 2023 with a Certificate of Appreciation, which was presented to him by chapter president Billy Mayo.



The Bernardo de Galvez Chapter of the Texas Society of the Sons of the American Revolution was privileged to have Mr. Flem Rogers as its guest speaker at the January meeting. Mr. Rogers presented a program on the various weapons that were used by American soldiers during the American Revolution War. Chapter President Billy Mayo presented Mr. Rogers with a Certificate of Appreciation for his excellent program.



During the January meeting of the Bernardo de Galvez Chapter of the Texas Society of the Sons of the American Revolution (Texas SAR). Compatriots Guy W. Taylor, Jr. and Frank C. Steele were awarded Texas SAR Chapter Service Medals for their support and service to the chapter during 2023. Compatriot Taylor manages the chapter Facebook account, and Compatriot Steele serves as Color Guard Commander.



At the February meeting of the Bernardo de Galvez Chapter of the Texas Society of the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR), Chapter Secretary John Loper recognized Zoe del Bosque as the winner in the chapter's SAR Americanism Youth Poster Contest. Her poster "The Ninety-Six Siege" will now compete with other chapters at the state level. Compatriot Loper presented Zoe with both a certificate and a cash award.



BIG COUNTRY CHAPTER PRESIDENTIAL VISIT

Texas SAR President Sam Massey attended the Big Country Chapter at their chapter meeting in Abilene on Saturday, February 24, 2024.



DALLAS WREATH CEREMONY

On a cold morning in December 2023, the Dallas Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution, the Jane Douglas Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, and the David Pendleton Chapter, Children of the American Revolution, honored American Veterans at a Wreath Laying Ceremony for Wreaths Across America. C.A.R. member Laura Grape was made an honorary Soldier in the Dallas Chapter by Color Guard Major General Watts of the Texas SAR.



Participants from left to right: Bill Watts, Tom Van Fossen, Scott Knightly, Reagan van Heyst, Laura Grape, J.D. Martin, Brent Harshman, John Maloney, and Linda Martin.



FREEDOM CHAPTER

HISTORY TEACHER OF THE YEAR

The Texas SAR Freedom Chapter #38 recognized their Dr. Tom and Betty Lawrence History Teacher of the Year winner – Gabrielle Hiller! Mrs. Hiller was recognized during their monthly meeting on Tuesday, February 20, 2024, for the award (see pictured). As an Eighth Grade History Teacher and Social Studies Department Chair at Creekside Junior High School with the Tomball Independent School District, Mrs. Hiller makes an indelible impact on the young minds she inspires. The Chapter proudly recognizes her contributions to American History, her educational prowess on the American Revolution period, and her constant inspiration of young minds to the Founding of our Great Nation!

Well done Gabrielle!

Huzzah!



Mrs. Gabrielle Hiller giving her History Teacher of the Year award speech.



From left to right, Compatriot John Hamilton, Gabrielle Hiller, Freedom Chapter President Art Byram, and NSSAR Past President and Compatriot Tom Lawrence.



Treasurer and Compatriot Don Hayes presents Gabrielle Hiller with her Dr. Tom and Betty Lawrence Award and Freedom Chapter check. She is flanked by Compatriot John

FUN FACTS

- President Eisenhower was the first president to appear on color television.
- Eisenhower became the first president to celebrate his 70th birthday in the White House
- President Eisenhower was the only president to hold a pilot's license.
- While retired, President Eisenhower scored a hole-in-one while playing golf in Palm Springs, California.
- Eisenhower was the first president of all 50 states. On January 3, 1959, Alaska became the 49th state. And on August 21, 1959, Hawaii became the 50th state. Ike was the president at the time.
- Eisenhower was a great football player in the military academy. However, he quit after hurting his knee trying to tackle football legend Jim Thorpe.



SPRING LEADERSHIP MEETING

LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY



Texas SAR President Sam Massey received the Council of State Presidents Medal at the Spring Leadership Meeting in Louisville, KY.



Some of the Texas Delegation at the Saturday evening formal dinner at the Spring Leadership Meeting in Louisville, KY.



Texas SAR is well represented at the Council of State Presidents meeting at the Spring Leadership meeting in Louisville, KY. Past President Tom Jackson, Secretary Mel Oller, Past President Jim Kuykendall, Past President David Temple, President Sam Massey, Treasurer Don Hayes. Hard to see are Past President Larry Stevens. Not in the photo is Past President Bob Cohen. Taking the the photo is President-Elect Tracy Pounders.



A BRIEF HISTORY OF REGIMENTAL COCKADES

A cockade is an ornamental device derived from the “cock’s comb.” In its military forms it is a badge denoting regiment or rank, usually made of satin or silk ribbon or cloth. It is generally gathered and sewn in a circular pattern. Cockades were generally worn on the hat and were often used with green sprigs and feathers to denote the regiment. Two of the better known cockades were the black



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and white "French Alliance" Cockade worn by American soldiers during the revolution and the red, white, and blue cockade worn by French troops.

During the American Revolution a system of cockades and sashes was used to distinguish the officers from the men until it was replaced by the use of epaulets and shoulder boards in 1779. The 3rd United States Infantry (the Old Guard) because of its direct descent from the First American Regiment logically has as its insignia a cockade and plume on a cocked hat (tricorn) surmounting a wreath.

The Texas Regimental Cockade was designed by Jim and Mary Lynn Johnson of the Denton Chapter #23, Texas SAR. Mary Lynn made the cockades entirely by hand and they are pin backed with a safety catch so they may be easily attached to hat or lapel.

The cockades are approximately three inches in diameter and are red on the outside, white in the middle and blue on the inside with a gold star in the center. The Texas Regimental Cockade was adopted by the Texas SAR Color Guard and endorsed by the President of Texas SAR.



PRESIDENT-ELECT POUNDERS ON THE ROAD

Texas SAR President-elect Tracy Pounders has been busy lately making chapter visits across Texas SAR.



Texas SAR President-elect Tracy Pounders (above, left, with mic) at the March 9th meeting of the Arlington Chapter #7 SAR, swearing in the new officers for the year. Officers, left to right: John Anderson, Historian; Bob Pope, Vice President; Joe Kohn, President/Registrar; Bill Goodman, Secretary; Richard Martin, Sergeant at Arms; and Bob Wehr, Chaplain.



Hill Country Chapter President Bill Sole invited President-elect Tracy Pounders to speak at the March 14th chapter meeting and install their new officers. There was a great turnout by members who enjoyed a great lunch!



Texas SAR President-elect Tracy Pounders at the Red River Chapter meeting on March 16th at the Paris Public Library in Paris, Texas. Bill Covington (center) gave the presentation on the "Special Operation of Sergeant Major John Champe. President Tom Milson is on the right.



**DAR REGENT MARCY CARTER-
LOVICK**

At the 2024 DAR State Conference in San Antonio on March 11, 2024, Chapter President Blair Rudy presented the San Antonio Chapter Medallion to Mrs. Marcy Carter-Lovick, DAR State Regent.

Photo Credit: Convention Photography Services, Milligan, TN



**SAR AWARDS CITIZENSHIP MEDAL TO
PLANO SYMPHONY**

By Bob Johns

The week of March 19, 2024, the Plano Symphony Orchestra performed six concerts for area school children, repeating the schedule they performed in February.

In total, approximately 9000 school children were given a free concert that week, both watching the performance and being taught what the instruments were and learning how they sound.

A color guard comprised of several North Texas SAR Chapters opened each concert by presenting and posting flags while the orchestra played our national anthem.

Before the final concert on March 22nd, the color guard presented a framed Good Citizenship Certificate and Medal to the orchestra and to its director/conductor, Maestro Hector Guzman.



Arlington Chapter President Dan Hamilton presents certificate to Maestro Guzman.

Ar-



ington Chapter President Dan displays the framed certificate and medal.

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FREEDOM CHAPTER HONOR GUARD AND THE COMMEMORATION OF THE VIETNAM WAR 50TH ANNIVERSARY

The Houston National Cemetery held its annual Commemoration of the Vietnam War 50th Anniversary, one day early, Thursday, 28 March 2024 at 0900. On a gorgeous, cool, sun-filled morning dozens of Veterans and members of the public gathered to honor those who served our nation during this tumultuous time in our history. Master of Ceremonies for the Commemoration Program was Celestia Reed, Assistant Director, Houston National Cemetery. The program was highlighted by a POW/MIA ceremony, a wreath presentation, a widow commemorative certificate presentation, and Veteran lapel pin presentations to over 25 veterans. Guest Speaker for the celebration was Major General Robert M. Worley II, USAF (ret) and current Executive Director of the Houston Regional Veterans Benefits Administration.

Colors were presented by a Joint Color Guard of the Texas Army National Guard and the U.S.M.C 7 Marines Honor Detail. Freedom Chapter SAR officers, consisting of David Hamaker (current Chapter President), Ed Sellards, Bill Myers, and Art Byram (past Chapter President) proudly served as Honor Guard.

On March 28, 2017, President Donald J. Trump signed into law The Vietnam War Veterans Recognition Act of 2017, designating March 29 as National Vietnam War Veterans Day. March 29 was chosen to because it was the day Military Assistance Command Vietnam was deactivated. The United States of America Vietnam War Commemoration honors all United States veterans who served on active duty in the U.S. Armed Forces from November 1, 1955 to May 15, 1975, regardless of location.

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North Texas SAR Color Guard members are (l to r): Dan Hamilton (Arlington), Dave Fautheree (Plano), Joe Conger (Plano), Larry Melton (Plano), and Bill Graham (McKinney). Not shown is photographer Bob Johns (Plano).



North Texas SAR Color Guard presenting the colors at the beginning of the concert.



COLOR GUARD UNIFORMS AND MEDALS

This is a Public Service Announcement!

The *SAR Color Guard Magazine's* policy is to NOT publish photos of uniformed Color Guardsmen if medals are worn on the uniform. If you wish to have your Color Guard event included in the national magazine, please ensure that all guardsmen remove all medals from their uniform. All Texas SAR Color Guard events are subject to submission to national magazines by the *Texas Compatriot* editor.

President Barack H. Obama officially inaugurated this Commemoration at the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C., on Memorial Day, May 28, 2012. By Presidential Proclamation, The Vietnam War Commemoration will continue through Veterans Day, November 11, 2025.

submitted by: Ed Sellards



Left to Right: Freedom Chapter members David Hamaker, Bill Myers, Art Byram, and Ed Sellards



Freedom Chapter President Presents a SAR Flag Certificate to the Assistant Director, Houston National Cemetery 28 March 2024, Commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War.

Photo credit: Lawrence 'Ski' Grumboski, Piney Woods Chapter



REST IN PEACE

TERRY LEE (T.L.) HOLDEN

JULY 15, 1945 - APRIL 8, 2024



My Compatriot Brothers,

It is with great sadness that I share this Texas SAR news. Our brother in arms and 2015-2016 Vice President District 11, Brig. Gen. Terry Lee Holden passed on April 8th, 2024. State Chaplain Michael Goode was by his side. He was a friend to all and strong leader of men.

Below is text for a memorial resolution State Secretary Kevin Kanter has kindly prepared for possible execution.

According to the wishes of the family, no funeral will be held.

MEMORIAL RESOLUTION

Terry Lee Holden

WHEREAS, The hand of death on April Eighth, two thousand and twenty-four entered our ranks and removed from our midst, COMPATRIOT Terry L. Holden, our venerable and esteemed brother in arms, and

WHEREAS, COMPATRIOT Holden was born on July Fifteenth, Nineteen Hundred Forty-Six at Dayton, Ohio. COMPATRIOT Holden resided in Sherman, Texas. and

WHEREAS, by virtue of the proven patriot service during the Revolutionary War of his ancestor Conrad Cregar and

WHEREAS, COMPATRIOT Holden successfully proved his direct lineage from the above patriot, and was admitted to membership in the National Society, Sons of the American Revolution, on December Second, Two Thousand and Ten as member number 178314 and simultaneously was granted membership in the Texas Society, Sons of the American Revolution, member number, 10850, and

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WHEREAS, COMPATRIOT Holden was an active member of the Edmund Terrell Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution, and during those Thirteen years participated in the activities of the chapter, thereby contributing to its success, and having served as Genealogist and Registrar. Compatriot Holden's service to SAR has been recognized by his having received the following medals Multiple Lafayette Service Medals, Compatriot Grave Marking Medal, Patriot Grave Marking Medal, Service To Veterans Medal, Von Steuben Medal, Chapter and State Roger Sherman Medals, Bronze and Silver Liberty Service Medals, Silver Good Citizenship Medal, Bronze and Silver Meritorious Service Medals, Military Service Medal with Korean War Service Bar, and the Patriot Medal, and

WHEREAS, COMPATRIOT Holden graduated from Hot Springs High School, in 1964, in Truth or Consequences, New Mexico, was during his lifetime a professional Military person, having served/retired after 41 years with service in the U.S. Army and the National Guard attaining the rank of Brigadier General, and

WHEREAS, COMPATRIOT left surviving him his loving and devoted family: his brother, Larry Burger to whom we express our deepest sympathy on his loss, and

WHEREAS, upon his death, our country and state lost a loyal citizen whose devotion never faltered. He was one of the most zealous and faithful defenders of the principles for which our patriotic ancestors fought in the battle against the British for American Independence. In his quiet and unassuming way, he did much to promote the progress and development of his country and the happiness of those around him. He was a good, quiet, and modest person and enjoyed the respect, esteem, and admiration of all who knew him.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Edmund Terrell Chapter and the Texas State Society, and Sons of the American Revolution as follows:

FIRST: That this chapter has lost a loyal and devoted member. To his family and friends we express our thanks for sharing his life with us and extend our profound condolences at his passing from our ranks.

SECOND: That this country and state have lost an honorable, upright, and honest citizen, who was always ready to spend his life and give his service for that which he believed to be right and for the best interests of his country and state. To that end we dedicate ourselves anew to the continuance of the service to the country which his lifetime so well performed. We further Resolve that we are pledged again to cherish, maintain and extend the institutions of American freedom, to foster true patriotism and love of

country, and to aid in Securing for mankind the blessings of Liberty.

THIRD: That for the purposes of perpetuating the memory of his life and fidelity to the purposes of the Sons of the American Revolution, and his steady devotion to duty, duplicate copies of this Resolution shall be entered into the minutes of this chapter, which he loved so well, and delivered to his family. The Resolution will also be read to chapter members attending a regular monthly meeting and will be displayed on the chapter's Internet web page. The Resolution may also be submitted to the Texas Society for publication in a future edition of *The Texas Compatriot*, its magazine.

FOURTH: That a duplicate of this Resolution shall be bound together with other similar Memorial Resolutions of the Edmund Terrill Chapter, Texas Society, Sons of the American Revolution, into a minimum of three books. Copies of this book will/may be donated to:

1. The Library of the National Society, Sons of the American Revolution in Louisville, Kentucky
2. Chapter Genealogist, Edmund Terrill Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution.

THIS RESOLUTION WAS ADOPTED BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE

_____ CHAPTER,
SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION AT A REGULAR/
SPECIAL MEETING IN _____,
_____ COUNTY,
THIS THE _____

_____ District Chapter/Vice President

_____ Chapter President



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**MAJOR K M VAN ZANDT CHAPTER
RECOGNIZED
FWPD OFFICERS IN
ROBBERY / POLICE SHOOTING INCIDENT**

On Monday, April 1, 2024, the Major K. M. Van Zandt Chapter honored six Fort Worth Police Officers for their quick response and decisive action in a recent bank robbery / officer wounded incident in the City. The officer was hit two times during the robbery of a local financial institution on Monday afternoon, November 27, 2023, at approximately 3:45 pm resulting in life-threatening injuries to him.

Fort Worth police officers arrived on the scene within one minute of the call going out. Upon arriving, they were informed that a law-enforcement officer working security had been shot at the location.

Officers entered the facility, traversing broken glass on the floor with a layer of fog /smoke in the lobby, along with a heavy smell of fresh gunpowder. They observed several employees standing behind the bank counter who confirmed that an officer was shot, lying on the ground near them. Officer Luis Canizares maintained control of the front lobby while Officer Nicholas Bernal and Sgt. Chris Ramirez relocated behind the counter to provide emergency aid to the injured officer.

Officer Timothy Kinman and Officer Roxanna Sanchez arrived on the scene with a medical kit. Officers Kinman and Canizares began to secure and search the bank's interior. Officer Sanchez along with Officer Bernal began to provide emergency medical aid to the seriously wounded officer. Officer Wesley Anderson aided the other officers in a search and the bank lobby area making it secure for the other officers to provide emergency medical aid to the injured officer.

The swiftness of the six Fort Worth Police officers' immediate, decisive, and effective actions under dire circumstances resulted in a safe conclusion to this dangerous and potentially deadly incident.



The above photograph depicts Fort Worth Chief of Police Neil Noakes on the left along with three of the honored officers followed next by Chapter President Ron Turner, Vice

(Continued on page 18)



President Steve Hole, Chapter Historian John Anderson, two of the honored officers with Past Chapter President Mike Connelley on the right end.



Five of the six officers honored by the Major K. M. Van Zandt Chapter at the Fort Worth Police Department Headquarters and Training Center (the sixth officer was out of town at the time of the event). Also in attendance at the honor ceremony were family members of the recognized officers along with fellow officers of the Fort Worth Police Department.



ORDER OF TEXAS JUDGES



President General Tom Lawrence presented President General Ed Butler and President General Nathan White canes with a PeaceMaker handle for the 'Order of Texas Judges' at a reception held on April 11, 2024, by President General Ed Butler and his lovely wife, Robin, at their home prior to the Texas SAR State Conference in San Antonio.

TEN MUSKETS TAKE SHAPE

As a group of skeptical Army officers look on, a middle-aged New England inventor and manufacturer dumps the contents of 15 sacks onto a table. Rattling and clanging, the contents spill out in what appears to be a jumble of musket parts—triggers, locks, barrels, stocks, screws, bolts, ramrods, front and rear sights. From the assorted hardware Eli Whitney assembles 10 muskets. The parts from any one of them are interchangeable. He is demonstrating a new idea that is to revolutionize American industrial methods much as his recent invention of the cotton gin had revolutionized Southern plantation life, making cotton so profitable that it dominated the economy of the entire region. The time is 1800. The country is facing a crisis in an undeclared war with France. Arms are needed for defense, and for the frontier. Whitney already had established a musket factory in 1798, and now he is looking for more orders for his plant. With skepticism turning to optimistic belief, the officers give Whitney a contract for more small arms. He employs subcontractors, works out assembly line methods to fill the order. During the coming War of 1812, he will produce 15,000 muskets by the new methods. Although widely remembered today for his cotton gin, Whitney is also regarded as having introduced the concept of interchangeable parts, and the utilization of the division of labor in that early musket factory. The methods and concepts have been used in the later manufacture of firearms in United States arsenals. Whitney's basic ideas, which accelerated the industrial revolution, are today applied the world over in mass production industries.



TEXAS SAR PATRIOT FUND

The **Alexander Hamilton Medal** honors the memory of the first Secretary of the Treasury of the United States. It is awarded to individuals who give \$1,000.00 to the Patriots Fund. Successive \$1,000.00 contributions earn a bronze oak leaf cluster, and five bronze oak leaf clusters can be exchanged for a silver oak leaf cluster. The **Alexander Hamilton Pin** is awarded to individuals who give \$500.00 to the Patriots Fund. Individuals who gave to the Patriots Fund before 2002 may receive credit for their contributions by producing receipts or showing early pewter pins given for contributions prior to 2007. Proceeds from the Patriots Fund are used to fund the various Youth and Public Service programs of the Texas Society.

<https://www.texassar.org/dues.htm>

<https://www.texassar.org/!!TXS!!SAR!!/pdf/PatriotFundDonations.pdf>

PATRIOT MEDAL AWARDEES FOR 2024

In October, the Patriot Medal Committee selected six compatriots to receive the Patriot Medal at the Annual meeting in April 2024. The Patriot Medal is the highest award presented to a Compatriot by a State Society and recognizes long, faithful, outstanding, and distinguished service at the state and/or chapter level. The Committee is comprised of Patriot Medal Recipients from around the state.



Kermit L. Breed - I joined the Sons of the American Revolution on October 23, 2013. My ancestors owned Breed's Hill where the Battle of Bunker Hill was fought. I was born in Opelika, Lee County, Alabama, to Lewis Breed and Mable Adams. I joined the United States Air Force in 1956 for four years, then attended Auburn University. I retired from Dupont after thirty-three years in the Engineering Department. I have two sons by my late wife Barbara. My son Kyle lives in nearby Crosby, Texas, and is a Captain with Delta Airlines. Kyle Jr. is a Doctor in San Antonio. Sandra, my wife of fifteen years is a DAR member and has three daughters and a son all who live in this area. I am 32nd degree Mason. I chartered and became the first Scout Master of two Boy Scout Troops in Tennessee and was a member of the Order of the Arrow. Both of my sons and my grandson are Eagle Scouts. I am a Master Gardener and a winner of the Roadrunner Award. I have been President of the Men's Club at Church and President of the Home Owner's Association.



Sometime after the death of my oldest son Kermit Jr. in 1977, I made a trip to Italy. I was asked several times if my ancestors were Italian. I had to say "I don't know" and soon genealogy became a passion. I have been assistant Registrar for my 10 years at PineyWoods and Registrar for a while in 2018. I received the NSSAR Liberty Medal at the 2018 SAR Congress in Houston. At present

I have 47 applications toward my 5th Liberty Medal, with eight DAR Finder Forms. During my 10 years at PineyWoods, I have also been Secretary for three years, President for two years, Historian, Genealogist, and helped publish four scrapbooks. I was awarded the Chapter Distinguished Service Award in 2021.

I worked as a volunteer the 120th Texas SAR Convention and the 128th NSSAR Congress in Houston, TX. I have chaired the State History Teacher Sub-Committee for four years and also am a member of the State Notable Texans Sub-Committee.

I received the Texas Silver Service Award in 2023. I am a member of the National Patriot Research System (PRS) Special Projects Committee, and received the Lafayette Volunteer Service Medal in 2020 and now have an additional four silver oak leaf clusters. At present, I have eight proven Patriot Ancestors and looking for more.

Mark H. Harrison - Mark Harrison's application (NSSAR #209264) was approved on November 19, 2018, as a member of the Dallas Chapter. He and his son, Gray, were sworn in, by State President, Tom Jackson during the December meeting. Immediately after being sworn in, Mark was elected as 1st Vice President of the Dallas Chapter. He served as 1st VP during 2019, 2020 & 2021. Because of the Covid shutdown, he assisted in the establishment & management of on-line Zoom meetings until regular in-person meetings could be resumed. Mark was then elected and served as Dallas Chapter President during 2022 and 2023.



At the state level, Mark became the Joseph S. Rumbaugh Oration Chairman for the 2019-2020 through the 2021-2022 contest cycles. Due to the health and eventual death of VP-Contest, Medals & Awards, John Hamlin, Mark managed the Americanism program, for the state, for the remainder of the 2021-2022 contest cycle as well as tak-

(Continued on page 20)

ing over the Knight Essay and American History teacher programs for that year. He was elected VP-Contest, Medals & Awards in April 2022 and has continued in that position to date. While giving up the individual youth contest chairman positions, he has continued to oversee the various activities & contest in the Americanism arena.

Mark's patriot ancestor is Lt. Richard Sutton, of Ipswich, MA, who was a member of the Massachusetts Militia. Lt. Sutton answered the alarms at Lexington and Concord and participated in the Battle of Bunker Hill as well as doing service in Connecticut. Mark was recently approved for a supplemental for Pleasant Martin, a member of the Virginia Line who served at Yorktown and was assigned to guard British & Loyalist prisoners.

Mark hails from Winters, TX, with an undergraduate degree from Baylor University and graduate degrees from Abilene Christian University and the University of Dallas. He has been married to Linda Holt Harrison for 47 years and they have one son, Gray Harrison. Gray is a compatriot of the Texas Society (NSSAR #208265) and he and his wife, Madeleine, and two children, Keegan and Audrey, reside in Plano.

Frank L. Kebelman - Lieutenant Colonel Frank Louis Kebelman III, United States Marine Corps, Retired, was born on 16 August 1949 in Winter Haven, Florida. The son of a career Air Force officer, he lived in many places as a child. He graduated from Stetson University, Deland, Florida in 1972 and immediately attended Marine Corps Officer Candidate School, Quantico, Virginia. He served as an officer for twenty-two years retiring as a Lieutenant Colonel in 1994. During the 1st Gulf War, he commanded 1st Combat Engineer Battalion, 1st Marine Division, leading the attack against the "Mother of All Obstacles," and later receiving the Bronze Star with Valor for his combat heroism.



In addition to his active participation in the NSSAR as a

member of San Antonio Chapter #4, Texas SAR, Colonel Kebelman is a member of many civic, fraternal, and hereditary societies, including the National Eagle Scout Association, the Navy Explosive Ordnance Disposal Association, the Sons of the Republic of Texas, the Society of Colonial Wars, the Order of the First Families of Maryland, and the Knights of Columbus (4th Degree). He has received many awards for his service, including the BSA Silver Beaver and the UDC Judah Benjamin Award. In 2023, Governor Abbott commissioned him an Admiral in the Texas Navy.

Colonel Kebelman is married to the former Alta Clark. They have two children and two grandchildren, all of whom reside in Central Texas.

David A. Kinsey - David A Kinsey was approved for SAR membership on February 16, 2018, and installed into the SAR by President General Nathan White. The next month, David attended his first Texas SAR State meeting, followed in the summer by his first NSSAR Congress.

In May of 2018, David was appointed as the McKinney #63 Chapter Secretary. At the December 2018 Chapter meeting, David was sworn in as President of the McKinney Chapter, along with the other 2019 Officers by then State President Tom Jackson.

At this time, David had acquired his Color Guard uniform and began to participate in several Chapter, State, and National events. In April 2019, David became the Texas SAR Color Guard Adjutant. One of his activities as outgoing Adjutant was compiling the information for presentation to the NSSAR Color Guard committee to make the Medal of Honor Parade a National Color Guard event. Also in 2019, David became the Chapter Webmaster working with John Anderson to set up the new Chapter website.



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With the assistance of Tom Milson of the McKinney Chapter, the chapter continued to hold meetings throughout the Covid shutdown via Zoom, only missing the February 2020 meeting.

In the Summer of 2020, David was elected as the Texas SAR State Treasurer. He held that position until March of 2023. During his term, he served on the State Executive Committee and assisted the State Perpetual Fund and Patriot Fund Chairmen. He currently serves as the State Assistant Treasurer.

Working with Ted Wilson, then District 11 Vice President, and John Greer, David became the acting Secretary and Webmaster for the Ambassador Fletcher Warren Chapter in Greenville, Texas. The chapter at the time was struggling, and these three stepped in to renew the interest in the chapter. They were fortunate to have a new member, Jim Owsley, become President shortly after being sworn in. Since then, Jim has taken the reigns and the chapter is progressing each year.

David was born in Wilmington, North Carolina, and went by Gen. Cornwallis' Headquarters nearly every week during his youth. David was also fortunate to visit the Moore's Creek battlefield several times as a youth. Maybe this is where his interest in history began. David attended the University of North Carolina-Wilmington, Augusta College (later becoming the University of Georgia-Augusta), then Lenoir Community College beginning his aviation career, and ultimately graduating from Phoenix University with his Business degree.

John E. Ray - I am a fourth generation Texan born in Dallas in 1951 and have lived in Fort Worth, Argyle, Port Aransas, and now Celina. My wife, Joni, and I have been married since 1975 and have a daughter and two grandsons. In 2010, I began my genealogy journey that lead me to the Sons of the American Revolution.



My membership in SAR was approved on 22 May 2013 as a member Plano Chapter. Shortly thereafter, I joined

the Chapter Board of Managers and eventually became chapter President. In 2021, I became the Assistant State Secretary, and in that capacity, I manage the membership database. My responsibilities also include managing the medals and awards presented by Texas SAR. I am looking forward to many more years of honoring our Patriot ancestors.

Richard L. Zdunkewicz - Richard Lee Zdunkewicz is an entrepreneur with more than 40 years in business in the banking and energy industries.

Richard is founder and Managing Member of Energy Transition Advisors, LLC, a consulting firm advising investors on strategies and investments in both thermal and renewable generation investment opportunities.



Richard is founder, CEO and Chairman of the Board of Directors of Distributed Energy Clearinghouse, a technology company providing web-based analytics and data to support investments in distributed generation systems for developers, investors, and commercial/industrial companies. Richard's clients and customers have included the major players in the power generation and energy markets in North America and across the globe.

Richard is involved in numerous social and civic groups, including serving as Vice President and Board member of the Bayou City Breakfast Club, as a Trustee for the Memorial Funds of the Paul Carrington Chapter - Texas Society of the SAR, and District Vice President and member of the Board of Managers of the Texas Society of the SAR. Richard is an Admiral of the Texas Navy, a member of the General Society of the War of 1812, and a member of the Society of the Founders of the City of New Orleans.

Richard is a member of the Paul Carrington Chapter of the Texas Society of the Sons of the American Revolution where he served two consecutive terms as Chapter President.

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Richard's maternal ancestry includes two American Patriots, Martin Camersac and Firmin Breaux, who both served under Galvez in Louisiana. His earliest ancestors in North America helped establish Montreal, Canada, Mobile, Alabama and New Orleans, Louisiana. Richard's 4X Great-Grandfather is the namesake of Lake Charles, Louisiana.

Richard and his wife Catherine have two adult children, Nancy and Todd – married to Jamie (née Peterson), and one grandchild, Georgia. The Zdunkewicz are long-time parishioners at St. Michael Catholic Church in Houston. They are members of The Bayou Club of Houston.

Richard is a 1980 graduate of Texas A&M University with a bachelor's degree in economics. Richard is a member of the Pi Kappa Alpha.



BERNARDO DE GALVEZ CHAPTER AWARDS

At the March meeting of the Bernardo de Galvez Chapter of the Texas Society of the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR), Chapter President Billy Mayo had the pleasure of presenting Chapter Webmaster Clark Wright with his Emeritus SAR Membership Certificate. The Emeritus Certificate is awarded to members who have been an active member of SAR for over 50 years. Webmaster Wright was also presented with a replacement of his original membership certificate which was lost when his historic Nicholstone Home in Dickinson was destroyed by fire.



At the March meeting of the Bernardo de Galvez Chapter of the Texas Society of the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR), Athanasius Mckinley was recognized as the chapter winner in the SAR George S. and Stella M. Knight Essay Contest. The subject of his essay was "Born to Equal Rights: Adams and Jefferson on Equality." Athanasius was presented with the Knight Essay Medal and Certificate along with a cash award. Pictured above are Chapter President Billy Mayo, Athanasius Mckinley and Chapter Secretary John Loper.



At the March meeting of the Bernardo de Galvez Chapter of the Texas Society of the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR), Chapter President Billy Mayo swore in Jonathan D. Burnette as a member of the SAR and presented him with his membership certificate. Chapter Registrar David Zwahr, who sponsored him, presented him with the SAR Rosette, the official symbol of the SAR. The blue and buff colors of the rosette represent the colors of the uniform worn by General George Washington.



At the February meeting of the Bernardo de Galvez Chapter of the Texas Society of the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR), Chapter Secretary John Loper swore in the following new members: Matthew D. Hewitt, Aries L. Hewitt, Sean D. Weissinger and Evan M. Phillips. The new members were presented with their SAR membership certificates and rosettes.

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At the April meeting of the Bernardo de Galvez Chapter of the Texas Society of the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR), Galveston City police officer Sgt. Jack Doraty along with Officers Dontae Bailey, Dennis Gardner, William Osteem and Hunter Tauch were recognized with SAR Law Enforcement Medals in recognition of their outstanding achievements and dedication to the maintenance of law and order. These officers are members of a special Traffic Safety Unit that has been responsible for numerous DWI arrests since 2022, which has greatly improved the safety of Galveston streets and probably has resulted in many less automobile accidents. Pictured above are Chapter President Billy Mayo, Galveston City Police Chief Douglas Balli, Officer Tauch, Officer Osteem, Officer Gardner, Officer Bailey, Sgt. Doraty and Galveston City Assistance Police Chief Andre Mitchell.



At the April meeting of the Bernardo de Galvez Chapter of the Texas Society of the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR), Chapter President Billy Mayo swore in Galveston County Sheriff Henry A. Trochesset as a member of the SAR and presented him with his membership certificate. The SAR Rosette, the official symbol of the SAR, was pinned on Sheriff Trochesset by his wife Brenda, who is a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution. The blue and buff colors of the rosette represent the colors of the uniform



At the 2024 Texas A & M Marine Academy Awards Ceremony in Galveston, Bernardo de Galvez President Billy Mayo presented Midshipman Derrick Littlefield (below) and Midshipman Anthony Wolfe (bottom) with Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) Silver ROTC Medals and Certificates. Chapter Compatriot Matthew Hewitt was also in attendance at this ceremony and provided the photos. Seated in the photographs from left to right are Superintendent RADM Michael E. Fossum, Commandant CDR James P. Gompfer and Assistant Superintendent of Cadets Dr. Todd Sutherland.



worn by General George Washington.

At the April La Porte High School JROTC Awards Program, Billy Mayo, President of the Bernardo de Galvez Chapter of the Texas Society of the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR), presented Cadet Michelle Springer with a Certificate of Commendation to the La Porte High School JROTC unit in recognition of exemplary patriotism in the display of the flag of the United States of America.



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Compatriots Jon and David Zwahr were presented with Sons of the American Revolution 10-Year Member Service Certificates and Pins by Bernardo de Galvez Chapter President Billy Mayo at the April chapter meeting. Compatriot David Zwahr is the Chapter Registrar, and Jon Zwahr is the Chapter Photographer and IT person.



2024 TEXAS SAR STATE CONVENTION

Compatriots from across the state of Texas gathered in San Antonio, Texas, on April 11-14, for their 129th Annual State Convention. Texas SAR conducted regular business, elected a new slate of officers to serve 2024-2025, presented youth contests awards, chapter recognition, and individual recognition. Attendees enjoyed great food, fantastic camaraderie with old friends and new friends alike.

Following are a small representation of the many photos taken during the weekend.



Compatriot John Loper, of the Bernardo de Galvez Chapter of the Texas Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, served as bugler on behalf of Bugles Across America at the funeral of United States Coast Guard veteran Shirley Reagor at the Houston National Cemetery on the 23rd of April. During World War II, Shirley Reagor served her country as a Rosie the Riveter Gal (Timken Roller Bearing Factory Canton-Akron, Ohio) and as a U.S. Coast Guard SPAR. As a U.S. Coast Guard (CG) SPAR, she served along the Florida Atlantic Coast in logistics and supply. She once took inventory of a captured Italian submarine. She earned the WWII Victory Medal and the American Campaign Medal.



(Continued on page 25-30)











Galaxy S22+
April 12, 2024 10:55 AM



CHAPTER HISTORIANS ARE ENCOURAGED



Last year in a committee discussion, it was asked, "What is the responsibility of a Chapter Historian and why should each chapter strive to create that position?" Your Chapter Bylaws should include all officer responsibilities. In discussions with others, I find a variety of responsibilities of the Chapter Historian.

Current Chapter Historians may be responsible for:

- 1) Providing historical vignettes at chapter meetings,
- 2) Chapter Photographer,
- 3) Creation of the Annual Yearbooks and/or Newsletters,
- 4) Archivist.

All the above are various ways to preserve your chapter history. Interested in your feedback. What are the duties of your Chapter Historian?

Chapter Yearbook Judging



Compatriot Don Hayes had reported the 2023 winners of the Chapter Yearbook contests are:

Group 1 (1-50 members)	1st Place Edmund Terrill #34
Group 2 (51-99 members)	1st Place Robert Rankin #62
Group 3 (100+ members)	1st Place Piney Woods #51
	2nd Place Dallas #2
	3rd Place Plano #37

Yearbooks are your chapter's opportunity to expand upon your newsletters and share even move photos and memories. Contact Don Hayes, dhayes04@hotmail.com, for more details.

Texas SAR Website Histories

We have various data available on both our Texas SAR public and private websites. For discussion is how to expand. I'm confident the current items can be amended, and new items can be added. Do you have some suggestions?

Prominent Texas Compatriots

Compatriot John Greer has been gathering data from 2005 forward for our next History volume. He is seeking bios of our past presidents, lists of past officers, and

more. He and Compatriot Kermit Breed are gathering and sorting various lists of award recipients and deceased Compatriot Veterans. Send your ideas to him at JohnL.Greer@juno.com

Texas History Volume III



Targeted for late 2025 development and publication, Volume III is in the data collection phase. Articles, photos, lists, compatriot biographies, memorials, Color Guard ceremonies, etc., that document our Texas SAR history since last published in 2005 should be identified and collected. Your Chapter Historian should review and contribute your chapter history and activities. All chapters should include your significant activities since 2005.

Please welcome Compatriot Matthew Hoffman from the Freedom Chapter and give him thanks for stepping up to be our next History Volume Editor. Send histories, articles, stories, and activities to either matthewe.hoffman@yahoo.com or historian@texassar.org.

Patriot/Compatriot Graves



Compatriot Bill Watts at bill_watts@att.net has two Patriots Buried in Texas Grave Markings scheduled on the same day,

Saturday June 1, 2024. Carpools are suggested.

- Meet at Center Ridge Cemetery, 8641 TX 8, Maud, Texas, at **10:30 am** to mark the grave of Patriot Evan Thomas Watson at 11 am.
- Break for lunch in Clarksville, Texas.
- Meet at Clarksville Cemetery, 608 West Washington Street, Clarksville, Texas, at **1:30 pm** to mark the grave of Patriot William Blevins at 2 pm.

Texas SAR Archives



Thank you for your patience holding your Chapter Archives awaiting a future archive solution. Our committee has been seeking a method whereby we can archive electronic documents for ourselves. Seeking the middle ground between Archivist and our volunteer ability has presented some challenges. We all universally agree a high quality data preservation is desired.

We are drafting Chapter Archivist Instructions and will be testing soon. Volunteer Chapter Web Admins will be recruited. Soon, we'll begin in depth discussions on what to do with our existing archives at UNT. There are options to consider.

Next Committee Meeting

This Archives/History/Yearbook committee meets several times throughout the year and not just at state meetings. Some great ideas have evolved from both new and old members alike into some great history projects. Breakout meetings by project are sometimes called.

Thurs. 7:00 pm
June 27

The next committee meeting will be via zoom a few weeks prior to our summer zoom meeting. New members are welcome.

Remembering Our Departed

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace.

Amen.

Bobby Wardell Rushing

June 4, 2023

SAR #205590

Member Since December 1, 2017

Maj. K.M. Van Zandt Chapter #6

Loyd Dean Morris

January 14, 2024

SAR #201743

Member Since March 10, 2017

East Fork Trinity Chapter #47

Raymond Edward Hargis

February 13, 2024

SAR #200646

Member Since November 30, 2016

Edmund Terrell Chapter #34

Mervin Dansby Peters

February 27, 2024

SAR #181925

Member Since December 27, 2011

Independence Chapter #40

Jerry Eugene Marshall

March 17, 2024

SAR #106857

Member Since April 26, 1974

San Antonio Chapter #4

Nolan William Fansler

March 20, 2024

SAR #197123

Member Since December 4, 2015

East Fork Trinity Chapter #47

Terry Lee (T.L.) Holden

April 8, 2024

SAR #178314

Member Since December 2, 2010

Edmund Terrell Chapter #34

Harold Gene Evetts

April 9, 2024

SAR #141526

Member Since October 25, 1993

Maj. K.M. Van Zandt Chapter #6

Robert Lee Lyon

April 10, 2024

SAR #184473

Member Since August 13, 2012

Independence Chapter #40



(SEAL RING)

the ring since 1922, when it was presented to the SAR. To these skeptics, the SAR can only give a very unscientific answer: when an individual puts it on his or her finger, feels that comfortable fit from decades of wear, and sees the inner glow of translucent orange radiance from the authentic Washington seal ring, that person knows the seal ring is real.

Each incoming President General slips the original Washington seal ring on his finger for but a few minutes during his installation.

The value of the Washington ring cannot be expressed in terms of money. Who could place a price on such a rare and historic object? For security reasons, the SAR is not anxious for speculation or publicity on this subject. No amount of money could measure the mystique of this ring, or the special aura of grandeur, authority, and dignity it bestows upon the office of the SAR President General.

From <https://www.sarsandiego.org/general-george-washingtons-ring/>

RULES REVISION FOR THE ROSS L. SHIPMAN NEWSLETTER COMPETITION

The Ross L. Shipman Newsletter Competition Award is presented to a Texas SAR Chapter with the best Newsletter for the calendar year.

ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for competition, submission should be the single issue as determined by the editor/chapter to be **the best electronic issue per calendar year** to be submitted to the Texas SAR Newsletter Committee chairman. Submissions are preferred by email attachment (PDF or DOCX files) or by the issue URL if located on a chapter web site. The submission must be received **by January 15**.

Sending all of your newsletter issues to the committee chair does NOT enter the publication into the contest.

The Chapter must publish a minimum of four (4) issues of the newsletter in a calendar year.

JUDGING

Judges will use the following criteria in selecting the winners of the competition.

A. **Contains:** Chapter activities, a calendar and/or notices

of events; membership information such as welcoming of new members, remembering deceased members, etc.; special observances announced and/or reported; and special stories.

B. **Editorial Content:** writing style & content; punctuation; spelling & typographical errors; helpfulness to readers; general interest of articles; identifiable masthead & correct SAR national and state logos; and overall quality.

C. **Appearance:** general layout; use of photographs; use of art/graphics; typefaces; and neatness.

Further considerations will be made in the quality of production through quantity of mistakes, typos, and errors. An identifiable masthead with the chapter name and correct SAR logo prominent, the officers' or editor's name given or a contact number, wise use of space, and any pictures are an integral part of the consideration.

Please submit chapter newsletter entries to the Texas SAR Newsletter Committee chairman.

CATEGORIES

An award is presented to a Texas SAR Chapter with the best newsletter in three chapter size categories. The number of pages in a newsletter is not a consideration in the judging process.

(Continued on page 33)

Evaluation Criteria-Categories		Points	Editorial-Content		Points
Chapter-Activities	15		Writing-Style-&-Content	10	
Calendar-of-Events	10		Punctuation,-Spelling,-Typos	10	
Welcoming-of-New-Members	10		Helpfulness-to-Readers	20	
Deceased-Remembrances			General-Interest-of-Articles	20	
Special-Observances	10		Identifiable-SAR-Logo/Masthead	20	
Special-Stories	15		Overall-Quality	20	
NSSAR-Events	10				
Appearance-&-Presentations		Points			Points
General-Layout	5				
Use-of-Photography	10				
Use-of-Art/Graphics	5				
Typeface	5				
Neatness	5				
			The-maximum-amount-of-points-that-can-be-awarded-to-a-specific-chapter-is-120-points.		200

1. Small Chapter with 1-50 active members.
2. Medium Chapter with 51-100 active members.
3. Large Chapter with 101+ active members.

Chapter size is based on the year-end Membership Roster released by Texas SAR.

Every chapter editor considers his newsletter to be excellent and deserving of recognition. Editors are to be commended for the efforts expended. Some subjectivity is incorporated into the judging process in order to provide flexibility in determining the best newsletters. These guidelines should help editors determine if they are meeting the requirement necessary to be competitive. Finally, every editor should remember that good communication is the goal, not awards or accolades, in producing a chapter newsletter.

The Texas SAR Newsletter Committee chairman will provide all entries to the Ross L. Shipman Newsletter Committee. The Ross L. Shipman Newsletter Committee will review and evaluate Newsletters in February of each year and determine the winning chapter in each category.

Announcement and awards are presented during the state annual convention.

An excellent source for newsletter editors is the:

NSSAR NEWSLETTERS & PERIODICALS HANDBOOK

<https://www.sar.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/11/Newsletter-and-Periodicals-Handbook.pdf>

Texas SAR Directory 2024 - 2025

President **Tracy A. Pounders**
 President-elect **Melvin L. Oller**
 Immediate Past President **Samuel P. Massey**
 Secretary **Kevin Kanter**
 Assistant Secretary **John E. Ray**
 Communications Secretary **Raymond W. Cox**
 Staff Secretary **Richard L. Zdunkewicz**
 Treasurer **Don Hayes**
 Assistant Treasurer **David A. Kinsey**
 Registrar (Coastal Group) **Bill Watts**
 Registrar (Inland Group) **Jerry W. Pinkerton**
 Chancellor **Dustin S. Whittenburg**
 Chaplain **Michael Goode**
 Historian **John D. Anderson, Jr.**
 Vice President, CM&A **Mark H. Harrison**
 Vice President, District 1 **Vacant**
 Vice President, District 2 **Benjamin C. Pollard**
 Vice President, District 3 **Frank L. Kebelman III**
 Vice President, District 4 **Ronald J. Walcik**
 Vice President, District 5 **Ronald J. Turner**
 Vice President, District 6 **Michael Goode**
 Vice President, District 7 **Art Byram**
 Vice President, District 8 **Kenneth R. Graalum**
 Vice President, District 9 **Charles Wagner**
 Vice President, District 10 **William E. Sekel**
 Vice President, District 11 **Thomas E. Milson**
 Trustee **Jim Kuykendall**
 Alternate Trustee **Drake Peddie**
 Chairman, Council of Chapter Presidents **Thomas F. Van Fossen**
 Editor, *The Texas Compatriot*, **Ronald J. Turner**
 Web Administrator **Raymond W. Cox**

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How to Submit Items to

The Texas Compatriot

The Texas Compatriot welcomes submissions from compatriots. Here are some tips on getting your story published.

1. Keep your article as short as you can while still telling the story. Send stories in Microsoft Word format to compatriot@txssar.org.
2. Send digital photographs as attachments and not embedded into the Word document. They also should be sent to compatriot@txssar.org.
3. Make sure your images are high resolution, at least 300 DPI, and that no time or date stamps appear on the images.
4. Limit the number of photographs to those you would most like to see published.
5. Meet the deadlines published for and in each issue.

Newsletter Committee

Ron Turner, Chairman of the Texas Society Newsletter Committee, is seeking members of the society who have an interest in serving on the committee.

The Mission of the Newsletter Committee is to insure the history of the Texas Society, Sons of the American Revolution, is reported and preserved in a timely manner in a publication named *The Texas Compatriot*. It is a goal of this committee to publish newsletters featuring member activities at the National, State, and Local Chapter level, and to report on educational, public, and veteran activities, our Youth Programs, and those events honoring our public servants in each issue.

Compatriot Turner desires that every chapter in the Texas Society have a representative on the Newsletter Committee. Every chapter president should ensure that his chapter is represented on the committee. If your chapter has a newsletter, the editor of said newsletter should be on the committee as your chapter's representative.

All interested parties should contact Ron Turner at rjturner0815@gmail.com.

Picture Policy

To publish photos of children under the age of 18 in *The Texas Compatriot*, your local chapter newsletter, or on your chapter website, you must have a signed parental form that gives us (the Texas Society SAR) permission to publish the child's name and photo. You can find the form on the Society's public website under **Contest/Programs > Permission/Release Form**.

https://www.txssar.org/pdf/Permission_Youth.pdf.

Before the child's picture can appear in *The Texas Compatriot*, the signed consent form must be on file in the editor's office.

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Publishing Deadlines

Deadlines for content inclusion in *The Texas Compatriot* are:

- ◆ **Submissions due April 30 for May publication (Winter)**
- ◆ **Submissions due August 31 for September publication (Summer)**
- ◆ **Submissions due December 31 for January publication (Fall)**