

# ARK-LA-TEX SAR

*The Official Newsletter of Chapter #69*

## DISPATCH

SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

Volume 2, Number 4

Copyright 2024

July - August, 2024

### PRESIDENT'S CORNER

by Clarence V. Burns



Greetings Compatriots!

The Ark-La-Tex Chapter #69, Texas Sons of the American Revolution, continues to seek qualified descendants for membership. As many have multiple ancestors who served in the independence effort, we encourage them to get supplementals to honor all their lineage.

In large part to the persistence of our Registrar, Dennis Beckham, and several DAR cousins, I have applied for a supplemental on Rebecca Calhoun Pickens. The uniqueness of this is, to the best of our knowledge, that it will be the first female ancestor attained by a member of our Chapter.

Rebecca was the wife of Andrew Pickens, who was very active in the southern battle for independence. After being captured by the British, he was pardoned on the condition he would become a noncombatant. He honored this until a British and loyalist army invaded his farm, destroyed his crops, burned his buildings, and terrorized his wife and children. After notifying the British commander, he and his wife re-engaged in the effort and was instrumental in the victory at Cowpens, South Carolina, a pivotal battle in the war.

Members, search those family tree's and give respect to those who did so much sacrifice for our nation.

Clarence V. Burns  
President  
Ark-La-Tex Chapter #69

### SAR MISSION STATEMENT

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



WE DESCENDANTS OF THE HEROES  
OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION  
WHO, BY THEIR SACRIFICES,  
ESTABLISHED THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,  
REAFFIRM OUR FAITH IN THE PRINCIPLES OF LIBERTY  
AND OUR CONSTITUTIONAL REPUBLIC,  
AND SOLEMNLY PLEDGE OURSELVES  
TO DEFEND THEM AGAINST EVERY FOE.



### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.  
American Legion Post 258  
308 North Louise Street  
Atlanta, Texas 7555

**134<sup>th</sup> Sons of the American Revolution Congress**  
July 10<sup>th</sup> – July 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
Lancaster Marriott Penn Square  
25 N. Queen Street

Lancaster, Pennsylvania

**Fall Leadership Training**

Thursday, October 3<sup>rd</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024

The Galt House Hotel

140 North 4<sup>th</sup> Street

Louisville, Kentucky, 40202

**Spring Leadership Training**

Thursday, February 27<sup>th</sup> – March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2025

The Galt House Hotel

140 North 4<sup>th</sup> Street

Louisville, Kentucky, 40202



**BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES**

**BIRTHDAY**

Aug 01..... Dennis Mack Beckham

Aug 19..... Maximus Aaron Addington

**SAR Anniversary**

August 7, 2014..... William Edward Sekel Jr

August 28, 2020..... Dennis Mack Beckham

August 19, 2022..... Rodney Glen Love



**BATTLES FOUGHT JUL & AUG**

Jul 1, 1782..... Raid on Lunenburg

Jul 3, 1778..... Wyoming Massacre

Jul 5–14, 1779..... Tryon's raid

Jul 5–6, 1777..... Siege of Fort Ticonderoga

Jul 6, 1779..... Battle of Grenada

Jul 6, 1781..... Battle of Green Spring

Jul 6, 1782..... Battle of Negapatam

Jul 7, 1777..... Battle of Hubbardton

Jul 8, 1777..... Battle of Fort Ann

Jul 8–10, 1776..... Battle of Gwynn's Island

Jul 12, 1780..... Huck's Defeat

Jul 15, 1776..... Battle of Lindley's Fort

Jul 16, 1779..... Battle of Stony Point

Jul 1781..... Francisco's Fight

Jul 2, 1779..... Capture of Grenada

Jul 20, 1775..... Capture of Turtle Bay Depot\*

Jul 20–21, 1780..... Battle of Bull's Ferry

Jul 21, 1780..... Battle of Colson's Mill

Jul 21, 1781..... Naval battle of Louisbourg

Jul 22, 1779..... Battle of Minisink

Jul 24–Aug 29, 1779..... Penobscot Expedition

Jul 27, 1778..... First Battle of Ushant

Aug 1, 1780..... Battle of Rocky Mount

Aug 5, 1781..... Battle of Dogger Bank

Aug 6, 1777..... Battle of Oriskany

Aug 6, 1780..... Battle of Hanging Rock

Aug 8, 1775..... Battle of Gloucester

Aug 8, 1780..... Battle of Pekowee

Aug 8, 1781..... Battle of Piqua

Aug 8, 1782..... Hudson Bay Expedition

Aug 9, 1780..... Action of 9 August 1780

Aug 10, 1780..... Action of 10 August 1780

Aug 13, 1780..... Action of 13 August 1780

Aug 13–14, 1777..... Second Battle of Machias

Aug 15–17, 1782..... Siege of Bryan Station

Aug 16, 1777..... Battle of Bennington

Aug 16, 1780..... Battle of Camden

Aug 18, 1780..... Battle of Fishing Creek

Aug 18, 1780..... Battle of Musgrove Mill

Aug 19, 1779..... Battle of Paulus Hook

Aug 19, 1781 – Feb 5, 1782..... Invasion of Minorca

Aug 19, 1782..... Battle of Blue Licks

Aug 21–Oct 19, 1778..... Siege of Pondicherry

Aug 22, 1777..... Battle of Staten Island

Aug 22, 1777..... Battle of Setauket

Aug 2–23, 1777..... Siege of Fort Stanwix

Aug 23, 1775..... Raid on the Battery

Aug 24, 1781..... Lochry's Defeat

Aug 25–Sep 3, 1782..... Battle of Trincomalee

Aug 27, 1776..... Battle of Long Island

Aug 27, 1782..... Battle of the Combahee River

Aug 28, 1780..... Battle of Black Mingo

Aug 29, 1778..... Battle of Newport

Aug 29, 1779..... Battle of Newtown

**1775**

**Massachusetts**

Cambridge, July 3rd. General George Washington takes command of the Continental Army and 17,000 troops in the Boston area. On July 16th Washington visits Abigail Adams who later writes "Dignity with ease, and complacency, the Gentleman and Soldier look agreeably blended in him." On July 22nd Washington organizes his army into three divisions under Generals Charles Lee, Artemus Ward, and



Israel Putnam. The next day, noting the lack of uniforms for the Continental Army, Washington orders commissioned officers to wear cockades in their hats: pink or red for field rank, yellow or buff for captains, and green for subalterns. Sergeants are identified by a strip of red cloth on their right shoulder.



With these changes, on July 25th the First Continental Unit reaches Boston. After meeting General Washington, on July 25th Dr. Benjamin Church becomes the first Surgeon General of the Continental Army. Congress then officially established the US Army medical department on July 27th and on July 29th the Army Chaplain Department and the Judge Advocate General Department.

### Congress (War party)

July 4th, The Continental Congress approves a resolution denouncing the trade restraining acts as "unconstitutional, oppressive and cruel." On July 6th Congress then issues a "Declaration on the Causes and Necessity of Taking Up Arms" detailing the colonists' reasons for fighting the British and states the Americans are "resolved to die free men rather than live as slaves."

### Congress (Peace Party)

On July 5th Congress adopts the Olive Branch Petition, which expresses hope for a reconciliation with Britain, appealing directly to the king for help. A formal petition to King George offering reconciliation is adopted on July 8th. London

On July 9th King George calls a petition of the London Common Council "most decent and moderate in words" but subversive in its denial of Parliament's authority to tax the colonies. Five days later John Wilkes, the Lord Mayor of London, and members of the Common Council offer a petition to King George calling for reconciliation with the colonies and an end to all military operations in America. The King later states that he "owed it to the rest of the law-abiding people to oppose the petition."



#### THE AMERICAN CREED

I BELIEVE IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AS A GOVERNMENT  
OF THE PEOPLE, BY THE PEOPLE, FOR THE PEOPLE,  
WHOSE JUST POWERS ARE DERIVED FROM THE CONSENT OF THE GOVERNED;  
A DEMOCRACY IN A REPUBLIC;  
A SOVEREIGN NATION OF MANY SOVEREIGN NATIONS;  
A PERFECT NATION, ONE AND INSEPARABLE;  
ESTABLISHED UPON THOSE PRINCIPLES OF  
FREEDOM, EQUALITY, JUSTICE, AND HUMANITY;  
FOR WHICH AMERICAN PATRIOTS SACRIFICED THEIR LIVES AND FORTUNES.  
I, THEREFORE, BELIEVE IT IS MY DUTY TO MY COUNTRY TO LOVE IT;  
TO SUPPORT ITS CONSTITUTION;  
TO OBEY ITS LAWS;  
TO RESPECT ITS FLAG;  
AND TO DEFEND IT AGAINST ALL ENEMIES.



## OUR FOUNDING FATHERS

### Josiah Bartlett

(December 2, 1729 – May 19, 1795)



Josiah Bartlett (December 2, 1729 [O.S. November 21, 1729] – May 19, 1795) was an American Founding Father, physician, statesman, a delegate to

the Continental Congress for New Hampshire, and a signatory to the Declaration of Independence and Articles of Confederation. He was a member of the convention which framed the Constitution of the United States in 1787. He served as the first governor of New Hampshire and chief justice of the New Hampshire Superior Court of Judicature, now the New Hampshire Supreme Court.

Bartlett practiced medicine over 40 years. During that time, he promoted wellness practices, including diet, exercise, fresh air, and a contented mind. He fostered using messages from one's body to improve one's health, like drinking when thirsty and covering up when sick with chills. He managed an outbreak of throat distemper, or diphtheria, with Peruvian bark, also known as quinine, with much greater success than traditional treatments. When his was very sick himself, he took cold cider, versus a warm drink, at intervals to break a fever.

As governor, Bartlett worked to ensure the state's success by supporting farming and businesses, improving the state's infrastructure, codifying and enacting laws, adding special judges, and paying off the state's debt. He ran a farm and orchards over his life. His wife Mary Bartlett took on that responsibility when Bartlett was away at the Continental Congress in Pennsylvania. Bartlett and his wife wrote letters to one another that provide insight into the life of a founding father, the trials they experienced and conquered as they fought for a country independent from British rule, and their strength in creating a stable life for themselves and their twelve children, eight of whom survived.

Josiah Bartlett, born on November 21, 1729 in Amesbury, in the Province of Massachusetts Bay, was the seventh and last child of Hannah (née Webster) and Stephen Bartlett, a shoemaker. Bartlett had some education from the town schoolmaster and possibly circuit schools. He learned Latin and Greek, most likely from a relative, Reverend Doctor John Webster. In 1745, Bartlett studied medicine in his hometown under Dr. Nehemiah Ordway, a relative.

He also studied from Ordway's and other physician's medical books. After a five year apprenticeship, he moved to Kingston, New Hampshire in 1750, where he lived with Reverend Joseph Secombe. One year later, he purchased twelve acres for a farm.

On January 15, 1754, he married Mary Bartlett of Newton, New Hampshire. She was his cousin, the daughter of his uncle, Deacon Joseph Bartlett and Sarah (née Hoyt) Bartlett. The Bartletts had twelve children, eight who lived to adulthood. They were: Mary (1754), Lois (1756), Miriam (1758), Rhoda (1760), Levi (1763), Josiah (1768), Ezra (1770), and Sarah (1773). All three of his sons and seven of his grandsons would follow him as physicians.

Bartlett was a freemason and encouraged his son Josiah to join. Bartlett and Mary remained married until her death on July 14, 1789.

In 1750, he moved to Kingston, New Hampshire, in Rockingham County, and opened his medical practice.[9] Kingston at that time was a frontier settlement.

Bartlett actively practiced medicine for 40 years. During that time, he tested both traditional and new treatments for optimal efficacy. A virulent form a throat distemper or diphtheria, with a fever and canker, spread throughout Kingston in 1754. Bartlett experimented with therapy using several available drugs and empirically discovered that Peruvian bark, also known as quinine, relieved symptoms long enough to allow recovery. He also realized the benefits of curing fevers with cool liquids, like apple cider, taken at intervals. He tried this when he was quite ill, against his physician's orders, with success. Beginning June 25, 1765, Bartlett and Dr. Amos Gale were partners in a medical practice in Kingston for a period of three years.

Bartlett believed in fostering wellness, including exercise, diet, fresh air, and following cues of one's body, like drinking when thirsty and covering up when sick with the chills. He also believed "to keep



the mind as Easy and Contented as possible" were "of much more Service than a multiplicity of Medicines".

In 1790, Bartlett secured legislation recognizing the New Hampshire Medical Society. He was elected chief executive of New Hampshire, serving as president in 1791 and 1792. In 1790, he delivered the commencement address at Dartmouth College when his son Ezra graduated. Bartlett was awarded an honorary Doctorate of Medicine the same day his son was awarded the same degree.

### Farming and real estate

While in Kingston, Bartlett grew crops on his twelve-acre farm beginning in 1751. As a young adult, he also made money dealing in lumber and buying and selling real estate. After he was married, the Bartletts planted and harvested crops, like corn and beans, with the help of servants. They had an orchard with peach, apple, plum, and cherry trees.

### Politics

Bartlett became active in the political affairs of Kingston, and in 1765, he was elected to the Provincial Assembly. Bartlett conducted discussions with Colonial Governor Benning Wentworth (1741–1766) and the Provincial Assembly to mediate dissension caused by the Stamp Act of 1765 (enacted by the Parliament of Great Britain). He opposed the Townshend Acts of 1767 and 1768 and aligned politically with the patriots, or Whigs. Bartlett was member of the colonial legislature until 1775.

While a legislator, Bartlett was at odds with both Governor Wentworths, Benning and John, who endorsed the Kingdom of Great Britain's agenda over the needs of the people of New Hampshire. In an unsuccessful attempt to influence Bartlett, Governor Benning Wentworth appointed him as justice of the peace in 1765. Two years later, Colonial Governor John Wentworth (1767–1775) did the same. Bartlett organized the 7th Regiment of the New Hampshire Militia and in 1770, he was a colonel of the militia.

Wanting independence from the Kingdom of Great Britain, Bartlett participated in revolutionary causes beginning in 1774. He joined the Provincial Assembly's Committee of Correspondence and the Committee of Safety in May. In response, the governor immediately dissolved the Provincial Assembly, which resulted in the termination of the royal government in New Hampshire. A temporary government was organized with the Provincial Congress, when that assembly was not in session, the Committee of Safety took the lead. Bartlett retained his seat in the Assembly. The Committee of Correspondence reassembled the representatives and selected delegates to the upcoming Continental Congress.

Also in May, his house was burned down, likely by Tories. Bartlett was chosen to represent New Hampshire at the First Continental Congress (September 5 to October 26, 1774), but declined because his house was razed. He moved his family out to the farmhouse and began rebuilding immediately. The Josiah Bartlett House was declared a National Historic Landmark in 1971.

He was named an "accessory after the fact" for the Capture of Fort William and Mary (December 14, 1774) in New Castle, New Hampshire. Governor Wentworth dismissed him from his positions as a justice of the peace and militia colonel in February 1775.

*(continued in next issue)*



## LAST CHAPTER MEETING MINUTES

June 11, 2024

### Members Present

Vice President Joe Reynolds  
Secretary Rodney Love  
Treasurer Danny Addington  
Registrar Dennis Beckham

### Visitors Present

Carolyn Addington  
Louella Vernon

Chancellor Bill Sekel  
 Rick Blackwood  
 Wendell Van Hook  
 Wendell E. Van Hook  
 Bob Vernon  
 Larry P. Chandler  
 Rev Jim Howard  
 George W. English III, MD

Vice President Larry Joe Reynolds called the meeting to order at 6:15 pm. He stated that a quorum was present.

Invocation was given by Rev. Jim Howard and the Pledges and SAR Mission Statement was led by Vice President Joe Reynolds.

The minutes of the previous meeting were emailed to all members. A motion to accept the minutes by acclamation was made by Chancellor Bill Sekel and seconded by Registrar Dennis Beckham. Approval was unanimous.

Treasurer Danny Addington presented the treasurers report. A motion to approve treasurer's report by acclamation was made by Chancellor Bill Sekel and seconded by Wendell Van Hook. Approval was unanimous.

Registrar Dennis Beckham presented the Registrar's report. Jackie Wayne Heck joined as new member. A motion to approve registrar's report by acclamation was made by Chancellor Bill Sekel and seconded by Sec. Rodney G. Love. Approval was unanimous.

Chancellor Bill Sekel reported that the camp had received the following awards at the annual conference: Outstanding Public Service Award (awarding all 5 Public Service medals), Law Enforcement Award (Judge Barbara McMillon), Certificate of Appreciation for Veteran Stark Report, Award for Highest number of Supplemental Applications (thanks to Registrar Dennis M. Beckham), Marshall Hunter Award-highest % of members attending meeting, Flag Presentation Award-correctly displaying American flag (Linden Elementary School), received new chapter start-up kit consisting of banner SAR flag, pray book.

Motion by Sec. Rodney G. Love and second by Treasurer Danny Addington to accept Chancellor report. Approval was unanimous.

Chancellor Bill Sekel presented the night's program. *"The Colonial Flags of the American Revolution"*







*Vice President Joe Reynolds presents Chancellor William E. Sekel, Jr. with a Certification of Appreciation for presenting the Program.*

*Chancellor Sekel pins the SAR Rosette and gives challenge coin to both.*



*Registrar Dennis Beckham presented Rev. Jim Howard with his membership certificate.*



*Vice President Larry Joe Reynolds swore in Robert Donvin Vernon Jr. & Donvin Lowell Vernon (to his mother in abstensia) and presented membership certificate*

Under Unfinished Business Vice President Larry Joe Reynolds asked about newsletter award. The purchase of Armed Service Medal for members of the chapter. \$35+5+6 brought up. Discussed that expense would be high and just present a certificate with individuals name instead was discussed. No vote on measure. Noted that a veteran in civilian clothes was authorized to salute the flag.

The next meeting will be September 10th. We now have two new Dual membership members: George William English III & Charles Eugene Smith

Vice President Larry Joe Reynolds entertained a motion to adjourn. The motion was made by Chancellor Bill Sekel and second by Registrar Dennis Beckham. The motion carried.

Vice President Larry Joe Reynolds led members in the SAR Closing Admonition.

Benediction by Rev. Jim Howard



**BET YA DIDN'T KNOW!**

**FORT LEE, NEW JERSEY, WAS NAMED FOR A TURNCOAT GENERAL.**



Now famous for its closed lanes and political intrigue, Fort Lee, New Jersey, is also intriguing for its name, which it owes to a surprisingly devious figure: Charles Lee, a general in the Continental Army.

The English-born Lee fought in the Seven Years War, worked as aide de camp for the King of Poland, and was even married to a Mohawk woman. (His Mohawk name was “Boiling Water,” a reference to his hot temper.) After he failed to obtain a commission in the British military, Lee settled in America in 1773, and volunteered for service in the Continental Army when the fighting broke out.

Though he had far more military experience, Lee was passed over for Commander-in-Chief in favor of Washington. Perhaps in an attempt to soothe Lee’s ego, Washington had Fort Lee named after him in 1776. Soon after, though, Lee was captured by the British at a tavern in New Jersey, a few miles from his troops.

While in British custody, Lee committed treason, advising William Howe on the best way to seize Philadelphia. After a prisoner swap in May 1778, Lee was back with the Continental Army, but he didn’t last long: At the Battle of Monmouth in June, after a single volley of fire with the British, Lee ordered his men to retreat from the field, much to Washington’s fury. Washington chewed him out publicly, and Lee was court-martialed in July; by 1780, Lee had been dismissed from the army.

As Vowell points out, name swaps were common during the shifting moments of the war: “Fort [Benedict] Arnold became Fort Clinton and then West Point,” so it’s a strange oversight that Fort Lee is still Fort Lee. But it turns out Fort Lee isn’t the only vestige of Charles Lee’s legacy: Lee, Massachusetts, Lee, New Hampshire, and Leetown, West Virginia are all named after him. Of course, perhaps some of that can be forgiven since Lee’s treason was only discovered in 1857, when William Howe’s papers were made public.



*Adjutant Rodney Love present the Military Appreciation Certificate to Manvel Greer for his service in the United States Army.*



## **BET YA DIDN'T KNOW!**

### **HENRY KNOX, AMERICA'S FIRST SECRETARY OF WAR, DID MOST OF HIS TRAINING IN A BOOKSTORE.**

Henry Knox’s family was in the shipping business. But when the Boston-based firm closed shop in 1759, he needed to look for new work—so he became an apprentice at the bookstore Wharton & Bowes. By 1771, he’d saved up his money to open up his own shop, The London Book Store.

Knox took to bookselling, and The London was quite a success. He also took to revolution: After witnessing the Boston Massacre in 1770, Knox used his free time to read up on warcraft. He studied books on military tactics and fortification construction, taught himself math to learn how to better target artillery, and he even quizzed soldiers who visited his shop to learn more about war. By 1772, he’d joined a local militia, the Boston Grenadiers.



Following the Boston Tea Party, the British Parliament passed the Intolerable Acts, including the Boston Port Act, which sealed the harbor off from trade. Cut off from his book shipments, Knox’s financial situation grew dire. As fighting broke out in Lexington and Concord, Knox and his wife snuck across the river to Cambridge to join up with revolutionary forces. Oddly enough, it didn’t take long for Knox to catch the eye of George Washington, who was impressed with Knox’s homemade fortifications. Very soon, Knox was appointed Chief Artillery Officer.

Knox’s book smarts were instrumental to the Patriot troops throughout the war, from moving artillery in the dead of winter, to aiding in the final victory at Yorktown leading to his appointment as the first-ever Secretary of War for the new nation.



**LAW ENFORCEMENT COMMENDATION  
AWARD AND MEDAL**

Judge Barbara McMillon has honorably and faithfully served for thirty three years as the Cass County Justice of the Peace, Precinct 1. She has also served for nineteen years as the Municipal Judge for the City of Linden, Texas, also with distinction. Her office has received many honors and distinctions, and has been awarded the Texas Department of Transportation Safety Award multiple times. The officers from the State, County, and City have held her in continuous high regard during her tenure.



*President Clarence Burns presents the Law Enforcement Commendation Medal to Judge Barbara McMillon*



**CHAPTER LEADERSHIP**

**Ark-La-Tex Chapter #69**

**Texas Society**

**Sons of the American Revolution**

**Atlanta, Texas**

**President**

Clarence V. Burns

903-601-0450

[sarcburns@gmail.com](mailto:sarcburns@gmail.com)

**Vice President**

Larry “Joe” Reynolds

318-691-2844

[Joe.Reynolds@arklatexsar.org](mailto:Joe.Reynolds@arklatexsar.org)

**Secretary**

Rodney Glen Love

903-733-0932

[snakemon@aol.com](mailto:snakemon@aol.com)

**Treasurer**

Danny Warren Addington

903-796-5998

[draddington@att.net](mailto:draddington@att.net)

**Registrar**

Dennis Mack Beckham

430-342-5852

[dennis.beckham@outlook.com](mailto:dennis.beckham@outlook.com)

**Chancellor**

William Edward Sekel, Jr.

830-992-5619

[firstsgtusmcret@yahoo.com](mailto:firstsgtusmcret@yahoo.com)

**Chaplain**

Shawn L. Tully

903-563-1097

[marie6925@outlook.com](mailto:marie6925@outlook.com)

**Assistant Chaplain**

Joshua W. Beckham

903-799-8872

[joshua.beckham@outlook.com](mailto:joshua.beckham@outlook.com)

**Web Master**

Larry Joe Reynolds

318-691-2844

[Joe.Reynolds@arklatexsar.org](mailto:Joe.Reynolds@arklatexsar.org)

**NEWSLETTER EDITOR**

Larry “Joe” Reynolds

5518 Jeff Davis Drive

Alexandria, LA 71302-2336

318-691-2844

[Joe.Reynolds@larryjoereynolds.com](mailto:Joe.Reynolds@larryjoereynolds.com)

