

ARK-LA-TEX SAR

The Official Newsletter of Chapter #69

DISPATCH

SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

Volume 2, Number 6

Copyright 2024

November – December, 2024

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

by Clarence V. Burns



Greetings Compatriots!

As they say, all good things must come to an end. Term limits are a good thing. It allows new energy.

The organizing of a new Chapter requires people to step out and accept leadership roles in unfamiliar territory, especially in our case as we were neophyte members. We were blessed to have a dedicated Chancellor to guide and direct us in our positions.

As the first elected President of the Ark-La-Tex Chapter #69 of The Sons of the American Revolution, I can say that the officers elected have done a very commendable job working together. Their dedication has grown our membership and won many state awards and recognition. Through health crises and growth our officers and members have stayed dedicated and energetic.

My time is coming to an end, but it has been such a pleasure being there as a part of this organization and its development. Now it is my time to support them as much as they have supported me.

May God Bless our Chapter.

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, January 14th, 2025 at 6:00 p.m.
American Legion Post 258
308 North Louise Street
Atlanta, Texas 7555

Spring Leadership Training

Thursday, February 27th – March 1st, 2025
The Galt House Hotel
140 North 4th Street
Louisville, Kentucky, 40202

135th Sons of the American Revolution Congress

July 12th – 18th, 2025
Mohegan Sun Resort & Casino

1 Mohegan Sun Blvd.
Uncasville, Connecticut 06382



BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

Birthdays & Anniversaries

- Nov 07..... Joshua & Laura Beckham
- Nov 15..... Nolan & Jean Maxie
- Dec 18..... Clarence & Vivian Burns
- Dec 22..... Fred & Linda Ott

SAR Anniversary

- November 18, 2022..... John Allen Kelsey
- December 6, 2019..... Fred Murry Ott
- December 9, 2022..... Larry Paul Chandler



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.



BATTLES FOUGHT NOV & DEC

- Nov 5, 1780..... La Balme's Defeat
- Nov 9, 1780..... Battle of Fishdam Ford
- Nov 10–29, 1776..... Battle of Fort Cumberland
- Nov 11, 1778..... Cherry Valley Massacre
- Nov 11, 1779..... Action of 11 November 1779
- Nov 14, 1775..... Battle of Kemp's Landing
- Nov 16, 1776..... Battle of Fort Washington
- Nov 19–21, 1775..... Siege of Savage's Old Fields
- Nov 20, 1776..... Battle of Fort Lee
- Nov 20, 1779..... Action of 20 November 1779
- Nov 20, 1780..... Battle of Blackstock's Farm

- Nov 23, 1780..... Battle of Fort St. George
- Nov 25, 1777..... Battle of Gloucester
- Dec 5–8, 1777..... Battle of White Marsh
- Dec 6, 1782..... Action of 6 December 1782
- Dec 9, 1775..... Battle of Great Bridge
- Dec 11, 1777..... Battle of Matson's Ford
- Dec 12, 1781..... Second Battle of Ushant
- Dec 14, 1774.. Storming of Fort William and Mary*
- Dec 14, 1776..... Ambush of Geary
- Dec 15, 1778..... Battle of St. Lucia
- Dec 1775..... Snow Campaign
- Dec 18, 1779..... First Battle of Martinique
- Dec 18–28, 1778..... Capture of St. Lucia
- Dec 20 - 21, 1782..... Battle of the Delaware Capes
- Dec 22, 1775..... Battle of Great Cane Break
- Dec 22–23, 1776..... Battle of Iron Works Hill
- Dec 26, 1776..... Battle of Trenton
- Dec 27, 1782..... Cedar Bridge Tavern
- Dec 29, 1778..... Capture of Savannah
- Dec 31, 1775..... Battle of Quebec

1777 - Saratoga

As General Burgoyne digs in North of Saratoga NY, on Oct 3rd General Clinton sends troops up the Hudson River towards Albany. On October 6th his forces take Fort Clinton and Fort Montgomery. But these actions were too little and too late to help Burgoyne who was rapidly running out of supplies.



On October 7th he moved against the American left flank on the Bemis heights only to be repulsed. Then the unauthorized appearance of General Arnold drove forward the American counter attack, taking two redoubts before nightfall. Burgoyne was forced

to retreat North and by Oct 8th was in the same fortifications he was in back on September 16th.

By Sept 13th Burgoyne was surrounded. Unable to break out, and informed Clinton would not reach him, Burgoyne asks Gates for a cease-fire. Three days later, in an attempt to pull Patriot troops off Burgoyne, General Clinton's troops burn the town of Esopus, New York.

Again its too-late and on Sept 17th Burgoyne surrenders to Gates.

Chancellor Bill Sekel and seconded by Larry Joe Reynolds. Approval was unanimous.

Registrar's Report: Registrar Dennis Beckham presented the Registrar's report. Two supplemental applications were submitted by Jackie Wayne Heck. A motion to approve registrar's report by acclamation was made by Rodney Love and seconded by Treas. Danny Addington. Approval was unanimous.

Chancellor Report: Chancellor Bill Sekel presented Chancellor's report(see attached page). He 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. He announced that Veterans Day is November 11, 2025 dues need to be paid by December 31. Motion by Sec. Rodney G. Love and second by Treasurer Danny Addington to accept Chancellor report. Approval was unanimous.

Program: None

New member sworn in: none

Presentations: President Clarence Burns presented Service medals to Treas. Danny Addington, Sec. Rodney G. Love and V.P. Joe Reynolds.

President Clarence Burns reminded members about recognizing veterans, and presentation of the colors.

Closing Admonition: President Clarence Burns led members in the SAR Closing Admonition.

Benediction by: Sec. Rodney G. Love



MEETING MINUTES

Date of Meeting: 9/10/24

Members Present

Vice President Joe Reynolds
Secretary Rodney G. Love
Treas. Danny Addington
Registrar Dennis M. Beckham
Chancellor Bill Sekel
Rick Blackwood
Larry P. Chandler

Visitors Present

Carolyn Addington

Call to Order: President Clarence Burns called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. He stated that a quorum was present.

Invocation: Rodney Love

Pledges and SAR Mission Statement: The United States of America, State of Texas, SAR Pledge was led by President Clarence Burns

Minutes: The minutes of the previous meeting were emailed to all members. A motion to accept the minutes by acclamation was made by Dennis Beckham and seconded by Larry Joe Reynolds. Approval was unanimous.

Treasurer's report: Treasurer Danny Addington presented the treasurers report. A motion to approve treasurer's report by acclamation was made by

Ark La Tex Chapter #69
Treasurer Report
September 10, 2024

Balance.....	\$2078.67
Deposits.....	\$20.00 (Challenge coins)
Debits.....	\$0.00
Ending Balance.....	\$2098.67
Remaining Challenge Coins.....	58
Profit to date.....	\$406.60

Danny Addington Treasurer

Ark-La-Tex Chapter
Registrar's Report
September 10, 2024

- New Regular Members - 0
- New Junior Members - 0
- Regular Member Applicants - 0
- Supplemental Applications Approved - 0
- Supplemental Applications Submitted – 2

Heck, Jackie Wayne – John Blasingame – 7/17/24
Heck, Jackie Wayne – Joseph Looney – 7/17/24

Chancellor Report
September 10, 2024

1. Application fees went up. Cost to submit and application is now \$263.00 Cost to submit a supplemental is \$188.00.
2. Dues payment for 2024 has been suspended as we prepare for the 2025 dues season. Please check back to see the 2025 dues payment page when it is prepared and online. Please pay your dues by December 31st.
3. There is a new medal that can be awarded by the chapter. The Bronze Henry Knox Achievement Medal. The normal progression for awarding medals for service to the chapter is:

Chapter Service Medal

- Bronze Henry Knox Achievement Medal
- Bronze Roger Shennan Medal
- Chapter Meritorious Medal
- Chapter Distinguished Service Medal

4. Lydia Darragh Medal may be awarded by the incumbent President to recognize a lady who helped the chapter. This Medal is named after Lydia Darragh (1729-1789), who crossed British lines in 1777 during the British occupation of Philadelphia, to deliver information to George Washington.

5. Please submit to me any names of veterans you would like the chapter to recognize with a certificate. I will bring them to the November meeting.



OUR FOUNDING FATHERS

Richard Bassett



Richard Bassett (April 2, 1745 – September 15, 1815) was an American politician, attorney, slave owner and later abolitionist, veteran of the American Revolution, signer of the United States Constitution, and one of the Founding Fathers of America. He also served as United States Senator from Delaware, chief justice of the Delaware Court of Common Pleas, governor of Delaware and a United States circuit judge of the United States Circuit Court for the Third Circuit.

Education and career

Born on April 2, 1745, in Cecil County, Province of Maryland, British America, Bassett pursued preparatory studies, then read law. He was admitted to the bar and practiced law in Delaware. By concentrating on agricultural pursuits as well as religious and charitable concerns, he quickly established himself amongst the local gentry and "developed a reputation for hospitality and philanthropy." He was a member of the Delaware constitutional conventions of 1776 and 1792. He was a member of the Council of Safety in Dover, Delaware from 1776 to 1786. He served in the Delaware State Militia as a company captain of the Dover Light Horse Regiment from 1777 to 1781. He was a member of the Delaware Legislative Council (now the Delaware Senate) in 1782. He was a member of the Delaware House of Representatives in 1786. He was a delegate to the Constitutional Convention in 1787, and was a signer of the United States Constitution. He was a member of the Delaware convention which ratified the United States Constitution in 1787. He was in private practice in Wilmington, Delaware from 1787 to 1789.



Richard Bassett House in Dover, Delaware

Bassett was elected to the United States Senate from Delaware and served from March 4, 1789, to March 3, 1793, first as a member of the Anti-Administration Party and later as a member of the Pro-Administration Party. Due to his name coming first alphabetically out of all 20 senators who commenced their first term on 4 March, 1789, Bassett is the most

senior senator to have served in the United States Senate. Bassett was chief justice of the Delaware Court of Common Pleas from 1793 to 1799. He was governor of Delaware from 1799 to 1801.

Bassett was nominated by President John Adams on February 18, 1801, to the United States Circuit Court for the Third Circuit, to a new seat authorized by 2 Stat. 89. He was confirmed by the United States Senate on February 20, 1801, and received his commission the same day. His service terminated on July 1, 1802, due to abolition of the court.

Later life and death

After leaving the federal bench, Bassett became a planter in Cecil County.

While he was a slave owner, after converting to Methodism in the 1780s, he freed his slaves and campaigned for the state of Delaware to abolish slavery.

He died on September 15, 1815, on his estate Bohemia Manor in Cecil County. He was initially interred in Cecil County, and in 1865 his remains were re-interred in Wilmington and Brandywine Cemetery in Wilmington, Delaware.

Legacy

Bassett was the grandfather of Richard H. Bayard and James A. Bayard Jr., both United States senators from Delaware.

Bassett Street in Madison, Wisconsin, is named in Bassett's honor.

Bassettown, now Washington, Pennsylvania, was named in Bassett's honor by his cousin David Hoge.



BET YA DIDN'T KNOW!

FUTURE FIRST LADY ELIZABETH MONROE RESCUED LAFAYETTE'S WIFE DURING THE FRENCH REVOLUTION'S REIGN OF TERROR.

As head of the Paris National Guard, one of Lafayette's charges was to safeguard the Royal family (from 1791 to 1792, France was officially a constitutional monarchy). But in 1792, the radical wing of the revolution took over, the king was dethroned, and even the brilliant Marquis de Lafayette could no longer pull off being both a revolutionary and a nobleman. Facing imprisonment and likely execution as an enemy of the state, Lafayette fled France in 1792. He had hoped to catch a boat to America from a Dutch port city, but he was caught by Austrian troops who controlled the Netherlands first.

While he was lying in an Austrian prison, Lafayette's wife, Adrienne, was placed under house arrest along with his daughter. They were then moved to a prison. They were the lucky ones in the family: Adrienne's mother, grandmother, and sister were all executed during the Committee of Public Safety's Reign of Terror. But in 1794, at the height of the Terror, James Monroe became the new nation's Minister to France. Monroe and his wife, Elizabeth, were intent on insuring Adrienne's safety. The couple knew they had to tread carefully.

To draw attention to Adrienne's plight, they bought a carriage, and Elizabeth rode it to the prison Adrienne was held in. She attracted a crowd along the way, curious to see who she was visiting. When Elizabeth arrived at the prison, she embraced Adrienne in public, who was obviously relieved the carriage was not there to take her to her execution.

The crowd's emotional response helped convince the Committee of Public Safety to grant Adrienne's freedom, and she and her daughter traveled to Austria to be with Lafayette.



EMT MEDAL

LifeNet's Joe Fritz is presented the Emergency Medical Service Award which celebrates the dedication and work of paramedics who have gone above and beyond their field.



Danny Addington, accompanied by President Clarence Bruns, Vice-President Joe Reynolds and Secretary Rodney Love presents the EMT Award to Paramedic Joe Fritz, accompanied by Alyssa Hale and Darren Higgs.



OUR AMERICAN PATRIOTS

Captain Zachariah Isbell, Sr.
6th Great Uncle of
Compatriot Larry Joe Reynolds



WATAUGA OLD FIELDS
WHERE THE WATAUGA ASSOCIATION WAS FORMED IN 1777, BEING
THE FIRST PLACE WEST OF THE ALLEGHENIES WHERE MEN JOINED
TOGETHER IN A WRITTEN COMPACT FOR CIVIL GOVERNMENT AND
FOR THE PRESERVATION OF THEIR IDEALS OF LIBERTY.
THE THIRTEEN COMMISSIONERS ELECTED WERE
CHARLES ROBERTSON JAMES SMITH GEORGE EUSSELL
JAMES ROBERTSON JACOB BROCK JACOB VOLACK
ZACK ISBELL WILLIAM BEAR ROBERT LINDSAY
JOHN SETTEE JOHN JONES WILLIAM WYLLIE
JOHN CLATER
ERECTED BY THE TENNESSEE
COMMITTEES OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION
OCTOBER, 1929

Zachariah Isbell, Sr. was born about 1722 in Virginia.

His wife's name is not known for sure. He was a sheriff, magistrate, and justice in Virginia.

Their children may have included:

Louvisa Isbell (1743, married John Carr),
Zachariah Isbell, Jr. (1745),
William Isbell (1747),
Jason Isbell (1756),
Hannah Isbell (1760, married Taylor).

He was a captain in the French and Indian War.

On March 7, 1759, he received a land grant for 250 acres in the Craven District (later Camden District) of South Carolina. He was a tax collector, Justice of the Peace, and a magistrate there.

In 1762 he was on the tax list of Rowan County, North Carolina.

On July 16, 1766, in Camden District, South Carolina, Zachariah Isbell, Sr. sold land to Jeremiah Potts and Zachariah's wife, Elizabeth Isbell, signed to release her dower rights.

In 1771 and 1772 he was on the tax list of Surry County, North Carolina.

They moved to Washington County, North Carolina (later Tennessee) where he was a magistrate judge. He was one of 13 commissioners appointed to form the Watauga Settlement. In 1772 he served on the first court in Tennessee.

On March 25, 1775 he witnessed the deed for the Watauga Purchase of the East Tennessee lands from the Cherokee and soon after bought land from Jacob Brown.

In 1776 he signed the petition of Watauga settlers asking to become part of North Carolina.

In 1778 he served on the first court in Washington County. In November, 1778

Ord[ered]. Jacob Womack, Jesse Walton, Geo. Russell, Joseph Willson, Zach. Isbell, and Benjamin Gist appointed to lay off the place for erecting the Court house, prison stocks, and the said return is ord. filed in the court office.

Ord. that Patrick Murphy be fined for 20 lbs. for insulting Zachariah Isbell a member sitting on the bench.

State vs. Patrick Murphy for stealing two hogs the property of Zach Isbell and Thomas Evans. Jas. Crawford and Wm. Murphy witness for the State, John Smith, Richard Travillian and John Redding witness for Murphy. Sworn. The Court ord. that Murphy pay to Zach Isbell for his hog 26 lbs., and for Evans hog 10 lbs. and receive on his bare back well laid on by the Sheriff, 20 lashes.

1778 Washington County tax list included Zach Isbell and Zach Isbell, Esq.

Zachariah Isbell and his son Zachariah, Jr. both served in the government of the Watauga Association, and they both fought the British with Colonel John Sevier in the Battle of Kings Mountain, October 7, 1780.

Zachariah and Elizabeth Isbell signed as witnesses to a deed for Jacob Brown on October 9, 1781.

In 1784, Zachariah Isbell, John Sevier and Jesse Walton were appointed to confiscate the properties of Tories in Washington County.

He died about 1788 and is believed to be buried at Cherokee Creek Baptist Church Cemetery.



WREATH LAYING CEREMONY

As part of America 250, SAR Members attend a Wreath Laying Ceremony for the Battle of Baton

Rough Commemoration during the Louisiana Society Fall Meeting in Baton Rouge.



Chapter Vice President Joe Reynolds attends Wreath Laying Ceremony for the Battle of Baton Rouge Commemoration.



THE FENCE-SITTERS



In the pledge of allegiance to our flag we declare our commitment to “one Nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.” The statement confirms our fidelity to the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution. It remains a goal, an ideal for all Americans of good will.

Certainly, we were not “one nation” when it all began in the 1700s leading up to the War for Independence.

Historians have concluded that by 1776 about 20% of the population of the British colonies in America supported separation and independence. About 20% were loyalists who remained loyal to England and the king. By far the largest group, making up about 60% of the population, was undecided. They were fence-sitters. In the 1800s a group supporting both sides were known as “mugwumps”, said to be sitting on a fence with their mugs facing one side and their wumps the other...Today they may be called “independents”.

With so many fence-sitters in 1776, the cause became as much an effort to win popular support as it was to win victories on the battlefield. The publication of Thomas Paine’s *Common Sense* in January of 1776 added

energy and passion to the patriot cause as did the December 26, 1776 American victory at Trenton. The Revolution fractured relationships among neighbors and friends. It also separated families, the most notable being the split between Benjamin Franklin and his son, William, a Loyalist governor of New Jersey who supported the British effort during the war. They never reconciled their differences.

By 1787, when our patriot fore bearers produced a constitution it was designed for all people – patriots, loyalists, and fence-sitters – and to heal a divided America. It embraced the principles set forth in the Declaration of Independence. Every citizen has certain fundamental rights that no government may ever take away. It created a means to expand the franchise and a path to end slavery.

The Heritage Foundation captured it well when in an essay titled *The Genius of the Constitution*, it stated, “The great genius of the Constitution is this: it permits the people to govern themselves by putting the power of government in their hands, by protecting them from those who would take power or liberty from them, and by giving each successive generation the ability to improve upon the

government bequeathed to them by those who came before.”



Vice President’s Note:

by Larry “Joe” Reynolds

As President Burns said at the start of this newsletter, we do need members who are willing to step up and assumed duties as officers of this fine organization. During our November Meeting we will need to elect a President and Vice President as President Burns has reached the maximum length that he can serve. I have not heard of anyone who wishes to take his place as President, so I’m asking any of you members who would be interested in serving as President to please let me know.

I know that it is normally the Vice President’s duty to move up and become President, however I have some reservations about running due to the distance I live from Atlanta. I would need assurance from our members that they would be willing to work with me and assist in the help I would need. I will also need someone who is willing to run for Vice President.

Another consideration that I would like for our members to consider is volunteering for and maintaining some Committees. That would help us grow and fulfill our mission!

Almighty God, You have given us this good land for our heritage. We thank You that the great gift of this nation is freedom for all. We understand that Your finger was upon the writing and signing of our Constitution.

Lord, we pray that You will enter the hearts of all who take the oath to protect our nation and that they will look to You as our Founding Fathers did to seek your will in their daily decisions.

We pray that You will be in our hearts as well. Keep us always faithful to the principals and values upon which this nation was established.

It is through faith in You that we will find the strength to overcome all difficulties and challenges.
AMEN



A PRAYER INSPIRED BY OUR FOUNDERS

CHAPTER LEADERSHIP

Ark-La-Tex Chapter #69

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Sons of the American Revolution

Atlanta, Texas

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