

# The MINUTEMAN



## Dallas Chapter

Founded November 10, 1928  
Texas Society - Sons of the American Revolution

July 12, 2025

*“writing – the mother of memory”*

Volume 26, No. 5

### Ventana by Buckner South Tower, Grand Hall

8301 N US 75-Central Expressway - Dallas, TX 75225

Breakfast – 8:00am

Meeting – 9:00am

#### **PRESIDENT**

*Brent Harshman*

#### **1st VICE- PRESIDENT/PROGRAMS**

*Thomas F. Van Fossen*

#### **2nd VICE- PRESIDENT/AWARDS**

*J. D. Martin*

#### **ACTING SECRETARY**

*Mark Harrison*

#### **TREASURER**

*Tim Chapman*

#### **REGISTRAR**

*Mark Morgan*

#### **CHAPLAIN**

*Frank H. Pounders*

#### **ASSISTANT CHAPLAIN**

*Larry Luby*

#### **HISTORIAN**

*Tom Manning*

#### **TRUSTEES**

*Gary Sisson  
David Temple*

#### **COLOR GUARD COMMANDER**

*J.D. Martin*

**Each month a new medal** that anyone in the Sons of the American Revolution can earn will be presented in this newsletter. We continue with our newest award, the Bill Watts – Ben Franklin Lapel Pin.

#### **Bill Watts – Ben Franklin Lapel Pin.**

The criteria and requirements are:

*Participate in 5 SAR Youth activities and complete the Youth Protection Training online.*



*Send a list of the events (from January 1, 2025 forward), the date, the place, your name, proof of your YPT certificate, and your Chapter to Tom Van Fossen. The Dallas Chapter will award you the lapel pin. It is to be worn on all clothing, not just business or colonial.*

The Bill Watts – Ben Franklin Lapel Pin will be available to other Texas Chapters as well as DAR & C.A.R. members.

#### **AGENDA**

**Call to Order –**

President Harshman

**Rules of Engagement –**

This meeting is being filmed and recorded. By joining this in-person or virtual meeting of the Dallas Chapter of the TXSSAR, you acknowledge and agree that these proceedings may be made public.

**Invocation**– Larry Luby – with a moment of silence for the flood victims in the Texas Hill Country, New Mexico and North Carolina

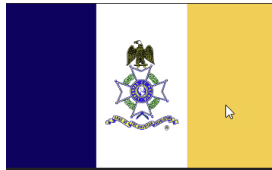
**Posting of Colors** – Keith McMenemy

**Pledges**

American Flag – Jerry Pinkerton



Texas Flag – Tom Manning



SAR Flag – Tom Van Fossen

**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.

Welcome – President Brent Harshman

We would like to welcome our guests:

Former State Presidents - Bob Clark; VP Americanism – David Scott; Acting Coastal Registrar and Assistant Inland Registrar - Jerry Pinkerton; Council of Chapter Presidents Secretary - Tom Van



Fossen; Former Council of Chapter Presidents President & Former McKinney Chapter President - Tom Milson; Former Regent of the Susan Emma Daugherty Bannister DAR Chapter – Pat Thibodeau; Chapter web master and newly inaugurated Admiral in the Texas Navy, Paul Ridenour; Dr. Lowell Chaffin – guest from Amarillo; Anne Maloney, wife of Compatriot John Maloney and the van Heyst family – from East Fork Trinity and welcome to any guests that I missed.





### American Historic Moment

Compatriot John Morton read the Declaration of Independence in its entirety as part of our 4<sup>th</sup> of July



recognition.

### Special Awards

Tom Van Fossen announced the initial presentations of the new Bill Watts – Ben Franklin Lapel Pin. He first announced that Bill and his brothers Marvin and Donnie Watts and his sister Cindy Dine were receiving the very first pins. Next, Anne Maloney, wife of Compatriot John Maloney, was

presented a pin because of her hospice experience and her work with Bill during his last days. Finally, pins were presented to the following SAR, DAR & CAR members:

- Tom Whitelock
- Tom Van Fossen
- Tom Milson
- David Scott
- Mark Harrison
- Michael Goode
- Cynthia Goode
- Jack Haughton
- Larry Luby
- David Fautheree
- Ron Carey
- Randall van Heyst
- D'Auna van Heyst
- Karalynn van Heyst
- Reagan van Heyst



For a separate award, Pat Thibodeau of the Susan Emma Daugherty Bannister DAR Chapter presented the Hannah White Arnett Bronze Medal of Distinction for 'Extraordinary Cooperation and Outstanding Service to NSDAR to Mark Harrison.



## Featured Speaker

1st Vice President Van Fossen introduced today's speaker, William Covington of the Arlington Chapter. His topic was 'The Paul Revere of the South – The Saga of John 'Jack' Jouett'.



## New Member Inductions

Acting Coastal Registrar Jerry Pinkerton and Chapter Registrar Mark Morgan presided over the induction ceremony of our newest member, Gale Edward Lewis. His patriot ancestor was Michael Hoffecker.



Welcome to the Dallas Chapter, Gale!

## Member Anniversaries

A few special anniversaries were recognized by President Harshman.

First, the 96<sup>th</sup> anniversary for the Dallas Chapter was commemorated by replacing the '95' plaques on the podium with '96'. Celebrating our founding on July 4, 1929, were two of our longest serving compatriots, Nick Harper and Robert Kittrell. A special 96<sup>th</sup> anniversary cake was available to be enjoyed by our attendees.



The 50 year anniversary of Compatriot Lee C. Ritchie was highlighted. It was pointed out that Lee passed away on July 5 and his memorial service was scheduled for July 12.



★ Lee C. Ritchie ★  
50 years

July anniversaries included:

- Collin A. Clark (10 years)
- Normand D. Kessler (5 years)
- Timothy L. Kessler (5 years)
- Aiden K. Lamb (5 years)
- Robert E. McDowell (30 years)
- William K. Singleton (5 years)
- Peter A. Webb (5 years)
- Tom M. Whitelock (25 years)



It was noted that Compatriot Whitelock (a.k.a. T1) has 25 years of perfect attendance – with many more to come!

Congratulations to each of these Compatriots.

## Officer Reports

**Acting Secretary – Mark Harrison**

Meeting Minutes – approved for both previous meetings – motion by Jerry Pinkerton and 2<sup>nd</sup> by J.D. Martin. Approved.

**Treasurer – Tim Chapman**

Treasurers Report – Treasurer Tim Chapman – copies available at the check-in table.

**Registrar – Mark Morgan**

In Progress at Chapter - 11  
At National for Review - 16  
(6 Regular, 0 Junior, 9 Supp., 1 Memorial)  
Approved - 8

New Members Approved - 7  
Memorial Applications Approved - 0  
Supplemental Applications Approved - 1  
Total - 8



Closed - 36  
We have a total of 71 Applications

New Member Inductions YTD - 5  
New Members Inducted Today - 1  
New Members to be Inducted - 3  
Total - 9  
Total Active Chapter Members 241

**Historian – Tom Manning**

Please submit any pictures or articles to:

Historian Tom Manning [-tommanning.sar@gmail.com](mailto:-tommanning.sar@gmail.com)

When submitting photos, please identify the event, the date, and the location.

The Texas SAR History – Vol 3 is being compiled at this time. All Compatriots are asked to submit a brief bio of your service with the SAR. A form is available on-line at [https://www.texassar.org/pdf/TexasSAR\\_CompatriotQuestionnaire.pdf](https://www.texassar.org/pdf/TexasSAR_CompatriotQuestionnaire.pdf). This information is being requested to be submitted ASAP. You can send to John Anderson, Texas SAR Historian at [historian@texassar.org](mailto:historian@texassar.org). Please submit your bio information as soon as possible.

**Color Guard – Commander J.D. Martin**

Chapter Color Guard Commander J.D. Martin reported on several past Color Guard activities.



Immediately after our June 14 chapter meeting, a flag retirement ceremony was held in conjunction with the Plano Chapter at Fire Station #2 in Plano. Several members participated including Tom Manning, Tom Van Fossen, J.D. Martin and Jerry Pinkerton.



On June 21, the annual Audie Murphy Day parade was held in Farmersville.

On July 4<sup>th</sup>, Compatriots Tom Van Fossen, Brent Harshman, Jerry Pinkerton and Tom Whitelock worked with the Prudence Alexander DAR in an information table in University Park in conjunction to their 4<sup>th</sup> of July parade.



In conjunction with the John Abston DAR Chapter in McKinney and the Battlefield Trust, a Revolutionary War exhibit was held at the Collin County History Museum. Participating were Mark Hansen, Tom Van Fossen and Mark Harrison.



Finally, while not a formal Color Guard event, Compatriot Jerry Pinkerton met with the Big County Chapter in Abilene on June 21 as his nephews/great nephew/great grandnephews - Timothy, Austin, Grayson and Jackson) were inducted into the SAR. Congratulations!



The memorial service for the former chapter Color Guard Commander, Compatriot William Byron



‘Bill’ Watts will be held at 2PM on Saturday, July 26 at Rest Haven Funeral Home (2500 State Highway 66 East, Rockwall). There will be a brief service in the chapel followed by internment. A musket salute is planned for the graveside portion of the program that day.

### **JROTC – J.D. Martin & Wayne Stewart**

Nothing to report

### **Upcoming Programs – 1st VP Tom Van Fossen**

The speaker at the next meeting on August 9 will be Richard Battle, a history author from Austin. His topic will be “AmeriCANS Who Made America: 18<sup>th</sup> Century – Birth of the Republic”.



### **Committee Opportunities**

Public Relations & Publicity  
Community Service Awards  
Member Recruitment & Retention  
C.A.R. Liaison  
DAR Liaison  
Annual Audit  
American History Teacher  
Web and Social Media  
Color Guard Members  
JROTC Members

Brochure Contest (MS)  
C.A.R. Essay Contest  
Eagle Scout Essay Contest (HS)  
Knight Essay Contest (HS)  
Oration Contest (HS)  
Poster Contest (Elem)  
Video Contest (MS & HS)  
Speaker’s Bureau  
Greeter

It was announced that Compatriot Scot MacRae has agreed to serve as our C.A.R. liaison. He has also agreed to serve as the state chairman of the Joseph S. Rumbaugh Oration Contest.

Please discuss with Compatriots Van Fossen or Harrison

### **OLD BUSINESS –**

Last month, there was a suggestion to establish an award in honor of Compatriot Watts – the ‘Dallas Chapter Service Above Self Award’. The award was approved unanimously by the membership. The BOM met to flesh out the details of the award. Copies of the award criteria were available at the meeting. Briefly, the award will be awarded with the approval of the Dallas Chapter Board of Managers to any SAR, DAR or CAR member that has ‘performed extraordinary, highly commendable or dedicated service to the Dallas Chapter over time, for any SAR connected event or for a Veterans program.’

### **Door Prizes**

1<sup>st</sup> selection – Tom Manning  
2<sup>nd</sup> selection – Evan Scott  
3<sup>rd</sup> selection – Matthew Frick (prospective member)



## **NEW BUSINESS –**

Next Meeting — Saturday, August 9 @ 9am

Speaker: Richard Battle

“AmeriCANS Who Made America: 18<sup>th</sup> Century – Birth of the Republic”

**BENEDICTION** – Brent Harshman

**SAR RECESSIONAL** – All

**[NEXT MEETING IS SATURDAY August 9 @ 9:00 AM](#)**

Respectfully submitted,  
Mark Harrison, Acting Secretary

**DIRECTIONS TO LOCATION MEETING LOCATION (A) PARKING AREA (B)**

