



## Denton #23 Chapter Newsletter



Established August 21, 1965

### SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

#### Edition:

**NEXT MEETING:** October 10, 2020    **TIME:** 10 AM    **LOCATION:** Via the ZOOM electronic format

**From the President's Desk:** COVID continues to have a detrimental effect on our ability to get together for a "face to face" meeting. As you know the public library cancelled all meetings and has yet to open back up. Trinity Presbyterian agreed to let us use their meeting room but told us it would be limited to 10 attendees. That doesn't work for us since we would have anywhere from 15 - 20 in attendance at our monthly meeting and no suitable substitute has been found as of yet. The ZOOM format will be our method until all of this COVID restrictions settle down.

**Also, I want to get our new members inducted** and will set a date for the induction ceremony, probably on the lawn, under "the big oak tree" at the old Denton County Courthouse, downtown Denton. We have 5 or 6 new members where I have received the paperwork for National SAR and want to get this done. So, what is the plan?

**We will have the October meeting via ZOOM on Saturday morning, 10/10/20 at 10 AM. The meeting will last about one hour and hope many can make it.** I will send the ZOOM link out later once it is set. Then the chapter will induct the new members at 1:30PM, this same Saturday (10/10/20) at 1:30 PM on the south side of the Courthouse Square there in downtown Denton. Probably in the area where the old Confederate Statute was located, near one of the big oak trees. Myself along with some of the chapter officers will be there. Any member is welcome to show up at the same time. It won't take long but want this induction to be memorable to the inductee.

Closer to the time of the chapter meeting, I will send out the agenda and the ZOOM link. Hope to see many of you that day, one way or the other.

I hope many, if not all of our chapter members, received and read the article in the Summer 2020 issue of the SAR Magazine which contained an article and art work done by our own James J. Johnson, chapter member and "resident artist". Great honor and a good article about Jim. When our meetings resume, keep smiling, you never know when he is drawing a portrait of YOU>

**The Texas SAR organization Board of Managers (BOM) meeting is scheduled for the weekend of 11/13-15/20 at the Hyatt in Frisco, TX.** This is one of two annual meetings put on by the State organization and is an excellent opportunity to learn about the operation of the organization. I feel it is an excellent opportunity for chapter officers to attend and observe the inner workings and planning of the State and National organization. I will be attending and hope some of you will to. Zap me an email and I can explain the format of the meetings in greater detail. Hope to see some of you in attendance.

**Be alert to the arrival of the SAR 2021 dues statement which normally arrives sometime in the month of October.** Many times, the dues statement is missed and / or thought to be “junk mail” by the recipient. Efforts will be made to send another reminder sometime later in the month. Just remember, the 2021 dues statements will be coming in the mail on October- be on the alert.

## **A Touch of Denton Chapter History**

Chapter Member Jim Johnson, the keeper of all things involving Denton Chapter history, came across an old February 1998 Chapter newsletter which provides a little chapter history. In 1995 the Denton chapter went through reorganization (probably similar to our situation today) and a copy of an old February 1998 newsletter gives us a clue on that time period. In January 1998, Jack Haughton, Texas SAR State secretary, spoke at the funeral of Richard Fletcher. Haughton mentioned that he helped in a **reorganization of the Denton chapter in 1995** and the first new member was Richard Earl Fletcher who became the first chapter president after this 1995 reorganization. Fletcher was instrumental in getting the chapter up and running again. Fletcher is interred at Roselawn Cemetery, Denton, Texas. We continue to search for more information on the Denton Chapter, especially from its original inception in 1965.



One evening in September I presented the Vietnam War Era lapel pin to former Navy pilot Norm Leggett (r), a neighbor of mine at Robson Ranch. He has some hair-raising stories to tell about his time in Vietnam as a member of a “downed pilot rescue” unit. At the October meeting, I will explain how our chapter members will be able to present this lapel pin to military veterans you know who served on active duty during the time-frame of the Vietnam War.

## **THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION TIMELINE – “THIS DATE IN HISTORY”**

- October 8, 1775 In Cambridge, Washington’s general officers met at a Council of War and agreed that the new Army consist of at least 20, 372 men enlisted for a one-year term.
- October 1, 1776 American’s occupy the three strong points in New York; Harlem Heights, Kings Bridge and Mt. Washington.
- October 4, 1776 John Adams writing his wife observed the new government emerging; “we live in an age of political experiments. Among many that will fail, some I hope will succeed.”

- October 4, 1780 Battle of Kings Mountain, S.C. Major Patrick Ferguson and his 1,100 loyalists are either killed, captured or wounded in the battle with 1400 frontiersmen. The battle forces Cornwallis to abandon his invasion of North Carolina.
- October 19, 1781 Lord Cornwallis surrenders at Yorktown, VA and over 7000 British soldiers march off into captivity. The British are unable to marshal another army in America and this virtually ensures American independence, although it takes another year to sign a peace treaty



**The Texas SAR Color Guard Unit is always recruiting new members. This unit is the most active and visible of the Texas SAR entities. If you are interested, check with any of the chapter officers or chapter color guard members for information.**

**Don't Forget**

The next scheduled chapter meeting is Saturday morning, 10 AM, October 10, 2020, via the ZOOM format.

**Denton Chapter #23 Officers**

Chapter President / Secretary- Mike Connelley

Vice President – James J. Johnson, Jr.

Treasurer – Christopher E. Strauss

Registrar- Thomas C. Richards

Chaplain- Joseph W. Rowell

Sgt. At Arms – Johnny L. Loomis