

March, 2023



Ink & Quill

TEXAS SOCIETY OF THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN
REVOLUTION, DENTON CHAPTER #23, TXSSAR INC.®



Next Meeting: 10am April 1, 2023

Emily Fowler Public Library, 502 Oakland Street, Denton

Chapter Officers

President—Jim Akers
Vice President—Brandon Story
Registrar & Genealogist—
Tom Richards
Recording Secretary—Mike Fry
Treasurer—Christopher Strauss
Chaplain—Bill Rowell
Past President—Mike Connelley
Sgt at Arms—Johnny Loomis
Color Guard — David Cook

Opportunities

1. [March 16-17: DAR State Conference](#)
2. [March 18: Patriot James Lemmon Grave Marking](#)
3. [Mar 30-Apr 2 Texas SAR Annual Spring Convention](#)
4. [April 1 Denton SAR Meeting](#)

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Chapter President Jim Akers Message:

Next Meeting: April 1, 2023.

The Denton Chapter submitted the application of Mr. Rodney Hess, a History Teacher at Denton ISD Ryan High School as our Teacher of the Year. Mr. Hess scored very high in the state rankings, and I think we can count on him to use this experience to enter our competition next year. Please continue to check your contacts for additional contestants for Teacher of the Year next year.

We also identified Ms. Emma Figueroa as our candidate for the George S. & Stella M. Knight Essay Contest. As I mentioned in the last newsletter, Emma is a Junior at the Dr. Ralph H. Potteet High School in Mesquite, Texas, and she has a 4.0 grade point average. Emma's essay on Thomas Paine and *Common Sense* was very educational, but unfortunately other contestants scored higher in the state competition.

Continued on the next page...

We have also encouraged Emma to participate in next year's competition. Again remember to check your friends and neighbors for potential contestants for next year's contest. The deadline is December 31, 2023.

Last month's President's Message **incorrectly reported** that the next Patriot Grave Marking would be on Saturday, March 25. **The correct date for the next Patriot grave marking ceremony is Sunday, March 19, 2023 at 3:00 pm** at the Edgewood Cemetery, 624 Nokomis Road, Lancaster, Texas. This date was selected to coincide with the conclusion of the Daughters of the American Revolution state convention in Dallas, so there will likely be many DAR members in attendance. If you have an interest in helping with this activity, please contact Compatriot Bill Watts (bill_watts@att.net). Please consider adding this event to your March calendar, and if you have a Militia or Continental uniform, that will be the day to wear it! I plan to attend, and I encourage each of you to observe or participate in this ceremony.

The Gainesville Medal of Honor Parade will be held on April 22, 2023 on California Street in Gainesville. This parade caps off a three-day celebration of Medal of Honor winners, and will feature six or seven Medal of Honor winners. Anyone interested in riding on the float, or donating the use of a vehicle or trailer for a float, please contact either me or Chapter Vice-President Brandon Story.

Promote patriotism. Preserve American History. Promote education to our future generations. These three things describe what the Sons of the American Revolution does. The Denton Chapter is committed to each of them, as shown by our activities of not only this month, but this past year.

Our next in-person meeting will be **April 1, 2023, 10:00 am** at the **Emily Fowler Public Library, 502 Oakland Street, Denton, TX 76201**. This is a change from our normally scheduled meeting on the second Friday of the scheduled month. We made this one-time change to avoid any potential conflict with the Easter weekend, and the following Saturday, which is Tax Day.

Ron Akers, Denton Chapter President



Texas Society
Sons of the American Revolution

Grave Marking Ceremony
for

James Lemmon



19 March 2023 at 3:00 PM

GPS coordinates 32.579738 -96.747121

Edgewood Cemetery
Nokomis Road
Lancaster, Texas

Editor's Note

The Chapter **website** is <https://www.txssar.org/Denton/>. On that site are the back copies of this newsletter, information about the Chapter, and links to the SAR State and National web sites.

We now have a **Facebook page**, www.facebook.com, search for **Denton TX SAR**. Please join and participate.

All of these communication devices take time to maintain. If you would like to help and/or take over one of these, please let me know.

Bill Surles, wsmerch@gmail.com

Jim Akers Ancestor: Drury Holt

My ancestor, Drury Holt, was born on 12/29/1759 at Albermarie, VA, and served as a soldier in the Montgomery (Fincastle) County Virginia Militia during the Revolutionary War, and as a soldier in the War of 1812.

He was described as “a powerful, muscular man, bold, active and energetic, fond of sports and a social favorite, the kind of a man to gather around him a strong following of ardent and sympathetic admirers and to be a conspicuous character at all neighborhood gatherings.” Drury inherited his father’s (Nathaniel Holt) physical and social make-up, in mid-life becoming more involved in religion and politics. He became a minister of the Church of the Disciples and “a man of some public note.”

Holt volunteered for service with the Virginia Militia after his father, Nathan, was called to service for an additional term in the Continental Army. Drury and his brother reasoned that their father was becoming too senior in years to deal with the physical requirements of further military service, so Drury volunteered to go in his place.

Drury Holt, the husband of Sara Elizabeth Rogers, and father of Danswell, Mollie, Martha (“Patty”), Lucy, another daughter, and Drury Jr., died on about 2/16/1835 at Whitley City, McCreary County, KY as a result of injuries received in a tavern brawl, at the age of 75. He is buried in the Holt Cemetery, McCreary, KY.

Although it is unknown what battles Drury Holt fought in, the Virginia Militia participated in numerous battles in Virginia during Drury Holt’s service, including the battle of Yorktown, VA, September 25, 1781-October 19, 1781.

Denton Chapter SAR Color Guard

February 15, 2023



Our chapter is reactivating our Color Guard which will be charged with taking care of the Chapters Colors (Flags). This will include posting and retrieving the colors at various events and activities as approved by the Chapter President or BOM. We are well equipped with flags, holders and cases, but short of Color Guard members. Thus, our first priority will be to obtain members.

I have been appointed Color Guard Commander of the Denton SAR Chapter. While I have no experience as Commander, I have been active in Color Guard units at parades, grave markings, and other color posting events as well as SAR Chapter officer positions. I have both Colonial and Militia uniforms and a Kentucky flintlock musket.

Your help and patience with me as commander, will allow the Chapter Color Guard to become operational in a short time. I am excited about the Color Guard because it is a very visible and good public relations tool for the chapter as we continue to promote patriotism.

Members will need uniforms with the Militia uniform being the least expensive and easily obtained. The Continental uniform can be rather expensive. Not much time is required by members and depends upon events scheduled. An active chapter Color Guard will help the chapter grow and become more active.

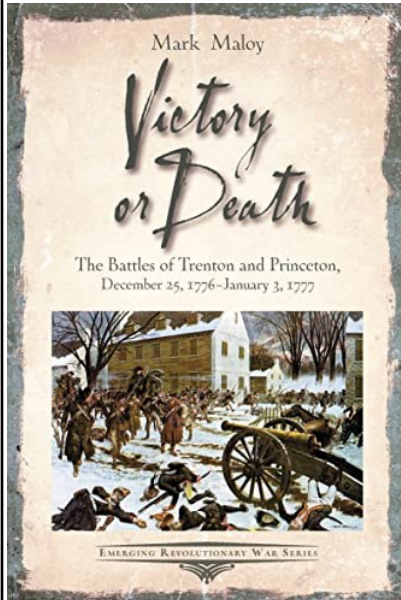
I will have an information sheet describing the Color Guard and how to become a member. However, please call or email me in the meantime with any interest, questions or comments so that we can get the unit up and running soon.

David R. Cook
Commander, Denton Chapter SAR
Color Guard
Cell-706-835-5910
Email-davidcook1936@gmail.com

Victory or Death: The Battles of Trenton and Princeton, December 25, 1776—January 3, 1777

by Mark Maloy

(Emerging Revolutionary War Series)



An overview of the military actions and battlefields of three consecutive engagements during the “ten crucial days” of the American Revolution.

December 1776: Just six months after the signing of the Declaration of Independence, George Washington and the new American Army sit on the verge of utter destruction by the banks of the Delaware River. The despondent and demoralized group of men had endured repeated defeats and now were on the edge of giving up hope. Washington feared “the game is pretty near up.”

Rather than submit to defeat, Washington and his small band of soldiers crossed the ice-choked Delaware River and attacked the Hessian garrison at Trenton, New Jersey, on the day after Christmas. He followed up the surprise attack with successful actions along the Assunpink Creek and at Princeton. In a stunning military campaign, Washington had turned the tables, and breathed life into the dying cause for liberty during the Revolutionary War.

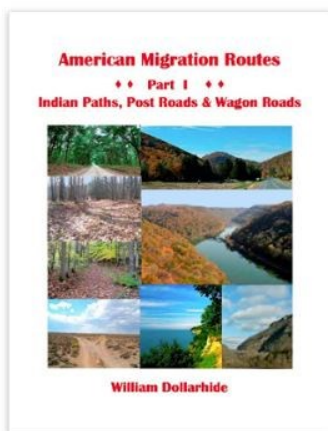
The campaign has led many historians to deem it as one of the most significant military campaigns in American history. One British historian even declared that “it may be doubted whether so small a number of men ever employed so short a space of time with greater or more lasting results upon the history of the world.”

In Victory or Death, historian Mark Maloy not only recounts these epic events, he also takes you along to the places where they occurred. He shows where Washington stood on the banks of the Delaware and contemplated defeat, the city streets that his exhausted men charged through, and the open fields where Washington himself rode into the thick of battle. Victory or Death is a must for anyone interested in learning how George Washington and his brave soldiers grasped victory from the jaws of defeat.

Review from Amazon.com

FOLLOW YOUR ANCESTORS' MOVEMENTS IN AMERICAN MIGRATION ROUTES, PARTS I & II

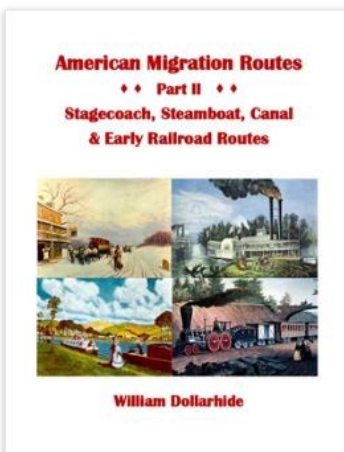
Have you ever wondered how your ancestors travelled across our nation? Have you wished you could follow their migration path? Two books new to Emily Fowler Special Collections might be the books you need to prepare for a future trip along your family's path.



American Migration Routes Part 1 - Indian Paths, Post Roads & Wagon Roads, by William Dollarhide (2022), is 139 pages chock-full of 88 maps and 77 routes, illustrating a specific era of American transportation history:

- Indian Paths to Post Roads (1630-1669)
- The King's Highway (1680-1765)
- Scots-Irish Wagon Roads (1720-1750)
- Trans-Appalachian Trails & Roads (1755-1796)
- Roads to the Ohio Country (1787-1818)
- Roads of the Old Southwest (1806-1832)
- Western Migration Routes (1821-1869)

Each chapter includes a locator map and an introduction to the historic era. The migration routes are enlarged on two side-by-side maps, with the left-hand page features the highlighted trace of a migration route on a modern highway map; the right-hand page traces the route on a county boundary map. The maps were designed to enable a road trip that follows the trace of an old migration route; an arrow symbolizes the road trip directions needed to repeat the trip today.



Dollarhide's second volume, ***American Migration Routes Part 2 - Stagecoach, Steamboat, Canal & Early Railroad Routes*** (2022) takes the travel routes of Henry S. Tanner's 1840 book *American Traveller*, and adds new maps for each of its 45 travel hub cities. Again, the routes are traced on a current road map, with an adjoining map showing current county boundaries. Modern driving directions are included, hyperlinked to Google Maps.

Migration routes included in this book:

- Turnpikes & Stagecoach Routes (1795-1845)
- Steamboat Routes (1815-1840)
- Canals & Waterways (1790-1855)

Early Railroad Routes (1830-1840)

Both books are updated from 1997 versions, and offer full (or nearly full) color throughout. Also included are Tables of Migration Routes for each chapter, with road trips, notes and links to historical references online.

If you've dreamed of literally tracing the paths your ancestors took, take a look at ***American Migrations, Part I*** and ***Part II*** to get started. **FOLLOW YOUR ANCESTORS' MOVEMENTS IN AMERICAN MIGRATION ROUTES, PARTS I & II**

—Nancy Gilbride Casey
Denton Public Library Volunteer



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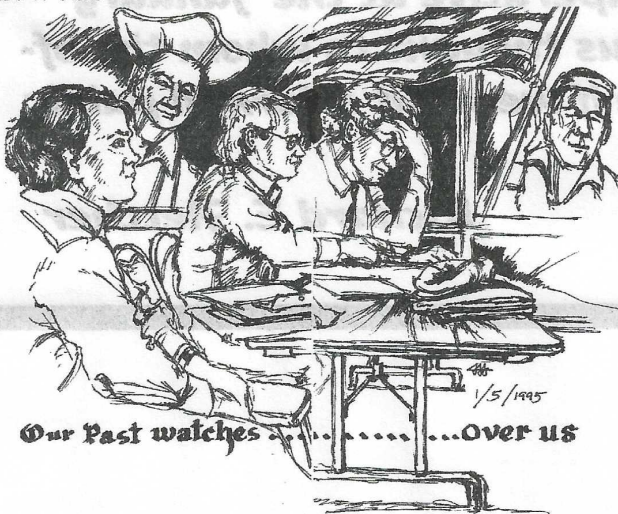
TEXAS SOCIETY OF THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN
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NEWSLETTER

ORIGIN & HISTORY OF SAR TO BE PRESENTED ON JANUARY 4TH

Chapter # 23 of the Texas Society of the Sons of the American Revolution will meet at 7:00 P.M. at the Good Samaritan Village in Denton. A video supplied by the National SAR will be shown. The impact of the SAR, as well as the number of American Presidents who were members, will be reviewed.



Jack Haughton



Our Past watchesover us

HAUGHTON TO RECEIVE PATRIOT MEDAL

Compatriot John C. (Jack) Haughton is one of five Texas members to receive the SAR Patriot Award out of a membership of three thousand. The award presentation will be on March 9th at the state SAR meeting in Galveston, Texas.

VOICES OF THE REVOLUTION

"The sum of my argument is ...That no parts of his Majesty's dominions can be taxed without their consent: That every part has the right to be represented in the supreme or some subordinate legislature: That the refusal of this, would seem to be a contradiction in practice to the theory of the (British) constitution."

James Otis (Boston Lawyer) 1764

REMINDER: MEETING 7 P.M. JAN. 4, GOOD SAMARITAN VILLAGE