



Next Meeting: Saturday, July 12, 2025 at 10am

Emily Fowler Public Library, 502 Oakland Street, Denton

Chapter Officers

President—Brandon Story
Vice President—Ronnie Rencher
Recording Secretary—Mike Fry
Secretary, Annual Reports —
Mike Connelley
Treasurer—Chris Strauss
Asst Treasurer—Bill Rowell
Registrar— Mike Lester
Sgt at Arms—Billy Roussell, III
Color Guard — David Cook

Events

- 1. June 28, Denton 4th of July parade**
- 2. July 12, Denton Chapter meeting**
- 3. July 12, SAR National Conference, Connecticut**
- 4. Sept. 13, Denton Chapter meeting**
- 5. April 17, 2026, dedication of the Texas SAR 250 Monument at the Texas State Cemetery**

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SAR Denton Chapter at the 2024 Denton Yankee Doodle Parade

Denton Yankee Doodle Parade

9am June 28, Downtown Denton

Compatriots -

Please mark your calendars now for the Yankee Doodle parade in Denton on Saturday, June 28!

Ronnie Rencher has volunteered his jeep and a trailer for those who can't walk the distance...and we do have a couple of SAR banners. If anyone has streamers or decorations, please bring those along.

Color Guard members, please wear your uniforms and your best 'pirate scowl.' Remember all powder rifles should be SAR Color Guard rule book compliant (Unloaded; leather over the frizzen and a cover around the powder pan.)

(The Jury is still out on water sales, so it could go either way right now. I have volunteered my wife and kids to help Mark with that.)

We will stage in the Wells Fargo Parking Lot at Austin St. and Hickory St. about 7:45 AM. The parade will last about 45 minutes or so and go around the square.

It will be hot, so please bring sunscreen and water.

Schedule of Events:

- 7:30 a.m. - Parade Check-in/Staging begins - Wells Fargo Parking Lot
- 7:45 - 8:45 a.m. - Parade Entries Judged
- 9 a.m. - Parade begins

Parade route begins near the Wells Fargo building at Austin St. and Hickory St., continues around the square, then down McKinney St. to the Denton Civic Center.

Applicable Parade Entry Themes

- Most Patriotic Vehicle
- Most Patriotic Float

****Parade winners' photos will be posted on social media.**

Additional Information

Throwing candy at the crowd is prohibited and should be distributed by hand to avoid injury.

The parade ends at the Denton Civic Center.

Individuals are responsible for poop scooping after their pets.

Brandon Story

President, Denton Chapter

Sons of American Revolution

214-562-4944



2024



AMERICA250!



HOSTED BY:



John Abston Chapter, NSDAR

May 29th – July 5th
Thursday – Saturday
10 AM – 4 PM



[Collin County History Museum](#)
[300 E Virginia St, McKinney, TX 75069](#)

MINUTES FOR CHAPTER MEETING

May 10 2025

DENTON CHAPTER #23 TEXAS SAR

President Brandon Story called meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Invocation by Bill Surles

Pledge of Allegiance of the flag of the United States led by Brandon Story

Pledge to Texas Flag led by Brandon Story

Pledge of SAR by Brandon Story

Guest speaker: Zach Distel, Curator & Director of Collections - National Society of SAR , presented a Zoom preview of items that will be on display at the new SAR Library that will open in 2026-2027.

Old Business: Expediting State confirmation of application.

April 5, 2025, several members attended the Medal of Honor parade in Gainesville. Various SAR & DAR Chapters participated in parade.

SAR medals were presented at Denton Ryan and Braswell high schools to ROTC members April 25, 2025.

Members Coffee Social at North Point April 26 was a success.

Bill Surles waiting on approval for DAR/ SAR stone bench location.

New Business: Motion to accept Minutes of March 2025 by Mike Frye, 2nd by Jim Hobdy.

Treasurer's Report not available. Mike Connelly reported \$83.00 was contributed today.

Jim Hobdy made a motion to participate in Yankee Doodle parade, date not confirmed, 2nd by Ronnie Rencher.

Chapter Lapel Pens are available per Jim Hobdy.

Motion to donate \$200.00 to Veterans Outpost per Gen. John Campbell made by Mike Connelly 2nd by Ronnie Rencher.

Mike Connelly gave briefing to have a new Challenge coin commemorating the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States of America. Tabled for review of the cost.

Pres. Brandon Story reminded members of the review of the Chapter bylaws and coming election of new officers. Also, spoke of new pricing on Chapter shirts.

Mike Connelly announced an upcoming new members' orientation.

Next meeting July 12, 2025

Motion to adjourn Billy Russel Second Jim Hobdy.

THE SAR EDUCATION CENTER AND MUSEUM



Zach Distel, the Curator & Director of Collections - National Society of SAR, gave a very interesting talk and pictures of museum items. He gave examples the research that goes into each item before it is included in the museum collection.

The SAR Education Center and Museum will house galleries and exhibits that highlight the ideals of our patriot ancestors and tell the story of the American Revolution on the world stage. To see the latest update on the plans for this once-in-a-lifetime project see the video [LINK](#). Gifts of all levels have an impact, and there are still legacy naming opportunities available.

SAR needs your help to make the SAR Education Center and Museum a reality in time to celebrate the 250th Anniversary of American Independence in 2026! What a legacy to leave to future gener-

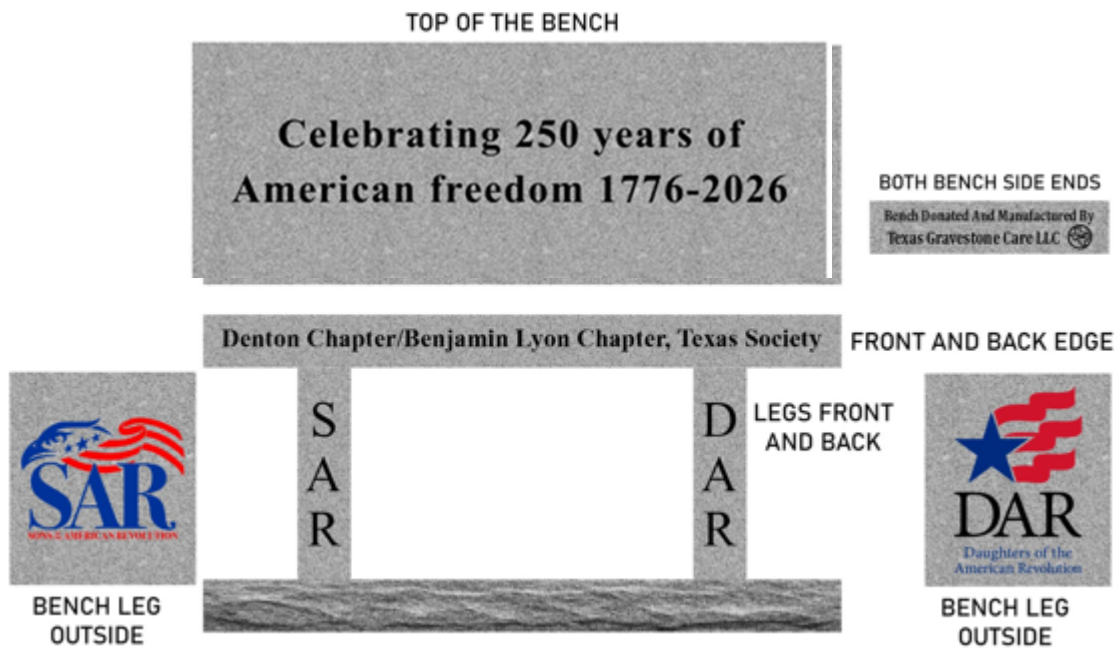
ations within an 8-hour drive of 2/3s of all American citizens. Please consider making a gift to this once-in-a-lifetime project by clicking below.

You can donate to the buildout campaign at: [LINK](#)

The Sons of the American Revolution Foundation seeks to support the mission of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution through fundraising, grant seeking, and donor stewardship.

Bench for Denton

Current Design Choice



The Denton County Courthouse square is controlled by the Texas Historical Commission

The Texas Historical Commission (THC) is the state agency for historic preservation. They save the real places that tell the real stories of Texas.

We have contacted the Denton County Historical Commission and they are working with the Texas Commission to determine if and how we can place the SAR/DAR 250th Anniversary bench. (no news as of 5/31/2025)



A SAR Color Guard Story

Our small SAR chapter Color Guard unit in North Georgia was asked one year to be in a small North Carolina town July 4 parade, in which we did.

An observer took a video of the parade and shared it with me after the parade. The video shows the police car leading the parade with a short break of nothing. Then it showed the very tops of four Colonial flags coming up a slight hill. Slowly emerging were four uniformed SAR Color Guard members caring the flags and flanked by militia musket bearers on each end of the line.

I know every spectator watching the Color Guard marching in that Fourth of July parade felt a strong sense of patriotism and were proud to be an American.

That, is what SAR Color Guard units do. It is the “pay” we receive for volunteering our time and energies to promoting patriotism.

That is what the Denton SAR Chapter Color Guard “COULD” do. Yes it takes time, priority and a little cash. But to be in that parade and pass by a little boy, flag in hand, and saluting our flag will remain in my mind forever.

Joining and participating in the Denton SAR Chapter Color Guard is up to you.

David R, Cook, Denton SAR Chapter, Color Guard Commander

2025 Schedule:

DATE/TIME	EVENT	LOCATION	ATTENDEES- PLANNED
June 28	Denton Independence Day parade	Denton	

Join the Denton Chapter Color Guard

Members can participate individually or we can attend as a Color Guard unit representing the Denton SAR Chapter. New Color Guard members are welcome. Color guard members wanting to attend are to contact Color Guard Commander David Cook.

It is significant to note that several events are designated as National Events which earns 20 points toward national and state Color Guard medals.

“We are the face of the Sons of the American Revolution at the national, state, and chapter levels. Accordingly, as we further the Patriotic, Historic, and Educational Goals of the SAR let us have fun, enjoy the comradely, and practice safety for yourself and others. Yours in Patriotism

K. Scott Collins National Society SAR Color Guard Commander”

David R. Cook
Denton Color Guard Commander
706-835-5910
davidcook1936@gmail.com

Bicentennial of Lafayette's Farewell Tour



August 16, 2024 saw the kick off this monumental Bicentennial celebration. The hundreds of events planned will trace Lafayette's footstep on the exact dates and in the exact order he followed on his tour of America as the "Guest of the Nation" between 1824 and 1825. Celebration and party at every stop.

An introductory video is here:

<https://vimeo.com/855470022>

Did your Patriot meet Lafayette on his tour? Check out the map on the Tour website <https://lafayette200.org/>, research your Patriot's life and/or family in 1824-1825. Was he still alive? Was he or his ancestors on the Tour route? Any family documentation for that period of time?

June, 2025

June 1, 1825 — Butler, PA	June 11, 1825 — Little Falls, NY	June 25, 1825 — Biddeford, ME
June 2, 1825 — Mercer, PA	June 12, 1825 — Albany, NY	June 26, 1825 — Biddeford, ME
June 2, 1825 — Meadville, PA	June 11, 1825 — Schenectady, NY	June 26, 1825 — Portland, ME
June 2, 1825 — Waterford, PA	June 13, 1825 — New Lebanon, NY	June 27, 1825 — Hopkinton, NH
June 3, 1825 — Erie, PA	June 13, 1825 — Pittsfield, MA	June 27, 1825 — Warner, NH
June 4, 1825 — Portland, NY	June 13, 1825 — Dalton, MA	June 27, 1825 — Bradford, NH
June 4, 1825 — Fredonia, NY	June 13, 1825 — Worthington, MA	June 27, 1825 — Newport, NH
June 4, 1825 — Dunkirk, NY	June 14, 1825 — Northampton, MA	June 27, 1825 — Claremont, NH
June 4, 1825 — Buffalo, NY	June 15, 1825 — Worcester, MA	June 28, 1825 — Cornish, NH
June 5, 1825 — Niagara Falls, NY	June 16, 1825 — Boston, MA	June 28, 1825 — Windsor, VT
June 6, 1825 — Youngstown, NY	June 17, 1825 — Charlestown, MA	June 28, 1825 — Royalton, VT
June 6, 1825 — Lockport, NY	June 18, 1825 — Quincy, MA	June 28, 1825 — Montpelier, V
June 6, 1825 — Albion, NY	June 19, 1825 — Cambridge, MA	June 28, 1825 — Woodstock, VT
June 7, 1825 — Rochester, NY	June 20, 1825 — Boston, MA	June 29, 1825 — Burlington, VT
June 7, 1825 — Mendon, NY	June 21, 1825 — Reading, MA	June 29, 1825 — Lake Champlain, NY
June 7, 1825 — Canandaigua, NY	June 21, 1825 — Andover, MA	June 30, 1825 — Whitehall, NY
June 8, 1825 — Geneva, NY	June 21, 1825 — Methuen, MA	
June 8, 1825 — Auburn, NY	June 21, 1825 — Salem, NH	
June 9, 1825 — Skaneateles, NY	June 21, 1825 — Derry, NH	
June 9, 1825 — Marcellus, NY	June 21, 1825 — Pembroke, NH	
June 9, 1825 — Onondaga, NY	June 22, 1825 — Concord, NH	
June 9, 1825 — Syracuse, NY	June 23, 1825 — Northwood, NH	
June 9, 1825 — Rome, NY	June 24, 1825 — Wells, ME	
June 10, 1825 — Oriskany, NY	June 24, 1825 — Kennebunk, ME	
June 10, 1825 — Utica, NY	June 24, 1825 — Saco, ME	



America 250 Decade Of The American Revolution



The National SAR has created this **Decade of the American Revolution** calendar to list Revolutionary War signature events each year that will be the focus of the NSSAR main celebration. Every State Society and all State Chapters should download the programs for the year and celebrate with us in your local area.

December 16, 2023 Boston Tea Party

August 14, 2024 200th Anniversary of Lafayette's U.S. Tour

September 5, 2024 The First Continental Congress

April 19, 2025 Battles of Lexington and Concord

Military Branch 2025 Birthdays:

Army June 14, Navy Oct. 13, Marines Nov. 10

2025 Battle of Quebec

2026 Declaration of Independence

2027 Battle of Saratoga

2028 French Alliance

2029 Siege of Vincennes/Fort Sackville Battle of Kettle Creek

2030 Battle of Kings Mountain

2031 Siege of Yorktown 2032 Battle of Blue Licks

2033 Treaty of Paris

Visit <https://america250sar.org/rd/> for details of each event.

Denton Library Info

Search Local Birth, Marriages, Deaths, and Burials in FREE Denton County Library Databases

In the past few months, we've highlighted several genealogical databases available to Denton Public Library cardholders from home. This month, we're going to look at several more local collections also viewable from home from the Denton Public Library website which might be of interest to those with Denton roots. No DPL library card is needed to access them.

The [Birth, Death & Marriage Notices](#) page encompasses four different databases:

Birth Announcements is an index of birth announcements posted in the *Denton Record Chronicle* and other area publications. The index spans from 1909-1999, minus 1980-1989, with announcements published before 1909 still "a work in progress." Each decade button features a browsable index which downloads to the user's computer as a PDF document. Names are in alphabetical order by surname, with first names as they appear in the paper. If a child was born outside Denton, their birth city is also noted, as is the child's sex, date of birth, and a notation of the publication date and section, page, and column numbers.

Probate Births are records transcribed by Vinita Davis of the Denton County Genealogical Society representing 8,000 probate county birth records (delayed birth records dated 1870-1900). The records were created after Social Security was established and individuals needed to prove their ages. Again, the downloadable Excel file is searchable; copies of the records can be obtained from the Denton County Clerk's office.

Marriage Announcements, like the birth announcements, are arranged by decades in a downloadable PDF document. They cover the time period 1930-1969, and 1980-2004; the time period before 1909 was last updated in 2012. The index includes the bride and groom's names, the marriage date, and the date and location of the notice in the publication.

Death Announcements follow the same format as the birth and marriage announcements. They span 1909-present, with the "before 1909" a work in progress.

Unless otherwise noted, copies of these announcements can be ordered from the library by mail, fax, or email (genealogy@cityofdenton.com), and are fulfilled in the order of receipt.

The [Denton County Cemetery and Funeral Home Records](#) page includes a plethora of information on local Denton cemeteries and several local funeral homes.

I.O.O.F. Cemetery's information was compiled from a variety of sources including burial and marker permits, burial ledger books, and on-the-ground cemetery research by various volunteers who recorded headstone info and by the Denton Parks & Recreation staff. If a marker exists, the information links to a photo as well as GPS coordinates in a downloadable Excel spreadsheet. The index also includes a map of the cemetery and the story of I.O.O.F. cemetery written in 1984 by the Denton County Historical Commission.

Oakwood Cemetery's information, like that of I.O.O.F. Cemetery, includes a burial listing, a cemetery map, and the cemetery story.

Roselawn Memorial Park information was obtained by a cemetery walk-through conducted by the Denton County Genealogical Society in 1993, with additional info added by volunteer Mary Tate in 2018-19. Each of Roselawn's sections—called "gardens"—has its own PDF document. The listings include the surname, given name, row in the garden, birth and death dates, a Find a Grave memorial number if one exists, whether a photo is available, and miscellaneous notes on symbols or inscriptions. *Note: Some of those listed in boldface type in the document were still living at the time of the document creation; many half or double stones are erected pre-need at Roselawn.*

Other cemeteries for which indexes are available include:

Gober-Wright Cemetery, researched and compiled by Susan Waggoner of Sanger, 2010.

Old Hall Cemetery A-K listing, by Edd Painter, 2014.

Denton County Cemeteries, a compilation of county cemetery records abstracted from the holdings of the Emily Fowler Central Library by Mary Layne. These publications sometimes had multiple cemetery listings in a single volume but without an alphabetized list of names.

The last documents on the page are Denton County Funeral Home Records, which include transcriptions of records from several local establishments done in the 1970s and 1980s. *Note: The library does not have access to the original ledgers and does not know the location of the ledgers.*

Shepard Funeral Home (Aug. 29, 1899-July 1905, missing Aug 18-Sept 28, 1902.)

Schmitz Funeral Home and Shepard Funeral Home (1905-1940)

Coker Funeral Home, Sanger (1990s)

These are just a few more of the local genealo

gical treasures accessible from the comfort of your own home courtesy of the Denton Public Library. Have questions? Contact the Denton Public Library's Genealogy Collection at genealogy@cityofdenton.com

—Nancy Gilbride Casey, DPL Volunteer

National Society Sons of the American Revolution

Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/SARmagazine>



Also see the Denton Chapter Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/dentontxsar>



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. NOTE: **There is now a Chapter calendar on the website.** Right-most tab: <https://www.texassar.org/Denton/calendar.htm>

All of these communication items, including the Chapter Newsletter, 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