



America 250

Next Meeting: **Saturday, July 11, 2026, at 10am**

Emily Fowler Central Library, 502 Oakland St, Denton, TX 76201

Chapter Officers

President— Ronnie Rencher
Vice President— Mark Miller
Recording Secretary—Mike Frye
Secretary, Annual Reports —
Mike Connelley
Treasurer—Chris Strauss
Chaplain —Mike Frye
Registrar— Eric Berkheimer
Sgt at Arms—Todd Wilbur
Color Guard — TBD

Events

1. **July 11, Denton Chapter Meeting**
2. **July 11-16, National Conference**
3. **Sept. 12, Denton Chapter Meeting**
4. **Nov. 14, Denton Chapter Meeting**

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Special Events

to commemorate the
250 year anniversary
of the signing of the
Declaration of Independence
of the
United States of America



- The Denton County Commissioners Court's Resolution commemorating the 250th anniversary, recognizing the Denton SAR and DAR Chapters contributions
- The July 4th, 2026, City of Denton Yankee Doodle Parade on the 250th anniversary, with participation of the Denton SAR and DAR Chapters

Chapter President's Message: Friends and Fellow Members,

A huge thank you to everyone who came out and participated in this year's July 4th parade! Your energy, pride, and commitment truly made our presence stand out and helped make the day a great success.

It was an honor to represent our chapter together, especially as we celebrate our nation's 250th anniversary. Moments like these remind us how important it is to celebrate our history and stay active in our community.

I'm genuinely grateful for each of you who showed up, contributed, and helped bring everything together. I'm already looking forward to our next opportunity to come together and represent our chapter with the same spirit and enthusiasm.

With sincere appreciation and excitement for what's ahead, Ronnie

The Denton County Commissioners Court

Proclamation in Open Court, 30th day of June 2026



COURT RESOLUTION Commemorating the 250th Anniversary of the Founding of the United States of America

WHEREAS, July 4, 2026, marks the 250th anniversary, or Semiquincentennial, of the adoption of the Declaration of Independence by the Second Continental Congress in Philadelphia in 1776, signifying the founding of the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, the Declaration of Independence proclaimed timeless principles of profound significance to the national heritage of the United States, including that all are created equal and endowed with certain inalienable rights, including life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, and that governments derive their just powers from the consent of the governed; and

WHEREAS, the founding of the United States established the principle of federalism, emphasizing a decentralized system of government wherein powers are divided between national and state governments, fostering liberty, accountability, and responsiveness to local communities; and

WHEREAS, the founding of the United States initiated a journey toward forming a "more perfect Union," marked by historic achievements, struggles, and progress in realizing the nation's founding ideals for all its citizens; and

WHEREAS, the Semiquincentennial offers a unique opportunity for the people of Denton County to reflect on our shared history, honor the diverse contributions of all Americans, celebrate our heritage of liberty, and look forward to the future we strive to create for subsequent generations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Denton County Commissioners Court, Denton County, Texas, recognizes this significant milestone in our country's history and the patriotic efforts of the Benjamin Lyon Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution and the Denton Sons of the American Revolution.

DONE IN OPEN COURT, this the 30th day of June 2026, upon a motion made by Andy Eads and seconded by Comm. Mitchell and 3 members of the court being present and voting "aye."

Andy Eads
ANDY EADS, COUNTY JUDGE

Ryan Williams
RYAN WILLIAMS, COMMISSIONER
PRECINCT 1

Bobbie J. Mitchell
BOBBIE J. MITCHELL, COMMISSIONER
PRECINCT 3

Commissioner Falconer (a)
KEVIN W. FALCONER, COMMISSIONER
PRECINCT 2

Comm. Edmondson (a)
DIANNE EDMONDSON, COMMISSIONER
PRECINCT 4

ATTEST:



The Denton County SAR & DAR at the Commissioners Court



The July 4th, 2026, City of Denton Yankee Doodle Parade on the 250th anniversary, with participation of the Denton SAR and DAR Chapters

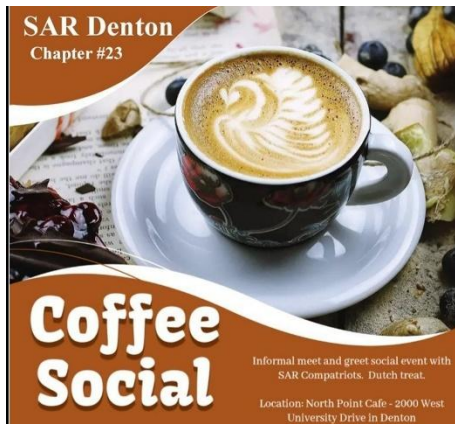




The Benjamin Lyon Chapter of the DAR was also in the parade.



The crowd went wild (or maybe just hot)
One of the largest crowds we've seen for the parade.

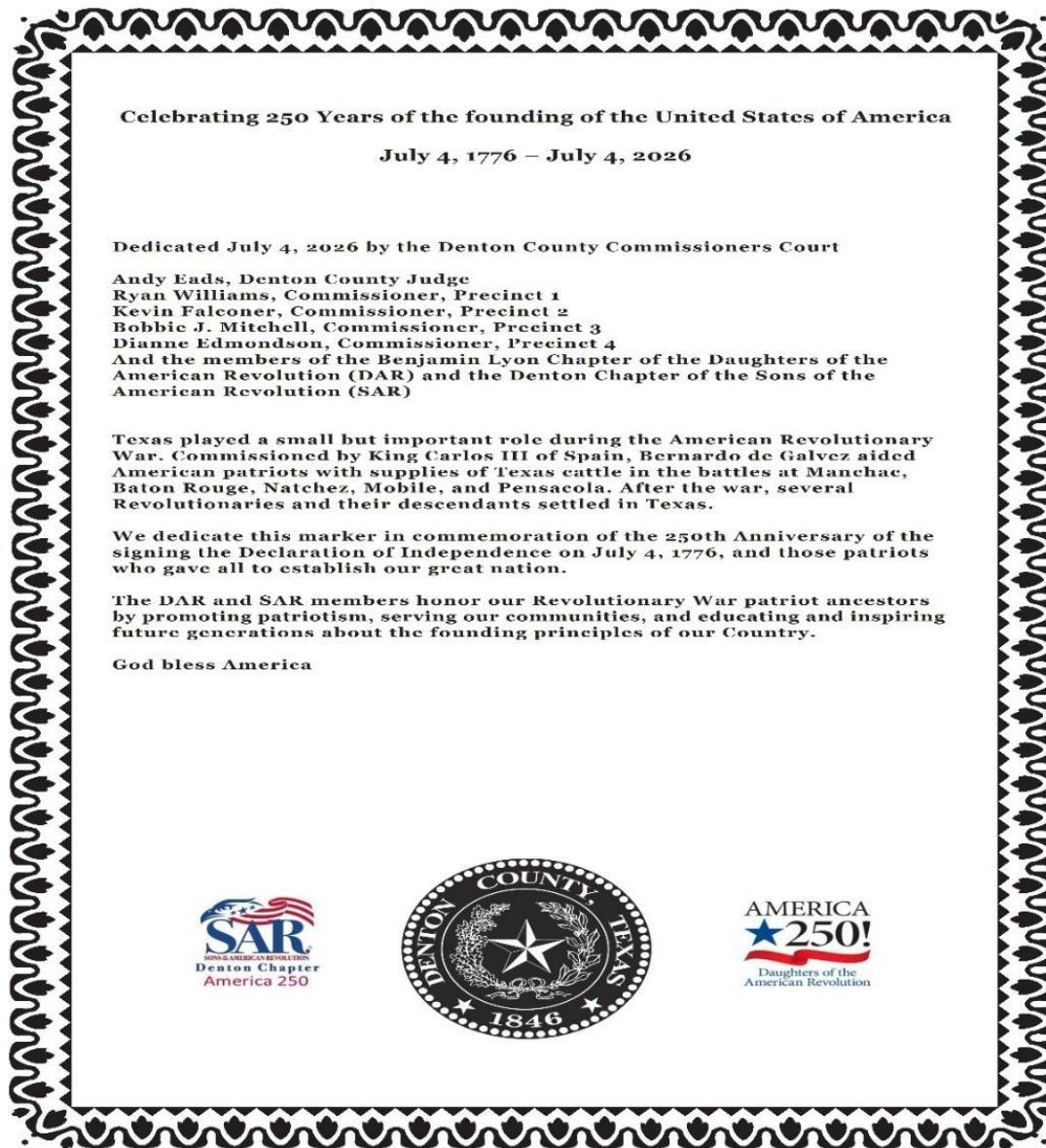


The Denton SAR Chapter Coffee Social was June 20, 2026 9am At North Point Café

Informal get-together for socializing and fun
Guests encouraged, including significant others



The AMERICA 250th Marker Project Project Progress as of July 1, 2026



Waiting for decisions from the Denton County officials.

1. Obviously, the marker will not be dedicated July 4, 2026.
2. Denton County has suggested that the marker be placed at the new Denton County Annex and Courthouse.
3. The marker was mentioned during the Commissioners Court proceedings, and the Judge said **it would happen**.

Comments, questions: wsmerch@gmail.com



Contact acting Commander Brandon Story brandondstory@aol.com for details.

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 carrying 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.

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”



New Member Progress

Recently Approved:

- Richard Thompson
- John Pigott

Submissions under review:

- Michael Scott
- Terry Brantley
- Dale Spaulding
- David Jones

SAR Denton Chapter Website

<https://www.texassar.org/Denton/>



Highlights:

In Docs: 16 years of newsletters

In Membership: Officers and Joining Info

Calendar: Google calendar of SAR events

Check it out



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 100-year Birthdays

March 2026 The British Evacuate Boston

April 2026 - Halifax Resolves, NC—First colony to authorize its delegates to vote for independence

May 2026 - The American colonies rapidly shifted toward independence

June 2026, Siege of Charleston

July 4, 2026, Declaration of Independence adopted

July 5, 2026, Declaration of Independence signed

2027 Battle of Saratoga

2028 French Alliance

2029 Siege of Vincennes/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.

2026 Declaration of Independence

July 4, 1776/ July 4, 2026

By the time the Declaration of Independence was adopted in July 1776, the Thirteen Colonies (New Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia) and Great Britain had been at war for more than a year.

On July 2, 1776, Congress voted to declare independence. Two days later, it ratified the text of the Declaration.

John Dunlap, official printer to Congress, worked through the night to set the Declaration in type and print approximately 200 copies. These copies, known as the Dunlap Broadides, were sent to various committees, assemblies, and commanders of the Continental troops. The Dunlap Broadides weren't signed, but John Hancock's name appears in large type at the bottom.

One copy crossed the Atlantic, reaching King George III months later. The official British response scolded the "misguided Americans" and "their extravagant and inadmissable Claim of Independency".

On July 19, once all 13 colonies had signified their approval of the Declaration of Independence, Congress ordered that it be "fairly engrossed on parchment." (To "engross" is to write in a large, clear hand.)

Timothy Matlack, an assistant to the Secretary of the Congress, was most likely the penman.

The unanimous Declaration of the thirteen united States of America.

Water, ground
Lynch, Ark.
Geo. M. Allen

1. *Amphispiza bilineata*
 2. *Amphispiza bilineata*
 3. *Amphispiza bilineata*

Edward G. Mearns

The Bayview Hotel
 Chicago, Sept. 2nd
 Arthur H. Hilditch

John Hancock

1. *Amphiprion*
 2. *Amphiprion*
 3. *Amphiprion*

Book of the People

George Wythe
Richard Henry Lee
The People
Mary Garrison
The People
James Madison
James Madison

Not known
Sagittaria
L. 18. 18.

Sally Norton

Wm. H. Smith
Gen. Secy.

James H. H.
Gt. West
James H. H.
Gt. West
James H. H.
Gt. West

6. *Phyllophaga*

Wm. L. Loring
Loring, Boston

10

Book 11
for 1880
1880
1880
1880

Franklin D. Roosevelt
The White House
Washington, D.C.

John James
Rev. Dr. P.

Stay Up

William
Roger Moore
Johⁿ Langley
Johⁿ Langley
Johⁿ Langley

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