



The Continental Report

Ellis County Chapter #70-Texas SAR

Sons of the American Revolution



Officers for 2025-2026

President - William D. Hill
Vice President **OPEN**
Secretary - John C. Haughton
Treasurer - Larry R. Williams
Registrar - William D. Hill
Historian - Philip A. Taylor
Chaplain - Calvin D. Brown
Sergeant -At –Arms - Ronald K. Finch
Past-President - John C. Haughton

Serving Cities of

Waxahachie
Red Oak
Pecan Hill
Oak Leaf
Midlothian
Maypearl
Ennis
Bardwell
Avalon

Vol. 4, Issue 6

June 20, 2026

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Out of Respect for Our Compatriots Harlon and Mark Bounds

**We are CANCELLING the June 23
Meeting**

**Next Meeting July 25, 2026
9:30am, Card/Poker Room
The Hamilton at Garden Valley
880 Garden Valley Pkwy.
Waxahachie. TX 75165**



MAY SPEAKER:

James Cooper presented an excellent prothe history of the Continental Navy.

News of Ellis County Chapter

SCHEDULED FOR INDUCTION:

Brent Batla, Ty Hall

APPLICATIONS APPROVED:

Ty Garrett Hall NSSAR #238453

APPLICATIONS IN-PROCESS:

Joel D. Bradley, Mark L. Gundert, , Jake Hibbard, Jerry Hill, Tom Ker, Johnny Mitchell, Ian B. Perry, Mark Reyes, Floyd Ross, Robert G. Shelton.
David Vantreese

PREPARING APPLICATIONS:

Eric Walker

CHAPTER MEMBERSHIP:

The Ellis County Chapter membership roster is available on the **private side** of txssar.org.
(last update Friday, March 27, 2026)



April 28: Red Oak High School JROTC Awards
(l to r) Jack Springer, Lt. USN (Ret.) Commander, Red Oak High School Naval JROTC; John Haughton; JROTC Cadet Robert Ferguson; Mike Tull, SAR JROTC Chapter Representative



Cadet Robert Ferguson

He received the Bronze JROTC medal as outstanding cadet of ROHigh and the bronze Chapter Outstanding Cadet award with \$250 check.

Mark Bounds and **Harlon Bounds** have been making presentations of the Liberty Bell and Declaration of Independence.



May 18: the Bridges Foundation in Midlothian

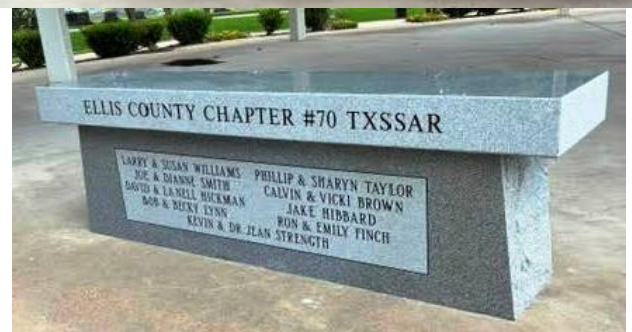


May 20: Stafford Elementary in Italy, Texas



June 17: Flag Commendations in the Midlothian Philip and Sharyn (DAR) Taylor and John Haughton presented the awards to the Midlothian Police Department and Fire/EMS Stations #1, #2 and #3 in the new Municipal Court located in the Public Safety Facility building.

(l to r) Ted McPhreson, Battalion Chief; Phillip Brancato, Asst. Fire Chief; Scott Brown, Asst. Chief of Police; John C. Haughton, SAR Secretary & Past-President; Sharyn Taylor, DAR; Philip Taylor, SAR Historian & Editor; Carl Smith, Chief of Police; Taylor Boler, Patrol Corporal; Tiffany Delle, Patrol Officer; Nick VanDerkar, Crime Prevention Officer; Nick Harp, Patrol Commander (not shown, photographer)



The ECC America 250 bench has been placed at the Richards Pavilion prior to the July 4th dedication.

News from National SAR

July Chapter Event Schedule

July 1	DAR Bench Dedication, Sims Library
July 4	Waxahachie Independence Day Parade
July 4	250 Memorial Benches Dedication
July 21	ECC BOM Meeting
Oct 23-25	Texas Fall BOM, Arlington

News of Texas SAR

A few words from the State Chancellor:

Compatriots:

We are deep into the 250th Anniversary Year and a mid-term Election Year. As a reminder, the Sons of the American Revolution is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the U.S. tax code. As such, our organization is prohibited from endorsing or opposing political candidates for public office.

Among the most common situations where an issue might occur are invitations for a SAR Color Guard to post colors or otherwise make an appearance at a political function, meeting or rally of a party or candidate. As this, along with wearing SAR medals, name tags or other SAR identification, would give the appearance of SAR partisanship toward that party or candidate, it must be avoided to preserve the SAR's tax-exempt nonprofit status (see also Texas SAR Bylaws Art. XVII(A), Sec. 5).

An individual SAR member, however, has the freedom to use his colonial attire, uniform, or equipment as he sees fit, if he is not identified, thanked, or recognized from the podium or in a program, as a member of the SAR at such partisan events.

President Whittenburg and I ask that you keep this message in mind as you plan your events this year.

Thank you,
Brent Harshman
Chancellor, Texas SAR



The South Central District commemorated the 250th Anniversary on August 22-23 in Owasso, Okla. The event hosted by the OKSSAR dedicated a granite bench and Liberty Tree at the Folds of Honor nonprofit organization. It was attended by AR, KA, MO, OK and TX members as well as NSSAR PG Michael Elston and NSSAR General Officers.

SAR Color Guard Commander



Notes: The Ellis County Color Guard, chapter #70 will be participating in the ESPN televised opening ceremony of the fall 2026 NHRA Nationals. **All TX State CG are invited to participate.** Please confirm your participation to me by **September 30, 2026.**

Additional information regarding parking and admittance will be provided as it becomes available. The event actually runs from Thursday -Sunday.

Date: **18 October 2026**

Time: all day event; 12:00pm show time

Event: **NHRA Fall 2026 Nationals**

This is a **Chapter** CG event

Texas Motorplex, 7500 W Hwy 287 Ennis, TX 75119

Contact: Larry Kollie

aklol1915@gmail.com or 972-903-9037

[Color Guard Notification Signup](#)

The Color Guardsman (Vol. 15 No 2 April 2026)

<https://www.sar.org/app/uploads/April-2026-3.pdf>

[NSSAR Color Guard Reporting Form](#)

(login to Color Guard Committee)

[TXSSAR Color Guard Reporting Form](#)

(login to private side)

God and Country

A stylized, cursive signature of John Hancock, featuring a large, sweeping 'J' and 'H'.

What comes to mind when you hear the name John Hancock? For most people it is his signature on the Declaration of Independence. However, there is much more to him than his signature.

While Hancock is not often remembered as a hero of the Revolution, his influence was prominent among those calling for independence. He was president of the 2nd Continental Congress 1775-1781, making him the top political leader when the Declaration of Independence was signed as well as the political leader throughout the war. After the war he served one term as president of the Congress of the Confederation 1785-86. The Congress of the Confederation was the name given to the Continental Congress after the adoption of Articles of Confederation and Perpetual Union. It remained that name until the ratification of the US Constitution in 1788. John Hancock also served as governor of Massachusetts from 1780 – 1785, then again from 1787 until his death in office, October 8, 1793.

Hancock was known as a very religious man. His father and grandfather were ministers, and he was a life-long member of the Brattle Street Congregational Church in

Boston. While serving the Continental Congress and as governor, he wrote 22 proclamations for prayer and fasting. Many of these proclamations are preserved in the Library of Congress. His first proclamation was adopted by the Continental Congress in 1775.

"All confidence must be withheld from the Means we use; and reposed only on that GOD who rules in the Armies of Heaven, and without whose Blessing the best human Counsels are but Foolishness--and all created Power Vanity.

"It is the Happiness of his Church that, when the Powers of Earth and Hell combine against it...that the Throne of Grace is of the easiest access--and its Appeal thither is graciously invited by the Father of Mercies, who has assured it, that when his Children ask Bread he will not give them a Stone....

"RESOLVED, That it be, and hereby is recommended to the good People of this Colony of all Denominations, that THURSDAY the Eleventh Day of May next be set apart as a Day of Public Humiliation, Fasting and Prayer...to confess the sins...to implore the Forgiveness of all our Transgression...and a blessing on the Husbandry, Manufactures, and other lawful Employments of this People; and especially that the union of the American Colonies in Defense of their Rights (for hitherto we desire to thank Almighty GOD) may be preserved and confirmed....And that AMERICA may soon behold a gracious Interposition of Heaven. "By Order of the [Massachusetts] Provincial Congress, John Hancock, President."

As we celebrate the 250-year anniversary of our nation, we should heed Hancock's advice to pray for our nation.

May God Bless America!

Your Chaplain,

Calvin Brown

Contact info –phone and text 573-680-2625

Email cal.sartx70@gmail.com

The Historian's Watch

This month's meeting is the last before the July 4 holidays, the Parade and Memorial Bench dedications at the Courthouse and City Cemetery. It's a time for celebrating the freedoms that our Patriot ancestors fought for and won. The freedoms that Chaplain Calvin Brown so eloquently expressed in last month's Continental Report newsletter.

This year 2026, we celebrate the first 250 years of the United States. But let us remember that it took seven more years of fighting and diplomacy to acquire those freedoms and to form a new nation, the United States. The independent nation was recognized by the world following the signing of the 1783 Treaty of Paris, which ended the Revolutionary War. The States became a sovereign nation on January 14, 1784. The Constitution of the United States, the oldest and longest-standing written and codified national constitution in force in the world did not become operational until 1789 and the Bill of Rights was ratified by Virginia on December 15, 1791.

Next month, August will be the beginning of a new school year. Now is the time to start preparing for the Youth Contests. If you know a history teacher or school administrator, remind them of the award programs offered by the SAR. [SAR Education – American Revolution Educational Resources](#)

July Dates to Remember

July 1, 1862	IRS Established by Congress
July 2, 1776	Richard Henry Lee's Resolution
July 2, 1788	US Constitution Ratified
July 4, 1776	Declaration of Independence
July 8, 1776	Liberty Bell First Ringing
June 9, 1868	14 th Amendment ratified
July 11, 1798	Marine Corps Recreation Day
July 13, 1787	Congress enacted Northwest Ordinance
July 16, 2026	National Atomic Veterans Day
July 16, 1969	Apollo 11 Lunar Mission
July 20, 2026	Space Exploration Day
June 27, 1953	Korean War ended

July Flag Flying Days



- ✓ July 4 Independence Day
- ✓ July 27 Korean War Veterans Armistice Day

- ✓ Half staff until Sunset
- Half staff until Noon

Signers of the Declaration of Independence

Delegates are listed in order of signing.

NEW JERSEY

[Richard Stockton](#) (1730–1781) was the first New

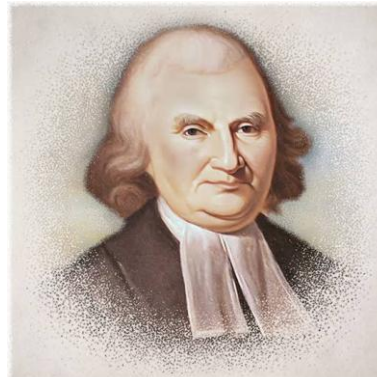


Jerseyan to sign. Born into wealth in Princeton, Stockton graduated from the College of New Jersey (later Princeton University), studied law, and became one of the colonies' most eloquent attorneys. He

served on the royal council and supreme court but grew disillusioned after a 1766 trip to Britain, where he witnessed parliamentary arrogance and lobbied unsuccessfully against taxes without representation. By 1776 he had resigned his crown appointments and entered Congress convinced, as he told colleagues, that reconciliation was impossible.

Stockton's signature cost him dearly. In November 1776, British forces captured him shortly after he fled his Princeton home, "[Morven](#)," to take refuge in Monmouth County. Dragged through freezing weather, he was imprisoned in New York's Provost Jail, placed in irons, starved, and brutalized for nearly two months. Paroled in poor health, he returned to find Morven looted and occupied—furniture, library, livestock, and papers destroyed. Cancer claimed him in 1781 at age fifty; he never saw victory. Stockton's ordeal became a stark reminder that the Declaration's signers meant their pledge literally.

[John Witherspoon](#) (1723-1794) was born in Yester,



Scotland, and he was the only active clergyman and college president to sign the Declaration. He taught James Madison and Aaron Burr.

He was a precocious young man who went to college at thirteen and earned his Masters of

Arts at the University of Edinburgh soon after his 16th

birthday. By the age of twenty, Witherspoon was a Doctor of Theology. He was a devoted Protestant and was briefly imprisoned for his opposition to the efforts in the 1740s to restore the Catholic Stuart line of kings to the throne of Britain. He served as a minister in several Presbyterian churches in Scotland, and his reputation led New Jersey political leaders to recruit him to be president of the College of New Jersey (now Princeton University) when he was forty-five. He accepted the position and emigrated to America in 1768.

Witherspoon found the college deeply in debt and suffering from an outdated curriculum. He set about to put it on solid financial grounds, to improve its library, and to reform its curriculum. His governing style was resolute but good-natured, and he was well-liked by both the faculty and the students. In addition to his administrative duties, Witherspoon taught courses in literature, history, divinity, and moral philosophy. Although the college was originally focused on producing clergymen, Witherspoon broadened its purpose to include potential political and cultural leaders. Among his students were a host of men who would play important roles in American political and cultural life including James Madison, Aaron Burr, newspaper editor and poet Philip Freneau, and author Hugh Henry Brackenridge. In fact, thirty seven judges, twelve members of the Continental Congress, 28 senators, 49 Congressmen, and ten cabinet officers studied at the College of New Jersey under the watchful eye of the Reverend Witherspoon.

Witherspoon had arrived in America in the midst of growing tensions between Britain and the colonies. As a Presbyterian minister, he was especially disturbed by the Crown's efforts to appoint an American Anglican bishop. His concern about this and other efforts of the Crown and Parliament to interfere in colonial affairs could be seen in his 1776 sermon "The Dominion of Providence over the Passions of Men." When he was elected to serve in the Second Continental Congress he was already convinced that independence was the proper course of action. When objections arose that the country was not ready for such a radical move, he is said to have replied that it "was not only ripe for the measure, but in danger of rotting for the want of it." He was the only active clergyman and college president to sign the Declaration.

Witherspoon remained in Congress from June of 1777 until November of 1784. He was a member of over one hundred committees, spoke often during debates, and helped draft the nation's first constitution, the Articles of Confederation.

Witherspoon had married in August of 1748 while he was still in Scotland. He and his wife, Elizabeth Montgomery had ten children, but only five survived to join him when he emigrated to America. Elizabeth died in 1789 and two years later, at the age of 68, John married a 24 year-old widow, Anne Marshall Dill. Soon afterward, Witherspoon suffered several eye injuries and by 1792, he was blind. He died in November of 1794

[Francis Hopkinson](#) (1737–1791) was the delegation's

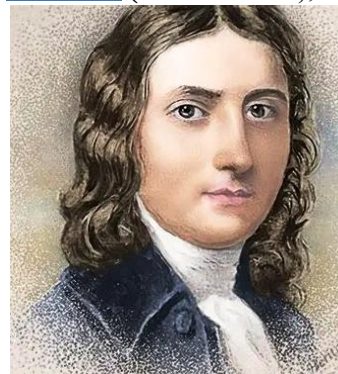


Renaissance man. Born in Philadelphia but a New Jersey resident by 1774, Hopkinson was a lawyer, judge, musician, poet, and satirist. He composed the first American secular song, designed Continental currency, and wrote biting propaganda like the 1774 satire *A Pretty Story*, which mocked King George III.

Appointed to the royal council, he resigned in protest and joined Congress in June 1776.

Hopkinson voted for independence and signed August 2. British troops looted his Bordentown home multiple times, yet he survived to serve on the Navy Board, design early American flags and our Great Seal, and become a federal judge under Washington. His cultural contributions—songs, essays, and symbols—helped forge a distinctly American identity, proving the Revolution was fought with pens and notes as much as muskets.

[John Hart](#) (c. 1713–1779), known as "Honest John,"



represented the yeoman farmer. A prosperous landowner in Hopewell Township with thirteen children, Hart had served in the colonial assembly and opposed British

policies through local committees. Elected to Congress in June 1776 at age sixty-three, he signed with “unusual zeal,” fully aware British forces were advancing.

The war devastated him. Hart’s wife died soon after; British and Hessian troops ravaged his farm, burned his mills, and forced him to hide in the woods for months while his children scattered. He returned to serve as speaker of the New Jersey Assembly but died in 1779, bankrupt and broken, never witnessing Yorktown. Hart’s story humanized the Revolution’s toll on ordinary families.

[Abraham Clark](#) (1726–1794) was the delegation’s populist voice. A self-taught lawyer and surveyor from Elizabethtown, Clark suffered physical limitations that kept him from heavy farm labor but not from public service. He had long criticized British overreach and was the only New Jersey delegate who initially favored independence. On



July 4 he wrote a friend that “we must now be a free independent State, or a Conquered Country.”

Clark’s two soldier sons were captured and imprisoned on the notorious British prison ship *Jersey*. Offered their release if he recanted, Clark refused. Both survived, but the family endured years of hardship. Clark continued serving in Congress and the U.S. House until his death in 1794, always championing the rights of small farmers against wealthy elites. His steadfastness underscored that independence was not just for the gentry.

Collectively, the Jersey Five’s participation carried immense symbolic and practical weight. New Jersey’s delegation helped tip the balance in Congress; without their votes and signatures, the Declaration might have faltered. Their diverse backgrounds—elite lawyer, fiery divine, artistic polymath, humble farmer, and self-made surveyor—showed the Revolution crossed class and regional lines. They embodied the era’s core ideals: natural rights, consent of the governed, and resistance to tyranny. Yet their sacrifices exposed the Declaration’s human cost. Three died before the war ended; homes were looted, families scattered, health ruined. Stockton’s imprisonment, Hart’s flight, Clark’s sons on the prison ship—these were not anomalies but the rule for many signers.

This Month – 250 Years Ago

Common Sense

Who was Thomas Paine? He was born on February 9,



1737, in Thetford, England, the son of a farmer and stay-maker (one who produces corsets). He did, however, receive some schooling as until the age of 13 when he was apprenticed to his father. He attended the local

grammar school where he learned to read and write. His parents also played a strong role in his upbringing, with his ostracized Quaker father instilling many of those values in him, while his Anglican mother taught him the Bible. But the qualities that made him truly famous, his rhetorical flourish and his passion for human dignity, he learned not in school, but through decades of experience laboring for himself and others as a customs officer, privateer and school teacher, to name a few.

By the time Paine was 37 years old, he had been through about six jobs, had two businesses fail, and had lost two wives, one in childbirth and one to divorce. Seemingly incapable of settling down for long, Paine crisscrossed England from his Norfolk home to Kent to Cornwall to London before finally moving to Lewes, a small Sussex town near the Channel coast, where his writing career began. He hit rock-bottom early in 1774 when he was forced to sell off his household possessions to avoid debtor’s prison. He did not seem to be finding his way in this world, but that would soon change.

Before his appointment at Lewes, Paine was relatively uninterested in politics, but through his many travels he had taken notice of the deep divide between wealthy and poor in his society, despite much pretense about “English Liberties” bandied about by those wealthy enough to afford them. Upon moving to Lewes, therefore, Paine used his new side career to advocate for the welfare of his fellow excise officers. At this point, it might be easy to characterize Paine as a rough-and-ready working-class hero, but that does not nearly paint a full enough picture. Though he kept his style unpretentious

and accessible for less educated readers (his father even forbade him from learning Latin to prevent snobbery), Paine demonstrated interest in a variety of academic subjects. The theories of Isaac Newton greatly inspired him, and Paine closely followed all recent scientific and technological developments whenever he was in London. He also remained fairly well-connected to some of the leading minds in Britain, including Philadelphia publisher Benjamin Franklin, who at the time was in London to lobby Parliament in the interests of the American colonies. But despite his connections, Paine honed a relatively radical edge to his rhetoric, taking on Lewes' history as a former hotbed of Republicanism during the English Civil War a century prior as an influence.

In 1774, Franklin gave Paine a letter of recommendation and suggested he emigrate to America. Paine took this advice and landed in Philadelphia on November 30, 1774. Typhoid fever nearly killed Paine while during the crossing, but once he recovered, he soon began making a living as writer and editor for the Pennsylvania Magazine. Instead of simply reprinting stories from English newspapers, Paine printed American originals, many with a political bent. At a time when many working-class colonists were getting involved in our revolutionary movement, Paine's ideas took hold. In contrast to his fellow Englishmen, American colonists were on average wealthier, more literate and more politically engaged, meaning that Paine had a more receptive audience, which contributed to his popularity. For his part, Paine took a strong liking to Philadelphia society and more broadly, the discontent against Great Britain that had been simmering since the end of the Seven Years War (French & Indian War).

Realizing his opinion pieces on English rule were resonating with his fellow citizens, Paine decided to write a pamphlet espousing his political views. Paine found a publisher willing to print ***Common Sense*** with its radical ideas and sales took off immediately. Published on January 10, 1776, it has been credited with turning public opinion away from seeking reconciliation with England to a complete separation with our Mother Country.

While it is difficult to state with certainty how many copies initially sold, the consensus among historians is

that about 100,000 copies sold within the first three months. That tally makes ***Common Sense*** the highest selling book relative to our population in the history of America.

The book electrified the American colonists, and even gained a following in England and France. Inspired by his success, Paine soon published another series of pamphlets called ***The American Crisis*** which he debuted in December 1776. In many ways, this work was a call to arms, almost a recruiting effort, to fill the rapidly depleting ranks of the Continental Army.

Of all his writings, the opening lines of *The American Crisis* are probably the best known to us today. In fact, George Washington read the following paragraph from that work to his men before he famously crossed the Delaware River on Christmas night 1776 and attacked the British at Trenton.

"These are the times that try men's souls. The summer soldier and the sunshine patriot will, in this crisis, shrink from the service of his country; but he that stands by it now, deserves the love and thanks of man and woman."

"Tyranny, like Hell, is not easily conquered; yet we have this consolation with us, that the harder the conflict, the more glorious the triumph. What we attain too cheap, we esteem too lightly: it is dearness only that gives every thing its value."

Within a year or so, Paine's meteoric rise tailed off a bit, especially in America. At this point, Paine drifted into an even more radical mindset and began to advocate for property sharing and a sort of economic equality, to be funded by taxes on the wealthy. Consequently, he fell out of favor with many American political leaders.

In 1787, Paine returned to Europe and remained there for almost two decades. When the French Revolution began in 1789, Paine immediately became a supporter of the new regime, despite the violence and bloodshed they used to secure power. In fact, although he could not even speak the language, Paine was elected to France's National Convention.

In 1791, Paine published his longest work, *The Rights of Man*, a 90,000-word tract which was largely a defense of

the French Revolution which had gone off the rails and devolved into its infamous “Reign of Terror.” Paine was especially opposed to hereditary government and favored the elimination of all political associations.

Paine finally returned to the United States in 1803, but his political sun had set. He lived out his final years in New Rochelle, New York and died on June 8, 1809. Sadly, this man who had done so much to inspire a nation with his revolutionary writings during the 1770s was little mourned when he passed away. Thomas Paine, whose name was once on the lips of hundreds of thousands of Americans, had only six mourners at his funeral.

The story gets sadder. Paine was initially buried on his farm in New Rochelle, New York, as local Quakers refused to allow him in their graveyard. Instead he was buried on his farm which should have been the end of it. Later, his body was dug up by an English radical journalist named William Cobbett and taken to England. Cobbett thought he could drum up funds to build a monument to Paine. The burial didn’t happen and the bones were stored in a trunk in a barn when the man died. His heirs didn’t fare well. The property was forfeited in bankruptcy. No one knows what happened to the bones.

<https://www.battlefields.org/learn/biographies/thomas-paine>
<https://www.americanacorner.com/blog/thomas-paine>

News from the DAR

The Rebecca Boyce Chapter will dedicate two American 250 benches at the Nicholas P. Sims Library on July 1.

See the flyer on the last page.

Daughters of the American Revolution

For more information please contact **Barbara Coan**, Registrar, Rebecca Boyce Chapter, NSDAR at barbaraanncoan@hotmail.com.



John Haughton and David Hill were awarded the Hannah White Arnett Bronze Medal, one of DAR’s newest recognitions. It is awarded to a member in good standing of the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) “for unselfish devotion, tireless efforts, and assistance to the DAR; and who has dedicated his time, energy, talents, and/or resources to the organization in support and furtherance of the DAR mission of historic preservation, education and patriotism.” Awarded by the DAR/SAR/S.R. Relations Committee

LAST WORDS

What would you do after writing the Declaration of Independence?

By Noelani Kirschner (May 26, 2026)

McClure, an editor of the Thomas Jefferson was the first U.S. secretary of state — from 1790 to 1793 — under President George Washington.

Jefferson’s approach to diplomacy shaped today’s U.S. Department of State. He saw U.S. foreign policy “as being this beacon of liberty, showing what is possible,” says Alison Mann, curator at the National Museum of American Diplomacy. And Jefferson believed that domestic policy is inextricably tied to foreign policy, she says.

“I consider the Office of Secretary for the Department of State as very important on many accounts: and I know of no person, who, in my judgment, could better execute the Duties of it than yourself,” Washington wrote to Jefferson on January 21, 1790.

Jefferson had served as the U.S. minister to France from 1784 to 1789, making him a natural choice as the first

secretary of state. (In the 18th century, the United States used ministers the way it uses ambassadors today.)

Jefferson replied to the president a few weeks later, joining the heads of the departments of War, Treasury and the attorney general as a key player in Washington's Cabinet.

It was around the same time that Congress renamed the Department of Foreign Affairs to the Department of State. At that time, it did "a lot of the domestic duties, like establishing weights and measures ... things we wouldn't even think about today," Mann says. The secretary of state would also be tasked with approving patents, a fitting role for Jefferson, who was an innovator himself.

Jefferson's tenure was marked by advocacy for U.S. interests abroad and by relationships that would lay the groundwork for western expansion in the United States.

It was March 1790 when Jefferson began his tenure as America's secretary of state with a staff of six, an annual budget of \$8,000 and a philosophical bent.

He had been influenced by the Enlightenment — the European intellectual movement of the 17th and 18th centuries that argued that man's reason could improve his lot. An avid reader of philosophy, Jefferson applied Enlightenment ideas to politics. "He believed that rational thought, and science and analysis, would solve problems," says James P. Thomas Jefferson papers at Princeton University in New Jersey.

Amid a war between England and France, Washington and Secretary of the Treasury Alexander Hamilton thought it best to remain neutral, so as to retain economic ties with the British. Jefferson, however, claimed earlier U.S. treaties with the French still held, even though French revolutionaries had executed the signatory, King Louis XVI.

According to Mann, Washington and Hamilton would say of the 1778 treaty, "We signed it with the king. He's dead. So we question its validity."

Jefferson's reasoning was that it had been the French people who entered into the treaty. "They were the ones

being taxed. They were the ones financing our wars," Jefferson would say.

This disagreement eventually led Jefferson to submit his resignation as secretary of state. But later, when Jefferson was president (1801 to 1809), his diplomatic relationship with France paved the way for U.S. westward expansion. "The president is the chief diplomat," Mann says. "Jefferson was the president who first stepped into that role."

If not for Jefferson's earlier sympathy toward the French, the Louisiana Purchase — 530 million acres (214 million hectares) of North American territory purchased by the United States from the French — might not have happened.

Jefferson "knew the terms, the conditions and the processes of diplomacy in Europe and the way a treaty negotiation would go on," McClure says. Jefferson sent Founding Father James Monroe to join U.S. Minister to France Robert Livingston to strike the deal with Emperor Napoleon Bonaparte.

Jefferson's time as foreign minister and secretary of state established "the importance of the United States and the importance of avoiding conflict but being ready to use power if necessary," McClure says.

<https://share.america.gov/what-would-you-do-after-writing-declaration-of-independence/>

Ellis County Chapter #70

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

SAR Patriot Search

<https://sarpatriots.sar.org/patriot/search>

SAR University

<https://www.sar.org/sar-university/>

Texas Society Daughters of the American Revolution

<https://www.facebook.com/p/Texas-Society-DAR-61564337526320/>

DAR Ancestor Search

https://services.dar.org/public/dar_research/search



All donations will be collected at the Chapter monthly meetings and delivered to the Dallas VA Hospital. The list refers to the needs of Bonham, but needs are the same with the Dallas VA Hospital. Copy this list and take it with you when you go shopping. Remember the Vets.

This will be a recurring activity and contributions are applied to our 2026 SMART Report, category 3K.

Wants and Needs Listing

Comfort Items (Travel Size and Regular)

- Deodorant
- Toothpaste
- Toothbrush (*Single pack*)
- Denture Cream
- Denture Cleaner
- Shower Gel/Wash (no bars)
- Shampoo
- Conditioner
- Lotion
- Powder
- Medicated Powder
- Shaving Cream
- Razors
- Manicure sets
- Hairbrushes
- Combs
- Hair Clips/Pony tail Holders
- Feminine Products
- Shower Shoes
- Lip Balm
- Hair Gel/Mousse

** If making a donation for comfort items, please remember all comfort items donated need to be new items.*

Other items needed for patients

- Phone Cards
- Envelopes #10
- Small writing tablets and Pen/Pencils
- Gas/Gift Cards for patients
- Reading Glasses (*Variety of Strengths*)
- Canteen Books
- Puzzle Books
- DART/TRE Passes
- Mailing Stamps
- Lap Robes
- Wheelchair bags
- Stoma Covers
- Bags/Luggage (new)
- Books

- Magazines (*no magazines over a year old will be accepted*)

Clothing (Gently worn items or new)

NOTICE:

The VA has stopped accepting donations of used clothing

Equipment Needs

- TV's
- DVD Players
- DVD's
- Wii/ Wii Games
- Refrigerators (*Small and Full Size*)
- Coffee Pots (*12 cup and larger*)
- Laptops
- Microwaves
- Fax Machines

Fund for Coffee Cart and Supplies

- Coffee
- Coffee Filters
- Sugar
- Artificial Sweetener (*Equal/Splenda/ Sweet and Low*)

Sons of the American Revolution Compatriots Military Service Record Form

SAR Compatriot Name:		SAR National Number:	
SAR Society and Chapter Information:			
Mailing Address:			
City:		State:	ZIP Code:
Telephone:		E-Mail Address:	
Date of Birth:		Date of Death:	
Occupation:			
Relationship to SAR Compatriot (Self, Wife, Sibling, Other):			
Service Number:		Dates of Service:	
Wars/Conflicts: World War I World War II Korea Vietnam Desert Storm Iraqi Freedom Other:			
Branch of Military: Army Navy Marine Corps Coast Guard Air Force Merchant Marine Reserves National Guard Other:			
Branch of Service (i.e. Infantry):			
Unit(s):			
Location of Unit(s):			
Highest Rank (Active Duty):			
Enlisted:	Warrant Officer:	Officer:	
Highest Rank (Reserve Duty):			
Enlisted:	Warrant Officer:	Officer:	
Status:			
Active Retired Discharged Reserved Other:			
Military Awards (Please Begin with Highest):			
Enclosed is a copy of my separation papers (DD-214 or equivalent): Yes No Other Document:			
Signature of Compatriot:			
Signature of Submitter:			

Information on obtaining a DD214 or equivalent is available on-line at <http://www.archives.gov/>

Please send to: Archives of Honor; SAR National Headquarters; 809 West Main Street; Louisville, Kentucky 40202-2619

Revised 08/31/2016



The Rebecca Boyce Chapter will dedicate two America 250 benches at the Nicholas P. Sims Library on July 1.

Work has started on the ECC Parade Float trailer

