



## Texas Society Sons of the American Revolution

# Chisholm Trail News

Major K.M. Van Zandt Chapter

Fort Worth, Texas  
11 December 2017



**NEXT MEETING: January 20, 2018    TIME: 9:00 am    LOCATION: Woodhaven Country Club**

### FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK:

Well, we just about have 2017 into the record book and now we look forward toward 2018. As a reminder, there is no December meeting and the chapter begins again with the first meeting on January 20, 2018. This is when we recognize our law enforcement officer of the year and install the new chapter officers for the next two-year term. The chapter has added three new faces to chapter office positions and I thought it would be a good idea to “re-introduce” them to the members.

Charles “Chase” Sanger, our new Vice President, has been a member since 2013, having transferred here from a Texas SAR chapter down near Fort Hood, Texas, where Chase was stationed in the military. Chase was raised in Georgia and attended the University of North Georgia; his father is president of a SAR chapter in Georgia. Chase was in the 82nd Airborne Division as a young Lieutenant. He was seriously injured while jumping into a training exercise and was retired in May 2016 due to complications from the injury. Chase is currently employed at the Texas A&M School of Law in Fort Worth. He steps into the role of chapter vice president and will be working with Gerry during the next two-year term of office.

Ron Turner, our new chapter Secretary, has been an SAR member since 2016 and has been active with the chapter color guard, youth poster contest, publication of the newsletter, and the rebuild of the chapter website. He recently added his first supplemental ancestor, George Roebuck, Sr., and is working on documentation for a number of other Patriot ancestors. His 40-year career in curriculum development has aided him in developing the new chapter website and the preparation of the chapter newsletter. We hope to see Ron serving at the leadership level of the chapter for some years to come.

Dave Davidson had attended chapter meetings as a guest from January 2013 until his induction as a member in 2015. He immediately became active in the chapter by joining the color guard and assisting in attendance signup and collection of meeting fees at our chapter meetings. Dave was born in Morgan County, Tennessee, and grew up in Hammond, Indiana, a suburb of Chicago. He spent 38 years working in the transportation industry. Dave will be the new chapter Registrar, a very important position in the work of the SAR. He will become the first person that all new SAR members will become acquainted with.

Best of luck to all three of these men as they step forward to join with incoming President Gerry Gieger, Treasurer Vaughn Oliver, and Color Guard Commander Bobby Gresham in leadership roles for the K M Van Zandt chapter.

## **This Month during the Revolutionary War:**

December-January were typically quiet months during the Revolutionary War since both Armies would be in winter quarters. One big exception to that was on December 26, 1776, when Washington crossed the Delaware River and captured Trenton, New Jersey, from the Hessian Troops. While a risky move, the plan gave new life to the American Revolution.

On December 14, 1782, the British Army leaves Charleston, South Carolina, and on December 23, 1783, Washington resigns as Commander of the American Armies.

## **National SAR Congress**

Don't forget; the National SAR Congress will be held in Houston during the month of July 2018.

If you are planning to attend (and we hope many of you are), you should make hotel reservations as early as possible. Click here for [hotel information](#).

Registration for Congress is not yet open; however, you can find full details for [Congress](#) as they become available at this link. Please add this link to your favorite bookmarks for easy access to the information.

The Host Committee is also looking for volunteers. Please see <http://www.sarcongress2018.org/volunteer.htm>.

## **Texas SAR Annual Conference**

The 2018 Texas SAR Conference is scheduled for April 5 thru April 8 at the Hyatt Regency North Dallas in Richardson, Texas. Details will be announced as soon as they are available.

## **Is Your Patriot Ancestor Listed on our Website?**

We know that we are missing Patriot Ancestors on our website. Please access the new website and under Membership, click Patriot Ancestors. Or, access directly using this link: <http://www.txssar.org/KMVanZandt/ancestorsA.htm>. Select the appropriate surname letter. If your Patriot, either Primary or Supplemental, is not listed, please send the information to [rjturner0815@gmail.com](mailto:rjturner0815@gmail.com) **and** to [gieger@flash.net](mailto:gieger@flash.net) so we can add them to our website and chapter records. Thanks!

## **November Minutes**

Please review the minutes for our November chapter meeting prior to attending the next meeting in January. <http://www.txssar.org/KMVanZandt/docs/minutes/minutes201711.pdf>.

## Veteran's Day Parade

On November 11<sup>th</sup>, members of K.M. Van Zandt Chapter NSSAR and Captain Nathaniel Mills Chapter NSDAR shared our two floats in the Fort Worth Veteran's Day Parade. It was a pleasure to have the ladies join us.



## New Member

At our November meeting, President Mike Connelley and Vice President Gerry Gieger inducted new member Kirby Boyd.

*We welcome content submissions for the newsletter. Please send items to the editor, Ron Turner at:*  
[rjturner0815@gmail.com](mailto:rjturner0815@gmail.com)



## Vietnam War Surviving Spouse Pins

Vice-President Gerry Gieger attended the Captain Nathaniel Mills Chapter NSDAR meeting on Saturday, November 4<sup>th</sup>, to present several of their members with the Vietnam War Surviving Spouse Pin.



## Massing of the Colors

Massing of the Colors is a patriotic ceremony held to rededicate our faith in the United States, and to present our support to the National Colors and the Servicemen and Servicewomen those Colors represent. It combines the colors and color guards of Active, Reserve and National Guard military components (units), and veteran, civic and patriotic organizations. Massing of the Colors ceremonies are conducted by chapters of The Military Order of World Wars.

This DAR & SAR group participated in the ceremony held on Sunday, November 12, 2017, at First Presbyterian Church in Fort Worth and represent chapters in Fort Worth, Arlington, Hurst, and Sherman. K.M. Van Zandt participants were: David Davidson, Ron Turner, & Bobby Gresham. Members attending were: Gerry Gieger, Ralph Smith, and James Alderman



## Revolutionary War Hat Cockades

Before the Revolutionary War, American military wore the Hanovarian black cockades of King George of Great Britain. When the colonies seceded from Britain, they continued to wear the black cockades inherited from the mother country.

However, for the first few years of the war, General George Washington created a new military cockade style. “As the Continental Army has unfortunately no uniforms, and consequently many inconveniences must arise from not being able to distinguish the commissioned officers from the privates, it is desired that some badge of distinction be immediately provided; for instance, that the field officers may have red or pink colored cockades in their hats, the captains yellow or buff, and the subalterns green. July 23, 1775.”

In 1780, the military cockade system was changed again. France had entered the war against Britain in 1778 and France's cockade was white. Thus, as a symbol of the two nations' alliance, George Washington established that the American cockade would be an Alliance Cockade – black with a white center. Many of the French troops likewise wore an Alliance Cockade of white with a black center.

After the war, the American military cockade was standardized once and for all. "All persons belonging to the army, to wear a black cockade, with a Small white Eagle in the center. The cockade of non-commissioned officers, musicians and privates, to be of leather, with Eagles of tin. James McHenry, January 9, 1799."

### **The Color Guard is always recruiting**

Several times a year the Chapter is asked to present the colors or provide a color guard or honor guard for various civic functions. We are always looking for new members. Please contact the chapter color guard commander, Compatriot Bobby Gresham, at email address: [gresham817@att.net](mailto:gresham817@att.net).

### **SEE YOU AT THE MEETING!!!**

Visit our chapter website at <http://www.txssar.org/KMVanZandt/index.htm>.

<i>Membership Status</i>	
Our chapter membership levels currently are:	
Emeritus =	1
Junior =	1
NSSAR Life =	4
TXSSAR Perpetual =	9
Memorial =	0
Regular =	102
Youth =	0
Dual =	3
Deceased =	3
The membership currently is 120.	

