



Texas Society
Sons of the American Revolution
Chisholm Trail News



Major K.M. Van Zandt Chapter
 Fort Worth, Texas
 June 10, 2018

NEXT MEETING: June 16, 2018

TIME: 9:00 am

LOCATION: Woodhaven Country Club

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK:

Greetings Compatriots,

This Thursday, June 14 is celebrated in the United States as Flag Day. It commemorates the adoption of the flag of the United States on June 14, 1777, by resolution of the Second Continental Congress. (Title 36 of the United States Code, Subtitle I, Part A, Chapter 1, § 110 is the official statute on Flag Day.)

Our Flag has had many changes in the ensuing years, but its 13 Red and White Stripes have never changed. On the other hand, the upper left Field of Blue has had many revisions from the 13 Star Circle of our first, commonly called the Betsy Ross. Each Star represents a State in our Union of 50 States. TEXAS is the 28th.

Most of us will only remember the 48 Star Flag of WWII or the 49 Star Flag when Alaska was added, or the present 50 Stars after Hawaii's Statehood. Some will no doubt recall the flag of 1812 which had 15 Stars or the 34 Star flag of 1861 which was the last before the US Civil War.

The week of June 10–16, 2018, is designated as "National Flag Week." During National Flag Week, the President will issue a proclamation urging U.S. citizens to fly the American flag for the duration of that week. Today, disrespect is rampant in our homeland of the Brave. Let us individually join in and show Respect for this National Symbol of the Land of the Free because of the Brave. Display or Fly your Flag proudly.

Hoping to see each of you on Saturday, for our monthly June meeting.

Gerry

CHAPTER OFFICERS
2018-2019

President

Gerald A. "Gerry" Gieger

Vice-President

Charles O. "Chase" Sanger IV

Secretary

Ronald J. "Ron" Turner

Treasurer

L. Vaughn Oliver

Registrar

David R. Davidson

Chaplain

Roger L. Tate

Sergeant-at-Arms & Color Guard Commander

Robert G. "Bobby" Gresham



THIS MONTH DURING THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR (1776-1780):

In June of 1776, in Philadelphia, Congress agrees to raise 6,000 militia "to reinforce the army in Canada, and to keep up communication with that province;..." Meanwhile in Charleston, South Carolina, President Rutledge received intelligence that a fleet of 50 or more vessels were anchored north of Sullivan's Island.

To protect the middle colonies, Congress resolves to reinforce troops in New York with 13,800 militia and set up a special mobile force of 10,000. Meanwhile, at Sullivan's Island in South Carolina, Colonel William Moultrie informs President Rutledge that a British landing is imminent, and vows to "make the best defense I can with what I have got."

John Hancock exhorts the colonies to exert "every Nerve to distinguish yourselves. Quicken your Preparations and stimulate the good people of your Government and there is no Danger, notwithstanding the mighty Armament with which we are threatened, but you will be able to lead them to Victory, to Liberty, and to Happiness."

Richard Henry Lee of Virginia introduces to Congress three resolutions: total independence from Great Britain, the formation of foreign Alliances, and preparation of a plan of the colonial confederation. John Adams seconds the resolutions.

While the Philadelphia Congress considers Lee's resolutions of the previous day, in South Carolina, Colonel Moultrie receives notice that General Clinton has landed troops on the Southern tip of Long Island; Moultrie in turn orders American troops to occupy the northern part of Sullivan's Island.

John Adams writes to William Cushing: "We are in the very midst of revolution, the most complete, unexpected, and remarkable, of any in the history of nations." In Loudon County, Virginia, small tenant farmers petition the Convention for relief. Unable to sell their harvests of wheat to foreign markets, many are becoming destitute.

In Philadelphia, Congress stops short of declaring "total independence" from Britain, but calls for a committee to prepare a declaration based on the premise: "That these United Colonies are, and of right ought to be, free and independent states, that they are absolved from all allegiance to the British Crown: and that all political connexion between them and the state of Great Britain is, and ought to be, totally dissolved."

Thomas Jefferson, John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Roger Sherman, and Philip Livingston comprise a committee chosen to prepare the declaration of independence. Jefferson is chosen to prepare the first draft.

In Boston, General Benjamin Lincoln directs the placement of cannon around the harbor. A short cannonade convinces the British to weigh anchor, inspiring Lincoln to write "Thus is the port of Boston again opened by our own authority, after being closed during two years by virtue of an act of the British Parliament."

In Philadelphia, Thomas Jefferson shows his first draft of "a declaration of independence" to John Adams and other members of Congress.

The Conference of Committees urges its more pacifist associates to military action by declaring that they were fighting for "permanent liberty, to be supported by your own government, derived from you, and organized for all and not for the benefit of one man or class of men."

Convicted of mutiny and sedition, Thomas Hickey, former Life Guard for George Washington, was hanged near Bowery Lane in New York in front of 20,000 spectators.

Charleston, SC: About 10 am, Commodore Parker's squadron opens fire on Fort Sullivan. To the surprise of the British, the fort's palmetto log wall absorbs the British shot like a sponge, preventing typical splinter injuries to the garrison. More surprising is the accurate and effective fire directed by Colonel Moultrie at the British fleet. Their two largest warships suffer extensive damage and severe crew losses; Commodore Parker suffers painful physical injuries and the embarrassing loss of his breeches; HMS Sphinx loses its bowsprit; the Actaeon runs aground; smaller British frigates are damaged. Moultrie's attack costs Parker 261 injured and dead. American casualties are slight.

In June of 1777, Congress adopts the "stars and stripes" flag composed of thirteen stars and thirteen stripes, one for each of the original states, as the American flag.

THIS MONTH DURING THE REVOLUTIONARY WAR (1776-1780): (CONTINUED)

At Millstone (Somerset Courthouse) in New Jersey, a former prisoner-of-war Colonel Daniel Morgan and his regiment harass entrenching British forces.

Sir Henry Clinton and 16,000 men depart for New York City. Lafayette pursues him based on Washington's previously arranged plan.

General John Burgoyne's army begins to arrive near Fort Ticonderoga.

British General William Howe leaves New Jersey for New York City and Staten Island. He intends to carry out the plan to begin an offensive attack against Philadelphia.

In June of 1778, War commences between France and England. Vice Admiral Augustus Keppel fires on two French frigates off the coast of England officially starting war between the two nations.

Washington's army departs Valley Forge, Pennsylvania. After spending a demoralizing winter at this encampment, Washington leads his men out, discovering that the British have abandoned Philadelphia after they learn of France's entry into the war.

The Battle of Monmouth, New Jersey is the last important engagement in the North during the war and also the longest action of the war. Many contradictions exist in contemporary accounts. Numerous casualties are caused by sunstroke on either side. However, the Americans maintain control of the battlefield as the British withdraw.

In June of 1779, Acting on information provided by Benedict Arnold, Sir Henry Clinton commences an offensive up the Hudson River. He captures Verplanck's Point and the still uncompleted fort at Stony Point.

At the Battle of Stono Ferry, South Carolina, a force of 6,500 Continental soldiers, led by Major General Benjamin Lincoln, launches a poorly conceived and executed attack against the 1,200-man British rearguard commanded by Lieutenant Colonel John Maitland. The American losses come to 146 killed and wounded and 155 missing in action. The British lose only 23 killed and 104 wounded. The battle's only results are that the British speed up their plans to retreat to Beaufort.

France induces Spain to declare war on the British by promising to assist the Spanish in recovering Gibraltar and Florida after the British reject the Spanish ultimatum presented to them on April 3. Spain refuses to recognize or enter into an alliance with the United States. However, the Spanish commence joint naval operation with the French and this assists the American cause.

At an engagement at Hickory Hill, Georgia, an American force commanded by Colonel John Twiggs kills or captures an entire force of 40 British grenadiers.

In June of 1780, Clinton abrogates the articles of Charleston's surrender. He requires that all male residents of Charleston take an oath of allegiance to the Crown and also demands that they take up arms against their former comrades.

July 4th Parade

Once again the Chapter has agreed to lead the White Lake Hills Independence Day Parade.

Those who wish to participate should be at Dr. Donald Goodman's house, 5005 Sugar Lake Road in Fort Worth by 8:45 a.m. on Wednesday, July 4th. You need not be in uniform.

Please plan to come out and enjoy the holiday!



The program for our May chapter meeting was based on the World War I Centennial this year.

Compatriot James Alderman presented a slide presentation on the three divisions from Texas - the 90th, 36th, and 32nd. The slide presentation included information on chapter member's ancestors or relatives who fought in World War I. Compatriots James Alderman, Chuck Hield, Mike Connelley, Ron Turner, Don Goodman, Vaughn Oliver, David Rankin, Chase Sanger, Paul Ming, and Ken Cox discussed the lives and military service records of their respective ancestors or relatives.



James Alderman



Chuck Hield



Mike Connelley



Paul Ming



Ron Turner



Don Goodman



"A general dissolution of principles and manners will more surely overthrow the liberties of America than the whole force of the common enemy. While the people are virtuous they cannot be subdued; but when once they lose their virtue then will be ready to surrender their liberties to the first external or internal invader."

— Samuel Adams



Flags of the Revolution

The early days of the American Revolution led to the use of many flags as the colonists struggled with the aims of the revolt, whether rights within the British Empire or outright independence. Early designs tended to be modifications of British flags until the colonials took the path of independence in 1776. From that point on, the flags of the United States took their own distinct path.



An ensign used by British naval and merchant ships, the Red Ensign is the British flag initially favored by the colonists, and all designs of American flags descended from this banner.



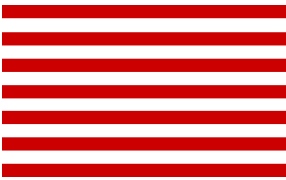
First used by George Washington on January 1, 1776, this modification of the British Red Ensign became in effect the first national flag of the United States. This flag was never officially sanctioned by the Continental Congress but is considered the first flag of the United States and was in use from late 1775 until mid 1777. This flag was an alteration of the British Meteor flag. In its blue canton was the red cross of St. George, signifying England, and the white cross of St. Andrew, signifying Scotland. The 13 stripes signified the original colonies. Retaining the British Union in the canton indicated a

Continued on next page

continued loyalty, as the Americans saw it, to the constitutional government against which they fought. On January 1, 1776, this flag was first raised on Prospect Hill in Charlestown, Massachusetts. At this time, the Continental Army came into formal existence. At the time it was known as the continental colors because it represented the entire nation. In one of Washington's letters, he referred to it as the "Great Union Flag" and it is most commonly called the Grand Union today.



This is the flag design that legend says was created by Betsy Ross for George Washington.



This was the flag of the early colonist who had joined together in the protest against the British impositions on American economic freedom. One such protest was resistance to the Stamp Act, on October 7, 1765. A delegate from each of the nine colonies formed the "Stamp Act Congress." They petitioned the king and parliament, the act was repealed on March 18, 1766. The flag of nine red and white stripes that represented these "Sons of Liberty" became known as the "Rebellious Stripes." On December 16, 1773, the Sons of Liberty protested the parliament's Tea Act, an action that became known as the Boston Tea Party. The colonists' believed the tax to be a violation of their legitimate economic liberty. Three and a half years after the Tea Party, the thirteen colonies had come together in their decision to fight for independence and the nine stripes had grown to 13. The Sons of Liberty would rally under a large tree which became known as "The Liberty Tree".



One of the original 13 star flags, the "Stars and Stripes" was probably the most commonly used variant.



The American Stripes flag was flown on American Merchant Ships during the Revolutionary era.



This unique flag was flown at the headquarters of General George Washington during most of the Revolutionary War.

Significant days and observances for the United States Armed Forces

June 6 - Anniversary of the World War II Allied invasion in Normandy, France, known as D-Day (1944)

June 14 - Flag Day. A day to commemorate the adoption of the United States flag.

June 14 - Army Birthday

June 17 - Father's Day

June 23 - Coast Guard Auxiliary Birthday

June 25 - Anniversary of the start of the Korean War (1950)

June 27 - National PTSD Awareness Day. A day set aside to raise public awareness about issues related to PTSD.

In Memoriam



William J. "Billie Joe" Trotter

25 Sep 1931 – 10 May 2018

NSSAR 158441

Texas SAR 9008

Member since 5 Jun 2005

[Obituary](#)

R.I.P. Sidney Van Zandt, Jr.

Sidney Van Zandt, Jr., the youngest grandson of Fort Worth pioneer Maj. K.M. Van Zandt and a great-grandson of Republic of Texas diplomat Isaac Van Zandt, passed away peacefully on May 24, 2018, in Fort Worth. He was born Feb. 21, 1934, in Fort Worth. He was a prolific artist whose paintings portrayed reflections of his historical family heritage and his passion for the old west. It is not known if he was a member of the SAR or not.



R.I.P. Lloyd D. Bockstruck

Lloyd deWitt Bockstruck, noted genealogist, author, librarian, lecturer, and scholar passed away in Dallas, Texas, on Sunday, May 28, 2018. Lloyd was a member of the Dallas Chapter, Texas Society of the SAR. Lloyd was known throughout the genealogy community for his work at the Dallas Public Library. He joined the Library in 1973 and worked there until his retirement. For many years, he authored the genealogical column, "Family Tree," in the Dallas Morning News. If you ever did much research in the Genealogical section at the Library, you probably met Lloyd.



Calendar of Events

2018

- | | |
|--------------|--|
| June 16 | Chapter Meeting, Woodhaven Country Club, Fort Worth |
| July 4 | White Lake Hills Independence Day Parade, Fort Worth (CG) |
| July 12-18 | NSSAR National Congress, Houston (CG) |
| July 21 | Chapter Meeting, Woodhaven Country Club, Fort Worth |
| August 11 | Oakwood Cemetery Graveside Marker Dedication, Corsicana (CG) |
| August 18 | Chapter Meeting, Woodhaven Country Club, Fort Worth |
| October 5-6 | Texas SAR Fall BOM, New Braunfels |
| September 15 | Chapter Meeting, Woodhaven Country Club, Fort Worth |
| October 20 | Chapter Meeting, Woodhaven Country Club, Fort Worth |
| November 10 | Veteran's Day Parade, Fort Worth (CG) |
| November 17 | Chapter Meeting, Woodhaven Country Club, Fort Worth |
| December 1 | Texas SAR participation in the Dickens on the Strand Parade, Galveston (CG) |

2019

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| March 6 | General Granbury Parade, Granbury (CG) |
| April 3-7 | Texas SAR 124th Annual Conference, Austin (CG) |
| April 13 | Texas SAR participation in the Medal of Honor Parade, Gainesville (CG) |

(CG) = Color Guard event

June Speaker is Compatriot John Greer

Our speaker this month is Compatriot John Greer. He will speak on notable past State Presidents of the Texas Society. John is recognized by the Texas Society for his research and the wealth of information about Texas SAR Past Presidents he has contributed.

MAY MINUTES

Please review the minutes for our May chapter meeting prior to attending the next meeting in June.

<http://www.txssar.org/KMVanZandt/docs/minutes/minutes201805.pdf>



Poppy

The poppy is known as the “Flower of Remembrance.” It was adopted as the official memorial flower. It comes from the poem “In Flanders Fields” by John McCrae, written in 1915. John McCrae was a Canadian doctor and teacher serving in WWI. The day before he wrote the poem, one of his closest friends was killed. His friend was buried in a shallow grave with a makeshift wooden cross, wild poppies were beginning to blossom in the field. The stark contrast between natural life and death through battle gave McCrae the inspiration to write this poem and to give a voice to all who died on the battlefield.



"In Flanders Fields"

by Col. John McCrae,

In Flanders Fields The poppies blow
Between the crosses row on row
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly

Scarce heard amid the guns below.
We are the dead, short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved and now we lie
In Flanders Fields.

Take up our quarrel with the foe
To you, from failing hands, we throw
The torch, be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us, who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders Fields.

May Chapter Award Presentations



At our May chapter meeting, President Gerry Gieger presented Compatriots James Alderman and Mike Connelley with Certificates of Appreciation from the DAR-SAR Relations Committee.

President Gerry Gieger presented Compatriot Harry Johnson with a certificate from the SAR Center for Advancing American Heritage.



President Gerry Gieger presented Compatriot Mark Balliet with the SAR Special Ops Veterans Corp Certificate.

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.



MEMBERSHIP STATUS

Our chapter membership levels as of June 1, 2018, are:

Active / Current Member	95
NSSAR Life.....	5
TXSSAR Perpetual	13
Active / New Member	5
Active / Reinstated	5
Deceased	2
Dual w/Other Primary State.....	1
Emeritus (50+ years)	1
Inactive by Member Request ...	2
Junior Member / Reinstated	1
Junior Member	3
Not Paid (Current Year)	14
Not Paid (Dual State)	2
Reinstated / Transferred In	1
Transferred In.....	1
Memorial.....	0

Our membership currently is **113**.

See You At The Meeting!!!

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

Visit and Like/Follow our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/vanzandtsar/>.

Join our Google Group for emails at <https://groups.google.com/forum/?hl=en#!forum/sar-km-van-zandt>.

Visit and Like/Follow the Texas Society Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/txssar>.