



Texas Society
Sons of the American Revolution

Chisholm Trail News

Major K.M. Van Zandt Chapter
Fort Worth, Texas
October 1, 2018



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

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK:

Greetings Compatriots,

The Cooler weather signals the beginning of Autumn, although 22 September 2018 was actually the Fall equinox in our Northern Hemisphere. Soon leaves will begin to turn and some trees will shed theirs. For many it is harvest, but for others a time of preparation for Winter.

No doubt, some of you will trek into the woods, or drive to the country to enjoy the beauty of this time of year. You are urged to take special care, for as the seasons change, so do the actions of other drivers. Plan to stop when possible well before darkness overtakes, and keep your vehicle safely maintained.

Our Nation is locked in a great Civil Divide not seen since the Civil War and Reconstruction. Both sides talk of civility and reconciliation but neither seems willing to move. No matter which side you favor, we should all look to our God, the Creator of the Universe, and pray for His guidance in the decisions which will affect us all. May His Will be done.

Trusting that we will see you on 20 October....

Gerry

Yorktown, Virginia

October 19, 1781

YORKTOWN IS WON!

Cornwallis' Sword is Delivered to American Forces

"The World Turned Upside Down"

SEPTEMBER MINUTES

Please review the minutes for our September chapter meeting prior to attending the next meeting in October.

<https://www.txssar.org/KMVanZandt/docs/minutes/minutes201809.pdf>

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

Future Guest Speakers

Our guest speaker for October 20th is **Compatriot Drake Peddie**, Secretary for the Texas Society.

On November 17th, the **Honorable Betsy Price**, Mayor of Fort Worth, will speak to the chapter.

In Memoriam



Steven Patrick Truitt

7 Jun 1956 – 21 Sep 2018

NSSAR 121666

Texas SAR 4935

[Obituary](#)

Donate to Fort Worth Police Officer Garrett Hull Fund

On September 14, 2018, FWPD officer Garrett Hull was gunned down in a senseless act of violence toward a man who was doing his job, protecting the citizens of Fort Worth. Officer Hull is survived by his wife and two young daughters. The City of Fort Worth, including the Major K. M. Van Zandt chapter of the SAR, is saddened by this senseless act.

The Van Zandt chapter has a long standing and close relationship with the Fort Worth Police Department and as such we will be accepting donations at the October 2018 meeting that will then be presented to

the family and / or the Fort Worth Police Department at the November meeting when our speaker will be Fort Worth Mayor Betsy Price. If you know you can't make the October meeting, you can make a check payable to "Major K. M. Van Zandt" and mail to Vaughn Oliver, chapter treasurer, 1424 Shadow Run, Weatherford, Texas 76086. The total collected via checks and cash given at the October meeting will then be presented to the Officers family or to Mayor Betsy Price at the November 2018 chapter meeting.

I know the City of Fort Worth, along with the Fort Worth Police Department, will be morally and financially supporting the fallen officer's family for years to come and the Van Zandt chapter needs to be part of this also.

See you at the October meeting; remember: if you can't make it, please send a check to treasurer Vaughn Oliver.



President Gerry Gieger inducted Dr. Richard "Dick" Wilson as a new member. Jane Bruckner (DAR/DRT) accompanied Dr. Wilson. His patriot ancestor was Thomas King.

MOWW Massing of the Colors

MOWW

The Military Order of the World Wars, or MOWW, is a national patriotic organization of American Military Officers, Warrant Officers, Fight Officers, and their descendants of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), and the United States Public Health Service (USPHS). It includes active, reserve component, retired, or former service members. MOWW was chartered in 1919 by Act of Congress and their first Commander-in-Chief was General John J. "Black Jack" Pershing. There are 145 chapters nationwide.



The purpose to the MOWW is:

"To cherish the memories and associations of the World Wars waged for humanity; To inculcate and stimulate love for our Country and the Flag; To promote and further patriotic education in our Nation; Ever to maintain law and order, and to defend the honor, integrity, supremacy of our National Government and the Constitution of the United States; To foster fraternal relations among all branches of the Armed Forces; To promote the cultivation of Military, Naval and Air science and the adoption of a consistent and suitable policy of National Security for the United States of America; To acquire and preserve records of individual services; To encourage and assist in the holding of commemorations and the establishment of Memorial of the World Wars; And to transmit all these ideals to posterity, under God and for our Country, we unite to establish; The Military Order of the World Wars."

MASSING OF THE COLORS

Massing of the Colors is a patriotic ceremony held each November by the Fort Worth chapter 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 units, and veteran, civic, and patriotic organizations.

The Society of the Massing of the Colors first held a patriotic ceremony on Armistice Day in 1922. MOWW inherited the responsibility for conducting the event across the country in 1927 when the original sponsoring Society faded away. To date, MOWW is the only Veteran Service Organization in the United States to conduct such ceremonies.

Each color guard unit carries the National Colors and its unit colors. Our Maj. K.M. Van Zandt Chapter normally provides two members of the Color Guard...one to carry the United States flag and one to carry the SAR flag. We are joined by other area SAR chapters, as well as many of the area DAR chapters. The Massing of the Colors is an impressive educational event and a moving patriotic ceremony.

For the last few years, the ceremony was held at First Presbyterian Church. However, for 2018, **The Massing of the Colors ceremony is scheduled for Sunday, November 4th, at Trimble Tech High School Auditorium, 1003 W. Cannon St, Fort Worth.**



2017 Massing of the Colors participants

Chapter Awards the Heroism Medal

On Wednesday, September 11th, at the Fort Worth City Council meeting, officers of the Maj. K.M. Van Zandt Chapter, presented the NSSAR Heroism Medal and certificate to Fort Worth Police Officer Justin C. Henry and Officer Trae L. Cierzan. The Fort Worth police officers talked to and rescued a woman standing on an overpass threatening to commit suicide. Pictured from left to right are: President Gerry Gieger, Officer Henry, Officer Cierzan, Past President Mike Connelley, and Secretary Ron Turner.



From L to R:

Secretary Ron Turner, FWPD Assistant Chief Ed Kearns, Past President Mike Connelley, Mrs. Cierzan, Officer Trae Cierzan, Officer Justin Henry, Mrs. Henry, President Gerry Gieger, and North Division Captain Leonard Elgin.

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

In October of 1776, Americans occupy the three strong points in New York: Harlem Heights, King's Bridge and Mt. Washington.

Thomas Jefferson resigned his seat in Congress to return to Virginia to be a member of the new House of Delegates.

Two British ships, the Phoenix and the Roebuck, sailed up the North River. They landed in New York near Bloomingdale.

John Adams writing his wife observed the new governments emerging. "We live on an age of political experiments. Among many that will fail, some, I hope will succeed."

Washington wrote Congress that its political establishment of a new permanent army had not provided enlistments.

General and Admiral Howe both went to Long Island to find out the ability to land in Westchester County to get in the rear of Washington and his Army.

Since the Battle of Harlem Heights in September, Howe concentrated on constructing a line across Manhattan from Bloomingdale to Hell Gate and Washington built three lines at Harlem Heights.

The New York Mercury, now safely British, reported "His Majesty's Forces are now in Possession of the City of New York with all the Harbour and Sound, of Long and Staten-Island."

Congress moved to enlist more soldiers for the duration of the war and urged each state to send a committee to the camps to appoint officers and encourage enlistments.

Salem, NC: Moravians recorded: "All day soldiers marched through, returning from the expedition with Gen. Rutherford. Col. Armstrong, who had been with the General, was also here. According to him they burned the Middle Towns of the Cherokee, ruined about 2000 acres of corn, and killed some of the Indians and took others prisoner."

Congress urged Washington to obstruct the Hudson River and hold the British at Fort Washington on New York and Fort Lee in New Jersey.

On Lake Champlain, New York, the British fleet under General Carleton surprised the American fleet lying near Valcour Island.

British General Henry Clinton led a force of 4000 men up the East River at Throg's Neck. Washington sent a force, not to oppose but to remove the bridge that connected the neck with the mainland.

General Carleton's British fleet caught up with the American fleet moving south to Crown Point. General Waterbury was captured and Benedict Arnold escaped with only 3 of his 15 boats.

Congress dispatched 500,000 dollars to New York to pay a bounty to all soldiers who would reenlist.

The Virginia Navy Board ordered seven state galleys "to proceed immediately with their said Vessels from their present stations to Portsmouth in Order to Assist in Transporting the Carolina Troops up to the Head of Elk who are on their March to New Jersey."

Washington called a Council of War to determine whether to stay on Manhattan Island in the face of Howe's moves at Throg's Point. All except General Clinton voted to move north.

In Saratoga, New York: General Phillip Schuyler wrote to Berkshire County, Massachusetts, to send militia immediately for anticipation of an attack on Fort Ticonderoga.

Charleston, South Carolina: It was reported to the South Carolina and American Gazette that the sailing men of War had left North Carolina and were on their way to New York. It was probable that there were no British ships between Pennsylvania and East Florida.

The South Carolina Assembly approved the revision of the Constitution adopted March, 1776.

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

Thomas Warton, Jr., President of the Council of Safety wrote to Colonel John Cadwallader, "Frequent complaints having been made to this Board that the officers who have received the pay of the privates do withhold their money from them, to the great injury of the service, as it tends to discourage the soldiery and unfit them for duty, and is certainly an unjust, base conduct, beneath the character of good officer and an honest man."

The William Morris & Co. wrote this day that the American coast was quite clear (of British ships) "so that the spirits of enterprize has seized most People and they are making or trying to make Fortunes."

Rev. William McKay gave a sermon at Fort Ticonderoga in which he begged them not to be weak and afraid, but to "do yourselves honor by using the weapons of your warfare with that heroism, firmness, and magnanimity which the cause requires."

The Secret Committee of Congress pleaded with merchants in Martinique to send woolen goods for winter use, "they are already much wanted."

Congress elected Arthur Lee of London as Commissioner to France. "Mr. (Thomas) Jefferson having informed Congress that the state of his family will not permit him to accept the honour of going as their Commissioner to France." Benjamin Franklin was the second Commissioner chosen.

Washington moved his headquarters from Harlem Heights to White Plains.

The Secret Committee of Congress retained the Ship Reprisal, Captain Lambert Wickes, to carry Benjamin Franklin to Nantes, France.

King George issued a proclamation encouraging seamen to enlist in the Navy. Only two days later the Navy impresses a thousand seamen from the boats on the Thames. The King also placed an embargo on all meats, cheeses and on provisions for export from Ireland.

Benjamin Franklin accompanied by his grandsons, Temple Franklin, 17, and Benjamin Franklin Bache, 7, departed from Philadelphia for France. It carried a cargo of indigo to pay the expenses of the mission of Franklin, Arthur Lee and Silas Deane.

The Maryland Convention resolved that "the last will of any young man in the service" aged sixteen or over who dies shall have the same force and effects "as if he was of the full age of twenty-one."

White Plains, New York: From Washington's General Order for this day, "...the army seems unacquainted with the enemy's Horse;...any party attaching them may be sure of doing it to advantage in the woods by the roads or along stone walls." One hundred dollars was offered for every "Trooper" captured.

White Plains, New York: American Private David Howe wrote, "This Day the Enemy's [sic] Main Body all Advanced as Far as the W Plains Within 1 Mile of our Camps and Pitch there tents there Some Part of our Army Engaged them on their March Killed a good many on both Sides."

The British troops diverted from White Plains occupied Fort Independence on the heights (Bronx) above King's Bridge. The Americans on Manhattan were now cut off from the mainland.

The Congress recognized the difficulty of recruitment for the continental Navy because of the more profitable service on privateers. It approved the sharing of one half the prize money from vessels captured by naval ships after November 1, 1776.

At the opening of Parliament on this day, the King's speech was not a confident one. He "alluded with triumphant hope to the victory on Long Island, but informed his Parliament that, notwithstanding the fair prospect, it was necessary to prepare for another campaign."

In October of 1777, In an attempt to help General Burgoyne, General Clinton begins an expedition up the Hudson River towards Albany.

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

Although the Americans suffer high casualties and their attack is repulsed, Washington's assault on Howe's encampment at Germantown, Pennsylvania, is considered a psychological success because of its boldness.

As they proceed up the Hudson, British forces under General Clinton capture Forts Clinton and Montgomery.

Benedict Arnold assumes command of the troops in spite of Gates's orders and repulses Burgoyne in the Second Battle of Saratoga.

Congress decides that each state will have one vote in the new national legislature under the Articles of Confederation.

Desperate for food and ammunition, Burgoyne retreats.

General Clinton receives Burgoyne's appeal for help but makes no attempt to fight through to Saratoga.

Continuing his pattern of disparaging his commanding officers, Thomas Conway sends Gates a letter suggesting that Washington should be relieved of his duties as commander-in-chief and Gates should be appointed as his replacement.

Gates accepts Burgoyne's request for a cessation of hostilities.

Clinton's troops burn the town of Esopus, New York, thinking the action will divert American attention away from Burgoyne.

Burgoyne surrenders. The American victory at Saratoga assures French aid to the American cause.

Congress establishes a Board of War consisting of three individuals who were not members of Congress.

An American garrison at Fort Mercer, New Jersey, repels an attack by Hessian troops.

After failing to receive requested reinforcements, General Howe asks that he be relieved of command.

American artillery at Fort Mifflin, Pennsylvania, inflicts severe damage on the British fleet as it moves up the river from Delaware Bay.

In October of 1778, A combined force of British regulars and Loyalists attempts to eradicate a nest of privateers at Mincock Island (Egg Harbor), New Jersey, a few miles north of what is today Atlantic City. About 50 colonials die in a surprise attack in the darkness before driving off the British and capturing some of them.

In reprisal for the destruction of German Flats, a group of Continental soldiers and frontiersmen marches against the Iroquois town of Unadilla, located 50 miles west of German Flats. The Iroquois have previously fled and the patriots destroy the village.

In October of 1779, the New York legislature declares Governor Lord John Murray Dunmore, General William Tryon, Oliver De Lancey, along with 57 others, to be public enemies. As a result of this act, these individuals have their personal estates confiscated.

In October of 1780, Major Patrick Ferguson and his entire force of 1,100 Loyalists are either killed, captured, or wounded in the Battle of Kings Mountain, South Carolina, with 1,400 frontiersmen led by Colonel William Campbell. Ferguson is the only individual in the battle that is not an American. The Loyalists forces rely on massed fire from volleys and the bayonet while the Americans use long rifles to pick the Loyalists off at long range, including Ferguson, who is killed by being shot off his horse while leading a charge. This is not the most glorious day for the Americans as they kill many Loyalists while they try to surrender. This battle forces Cornwallis to abandon his invasion of North Carolina.

A combined force of 1,000 British regulars, Hessians, Loyalists, and Indians led by Sir John Johnson and Chief Joseph Brant attempt an unsuccessful attack upon Middleburg (Middle Fort), New York. The fort is manned by Major Melancthon Woolsey and only 200 Continental soldiers that, unknown to the British, are low on ammunition. The British forces retreat in the direction of the Schoharie Valley and content themselves with destroying everything in their path.

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

Colonel John Brown commands a force of 130 militia at Fort Keyser, located in Palatine, New York. Brown receives assurances that General Robert Van Rensselaer's forces will arrive in time to succor the garrison. Based on this information Brown sallies forth from the fort and attacks his besiegers led by Sir John Johnson, whose force is ten times as large as Brown's. Brown and one-third of his men die when Van Rensselaer's force fails to attack Johnson's rear.

After his victory at Fort Keyser, Sir John Johnson's force is pursued by General Robert Van Rensselaer's militia. Johnson ambushes his pursuers at the Battle of Klock's Field, near Fort Plain in New York. The American militia manages to repulse the British attack but misses an opportunity to decisively defeat the British when Van Rensselaer refuses to mount a counterattack.



From the Application Status Report:

Approved Applications for 2018 [\[approved and registered since the last newsletter\]](#)

Jan 1, 2018, **Bryce K. Baker**, 206152, 13425, Frisco, TX, ACTIVE/NEW, Joseph Brimer, ca1760-1823
 Jan 26, 2018, **Brett W. Baker**, 206153, 13426, Frisco, TX, JUNIOR/NEW, Joseph Brimer, ca1760-1823
 Jan 26, 2018, **Brody P. Baker**, 206154, 13427, Frisco, TX, JUNIOR/NEW, Joseph Brimer, ca1760-1823
 Jan 26, 2018, **Peyton R. Brimer**, 206155, 13428, Frisco, TX, JUNIOR/NEW, Joseph Brimer, ca1760-1823
 Feb 2, 2018, **David A. Rankin**, 206238, 13434, Fort Worth, TX, ACTIVE/NEW, Thomas Wedding, Jr., 1758-1838
 Feb 9, 2018, **Nicholas K. Mandich**, 206341, 13447, Burleson, TX, ACTIVE/NEW, Josiah Barnes, 1764-1835
 Feb 9, 2018, **Timothy T. Hawkins**, 206342, 13448, Benbrook, TX, ACTIVE/NEW, John Hawkins, 1762-1840
 Feb 9, 2018, **Wilburn W. Chaney**, 206353, 13459, Fort Worth, TX, ACTIVE/NEW, Jacob Winfree, 1750-1784
 Jun 1, 2018, **Michael R. Cox**, 207726, 13585, Fort Worth, TX, ACTIVE/NEW, Joseph Allen, ca1762-1833
 Jun 1, 2018, **John M. Bell Jr.**, 207728, 13587, Fort Worth, TX, ACTIVE/NEW, Anderson Brightwell, 1763-1837
 Jun 8, 2018, **Ronald J. Turner**, 198382, 12354, Euless, TX, SUPPLEMENTAL, Richard Willis, 1746-1837
 Jul 27, 2018, **Richard V. Wilson**, 208426, 13658, Fort Worth, TX, ACTIVE/NEW, Thomas King
 Jul 27, 2018, **Thomas V. Wilson**, 208427, 13659, Fort Worth, TX, ACTIVE/NEW, Thomas King
 Aug 24, 2018, **Ronald J. Turner**, 198382, 12354, Euless, TX, SUPPLEMENTAL, William Anson Halbert, Sr., 1744-1808
 Aug 24, 2018, **Ronald J. Turner**, 198382, 12354, Euless, TX, SUPPLEMENTAL, Elizabeth Hill Halbert, 1747-1836
 Aug 24, 2018, **Ronald J. Turner**, 198382, 12354, Euless, TX, SUPPLEMENTAL, William Hill, Sr., 1712-1787

Applications in the approval process

At HDQ Aug 20, 2018, **Roscoe L. Van Zandt III**, 0, 0, Carrollton, TX, NEW, Jacob Van Zandt, 1751-1818
 At HDQ Aug 21, 2018, **Andrew Michael Cox**, 0, 0, Fort Worth, TX, NEW, Joseph Allen, ca1762-1833
 At HDQ Aug 21, 2018, **Kenneth Roston Cox**, 109937, 4049, Fort Worth, TX, SUPPLEMENT, Joseph Allen, ca1762-1833



Maj. K.M. Van Zandt Chapter served as the Color Guard on Saturday, September 15, at the DAR Constitution Week Luncheon held at Ridglea Country Club in Fort Worth. Members participating included (L to R): Kevin Shellman, Jerry Cope (Arlington), James Alderman, and Color Guard Commander Bobby Gresham.

President Gerry Gieger presented Secretary Ron Turner with certificates for three new approved supplemental Patriot applications.



Addition of "Under God" to the Pledge to the United States Flag

Louis Albert Bowman, an attorney from Illinois, was the first to suggest the addition of "under God" to the pledge. The National Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution gave him an Award of Merit as the originator of this idea.

He spent his adult life in the Chicago area and was chaplain of the Illinois Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. At a meeting on February 12, 1948, he led the society in reciting the pledge with the two words "under God" added. He said that the words came from Lincoln's Gettysburg Address. Although not all manuscript versions of the Gettysburg Address contain the words "under God", all the reporters' transcripts of the speech as delivered do, as perhaps Lincoln may have deviated from his prepared text and inserted the phrase when he said "that the nation shall, under God, have a new birth of freedom." Bowman repeated his revised version of the Pledge at other meetings.

The two words were officially added in June, 1954.

Significant days and observances for the United States Armed Forces

October 8 - Columbus Day—commemorates Christopher Columbus' arrival to the Americas on October 12 , 1492.

October 13 - Navy Birthday

October 26 - National Day of the Deployed—honors all of the brave men and women who have been deployed and are sacrificing, or have sacrificed, their lives to fight for our country and acknowledges their families that they are separated from.

Calendar of Events

2018

September 28-October 21	Texas State Fair, DAR Continental House, supporting the Texas SAR
October 12-14	Texas SAR Fall BOM, New Braunfels (CG)
October 20	Chapter Meeting, Woodhaven Country Club, Fort Worth
November 4	MOWW Massing of the Colors, Fort Worth (CG)
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

January 19	Chapter Meeting, Woodhaven Country Club, Fort Worth
February 16	Chapter Meeting, Woodhaven Country Club, Fort Worth
March 6	General Granbury Parade, Granbury (CG)
March 16	Chapter Meeting, Woodhaven Country Club, Fort Worth
March 21-24	Texas DAR 120th Annual Conference, Houston (CG)
April 3-7	Texas SAR 124th Annual Conference, Austin (CG)
April 7	Texas SAR Spring BOM, Austin
April 13	Texas SAR participation in the Medal of Honor Parade, Gainesville (CG)
April 20	Chapter Meeting, Woodhaven Country Club, Fort Worth
May 18	Chapter Meeting, Woodhaven Country Club, Fort Worth

(CG) = Color Guard event



October 4	Kirby Lee Boyd George Alan Wright
October 5	Peyton Ray Brimer
October 7	Stephen Earle Smith
October 9	Matthew Lange Johnson
October 13	Hugh D. McKay Jr.
October 14	John L. Merrill
October 17	James Vann Cunningham
October 26	Darrell Ray Dunlop

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 September 30, 2018, are:

Active / Current Member	94
NSSAR Life.....	7
TXSSAR Perpetual	12
Active / New Member	9
Active / Reinstated.....	5
Deceased	4
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 **116**.



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>.