



**Texas Society**  
**Sons of the American Revolution**  
**Chisholm Trail News**



Major K.M. Van Zandt Chapter  
Fort Worth, Texas  
April 1, 2023

**NEXT MEETING:** April 15, 2023

**TIME:** 9:00 am

**LOCATION:** Diamond Oaks Country Club  
Fort Worth, Texas

*A monthly publication of Maj. K.M. Van Zandt Chapter, Ron Turner, Editor*

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2022-2023

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**We're Moving!**

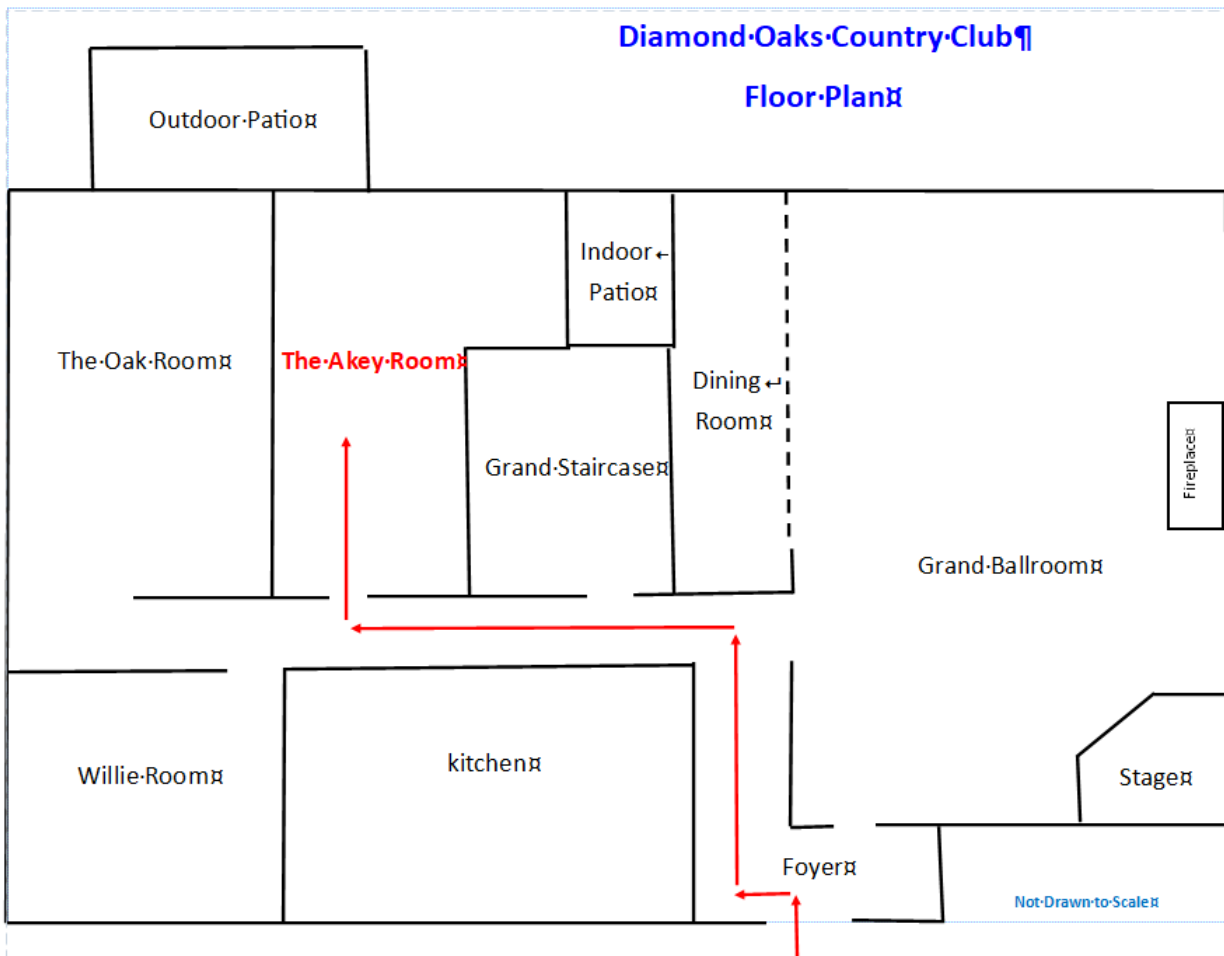
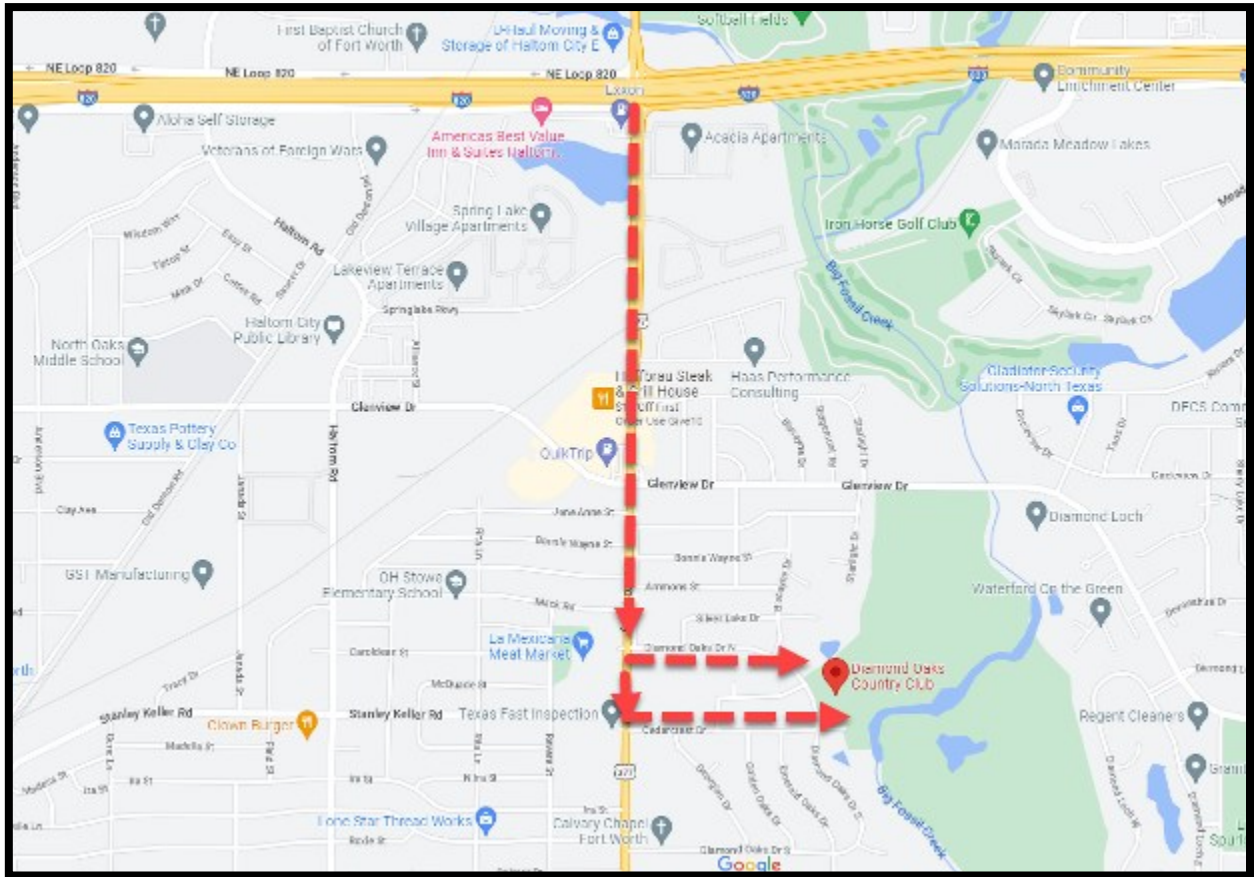
That's right! We're moving (at least for the next two months). At our March 18<sup>th</sup> meeting, the membership approved holding our April and May Chapter meetings at Diamond Oaks Country Club (DOCC) in north Fort Worth, actually Haltom City. Following this two month trial period, the membership will vote at the May meeting whether to move permanently to DOCC or stay at the Botanical Gardens, or continue the search for a permanent meeting place.

DOCC is located at 5821 Diamond Oaks Drive North in Haltom City. Yes, the physical location is Haltom City; however, the mailing address is Fort Worth. See the map on page 2.

DOCC is one of the best kept secrets in the Fort Worth area. Big Fossil Creek meanders throughout the property with 100-year-old Pecan and Oak trees scattered throughout. The Clubhouse features floor to ceiling windows overlooking the classic, championship golf course.

We will meet in the Akey Room, named for Charles Akey, designer of the Diamond Oaks Golf Course. The room is spacious, light, airy, and can accommodate up to approximately 50 people very comfortably. An eastern wall of glass provides a beautiful setting and window coverings assist with dimming the sunlight. The room includes an overhead projector, a pull-down screen, a microphone, connections for audio-visual presentations, table linens and napkins. The breakfast buffet (just for our group) is situated in the ell portion of the room. Seating will be at round tables accommodating eight (8) people. A floor plan of the Clubhouse is on page 2 (it is not drawn to scale!!!).





## 128th Annual Texas SAR State Convention Recap

DOCC is offering the Chapter an extremely reasonable price for the breakfast buffet - \$20 per person. We will try two different buffet meals and will select the permanent buffet menu at our May meeting.

In April, we will enjoy the **Farmhouse Breakfast Buffet**:

- Scrambled eggs
- French Toast
- Smoked Maple Bacon
- Country Sausage
- Hash Browns
- Biscuits & Gravy
- Orange Juice
- Regular & Decaffeinated Coffee

In May, we will enjoy the **Masters Continental Buffet**:

- Hot Breakfast Burritos with House made Salsa
- Seasonal Fruits
- Assortment of Breakfast Breads
- Pastries and Bagels with Cream Cheese and Condiments
- Orange Juice
- Regular & Decaffeinated Coffee

DOCC does require a minimum of 20 participants each month in order to provide buffet service.

We will continue to **start breakfast at 9:00 a.m.** and follow with **the business meeting at 9:30 a.m.**

We have not had to pay for room rental for many, many years; however, DOCC does charge \$100.00 for the room rental each month. The membership at the March meeting discussed several options for covering the room rental fee, from increasing chapter dues to cover it, to having members donate monthly to cover it, to raising the price of the buffet to cover it. The membership decided the best approach is to charge **\$25.00 for breakfast**. That includes the \$20 buffet charge (gratuity included) plus the \$5 room rental fee. With a minimum of 20 people attending each month and paying \$25.00, we can easily cover the \$100.00 room rental fee.

Your Chapter Officers encourage you to attend Chapter meetings, and if you have been lax or totally absent, please put it as a repeat item on your calendar and get back into the habit of being at Chapter meetings.

Another successful annual state convention is in the books! Approximately 100 members from across our great State of Texas gathered at the Marriott Houston City Place/Springwoods hotel beginning on Thursday, March 30th and ending on Sunday, April 2nd.

Following Covid, our in-person meetings have been shortened by having the majority of our committees meet via Zoom ahead of the convention. This year, we returned to having some training sessions on Thursday afternoon. The first session was on Musket Gun Safety and that was followed by a Zoom training session on the Education opportunities at the NSSAR website and the Texas SAR website.

Friday morning began with a few of the committee meetings that do not meet via Zoom, i.e. Council of Chapter Presidents, Genealogy, and the Americanism committees. The afternoon began with the Color Guard Committee meeting, followed by the First General Session. The day ended with the President's Reception in an open-air pavilion with delicious Hors d'oeuvres, soothing drinks, and great conversations.

Saturday morning began with the Second General Session and for probably the first time in history, the convention concluded its business by 10:00 a.m.

The Youth Awards Luncheon was the first highlight of the day on Saturday. It is always enjoyable to hear the top oration contest winners present their orations and this year was no different. Following lunch, the always emotional and moving Memorial Service occurred where the Society remembers all those members who passed away during the previous year.

Due to the convention concluding its business in record time, delegates had some good down time to relax, go sightseeing, or simply renew or make new acquaintances before the Gala Dinner on Saturday evening.

The evening began with a cocktail hour prior to dinner. Following a delicious meal, the guest speaker was Denton Florian. He is one of the foremost experts on Sam Houston, the great Texas general, president, and governor (in that order); and Texas history in general.





The members of the Maj. K.M. Van Zandt Chapter at the Texas SAR Gala Dinner, 128th Annual State Convention, Houston, are (l to r): Texas SAR Vice President District 5 Ron Turner, Texas SAR Historian John Anderson & his Lady Meg, Chapter Past President Mike Connelley & his Lady Sarah, and Compatriot Art Munford.

The gala evening included the announcement and introduction of the 2023 class of Patriot Medal awardees. The Patriot Medal is the highest SAR award that a State Society can present to a member. This year's awardees were:

Thomas E. Carswell, Jr. (Hill Country Chapter #31)  
 Kevin L. Kanter (San Antonio Chapter #4)  
 Jerry W. Pinkerton (Dallas Chapter #2)  
 Robert D. Smith, MD, PhD (Hill Country Chapter #31)  
 Charles R. Wagner (Paul Carrington Chapter #5)  
 Rodney Weems (Cradle of Texas Chapter #33)

The convention was honored to have as its guest, NSSAR President General C. Bruce Pickette and NSSAR Vice President General South Central District Charles McLemore. PG Pickette installed the Texas SAR officers for this next year.

At various times during the three-day meeting, Vice President District 5 Ron Turner presented the new Maj. K.M. Van Zandt Chapter Challenge Coin to President General Pickette, Vice President General McLemore, out-going Texas SAR President Jim Kuykendall, and in-coming Texas SAR President Sam Massey. The coin was well-received by all. Additionally, Past President Connelley presented a coin to Immediate Past Texas SAR President Drake Peddie and to Vice President, District 6, Tom Van Fossen.

The Maj. K.M. Van Zandt Chapter was represented by the following delegates:

- Texas SAR Vice President District 5 & Immediate Past Chapter President Ron Turner
- Past Chapter President Mike Connelley
- Chapter Vice President Kevin Shellman
- Compatriot Art Munford

Texas SAR Historian & Chapter Historian John Anderson, a dual member of both the Maj. K.M. Van Zandt Chapter and the Arlington Chapter, was the lone delegate for the Arlington Chapter.

Texas SAR President Jim Kuykendall presented the following awards to Maj. K.M. Van Zandt members on Saturday:

#### **MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL (SILVER)**

Mike Connelley  
 John Anderson

#### **ROGER SHERMAN MEDAL (SILVER)**

John Anderson  
 Ron Turner

#### **CERTIFICATE OF DISTINGUISHED SERVICE**

Ron Turner

The Maj. K.M. Van Zandt Chapter earned the following awards for 2022:

#### **ROSS L. SHIPMAN AWARD**

Outstanding Electronic Chapter Newsletter in 2022  
 2nd Place Large Chapters Division  
 Maj. K.M. Van Zandt Chapter #6,  
*The Chisholm Trail News*  
 Ron Turner, Editor

#### **TEXAS SAR FLAG PRESENTATION AWARD**

Repeat winner for 2022

Report submitted by Ron Turner





Texas SAR Inland Registrar Jerry Pinkerton (l) and Past Chapter President Mike Connelley (r)



Texas SAR Color Guard Commander Shiidon Hawley  
Texas SAR Color Guard Southern Commander David Hamaker  
Texas SAR Color Guard Northern Commander Gary Barker



Texas SAR President Sam Massey

SAR President General C. Bruce Pickette (seated)



From left to right: Texas SAR Vice President District 5 Ron Turner, Past Chapter President Mike Connelley, Compatriot Art Munford, and Vice President General South Central District Larry Stevens

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## Looking Forward to 2028

At this summer's SAR National Congress in Orlando, Florida, Texas SAR will present a proposal to host the 2028 National Congress in San Antonio, Texas. Past President Tom Jackson presented a short presentation to the delegates at the Texas SAR convention this past weekend on the in-work presentation to be presented to Congress in July.

Should Congress award Texas the 2028 Congress, this will be a perfect opportunity to attend a National Congress within a reasonable driving distance. Also, many, many volunteers will be required so you will have an opportunity to work behind the scenes should you desire to do so.

# MARCH CHAPTER MEETING

Our March Chapter meeting was one full of great presentations by our Youth Contest winners and informative presentations on the new Chapter Challenge Coin.

Vice President District 5 & Immediate Past Chapter President Ron Turner provided background information on challenge coins in general and then presented the FIRST issued Challenge Coin to Brooke Walker, our 2022 C.A.R. Essay Contest winner. Brooke is undergoing some health challenges and is the daughter of Chapter Treasurer Anthony Walker. (Photo is from April 2022.)



Past President Mike Connelley presented the Chapter 2023 C.A.R. Essay Contest winner with a certificate and scholarship award to Bella Walker, twin sister to Brooke and daughter of Treasurer Walker. Past President Turner then presented Bella with the SECOND issued Challenge Coin. Bella was the Third Place Winner in the Texas SAR contest and was recognized at the C.A.R. Annual Conference held this past weekend in San Antonio.



From left to right: Vice President District 5 Ron Turner, Past President Mike Connelley, Bella Kate Walker, and President Bobby Gresham.

Past President Connelley presented the Chapter 2023 Knight Essay Award to Julia Grace that included a certificate, a medal, and a scholarship award. Past President Turner then presented Julia with the THIRD issued Challenge Coin.



From left to right: Vice President District 5 Ron Turner, Past President Mike Connelley, Julia Grace, and President Bobby Gresham.

Immediate Past President Ron Turner recognized the Chapter Challenge Coin Design Committee consisting of himself, Past President Mike Connelley, and Compatriot Bob Jacobs. Compatriot Jacobs had the winning design for the coin and IPP Turner presented him with a new Challenge Coin and a certificate in recognition of his winning design. IPP Turner also recognized Past President Connelley for his participation on the committee with a



new Challenge Coin and a certificate.

From l to r: Vice President District 5 Ron Turner, Past President Mike Connelley, Compatriot Bob Jacobs, and President Bobby Gresham



# Unsung Heroes of the American Revolution

By Julia Grace

*Knight Essay Contest*

*First Place, Maj. K.M. Van Zandt Chapter*

## INTRODUCTION

When people reflect on the American Revolution, they are quick to appreciate its male contributors because they seemed to have played a bigger part in the Revolution itself. We hear the names of Patrick Henry, Benjamin Franklin, Alexander Hamilton, Thomas Jefferson, and George Washington and believe that these men are the only reason for victory. However, behind the scenes, the people who deserve as much praise and acknowledgment are the women of the Revolution. Without women, a successful American Revolution would not be possible. The men that we tend to give the majority of the praise to would be malnourished, lacking necessary information, and without clothes, or even medicine. I am not saying that the male heroes we typically read about were not important. I am, however, taking a stand to try to share about the unsung heroes and give them more credit than what they received. The focus of this paper will be to accomplish that by explaining Martha Washington's impact, battlefield contributions of various women, and the spying efforts of Anna Smith Strong.

## MARTHA WASHINGTON

George Washington, as most know, was the commander of the Continental Army. What many people may not realize however, is that while he was leading the war on the battlefield, his wife Martha Washington was very prominent in the Revolution through her role with the Daughters of Liberty. The Daughters of Liberty were formed because the British passed the Stamp Act in 1765. They saw the Stamp Act as a violation of their rights. The colonist slogan was "No taxation with representation." Women saw this as an opportunity to rebel against the British and to show the devotion and steadfastness they had toward the Revolution. In this rebellion, they would hand-weave clothes because most materials were brought in from Britain. It was their way of making a stand without being violent. Not only that but 92 women decided to meet in Newport, Rhode Island,

where they made 170 skeins of yarn as another way of showing their disobedience to British law. In addition, the Daughters of Liberty tried to motivate others not to buy British goods and to make their own. Martha Washington was warned that there would be people who disapproved of her efforts but responded with "A true patriot would applaud our efforts for the relief of the armies which defend our lives, our possessions, our liberty." This was an immense stand that they assembled and was influential in the American Revolution.

## BATTLEFIELD CONTRIBUTIONS

In addition to women taking a stand at home, there were many women who would go to war with the men to make sure they were with medical care, fed, and with appropriate clothing. As a matter of fact, Martha Washington accompanied her husband George Washington through a great deal of the war. She would help sow socks for the soldiers, feed them and help raise money for materials they needed. Other women would also tend to care for wounded soldiers, help repair uniforms, and even went as far as to raise livestock for food. They did everything that you can imagine that was behind the scenes. They were the well-oiled machine that made everything able to function.

The women of the Revolution were specialists in working behind the battle lines. One notable exception however was a woman named Deborah Sampson. She decided to disguise herself as a man so that she could participate in the war. Enlisting herself under the name of Robert Shurtleff, Sampson bravely fought as a soldier with the men in the Revolution. During the Battle of Tar-rytown, she was shot in her thigh with a musket ball. Amazingly, in order to avoid being treated by a doctor, she cut the wound open, pulled out the musket ball, and sewed it back up so she could continue fighting! Unfortunately, she was discovered but she was given an award for her service. Another woman name Molly Pitcher acted in a very courageous manner after seeing that her husband William Hayes was injured in the Battle of Monmouth. Mary bravely went in and took his position. She continued to shoot the cannons even though a cannonball ripped right through her skirt! Fortunately, she was unharmed and kept continuing to load the cannons.



These women proved to be incredible examples of fearless determination to share in the burden of war.

### SPYING ON THE BRITISH

Along with all the contributions these women made, the ones that seemed to provide the greatest impact to the Revolution were the secret spies that were sent to spy on the British. A woman named Anna Smooth Strong played a very important role in the American Revolution. She was a member of the Culper Spy Ring in Setauket, NY. One of her roles was to alert Abraham Woodhull, who was a leading member of the Culper Spy Ring, that Caleb Brewster was back in town. Brewster himself was a member of the Culper Spy Ring and effectively spied on the British soldiers. When he was back, she would hang a black petticoat that let the soldiers know without information being leaked. All the information she collected would be transmitted to George Washington himself. She would also get information about plans with the British troops, and different plans in New York, and surrounding regions. Without her, Washington would not have known many of the next steps the British were going to take. Through Strong's stealth labor, the British never caught on, and she was able to fulfill her services throughout the War.

### CONCLUSION

In conclusion, women showed they not only could help out tremendously at home but that they could perform tasks that were previously one only by men. This created an expansion of women's roles in battles in the future. Their extreme loyalty and determination to make such a difference illustrate the heart of a true hero. In the words of Martha Washington, "The greatest part of our happiness depends on our dispositions, not our circumstances." Whether it was the achievements of the Daughters of Liberty, Mary Pitcher, or Martha Washington, many brave women fought to make their roles both important and impactful. In the end, they ultimately achieved their goal. The success of America's fight for independence would not have been made possible without the contributions of undaunted women. They truly revolutionized the Revolution.

## Black Soldiers in the American Revolution and the Siege of Yorktown

*By Bella Kate Walker*

*C.A.R. Essay Contest*

*First Place, Maj. K.M. Van Zandt Chapter*

*Third Place, Texas SAR*

The war was never supposed to last this long. Washington had famously stated that it would be "decided in a single skirmish". Now it had lasted over five years. Five years of fighting the most powerful military of its time. Britain had an unlimited number of trained soldiers, a deep treasury, and modern weapons and artillery. The men of the Colonial Army and militia were out of supplies and food. They were tired and hungry. Farms along the trails of battle were stripped bare. The British had destroyed everything in their wake. Bad intelligence, poor communication, loss of men to desertion and disease, and difficult terrain had more to do with the outcome of battles than elaborate strategy. Each of these issues would come into play at the final event of the war.

Black men and women had been involved in the war since the first Battle at Lexington and even earlier during the Boston Massacre and Boston Tea Party. For many enslaved men, the Revolutionary War gave them a chance to gain their freedom. Hearing their own masters declare that they did not want to be slaves of the British stirred up desire for their own independence. Thousands served throughout the conflict, both as part of white units and in entirely black units. Black soldiers provided a greatly needed increase in the number of soldiers. While initially not wanted as participants in the regular army, leaders quickly realized the impact they could have. However, inclusion of black soldiers was not unified throughout the colonies. "At the north he gained his freedom by entering the American army, at the south only by entering the British army". Even female slaves joined the British, preparing cartridges for guns or treating soldiers in military hospitals. Black soldiers would continue to play a vital role through the culmination of America's fight for independence.





Yorktown was never marked to be a major battle, let alone the final fight for victory. Washington wanted to head to New York to free it from Clinton, the British Commander in Chief in North America. However, the French General Rochambeau, Washington's greatest advisor and ally, thought a southern point would be more effective. Cornwallis, who had been leading British attacks throughout the south, was ordered north to reinforce Clinton as he prepared for Washington to attack. Battles were fought at Williamsburg and Jamestown before Cornwallis tried to set up the port of Yorktown for the British. The French officer, Lafayette, cornered him there and Rochambeau ordered the French naval commander de Grasse to put in at Yorktown. Washington changed his focus and headed south as quickly as possible. He received reinforcements in Maryland and arrived at Yorktown with 16,000 men to surround 7,000 British on September 28, 1781.

De Grasse had already successfully routed most of the British navy and sent them running to repair their ships. The British army was decimated by hunger and disease. Washington was able to move in, dig trenches, and set up almost totally unopposed. The first shots were fired October 9<sup>th</sup> and within a few days Cornwallis's army had fled to the caves below the town. Washington moved his line of trenches forward. On October 14<sup>th</sup>, the fort was taken without a single American shot fired. Terms of surrender were signed on October 19<sup>th</sup>, 1781. Ironically, Clinton sailed from New York the same day with plans to support Cornwallis. He would arrive on the 28<sup>th</sup> to find his army defeated. Cornwallis was too drunk to even show up to surrender. In total, the British lost 500 men, the French 200, and the Americans 80 during the siege and battle for Yorktown.

Black soldiers were by no means absent from this final fight. The infamous 1<sup>st</sup> Rhode Island Regiment, made up entirely of black soldiers and known for their long history of battle-hardened contributions to the Revolution, joined black troops from Connecticut and Massachusetts in taking the fort, demonstrating "both bravery and military might". One enterprising slave under Lafayette, James Armistead, was sent to gain the trust of Cornwallis as a spy. He wrote down their plans and passed them through other American spies to aid Lafayette. He became so trusted that Armistead was even sent from

Cornwallis to spy on the Americans. He played the role of double agent well and became a valuable asset to the victory of Yorktown. Surprisingly, when Cornwallis arrived to discuss the terms of surrender, he once again saw his old spy, Armistead, only this time, he was with the Americans.

Throughout the war, abolitionists in the north made huge strides with several states abolishing the practice of slavery. The Revolutionary War is credited with giving their efforts a much-needed boost. Most blacks in the north and some of those who had fought for the British gained their freedom. Some returned to Britain with their officers but many of them would head to Canada and some on to Sierra Leone where they established Free-town. Few slaves received the freedom they were promised. Upon their return, owners often denied their promise of freedom, or they were recaptured by bounty hunters. After their victory, American recaptured enslaved people from the British and most often returned them to their owners. Two were returned to Washington himself. A few escaped to Florida but most would not see freedom. Despite their valiant fighting to gain America's freedom from their oppressors, it would take another 80 years and another violent conflict, in the American Civil War, for the descendants of these brave men who fought for American independence, to gain their own freedom.

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## Want one of these?

Vice President District 5 Ron Turner



will give you one of these lapel pins when you bring in and sponsor a new member application and NSSAR approves it.

It's just that easy!

## CHALLENGE COIN HISTORY

The history and rules surrounding Challenge Coins still are not clear to many, including those that have had a “Coin Check” pulled on them.

Challenge Coins typically feature an organization’s insignia and are carried by their members. During a “Coin Check” they can prove membership, enhance morale, or wind up costing you a round of drinks if you’ve forgotten yours at home.

There are quite a few stories floating around about the inception of Challenge Coins (though none have been proven accurate). The most common story dates back to World War II when the Office of Strategic Services (OSS) was deployed into Nazi-held France. Their coins were simply local coins that acted as bona fides during meetings to verify the identity and authenticity of an OSS agent.

Specifics on the coin were examined by each party that would identify friend from foe. This prevented infiltration by a spy who might have advance knowledge of the meeting time, place, and even what coin was to be presented.

The first U.S. military unit known to have a true Challenge Coin was the oldest Special Forces unit in the Army, the 10<sup>th</sup> Special Forces Group. Green Berets were the only known units to have coins prior to the creation of the United States Special Operations Command in 1987. Since then, the Challenge Coin tradition has spread far and wide in both the military and the private sector. There probably is not a U.S. President, or government official, today without one.

### CHALLENGE COIN RULES

It should be noted that a “Coin Check” consists of a challenge and a response.

The challenge is initiated by drawing your coin, holding it in the air by whatever means possible and state, scream, shout, or otherwise verbally acknowledge that you are initiating a coin check.

Another, but less vocal method is to firmly place it on the bar, table, or floor (this should produce an audible noise which can be easily heard by those being challenged, but try not to leave a permanent imprint.)

If you accidentally drop your coin and it makes an audible sound upon impact, then you have just “accidentally” initiated a coin check. (This is called paying the price for improper care of your coin.)

The response consists of all those persons being challenged drawing their coin in a like manner.

If you are challenged and are unable to properly respond, you must buy a round of drinks for the challenger and the group being challenged.

If everyone being challenged responds in the correct manner, the challenger must buy a round of drinks for all those people they challenged.

Failure to buy a round of drinks is a despicable crime and will require that you turn-in your Coin to the issuing agency.

### WHEN / WHERE

Coin checks are permitted, any time, any place.

### EXCEPTIONS

There are no exceptions to the rules. At the time of the challenge, you are permitted one step and an arm’s reach to locate your coin. If you still cannot reach it, sorry about that.

### CHALLENGE COIN USES

In addition to Challenge Coins being used by the military, today, you will find challenge coins exchanged through NASCAR, the NFL, cadets of the Civil Air Patrol, Eagle Scouts, and World Series of Poker, to name just a few. They have become popular with police and fire departments, fraternal organizations, and motorcycle clubs.

The American military has also spread the challenge coin tradition to other military traditions, such as the Swiss Armed Forces, Australia and New Zealand forces, and military units of the United Kingdom.

Many chapters and officers of the SAR now have Challenge Coins they present to dignitaries and presenters, and many chapters also sell Challenge Coins as a way to earn income to support their various chapter activities.

Lastly, many people also take great delight in collecting challenge coins. Some collect any and all coins, while others will focus on a specific type of coin.

## Texas SAR Officers for 2023-2024

President	Sam Massey
President-elect	Tracy A. Pounders
Immediate Past President	Jim Kuykendall
Secretary	Mel Oller
Assistant Secretary	John Ray
Communications Secretary	Ray Cox
Staff Secretary	Kevin Kanter
Treasurer	Gary Barker
Assistant Treasurer	Don Hayes
Registrar (Coastal Group)	Chuck Wagner
Registrar (Inland Group)	Jerry Pinkerton
Chancellor	Dustin Whittenburg
Chaplain	Kevin Kanter
Historian	John Anderson
Vice President, CM&A	Mark Harrison
Vice President, District 1 acting)	Vacant (Larry Spradlin,
Vice President, District 2	Ben Pollard
Vice President, District 3	Robert Smith
Vice President, District 4	Ron Walcik
Vice President, District 5	Ron Turner
Vice President, District 6	Tom Van Fossen
Vice President, District 7	Richard Zdunkewicz
Vice President, District 8	Ken Graalum
Vice President, District 9 acting)	Vacant (Kevin Kanter,
Vice President, District 10 ing)	Vacant (Bill Sekel, act-
Vice President, District 11	Tom Milson
Trustee	Jim Kuykendall
Alternate Trustee	Drake Peddie
Chairman, Council of Chapter Presidents	Tom Milson
Editor, <i>The Texas Compatriot</i>	Ron Turner
Webmaster	Ray Cox

Contact information for all Texas SAR Officers is found at:

<https://www.txssar.org/officers.htm>

## 250th Anniversary Liberty Tree Program

Partner with the DAR, C.A.R.

450 Counties in 40 States are named for a Patriot

### THE LIBERTY TREE

The Liberty Tree (1646-1775) was a famous elm tree that stood in Boston near Boston Common, in the years before the American Revolution. In 1765, colonists in Boston staged the first act of defiance against the British government at the tree. The tree became a rallying point for the growing resistance to the rule of Britain over the American colonies.

Order a **Princeton American Elm Tree** directly through a local nursery.



Order a **Cast Aluminum Plaque** to honor our contribution with a lasting symbol of the American Revolution.



Full program details are available at [this link](#).

## Marking of War of 1812 Grave

The SAR Maj. K.M. Van Zandt Chapter Color Guard participated in the 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration for the General Edward H. Tarrant Chapter of the United States Daughters of 1812 on Saturday, March 11<sup>th</sup>, at the Pioneer Rest Cemetery in Fort Worth. The Color Guard is shown posting the colors at the grave of General Edward Tarrant who served in the War of 1812 with Andrew Jackson at the Battle of New Orleans and also served in the Texas War for Independence, 1836. Tarrant County is named for the General. Pioneer Rest is the oldest public cemetery in Tarrant County.

The color guard was commanded by Drake Peddie, President of the General Society of the War of 1812 in Texas, and former Texas SAR State Color Guard Commander. The Van Zandt chapter participants included James Alderman, Doug Schwetke, Bob Jacobs, Vann Cunningham, and Bobby Gresham.



## James Lemmon Grave Marking

Members of the Maj. K. M. Van Zandt Chapter Color Guard, Texas SAR, participated on Sunday, March 19<sup>th</sup>, in a very rare event for Texas . . . honoring the life and marking the grave of a Patriot of the American Revolution. James Lemmon, a Patriot of the American Revolution, a veteran of the War of 1812, and a veteran of the Texas War for Independence, is buried in Edgewood Cemetery in Lancaster, Texas. James Lemmon died on July 4<sup>th</sup>, 1858, at the age of 89 years. Approximately 80 attendees watched and participated in the ceremony.

Pictured from left to right are: Compatriot Steve Hole, Texas SAR Vice President District 5 & Immediate Past Chapter President Ron Turner, Chapter President Bobby Gresham, and Chapter Vice President Kevin Shellman.

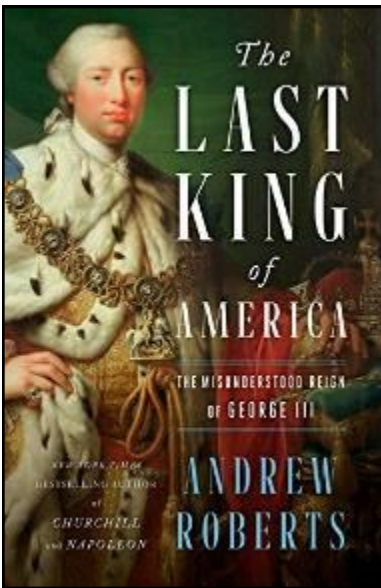


# READING for PLEASURE



## The Last King of America

By Andrew Roberts



From the *New York Times* bestselling author of *Churchill* and *Napoleon*

The last king of America, George III, has been ridiculed as a complete disaster who frittered away the colonies and went mad in his old age. The truth is much more nuanced and fascinating--and will completely change the way readers and

historians view his reign and legacy.

Most Americans dismiss George III as a buffoon--a heartless and terrible monarch with few, if any, redeeming qualities. The best-known modern interpretation of him is Jonathan Groff's preening, spitting, and pompous take in *Hamilton*, Lin-Manuel Miranda's Broadway masterpiece. But this deeply unflattering characterization is rooted in the prejudiced and brilliantly persuasive opinions of eighteenth-century revolutionaries like Thomas Paine and Thomas Jefferson, who needed to make the king appear evil in order to achieve their own political aims. After combing through hundreds of thousands of pages of never-before-published correspondence, award-winning historian Andrew Roberts has uncovered the truth: George III was in fact a wise, humane, and even enlightened monarch who was beset by talented enemies, debilitating mental illness, incompetent ministers, and

disastrous luck.

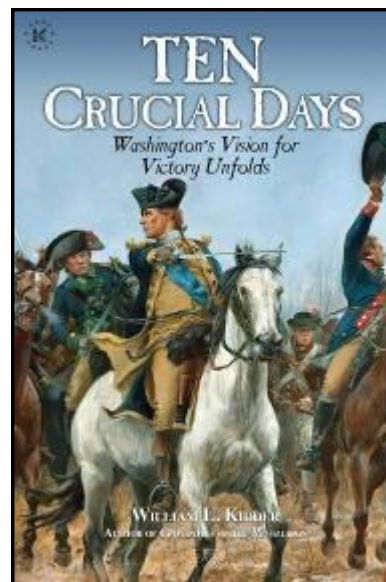
In *The Last King of America*, Roberts paints a deft and nuanced portrait of the much-maligned monarch and outlines his accomplishments, which have been almost universally forgotten. Two hundred and forty-five years after the end of George III's American rule, it is time for Americans to look back on their last king with greater understanding: to see him as he was and to come to terms with the last time they were ruled by a monarch.

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## Ten Crucial Days

### Washington's Vision for Victory Unfolds

By William L. Kidder



While the American Revolution seemed on the verge of defeat on December 25, 1776, George Washington had assessed the weaknesses and strengths of his situation, and while steadfastly focusing on ultimate victory, reacted to the complex situation and developments over the next ten days to turn the psychological—if

not the strictly military—situation completely around.

On December 25, 1776, the American Revolution seemed all but defeated just six months after the Declaration of Independence had been adopted. George Washington's army had suffered a series of defeats in New York and had retreated under British pressure across New Jersey and then the Delaware River to temporary sanctuary in Pennsylvania. This left the British army in a string of winter cantonments across the middle



of New Jersey, the New Jersey state government in total disarray, and the Continental Congress fleeing Philadelphia now perceived as the next British target. Loyalists in New Jersey felt empowered and Patriots felt abandoned. Washington needed not only a battlefield victory, but also to reestablish Patriot control in New Jersey. Otherwise, it would be impossible to raise a larger, long-term army to continue the fight and convince the citizens that victory was possible.

The story of these ten crucial days is one that displays Washington's military and interpersonal abilities along with his personal determination and bravery to keep the Revolution alive through maintaining the psychological confidence of the Patriots, while reducing the psychological confidence of his British political and military opponents. Throughout these ten days, Washington was faced with changing situations requiring modifications or outright different plans and his well-thought-out actions benefitted from elements of luck—such as the weather or British decisions—which he could not control.

While most books look at these ten crucial days focusing on the military actions of the armies involved, this account also considers what was happening in other parts of the world. Leaders and ordinary people in other parts of America, in Britain, and in France were also dealing with the Revolution as they understood its condition. Without the instantaneous communication we have today, they were dealing with dated information and were missing knowledge that could influence their thoughts about the Revolution. This lack of immediate communication was also true—although to lesser extent—for the individuals directly involved in the events in New Jersey and Pennsylvania.



## 250th Anniversary Texas SAR Long Range Efforts

### MONUMENT PROJECT

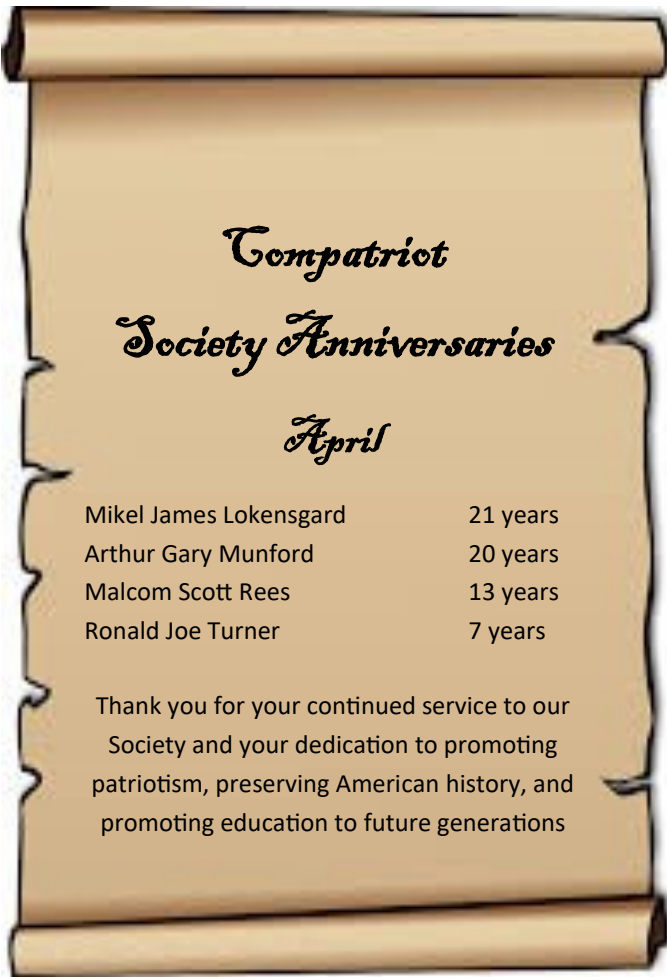
The Texas SAR plans to commemorate the 250th Anniversary of our Independence with a monument dedicated to the Patriots of the Revolution buried in Texas. The monument, which will be located at the Texas State Cemetery in Austin, will name these Patriots and remind this and future generations of their contributions to the Cause. We are planning to erect and dedicate the monument at the time of our 250th Independence Day, but in order to meet our goals, we need to begin the process of designing and fund-raising now. To follow the project, to learn about and see projected plans and monument diagrams, and to donate funds to the project, please [visit this link](#).

### STATUE PROJECT

The Bernardo De Galvez Texas SAR Chapter in Galveston is the first SAR chapter in our state; their first meeting was held December 8, 1896. They have made it their ambition to honor the chapter's and city's namesake with a bronze statue on the city seawall. They have worked hard and gotten the key ground and design work completed and now with the 250th anniversary of these gallant efforts approaching, they have asked their compatriots across Texas and the US to lend a hand. This is an exciting and worthwhile effort that should inspire all Americans. To follow the project, to learn more about the work of this patriot and his troops and to donate funds to the project, please [visit this link](#).

### TEXAS & NJ

As a part of our society's efforts to celebrate America's 250th Anniversary the Texas SAR is partnering with the New Jersey Society. Watch for more news about this partnership from the Texas SAR 250 Committee. New Jersey SAR has moved the "Brothers in Colors" initiative forward so Texas SAR is invited to all our upcoming events at [this link](#). Check your lineage and see if you have a NJ patriot. If so (or even if not), you might consider becoming a dual member of the New Jersey Society, here is a [link to the NJ dual member application](#).



## 250th Anniversary of the American Revolution 2025-2033

*The National Society Sons of the American Revolution has challenged every SAR State Society and Chapter to recognize those events that led to the American Revolution, as well as those events that occurred during the Revolution. Each SAR State Society and Chapter should hold public venues to educate, recognize, honor, and celebrate the events and heroes of the period surrounding the American Revolution. These events will be significant events related directly to acts of resistance of British attempts to coerce the residents in America from the first Parliamentary Act, through the armed struggle, until the Treaty of Paris.*

### MEMBERSHIP STATUS

Our chapter membership levels as of February 17, 2023, are:

Active / Current Member .....	109
NSSAR Life.....	8
TXSSAR Perpetual .....	9
Active/New Member .....	1
Active/Reinstated (current yr) .....	2
Active/Reinstated (Over 1 yr).....	0
Deceased (current yr).....	0
Deceased Perpetual (current yr) .....	0
Dual w/Other Primary State.....	2
Emeritus (50+ years) .....	0
Junior Member/Reinstated .....	0
Junior SAR Member.....	3
Non-Paid Junior Member .....	0
Not Paid (Current Year) .....	26
Not Paid Dual State .....	1
Reinstated/Transferred In.....	0
Transferred In.....	0
Dual Members (other chapters).....	3

Our active membership currently is **120**.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### 2023

April 6	TCU Army ROTC Awards Ceremony, 4:00pm, Fort Worth (James Alderman)
April 13	Molly Corbin DAR Awards Banquet, 6:30pm, Hackberry Country Club, Irving <b>(CG-C)</b>
April 15	Chapter Meeting, 9:00am, Diamond Oaks Country Club, Haltom City
April 19	JROTC Awards Ceremony, Birdville High School, 5:00pm (Ron Turner)
April 22	Medal of Honor Parade, Gainesville <b>(CG-N)</b>
April 27	JROTC Awards Ceremony, Richland High School, [need presenter]
April TBA	JROTC Awards Ceremony, Haltom High School, [need presenter]
May 1	Lakeview Camp & Retreat Center, 5:00pm, Waxahachie <b>(CG-C)</b>
May 20	Chapter Meeting, 9:00am, Diamond Oaks Country Club, Haltom City
May 29	Memorial Day Ceremony, Mt. Gilead Cemetery, Keller <b>(CG-N)</b>
June 17	Chapter Meeting, 9:00am, Location to be determined
July 15	Chapter Meeting, 9:00am, Location to be determined
July 13-20	133rd NSSAR Congress, Orlando, Florida <b>(CG-N)</b>
July TBA	Texas SAR Summer Boom (Zoom) <b>(CG-S)</b>
August 12	Chapter Meeting, 9:00am, Location to be determined
August 25-26	NSSAR South Central District Meeting, Wichita, Kansas <b>(CG-N)</b>
September 16	Chapter Meeting, 9:00am, Location to be determined
September 21-23	Fall Leadership Conference, Louisville, KY <b>(CG-N)</b>
October 20, 21, 22	Texas SAR Fall Board of Managers Meeting, College Station
October 21	Chapter Meeting, 9:00am, Location to be determined
November 11	Veterans Day Parade, 11:00 am Panther Island Parking Lot, Fort Worth <b>(CG-N)</b>
November 12	Massing of the Colors, 2:00 pm, Birchman Baptist Church, Fort Worth <b>(CG-N)</b>
November 18	Chapter Meeting, 9:00am, Location to be determined
December 16	Wreaths Across America, 12:00 noon, Oakwood Cemetery, Fort Worth <b>(CG-N)</b>

### 2024

TBD	129th Annual Texas SAR State Convention, San Antonio, TX <b>(CG-S)</b>
July 10-16	134th NSSAR Congress, Lancaster, Pennsylvania <b>(CG-N)</b>

### 2025

TBD	130th Annual Texas SAR State Convention, TBA, TX <b>(CG-S)</b>
July	135th NSSAR Congress, New London, Connecticut <b>(CG-N)</b>

**(CG)** = Color Guard event, **(C)** = Chapter, **(S)** = State, **(N)** = National







## CHAPTER REGISTRAR'S REPORT (as of Mar 31st):

### Applications in progress (National—12, State—3)

[Please note that *The Chisholm Trail News* only list those applications that have been submitted for State and National review.]

- [National Review] Kenneth Kimberlin Brimer Jr, 178249, 10933, Aledo, TX, SUPPLEMENTAL, John W. Connally, 1765-aft 1819
- [National Review] Kenneth Kimberlin Brimer Jr, 178249, 10933, Aledo, TX, SUPPLEMENTAL, Michael Wilfong, abt 1722-1811
- [National Review] Kenneth Kimberlin Brimer Jr, 178249, 10933, Aledo, TX, SUPPLEMENTAL, Joseph Benton, 1749-1837
- [National Review Pended] Joseph Paul DeWoody, 212833, 14126, Fort Worth, TX, SUPPLEMENTAL, James Alexander, 1739-aft 1790
- [National Review] Mark Todd Nash, 0, 0, Southlake, TX, **NEW**, Garret Dungan, abt 1740-bef 1820
- [National Review] Tanner Allan Smith, 220894, 14872, Boulder, CO, SUPPLEMENTAL, Wilkins C. Smith, 1766-1861
- [National Review] Charles William Thomas, 221400, 14897, Weatherford, TX, SUPPLEMENTAL, Joseph Rhoades, abt 1745-bef 1799
- [National Review Pended] Ronald Joe Turner, 198382, 12354, Euless, TX, SUPPLEMENTAL, Miles Abernathy, abt 1728-bef 1790
- [National Review Pended] Ronald Joe Turner, 198382, 12354, Euless, TX, SUPPLEMENTAL, John Calvin McElwee, 1765-1843
- [National Review] Ronald Joe Turner, 198382, 12354, Euless, TX, SUPPLEMENTAL Joseph Barnett, 1731-1802
- [National Review Pended] Joe Vic Wade, 0, 0, Fort Worth, TX, **NEW**, James Turner, abt 1745-bef 1806
- [National Review] John Wayne Wheat, 0, 0, Weatherford, TX, **NEW**, Edward Jackson, 1755-1845
- [State Review] Robert Anthony Jacobs, 218481, 14644, Azle, TX, SUPPLEMENTAL, Noah Wiswall, 1727-1813
- [State Review] Kevin Jon Shellman, 191113, 12933, Fort Worth, TX, SUPPLEMENTAL, John Callahan, 1755-1786
- [State Review] Stephen Ray Wilson, 0, 0, Fort Worth, TX, **NEW**, James Wilson, 1740-1825



## FROM THE NATIONAL REGISTRAR'S APPLICATION STATUS REPORT:

### Applications Approved in 2023 [approved and registered since the last newsletter]

- Jan 27, Bryant McLean Jarrell, 225131, 0, Hudson Oaks, TX, **NEW**, George Martin Shofner, 1758-1838
- Feb 17, Joseph Paul DeWoody, 212833, 14126, Fort Worth, TX, SUPPLEMENTAL, James Black, 1728-1818
- Feb 17, Joseph Paul DeWoody, 212833, 14126, Fort Worth, TX, SUPPLEMENTAL, Moses Hurt, abt 1725-bef 1806
- Feb 17, Joseph Paul DeWoody, 212833, 14126, Fort Worth, TX, SUPPLEMENTAL, Adam Lackey, bp 1759-1836
- Feb 17, Joseph Paul DeWoody, 212833, 14126, Fort Worth, TX, SUPPLEMENTAL, Alexander Oliver, 1736-1830
- Feb 17, Joseph Paul DeWoody, 212833, 14126, Fort Worth, TX, SUPPLEMENTAL, Micajah Stone, abt 1745-bef 1799
- Feb 17, Joseph Paul DeWoody, 212833, 14126, Fort Worth, TX, SUPPLEMENTAL, James Turner, 1710-bef 1793
- Mar 24, Richard Leon Vandever, 225752, 0, North Richland Hills, TX, **NEW**, Peter Doshier, 1762-1838
- Mar 24, Colton Lawrence Williams, 225479, 0, Southlake, TX, **FAMILY NEW**, John Floyd, 1758-1836
- Mar 24, Nathaniel David Williams, 225750, 0, Southlake, TX, **FAMILY NEW**, John Floyd, 1758-1836
- Mar 24, Samuel Clay Williams, 225751, 0, Southlake, TX, **FAMILY NEW**, John Floyd, 1758-1836



- April 7 Richard Art DeLaughter
- April 8 Ronald M. Vandiver
- April 11 Christopher Kirkpatrick Hull  
*Joe Vic Wade*
- April 14 Charles William Thomas
- April 22 Richard Brian Mitchell  
William Anderson Knight
- April 30 Marcus Lynn Smith

## CHAPTER LAPEL PINS FOR SALE

\$5 per pin

Available each month at chapter meetings

\$7.50 per pin with delivery via USPS

includes packaging & shipping

Contact Ron Turner

All proceeds from the sale of pins support the Chapter's Goodman Youth Fund and the Pray TCU Awards Fund.

Get yours today!



Support our Youth!

## CHAPTER NAME BADGES

All members are encouraged to purchase a name badge.

Wear it to chapter meetings!

Use it to advertise the SAR and the Chapter at other events you attend.

Badges are \$14 plus tax.

Order yours at

<https://stores.inksoft.com/sartx/shop/home>

## Chapter Challenge Coins

### \$10 per coin

Available at all Chapter Meetings

or Contact Ron Turner

This is the perfect way to advertise the SAR and our Chapter by handing out challenge coins to non-members, family, and friends!



## 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 Vann Cunningham, at email address: [b155549@gmail.com](mailto:b155549@gmail.com).



*Thank you for your continued support of the Chapter and the SAR*

*God Bless America*

## IMPORTANT LINKS

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>.

## General Information

The Sons of the American Revolution is the leading male lineage society that perpetuates the ideals of the War for Independence.

As an historical, educational, and patriotic non-partisan, non-profit corporation organized under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, *we seek to maintain and expand the meaning of patriotism, respect for our national symbols, the value of American citizenship, and the unifying force of "e pluribus unum" that was created from the people of many nations—one nation and one people.*

The *Chisholm Trail News* is published for members and friends of the Maj. K.M. Van Zandt Chapter #6, Texas SAR.

## The American's Creed

I believe in the United States of America as a government of the people, by the people, for the people, whose just powers are derived from the consent of the governed, a democracy in a republic, a sovereign Nation of many sovereign States, a perfect union, one and inseparable, established upon those principles of freedom, equality, justice, and humanity for which American patriots sacrificed their lives and fortunes.

William Tyler Page, 1917, accepted by the U.S. House of Representatives on April 3, 1918.

**Please consider a tax-free donation to the Chapter's Youth Funds which support Chapter Youth Contests. Contact the Chapter Treasurer.**