

Sons of the American Revolution  
Texas

# Chisholm Trail News

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



Maj. K.M. Van Zandt Chapter  
Texas

**NEXT MEETING:** November 18, 2023 **TIME:** 9:00 am  
**LOCATION:** Diamond Oaks Country Club,  
5821 Diamond Oaks Dr N, Fort Worth, TX

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

## CHAPTER OFFICERS 2022-2023

**PRESIDENT**

Robert G. GRESHAM

**VICE-PRESIDENT**

Kevin J. SHELLMAN

**SECRETARY**

Mark D. PARKISON

**TREASURER**

M. Anthony WALKER

**GENEALOGIST**

Donald G. WOODWORTH

**REGISTRAR**

Gerald A. GIEGER

**ASSISTANT REGISTRARS**

Ronald J. TURNER

Douglas L. SCHWETKE

Art MUNFORD

Steven HOLE

**CHAPLAIN**

Ralph E. SMITH

**HISTORIAN**

John D. ANDERSON, Jr.

**SERGEANT-AT-ARMS &**

**COLOR GUARD COMMANDER**

J. Vann CUNNINGHAM

## *Your Vote Counts!*

### *Plan to attend November Meeting!*

The Nominating Committee is pleased to put forward the following slate of officer candidates for 2024 & 2025. The Chapter Constitution & Bylaws specifies which officer positions are voted on by the membership and which are appointed by the President. The membership will vote at the November Chapter Meeting. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor.

|                   |                 |
|-------------------|-----------------|
| President:        | Ron Turner      |
| Vice President:   | Steve Hole      |
| Secretary:        | Mark Parkison   |
| Treasurer:        | Anthony Walker  |
| Registrar:        | Bob Jacobs      |
| Chaplain:         | Ralph Smith     |
| Sergeant-at-Arms: | Vann Cunningham |

In addition, the following positions will be filled by Presidential Appointment.

|                                    |  |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Historian:                         | John Anderson  |
| Quartermaster:                     | John Anderson  |
| Color Guard Commander:             | Vann Cunningham                                      |
| Assistant Registrars:              | Art Munford, Doug Schwetke, Steven Hole & Ron Turner |
| Web Administrator:                 | Ron Turner   |
| <i>Chisholm Trail News</i> editor: | Ron Turner   |

The Nominating Committee expresses its gratitude and appreciation for these Compatriots agreeing to take on leadership positions within the Chapter for the next two years.

Officers elected and appointed will be sworn into office by Texas SAR President Sam Massey at our regular Chapter Meeting on Saturday, January 20, 2024. **Please put this important meeting on your calendar and plan to be present to both welcome President Massey and to support your new Chapter officers.**

## *The Battle of Williamson's Plantation (Huck's Defeat)*

July 12, 1780 at Brattenville, South Carolina

### BATTLE SUMMARY

The Battle of Huck's Defeat was a significant point for the back country during the American Revolution. Early on the morning of July 12, a battle was fought near the home of Colonel William Bratton in York County, South Carolina, which was to have far-reaching consequences for the Patriot cause.

This engagement is known as the Battle of Williamson's Plantation or, more popularly, simply as "*Huck's Defeat.*"

### FACTS ABOUT THE BATTLE OF WILLIAMSON'S PLANTATION (HUCK'S DEFEAT)

**ARMIES:** American Forces was commanded by Col. William Bratton and consisted of about 250 Militia. British Forces was commanded by Capt. Christian Huck and consisted of about 115 Soldiers.

**CASUALTIES:** American casualties were estimated to be one killed and one wounded. British casualties were estimated to be 35 killed, 30 wounded, and 30 captured.

**OUTCOME:** The result of the battle was an American victory. The battle was part of the Southern Theater 1775-82.

### PRELUDE

In the spring and summer of 1780, the Revolutionary War moved full force to the area between the Broad and Catawba Rivers, now known as York and Chester Counties. After capturing Charleston in May, the British occupied Camden and established a strong post at Rocky Mount, a high elevation overlooking the area where Rocky Creek enters the Catawba.

Rocky Mount was commanded by a British officer, Lieutenant Colonel George Turnbull, and was garrisoned by 150 men loyal to the British Crown, including elements of Turnbull's own regiment, the New York Volunteers, and a troop of British Legion dragoons or light cavalry under Captain Christian Huck. Huck was a lawyer from Phila-

delphia of German ancestry and a staunch Loyalist, and he had a particular dislike for the Scotch-Irish Presbyterians in the South Carolina backcountry, most of whom were Whigs or "rebels," as the British called them.



In June, Turnbull dispatched Huck to destroy the Whig militia camps at Fishing Creek Church and Hill's Iron Works, which Huck accomplished with great satisfaction. The Whigs moved to the east side of the Catawba River and began organizing a partisan militia brigade under the command of General Thomas Sumter.

In early July, Turnbull received intelligence that many of the rebels, including Captain John McClure and Colonel William Bratton, had returned home to check on their wheat harvest and to enlist recruits for Sumter's Brigade. Turnbull gave Huck instructions to apprehend McClure and Bratton and disperse the rebels in the upper Fishing Creek and Bethesda communities.

On the evening of July 10, Huck set from Rocky Mount with 35 British Legion dragoons, 20 mounted New York Volunteers, and 50 mounted Tory militia.

On July 11, Huck visited the home of John McClure. McClure had already left for Sumter's camp, but Huck captured McClure's younger brother and brother-in-law and sentenced them to be hanged the next day. He terrorized the boys' mother, set fire to their home, and then departed for the plantation of William Bratton some ten miles to the north.

Bratton and McClure soon learned that Huck was once

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again on the rampage, and they quickly made plans to intercept him. Believing that Huck was camped at Walker's Mill in Chester County, they set off on July 11 in an effort to ambush the Loyalists. Other local Whig commanders, including Colonel Edward Lacey from Chester County and Colonel Andrew Neal from York County, also learned of Huck's expedition, and began gathering men from all over the area to intercept Huck.

Meanwhile, Huck's force continued north into York County, headed for Bratton's plantation. They arrived at the Bratton home late on the afternoon of July 11. The Tory militia was first on the scene, and one of them threatened William Bratton's wife Martha with a reaping hook. Lieutenant John Adamson, a Loyalist officer from Camden, intervened and saved Martha's life.

Local tradition states that Martha sent a trusted African-American slave named Watt to find her husband and warn him of the British presence. Huck then arrived and interrogated Martha, trying unsuccessfully to persuade her to reveal her husband's whereabouts. Martha refused to give him any information. After forcing her to prepare supper for him and his officers, Huck moved his troops to the neighboring home of James Williamson, who had a large field of oats that Huck needed for his horses.

### BATTLE BEGINS

When the various Whig companies rendezvoused at Walker's Mill, they found that Huck had moved on toward the Bratton plantation. Arriving at Bratton's before dawn, the Whigs learned that Huck was camped at Williamson's.

The Tory militia was positioned in an old field in front of Williamson's house, while the New York Volunteers were

camped in a fenced-in lane running from the main road down to Williamson's homeplace. The Legion dragoons were arranged around the house, and Huck was asleep inside.

The Whigs made plans to attack at daybreak and divided their forces into two companies. One group would attack the west end of the lane while the other attacked the east end, thus cutting off any chance for the Loyalists to escape to the main road. The Whigs took cover behind the fence and the trees and prepared to open fire as soon as they were spotted by Huck's sentinels.

Just as the sun began to rise, the Whigs commenced their attack, and the Loyalists were caught completely by surprise. The Legion dragoons and the New York Volunteers tried to counterattack but were frustrated by the fence line and the trees, which the Whigs used as cover. Many of the Tory militia, seeing the road blocked by the Whigs, abandoned their horses and fled to the surrounding woods. Other Tories, seeing no chance to escape, grounded their arms and surrendered without a fight.

Huck tried to rally his dragoons, but a militiaman named John Carroll loaded two balls in his rifle, took aim and fired, killing the captain instantly. The battle was over in about ten minutes. The Whigs loaded up the Loyalist prisoners and sent them back to Rocky Mount later that day.

### AFTERMATH

The destruction of Huck's Loyalist force at Williamson's Plantation helped revive the morale of the people in South Carolina just when British victory seemed inevitable.

Although the numbers engaged were small, the importance of the skirmish was immediately clear. As South Carolina historian Walter Edgar has written, "The entire backcountry seemed to take heart. Frontier militia had defeated soldiers of the feared British Legion." Volunteers streamed in to join the partisan militia brigade of General Thomas Sumter.

Edgar has called Huck's Defeat "a major turning point in the American Revolution in South Carolina." It was the first of more than 35 important battles in South Carolina

*(Continued on page 4)*



in late 1780 and early 1781, all but five of which were partisan victories.

The battle served as a rallying point for the backcountry Whigs, and set into motion a series of significant events which eventually led to the even larger Patriot victories at King's Mountain in October 1780, Cowpens in January 1781, and finally to the British surrender at Yorktown in October 1781.

~ <https://revolutionarywar.us/year-1780/battle-williamsons-plantation/>



## Texas State Fair DAR House



Vann Cunningham shown with Dan Hansen, Dallas Chapter, manned the information table in the DAR Continental House at the Texas State Fair. Not pictured, Jon Anderson.



## Frequently Asked Question

### *How can I assist with the Chapter?*

Ask your mentor or check with a Chapter officer. There are different ways to be active with your chapter. Color Guard, Youth Programs, Media, Historian, Registrar, Genealogist, Quartermaster, Greeter, etc. . . . There are many aspects to a chapter that need volunteers to help! Attend the functions you can, where we participate in parades, grave markings, veteran events, and so on!

### *Where can I get a uniform or other colonial attire?*

There are dozens of “suttlers” around the country that sell many types of colonial attire that is either custom made or “off-the-rack.” A great place to look is on the Texas SAR public website or check with another guardsman. Try <https://www.txssar.org/suppliers.htm> and look at the suttler information on the next page. Additionally, other guardsmen in your chapter will have favored vendors, so check with them too. Of course, there are plenty new and used ones on eBay on a regular basis. (Dry clean them when you get them!)

### *What type of uniform material should I get?*

Most uniforms can be found made of wool (light or heavy), polyester, or linen. What ever type is up to your own tastes, pocketbook, and the weather conditions you wear it in. One mandatory requirement is that if your uniform is polyester, you can **NOT** participate in a musket volley of any kind, a flag retirement ceremony, or any activity where there is a potential for sparks or open flames—this is for your own safety and common sense.

### *What style of uniform should I get?*

There are dozens of uniform styles (regimental, militia, etc.) and for the most part, you can get whatever you prefer. Some members get uniforms based on what their Patriot ancestors probably wore. Others in the same chapter may choose to dress alike to appear to be one unit. There is no set rule. We recommend to check with your primary chapter and see what they recommend.

### *I may not have all the period clothing at first. Is that OK?*

Absolutely OK. Start building your attire with a hat and vest!

*(Continued on page 5)*

If you are wondering where to get colonial style or period clothing. Here is a list of some that we know about. **The following list of suppliers is not endorsed by the SAR and none of them have any specific affiliation with SAR. Not all suppliers offer all items. Please report any issue with a supplier. This list is in no specific order.** If you know of a place that some of us might be interested in, please let us know so we can add it to the list!

## Suttler Links

### Period Dress:

<http://jas~townsend.com/> - Jas. Townsend & Son  
<http://sampsonhistorical.com> - Sampson Historical  
<http://heritagecostume.com> - Heritage Costumes  
<http://www.militaryclothing.com/Revolutionary-War.aspx#> - Military Uniform Supply  
<https://ebay/fortlaramietradingpost/> - Fort Laramie Trading Post  
<http://www.ushist.com/> - USHist  
<http://www.crazycrow.com/> - Crazy Crow Trading Post  
<http://fugawee.com/> - Fugawee Footwear  
<http://missouribootandshoe.com/> - Missouri Boot and Shoe  
<http://www.hamiltondrygoods.com/> - Hamilton Dry Goods  
<http://www.cg-tinsmith.com/> - Carl Giordano-Tinsmith  
<http://www.lepierreleathers.com/> - Le Pierre Sutler  
<http://www.gggodwin.com/> - G. Gedney Godwin  
<http://www.taylor-rosehistorical.com/> - Logsdon & Co. Historical Outfitters  
<http://1varegiment.com/> - First Virginia CL, Quartermaster  
<http://www.revwarssupplier.com/> - Weeping Heart Trade Company  
<http://www.thequartermastergeneral.com/> - The Quartermaster General  
<http://www.avalonforge.com/> - Avalon Forge  
<http://cockedhats.com/> - George Franks, Hatter  
<http://ebay.com/revolutionarywar/>

### Firearms & Weapons:

<http://www.cabincreek.net/> - Cabin Creek Muzzleloading  
<http://www.ushist.com/> - USHist  
<http://www.middlesexvillagetrading.com/> - Middlesex Village Trading Company  
<http://www.trackofthewolf.com/> - Track of the Wolf  
<http://www.collectorsfirearms.com/> - Collector Firearms  
<http://dixiegunworks.com/> - Dixie Gun Works

### Miscellaneous:

<http://www.smilingfoxforgellc.com/> - Smiling Fox Forge

## Texas SAR Adds Two Chapters

Texas SAR added two new chapters at the just concluded Board of Managers meeting in College Station.

### DANIEL WOOD CHAPTER #22

Texas SAR President Sam Massey presented a charter to representatives of the Daniel Wood Chapter #22 in San Angelo, Texas. The chapter has been inactive for a number of years but is being re-formed. This chapter is under the oversight of Vice President District 5 Ron Turner. Organizers are planning to have an installation ceremony sometime in November.



Shown above are Texas SAR President Sam Massey, Golda McMahan, and Chapter President David McMahan.

Chapter officers are President David P. McMahan, Vice President Clarence A. Maedgen III, Secretary Robert R. Hazelwood Jr., Treasurer (not yet filled), Registrar David P. McMahan, and Chaplain Travis L. Monday.

The charter members consists of nine compatriots, of which all have transferred in from Quannah Parker (2), Permian Basin (1), Hill Country (5), and Big Country (1) chapters. There are five prospective members working on their applications.

### ELLIS COUNTY CHAPTER #70

A new chapter has been in the works for the Waxahachie area of Ellis County for a number of months. Foreign Vice President General John C. (Jack) Haughton is the driving force behind the organization of Ellis County Chapter #70 in Waxahachie.

In addition to the required number of active members needed to form a new chapter, Jack reported that he has approximately 20 new member applications in work.

The Ellis County Chapter will celebrate the Charter of Ellis County Chapter #70 on Saturday, November 25, 2023, at 2:00 pm in Waxahachie. All Maj. K.M. Van Zandt Chapter Compatriots are invited to attend. More details are to follow.



Shown above are Texas SAR President Sam Massey, Chapter President John C. (Jack) Haughton, and Vice President District 6 Tom Van Fossen.

The addition of the Daniel Woods Chapter and the Ellis County Chapter brings the number of chapters in Texas SAR to a total of 50 active chapters.

# Wreaths Across America

## Maj. K.M. Van Zandt Chapter, Texas Society, NSSAR (TX0790P)

Please help us honor and remember as many fallen heroes as possible by sponsoring remembrance wreaths, volunteering on Wreaths Day, or inviting your family and friends to attend with you.

**REMEMBER the Fallen. . . HONOR those who Serve. . . TEACH our children the value of Freedom.**

What does it mean to sponsor a wreath? It means you'll honor an American hero this year on Wreaths Across America Day. You can sponsor any number of wreaths to honor and remember all who have served, to honor a living veteran, spouse, first responder, or to remember a veteran, spouse, or first responder that has passed.

Each wreath you sponsor is only \$17.00. And, Wreaths Across America will return \$5.00 of each \$17.00 back to the Maj. K.M. Van Zandt Chapter. Our chapter goal is sponsorship of **150 wreaths**. That will result in \$750.00 returned to the chapter—an easy way to raise funds!

**The link to our sponsor site is <https://www.wreathscrossamerica.org/pages/161399>.**

Share the above link with your family, friends, neighbors!

# November 27th is the deadline

for 2023 sponsorship of wreaths.

REMEMBER HONOR TEACH

# WREATHS *across* AMERICA

Our Mission: Remember the fallen, Honor those who serve, and Teach the next generation the value of freedom.

## MAJ. K.M. VAN ZANDT CHAPTER, TEXAS SOCIETY, NSSAR (TX0790P)

Please help us Remember, Honor, and Teach on December 16, 2023 at 12:00 pm by sponsoring a wreath, volunteering, or inviting friends to help.

SPONSOR WREATHS VOLUNTEER

# 129 WREATHS SPONSORED

# 21 WREATHS TO GOAL

TEXAS SAR  
Sons of the American Revolution  
FORT WORTH  
Maj. K. M. Van Zandt Chapter

## *Kingdom-minded hearts spur Kingdom-focused giving: The Southwestern Story of Ralph and Jan Smith*

Compatriot Ralph Smith currently serves as Chaplain for the Maj. K.M. Van Zandt Chapter.

This article originally appeared in the Spring 2023 issue of *Southwestern News*.

*By Elizabeth Bennet | June 14, 2023*



Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary has great significance to Ralph and Jan Smith, which is why they love supporting its mission and helping the mission continue to be fulfilled.

After high school, Ralph attended the United States Military Academy at West Point and after graduation was commissioned as an officer in field artillery training school in Fort Sill, Oklahoma. While in training, Ralph met Jan, an Oklahoma native, and they married one year after meeting.

After Ralph's assignment in Oklahoma was over, they were stationed in Germany and then in Norfolk, Virginia, at Old Dominion University. He was assigned to join the faculty at Old Dominion to teach Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) and while there took classes eventually earning his graduate degree in business. After Ralph finished serving in the Army, he began his own business, Smith Capital Management.

While living in Norfolk, Ralph and Jan became active members of First Baptist Church Norfolk, where Kenneth S. Hemphill served as pastor. In 1995, Hemphill

became the seventh president of Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary and the Smiths traveled to Fort Worth that spring to attend his inauguration.

It was through attending the inauguration of Hemphill that the Smiths were introduced to Southwestern Seminary and became aware of the rich history and legacy of leaders that formed the foundations of the seminary. Afterward, Hemphill invited the Smiths to attend the Southwestern Advisory Council (SWAC) meetings and Ralph began to attend the meetings annually.

"The more I saw, the more I fell in love with it," says Ralph. It was during this time, that "God was impressing on my heart to make disciples" and he "felt called to become a mentor and equip a person to be a disciple of Christ," so he began to "study" to be a disciple-maker. In 2002, the Smiths took a leap of faith and moved from Norfolk to Fort Worth to "encourage and equip disciple-makers" as they built on relationships they had cultivated through SWAC, they explain.

Ralph says the couple wants "to give to God's work." Through prayer, they became confident that they "could invest in the lives of students by funding an academic scholarship," and have funded the Ralph and Jan Smith Scholarship for pastors.

The Smiths say they "love being in the Fort Worth community so" they can "be close to Southwestern. We have appreciated the history of the founding of Southwestern and through our being a donor and member of the Advisory Council," the couple says.

The Smiths involvement with Southwestern includes construction projects such as the Ray I. Riley Center, Mathena Hall, and the Jack W. MacGorman Chapel and Performing Arts Center. They worked with Jack D. Terry, interim vice president for institutional advancement, to encourage donors to help build the additions and were able to see the vision of those buildings come alive through their partnership with the seminary. "We've been

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investing in the work of Southwestern and our prayer continues to be that God will reach and multiply the efforts of all associated with Southwestern,” Ralph says.

Jan has had a rich experience serving with the women’s ministry at Southwestern as she says she has “thoroughly enjoyed working for many years with the seminary student wives through Dressed for Success and teaching Equipping Pastor’s Wives for Christian Hospitality” while also finding joy in mentoring student wives over the years.

The Smiths enjoy being members of the President’s Club, attending concerts by the School of Church Music and Worship, and special events at Southwestern such as Founder’s Day and “celebrating the work of B.H. Carroll and L.R. Scarborough award winners.” Ralph finds it “special” to be able to meet the students who receive the scholarships at the scholarship luncheon that is held each Spring. “To be able to attach a face” with a name and have the “opportunity to get to know who it is that has been a beneficiary in a small part of our investing” is quite meaningful to them, Ralph says, as he notes “giving to Southwestern is a significant Kingdom investment.”

“Every time we’re on campus, it’s a blessing to meet and encourage students,” Jan says. “It is our privilege to contribute and help support the Kingdom work and academic preparation that takes place at Southwestern.”

Ralph encourages “Southwestern to hold very close to the missional concepts” it was founded upon, adding that he and his wife pray that the mission of 1 Timothy 2:4 will “be clear and growing and increasing in the minds of pastors and staff members to pass it on to church members to grow the Kingdom of God.”

*Elizabeth Bennett is a news writer for Southwestern News.*



## October Chapter Meeting

At the October Chapter Meeting, President Bobby Gresham inducted new member, John Wayne Wheat. Wayne’s application was approved on May 12th based on his Patriot Ancestor Edward Jackson.

Edward Jackson was born 14 Feb 1755 in Craven Coun-

ty, South Carolina. In 1775, he was drafted as a Minuteman in the company of Captain Griffith, commanded by Colonel Benton, of South Carolina. In 1776, he was drafted into the company of Captain Lloyd, commanded by Colonel Lloyd. In 1777, he was drafted into the company of Captain Griffith. During the years between 1778 and 1783, he did several short tours and scouting in companies commanded by General Moultrie. He was married to Charity Hill and then to Mary Hall and was the father of six identified children. He died 22 Feb 1845 in Waterville, Walker County, Georgia, and is buried in Poe Cemetery in Trion, Chattooga County, Georgia.



Shown left to right are Registrar Gerry Gieger, President Bobby Gresham, and Compatriot Wayne Wheat.

October’s guest speaker was Charles L. Cox, Jr. Mr. Cox is a PhD candidate in history at TCU. His program was titled “Distance does not change a Frenchman’s Heart:” the 1768 French Creole Revolt in Spanish Louisiana and Redefining the Age of Revolutions.

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Charles L. Cox, Jr.

Presented the program at the October Chapter meeting.



## *King's Mountain 2023*

Vann Cunningham represented the chapter at the National celebration of the 243rd anniversary of the victory at Kings Mountain. Shown in the photograph are Cunningham (far right) with Charles Lano and Jeff Calendar of the Freedom Chapter, The Woodlands, Texas.





## *Did You Notice the Change?*

At the recent Texas SAR Board of Managers Meeting in College Station, delegates learned that the principle logo authorized by National SAR is the Eagle logo and it should be adapted as shown below for Chapter use. Use of the Texas logo with the Minute Man and circle of stars should be discontinued.

The other change is the deletion of the word “Society”. “TXSSAR” and “TXSAR” should no longer be used. Instead, use “Texas SAR”. When mentioning the national organization, use “National SAR” or simply “Sons of the American Revolution”.

The banner on page 1 of this newsletter has the revised logo. If you have questions about branding, please contact Ron Turner or download the [SAR Branding Guide](#).



**Maj. K.M. Van Zandt Chapter**

**Texas**

## *SAR Mission Statement*

National SAR has developed a Mission Statement and has requested that it be memorized and said immediately following the three pledges at national, state, and chapter meetings.

### **WHAT IS A MISSION STATEMENT?**

A mission statement is to explain, in simple concise terms, an organization’s purpose for being. The statement is generally short, either a single sentence or a small paragraph.

### **THE MISSION STATEMENT**

*The Sons of the American Revolution honors our Revolutionary War patriot ancestors by promoting patriotism, serving our communities, and educating and inspiring future generations about the founding principles of our country.*

As requested by National SAR, we will begin reciting the mission statement as part of our chapter ritual at the November Chapter Meeting.



# LA Patriot Grave Markings

Compatriots Steve Hole and Ron Turner traveled to southern Louisiana to participate in two Patriot Grave Marking ceremonies on October 28, 2023. Texas provided the vast majority of Color Guard participants: T.L. Holden (Edmund Terrill); Tom Van Fossen & Bill Watts (Dallas); Chuck Andrews (Arlington); Michael Goode (East Fork Trinity); and Art Byrum, Ed Sellards, David Hamaker, Charles Lano, Bill Myers, and Don Kluth (Freedom).

The first ceremony was conducted at 11:00 am at the Church Landing/Yellow Fever Cemetery in Washington, Louisiana. Interred in this cemetery are the known remains of eleven Revolutionary War Patriots of the Opelousas Post Militia of 1779. As Spanish forces under Governor General Bernardo de Galvez, they attacked and defeated British forces at present day Baton Rouge on September 21, 1779.

The second ceremony was conducted at 1:00 pm at the Historic Michel Prudhomme House and then moved to the St. Landry Catholic Church Cemetery to mark the graves of 30 Revolutionary War Patriots. Interred in this cemetery are documented and undocumented Patriots who were fellow soldiers of the Governor General Bernardo de Galvez Spanish Militias. Most of these Patriots were men in the Opelousas Post Militia of 1779 who were part of the forces under Galvez who fought and defeated British forces at the Battle of Baton Rouge.





**Fort Worth Chapter Military Order of the World Wars  
&  
Fort Worth ISD JROTC  
Presents  
43rd Annual Massing of the Colors**



**Sunday, November 5, 2023, 2:00 PM**

**Birchman Baptist Church Sanctuary  
9100 N. Normandale St, Ft Worth TX 76116**

**Featuring**

**Patriotic Music - The Frontier Brigade Band  
Speaker – COLONEL Daniel G. Foust, USAR Retired**

**A Patriotic Ceremony Rededicating Our Faith In The Flag of our Nation.  
Honoring the Colors of the United States of America, and the men and  
women of our uniformed services who have served and are continuing to  
serve our country.**





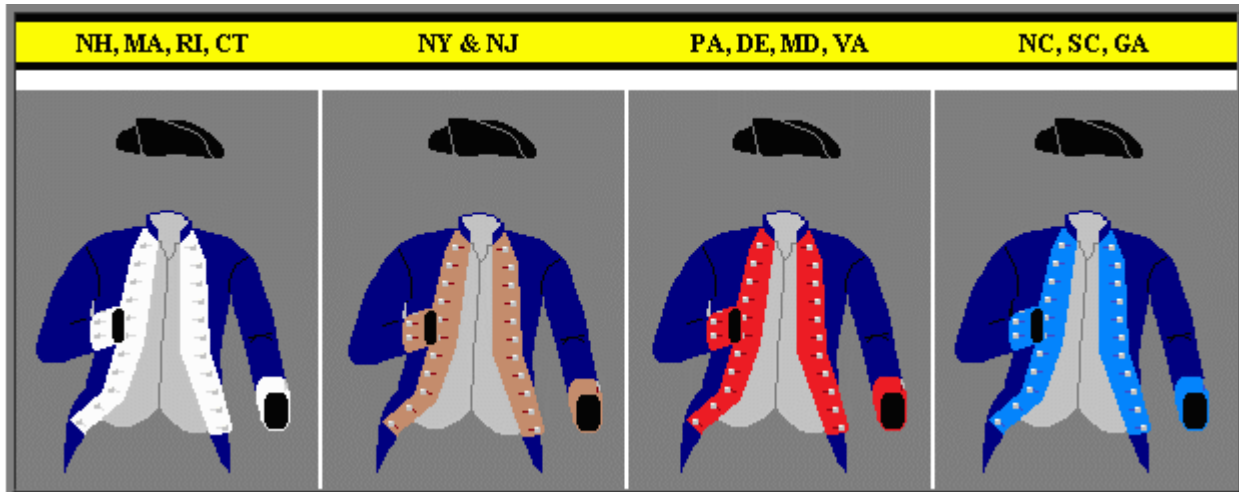
- Who:** Non-profit veteran organizations may request a complimentary booth in the Veteran's Village.
- What:** The Veteran's Village is an area within the pre-game fanfest Tailgate Outpost for veterans (and all fans) to gather and enjoy a day in their honor. The Veteran's Village consists of tents, booth space, and displays from military organizations.
- Where:** Area will be set up adjacent to TCU's Amon G. Carter Stadium.
- When:** Prior to bowl game on Saturday, December 23, 2023. Kickoff at 2:30 p.m. Tailgate Outpost and Veteran's Village open at 11:30 a.m.
- Cost:** FREE - There is not an entry fee for military veterans, patrons and fans to gather in the Veteran's Village.
- Booth Info:** All approved organizations will receive an assigned 10' x 10' booth space. Locations are based on first come - first served registration. Each space must have a secured covered tent. A larger footprint may be available upon request once all entries have been submitted. Booth/tent participants are welcome to decorate, display and hand out pre-approved items or literature in their booth accordingly. Sale of items is prohibited. Raffles and collection of names are permitted. Set up instructions will be provided in December and set up is the day prior to the game from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. There will be around-the-dock security for participants who wish to leave items in their booth overnight. Tear down will be permitted on game day starting in the second quarter of the game.
- Booth Space Options:**
- 1. Assigned space at no cost.** You will receive an assigned space. You agree to provide your own sturdy, secured, covered 10' x 10' tent. The tent must include a fire-retardant certificate or tag either on or posted with the tent. Your own chairs, tables, decorations are optional. Note: electrical connections are not provided. Also, Veteran's Village is located in a parking lot so your tent must be anchored and secured without the use of tent stakes.
  - 2. Tent rental package (\$250).** If you do not have your own secured tent and/or wish to have one provided, Veteran's Village organizers will provide you with an assigned space, an assembled 10' x 10' tent with 3 sides, table, table linen, two chairs and a set of lights. Cost of the package is only \$250. Details on attached registration form.
- Parking:** Because of the festivities in TCU's Lot 6 on game day, no parking or vehicle access will be permitted in that lot on game day. However, vehicles will have access to the lot and area the day prior to the game for Veteran's Village set up and drop off. Veteran's Village participants may order a game-day parking pass for \$20 via the bowl office on-line ticket/parking module at [www.armedforcesbowl.com](http://www.armedforcesbowl.com).
- Registration:** Please fill out the below entry form and return to the point of contact on the bottom of the registration form prior to the December 1, 2023 deadline.
- Deadline:** **December 1, 2023**

PROMOTER LINE: Attn: Preston Steblein 4218 Gateway Dr. Suite 140 Colleyville, TX 76034  
 preston@promoterline.com (817) 329-1136 (NEW) (817) 329-1163 (fax) (817) 909-0549 (cell)

## BOWL FOR THE BRAVE

# U.S. Army Rank Insignia The Later Revolutionary War Era 1780

In 1779, Gen. Washington devised a plan to take advantage of the new found wealth the alliance with France would bring. The several volunteer regiments of the States would be grouped into Corps areas by geographic region. Each Corps area would wear a distinctive outer coat. All coats to be blue. Facings in white, buff, red, and blue; respectively.



Unfortunately, Washington's plan was countered with a Congressional plan and it is unclear to what extent either was carried forth. One order did stand, a white center was added to the black cockade of officers to outwardly signify the French alliance. French officers wore white cockade and coat.

Artillerymen were the elite troops of this era. The need for a knowledge of mathematics and engineering made them a cut above other army branches. The uniform reflected the distinction; it was virtually the same in any army world wide.



## Fall BOM Attendees

The Maj. K.M. Van Zandt Chapter was represented at the Texas SAR Fall Board of Managers Meeting in College Station by (left to right) Chapter Historian John Anderson, Vice President District 5 and Immediate Past Chapter President Ron Turner, and Compatriot Steve Hole. John also represented the Arlington Chapter.



## 2024 Texas SAR Annual Convention Hotel Reservations Open

The 2024 Texas SAR Annual Convention is scheduled for April 11-14 in San Antonio at the Doubletree by Hilton San Antonio Airport. Room rates are \$105 per night plus fees and taxes. Reservations are open for booking the convention.

If you have attended previous conventions in San Antonio and expected to stay on the Riverwalk as before, convention planners explained that hotel rates on the Riverwalk are about four times the rate that Texas SAR was able to negotiate with the Doubletree out by the airport.

You are encouraged to attend state meetings. It is at state meetings where you see how Texas SAR conducts its business, make long-lasting friendships with fellow Compatriots, and learn about ways to improve the operation of our own chapter.

To make reservations, go to [txssar.org](http://txssar.org). Move your mouse pointer over **Events**, then **Future Meetings**, and select **2024 Annual Conference Hotel Reservations**.

See you in San Antonio in April 2024!



## Yorktown 2023

Bill Schwetke and Vann Cunningham participated in the 242nd Anniversary of the Battle of Yorktown and the wreath-laying ceremony for General Thomas Nelson. In General Nelson's ceremony, they laid a wreath for the Maj. K.M. Van Zandt Chapter and presented the Texas flag. In the Yorktown parade, Bill carried the United States flag and Vann carried the Texas flag.

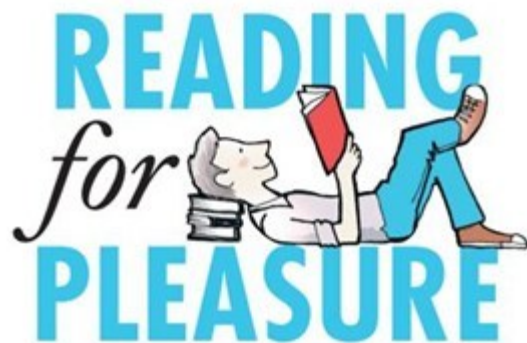


Bill Schwetke (left) and Vann Cunningham (right)



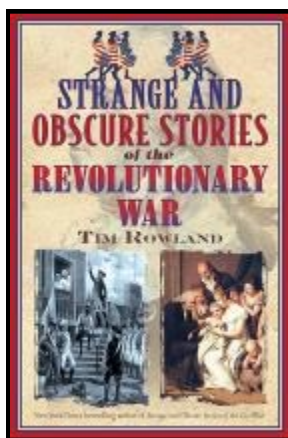


# READING for PLEASURE



## *Strange and Obscure Stories of the Revolutionary War*

By Tim Rowland



Astonishing Events from the American Revolution That They Don't Teach in School!

We all know about Washington's crossing of the Delaware and Betsy Ross's stitching together the Stars and Stripes, but how about a little-known, valid reason for the war itself and why General George was able to survive a plague that wiped

out many of his fellow countrymen?

History buff Tim Rowland provides an entertaining look at happenings during and surrounding the Revolutionary War that you won't find in history books. He digs into the war's major events and reveals the unknown, bizarre, and often wildly amusing things the participants were doing while breaking away from Great Britain.

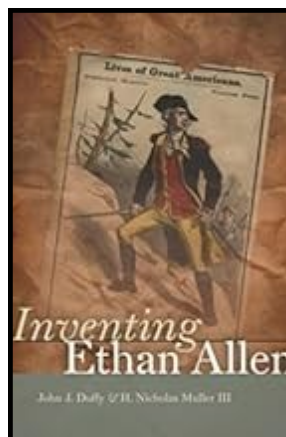
For example, conventional wisdom says that "no taxation without representation" was an important reason for the revolution, but not in the way we've been told. Colonists paid the wages of common-court judges, who were reluctant to rule against the men who paid their salaries. Therefore, duties on molasses (the key ingredient in rum) were generally unenforced until the British cut the tariff in half. Strange but true, the spark that touched off the revolution was in fact a tax cut.

During the French and Indian War and then again in the first year of the revolution, the British were accused of biological warfare, infecting blankets with smallpox and

then concealing them in Indian camps. So feared was the disease that soldiers began to illegally inoculate themselves before widespread vaccination was finally ordered for the army. Washington himself was immune, thanks to a Caribbean trip taken as a young man when his brother Lawrence sought a cure for tuberculosis. Lawrence wasn't cured, but George was infected with smallpox in Barbados. As a young man in a warm climate, he survived. As an older man in a northern winter, however, the story of the father of our country might have had a different ending.

## *Inventing Ethan Allen*

By John J. Duffy and H. Nicholas Muller III



Since 1969, Ethan Allen has been the subject of three biographical studies, all of which indulge in sustaining and revitalizing the image of Allen as a physically imposing Vermont yeoman, a defender of the rights of Americans, an eloquent military hero, and a master of many guises, from rough frontiersman to gentleman philosopher. Seeking the authentic

Ethan Allen, the authors of this volume ask: How did that Ethan Allen secure his place in popular culture? As they observe, this spectacular persona leaves little room for a more accurate assessment of Allen as a self-interested land speculator, rebellious mob leader, inexperienced militia officer, and truth-challenged man who would steer Vermont into the British Empire. Drawing extensively from the correspondence in Ethan Allen and his Kin and a wide range of historical, political, and cultural sources, Duffy and Muller analyze the factors that led to Ethan Allen's two-hundred-year-old status as the most famous figure in Vermont's past. Placing facts against myths, the authors reveal how Allen acquired and retained his iconic image, how the much-repeated legends composed after his death coincide with his life, why recollections of him are synonymous with the story of Vermont, and why some Vermonters still assign to Allen their own cherished and idealized values.

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## 2023

- November 4 Patriot Grave Marking Ceremonies, Van Buren, Arkansas, 11:00 am and 3:00 pm
- November 5 Massing of the Colors, 2:30 pm, Birchman Baptist Church, Fort Worth **(CG-N)** [muster at 2:00 pm]
- November 11 Veterans Day Parade, 11:00 am, Panther Island Parking Lot, Fort Worth **(CG-N)** [muster at 9:00 am]
- November 18 Chapter Meeting, 9:00 am, Diamond Oaks Country Club, Fort Worth
- December 16 Wreaths Across America, 12:00 noon, Oakwood Cemetery, Fort Worth **(CG-N)**
- December 23 2023 Lockheed Martin Armed Forces Bowl, Veterans Village, 2:00 pm, TCU Amon G. Carter Stadium Parking Lot

## 2024

- January 20 Chapter Meeting, 9:00 am, Diamond Oaks Country Club, Fort Worth **Texas SAR President Sam Massey to install new officers**
- February 17 Chapter Meeting, 9:00 am, Diamond Oaks Country Club, Fort Worth
- March 16 Chapter Meeting, 9:00 am, Diamond Oaks Country Club, Fort Worth
- April 11-14 129th Annual Texas SAR State Convention, San Antonio, TX **(CG-S)**
- April 20 Chapter Meeting, 9:00 am, Diamond Oaks Country Club, Fort Worth
- May 18 Chapter Meeting, 9:00 am, Diamond Oaks Country Club, Fort Worth
- June 15 Chapter Meeting, 9:00 am, Diamond Oaks Country Club, Fort Worth
- July 10-16 134th NSSAR Congress, Lancaster, Pennsylvania **(CG-N)**

## 2025

- TBD 130th Annual Texas SAR State Convention, **DFW Metroplex**, TX **(CG-S)**
- July 12-18 135th NSSAR Congress, Uncasville , Connecticut **(CG-N)**

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



## Chapter Challenge Coins

**\$10 per coin**

Available at all Chapter Meetings  
Available via USPS with \$1.50 postage fee

Contact Ron Turner to order



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

## 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!

## The American Army and its Master Baker

One of Washington's greatest challenges during the Revolutionary War was managing the organization and movement of supplies to the troops, including food. During the winter of 1777 at Valley Forge, the Army's food rations were reduced to one pound of meat per day, one pound of flour, three pints of beans or vegetables (if available), a pint of milk (if available) and a small amount of rice and molasses. However, the men didn't get any yeast to mix with the flour, making their bread flat and dense; their "meat" required so much salt for preservation it was barely edible.

Christopher Ludwick, a German baker, generously donated his services that winter and was appointed director of baking by Congress. He promised 135 pounds of bread per 100 pounds of flour he received and delivered on his promise for the next five years of war. He also managed flour shipments, coordinated the delivery of bread to the soldiers and built his own ovens.

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## 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>



## 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.*



## CHAPTER REGISTRAR'S REPORT (as of August 11th):

### Applications in progress (National—9, State—0)

[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, Thomas Connelley,  
 [National Review] Kenneth Kimberlin Brimer Jr, 178249, 10933, Aledo, TX, SUPPLEMENTAL, John King  
 [National Review] Kenneth Kimberlin Brimer Jr, 178249, 10933, Aledo, TX, SUPPLEMENTAL, Benjamin Cate  
 [National Review] Kenneth Kimberlin Brimer Jr, 178249, 10933, Aledo, TX, SUPPLEMENTAL, John Childress  
 [National Review] Kenneth Kimberlin Brimer Jr, 178249, 10933, Aledo, TX, SUPPLEMENTAL, Lawrence Holcomb  
 [National Review] Kenneth Kimberlin Brimer Jr, 178249, 10933, Aledo, TX, SUPPLEMENTAL, James Wooten  
 [National Review] James Vann Cunningham, 188365, 11678, Arlington, TX, SUPPLEMENTAL, Joel Perkerson  
 [National Review **PENDED**] Robert Anthony Jacobs, 218481, 14644, Azle, TX, SUPPLEMENTAL, Noah Wiswall  
 [National Review **PENDED**] Tanner Allan Smith, 220894, 14872, Boulder, CO, SUPPLEMENTAL, Wilkins C. Smith



## 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, 15644, Hudson Oaks, TX, **NEW**, George Martin Shofner  
 Feb 17, **Joseph Paul DeWoody**, 212833, 14126, Fort Worth, TX, SUPPLEMENTAL, James Black  
 Feb 17, **Joseph Paul DeWoody**, 212833, 14126, Fort Worth, TX, SUPPLEMENTAL, Moses Hurt  
 Feb 17, **Joseph Paul DeWoody**, 212833, 14126, Fort Worth, TX, SUPPLEMENTAL, Adam Lackey  
 Feb 17, **Joseph Paul DeWoody**, 212833, 14126, Fort Worth, TX, SUPPLEMENTAL, Alexander Oliver  
 Feb 17, **Joseph Paul DeWoody**, 212833, 14126, Fort Worth, TX, SUPPLEMENTAL, Micajah Stone  
 Feb 17, **Joseph Paul DeWoody**, 212833, 14126, Fort Worth, TX, SUPPLEMENTAL, James Turner  
 Mar 24, **Richard Leon Vandever**, 225752, 15707, North Richland Hills, TX, **NEW**, Peter Doshier  
 Mar 24, **Colton Lawrence Williams**, 225479, 15704, Southlake, TX, FAMILY **NEW**, John Floyd  
 Mar 24, **Nathaniel David Williams**, 225750, 15705, Southlake, TX, FAMILY **NEW**, John Floyd  
 Mar 24, **Samuel Clay Williams**, 225751, 15706, Southlake, TX, FAMILY **NEW**, John Floyd  
 Apr 21, **Mark Todd Nash**, 226199, 15757, Southlake, TX, **NEW**, Garret Dungan  
 Apr 28, **Kenneth Kimberlin Brimer Jr**, 178249, 10933, Aledo, TX, SUPPLEMENTAL, John W. Connally  
 May 12, **John Wayne Wheat**, 226536, 15777, Weatherford, TX, **NEW**, Edward Jackson  
 May 26, **Joe Vic Wade**, 226754, 15791, Fort Worth, TX, **NEW**, James Turner  
 Aug 8, **Fred Arlis Vanzant**, 227450, 0, Lowell, AR, **NEW**, Garrett Vansant  
 Aug 11, **Charles William Thomas**, 221400, 14897, Weatherford, TX, SUPPLEMENTAL, Joseph Rhoades  
 Aug 25, **Ronald Joe Turner**, 198382, 12354, Euless, TX, SUPPLEMENTAL Joseph Barnett  
 Oct 20, **Gregory Alan Riffel**, 228148, 0, Fort Worth, TX, **NEW**, Abraham Stover  
 Oct 20, **Scott George Stoddard**, 228149, 0, Keller, TX, **NEW**, David Stoddard



- November 1     John Kevin Faherty  
                     Brett Hamilton Jones
- November 5     Todd Erik Samuelson
- November 13    Richard Vance Wilson
- November 15    Jacob Arthur Munford
- November 28    Cody Alton Sheppard
- November 29    William Stanley Taylor, Jr.

*Compatriot  
Society Anniversaries  
November*

|                               |        |
|-------------------------------|--------|
| Floyd Marvin Cox              | 40 yrs |
| Luther Vaughn Oliver          | 20 yrs |
| Robert Grady Gresham          | 10 yrs |
| Kenneth Kimberlin Brimer, Jr. | 13 yrs |
| James Edward Reeves, III      | 8 yrs  |
| Kirby Lee Boyd                | 6 yrs  |
| Edward Bruce Morgan           | 1 yr   |
| Milton Andrew Nantz           | 1 yr   |

Thank you for your continued service to our Society and your dedication to promoting patriotism, preserving American history, and promoting education to future generations

***MEMBERSHIP STATUS***

Our chapter membership levels as of October 20, 2023, are:

|                                      |     |
|--------------------------------------|-----|
| Active / Current Member.....         | 108 |
| NSSAR Life .....                     | 7   |
| TXSSAR Perpetual.....                | 9   |
| Active/New Member .....              | 11  |
| Active/Reinstated (current yr) ..... | 3   |
| Active/Reinstated (Over 1 yr) .....  | 0   |
| Deceased (current yr) .....          | 30  |
| 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) .....        | 25  |
| Not Paid Dual State.....             | 1   |
| Reinstated/Transferred In .....      | 1   |
| Transferred In .....                 | 0   |
| Dual Members (other chapters) .....  | 3   |

Our active membership currently is **128**.

***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!

## *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*

## *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.**

## *IMPORTANT LINKS*

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

Join our Facebook Group at <https://www.facebook.com/groups/292616193535075/>

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>.