

**Plano Chapter #37
Sons of the American Revolution
Plano TX**



**December 2024
Newsletter**



Mission Statement

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





President's Message



By Bob Johns, President

George Washington's Thanksgiving Proclamation

Transcript of President George Washington's Thanksgiving Proclamation from October 3, 1789.

Whereas it is the duty of all Nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God, to obey his will, to be grateful for his benefits, and humbly to implore his protection and favor—and Whereas both Houses of Congress have by their Joint Committee requested me "to recommend to the People of the United States a day of public thanksgiving and prayer to be observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts the many signal favors of Almighty God, especially by affording them an opportunity peaceably to establish a form of government for their safety and happiness."

Now therefore I do recommend and assign Thursday the 26th day of November next to be devoted by the People of these States to the service of that great and glorious Being, who is the beneficent Author of all the good that was, that is, or that will be—That we may then all unite in rendering unto him our sincere and humble thanks—for his kind care and protection of the People of this country previous to their becoming a Nation—for the signal and manifold mercies, and the favorable interpositions of his providence, which we experienced in the course and conclusion of the late war—for the great degree of tranquility, union, and plenty, which we have since enjoyed—for the peaceable and rational manner in which we have been enabled to establish constitutions of government for our safety and happiness, and particularly the national One now lately instituted, for the civil and religious liberty with which we are blessed, and the means we have of acquiring and diffusing useful knowledge; and in general for all the great and various favors which he hath been pleased to confer upon us. **Cont'd.**



George Washington's Thanksgiving Proclamation (Cont'd)

And also that we may then unite in most humbly offering our prayers and supplications to the great Lord and Ruler of Nations and beseech him to pardon our national and other transgressions—to enable us all, whether in public or private stations, to perform our several and relative duties properly and punctually—to render our national government a blessing to all the People, by constantly being a government of wise, just, and constitutional laws, discreetly and faithfully executed and obeyed—to protect and guide all Sovereigns and Nations (especially such as have shown kindness unto us) and to bless them with good government, peace, and concord—To promote the knowledge and practice of true religion and virtue, and the increase of science among them and Us—and generally to grant unto all mankind such a degree of temporal prosperity as he alone knows to be best.

Given under my hand at the City of New York on the third day of October in the year of our Lord 1789.

Go. Washington





Upcoming Events



Color Guard Upcoming Events

- **December 4** – Dickens on the Strand Parade State Event in Galveston TX - State Event
- **December 14** – Wreaths Across America - National Event

For further information on any of these events or to learn how to participate, contact Color Guard Commander [Major Dave Fautheree](#).

Major Dave Fautheree
Plano Chapter Color Guard Commander
Texas Society
Sons of the American Revolution





Upcoming Events



The Joseph S Rumbaugh Oration Contest and Scholarship

Dear Compatriots,

I'm reaching out to you regarding the Joseph S. Rumbaugh Historical Oration Contest and Scholarship. You are receiving this email because your chapter is located in Area 4. I represent Area 4, which is the area from Dallas east, in the state S.A.R. oration competition. It is my job to recruit local students for the oration contest. This is an excellent scholarship opportunity for high school students who are active in speech, debate, theater, ROTC or have an interest in history.

I need your help. If you have any children, grandchildren or other acquaintances who are high school students please pass along the contest information. If you have a spouse who is involved in DAR please have them share the attached documents with their chapter.

The contest is open to all high school students, boys and girls, grades 9-12. At the state level first place receives a \$2500 scholarship; 2nd - \$750; 3rd place - \$500; 4th place - \$300; 5th and 6th places \$150 each. The top state winners will compete at the National S.A.R. convention for a chance to win a \$6000 scholarship; 2nd - \$4000; and 3rd - \$2000; with places 4-6 receiving \$500 each.

Participants must write an original oration of not less than five minutes, or more than six minutes. The oration must be delivered from memory and without the use of notes or any kind of props. "The subject of the oration shall deal with an event, a personality, or a document pertaining to the Revolutionary War with an emphasis on our nation's 250th anniversary celebration. It is essential that each oration show the relationship it bears to America today. Evidence of historical research and creative presentation are also important. The oration will be judged based upon its composition, delivery, significance, historical accuracy and relevance to our 250th anniversary." Note: there is a slight discrepancy regarding the subject of the oration between the national and Texas state websites. The national website is correct and has been stated in quotations above.

Students could potentially earn up to \$8500 in scholarships at the chapter, state and national levels. The Texas S.A.R. president encourages students to take their written orations and submit them to the S.A.R. essay contest for an additional scholarship opportunity.

(Cont'd)





Upcoming Events



The Joseph S Rumbaugh Oration Contest and Scholarship (Cont'd)

Even if a student doesn't finish first it is an excellent opportunity to add to their college application. If a student does not make it to the state contest we try to fill slots at chapter levels for local scholarships. Also, local chapters often provide a small scholarship to chapter winner. This is at the discretion of each chapter.

Interested students will need to email me their completed application and written oration before December 31, 2024. They can send it to **Jason Gray** at bbear9505@yahoo.com and please copy **Larry Luby**, the state chair. His email is oration@txssar.org.

Here is the link to the National oration contest as well as a video of this year's national winner:
[Joseph S. Rumbaugh Historical Oration Contest](#)

Here is the link to the state SAR site for more information about the oration contest:
[Texas SAR Oration Contest](#)

Here is the link to the printable application form:
[Oration Contest Contestant Packet](#)

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jason Gray

TXSSAR Joseph S. Rumbaugh Historical Oration Contest and Scholarship Area 4 Chair

bbear9505@yahoo.com

214-226-9997





Upcoming Events



Dues Reminders!

Dear Compatriots,

It's that time of year again. Your 2025 annual dues invoices have been prepared and are now available online for you to review (private site credentials required). Once you have your invoice you can conveniently pay online with PayPal or credit/debit card. This payment covers dues for the Plano Chapter, Texas State Society, and the National Society — all in one amount.

For those of you who have a deliverable mailing address, your 2025 dues notices should be arriving in your home mailbox within the next few weeks. These are sent Bulk Mail to your address of record as of September 1st. If you do not receive one by Thanksgiving, please look for your notice online, and help us get your address corrected.

You may see a sample invoice by [clicking here](#). Please note that 2025 dues calculations include a \$3.00 annual assessment to defray expenses which the State Society will incur in hosting the 2029 National Congress in San Antonio. If you do not otherwise owe dues (Life, Perpetual, Junior, or Emeritus member), this assessment will be waived.

As a reminder, dues should be paid by December 31st to ensure your membership does not lapse. The sooner you submit your payment, the sooner the Dallas Chapter will receive funds to continue and grow our programs.

Your paper invoice also contains your 2025 membership card. We thank you for your continued support of the Plano Chapter!

Bob Johns
President, Plano Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution

[Click to Pay Dues](#)

If necessary, please follow the instructions to allow popups from Texas SAR so that you may complete your transaction. If you require help, please reach out to any of the Chapter Officers who will guide you through the process.





News Items



SAR Plano Chapter #37 Presents the City of Plano Public Service Awards for 2024

This year's City of Plano Public Service Awards were presented to seven deserving City of Plano employees. Due to renovation taking place in the Council Chambers, the awards could not be presented at a City Council Meeting. As a result, President Bob Johns has presented the Plano Public Service Awards to the Mayor's Administrative Assistant who will direct them to the appropriate department heads in order to be presented to the awardees.

The awards presented are as follows:

Police Department:

- Civilian of the Year: Whitney Meyer
- Support Services/CISD Officer of the Year: Detective Chad Williams
- Patrol Officer of the Year: Officer Grace Edgar

Fire Department:

- Firefighter of the Year: Weston McCalip
- Paramedic of the Year: Kevin Johnson
- Good Citizenship: Donna Krone

Public Safety Communications:

- Specialist of the Year: Derek Johns





News Items



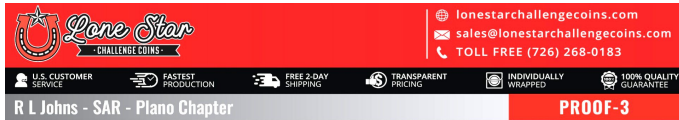
Frisco Lakes Veterans Day Ceremony 11 November 2024

On 11 November 2024, the Community of Frisco Lakes held their annual Veterans Day Ceremony. The Plano Chapter Color Guard posted and retrieved the colors for the Ceremony. Participants were Bob Johns, Nick Guillian, Ron Carey, Commander Dave Fautheree and Joe Conger





News Items



R L Johns - SAR - Plano Chapter

PROOF-3

SIDE A

SIDE B



*PLEASE REVIEW ALL DETAILS OF THE PROOF TO ENSURE ACCURACY OF SPELLING, GRAPHICS AND PRODUCT SPECS BEFORE APPROVING AS CHANGES CANNOT BE MADE ONCE PRODUCTION BEGINS

A Special Item to Mark the 40th Anniversary of the Plano Chapter of the SAR

The Plano Chapter #37 of the SAR observes its 40th Anniversary next year in 2025. To celebrate the event, the Chapter Board has commissioned a Commemorative Celebration coin which is intended to both recognize our anniversary and to enhance our budget funds as a fundraiser.

The coin is a full color 2” antique brass coin. The front shows a rendering of the famous Minute Man sculpture by Daniel Chester French, presently standing in Concord in recognition of the Battle of Lexington-Concord. The reverse celebrates our chapter and gives our founding date.

This impressive coin is available to all chapter members for a \$20 donation to the chapter. Donations will enable our chapter to fund even more of the activities and awards we engage in to support veterans, youth awards, public service awards and more.

Please consider making your donation this calendar year. Personally, I plan to get five of the coins to use for recruiting awareness and for recognition.

Make your donation check payable to **Plano SAR Chapter #37** and send it to **Treasurer Howard Roach at 5616 Hillsborough Drive, Plano TX, 75093**. You will receive one of the coins in return.

Let’s make this a successful recognition program and fundraising opportunity.





News Items



TO ALL PLANO SAR CHAPTER MEMBERS WHO SERVED DURING THE VIETNAM WAR ERA:

The Department of Defense (DoD) has authorized any veterans who served anywhere and in any capacity during the Vietnam Era, Nov 1, 1955 to May 15, 1975 to be eligible to receive a **Vietnam Veteran Lapel Pin (VVLP)**.

Pins have previously been awarded at scheduled group events, but the DoD has now made it possible for eligible veterans to request a pin be delivered to their home address. This program is open to all Veterans, not just our chapter members, so if you know of eligible veterans not in our chapter, feel free to notify them of the program. If eligible Veterans have not previously received a pin, here is how one can be ordered:

1. Veterans who served anywhere in any capacity during the period Nov 1, 1955 to May 15, 1975 are eligible to receive a pin.
2. Veterans can email whs.pentagon.wso.mbx.vnwar50th-cpp-events-application@mail.mil and a Vietnam Veteran Lapel Pin will be sent to you via USPS. Please include a good mailing address including your city and state.

If you have questions, please contact any member of our chapter Board, or contact President Bob Johns.

rjohns@outlook.com or 847-691-9317.





News Items



The SAR Education Center and Museum Liberty Tree Campaign

A Message from SAR President General John Dodd

Greetings Compatriots,

It is with great pleasure that I inform you of a momentous development in our ongoing efforts to honor and preserve the legacy of our Patriot Ancestors. The Commonwealth of Kentucky's 2024 budget includes an allocation by the Kentucky General Assembly of \$5 million in the upcoming fiscal year to support the construction of the SAR Education Center and Museum in Louisville!

This monumental decision brings us closer to completion of your state-of-the-art facility that will enlighten and inspire citizens for decades. This important funding will keep construction on track, aiming for an opening date in 2026, coinciding with the 250th anniversary of our great Nation.

As we approach this historic 250th Anniversary, the importance of fostering a deep appreciation of our heritage and the principles upon which our country was founded cannot be overstated. The SAR Education Center and Museum will honor the sacrifices and ideals of our patriot ancestors, inspiring and educating present and future citizens to uphold their values of liberty and self-government.

Even if you have supported the project in the past, as our dream becomes reality, I encourage you to consider an additional contribution. The Liberty Tree Campaign is the easiest way to give. A small, recurring, monthly credit card contribution is the simplest way to make a difference. For those who are able, naming opportunities begin at \$100,000.00. Please contact Phil Bloyd for details. Thank you again for your support and for your important work on behalf of the SAR.

Yours in patriotism,

John L. Dodd
President General, 2023-2024

[Click here to make a
Contribution](#)





News Items



The “Liberty Lives” T-Shirt

Compatriots,

Arlington chapter is offering these patriotic T-shirts as a fundraiser for the Chapter. The Design front and back is as shown. They are available in sizes S-XL. Price is \$20 each. Limited quantity available. More available on demand. Please share with your Compatriots.

Best Regards,

Dan Hamilton
President, Arlington Chapter #7
drhami75@gmail.com





Patriot Stories

**Contributed by Rocky Miller
Regarding his Patriot Ancestor
Frederick Fisher**

Frederick Fisher was born in 1762 in Mecklenburg County in the Province of North Carolina, the son of one Charles Fisher.

Sometime around 1783 he married his wife, Mary Winn, who is buried here beside him near Lewisburg in what formerly was known as “The Fisher Cemetery”, but now is known as “The Andrews-Liggett Cemetery”. We know from “The Marshall County Historical Quarterly” that Frederick’s Father, Charles Fisher, moved his family, including Frederick and his brother John, from Mecklenburg County, North Carolina to Washington County, Virginia.

Within three years of that move, both Frederick and John and joined and were active in the Virginia Militia. Frederick served faithfully as a Private in Colonel Campbell’s Regiment, commanded by Captain James Dysart.

According to a statement Fisher made under oath regarding his pension application, He was one of “The Overmountain Men” who marched to King’s Mountain, where the renowned battle with Ferguson’s Band of Loyalists took place. While assaulting Patrick Ferguson’s Regiment of Loyalists on the southeast side of King’s Mountain, Fisher was felled by a gunshot to the right knee, making it impossible for him to escape an assault by a regiment of loyalists who were advancing down the ridge, armed with bayonets.

The story goes that after he was wounded, Fisher hid in a thicket of bushes but was spotted by an enemy soldier and was wounded a second time, by bayonet. Colonel William Campbell assigned two escorts to every wounded Patriot and Fisher was rescued and nursed back to health. I don’t know by whom, but we know he had relatives in the vicinity, and it is likely he stayed with family as he recuperated.

Frederick Fisher, though severely wounded, survived – albeit with a limp that plagued him for the balance of his years, rendering him ‘unable to perform manual labor’ – or as the records themselves say: ‘to procure livelihood.’

Frederick Fisher died on 24 April, 1846 here in Marshall County, Tennessee and is interred in the Andrews-Liggett Cemetery near Lewisburg, Tennessee.



Compatriot News



Chapter Compatriot Anniversaries for December

Happy Anniversary, Compatriots!

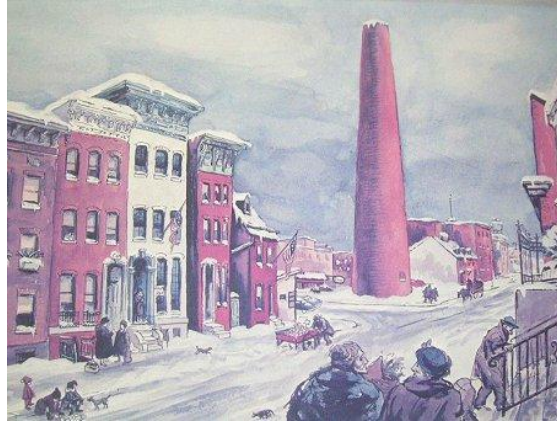
Mike Becker	2019
BJ Bjorklund	2023
John Dean	2016
Alexander Doran	2017
Mitchell Doran	2017
Larry Melton	2010
Rocky Miller	2018
Chance Morgan	2018
Charles Morgan	2018
James Vornberg	2006
John Flint	2019
Robert Lucich	2019



This Month's Fun Factoid



The History of the American Shot Tower



In 1807, Thomas Jefferson had congress pass the Embargo Act of 1807 which forbade all international trade to and from American ports and Jefferson hoped that Britain and France would be persuaded of the value and the rights of a neutral commerce. This was the end of importing lead shot from England, France and the rest of Europe where shot towers produced tons of shot for American export. European shot towers had sprung up all over Europe after the construction of the first shot tower by William Watts in 1783 in Bristol, England and the American colonies were major buyers.

With this turn of events (Jefferson's embargo), shot towers began to be constructed in the colonies for American consumption. The first two were in Philadelphia (Sparks Shot Tower) in 1808 and the Jackson Ferry Tower in Wytheville, Virginia in 1807. Both these towers produced shot and bullets for the War of 1812. The Sparks Shot Tower in Philadelphia is the first "smoke stack" type tower in America. The tower produced tons of ammunition during the War of 1812 and the Civil War. Four generations of the Sparks family kept the tower in operation until 1903. The tower is now part of a city playground with a recreation center at the base. It's a prime example of Philadelphia's reputation for superb brickwork. The operation was completely above ground while the Jackson Ferry Tower in Wytheville, built one year earlier, has much of its drop underground. The combined drop (above and below ground) of the Jackson Ferry Tower is 150' with the above ground rectangular tower standing 75 feet and the underground shaft another 75 feet.

“Until we meet again, let us remember our obligations to our forefathers who gave us our Constitution, the Bill of Rights, an Independent Supreme Court, and a Nation of Free Men.”



The Minutes

of the

5 November 2024

Chapter
Meeting

Plano Texas
Chapter #37

Sons of the
American
Revolution

Seals and delivery
the presence of us

* W. Lottman

Tuesday 5 November, 2024 Meeting
Location: Outback Steakhouse,
1509 N Central Expy, Plano, TX 75075

Call to Order: The Meeting is called to order by President Bob Johns at 7:00pm.



The Invocation: Offered by Rocky Miller, Chaplain Taken from Daniel Chapter 2

Pledge to The American Flag: Offered by Bob Johns

I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with Liberty and justice for all.



Pledge to The Texas Flag: Offered by John Rothermel

Honor the Texas Flag; I pledge allegiance to thee, Texas, One State under God, one and indivisible.



Pledge of The Sons of the American Revolution: offered by Steve Driever

We descendants of the heroes of the American Revolution who, by their sacrifices, established the United States of America, reaffirm our faith in the principles of liberty and our Constitutional Republic, and solemnly pledge ourselves to defend them against every foe.



● **Self Introductions: Total Attendance: 20**

Bob Johns, Dave Fautheree, Rocky and Linda Miller, Kevin Ennis, John and Doreen Martindale, John and Jackie Rothermel, Jim Wallace, Melvin Richards, Randy Bush, Ron Carey, Steve Driever, Howard & JoEllen (DAR) Roach, Duane Carter, Drake Peddie, Bill Watts and Mike Becker.



- **Consideration and approval of The Minutes from the October 2024 Chapter Meeting:** Motion presented to accept the minutes was put forth approved by acclamation. The membership unanimously voted “Aye”.
- **Treasurer’s Report: Presented by Howard Roach, Treasurer.**
 - Investment Account \$16,307.00
 - Checking Account Prosperity Bank \$9,823.00



The History Minute “The Election of 1800”



Presented by Duane Carter, Registrar

Duane explains how events leading up to the election of 1800 produced partisan divisions among the citizens of the United States. The Northern Colonies leaned Federalist under John Adams while the Southern Colonies supported Thomas Jefferson and the Democratic Republicans. The Federalists proposed a strong central government whereas the Democratic Republicans advocated for States rights and a weaker central government. Thomas Jefferson had been the Ambassador to France and embraced many aspects of French Enlightenment. Thomas Jefferson won the election by a narrow margin.

The Featured Speaker Presentation

“Patriot Powder Problems”

Introduced by Melvin Richards, VP of Programs

Presented by Major Dave Fautheree, Color Guard Commander

Dave explains the makeup of black powder and gunpowder and how these were used during the Revolutionary War. He discusses the components used to make these and where they come from. At the beginning of the war, an inventory revealed that the Continental Army had roughly 1 ½ pounds of powder on hand for each soldier. That translates to about 23 rounds per man.

To offset the shortage, Congress gave Letters of Market Reprisal to marine merchants effectively turning them into Privateers. This authorized them to seek out and capture enemy shipping.

Powder was then purchased from Spain and France. Spain was neutral in the conflict, so they could load French gunpowder onto their ships and transport it to the Colonies via the Port of New Orleans and the Mississippi River without fear of harassment from the British Navy. In 1775, King Louis XV appointed Antoine de Lavoisier Commissioner of the Royal Gunpowder Board. Lavoisier introduced standards for gunpowder manufacture, making for high grade and consistent production. This resulted in the Patriots having greater range and effectiveness with their weapons.

Soon, the Patriots learned how to produce high quality powder on their own and where to secure the needed raw materials for its manufacture.



Bob Johns, President, presents a Certificate of Appreciation to Dave Fautheree for his years of support for the Chapter.



Color Guard Report

Presented by Dave Fautheree, Commander

Commander Fautheree provides the current and upcoming Color Guard events schedule and explains the workings of the Color Guard and how to join.

Veterans Report

Presented by Bob Johns, VP Veterans Affairs

VP of Veterans Affairs Johns discusses the current needs and upcoming activities at the Sam Rayburn Memorial Veterans Center in Bonham TX. Special attention was given to providing Christmas gifts for the residents.



Other Business

Presented by Bob Johns, President

- Drake Peddie reviews the events at the BOM Meeting in San Antonio.
 - Drake explains the process of restoration of the original DAR marker of the daughter of a Revolutionary Soldier. She is buried in Pecan Grove Cemetery.
 - The National Society is providing postcard reminders for paying dues.
 - Awards : Texas ranked first in the nation for Veterans Activities. Mike Flagg is awarded a Certificate for his Yearbook Activities. Duane Carter is awarded Oak Leaf clusters to extend his Liberty Medal for his work as Chapter Registrar.
- President Johns conducts the election of Officers for 2025 as represented on the ballot contained in last month's Newsletter. No additional nominations were out forward, so the Chapter membership voted "Aye" to accept those on the ballot by acclamation. Officers will be sworn in at the January Meeting.
- President Johns encourages all to pay their dues, either by mail or online.
- Christmas Dinner update. President Johns reminds everyone that there will be no meeting at the Outback on 3 December.
- President Johns discusses the new Commemorative Coin available for sale.

The Benediction: Offered by Rocky Miller, Chaplain

Taken from Numbers 6:24-26



The Adjournment/Recessional: The Meeting is adjourned by President Bob Johns at 8:00pm

“Until we meet again, let us remember our obligations to our forefathers who gave us our Constitution, the Bill of Rights, an Independent Supreme Court, and a Nation of Free Men.:

Respectfully Submitted,

Randall Bush
Secretary
Plano Chapter #37
Texas Society
Sons of the American Revolution

