

Compatriot Allen Perkins Receives the President of the United States' Lifetime Achievement Award

A lifelong commitment to serving, ensuring Veterans smile

On June 11, 2024, Allan T. Perkins received the President's Lifetime

Achievement Award at Michael DeBakey Medical Center. The award consisted of a certificate and letter, both signed by President Joseph Biden, as well as a medal and a Challenge Coin. These were presented by Sabrina C. Clark, Ph.D., the Director of the Center for Development and Civic Engagement.



In 2003, the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation founded the President's Volunteer Service Award to recognize the important role of volunteers in America's strength and national identity. This award honors individuals whose service positively impacts

Continued on page 2

The Mission of the SAR

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

Chapter Officers

Alex Thorne

President
adthorne@consolidated.net

Ralph Reed

Vice-President
rreed10910@comcast.net

Chip Spivy

Secretary
chipspivey@aol.com

Billy Sorrells

Treasurer
billinda77389@yahoo.com

Ralph Reed

Color Guard Commander
Rrreed10910@comcast.net

Don Andress

Chaplain
beau6064@gmail.com

Editor-in-Chief

Name

Send articles and photos to:
email@email.com

CHAPTER EVENTS

September Meeting

Spring Creek BBQ
Sept. 11 – 6:30

Selection From the Collection Virtual

August 12 - 11:30 am
Registration Link:

<https://forms.gle/wDxCKsGyahSdWYtDA>

South Central District Meeting
Aug. 23-24
Joplin, Missouri

Allan Perkins – Presidential Lifetime Achievement Award

communities in every corner of the nation and inspires those around them to take action, too.

Allan has contributed over 4,000 hours during the past 13 years to the Debakey Center. The majority of his time is spent as a Redcoat Ambassador in the lobby, and he also serves in the chapel special services. Outside of volunteering at the medical center, Allan, a Chaplain, does visitations as well as memorial services for veterans. In addition, each December he helps lay over 400 wreaths at Arlington National Cemetery for what is known as ‘Tomb Trek’.

Allan is known as the Supreme Popa Clown of The Military Order of the Cootie, a non-profit Veterans Service Organization where he provides snacks, clothing and smiles through fun and jokes. As a 25-year U.S. Air Force Veteran, as well as having served with the Civil Air

Patrol as a rescue, communications, and command officer, Allan wants other Veterans to enjoy and benefit from the VA as he does. He continually shows respect, kindness and heartfelt gratitude to Veterans, family members, visitors and staff. He is dedicated to leaving a legacy of service and care in his public service. Several years ago, Allan was honored as the outstanding volunteer of the DeBakey Center. In 2018 Allan was awarded the Service to Veterans Medal which is awarded to compatriots who have given long and exemplary service to veterans.

We thank Mr. Perkins for his service to our country and our VA.



Thomas Bruce Green III 1939 - 2024



He was a Friend of the Robert Rankin Chapter and introduced the Flag Show to Rankin members and was a constant Rankin Education Compatriot.

In 2012 Tom was awarded the George Washington Distinguished Service Award by the Paul Carrington Chapter and named the National Color Guardsman of the Year by the National Society Sons of the American Revolution. He was also President of Texas SAR. He and Larry Stevens were the first in Texas to receive the Lifetime Achievement award in Education, of which only two can be issued in a year. He was a Knight of San Jacinto and received the Lifetime Achievement award from SRT.

NATIONAL YOUTH VIDEO CONTEST APPROVED!

On 7 May 2024, the Executive Committee considered and approved a formal proposal to create the NSSAR Youth Video Contest as a full National level program. Contestants have been expanded to include all Middle School and High School students (6th – 12th grade). Entries may be submitted by a single contestant or by a group. Language regarding original content, copyright infringement, plagiarism, and Artificial Intelligence has been expanded.

Video length: 3 – 5 minutes



Prizes for the 2024-2025 school year: First Place: \$1500, Second Place: \$500

The First-Place winner will receive a stipend of up to \$1500 to reimburse travel to the NSSAR National Congress. The deadline for submission at the National level is 15 February.

Please contact the Chairman with your questions and offers of support.



Lapel pins are available at the bronze level for \$100 and the silver level for \$250. Donations should be sent directly to Headquarters and designated to benefit the Youth Video Contest.

Exciting SAR Hawaiian Shirt

The SAR has partnered with premium Hawaiian Shirt Company High Seas Trading, to produce a shirt available to not only SAR members but the general public. Based on a design



Joe Dooley, this shirt incorporates iconic images from the Revolution with our SAR Logo to produce a shirt you will be proud to wear anywhere.

This is a limited-edition patriotic design celebrating the Sons of the American Revolution. It features iconic scenes, flags and documents from the formation of this great country. This print includes the Sons of the American Revolution logo, George Washington crossing the Delaware, the Surrender at Yorktown and other images. A portion of the proceeds goes to the Sons of the American Revolution Foundation for its Education Center and Museum.

This quality Hawaiian shirt is made of high thread count 100% combed cotton and is made in the USA. It is expertly tailored and features a perfectly matched placket and pocket for a seamless design. It is a great value when compared to comparable shirts.

Use code SAR24 for 10% off.

[Click here to order your SAR Shirt](#)
[Click here to view all other offerings](#)

robertrankinsar@gmail.com
www.facebook.com/rankin.sar

**Just like teachers, we never fully understand the
★ impact we have on the youth we interact with ★**

On June 13, 2024, Tom Jackson received this email letter from the parent of a past SAR Eagle Scout Award recipient.

Gentlemen,

I hope this email finds you both doing well. I also hope this email "finds you" physically!

This is an email link to an email that we were a part of in 2015 for Matthew Clark, who was an Eagle Scout awarded with the SAR Eagle Scout award several years in a row.

As you might imagine or have experienced, young people at times may seem to forget the generosity of their elders... I don't think Matthew has forgotten the generosity of the SAR - but rather he is very respectful of all those that have helped him along the way. Although not forgotten he has been extremely busy over the past 9 years since we first came into contact with the SAR.

I am Matthew's father Peter. I want to give you an update on Matthew - mostly because I never forget those that have helped my son along the way...

You both, perhaps especially Tom, may be aware that Matthew graduated from Cy-Creek in 2017, with honors. He entered the University of Texas with an honors scholarship to the Cockrell School of Engineering with a plan to study Aerospace Engineering.

Having survived the ups and downs of Covid, Matthew graduated from UT in 2021 with a degree in Aerospace Engineering and accepted a Full Scholarship to Texas A&M University to work on his Master's Degree in Aerospace Engineering.

His master's degree was extremely difficult, but Matthew persevered and completed his Master's Thesis Defense in June 2023. I was lucky enough to attend the defense and I can attest that he was stellar in his presentation and explanation of the topic that he had clearly Mastered!

Matthew is now working on his PhD in Aerospace Engineer at the University of Illinois Champaign-Urbana. With the grace of God and the incredible intellect God has provided he has received a full Research scholarship and began his new journey this past January 2024 - with the continued grace of God he will complete his PhD over the coming few years.

Thank you both and the SAR for the incredible gift of confidence that you imparted to Matthew with the Eagle Scout awards.

Graciously,
Peter Clark

Texas in the American Revolution



Rancho de las Cabras



When I first took a position at San Antonio Missions National Historical Park there was

By
William J. Bozic, Jr
Robert Rankin Chapter

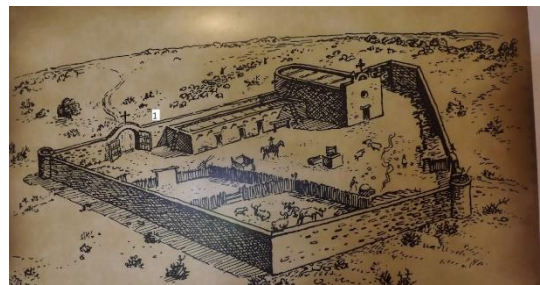
a sense that I would be dealing with Spanish colonial history in what is now the United States, but when I was assigned to give programs at Rancho de las Cabras in Floresville, Wilson County, Texas it was both surprising and pleasing to learn that I was also going to be working at a site involved in the American Revolution.

How on earth could Texas be involved in the American Revolution?



France declared war on Great Britain shortly after news of the patriot victory at Saratoga. On May 8, 1779, King Carlos III of Spain declared war against Great Britain and commissioned Bernardo de Galvez to lead forces against the British. Over 9000 head of cattle and troops were taken from Texas to supply the victorious troops under Bernardo de Galvez at Baton Rouge Louisiana, Mobile Alabama, and Pensacola Florida as well as other actions.

It can be said that an army fights and sleeps on its stomach so the 9000 head of cattle coming from Texas were absolutely essential to the success of the operations against the British during the American War for Independence. It can also be surmised that by keeping the British occupied against the Galvez's troops, the British forces, including German mercenaries and loyalists, who would have fought against Washington were diverted to fight in other areas.



Principally these cattle came from the ranches of the San Antonio missions and missions around Goliad. Each mission had its own ranch about 25 miles away from the mission because barbed wire had not yet

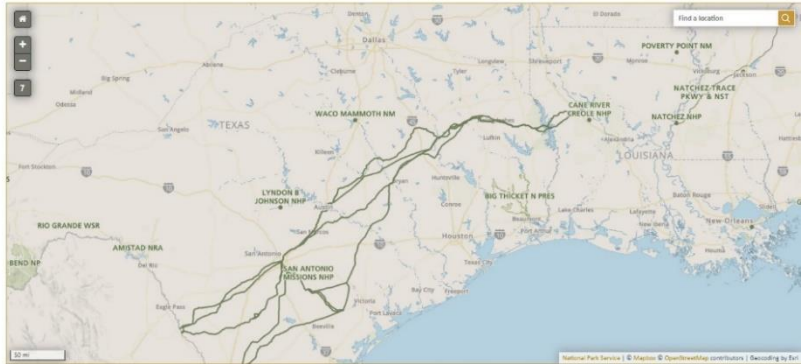
Continued on page 6



been invented, so the cattle were essentially free range with brands to denote ownership. El Rancho de las Cabras was the ranch of Mission San Francisco de la Espada and it is the only surviving example of a mission ranch. The ranch became part of the National Park Service in 1995 and currently tours are given during cooler months on the first Saturday of the month by reservation. The ranch site is 96 acres, and it brings visitors back to the days of the Spanish

ranches. The National Park Service is also using the area to help save and restore endangered native prairie grass at the site, so Rancho de las Cabras is a win for both nature and Revolutionary War history.

Not only did the missions contribute cattle and the cowboys to take the cattle via El Camino Real de los Tejas to the fort/staging grounds at Opelousas Louisiana, but also troops from the Texas Presidios of San Antonio and La Bahia (Goliad) plus the fort at Cuero (near Floresville) also participated, so Texas's contribution of both meat and manpower led to Spanish victories and ultimately to patriot victory in our war for independence.



El Camino Real de los Tejas

William J. Bozic, Jr. Robert Rankin Chapter

A graduate of the University of Florida with a BA in History (1986) and an M.Ed. (1987). William has



William is speaking to a school group on a field trip to the mission.



worked for the National Park Service with an assortment of duties as both a historical researcher and frontline interpreter to diverse groups of visitors at the parks. Currently William is working full time at San Antonio Missions National Historical Park. William is a member of the NSSAR, SCV, Society of the War of 1182, and served 17 years as the national president of the Descendants of Mexican War Veterans

5 Musket Balls Discovered Near Old North Bridge



The National Park Service archaeologist recently found five musket balls fired during the fighting in Concord on April 19, 1775, almost 250 years ago. The picture shows Ranger Jarrad Fuoss holding one of these musket balls and standing in front of the Old North Bridge.

Each one of these musket balls were fired from colonial militia members from the opposite side of the river and not dropped during the process of reloading indicated by further analysis.

The British soldiers had marched in search of military supplies stockpiled by colonial rebels in Massachusetts. The fighting that ensued at the bridge resulted in 18 men killed or wounded. More than 120 people died during other fighting in



Lexington and Concord areas.

The British continued to move to Concord and left a contingent of about 100 soldiers at the North Bridge. As militia members approached, shots were fired by the British troops.

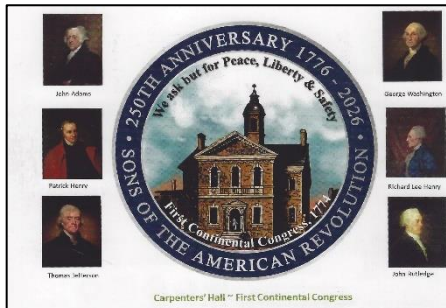
The fighting led to the birth of the United States that day.

The park service considers these musket balls collectively as, what the poet Ralph Waldo Emerson as “The Shot Heard Round the World”. The five musket balls will be on display at the park.

Carpenter’s Hall, Philadelphia

Home of the First Continental Congress

This is the first edition of cards designed and printed by the National office. They are designed to be able to hand people “on the street” as a discussion starter about the organization. There will be a new card every year. Start collecting them all.



DON'T UNDERESTIMATE THE SERVICE OF THE WOMEN

How Homemade laxatives led to a Revolutionary War Victory. Battle of Kettle Creek 1779.



During the American Revolutionary War, a peculiar event occurred involving the Battle of Kettle Creek in Georgia in 1779. British Forces seeking to capture patriot militia encountered a group of local women. The women were aware of the British plans and pretended to be friendly and offered them food and drink laced with a potent homemade laxative. As British soldiers fell ill, the patriots launched a surprise attack and won a decisive victory.

Welcome to an old fashion Neighborhood 4th of July Parade and Fair



An interesting tradition

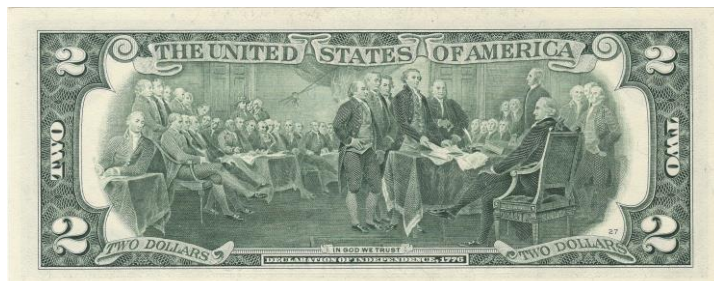
While we were at the Copperfield 4th of July Parade, we noticed Color Guard Commander Ralph Reed had a number of two-dollar bills in his hat. When we asked what those were for, he told us a tradition he likes to do.

“I start off by trying to select a younger child, making sure the parent is there. I ask them if they have ever seen a 2-dollar bill. I show them the bill, then ask them what is on the reverse side. I say – here is a clue. What are we representing in our uniforms and what happened on this date. They are handed the bill, and they look at the picture on the back of the bill. Yes, it shows the signing of the Declaration of Independence and when it was signed. I thank them and give them the 2-dollar bill as a reminder of what we represent. But only if the parent says it's ok.

It is sort of a history lesson. It's the only bill that represents a major part of the American Revolution. “



Two Dollar Bill – Signing the Declaration of independence



The 250th is here. Will You Join Us In Celebration?

July 4, 2026 will be the 250th
birthday of our country.

It didn't start or stop on that day,
but was a decade long process:
1773 - 1783

america250sar.org

Memorable events

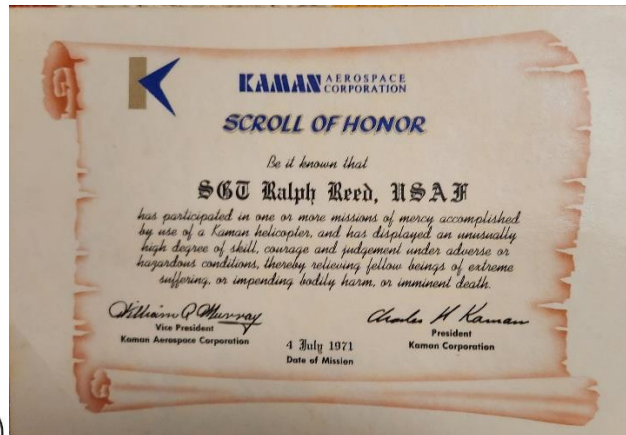
250 years ago...

- 2023 Boston Tea Party
- 2024 The First Continental Congress
- 2025 Battles of Lexington and Concord.
- 2026 Declaration of Independence
- 2027 Battle of Saratoga
- 2028 French Alliance
- 2029 Siege of Vincennes/Kettle Creek
- 2030 Battle of Kings Mountain
- 2031 Siege of Yorktown
- 2032 Battle of Blue Licks
- 2033 Treaty of Paris

Our Color Guard Commander
Ralph Reed

I just wanted to share the importance of this date.

When I was flying with Air Rescue on my return from Vietnam in 71 was with Air Rescue at Bergstrom. Civilian authorities called us for help getting a hiker off a cliff on Lake Travis. 53 years ago on July 4th, 1971 I was credited with saving the 16-year-old 60 feet down on the cliff. I was lowered down and secured him and lowered him to the ground. It made USAF news and Kaman, the maker of the helicopter used sent me this certificate on saving his life. If you notice the mission says, July 4th, 1971. We took no holidays in Rescue. So today was not only special doing the parade but reflecting back on my military time.



June 24, 2024. Monday.

Robert Rankin Chapter SAR, a pop-up Flag Day meeting. A handful of us gathered to mail certificates and thank you letters to members of the chapter for their service to the community over the past year. In recognition of the exemplary service, the Rankin chapter was named Outstanding Chapter in the State of Texas and won the National President General's Cup for last year. With Congress coming up, we will find how we did and although my hopes are high, the reality is that the original 13 have ready-made opportunities for service that are simply not available here in Texas. Joining in the task were Bill Sorrells, Bruce McMordie, Ralph Reed, Tom Jackson, Jerry Martin, and Wayne "Chip" Spivey.



Why are there fireworks on the 4th of July

Haven't you always wondered why it's a tradition to set off explosions of light in the sky on Independence Day? It's certainly a day for celebration, but why fireworks? Well, the 4th of July's history actually involves fireworks, and you can thank Founding Father John Adams for it.

During the first months of the Revolutionary War, after the 13 colonies had all voted in favor of independence from Great Britain, Congress began to write a declaration, which became the Declaration of Independence. Before it was even finished and signed, an enthusiastic John Adams wrote his wife a letter about how he thought the occasion of America's freedom should be celebrated. It read:

"The Second Day of July 1776 will be the most memorable Epocha, in the History of America. I am apt to believe that it will be celebrated, by succeeding Generations, as the great anniversary Festival...It ought to be solemnized with Pomp and Parade, with Shews, Games, Sports, Guns, Bells, Bonfires and Illuminations from one End of this Continent to the other from this Time forward forever more."

Adams was off by a few days, but the 4th of July was most certainly celebrated in a way he would have liked.

One year after the Declaration of Independence was signed, the first organized 4th of July fireworks were set off in 1777 in Pennsylvania and Boston (Adams's hometown). The Pennsylvania Evening Post reported that "the evening was closed with the ring of bells, and at night there was a grand exhibition of fireworks (which began and concluded with 13 rockets) on the Commons, and the city was beautifully illuminated."

Boston still has one of the most spectacular fireworks shows on the 4th, and its unique history definitely plays a part in that. In the years following, many more cities took part in July 4th celebrations that included speeches, parades, and picnics, in addition to fireworks.

Boston showed its love for the 4th again in 1783, when the city was the first to designate July 4th as an official holiday. Then, in the 1800s, as fireworks started to become available to the public, the sky became even more illuminated on the big day. And in 1870, Congress followed, making Independence Day a federal holiday. The bright colors and loud bangs are the perfect way to celebrate America's freedom year after year.

<https://www.rd.com/article/fireworks-fourth-of-july/>

