



The Redoubt

Alexander Hamilton Chapter

Newsletter

Sons of the American Revolution



SUMMER-AUTUMN 2024



Alexander Hamilton (1755 – 1804), a soldier, statesman, politician, first Secretary of the Treasury, attorney, banker, and finally a duelist. The rendering above by H. Charles McBarron, depicts the victorious assault on Yorktown Redoubt 10, led by Lieutenant Colonel Hamilton. The taking of Redoubts 9 and 10 enabled General George Washington to complete the siege lines surrounding Yorktown and force the surrender of Lord Cornwallis. This British defeat ultimately ended the Revolutionary War and secured the independence and formation of our United States. We proudly honor our chapter's namesake!

IN THIS ISSUE:

At right our Chapter President:
DARRELL G. HUTCHINSON

2024 MEETINGS, EVENTS, & NEWS p.2
PRESIDENT'S YEAR END MESSAGE p.4
WE WANT YOU! p.6
BIT OF HISTORY p.7
IN REMEMBRANCE p.8
COMING UP p.10



UPCOMING EVENTS:

*Chapter Meeting: 11 JAN 2025
*Chapter Meeting: 08 Mar 2025
*Chapter Meeting: 10 May 2025
*Chapter Meeting: 12 July 2025

Go to:
<https://www.txssar.org/AlexanderHamilton/meetings.htm> for event times and locations!

Jul-Dec, 2024 MEETINGS, EVENTS & COMPATRIOTS IN THE NEWS

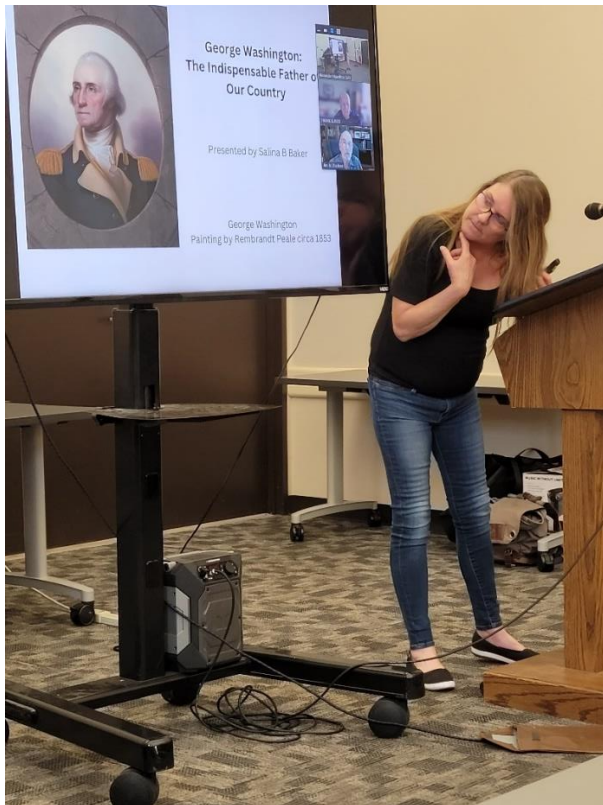


Figure 1- Salina Baker

July

On July 13, 2024, Salina Baker, Revolutionary War Researcher and Author of “The Line of Splendor” a novel about General Nathaniel Green, joined us for a special presentation.

She spoke to us about George Washington’s early life, and his service in both the French and Indian and Revolutionary Wars.



Figure 2- Richard V Battle

September

On September 14, 2024, we were joined by Richard V Battle.

Richard has extensive leadership experience in disruptive technology business improvement solutions. He spoke to the group on topics include in his Book :Americans Who Made America – the 18th Century Birth of The Republic”



Figure 3 Steve Quakenbush

November

On November 9, 2024, our Chapter Meeting featured Steve Quakenbush, Chief Executive Officer (Volunteer) for The Honor Flight of Austin. Steve discussed the mission of the organization, the qualifications for attendees, the selection process, and the typical schedule of activities that each group participates in.

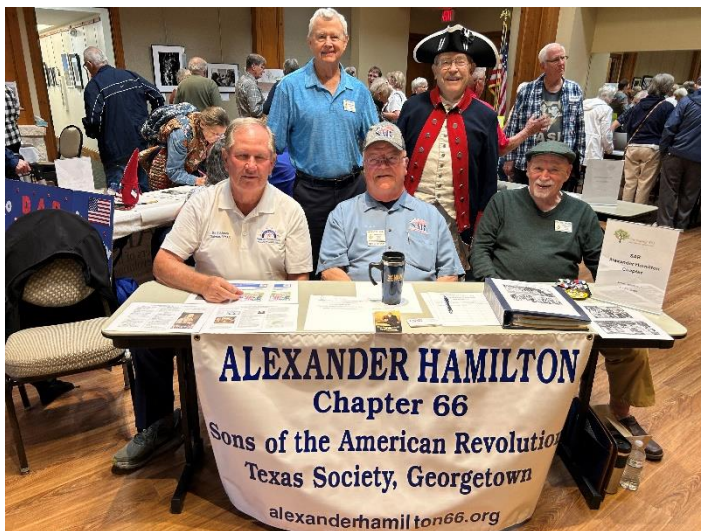


Figure 4 - Back Jim Rogers, Darrell Hutchinson Front Jim Robinson, Grant Gee, Ed Deshields

On November 21st, our Chapter staffed a table at the annual Sun City Computer Club Genealogy Fair. It was a good chance to discuss our SAR Chapter's activities with interested community members.



December

On December 14th, the annual Wreaths Across America was held, for the Austin area, at the local Texas State Cemetery. Our Chapter was represented by Darrell Hutchinson, Darrin Hutchinson and Ed Deshields.



PRESIDENTS YEAR END MESSAGE

Alexander Hamilton Chapter

2024 in review

2024 has been the 15th year of our Alexander Hamilton Chapter 66 of Sons of the American Revolution. We have seen another successful year of excellent meeting programs, speakers who shared with us a “History of specific officers, gentlemen and women, who contributed to our Independence. We also heard Speakers who gave us some background of men and women who played important roles in making the USA the proud nation it is today.

One of the Founding Members of our Chapter, Jim Scott, who was “President Elect” at our beginning on May 23, 2009, continues today as our Color Guard Commander. Frank Elrod was also one of our early members. Frank attends most current meetings on ZOOM. Their ideas and expertise have been invaluable to us along the way.

Sadness came with the passing this year of our Chaplain, Bill Jones and active member, Ted Acheson. We also remember Paul Frank Litfin, a member from Leander, Texas, who passed at age 93 on February 23, 2024.

Our Meeting Programs during 2024 held on the 2nd Saturdays of Jan, March, May, July, Sept. Nov. included the following:

January, 13, 2024

Thomas K. Lindsay, Senior Fellow of the Texas Public Policy Foundation, Spoke on the subject of The American Theory of Justice, Human Equality, Inalienable Rights, Government by consent, and the Right of Revolution

March, 9, 2024

Dr. Robert Olwell, History Professor, at the University of Texas. He spoke on Benjamin Franklin's life and many contributions to the founding of the USA during the pre-Revolutionary and war years. He cited excerpts from Franklin's letters and newspaper editorials. He also described Franklin's London Home and life there during the period leading up to the war for independence.

May 11, 2024

.... Michael Carpenter, Guadalupe County Commissioner. Spoke about the many significant events that were happening in the original Colonies in 1776. He told of letters and writings of various people that have been discovered.

July 13, 2024

Salina Baker, Author of a historical fantasy series about the American Revolution. She spoke of her extensive travels and research following the footsteps of the historical people, places, and events she writes about and brings to life in her books.

September 14, 2024

Richard Battle, author and orator, spoke on Leadership, Sales and Volunteerism. Specifically, he spoke on Navigating Life's Journey.

November 9, 2024

Steve Quakenbush, U.S. Army Veteran, Chief Executive Officer, spoke regarding The Honor Flights from the Austin area and the great experience the Honor Flights provide for our qualified veterans to visit our Nation's Capital. Qualified Veterans include anyone who served anywhere in the world prior to May 1975.

.... Other Chapter Activities

Alexander Hamilton Chapter members attended and posted the colors at Washington's Birthday Celebration in Austin this past February and at Constitution Week sponsored by the DAR Chapters in September, both events at Chateau Bellevue (Austin Woman's Club,) in Austin.

Our Chapter continued to "Post the Colors" for numerous events. In June we presented the Colors at a Patriotic Stage Show at Sun City, and we presented the colors November 10th at Central Texas Philharmonic Patriotic Musical at Klett Auditorium, Georgetown Highschool and November 11th Veterans Day at Veterans Plaza, Sun City.

Another Sun City event, following Veterans Day, was the Genealogy event where we spoke with prospective SAR members about joining our SAR Chapter.

We look forward to another year of Patriotic Activity with meetings to continue at Georgetown Parks and Rec. Admin. Building, 1101 College St. in Georgetown.

We thank all of the members and guests for attending our every other month meetings and thank all who have uniforms and who participate in our Color Guard presentations.

Darrell Hutchinson, President
Alexander Hamilton Chapter 66
Sons of the American Revolution



CHAPTER MEMBERS - WE WANT YOU!

Compatriots, your chapter needs your skills and a bit of your time to fulfill our commitments to our Society and our community. The chapter needs committee men to support our Veterans Program, Membership Program and Community Programs. Please contact Chapter President Darrell Hutchinson at txssarhamilton@gmail.com or call 512-869-4882 for details and to discuss your area of interest. Current priorities identified by the Board of Managers are supporting Veteran's groups and Membership efforts including new member recruiting, mentoring and development. Write or call today

Bit of History

The Sons of The American Revolution (SAR) was founded April 30, 1889 in New York City. It was established by William McDowell as a society for male descendants of individuals who contributed to the American Revolutionary War. The SAR was formed to promote patriotism, and preserve American values. Today, SAR has over 37,000 members worldwide. Past US Presidents that have been SAR members include: Ulysses S. Grant, Rutherford B Hayes, Benjamin Harrison, William McKinley, Theodore Roosevelt, William Howard Taft, Warren G. Harding, Calvin Coolidge, Herbert Hoover, Franklin D. Roosevelt, Harry S. Truman, Dwight D. Eisenhower, Lyndon B. Johnson, Gerald R Ford, James Carter, George H W Bush, George W Bush.

NOTE: Most of all of the other US Presidents either qualify as Patriot Ancestors or served in the Revolution. Washington, Adams, Jefferson, Madison, Monroe and Jackson qualify as Patriot Ancestors. The only ones that do not qualify under either method are Martin Van Buren, Woodrow Wilson, John F Kennedy, Ronald Reagan, and Donald Trump.

IN REMEMBRANCE

Recognizing those compatriots, we have recently lost and are greatly missed.



William Wendelton Jones (July 7, 1945 - August 19, 2024)

William Wendelton Jones, Bill, as he was known, went to be with his friends in Heaven on August 19, 2024. His life will be celebrated with a 10 a.m. Memorial Service at Light of Christ Anglican Church at 302 Serenada Drive in Georgetown, Texas, on Saturday, September 7. Bill died at home with his son and wife by his side. The family appreciates Concho Hearts Hospice and the care that they provided during his last hours.

Bill is survived by his wife of 40 years, Darlene, his daughter Paula Jones, her special friend, Karen Ward, of Leander, Texas, his son, Reagan Jones and wife, Abby, and his precious granddaughter Lillian Jones, of Stroudsburg, Pennsylvanian, and stepson, Corbin O'Cheskey of Lubbock, Texas. He is also survived by the mother of his children, Donese Mayfield and her husband, Dave of Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Bill was born in Dallas, Texas, on July 7, 1945 to Paul A. Jones and Mae Oma Jones. He was a RH baby and he began fighting for his life immediately. His early years were spent happily as an only child growing up in the Highland Park area of Dallas with doting mother and father, grandmother and aunt. His parents divorced when he was about 5, his mother remarried a couple years later and Bill's stepfather became a very important influence in Bill's life. His oil business caused the family to move to Shreveport, Louisiana, and Bill enjoyed living on the lake. He also excelled at Kemper Military Academy during his sophomore and junior years. When his stepfather passed away, Bill and his mother moved back to Dallas and he graduated from Highland Park High School. Bill attended college at Texas Tech and graduated from North Texas in Denton after his marriage and his children were born.

He enlisted in the Navel Reserve and proudly served his 6-year commitment. Spending 101 days of active duty for training, he was fully prepared to serve his country. His unit was not called up to go to Viet Nam.

After living in Dallas, Lubbock, Amarillo, Taos and, finally, Albuquerque became his home. He worked in banking but soon became the salesman that his personality dictated, working for Xerox, Baxter Labs, Mentor Graphics and Intergraph selling high tech engineering systems to Sandia and Los Alamos Labs. His client friendships made him an outstanding salesman.

He was an avid snow skier and was on the Sandia Peak Volunteer Ski Patrol for several years, usually skiing with his black cowboy hat on.

After a client took Bill and Darlene for a hot air balloon ride, they became part owners of a balloon. Since Bill was already a fixed wing pilot, he was able to quickly train for his private and commercial lighter than air licenses. The part ownership did not give them the opportunities for flying that they loved. So, next came full ownership of a Balloon and shortly thereafter, a contract with Southwest Airlines, to fly the balloon with their

banner and passengers. Bill was an excellent pilot, winning the Championship of Texas in 1991 and participation in the several National Balloon Championships in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and Middletown, Ohio. The competition at the Albuquerque International Balloon festival was always exciting and he won 13th and a 16th (out of a thousand pilots from all over the world). His ballooning was a very big part of his life and they flew in various places all over the United States for over 22 years. They owned four hot air balloons during this time. Always giving joy to those he encountered and those who flew with him. He was a safe pilot and took great care of his passengers, crew and those he met upon take-off or landings.

Bill was also a talented musician playing both the banjo and guitar. He had a strong voice, a deep Baritone, and would play and sing at church over the years.

He was also an adventurer and he and Darlene sold their home in Albuquerque, bought a fifth wheel, new truck, packed up the dog and the balloon, and traveled for four years. This was a great experience and Bill would proudly say that we had slept in 48 of the 50 states though not always in the fifth wheel.

After flunking retirement, Bill and Darlene moved to Roswell after 9/11 to take care of her mother who had fallen. While Darlene taught Middle School, Bill was a substitute teacher in great demand. His voice commanded a room.

He was a Roswell CASA volunteer for 15 years for abused and neglected children. The children's court Judges always listened to his advice because they knew he had done his research and was giving voice to the best possible outcomes for the child. He received numerous awards including CASA volunteer of the year, their Lifetime achievement award and served on the board.

For 10 years in Roswell, he was an active member, and board member of the Southeast New Mexico Veterans Transportation Network taking area Veterans to their doctors' appointments in Albuquerque, Artesia, and Big Spring, Texas. He was responsible for writing the grant to get a large handicapped van and three smaller vans paid for by the State of New Mexico. He was also responsible for getting numerous donations to fund the insurance, fuel and other expenses of the all-volunteer organization.

He was an influential member of the St. Mark's Evangelical Lutheran Church and worked in leadership and on numerous committees. He played guitar for services and was a member of the bell choir.

He was very proud to be one of the 15 charter members who founded the Sun City American Legion Post 228. He then volunteered to be the chaplain of the group. He was also in charge of the "Buddy Call" program that was started.

His fascination with ancestry led him to find out that he was qualified to be a member of the Sons of the American Revolution. His application was accepted, he was inducted and he became their chaplain.

Bill has had numerous health challenges over the years and with God's help, he conquered them all including his cancer in 2021. He is wrapped in God's arms now and will no longer be in pain.

Bill was truly a man who made an impression when you met him and even more so when you got to know him better. His faith in God was steadfast as was his love for his wife and family. His beard would come and go with the seasons but his mustache was above his lip for 50 years or more.

Bill was a very fun loving, caring and patriotic man who loved his country and its veterans. In lieu of flowers, please make a donation in his honor to Tunnel to Towers or to another veteran/first responder charity of your choice.

COMING IN OUR NEXT WINTER AND SPRING 2025 ISSUE

CHAPTER EVENTS AND COMPATRIOTS IN THE NEWS

SEE IT THIS COMING JUNE, 2025!

This Newsletter editor was our Historian Jim Rogers.