

ARK-LA-TEX SAR

The Official Newsletter of Chapter #69

DISPATCH

SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

Volume 1, Number 1

Copyright 2023

Winter 2023

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

by Clarence V. Burns



Compatriots,

It has been a pleasure to be a Charter Member of Ark-La-Tex Chapter #69 of The Texas Sons of the American Revolution. I wish to acknowledge the valuable contributions of our Chancellor Bill Sekel and DAR Traci Jones in this endeavor.

To begin with six and to grow to thirty plus within a short time frame demonstrates a dedicated membership. The appreciation we feel for our ancestors' service is still alive as we honor those who have served in our military. We also honor the police, firemen, and EMT's who provide outstanding service to our community.

The Charter date for our Chapter was 10 October 2021. One of our challenges is to publicize our existence, and to encourage others to be proud of their ancestors efforts to establish the liberty we enjoy by joining

The SAR.

I look forward to our March meeting and ask the Lord to continue to guide and bless us.

Clarence V. Burns
President
Ark-La-Tex Chapter #69

AND OUR CONSTITUTIONAL REPUBLIC,
AND SOLEMNLY PLEDGE OURSELVES
TO DEFEND THEM AGAINST EVERY FOE.



WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Chandler, Larry Paul
Patriot: James Chitwood

Kelsey, John Allen
Patriot: Samuel Kelsey Jr.



UPCOMING EVENTS

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, March 14th, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.
American Legion Post 258
308 North Louise Street
Atlanta, Texas 7555

2023 Spring Leadership Training

March 2 – March 4, 2023
The Brown Hotel
335 West Broadway
Louisville, Kentucky, 40202

Texas SAR Annual Conference

30 March – 2 April 2023
Marriott City Place
1200 Lake Plaza Drive
Spring, Texas 77389

133rd Sons of the American Revolution Congress

July 13th – July 20th, 2023
9700 International Drive
Orlando, Florida 32819

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



BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

- 02 Jan Pat Tomberlain
- 16 Jan Nolan Ray Maxie
- 25 Jan Joshua Wayne Beckham
- 27 Jan Fred Murry Ott
- 11 Feb..... Charles Edmond Pruitt, II
- 05 Mar..... Thomas Riley Owen II
- 24 Mar..... Michael Evans Addington
- 28 Mar..... Christopher Jarrett Addington
- 01 Feb..... Linda Ott
- 23 Feb..... Carolyn Addington
- 30 Mar..... Sue Tomberlain
- 10 Jan Dennis & Stacey Beckham
- 21 Jan Larry Joe & Keesie Reynolds



BATTLES FOUGHT JAN - MAR

- Jan-Mar 1777..... Forge War
- Jan 1, 1776 Burning of Norfolk
- Jan 2, 1777 Second Battle of Trenton
- Jan 2, 1782 Battle of Videau's Bridge
- Jan 2, 1783 Action of 2 January 1783
- Jan 3, 1777 Battle of Princeton
- Jan 6, 1781 Battle of Jersey
- Jan 7, 1781 Battle of Mobile
- Jan 8, 1780 Action of 8 January 1780
- Jan 11, 1782 Capture of Trincomalee
- Jan 11-Feb 13, 1782..... Siege of Brimstone Hill
- Jan 15, 1782 Action of 15 January 1782
- Jan 16, 1780 Battle of Cape St. Vincent
- Jan 17, 1781 Battle of Cowpens
- Jan 20, 1777 Battle of Millstone
- Jan 22, 1783 Action of 22 January 1783
- Jan 22-Feb 5, 1782..... Capture of Demerara and Essequibo
- Jan 25-26, 1782 Battle of Saint Kitts
- Feb 1, 1781..... Battle of Cowan's Ford
- Feb 3, 1779..... Battle of Beaufort
- Feb 3, 1780..... Battle of Young's House
- Feb 3, 1781..... Capture of Sint Eustatius
- Feb 11, 1780..... Battle of Van Creek
- Feb 14, 1779..... Battle of Kettle Creek

- Feb 15, 1783..... Action of 15 February 1783
- Feb 17, 1782..... Battle of Sadras
- Feb 22, 1782..... Capture of Montserrat
- Feb 23-25, 1779..... Siege of Fort Vincennes
- Feb 24, 1781..... Battle of Haw River
- Feb 24, 1782..... Battle of Wambaw
- Feb 27, 1776..... Battle of Moore's Creek Bridge
- Mar-Nov, 1780 San Juan Expedition
- Mar 2-3, 1776..... Battle of the Rice Boats
- Mar 2-14, 1780..... Battle of Fort Charlotte
- Mar 3, 1779..... Battle of Brier Creek
- Mar 3-4, 1776..... Battle of Nassau
- Mar 6, 1781 Battle of Wetzell's Mill
- Mar 7, 1778 Battle of Barbados
- Mar 8, 1777 Battle of Punk Hill
- Mar 8, 1782..... Gnadenhütten massacre
- Mar 9-May 8, 1781 Siege of Pensacola
- Mar 15, 1781 Battle of Guilford Court House
- Mar 16, 1781 Battle of Cape Henry
- Mar 16, 1782..... Battle of Roatán
- Mar 16, 1782..... Action of 16 March 1782
- Mar 18, 1778..... Battle of Quinton's Bridge
- Mar 22, 1782..... Battle of Little Mountain
- Mar 25, 1776..... Battle of Saint-Pierre
- Mar 29-May 12, 1780 Siege of Charleston

January 17, 1781



Having been sent out to defeat General Daniel Morgan, on January 17th Lieutenant Colonel Banastre Tarleton catches up with his quarry at a place the Locals called the Cowpens. The forces are equally numbered, but Morgan chose this place for the battle, which commences early in the morning as Tarleton orders his Dragoons to engage the front line

of Morgan's troops. The Dragoons however were beaten off, forcing Tarleton to launch an assault with his infantry.

Tarleton's troops were exhausted and needed rest. Tarleton however expected them to easily disburse the Patriots, which he believed were only militia. The American line however had orders - two volleys and then retire to the right. The British mistake the repositioning of the Americans as a rout and ran forward straight into Morgan's awaiting regulars. The Militia then circled the battlefield and engaged from the left with devastating effect. The British forces collapsed with 100 killed and 229 wounded while an additional 600 are captured. The American losses total only 12 killed and 60 wounded.

Tarleton, his legion destroyed, fled the field to report the disaster to General Cornwallis.

How does one inform his superior that he has lost 17% of his troops?



OUR AMERICAN PATRIOTS



Hans Heinrich (John Henry) Felder
*5th Great Grandfather of Compatriot
 Larry Joe Reynolds*

In the early settlement of Orangeburg Township, the names of a multitude of Swiss immigrants made up the rolls of the newly arrived lot. Optimistic with the prospect of a new life, the Swiss arrivals hoped to

mimic the success of other Swiss townships in the new Carolina like Purrysburg on the Savannah. One of the arriving hopefuls was Swiss immigrant Hans Henry Felder. Felder was one of the several boatloads of German and Swiss natives to come to the area of current day Orangeburg in the 1730's.



By 1747, Felder had begun to lay his roots in the area near St. Matthews Parish. Felder began a family by marrying Mary Elizabeth Shaumlöffel and fathering seven sons. The roots took even greater hold as Felder served as Justice of the Peace and Justice for the Quorum in the area. In 1763, Felder remarried and added another five children to his household. A good number of deeds and other civic documents attest to Felder's role in the post-settlement era of Orangeburg district. Felder had cut his own little niche in the new America and was making the most of it. However, the last third of the 18th century would force the father of twelve to consider issues that lie beyond the confines of his home district.

In 1775, the Crown responded to rising malcontent in the Colonies by ordering the blockade of the port of Boston. In the fallout from this and other actions, Felder joined fellow Independence minded "Whigs" in enforcing the Continental Association. The rather matter of fact name of the organization says little of its importance. The Association was one of the first steps in severing the ties with the British Crown and called for the dissolution of ties with the King. In 1775, Felder joined fellow "Patriots" in being elected to join the Second Provincial Congress from St. Matthews Parish. While a member of the body, the

now historic Constitution for the Independent South Carolina was passed. There was no doubting where Henry Felder stood in the coming Revolution. The Swiss would cast his lot with the Independence movement.

Felder's initial participation in the war was in supplying the fledgling Whig government with much needed Gunpowder. However, the Swiss would not allow his role to be that of just collaborator. Felder enlisted the help of his seven sons and others as a militia company for the area. Felder held the rank of Captain of the Whig body. As in most cases of these "Americans versus Americans" scraps in the South Carolina backcountry, few official records survive. Colonel Paul Felder recounted an old Barnwell district native telling him of whipping an Tory detachment at Holman's Bridge on the South Edisto River while a member of Felder's company. Apparently in some of the forays John Felder (Henry's son) was captured and later shot down while escaping from his British captors. The exact facts or validity of the fight at Holman's bridge is uncertain, however they were hardly uncharacteristic of most of the fighting that Felder would have seen in his district. Many a scrape occurred in the South Carolina countryside. There were no scarlet coats blazing in the sun or grand armies in these scrapes. Mostly personal encounters of a few adversaries and small skirmishes. Orangeburg Historian Alexander Salley noted only that Felder's company was probably a member of Colonel Rowe's regiment of South Carolina militia.



Apparently, Felder's Whig loyalties/participation was enough to draw the ire of his Loyalist adversaries in the area. In 1778, Loyalists looted and

torched his home in St. Matthews's parish. In the civil war that was the Revolution in SC, this was hardly an unusual occurrence. Felder however had an opportunity to avenge his Loyalist adversary's depredations in 1781. May of 1781 was beginning to show the Whigs of Carolina gain the upper hand. Although large victories were reserved for Cowpens and Kings Mountain, the Whig militia of General Thomas Sumter, Francis Marion and the detached Continentals of Harry Lee were beginning to take advantage of the strung out British lines of supply. For over a week during the previous month, Brigadier General Francis Marion and Lt. Colonel Henry Lee of the Continentals laid siege and finally forced the surrender of Fort Watson on the Santee. On May 12th the duo struck again by capturing the British post at Forte Motte after a four day siege.

Like domino's the British line of forts guarding their supply lines were falling. Brigadier General Thomas Sumter hoped to make his own dent by moving on Orangeburg on May 11, 1781. Captain Felder is reported to have guided the famed South Carolina partisan's approach to the town and his two guns (now on display at the Square in Orangeburg) are reported to have been used in the siege.

The 70 Loyalist militia and twelve regular British troops garrisoning Orangeburg took refuge in the town jail to contest Sumter's occupation of the town. In 18th century warfare, a good strong structure such as a brick building, or even log fort could be reasonably defensible by even a small force. Providing that the enemy did not have artillery to blast a breach through its walls. Sumter's guns made any attempt to hold the town in vain when the Gamecock placed his artillery in position to fire on the barricaded Loyalists manning the Jail. Sumter's artillery opened fire and quickly blasted a few breaches in the jail walls. With the wall breached, Sumter's men now only had to simply swarm through and overwhelm the garrison. However, an assault with the always unpredictable militia would be unnecessary. The British Colonel in command of

the post realized his precarious situation and ordered the white flag of surrender displayed. Almost as quickly as it had begun, the siege of Orangeburg was over. With the mostly bloodless affair complete, Sumter's forces had broken yet another link on the chain holding the British posts together. For Henry Felder. There had to be a tad bit of a feeling of retribution for the Loyalists burning his home three years earlier.

(Continued in next Newsletter)



"He (King George III) has waged cruel war against human nature itself, violating its most sacred rights of life & liberty in the persons of a distant people who never offended him, captivating & carrying them into slavery in another hemisphere, or to incur miserable death in their transportation thither. This piratical warfare, the opprobrium of infidel powers, is the warfare of the CHRISTIAN king of Great Britain. Determined to keep open a market where MEN should be bought & sold, he has prostituted his negative for suppressing every legislative attempt to prohibit or to restrain this execrable commerce: and that this assemblage of horrors might want no fact of distinguished die, he is now exciting those very people to rise in arms among us, and to purchase that liberty of which he has deprived them, & murdering the people upon whom he also obtruded them; thus paying off former crimes committed against the liberties of one people, with crimes which he urges them to commit against the lives of another..." -
Original draft of the Declaration of Independence, June, 1776



A NAVY OF OUR OWN

On February 17th, 1778, Eight ships of the "American" navy set sail for the Bahamas. The goal

was the seizure of gunpowder kept at the British armory in New Providence. Additional American ships were reported by British agents to have ported in Spain to acquire war material. On February 28th the Spanish crown gave orders to his fleet in the west indies to set up patrols so that British ship movements could be monitored. Said intelligence would then be given to the French and, through the French, to the Americans.



This painting represents the French fleet saluting the American ship Ranger in February 1778. The first American flag ship to be recognized by the French.



LAST CHAPTER MEETING MINUTES

January 10, 2023

Members Present

Larry Joe Reynolds
 Rodney G. Love
 Danny Addington
 Dennis Beckham
 Bill Sekel
 R. E. Woodroof
 Richard Blackwood
 Pat Tomberlain
 Larry Chandler
 Thomas R. "Butch" Owen
 John Kelsey
 Harold Blair

Visitors Present

Carolyn Addington
 Windy Addington
 Meriam Blair

President Clarence Burns called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and gave the invocation.

The United States of America, State of Texas and SAR led by President Clarence Burns

There were no objections to the minutes as sent out to members. A motion was made by Chancellor Bill Sekel and seconded by Compatriot Danny Addington to accept the minutes as distributed. The motion carried.

Treasurer Danny Addington presented the treasurers report stating we had an ending balance of \$1,013.34. A motion was made by Chancellor Bill Sekel and seconded by Richard Blackwood to accept the Treasurer's report. The motion carried.

Registrar Dennis Beckham presented the Registrar's report. A motion was made by Treasurer Danny Addington and seconded by Chancellor Bill Sekel to accept the Registrar's report. The motion carried. Registrar Dennis Beckham reported that an additional 30 Challenge coins had been donated to the Chapter giving us a total of 69 coins. No coins have been sold since the last meeting and the balance is \$296.60.

Chancellor Bill Sekel swore in Vice President Larry Joe Reynolds and Secretary Rodney G. Love.

Chancellor Bill Sekel swore in John Allen Kelsey and Larry Paul Chandler as new members.

President Clarence Burns introduced Compatriot Harold Blair who presented "The Revolutionary War in the South" (The Southern Campaign: A First-hand Report on some of the Battlefields)

President Clarence Burns reminded members to turn in a list and information about military veterans to either him or Chancellor Bill Sekel.

President Clarence Burns presented Chancellor Bill Sekel with a Certificate of Appreciation for his presentation on the "Continental Marines".

President Clarence Burns presented Compatriot Harold Blair with a Certificate of Appreciation for

his presentation on "The Revolutionary War in the South".

Chancellor Bill Sekel presented President Clarence Burns as a member of the Military Service Veterans Corps with a Certificate of Patriotism dated 9/2022 #1181.

Vice President Larry Joe Reynolds and President Clarence Burns displayed the new Chapter flag that Vice President Larry Joe Reynolds had ordered.

Chancellor Bill Sekel informed the Chapter that National SAR was changing the official logo. The word "Society" should be deleted in the future and the Maltese Cross would be only for the Executive Branch. Permission would have to be obtained to use the National logo since it was trademarked.

Vice President Larry Joe Reynolds suggested that the Chapter consider having a Newsletter, get well cards, sympathy cards, birthday cards, and Christmas cards in the future. These will be discussed at a later date.

Chancellor Bill Sekel moved that the Chapter adopt a plan of action and budget to recognize Public Servants during the month of May. Vice President Larry Joe Reynolds seconded the motion. The motion carried.

President Clarence Burns appointed a committee to obtain names of Public Servants (police, fireman, emergency medical workers). The committee included Compatriot Richard Blackwood (Atlanta and Queen City), Compatriot Harold Bair and Compatriot John Kelsey (Jefferson), Compatriot Larry Chandler (LA), and President Clarence Burns (Linden and Hughes Springs). The committee was charged with obtaining the names of individuals and their actions that might deserve recognition. Three medals would be given out.

President Clarence Burns encouraged each member to look at the Chapters website. Vice President Larry Joe Reynolds has made some additions to the website.

The next meeting will be March 14 @ 6:30 p.m.

President Clarence Burns led the members in the SAR Closing Admonition.

President Clarence Burns entertained a motion to adjourn. The motion was made by Compatriot Dennis Beckham and seconded by Vice President Larry Joe Reynolds. The motion carried.

Secretary Rodney Love gave the Benediction.



Troy Johnson



Dale Bobbitt



"To be prepared for war is one of the most effectual means of preserving peace." - **First Annual Address to Congress, January 8, 1790**



Royce Hitchcock



Franklin Hamilton

VETERANS APPRECIATION CERTIFICATE

During the months of November and December, 2022, the Ark-La-Tex Chapter #69 presented Vietnam Veterans Military Appreciation Certificates to the following Individuals.



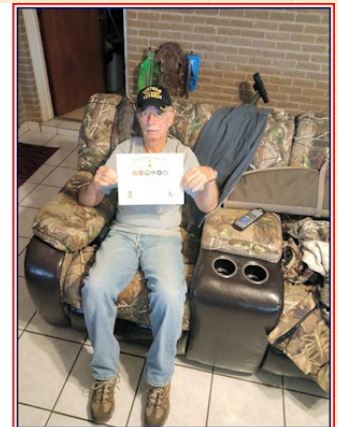
Jerry Dooley



Larry Holland



Johnny Johnson



J. C. Burns



Jerry Mitchell



Julious Wayne Beckham



"Those who expect to reap the blessings of freedom, must, like men, undergo the fatigues of supporting it." - The American Crisis, No. 4, September 11, 1777



HISTORICAL HIGHLIGHTS

Alexander Hamilton; a true patriot of many talents.

For someone who was born on the Caribbean Island of Nevis, the illegitimate son of a Scottish immigrant father and a British West Indian mother, and never attained elective office, Alexander Hamilton had a major influence on our American political system.

He was a member of the Continental Congress, an author of the Federalist Papers, a champion of the Constitution, and the first secretary of the Treasury. While serving in the Treasury, Hamilton helped found the first national bank, the U.S. Mint and the Revenue Cutter Service — a tax collection bureau that would later become the U.S. Coast Guard. So deeply involved in the development of the Cutter Service was Hamilton that the original naval communication guidebook he devised was still in use in 1962, during the Cuban Missile Crisis.

A strong proponent of manufacturing in the new nation, Hamilton and a series of private investors created the ‘Society for the Establishment of Useful Manufactures,’ which developed one of the first industrial centers in the United States, located in Paterson, New Jersey. In 1784 he founded the Bank of New York, America’s oldest continuous banking organization. And in 1791, Hamilton started a daily broadsheet — then known as the New York Evening Post. That paper grew into one of the country’s most successful papers: the New York Post.

Vice-President’s Corner

by Larry “Joe” Reynolds



Compatriot,

I hope that each and every one of you had a very Happy New Year and that you have some great plans for 2023.

I’m looking forward to seeing our Chapter, along with the Texas Society and The SAR grow and prosper. I feel that one of the most important things that we, as a Chapter, can do in the community is to show that we make a difference.

We can do this by not only supporting our community activities, but also by recognizing the members and their activities, for example, the Boy Scouts, Veterans, First Responders, in other words, exactly what our Programs do.

I plan to ask President Burns to let’s form Committees to work on each of the Programs. I will ask each of you to step forward and volunteer to Chair any committee that you feel will best fit you and to serve on any that you are assigned.

Larry “Joe” Reynolds
Vice-President
Ark-La-Tex Chapter #69



"By the all-powerful dispensations of Providence, I have been protected beyond all human probability and expectation; for I had four bullets through my coat, and two horses shot under me, yet escaped unhurt, altho' death was levelling my companions on every side." – **General George Washington letter to John A. Washington, July 18, 1755**



CHAPLAIN'S COMMENTS



John3:16

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.

God gave us his best. In the Old Testament times the people were required to offer up various sacrifices for their sins. Their sacrifice had to be the best without spot or blemish.

God required the best sacrifice for our sins & He gave us his own best, his Own Son without spot or blemish. No greater love can man show than to lay down his own life to save a friend or brother & Jesus did that willing that we may know Him.

God does not require us to be without spot or blemish or to be perfect but does ask this one thing.

Give him our best. Is really too much for God to ask of us is our best after all He's done for us?

*God Bless
Chaplin Shawn Tully*



EDITOR'S NOTES

Compatriot, I hope you have enjoyed this Newsletter. Although I have enjoyed publishing it, I hope that you can see that it will truly be a lot of work for just one man. Therefore, I am asking each one of you to think of something that you can contribute to it each quarter, that way, it can truly be "Our" newsletter.

The first thing that I'm going to ask you to contribute is you and your wife's birth and anniversary date, I do not need the year, just the month and day. The next thing that I'm asking for is your Patriot Ancestor's Name, Rank, Unit or Service that he performed for the American Revolution.

I'm next going to ask you to write a short story about your Patriot Hero so that I can include it in a future issue of our newsletter. I was fortunate that someone else had done the research on my ancestor, not only by book, but also by making a movie. You can just write a few short paragraphs.



CHAPTER LEADERSHIP

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