

The MINUTEMAN



Dallas Chapter

Founded July 4, 1929

Texas Society - Sons of the American Revolution

January 13, 2024

Volume 25, No. 01

Ventana by Buckner South Tower, Grand Hall
8301 N US 75-Central Expressway - Dallas, TX 75225
He that cannot obey, cannot command.

Breakfast – 8:00am

Meeting – 9:00am

PRESIDENT

Brent Harshman

1st VICE- PRESIDENT/PROGRAMS

Thomas F. Van Fossen

2nd VICE- PRESIDENT/AWARDS

JD Martin

SECRETARY

Bill Watts

TREASURER

Carl N. Harper

REGISTRAR

Mark Morgan

ASSISTANT REGISTRAR

Jerry Pinkerton

CHAPLAIN

Frank H. Pounders

ASSISTANT CHAPLAIN

Larry Luby

HISTORIAN

Tom Manning

TRUSTEES

Jerry Pinkerton

David Temple

COLOR GUARD COMMANDER

Bill Watts



AGENDA

Call to Order – President Harrison

Rules of Engagement –

This meeting is being filmed and recorded. By joining this in-person or virtual meeting of the Dallas Chapter of the TXSSAR, you acknowledge and agree that these proceedings may be made public.

Invocation – Frank Pounders

Pledges

American Flag – Tom Manning
Texas Flag – J D Martin
SAR – Jack Haughton
Mission Statement – Tom Milson

Welcome – President Harrison – A welcome to all

Visitors

Our incoming State President, President elect Trach Pounders, Former State President Bob Clark, Secretary General International Chapter and President of our new Ellis County Chapter and Chairman of the JROTC Committee Jack Haughton, District 6 VP Tom Van Fossen, and others. We apologize if we have missed anyone.

American Historic Moment

January 29, 1774 - Ben Franklin becomes an American Patriot
Dallas Chapter You Tube -
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1C2AsWjAzhU>



Special Awards

Bronze Roger Sherman Commendation Medal

- ★ Brent Harshman
- ★ J.D. Martin
- ★ Mark Morgan
- ★ Jerry Pinkerton
- ★ Tom Van Fossen



Tom Van Fossen, JD Martin, Mark Morgan, Brent Harshman and Jerry Pinkerton

Chapter Medal of Distinguished Service

- ★ Nick Harper
- ★ Robert Kittrell
- ★ Jerry Pinkerton
- ★ Frank Ponders
- ★ Bill Watts
- ★ Tom Whitelock



Mark Harrison, Tom Van Fossen, Jerry Pinkerton, Frank Ponders, Tom Whitelock, Nick Harper and Bill Watts

Chapter Meritorious Service Medal

- ★ Dr. Gary Sisson



Gary Sisson and Mark Harrison

Past “Raze” Plaque’s



Dr. Gary Sisson – Golden Sledgehammer

Origin Story of the Golden Sledge Hammer Award

During the last 6 months of my presidency of this great chapter our Nation was still reeling from the tragic events of September 11th 2001. The wound was fresh, the pain was intense we were all looking for hero's. Yet, even the Dallas Chapter an organization of manly men, descended from manly men, We the descendants of the heroes of the American Revolution, a society of hero's, even we were seeking a hero among hero's. Every great hero needs tools to do great work. But what tool would best symbolize the difficult work of promoting patriotism, serving our community, and educating and inspiring future generations about the founding principles of our country. The tool must of necessity be a sledge hammer of pure gold. Dazzling enough to mesmerize wives into displaying its brilliance in the most prominent place in their living room, yet powerful enough to motivate even the most lethargic of compatriots. Now which giant of a man in the ranks of our beloved chapter would be strong enough? Nea, virtuous enough, to wield this heavy burden of responsibility. We needed the hardest working man among us, but a last, I was destined to be nothing more than the originator. Who then, what half man, half beast would bear this honorable title and still be righteous enough that next year, chose another hero and to proudly relinquish his title.

On the glorious Saturday morning March 16th, in the year of our Lord 2001 I looked among the usual worthy noblemen but they withdrew in fear, all but one, the one, the only known by and respected by his admirers both near and far Ladies and Gentlemen, I present you that first recipient of the Golden Sledgehammer Award, also known to us all as T1, I give you compatriot Tom Whitelock. My work here was and is done, "Long live the Dallas Chapter noble and esteemed Society of the Golden Sledgehammer.



THE MINUTEMAN

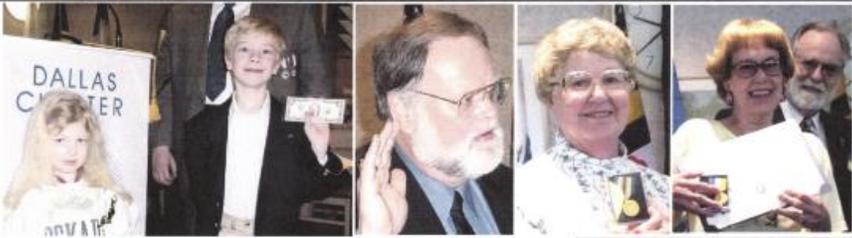
THE MINUTEMAN is the monthly newsletter of the Dallas Chapter of the Texas Society, Sons of the American Revolution, a non-profit organization. (Pictures by Dr. H. Charles Baker)

Meetings are held on the Second Saturday of each month at Luby's Cafeteria, 6221 E. Mockingbird Lane, Dallas, Texas. Coffee served with fellowship at 7:30, breakfast at 8:00, and meeting from 8:30 'til 9:45. Guests are welcome at our meetings.

Chapter Meeting News



New 2002-2003 Dallas Chapter Officers were sworn in at the March meeting. They are (left-to-right above) **Tom Smith**, Treasurer; **Henry (Hank) Voegtle III**, Secretary; **Frank Pounders**, Chaplain; **Tracy Pounders**, 2nd Vice President/Awards; **Tom Whitelock**, Historian; **Jack Carney**, 1st Vice President/Programs; and **Clifford Slagle**, President. (Not Pictured: **Melvin McCoy**, Registrar.)



Left to right above: Ashley Clark, daughter of Compatriot **Robert Clark**, and Augie Voegtle, son of Compatriot **Hank Voegtle**, received \$2 bills as the youngest meeting attendees. New member **Roy Lee Pierce** was sworn in, sponsored by Compatriot **Cliff Slagle**. Barbara (Mrs. **Charles**) Baker received the SAR Medal of Appreciation for help with the Minuteman Newsletter, and Montye (Mrs. **Tom**) Whitelock received the Martha Washington Medal for help in taping, stamping and mailing the Minuteman (husband Tom Whitelock looks on). At right, **Compatriot Tom Whitelock** received the "Golden Hammer Award," the chapter's first Traveling Trophy for the hardest worker for 2001. This 8-pound sledge is not for wimps.





Tom Whitelock presented Gary with a “Raze” plaque.

Sisson Golden Sledgehammer Award

Previous Award Winners - * Deceased

- | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| 2001 – Tom Whitlock | 2012 – Robert Kittrell |
| 2002 – Ralph McDowell * | 2013 – George Ramphrey |
| 2003 – Charles Baker * | 2014 – Nick Harper |
| 2004 – Tom & Montye Whitelock | 2015 – John Morton |
| 2005 – E. Thomas Smith * | 2016 – Jerry Pinkerton |
| 2006 – James Templin * | 2017 – Mike Petridis |
| 2007 – Allen Christian * | 2018 – Tom Van Fossen |
| 2008 – Robert Northcraft | 2019 – Joseph Slonaker |
| 2009 – David Temple | 2020 – Mark Harrison |
| 2010 – Harmon Adair | 2021 – Brent Harshman |
| 2011 – James Fairbairn * | 2022 – Bill Watts |

Each year since 2001...

The “Sisson **Golden** Sledge Hammer” Award has been passed on to the year’s Hardest Working Compatriot by the previous year’s winner.

Needless to say, the sheer weight of the mallet-has and continues to match the workload & Chapter service of former recipients. Many of them also had to weather a 365 day “Spousal Storm” (of her not wanting to have that crazy looking thing displayed in their home.) However, it still represents a very high honor, and those4 that have carried it – did so with great pride. They may have had to pass on the Hammer, but they did get to keep a special **golden** lapel pin & a forgettable *TMW Framed Raze Review* of his most worthy deeds.



This year's winner earned his selection by taking on additional administrative duties as well as his elected research & membership processing position. He also volunteered to improve and creatively expand audio & video operational presentations.

He has participated in various Color Guard group activities, recruitment and special events throughout the year, which also brought high honor to our Chapter, Society and the community.



Winner for 2023!

It is my proud honor to call forth Compatriot: **MARK MORGAN**

Chapter Special Elections for 2024

- ★ Dallas Chapter Historian | Tom Manning
- ★ Dallas Chapter Constitution & Bylaw Amendments

Dallas Chapter Constitution & Bylaws for 2024

- ★ Defines the Chapter Board of Managers
- ★ Standardizes the administration of both the Richey Fund & the Minuteman Fund
- ★ Cleans up unused bullets in the document

Officer Inductions for 2024 - Texas SAR President-Elect Tracy Pounders

- ★ President | Brent Harshman
- ★ 1st Vice-President | Tom Van Fossen
- ★ 2nd Vice-President | J. D. Martin
- ★ Secretary | Bill Watts
- ★ Registrar | Mark Morgan

- ★ Historian | Tom Manning
- ★ Treasurer | Nick Harper
- ★ Chaplain | Frank Ponders
- ★ Trustee | David Temple
- ★ Trustee | Dr. Gary Sisson



Your Officers for 2024

Frank Ponders, Nick Harper, Bill Watts, Gary Sisson, Mark Morgan, JD Martin, Tom Manning, Tom Van Fossen, and Brent Harshman



Mark Harrison receiving his past President pin and Brent Harshman receiving his President's ribbon

President Brent Harshman

This year our President General Dodd has encouraged us to raise the profile of the 250th anniversary of the American Revolution and the events leading up to it and the sacrifices of our patriot ancestors.

He had a really good quote in the recent SAR Magazine. "The ideas our Patriot Ancestors fought for must not be forgotten. Honor their legacy, their ideas are timeless and will prevail. And our chapter has been a good source for educational material and content on the Revolution. For example we have American Historic Moment which has

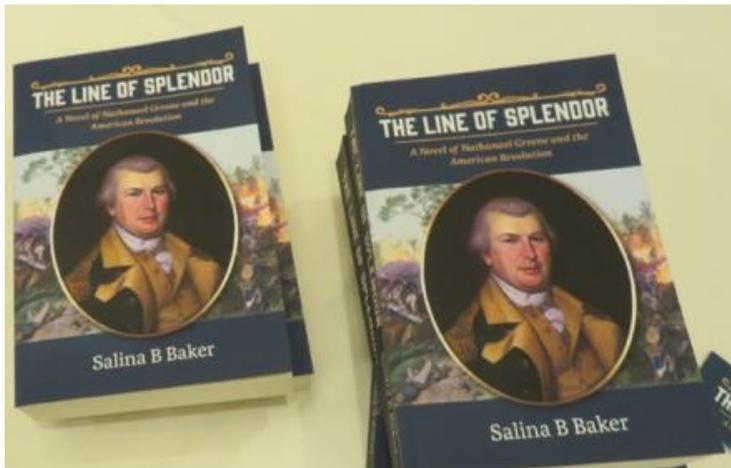


also been called the Americanism segment in the past that's been produced and directed by our Bill Watts that's going to be on our You Tube Channel and shown at our meetings. Another excellent example is the "Tale of Two Patriots" presentation developed by our Jerry Pinkerton and Tom Van Fossen which has been successfully presented at a number of places. So we got a great chapter and were going to do what we do. We support the Veterans, the Veterans Hospital, we have the JROTC recognition program and all the youth educational programs that we like to work with the youth. We've got a very active Color Guard, we've got the grave markings again helped a whole lot by Bill Watts to remember the legacy of our Patriot Ancestors. And always we have the recruiting of new members among our friends and family. All these things we do promote the SAR three primary goals; Education, Patriotism, and History.

A couple of new things I'd like to work on this year that I've been thinking about, is how we can reach out to more teachers, schools, friends of teachers, if you have any friends that are teachers to let them know about our outstanding American History Teacher program. It's been hard to find candidates. We also want to find a way to engage our members who aren't able to attend on Saturdays. If there are any of you who would like to volunteer, tell me or any one of our officers that you are interested. Color Guard, one of our open positions, we need you in 2024.

Introduction of our morning Speaker –

Salina Baker is a multiple award-winning historical fiction author and American Revolution and Victorian America historian.



The Line of Splendor; A Novel of Nathaniel Greene and the American Revolution is today's topic.

Salina talked about his relationship with his wife and the various battles that he fought in. She talked about the different generals that he served with and fought against.





She spoke about his struggles with the debt that he incurred during the war paying his men and purchasing supplies. The presentation was very informative.

Brent Harshman and Tom Van Fossen presenting Salina Baker a certificate and coffee mug for her wonderful presentation that will be found on You Tube.

New Members – Inland Registrar Jerry Pinkerton

★ Larry Moore | *John Wilcoxson*



Larry pinned by his wife.



Member Anniversaries

President Brent Harshman

December 2023

- Jack Carpenter | *5 years*
- Haskell Kirkpatrick, Jr. | *5 years*
- Joshua Martin | *5 years*
- Luke Martin | *5 years*
- Todd Martin | *5 years*
- Mark Morgan | *5 years*
- Steven Curl | *20 years*

January 2024

- Dr. Gary Sisson | *30 years*
- Randal McKellar | *45 years*

Tom Van Fossen talked about the member. The Chapter will provide the 5 year pin but all other pins are paid for by the member.

Committee Updates

JROTC Assistant – Wayne Stewart

This is an appointed position and Wayne Stewart accepted the position. He will assist J D Martin in his efforts promoting the JROTC medals.

You have an opportunity to serve your Dallas Chapter. Please review the Committee and Officer positions. If you want to be an assistant to an officer to find out what they do please contact Brent Harshman or talk to any of the Chapter officers about serving your chapter!

Committee Opportunities Available at the Dallas Chapter

- ▶ Public Relations & Publicity
- ▶ Community Service Awards
- ▶ Member Retention
- ▶ CAR Liaison
- ▶ DAR Liaison
- ▶ Annual Audit
- ▶ American History Teacher
- ▶ Web and Social Media
- ▶ Color Guard Members
- ▶ Brochure Contest (MS)
- ▶ CAR Essay Contest
- ▶ Eagle Scout Essay Contest
- ▶ Knight Essay Contest (HS)
- ▶ Oration Contest (HS)
- ▶ Poster Contest (Elem)
- ▶ Speaker's Bureau
- ▶ Greeters

OFFICERS REPORTS

Secretary – Watts

Jerry Pinkerton moved that the minutes be approved and Tracy Pounders seconded. Minutes were approved by the membership

On This Date In History

<https://www.revolutionary-war-and-beyond.com/on-this-day-in-history.html>

Treasurer – Harper

Approved by the Chapter

Budget Notes:

- ★ Revenue decreases from 2023 principally due to \$350 net receipts in 2023 from December Chapter dinner and expected less merchandise sales in 2024 of \$750.
- ★ Expenses increase in 2024 principally due to \$500 expected increase in breakfast cost, \$500 donation to Texas SAR Monument fund, anticipated \$600 more cash awards for contest winners, and \$500 increase in various other costs.
- ★ The \$1,845 net gain in 2023 more than offsets the budgeted net loss of \$1,310 in 2024.

Registrar – Morgan

In Progress at Chapter — 38
At National for Review — 12
(3 Regular, 9 Supplemental, 0 Memorial)
Approved — 25
Closed — 39

New Members Approved — 17 (YTD 2022-14)
Memorial Applications Approved — 3
Supplemental Applications Approved — 5
Total 25

We have a total of 114 Applications

New Member Inductions YTD — 18
New Members Inducted Today — 1
New Members to be Inducted — 2
Total 21

Total Active Members 252

Membership Dues Notices have been mailed to everyone who has a valid physical mailing address. If you want to pay online, go to; <https://www.txssar.org/dues.htm>

Historian - Historian Manning

Send pictures of events for future yearbooks to:

Tom Manning tommanning.sar@gmail.com

When submitting photos, please identify the event, the date, and the location.

Color Guard – Commander Watts

2023 Color Guard Event

December 16, 2023 Saturday - Wreaths Across America 3900 Oakland Circle Dallas Muster at 10:30 am arrive earlier to get a parking spot.

2024 Color Guard Events

January 25, 2024 Thursday – Malvern Elementary School 1100 El Dorado Pkwy McKinney We will have four tables with artifacts and the signing of the Declaration of Independence Muster 4:30 pm Event 5 – 7 pm.

February 17, 2024 Saturday – George Washington Birthday Parade Laredo, TX for more information <https://wbcalaredo.org> and <https://www.txssar.org/cg.htm> for hotel information and mandatory release form.

April 10, 2024 Wednesday - Patriots Day at Providence Christian School 9 am 5002 West Lovers Lane muster 8:20 am

April 11 – 14 Thursday – Sunday – TXSSAR Conference Double Tree in San Antonio

The Texas Color Guard is on the National America 250 SAR web page. This page should be viewed by all members to gain information on the Color Guard. The Texas CG at Wimberley, Texas on April 10, 2021 performing several activities. The link is at;
<https://america250sar.org/cgvideos/>

OLD BUSINESS –

We are working on the Chapter Annual Report. If you have anything to report please let us know because we are going to be sending the report to National.

NEW BUSINESS –

John Morton talked about the needs of our Veterans. The Veterans need coffee. Please bring coffee to our next meeting.

★ **Next Meeting** — Saturday, February 10th @ 9am

Speaker — Richard Zdunkewicz *‘Thank the French for Texas’ and update on Texas SAR Monument at the State Cemetery*

Connect

President | Brent Harshman

brentharshmanSAR@gmail.com | 512-217-3798

Website

www.txssar.org/Dallas

Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1692158937849494>

YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCjn4XJBMXAS1FzNxlpb3aQQ>

DOOR PRIZE –

“Strange and unusable facts about the Civil War” and “It Came From the Far Side”
I didn’t get the winners.

BENEDICTION – Frank Pounders

SAR RECESSIONAL – All

[NEXT MEETING IS SATURDAY February 10th @ 6:00 AM](#)

Committee Opportunities Available at the Dallas Chapter

- ▶ Public Relations & Publicity
- ▶ Community Service Awards

- ▶ Brochure Contest (MS)
- ▶ CAR Essay Contest

- ▶ Member Retention
- ▶ CAR Liaison
- ▶ DAR Liaison
- ▶ Annual Audit
- ▶ American History Teacher

- ▶ Eagle Scout Essay Contest
- ▶ Knight Essay Contest (HS)
- ▶ Oration Contest (HS)
- ▶ Poster Contest (Elem)
- ▶ Speaker's Bureau

**For more information concerning volunteer opportunities please contact;
Mark Harrison
Tom Van Fossen**

Respectfully submitted,
William B. Watts, Secretary

William B. Watts 

DIRECTIONS TO LOCATION MEETING LOCATION (A) PARKING AREA (B)

