

# The MINUTEMAN



## Dallas Chapter

Founded November 10, 1928  
Texas Society - Sons of the American Revolution

May 17, 2025

*“writing – the mother of memory”*

Volume 26, No. 5

### Ventana by Buckner South Tower, Grand Hall

8301 N US 75-Central Expressway - Dallas, TX 75225

Breakfast – 8:00am

Meeting – 9:00am

#### **PRESIDENT**

*Brent Harshman*

#### **1st VICE- PRESIDENT/PROGRAMS**

*Thomas F. Van Fossen*

#### **2nd VICE- PRESIDENT/AWARDS**

*J. D. Martin*

#### **ACTING SECRETARY**

*Mark Harrison*

#### **TREASURER**

*Tim Chapman*

#### **REGISTRAR**

*Mark Morgan*

#### **CHAPLAIN**

*Frank H. Pounders*

#### **ASSISTANT CHAPLAIN**

*Larry Luby*

#### **HISTORIAN**

*Tom Manning*

#### **TRUSTEES**

*Gary Sisson  
David Temple*

#### **COLOR GUARD COMMANDER**

*TBA*

**Each month a new medal** that anyone in the Sons of the American Revolution can earn will be presented in this newsletter. We continue with the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal.



The Bronze Good Citizenship Medal is a multi-purpose award designed to recognize individuals whose community (i.e., school, locality or state) achievements are noteworthy. It can be presented to both adults and minors and to Compatriots and non-Compatriots alike.

#### **Compatriot Presentation**

**Requirements:** A Compatriot may be awarded the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal if either (1) he has served, subject to the restriction described immediately below, in at least four of the leadership

capacities covered under the Silver Good Citizenship Medal (see above), or (2) he qualifies by some other outstanding achievement in his community. Subsequent awards must be for different service than the service used for prior awards. SAR Service Restriction: The Bronze Good Citizenship Medal is not used to recognize service to the SAR. SAR service is only recognized by the service medals identified in this handbook and any nationally approved District or State Society service medal.

# AGENDA

## Call to Order –

President Harshman

## 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** & a moment of special prayer for Dallas Chapter Secretary & Color Guard Commander, Bill Watts– Larry Luby



## Pledges

American Flag – J.D. Martin

Texas Flag – Tom Manning

SAR Flag – Jerry Pinkerton

## Mission Statement –

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 founding principles of our Country.

## Welcome –

We would like to welcome our guests Tracy Pounders - former State President, Bill Watts - Former Coastal Registrar, Jerry Pinkerton - Assistant Inland Registrar & Acting Coastal Registrar, David Scott - State VP Americanism, Secretary of the Council of Chapter Presidents - Tom Van Fossen, Jack Haughton former Secretary General International Chapter and President of our new Ellis County Chapter and Chairman of the JROTC Committee; Former State Chancellor – Mark Hansen and a very special welcome to any guests who are in attendance with us today. Also welcome to our various Youth Contest honorees and their families. This makes today a very special meeting as we honor them.



### **250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary - American Historic Moment**

In honor of our 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, a short video of President Brent Harshman’s 8 year old granddaughter from Midland, Texas reciting the Preamble of the United States Constitution from memory. Very inspirational.

### **Recognition of Youth Contest Winners**

Compatriot Tom Van Fossen served as the Master of Ceremonies with assistance from President Brent Harshman & 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President for Awards, J.D. Martin.

### **Americanism Elementary School Poster Contest Award**

All of our entrants are from Doris Cullins – Lake Pointe Elementary School in the Rockwall ISD. Because of the number of excellent posters that were received, the posters were shared with the East Fork Trinity Chapter, Ellis County Chapter, & the Plano Chapter. Representatives from each of those chapters are present today to recognize their chapter winners.

The Cullins Pointe Elementary School representatives were recognized. They were two teachers, Gayle Kdd and Jeanette Grau.



The Dallas Chapter winner is Samantha Green. Presenting her certificate was Dallas Chapter President Brent Harshman.

The East Fork Trinity Chapter winner is Melani Bolin Tate. Melani and her family were unable to attend today. Chapter President Randall van Heyst will make Melani's presentation.



The Ellis County Chapter winner is Catherine Nelson. Past Chapter President Jack Houghton presented the certificate and check to Catherine.



The Plano Chapter winner is Alessia Garcia. Kevin Ennis, Plano Chapter Registrar made the presentation of the certificate and check.



All four of these young ladies are receiving a certificate of appreciation from their sponsoring chapter. Samantha Green had already received her \$100 cash award. The other 3 winners each received a \$100 check.

### **Joseph S. Rumbaugh Historical Oration Contest**

State Oration Chairman Larry Luby recognized the Dallas Chapter oration winner, Dayana Rangel. Dayana also represented the Dallas Chapter at the state competition last year. Dayana finished this year's state competition in 4<sup>th</sup> place. Chairman Luby presented her with the Dallas Chapter certificate and \$300 check from the chapter plus the Texas SAR Oration certificate and a scholarship award of

\$300. Dayana was invited to read her winning speech to the gathering.



Also in attendance was the East Fork Trinity Oration contest winner, Karalynn van Heyst. Karalynn finished in 5<sup>th</sup> place during the state competition.

### **Joseph Plumb Martin Video Contest**

The Dallas Chapter video winner was Karalynn van Heyst. She received a certificate of appreciation as the Dallas Chapter winner along with a \$300 check. She finished 2<sup>nd</sup> in the state competition and received her state certificate and a scholarship award of \$750. Her father, Randall van Heyst is President of the East Fork Trinity Chapter and the chairman of the Joseph Plumb Martin Video Contest for the state.



Although Karalynn represented the East Fork Trinity Chapter in both the Knight Essay and the Oration Contest, the Dallas Chapter wanted to congratulate her on finishing first in state for the Knight Essay, 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Video contest and in 5<sup>th</sup> place in Oration. For our meeting, she chose to read her speech from the Oration contest, ‘Nancy Hart, A Heroine of the American Revolution’.



### **Outstanding JROTC Cadet**

Representing the Dallas Chapter in the Outstanding JROTC Cadet contest, representin W.T.White High School, was Cadet 2nd Lt. Montserrat Lira. She was presented a Dallas Chapter award certificate and a \$300 check. She was also invited to read her essay. Compatriot Jack Haughton, past President of the Ellis County Texas and the founder of the SAR JROTC program joined in the recognition of our winner. Her brother, Armando Lira, was also recognized for completing his Associates Degree at the same time he is graduating from W.T. White High School. He is joining

the US Marine Corp shortly. Armando was asked to pin her JROTC medal on his sister.



Oliver Burke, the Dallas Chapter winner of the Eagle Scout, Knight Essay and C.A.R. Essay contests was unable to attend the meeting today. He will hopefully be recognized at the June meeting.

Congratulations to all of our Youth Contest Award winners.

### **New Chapter Funds**

Announcement of two new funds that are for the support and business of the Dallas Chapter. Compatriot Bill Watts made these funds available.

### **Tom and Montye Whitelock Color Guard Fund, Inc.**

*A Compatriot will purchase a hat, breeches, shirt and a waistcoat. He will turn in a copy of the receipts as documentation and a check will be issued for 50% of the total cost. This does not include a frock coat or uniform coat, just the basic militia outfit. Subject to the board of directors' decision*



**The Bill and Laura Watts Youth Awards Fund, Inc.** *This fund will be used to provide money for youth awards. For example, if we need extra money to pay for meals, or prize money, this fund will be available.*



*Subject to the board of directors' decision*

Both funds will be open for contributions from any that are interested. A board of directors or trustees for each fund is being named.

Bill Watts announced that his health has diminished and he has been declared terminal. He spoke frankly about his condition and his faith.

President Harshman announced a new Dallas Chapter award, the **Bill Watts – Ben Franklin Lapel Pin.**

The criteria and requirements are:

*Participate in 5 SAR Youth activities and complete the Youth Protection Training online.*

*Send a list of the events (from January 1, 2025 forward), the date, the place, your name, proof of your YPT certificate, and your Chapter to Tom Van Fossen. The Dallas Chapter will award you the lapel pin. It to be worn on all clothing, not just business or colonial.*



*is*

The Bill Watts – Ben Franklin Lapel Pin will be available to other Texas Chapters as well as DAR & C.A.R. members.

### **OLD BUSINESS –**

Because of the length of today's meeting, some of the normal committee and officer reports are skipped. We will return to our standard meeting format next month.

A flag retirement ceremony will be held in conjunction with the Plano Chapter on June 14 (flag day) at 11AM at Plano Fire Station #2 – Parker & Coit Road in Plano. That is Flag Day and will be immediately after our June meeting. Please dress in Colonial if possible.

Texas SAR History Volume 3 is under development in a project led by Texas History chairman, Compatriot John Anderson. Information and a form are available on the Texas SAR website. This will cover the period of 2005 – 2025.

Recognition of the return of Compatriot Nick Harper after an extended absence.

**Door Prizes**

1<sup>st</sup> selection - John Tomkins

2<sup>nd</sup> selection – John Greer

3<sup>rd</sup> selection – Jerry Pinkerton

**NEW BUSINESS –**

Next Meeting — Saturday, June 14<sup>th</sup> @ 9am

Speaker: Pat Thibodeau

‘The Bad Ladies of the Revolution

**BENEDICTION** – Larry Luby

**SAR RECESSIONAL** – All

**[NEXT MEETING IS SATURDAY June 14<sup>th</sup> @ 9:00 AM](#)**

**For more information concerning volunteer opportunities please contact;**

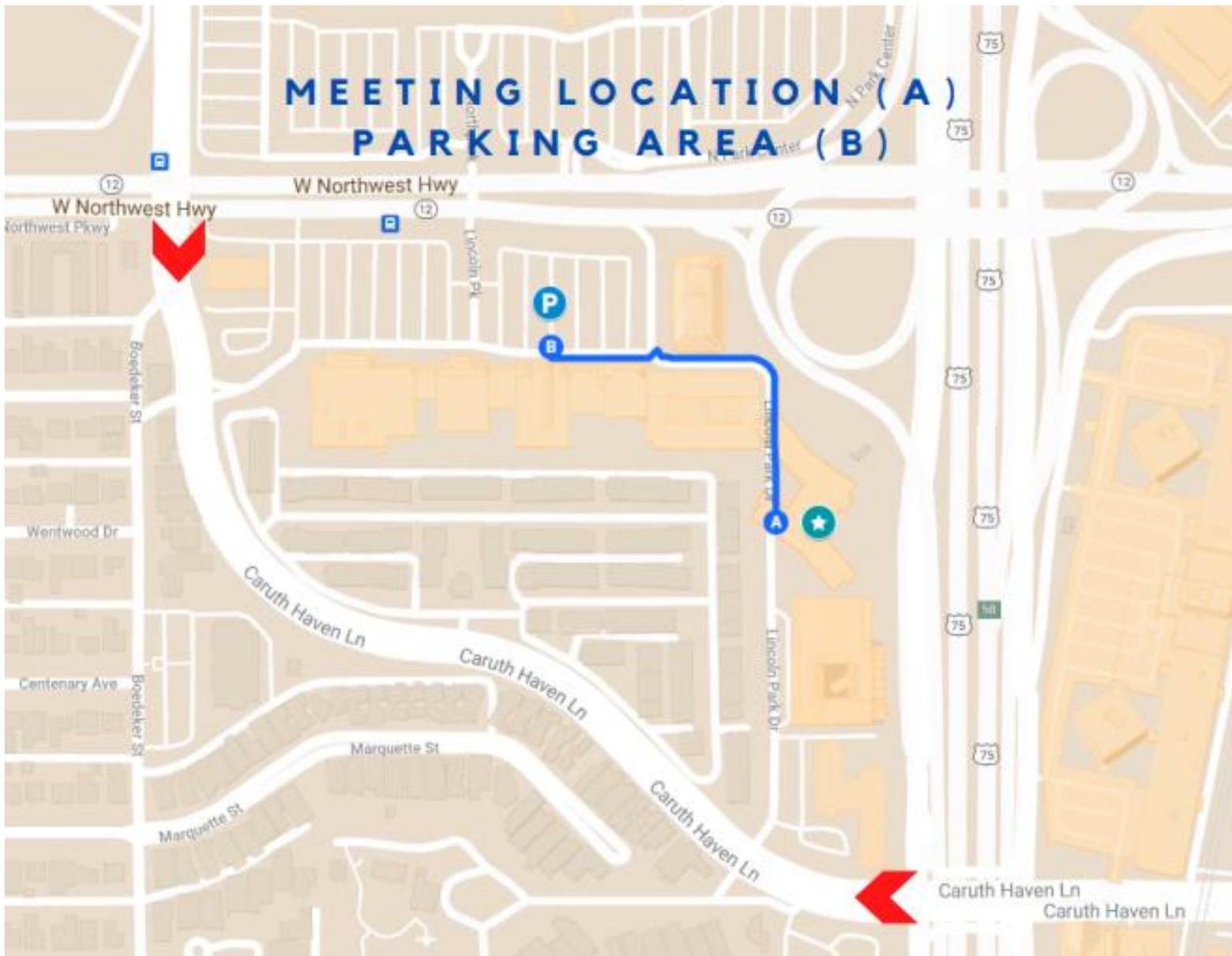
**Mark Harrison**

**Tom Van Fossen**

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Harrison, Acting Secretary

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



**MEETING LOCATION (A)  
PARKING AREA (B)**