

The Minuteman



Dallas Chapter
Sons of the American Revolution
Founded July 4, 1929

December 13, 2025

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. Ponders

ASSISTANT CHAPLAIN

Larry Luby

HISTORIAN

Tom Manning

TRUSTEES

Gary Sisson

David Temple

COLOR GUARD COMMANDER

J.D. Martin

President's Corner

Compatriots,

Last weekend several of our Color Guard members participated in Wreaths Across America, an annual highlight in which we remember, honor and teach about the veterans and heroes who gave all for our country. If you have never participated in this beautiful event, please consider it for next December, whether in Colonial attire or not.

It has been my privilege and honor to serve as your Chapter President for the last two years. I especially want to thank the officers and Board of Managers who served with me and advised me. The job was fun, and I trust that together we advanced the goals and mission of the Sons of the American Revolution. We have an excellent slate of officers for 2026, and I'm excited about the future of the Dallas Chapter!

Patriotically,

Brent Harshman

Chapter President

BrentHarshmanSAR@gmail.com

AGENDA – December 13, 2025 Meeting

Call to Order –
President Brent Harshman



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

Invocation– Assistant Chaplain Larry Luby

Posting of Colors – Keith McMenemy



Pledges
American Flag – Tom Manning



Texas Flag – Wayne Stewart



SAR Flag – Mark Harrison



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 – President Brent Harshman:

We would like to welcome our guests: Former State Presidents Bob Clark and Tracy Pounders; Asst. Inland Registrar Jerry Pinkerton; Former Dallas Chapter President and State Chancellor Mark Hansen; former Denton Chapter President and current District 11 VP, Jim Akers and the Avedikian family – Julie is the current Children of the American Revolution Sr. State President with her son, Timothy who is a former C.A.R. State President and national C.A.R. officer and prospective SAR member along with her husband, Jonathan.



Featured Speaker

Today's speaker, James Robinson, was introduced by 1st VP Tom Van Fossen. James presented a very interesting program on the role of Black individuals in the American Revolution. While they were never numerous in the ranks, and they had to fight societal expectations as well as the British their stories still need to be heard.

James Robinson is a native Texan, who journeyed to Florida and has now returned in retirement. He is a retired teacher of American History, Afro-American History, and Florida History. James received his Masters degree from the University of North Florida,



and taught at Florida State College in Jacksonville. Currently, he volunteers at the Denton County Office of History and Culture as part of their Traveling Museum program, where he gives presentations to schools all over Denton County on a variety of topics.

He also works with Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, doing history presentations for adult learners. James is happily married for almost 50 years to Kathy and has two grown sons and an incredible granddaughter.

New Member

We were proud to welcome a new member to the Dallas Chapter. Harry Hudson through his ancestor patriot David Hudson, Jr. was inducted by Assistant Inland Registrar Jerry Pinkerton. Welcome to the Dallas Chapter, Harry.



Memorial Members

Compatriot Gus Hinojosa was recognized for the memorials for his father, Raul Hinojosa and his grandfather, Emilio Honjosa. Both were through their patriot ancestor Jose Manuel Hinojosa.



Congratulations, Gus.

Member Anniversaries

Our anniversaries being recognized this month by President Harshman include:

- Joe Hill, Jr. (50 years)
- Michael Smith (20 years)

Bill Watts – Benjamin Franklin Pin

Vice President Tom Van Fossen presented a Bill Watts – Benjamin Franklin Pin to Lucretia Council Cochran DAR Chapter member Meg Anderson. Meg is the wife of Arlington Chapter member and state historian John Anderson.



Officer Reports

Acting Secretary – Mark Harrison

Meeting Minutes were distributed by email earlier.

No corrections were noted so the minutes will stand as distributed.

End of Year Reports: It's time to notify the chapter of any activities for this year that need to be included in the Americanism or Stark Report. This includes any state meetings attended, color guard activities, flag certificates presented or veterans donations or visits to the VA.

You can report online at the link below or send an email to Chapter President Brent Harshman (brentharshmanSAR@gmail.com) or Acting Chapter Secretary Mark Harrison (mharrison.SAR@gmail.com)

2025 Annual Chapter Event [Reporting](#)

Treasurer – Tim Chapman

Treasurers Report – Treasurer Tim Chapman – copies were available at the check-in table.

Registrar – Mark Morgan

2025 Registrar Activity

In Progress at Chapter – 31
At National for Review - 8
(3 Regular, 0 Junior, 5 Supp., 0 Memorial)
Approved - 27
Closed – 43
We have a total of 109 Applications

2025 New Approvals

New Members Approved - 17
Memorial Applications Approved - 3
Supplemental Applications Approved -7
Total - 27

New Member Inductions YTD - 8
New Members Inducted Today - 1
New Members to be Inducted - 10
Total - 19

Total Active Chapter Members 249



A notice to all members was just distributed with information about the dues invoices for 2026. These need to be paid by Dec 31, 2025. You may obtain your 2026 Dues Invoice by [clicking here](#) and either pay online by [clicking here](#) or by USPS Mail, (remit to State Treasurer, Don Hayes, Texas SAR, c/o Texas SAR Treasurer, 19221 I-45 South, Ste. 250 Shenandoah, TX 77385).

Paper copies of the 2026 dues invoices have been distributed.

Historian – Tom Manning

Please submit any pictures or articles to Historian Tom Manning -tommanning.sar@gmail.com

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

Color Guard – Commander J.D. Martin

Marine Corp 250th Birthday Celebration

November 10, 2025 at the AT&T Plaza – Dallas Discovery District. We were well represented.



Plano Flags of Honor

The Plano Flags of Honor at Red Tail Pavilion (Oak Point Park), Plano was held November 15. The color guard was well represented to assist with a flag presentation and to assist with the Boy Scouts in a flag retirement ceremony. It was a great event with over 1,000 US flags on display.



Wreaths Across America

Members of the color guard left immediately after the December 13 meeting to partner with the McKinney Chapter at a Wreaths Across America event at Stoney Point Cemetery in Anna.



JROTC – J.D. Martin & Wayne Stewart

Work is gearing up for the upcoming school year with 32 Dallas ISD high schools. Stay tuned as the presentation schedule develops.

Upcoming Programs – 1st Vice President Tom Van Fossen

We are honored to welcome to our January 10, 2026 meeting one of our favorite speakers. Carl Flowers will be with us to talk about ‘Henry Knox and the Fort Ticonderoga Cannons’.



Committee Opportunities

Public Relations & Publicity
Community Service Awards
Member Recruitment & Retention
C.A.R. Liaison
DAR Liaison
Annual Audit
American History Teacher
Web and Social Media
Color Guard Members
JROTC Members
Veterans Affairs

Brochure Contest (MS)
C.A.R. Essay Contest
Eagle Scout Essay Contest (HS)
Knight Essay Contest (HS)
Oration Contest (HS)
Poster Contest (Elem)
Video Contest (MS & HS)
Speaker's Bureau
Greeter
State Fair Recruitment Table

Officer Elections

Officer elections for 2026 were held. The nominating committee has presented the following slate for consideration. No nominations from the floor were made. The slate was elected unanimously.

- President – Tom Manning
- 1st Vice President – Tom Van Fossen
- 2nd Vice President – J.D. Martin
- Secretary – Mark Harrison
- Registrar – OPEN
- Historian – Larry Moore
- Treasurer – Tim Chapman
- Chaplain – Larry Luby
- Trustee – Dr. Gary Sisson
- Trustee – David Temple

Please note that we are still looking for someone for the chapter registrar position. Please contact Mark Morgan with questions about what is involved if you think you might be interested.

Congratulations to our new Dallas Chapter President, Tom Manning. Also stepping into new roles are:

- Historian - Larry Moore
- Secretary - Mark Harrison
- Chaplain - Larry Luby.

Thanks also to the other returning officers.



Old Business

Texas SAR History – Vol. 3 – LAST CALL

The Texas SAR History – Vol 3 is being compiled at this time. All Compatriots are asked to submit a brief bio of your service with the SAR. A form is available on-line at https://www.texassar.org/pdf/TexasSAR_CompatriotQuestionnaire.pdf. This information is being requested to be submitted ASAP. You can send to John Anderson, Texas SAR Historian at historian@texassar.org. Please submit your bio information as soon as possible.

NEW BUSINESS –

Door Prizes

Door prize winners Dr. Tom Richards, Larry Moore and Paul Ridenour.



Special Christmas Sale

Our own Elf (aka Santa's Oldest Elf) Tom Whitelock had a variety of special holiday items available.



BENEDICTION – Larry Luby

SAR RECEPTIONAL – All

NEXT MEETING IS SATURDAY January 10, 2026 @ 9:00 AM

Respectfully submitted,
Mark Harrison, Acting Secretary

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

