

The Minuteman



Dallas Chapter

Sons of the American Revolution

Founded July 4, 1929



April 11, 2026

“writing – the mother of memory”

Volume 27, No. 4

Ventana by Buckner South Tower, Grand Hall

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

Breakfast – 8:00am

Meeting – 9:00am

PRESIDENT

Tom Manning

1st VICE- PRESIDENT/PROGRAMS

Thomas F. Van Fossen

2nd VICE- PRESIDENT/AWARDS

J. D. Martin

SECRETARY

Mark Harrison

TREASURER

Tim Chapman

ACTING REGISTRAR

Mark Morgan

CHAPLAIN

Larry Luby

HISTORIAN

Larry Moore

TRUSTEES

*Gary Sisson
David Temple*

COLOR GUARD COMMANDER

J.D. Martin

President's Corner

Dallas Chapter Compatriots,

The Dallas Chapter is fortunate and blessed to have a large number of chapter members, at least on our roster. For a number of months, we have had on our roster somewhere in the range of 240 to 250 members. We have a fraction of that number who attend our monthly chapter meetings and who are consistently involved in the activities of the chapter. While we have a great nucleus of compatriots functioning as interested and committed members in the regular activities of the chapter, how wonderful it would be to have more of our roster members participating in various roles of our Society.

I feel one of my roles as president is to inspire active members to reach out to our compatriots who have not found a place to serve. I call on our involved members to regularly reach out to others who simply have not found a comfortable and interesting role among our patriotic activities. As each of us goes about our SAR business, why not call on a less active or uninvolved compatriot to join us in that activity? I fear that one roadblock to members not wanting to serve, is lacking colonial attire needed for involvement in our color guard. I would like to suggest that our chapter start a “color guard clothing closet” of some form. We could supply such a closet by donating some of our colonial clothing that we don’t use or need. I would be willing to store unneeded colonial uniform pieces that could be given to members who want to serve but are reluctant to purchase colonial attire on their own. We could list those items available for use by compatriots that would be interested in serving in our color guard. I also call on those that have unneeded colonial clothing articles to bring those to me at a chapter meeting. Let’s get a color guard clothing closet started!

Patriotically Yours,

Tom Manning

Chapter President

Tommanning.SAR@gmail.com

AGENDA – February 14, 2026 Meeting

Call to Order – President Tom Manning



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– Chaplain Larry Luby



Posting of Colors – Keith McMenemy



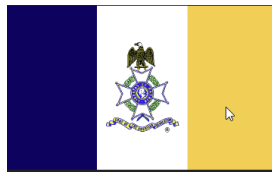
Pledges

American Flag – Richard Allen



Texas Flag – Vin Hoey





SAR Flag Tom Milson

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 Tom Manning:

We would like to welcome our special guests including:

- Former State Presidents, Bob Clark and David Temple
- Asst. State Inland Registrar Jerry Pinkerton
- VP Americanism – David Scott
- Former Chapter President and former State Chancellor Mark Hansen
- Immediate Past Chapter President and current State Chancellor Brent Harshman
- Soon to be inaugurated District 6 VP and Northern Color Guard Adjutant Dave Fautheree
- Other former Chapter Presidents Tom Van Fossen, Tom Whitelock, Mark Harrison, John Greer, Tom Milson and not to be left out – Dr. Gary Sisson.





New Members

Welcome to our newest member, Thomas Washington descended from his patriot John Augustine Washington. Patriot John Washington was a brother of George Washington.

In addition to welcoming Tom to the Dallas Chapter, he was also inducted into the 'Tom Club' by Tom Whitelock – T1. He was welcomed by Tom Van Fossen – T2, Tom Milson – T3 and President Tom Manning – T4. Tom Washington will forever be known as T5.



New Supplementals

Dallas Chapter compatriot, Tom Van Fossen was recognized for his approved supplemental application for his patriot ancestor William Sinkey. Congratulations, T2.



Featured Speaker

Our planned speaker for the day, Vicki Evans Williams and her program on “Unsung Heroines of the American Revolution” was preempted by a personal emergency for the speaker. We wish her a speedy recovery.

Stepping in was our friend, and fellow Compatriot from the Arlington Chapter, William Covington. His topic was ‘Lord Dunmore, the Last Royal Governor of VA’.



Dr. Gary Sisson Golden Sledge Hammer Award

The Golden Sledge Hammer Award was established in 2001 to recognize the hardest working Dallas Chapter member for the previous year. Dr. Gary Sisson set the tradition and it's been recognized every year since then. Past recipients include:

2001 – Tom Whitelock	2013 – George Ramphrey
2002 – Ralph McDowell *	2014 – Nick Harper
2003 – Charles Baker *	2015 – John Morton
2004 – Tom & Montye * Whitelock	2016 – Jerry Pinkerton
2005 – E. Thomas Smith *	2017 – Mike Petridis
2006 – James Templin *	2018 – Tom Van Fossen
2007 – Allen Christian *	2019 – Joseph Slonaker
2008 – Robert Northcraft	2020 – Mark Harrison
2009 – David Temple	2021 – Brent Harshman
2010 – Harmon Adair	2022 – Bill Watts *
2011 – James Fairbairn *	2023 – Mark Morgan
2012 – Robert Kittrell	2024 – Mark Hansen

* Deceased

Our Golden Sledge Hammer recipient for this cycle is our 2nd Vice President and Color Guard Commander J.D. Martin. Well done Compatriot!



Member Anniversaries

Our anniversaries being recognized this month by President Manning include:

- Charles Haby (10 years)
- Jon Howells (5 years)
- Richard Trimble (5 years)

Compatriot Haby did comment that he had recently been honored to be named an Honorary Admiral in the Texas Navy. He joins a growing list of Texas SAR Compatriots who have received this recognition.



Congratulations to these three compatriots.

Officer Reports

Secretary – Mark Harrison

Meeting Minutes were distributed by email earlier.

Note that the description of the upcoming SAR bench and Liberty Tree to be placed in the Frankford Cemetery incorrectly noted that the cemetery is in Addison. It is actually located in Dallas.

Treasurer – Tim Chapman

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

Registrar – Mark Morgan

2026 Registrar Activity

In Progress at Chapter – 15

At National for Review - 9

(5 Regular, 1 Junior, 4 Supp., 0 Memorial)

Approved - 4

Closed – 25

We have a total of 53 Applications

2026 New Approvals

New Members Approved - 1

Memorial Applications Approved - 0

Supplemental Applications Approved -3

Total - 4

New Member Inductions YTD - 5

New Members Inducted Today - 1

New Members to be Inducted - 6

Total - 12

A notice to all members was distributed with information about the dues invoices for 2026. The dues were due by Dec 31, 2025, but can still be paid. If you haven't already done so, please submit as soon as possible. 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).

We are still in need of someone to relieve Mark Morgan as our chapter registrar. If you are interested or even if you are just curious about it, please contact Mark or one of the other officers. This is a critical role for our chapter.

Historian – Larry Moore

Please submit any pictures or articles to Historian Larry Moore – info@sardallas.org. Please note that Larry now has a new address for SAR related email.

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

Color Guard – Commander J.D. Martin **Providence Christian Academy Patriots Day**

The annual Providence Christian Academy Patriots Day was held again this year on April 8. As usual, it was a great event being able to display our various flags and mention our patriot ancestors to the students, teachers and parents. The school goes all out for this event as you can see from the pictures below.



Future Activities

Additional information will be coming out on each of these events. Please stay tuned.

- April 16 – 19 – Texas SAR State Convention in Austin
- April 18 – Texas SAR Monument Dedication – Texas State Cemetery in Austin
- April 18 – Medal of Honor Parade in Gainesville
- May 3 – “Feathered Freedom” 250th Anniversary Celebration, Moss Haven Elementary
- June 20 – Audie Murphy Parade in Farmersville



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

The May 9 meeting will be our annual salute to our Dallas Chapter sponsored Youth Contestants and their families. You will have an opportunity to meet these inspiring young people. Because we provide breakfast for the contestants and families, please pitch in to help cover meal costs for these guests.

Our presentation next month will be our newest member, Compatriot Tom Washington, talking about his Washington family.

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

Unfinished Business

Texas SAR History – Vol. 3 – FINAL 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 –

Dallas Chapter 250th Anniversary Bench and Liberty Tree

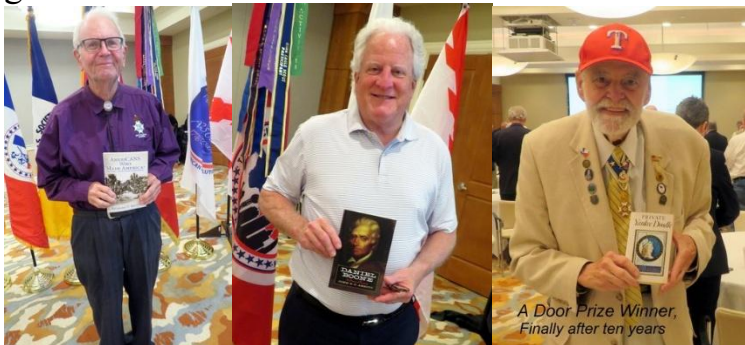
Fundraising for the granite commemorative bench sponsored by the chapter is complete and the bench is on order. The bench and a liberty tree will be placed at Frankford Cemetery in Dallas. Some additional donations may be required for the tree and related dedication expenses. Site selection work is underway with the cemetery board. Stay tuned for dedication information.

South Central District Meeting – August 21 – 22, 2026

The Dallas Chapter will be the host for the South Central District meeting in Richardson on Friday and Saturday, August 21 – 22. Planning is underway. Former State President Drake Peddie is the VP General for this district. Representatives will be in attendance from the member states (Missouri, Arkansas, Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas) along with several national officers. Stay tuned for more information on how you can assist.

Door Prizes

Door prize winners Compatriots John Greer, Larry Luby and Tom Whitelock. Congratulations, gentlemen!



BENEDICTION –Chaplain Larry Luby

SAR RECESSIONAL – All

NEXT MEETING IS SATURDAY May 9, 2026 @ 9:00 AM

Respectfully submitted,
Mark Harrison, Secretary

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

