

September, 2023



Ink & Quill

TEXAS SOCIETY OF THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN
REVOLUTION, DENTON CHAPTER #23, TXSSAR INC.®



Next Meeting: 10am October 14, 2023

Emily Fowler Public Library, 502 Oakland Street, Denton

Chapter Officers

President—Jim Akers
Vice President—Brandon Story
Registrar & Genealogist—
Tom Richards
Recording Secretary—Mike Fry
Treasurer—Christopher Strauss
Chaplain—Bill Rowell
Past President—Mike Connelley
Sgt at Arms—Johnny Loomis
Color Guard — David Cook

Opportunities

1. Sept 15 DAR monthly meeting/Constitution Week
2. September 17-23 Constitution Week
3. October 14 Chapter Meeting
4. October 22 Texas BOM

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Chapter President Jim Akers Message:

Summer is typically a “slow” time for many organizations because of vacation travel schedules, outdoor activities that tend to occupy much of our time, and family activities. In fact, some civic organizations suspend their activities, including meetings during the summer months. The Denton Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution is not one of those organizations.

In addition to our July meeting, we have been moving ahead on new member applications, and there are two that are currently in the national system. We also have some supplemental applications in progress. And speaking of which, if you recently completed the research and are about to submit a supplemental application, you can submit that application direct to the Texas Inland Registrar, Jerry Pinkerton. If you need Jerry's address, you can find it on the Texas Society web site <https://www.txssar.org/>, private side, and then click on “Members.” Or you can call me. Even though it is not required to get a signature from Tom Richards, the Denton Chapter Registrar, Tom is always ready to help with any questions you may have.

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Chapter President's Message, continued

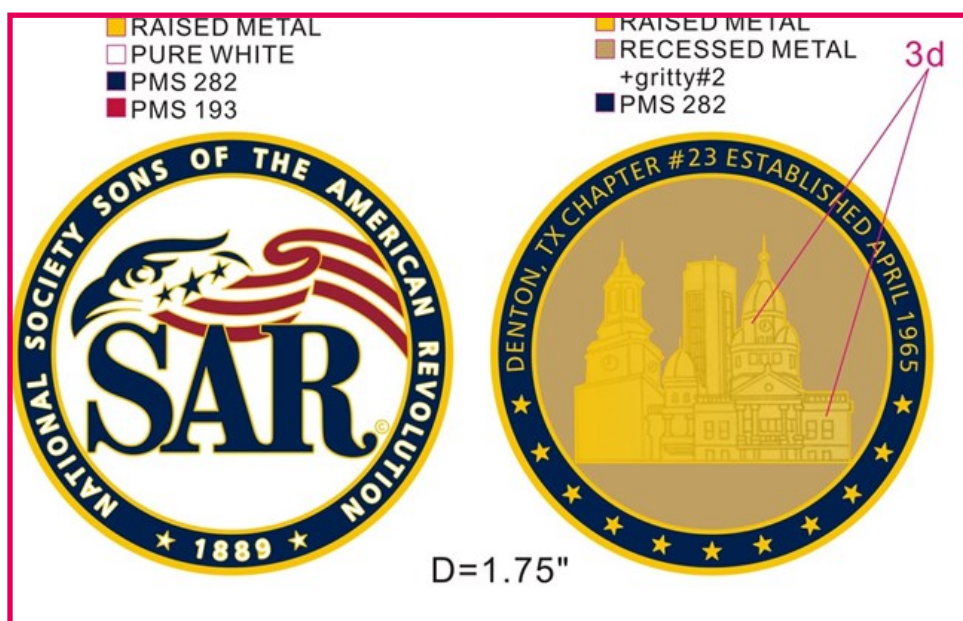
The Challenge Coin Committee met several times over the summer and settled on a final design as a fund-raising project. Thanks to Compatriot David Cook, we contacted a production source, and we have given him approval to produce the Denton SAR Challenge Coin! We expect the completed products to be here in early to mid-September and therefore The Denton Challenge Coin will be available for purchase by Denton members and members of other Chapters at our meeting on October 14. In the mean-time, below is a rendition of The Denton Challenge Coin.

Speaking of fund raising projects, the SAR Shirt project initiated by Compatriots Jim Hobdy and Chapter Vice President Brandon Story continues to generate a modest income for the chapter. In addition to Denton and other SAR chapter members ordering additional shirts, the Dallas Chapter has asked that a copy of the order form be placed in their monthly newsletter. If you have not ordered your shirt, please consider doing so. If you only have one shirt, please consider ordering a second. Forms at the end of the newsletter.

We have several upcoming events that you may be interested in. Denton has been asked to provide the Color Guard and a speaker for the Benjamin Lyon Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution for the annual Constitution Day "Ring of the Bells" celebration on **Friday, September 15, 2023** at the Denton North Library, 3020 North Locust Street, Denton, TX 76209. This ceremony remembers the bells that rang out when the members of the Constitutional Convention signed the Constitution in 1787. I will let you know the exact time of the DAR celebration, at a later date.

Our next in-person meeting will be the second Saturday in October, **October 14, 2023, 10:00 am** at the **Emily Fowler Public Library, 502 Oakland Street, Denton, TX 76201**. The speaker is scheduled to be retired UNT history professor and current president of the New Mexico Historical Society, Gus Seligmann. Dr. Seligmann is an informative speaker, with an entertaining style of delivery. Please mark your calendar for this meeting, and please feel free to bring your wives or other guests.

Jin Akers, Denton Chapter President



National Society Sons of the American Revolution

Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/SARmagazine>



Also see the Denton Chapter Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/409893430767486>



Editor's Note

The Chapter **website** is <https://www.txssar.org/Denton/>. On that site are the back copies of this newsletter, information about the Chapter, and links to the SAR State and National web sites.

We have a **Facebook page**, www.facebook.com, search for SAR **Denton TX Chapter**. Please join and participate.

All of these communication devices take time to maintain. If you would like to help and/or take over one of these, please let me know.

Bill Surles, wsmerch@gmail.com

Denton SAR Chapter
Color Guard News, August, 2023



Current Status:

Congratulations to Brandon Story for becoming our newest Color Guard Member. Brandon became a member at the July 1 Independence Day parade in Denton wearing his militia uniform. The Denton Chapter SAR Color Guard now has four members.

Since member's schedules affect participation, the Chapter must have additional Color Guard Members in order to have an effective unit. The time and cost are minor compared to the benefits in becoming a Color Guard member.

Contact me as the Chapter Color Guard Commander for information on becoming a member.

Recent Events

Independence Day parade on July 1 in Denton with the Chapter pickup entry.

Naturalization ceremonies:



Photo: Naturalization Ceremony in March 2023 at UTD.

Future Opportunities

The next event will be in September celebrating the signing of the United States Constitution. The events will include joint activities with the DAR chapters

A possible Color Guard event will be Veterans Day ceremonies **if the chapter has enough color guard members.**

Color Guard Notes

The latest National Color Guard newsletter has the photo taken at the Naturalization ceremony in March that includes David Cook and Tom Richards of the Denton Color Guard.

The national Color Guard Newsletter also includes a note from the SAR National Color Guard Commander, Scott Collins

“We are the face of the Sons of the American Revolution at the national, state, and chapter levels. Accordingly, as we further the Patriotic, Historic, and Educational Goals of the SAR let us have fun, enjoy the comradely, and practice safety for yourself and others. Yours in Patriotism

K. Scott Collins National Society SAR Color Guard Commander”

David R. Cook

Color Guard Commander

706-835-5910

davidcook1936@gmail.com

The Summer BOM Via ZOOM, July 29th

What's happening in Texas SAR?

The Texas Board of Managers, also known as the "BOM" meet once, maybe twice a year, to discuss, debate, argue, "pontificate" on new ideas or concepts or programs for the Texas organization to follow and adopt. It is a forum where the State officers bring up new ideas or ideas coming from the National SAR organization to see how they will fit into and operate within the Texas organization.

So, who can attend? Well, any paid up, "card carrying" member of the organization can attend the various State meetings but voting is generally limited to those SAR members who are actually a part of the "Board of Managers". In most cases that would include all State officers, heads of various State committees, current chapter presidents and immediate past chapter presidents. If you are attending a State BOM meeting or a committee within that overall meeting and you don't fit into the above category of "voting members", just keep your hand down when a vote comes on the floor. Listen, ask questions, don't raise your hand to vote.

Most of the time these meetings are in person and located at various sites around the State. The majority of them are along what I would call the "I-35 corridor"; DFW metro area, Austin, Houston metro area, San Antonio. Sad to say you probably will never see one in Amarillo, Lubbock, Corpus Christi, Port Arthur / Beaumont or El Paso. The pattern right now is each year Texas will generally have two BOM meetings; one in person and one on ZOOM.



My "seat" at the BOM for all of the various meetings and discussion groups. I think the photo is from the Council of Chapter Presidents meeting which was around 8A. There were about 60 members attending this meeting; included State officers, chapter presidents and other interested persons. What was discussed? Got that below the photo.

The big advantage of ZOOM is obviously the informal, no travel format that can be used. There were probably about 60 +/- members in attendance at the Council of Chapter presidents meeting.

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Some of the goals of the year along with discussion centered around:

1. Member retention;
2. Member engagement /
3. adherence to rules and guidelines set forth by the National SAR organization, and
4. Financial management of chapters.

By 8:45A, the Council of Chapter presidents meeting concluded and we formally began the Board of Managers meeting at 9AM.

It was mentioned that the National Congress meeting which had just concluded some weeks earlier that a motion was adopted in which the National dues were to go up this next year. John Anderson, the State Historian, commentated that records retention program at UNT has now ended and the State will look at other options for the permanent retention of records.

A motion came up for the State of Texas to adopt the National SAR policy on rules, ethics and procedures. This passed in the Council and will be pushed forward to the regular BOM meeting.

Discussion was also held on the plan to fund a monument to be placed in Austin, Texas commemorating the 250th Commemoration on founding of the Country. It was mentioned that the amount required to proceed is \$60,000.00 and the current pledge amount is \$19,000.00. Efforts will be made to increase the monetary pledge amounts in order to proceed with this plan for a 250th anniversary statue.

Concern was expressed in the BOM over the use of "AI" (artificial intelligence) in our various youth programs: the essay contest and even in the Tik Tok video contest. No real answer except to be vigilant with the entries you receive and pay close attention to content of the entries you receive at the chapter level.

There was some discussion on the fact that some chapters are seeing difficulty in reaching / communicating with their members. Some members mentioned the concern that emails to members aren't even being read / opened by the member recipient. There was a discussion on this concern but no specific action or recommendation was made. The Houston chapter mentioned they use a special software package "Constant Contact" to analyze the email communication they have with members – how many opened / how many actually being read / etc., etc. Off net I contacted a friend of mine with the Houston chapter and he explained that the software they use (Constant Contact) cost about \$225.00 per year (maybe more).

John Anderson, State Historian, mentioned that the National SAR organization is preparing a new State History book, volume 3 and requests for purchase are coming out. He hopes to see a good representation of Texas members in the book. He feels it is a good way to preserve the Texas SAR history through individual writeups in the new edition coming out.

It was mentioned that the next BOM will be an "in-person" event in October 2023 at College Station, Texas "home of the Fighting Texas Aggies...." This is on a non-football game weekend in College Station. Should be a great event, especially if you have never been to College Station and / or the Texas A&M campus.

April of 2024 is the State Convention that will be in San Antonio; another great location for a convention.

Working with Veterans also came up at the BOM. It was requested that chapters look for veteran's clinics / facilities / etc. in your geographical area and try to set up some arrangements to visit, assist veterans. Small amount debit cards for veterans to use for small meals / snacks was one suggestion made.

The virtual BOM wrapped up about 1:45PM.

Over the years I have gone to many, many Board of Managers (BOM) meetings. They tend to be less formal and more business-driven events. I think it is a good place for chapter officers to observe the business activities of the organization in addition to making new and long-term friends within the organization.Mike

Constitution Week Sept 17 – 23, 2023



Please join the Benjamin Lyon Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution in celebrating Constitution Week at the DAR Chapter meeting to be held on Sept 15th at the North Branch Library. The program will be “The Signers of the Constitution, presented by Bill Covington, member of the Sons of the American Revolution. We will also ring the bells at this meeting.

SAR members are welcome to attend.

In celebration of Constitution Week- here are some fun facts:

The U.S. Constitution is the Oldest in the World

Since it became official on September 17th, 1787, the US Constitution has been its ruling government charter to date. It has been in existence for over two centuries, making it the oldest in the world. Even though countries like the UK and San Marino might have constitutions written centuries before the US Constitution, the US Constitution is known to be the oldest codified constitution, officially making it the oldest in the world.

Benjamin Franklin Was Carried to the Constitutional Convention

When the Constitutional Convention was to take place, Benjamin Franklin was 81 years old, and too weak and old to walk. Therefore, he had to be

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carried in a sedan chair to the convention. He was the oldest among the delegates, and his role during the convention was to urge delegates to support the documents. He also calmed delegates whenever heated debates ensued.

No One Had to Share What Happened at the Convention to the Public

The delegates were strictly ordered not to share any convention deliberations with the public. They had to keep all records of the event a secret for 30 years, and this was done to encourage the delegates to share their opinions without any fear. That being said, most people took notes during the convention, however, the notes of James Madison were the most detailed, and these were the only notes that gave us an in-depth description of what took place during the convention.

Constitution on the move

The Constitution was placed with the Department of State in 1789 and stayed in its custody until 1921 when it was transferred to the Library of Congress. It was exhibited there from 1924 until 1954, when it came to the National Archives.

Have there been any Amendments Repealed?

Only one Amendment to the Constitution has been repealed—the 18th (Prohibition).

The Signers of the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution

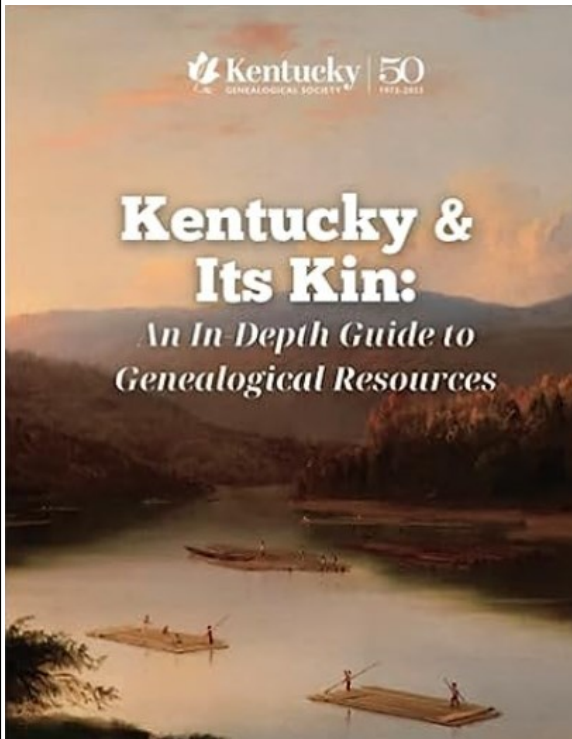
Six men signed both the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution: George Read, Roger Sherman, (yes- he is a relative), Benjamin Franklin, Robert Morris, George Clymer, and James Wilson.

Four pages, or five?

The four pages of the Constitution are on permanent display at the National Archives, but there is a fifth page. It is the Letter of Transmittal of the newly written Constitution to the Congress that existed under the Articles of Confederation. The letter, which briefly describes the Constitution, is signed by George Washington, president of the Constitutional Convention. It is dated September 17, 1787, the anniversary of which we celebrate each year as Constitution Day.

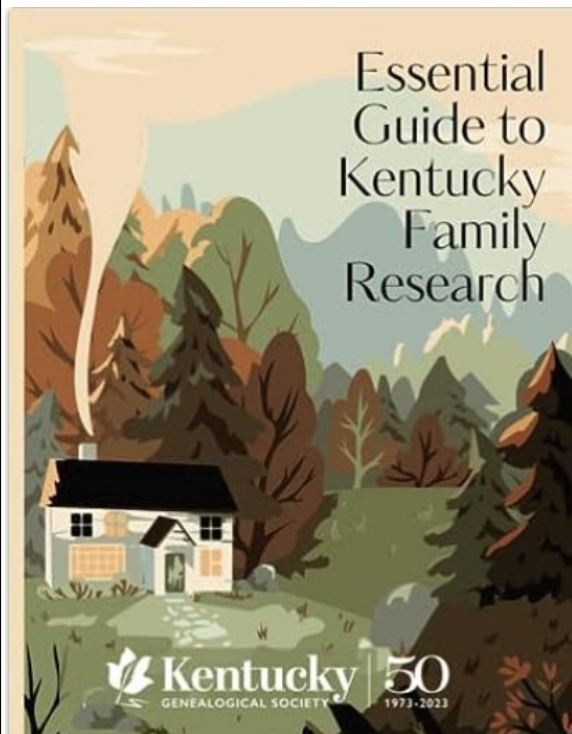
(Thanks to the DAR Newsletter and author Connie Sherman for this information)

New Bluegrass State Resources Available in Special Collections



Descendants of Bluegrass State ancestors will want to trot down to the Emily Fowler Central Library to dive into two new resources for Kentucky researchers published by the [Kentucky Genealogical Society](#), and now available on the Special Collections shelves.

Locality is everything and the best research begins with understanding record availability for your research locale and where to find them. ***Kentucky & Its Kin: An In-Depth Guide to Genealogical Records in Kentucky and Beyond*** (2023, 126 pages), touches on various repositories' holdings, ranging from the National Archives and the Kentucky Archives, to those in surrounding states of Virginia, North Carolina, and the Middle Colonies—as early Kentucky settlers often migrated from these areas and may have left records there. University and historical societies, bible and cemetery records, newspapers and indexes, the Kentucky Government Reference Service, and digital archives in and beyond the state are also featured. Sections devoted to researching African American individuals in the Kentucky State Archives, as well as an inventory of that repository are a plus. As one reviewer wrote, “This essential, brief primer is both a wonderful refresher for more experienced genealogists and a must-have for new ones.”



Once familiar with Kentucky resources in all their richness, the ***Essential Guide to Kentucky Family Research*** (2023, 148 pages) will give you step-by-step guidance on how to piece together your Kentucky family history, from understanding the state's history to using genealogy tips and tricks.

Eighteen different authors contributed chapters, each giving their best insights from their unique perspective as Bluegrass State researchers. Photos, charts, maps, and personal stories bring richness to the guide.

Sections include:

- Understanding Kentucky History
- Basics of Family Research
- Finding Genealogical Sources
- Genealogy Techniques and Tricks
- Sharing Your Research

These are subdivided into several chapters each, covering everything from how Kentucky counties were formed, to finding marriages for formerly enslaved persons, to capturing disinterested family members, and much more.

As one Amazon reviewer wrote, the book “...answered questions I didn't even know I had!”

Both books are available for in-library use only in Special Collections at the Emily Fowler Central Library, 502 Oakland Street, Denton.

—Nancy Gilbride Casey
DPL Volunteer



SAR Embroidered Shirt Order Form

Shirts will be ordered from Angelheart Embroidery (tim.angelheart@gmail.com) who is located in Saginaw. Shirts will be embroidered with the new SAR Logo (above) on the left breast (Jim Akers has our SAR approval to use this.) **Optional:** Patriot, Compatriot Name and Chapter can be added as well.



Shirt Styles

		
Polo	Short Sleeve Button Down	Long Sleeve Button Down
Price (includes logo): (S-XL) \$32.42	Price (includes logo): (S-XL) \$34.98	Price (includes logo): (S-XL) \$36.98
(XXL) \$34.42	(XXL) \$36.98	(XXL) \$38.98

Color Palette – Button Downs

 Athletic Gold/ Light Stone	 Bark	 Black/ Light Stone	 Bright Lavender
 Burgundy/ Light Stone	 Classic Navy/ Light Stone	 Clover Green	 Court Green
 Dark Green/ Navy	 Light Blue/ Light Stone	 Light Stone/ Classic Navy	 Maui Blue
 Mediterranean Blue	 Navy/ Light Stone	 Purple/ Light Stone	 Red/ Light Stone
 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Royal/ Classic Navy	 Steel Grey/ Light Stone	 Stone	 Strong Blue
 Teal Green	 Texas Orange/ Light Stone	 Ultramarine Blue	 White/ Light Stone
 Yellow			

Color Palette – Polos

 Black	 Blue Lake	 Deep Orange	 Forest Green
 Gold	 Grey Concrete	 Iron Grey	 Kelly Green
 Lime Shock	 Maroon	 Purple	 Texas Orange
 Tropic Blue	 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> True Navy	 True Red	 True Royal
 Vegas Gold	 White		



Shirt Order Form	
Name (as you want this to appear):	Personalize with Name (right breast): <div style="text-align: right;"> Y [] N [] - Plus: \$6 </div>
Chapter Name (as you want it to read):	Personalize with Chapter Name under SAR logo (left breast): <div style="text-align: right;"> Y [] N [] - Plus: \$4 </div>
Patriot Name (as you want this to appear):	Personalize with Patriot Name (right sleeve): <div style="text-align: right;"> Y [] N [] - Plus: \$6 / name </div>
Shirt Color (see palette above):	
Shirt Style:	Short Sleeve Polo [] Short Sleeve Button Down [] Long Sleeve Button Down [] <div style="text-align: right;"> - Prices detailed above by shirt size & type: \$32.42 – \$38.98 </div>
Shirt Size:	S [] M [] L [] XL [] XXL []
Email Address:	
Phone Number:	
Delivery Address:	<div style="background-color: yellow; padding: 5px;"> Shirts to be returned to Denton Chapter during next scheduled meeting. </div> <div style="background-color: yellow; padding: 5px; margin-top: 10px;"> ORDER DEADLINE: October 7, 2023 </div>
Donation to Denton SAR:	\$8.00
TOTAL REMITTED:	\$.

Return Order Form & check made out to "SAR Denton Chapter" to:

Brandon Story
BrandonDStory@aol.com
 1412 Chestnut Dr.
 Savannah, TX 76227