



The Continental Report

Ellis County Chapter #70-Texas SAR

Sons of the American Revolution



Officers for 2025-2026

President - William D. Hill
 Vice President **OPEN**
 Secretary - John C. Haughton
 Treasurer - Larry R. Williams
 Registrar - William D. Hill
 Historian - Philip A. Taylor
 Chaplain - Calvin D. Brown
 Sergeant -At –Arms - Ronald K. Finch
 Past-President - John C. Haughton

Serving Cities of

Waxahachie
 Red Oak
 Pecan Hill
 Oak Leaf
 Midlothian
 Maypearl
 Ennis
 Bardwell
 Avalon

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News of Ellis County Chapter

NEW MEMBERS INDUCTED:



Jeffery Frost & Matt Gardner

SCHEDULED FOR INDUCTION:

Brent Batle, Ronald K. Finch, Jeff Jett

APPLICATIONS IN-PROCESS:

Joel D. Bradley, Mark L. Gundert, Ty Hall, Jake Hibbard, Tom Ker, Johnny Mitchell, Ian B. Perry, Robert G. Shelton.

PREPARING APPLICATIONS:

J. D. Durfey, Cory “Dodd” Duvall, Dustin Gunther, Robert Kaufman, Kenny Moore, Stephen Mosby, Anthony Mottla, Mark Reyes, Floyd Ross, David Vantreese, John A. Vobis

Next Meeting March 28, 2026
9:30am, Card/Poker Room
The Hamilton at Garden Valley
880 Garden Valley Pkwy.
Waxahachie, TX 75165



FEBRUARY SPEAKER:

Chaplain Calvin Brown
Unsung Heroes of the American Revelation: Chaplains Part 2

Compatriot Michael Goode, outgoing Texas SAR District 6th Vice President introduced Compatriot Dave Fautheree as the incoming Texas SAR District 6th Vice President.





President Hill and Compatriot James McClain were presented a **Bill Watts – Benjamin Franklin Pin**. Jim is a member of the Arlington Chapter and a duel member with the Fort Boise, ID Chapter. He is celebrating his 42nd year of membership and his 1st year since joining the Arlington Chapter.



John (Jack) Haughton was honored with a special award from TXSSAR President Mel Oller. A Certificate of Appreciation and an American Bald Eagle was presented for his preparation and development of the Texas SAR flag.

SAR 250th Anniversary Memorial Bench Program

Work is progressing on both benches with the date placement to be determined. The bench project started in June 2025 with a goal of one bench. We are almost ready to dedicate **two** benches on the same day at the Ellis County Courthouse and the Waxahachie City Cemetery.



Patriotism abounds with the Bounds

Being a SAR member on Independence Day is something special. Being a SAR member on the 250th anniversary of July 4th, 1776, is a day to celebrate big and to remember what our Patriots did for our country. The Bounds brothers, Mark and Harlon, have come up with a plan for our SAR float to be extra special this year to commemorate this 250th anniversary. They are creating an actual-size replica of the Liberty Bell and have purchased two 40” x 60” canvasses with the Declaration of Independence printed on each canvas. Creating the Liberty Bell has been a labor of love and a lot of work, but the finished bell replica will be an awesome display of Liberty on our float. Other items are still needed to finish decorating the float. If you would like to pitch in to purchase decorations and/or to purchase two large or one double-sided banner with the words “Sons of the American Revolution”, please see Mark or Harlon to let them know you would like to pitch in. If you know of anyone who has a trailer that can be borrowed for 2 or 3 days, please let them know that as well. The trailer needs to be large enough to hold the Liberty Bell, the two canvasses and chairs for people who want to ride on the float. The Bounds brothers plan (with the help from David) to enter our SAR float to be judged for Best Float of the Waxahachie Parade. With your help, our Ellis County Chapter #70 Texas Society SAR Chapter can make a good showing and have an awesome float everyone can be proud of for our 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence.



More photos on Page 8

News of Texas SAR

The Patrick Henry Chapter will host the 131st Texas 2026 State Convention to be held in Austin on April 15-19. Those wishing to attend can pre-register online at www.txssar.org/events.

The Winter 2025 edition of the Compatriot newsletter has TWO pages of ECC events and an order form for the Texas SAR flag. www.texassar.org

The Texas SAR History Committee is preparing the Volume 3 to be released at the State Convention. As stated in the Forward: *The purpose of this volume III is to record and preserve the activities of the Texas Society Sons of the American Revolution since its history was last researched, documented and published in 2006. Volume I covered our society's history prior to 1986. Volume II covered our society's history from 1986 through 2005.*

News from National SAR

The NEW version of the Americanism and Stark reports is available to download from [Americanism Committee – National Society Sons of the American Revolution](#)
The Winter edition vol.120 No.3 of the SAR Magazine published 2 pages explaining the SMART Scorecard. Download the 2026 SMART files **version 1.0.3** from the Americanism Committee. Complete the SAR University courses 215 & 216 for a description and instructions of this new version.

God and Country

As Sons of the American Revolution one of our primary tasks is to promote patriotism. However, it would seem that in our nation today patriotism has been replaced with skepticism. It would do us good to renew our understanding of the virtue of patriotism. What better reminder than with Chaplain John Hurt's, "Love of Country," address to the soldiers in 1777.

"The love of our country is a principle which hath been more celebrated in all ages, hath been the subject of more praise and panegyric, than any other affection in the whole train of virtue. It hath been the constant theme of poets, orators and historians; statues and medals have been erected and struck, and all the treasures of art and wit perpetually exhausted, in doing honour to those who have

excelled in this character: And indeed the name of Patriot implies, in its true sense, everything that is most great and godlike among men; it carries in it the idea of a public blessing; it implies a power of doing good, exerted and extended to whole communities; and resembles, within its sphere, that universal providence which protects and supports the world."

Chaplain John Hurt, served with honor during the Revolutionary and later was appointed the first chaplain of the US Army in 1791.

God Bless America!

Your Chaplain,
Calvin Brown

Contact info –phone and text 573-680-2625

Email cal.sartx70@gmail.com

America 250th SAR Committee

Dedication Ceremony for Texas SAR Monument to commemorate the 250th Anniversary of our Independence with a monument dedicated to the Patriots of the Revolution buried in Texas. The monument, located at the Texas State Cemetery in Austin, will name these Patriots and remind this and future generations of their contributions to the Cause. The ceremony will be held during the Texas SAR 131st annual State Convention in Austin on April 18th at 10:00 am.

Flag Flying Days



Apr 5 Easter
Apr 5 Gold Star Spouses Day
Apr 6 Army Day
Apr 20 Patriots' Day
Apr 22 Earth Day



April 9 National Former POW Recognition Day is observed annually

to honor American service members who endured captivity, torture, and brutal treatment as prisoners of war. Established by Congress in 1988, this date commemorates the 1942 surrender of 75,000 U.S. and Filipino troops on the Bataan Peninsula. It serves as a moment of national gratitude for those who suffered in service to the United States.

Dates to Remember

Apr 6, 1917	U. S. enters WWI
April 9, 1865	Lee surrendered to Grant
April 18, 1775	Revere's Midnight Ride
Apr 19, 1775	Lexington & Concord
Apr 30, 1789	Washington Inaugurated

April Event Schedule

April 16-19, 2026
131st Texas SAR Convention
Austin Southpark Hotel, Austin, Texas

April 18, 2026
Patriots of the Revolution Monument
Texas State Cemetery, Austin, Texas

April 18, 2026
Color Guard, Medal of Honor Parade
National CG Event, Gainesville, Texas

The Historian's Watch

Chapter Secretary Jack Haughton submitted the ECC Americanism Scoresheet and Stark Report ahead of the March deadline. These reports are used to track, encourage, and recognize the activity of our chapter. It has been an arduous task collecting and recording the chapters' activities of the past year. A new "version" is available from the SAR Americanism Committee. A summerization of the SMART Americanism Scorecard is presented in the current SAR Magazine. You can download the file from the SAR.org/Members/Form & Manuals.

A Chapter "speakers' bureau" schedule is being compiled for 2026. The open dates for the remainder of the year are July, August, and October. If you want to be added to the calendar, let Jack know. Times are allotted to 15 to 20 minutes, on topics related to the History of our Nation, the SAR mission statement, and the goals of our Society.

The **Chapter Color Guard** serves as the highly visible, ceremonial, patriotic, historical, and educational objectives. The Color Guard serves as a living history exhibit, with members often dressed as Continental Soldiers, militiamen, or clergy from the 18th century. We need more members joining us. We will be performing in a special event in October. More detail to come.

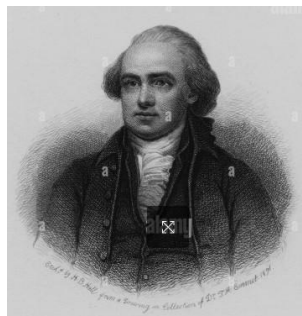
Signers of the Declaration of Independence

Delegates are listed in order of signing.

Rhode Island and Providence Plantations

(officially shortened to Rhode Island in 2020)
William Ellery and Stephen Hopkins, both men were also instrumental in the founding of the College of Rhode Island, which later became Brown University.

William Ellery (1727-1820)— William Ellery was



brought up in Newport, the son of a Harvard graduate and businessman. Ellery also attended Harvard, graduating at the age of 20. He was a merchant turned lawyer and politician, and was an abolitionist, supporting Rufus King's attempts to abolish

slavery. He served with distinction in the Congress of the Confederation until 1786 when he accepted the post of Commissioner of the Continental Loan Office of Rhode Island. He served in that position until 1790 when he was appointed Customs Collector in Newport. Although the British destroyed his home during the American Revolution, Ellery was later able to rebuild his fortune. Ellery was one of the few founders to sign both the Declaration of Independence and the Articles of Confederation. He became a vocal abolitionist later in life.

Stephen Hopkins (1707-1785) — Stephen Hopkins,



was brought up in the agricultural community of Scituate, son of a farmer. He was self-educated, became a farmer himself, was a slave owner, a businessman and later, a politician. He was the second oldest signer of the Declaration of Independence (next to Benjamin Franklin). He served on the committee that was responsible for the

creation of the Articles of Confederation. He was forced to resign from the Congress in 1776 because of health problems, but was elected to the state legislature of Rhode Island upon his return. Notable for his signature on the Declaration; due to "shaking palsy," he had to guide his right hand with his left, famously stating, "My hand trembles, but my heart does not".

Step. Hopkins

This Month – 250 Years Ago

March 1776 Evacuation of Boston



In early March 1776, Gen. George Washington rode out to Dorchester and reined in at the farm of Captain John Homans, who lived in “the upper end of town.” Homans’s acreage was full of white birch, and Washington ordered his troops to cut down the trees so that “the citizens of this and the neighboring towns...could cart them...on the night of the 4th, to [Dorchester] Heights.”

The Heights were dotted by “nine dwelling houses on the Neck, now South Boston.” The American Revolution was about to arrive at the front doors of those nine Dorchester households.

On the night of March 4, as American cannons opened up on British positions to divert the Redcoats’ attention from the Heights, some 300 wagons and carts teams piled high with timber for protective fences (fascines) creaked toward the slopes. So, too, did approximately 2,000 of Washington’s troops, lugging cannons dragged all the way from Fort Ticonderoga in upstate New York, the entire procession snaking forward with as much silence as possible. Washington, anticipating that the British would mount a bombardment and assault, had ordered his men to pack 2,000 bandages for the wounded.

Many residents of Dorchester hauled timber up the Heights on that icy, blustery night. The troops went right to work on the hills’ summits, erecting gun emplacements and bastions and positioning mortars and large-bore cannons with a direct view of British-occupied Boston and the harbor below.

The British commander, General Sir William Howe, awoke on March 5 to find the rebels on the high ground

of the Heights and reportedly wrote, “The rebels have done more in one night than my whole army would have done in a month...on Dorchester peninsula...a work which the king’s troops had most fearfully dreaded.”

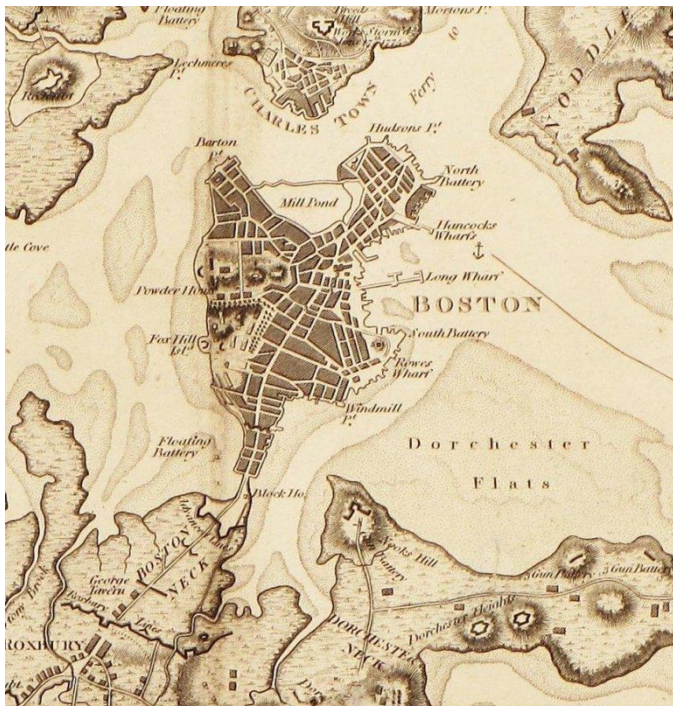
With the rapid completion of American fortifications at Dorchester Heights on March 4, 1776, British soldiers trapped in Boston expressed utter astonishment. One British officer observed that the feat had been done by “an expedition equal to that of the Genii belonging to Aladdin’s wonderful lamp” Towering over British lines, the imposing fortifications posed an immediate threat. American artillery and fortifications on the Heights now made the British navy and transport vessels moving through Boston Harbor vulnerable to attack.

British General William Howe considered his options of how to counter this aggressive positioning. As Commander of the British Navy in Boston, Admiral Shuldham advised Howe that the British fleet would be “shot to pieces if the fortifications remained on Dorchester Heights. Howe’s only recourse, then, would have to be an assault on the daunting American positions—one that certainly reminded him of the victory at Bunker Hill the previous June. Fate intervened when a storm of epic proportions thwarted preparations for an attack, although this may have been a convenient excuse for Howe. Facing catastrophe, Howe had no choice but to abandon Boston.

Evacuation

The British army and navy had a logistical challenge on their hands in preparing for such a haphazard evacuation. A vast array of ships—Abigail Adams counted as many as 170—mobilized in the harbor to evacuate thousands of soldiers (as well as civilian loyalists) to the naval base at Halifax, Nova Scotia. American privateer vessels, meanwhile, harassed the British fleet in the harbor. A state of confusion occurred in Boston as the British army scrambled to load stores and weapons onto waiting ships. British soldiers barricaded the streets, sank heavy mortars in the harbor, and left behind horses to make room on ships for soldiers and civilians.

Some Bostonians feared the British might destroy the town before leaving. Boston town selectman Timothy Newell wrote in his journal on March 12, “The Inhabitants [are] greatly distressed thro-fear the Town would be set on fire by the Soldiers.” They also feared Continental Army General George Washington would try to preempt the evacuation by bombing the city.



cannons up Dorchester Heights. He acknowledged both facts by ordering that the password of the day be “Saint Patrick.” Those Irishmen had witnessed what their countrymen on the “old sod” could only dream of: the British in full flight. Upon their departure, the British set fire to Castle William to prevent American usage of the fortification. His nearly 10,000 Redcoats boarded the 125 transports and warships in Boston Harbor and sailed away on March 17, 1776

The evacuation of the British resulted in a day of jubilation for Boston residents. One witness to the occasion, Colonel Jedediah Huntington described the scene:

"This Morning we had the Agreeable Sight of a Number of Ships leaving the Town of Boston with a large Number of Boats full of Soldiers, about ten of Clock several Lads came to our out Centries and informed us that the Troops had intirely left the Town."

Although neither of these things occurred, some British soldiers and officers did steal and plunder homes and shops, which they viewed as justifiable in depriving the American army of supplies. Merchant John Rowe recalled, "They stole many things and plundered my store," along with those of other Boston property owners General Howe himself even ordered one Tory, Crean Brush, to seize goods worth thousands of pounds from Boston warehouses.

According to historian Sam Willis, the British evacuated a total of "11,000 people including 8,906 troops, 1,100 loyalists and 553 children." While British officials portrayed the evacuation as successful and orderly, George Washington shared his own impression of the evacuated British: "By all [accounts] there never existed a more miserable set of beings than these wretched creatures now are."

Although successful, American ships eventually caught Brush while fleeing in a vessel with his plunder. As a result of the evacuation, civilian loyalists in Boston found an opportunity to escape with British forces. Loyalists (also known as Tories) either destroyed or left behind many of their possessions, littering the streets and the harbor in the ensuing confusion. One resident recollected that "The Tories...carried death in their faces" and "some run distracted." Loyalists clambered to get on departing ships, although those fortunate enough to board one often found social status and wealth were no guarantee of comfort. As Boston loyalist and refugee Benjamin Hallowell recalled, "men, women, and children, parents, masters, mistresses, were obliged to pig together on the floor." A number of wealthy and powerful loyalists, including Massachusetts Governor Hutchinson and Lieutenant Governor Oliver, left with the British.

The quick and disorderly withdrawal also meant the British abandoned a great deal of military provisions. Washington commented on this in several letters from March 17-19, with one summing up:

"The hurry in which they have Imbark'd is inconceivable, they have not, from a rough estimate, left less than 30,000£s worth of his Majestys Property behind them, in Provision's and Stores, Vessels, Rugs Blankets &c—near 30 pieces of fine heavy Cannon are left (Spiked, which we are now drilling) a Mortar or two—Shott Shells &c in abundance—All their Artillery Carts, Powder Waggens..."

Aftermath

On March 17, most of the British army left Boston for the base at Nova Scotia, although a few ships remained in the outer harbor. Washington knew that day was a holy day for the Irish, with many Irishmen having fought at Bunker Hill and having hauled those ponderous

Civilian reaction of the evacuation varied between exultation and relief, with resident and Boston selectmen Timothy Newell writing, "Thus was this unhappy distressed town...relieved from a set of men, whose unparalleled wickedness, profanity, debauchery, and cruelty is inexpressible." Writing to her husband John, Abigail Adams expressed not only relief, but also gratitude:

"The more I think of our Enemies quitting Boston, the more amaz'd I am, that they should leave such a harbour, such fortifications, such intrenchments, and that we should be in peaceable possession of a Town which we expected would cost us a river of Blood without one Drop shed. Shurely it is the Lords doings and it is Marvelous in our Eyes."

However, the physical and emotional damage caused by the siege had left its mark. American army surgeon James Thacher wrote of Bostonians that "though they manifested a lively joy on being liberated from a long imprisonment, they were not altogether free from melancholy gloom which ten tedious months' siege has spread over their countenances." When Continental troops entered the town, they found a deserted war zone, as American officer James Wilkinson recalled: "a death-like silence pervaded an inhabited city, and spectacles of waste and spoil struck the eye at almost every step."



GENERAL WASHINGTON'S ENTRANCE INTO BOSTON, FOLLOWING ITS EVACUATION BY BRITISH TROOPS UNDER GENERAL HOWE, MARCH 17, 1776.

Boston residents, nonetheless, were grateful for self-rule once again. The Selectmen of Boston expressed their gratitude to George Washington in a special address:

"The Select-men of Boston, in behalf of themselves, & Fellow-Citizens, with all gratefull Respect, congratulate Your Excellency on the Success of your military Operations, in the Recovery of this Town...You have not only saved a large, elegant, & once populous City, from total Destruction, but relieved the few wretched Inhabitants from all the Horrors of a besieged Town, from the Insults & Abuses of a disgraced & chagrined Army, and restored many Inhabitants to their quiet Habitations who had fled, for Safety, to the Bosom of their Country..."

Washington responded with similar admiration:

"Your virtuous efforts in the cause of freedom, and the unparalleled fortitude with which you have sustained the greatest of all human calamities, justly entitle you to the grateful remembrance of your American brethren; and I heartily pray that the hand of tyranny may never more disturb your repose; and that every blessing of a kind providence may give happiness and prosperity to the town of Boston."

With the departure of several thousand British soldiers and Loyalists, Bostonians could finally breathe a sigh of relief, begin to rebuild their town, and adopt a new, and American, identity.

Today, 250 years later in Boston, March 17 fittingly marks both St. Patrick's Day and Evacuation Day – the celebration alike of Ireland's venerated saint and the day the Redcoats departed Boston for good.

Sources: <https://www.nps.gov/articles/000/evacuation-of-boston-1776.htm>
<https://bostonraremaps.com>
<https://www.bostonirish.com/history/2024/dorchester-march-17th-marks-two-landmark-holidays>

News from the DAR



Texas Society Daughters of the American Revolution
<https://www.txdar.org>
<https://www.facebook.com/p/Texas-Society-DAR-61564337526320/>

DAR Ancestor Search
https://services.dar.org/public/dar_research/search



Stack of Rings

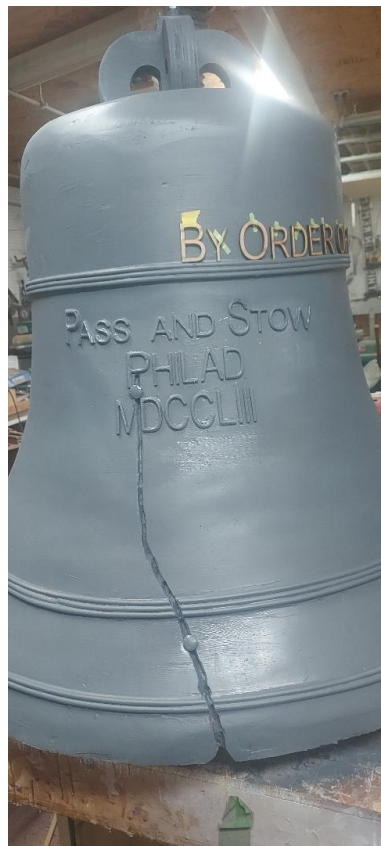


Adding a Skin

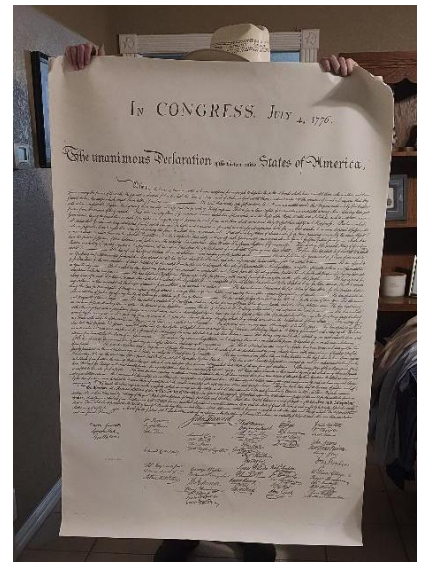
Adding Detail



Coat of Primer



Declaration





All donations will be collected at the Chapter monthly meeting and delivered to the Dallas VA Hospital. The list refers to the needs of Bonham, but needs are the same with the Dallas VA Hospital. Copy this list and take it with you when you go shopping. Remember the Vets.

This will be a recurring activity and contributions are applied to our 2026 SMART Report.

Wants and Needs Listing

Comfort Items (Travel Size and Regular)

- Deodorant
- Toothpaste
- Toothbrush (Single pack)
- Denture Cream
- Denture Cleaner
- Shower Gel/Wash (no bars)
- Shampoo
- Conditioner
- Lotion
- Powder
- Medicated Powder
- Shaving Cream
- Razors
- Manicure sets
- Hairbrushes
- Combs
- Hair Clips/Pony tail Holders
- Feminine Products
- Shower Shoes
- Lip Balm
- Hair Gel/Mousse

** If making a donation for comfort items, please remember all comfort items donated need to be new items.*

Other items needed for patients

- Phone Cards
- Envelopes #10
- Small writing tablets and Pen/Pencils
- Gas/Gift Cards for patients
- Reading Glasses (Variety of Strengths)
- Canteen Books
- Puzzle Books
- DART/TRE Passes
- Mailing Stamps
- Lap Robes
- Wheelchair bags
- Stoma Covers
- Bags/Luggage (new)
- Books

- Magazines (no magazines over a year old will be accepted)

Clothing (Gently worn items or new)

- Jackets
- Winter Coats
- Pants/Slacks
- Jeans
- Shirts
- T-Shirts
- Sweat Suits
- Skirts/Dresses
- House Shoes (new)
- Gloves (new)
- Winter Caps (new)
- Blouses

Undergarments for men and women (New Only)

- Underwear / Boxers (variety of sizes needed) Panties (variety of sizes needed)
- Sports Bras (variety of sizes needed)
- Men's undershirts (variety of sizes needed)
- Mens Socks
- Womens Socks

Equipment Needs

- TV's
- DVD Players
- DVD's
- Wii/ Wii Games
- Refrigerators (Small and Full Size)
- Coffee Pots (12 cup and larger)
- Laptops
- Microwaves
- Fax Machines

Fund for Coffee Cart and Supplies

- Coffee
- Coffee Filters
- Sugar
- Artificial Sweetener (Equal/Splenda/Sweet and Low)

Sons of the American Revolution Compatriots Military Service Record Form

SAR Compatriot Name:		SAR National Number:	
SAR Society and Chapter Information:			
Mailing Address:			
City:		State:	ZIP Code:
Telephone:		E-Mail Address:	
Date of Birth:		Date of Death:	
Occupation:			
Relationship to SAR Compatriot (Self, Wife, Sibling, Other):			
Service Number:		Dates of Service:	
Wars/Conflicts: World War I World War II Korea Vietnam Desert Storm Iraqi Freedom Other: <input type="text"/>			
Branch of Military: Army Navy Marine Corps Coast Guard Air Force Merchant Marine Reserves National Guard Other: <input type="text"/>			
Branch of Service (i.e. Infantry):			
Unit(s):			
Location of Unit(s):			
Highest Rank (Active Duty): Enlisted: <input type="text"/> Warrant Officer: <input type="text"/> Officer: <input type="text"/>			
Highest Rank (Reserve Duty): Enlisted: <input type="text"/> Warrant Officer: <input type="text"/> Officer: <input type="text"/>			
Status: Active Retired Discharged Reserved Other: <input type="text"/>			
Military Awards (Please Begin with Highest):			
Enclosed is a copy of my separation papers (DD-214 or equivalent): Yes No Other Document:			
<input type="text"/>			
Signature of Compatriot:			
<input type="text"/>			
Signature of Submitter:			
<input type="text"/>			

Information on obtaining a DD214 or equivalent is available on-line at <http://www.archives.gov/>

Please send to: Archives of Honor; SAR National Headquarters; 809 West Main Street; Louisville, Kentucky 40202-2619

Revised 08/31/2016