



*Sons of The American
Revolution
Texas Society, McKinney
Chapter*

April 17, 2025

Meeting held at Spring Creek BBQ McKinney and via Zoom® teleconference

Attendees

There were (26 total) 24 SAR members and guests in attendance at Spring Creek Barbeque. Attendees included: Tom Milson and wife Carol, Blas Uribe, Mark McCraw, Peter McLellan, Richard Bonaparte and wife Lynn, Bill Taylor and wife Carol, Gary Graybeal, William Graham, Cary Barnett, Bart Morgan and wife Samye, Tom Van Fossen, Peter Ford, prospective SAR applicants Zach Garcia and Russ Colburn with wife Jill.

There was 1 participant in attendance by Zoom® for this meeting. Attendees included: Al Lisi

Guests include: Guest speaker Randy Bush Plano Chapter SAR, Eagle Scout Essay Award recipient Sophia Bergsli-Chavez, brother Xander Bergsli-Chavez, Mother Kristine Bergsli, and friend Patrick Jones.



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Call to Order

- Mark McCraw, VP Awards, called the meeting to order at 7:01 pm. (McKinney Chapter President/Chaplain Paul Andreason was unable to attend)

Invocation

- Tom Milson, VP Programs, gave the invocation.

Pledges

- Mark McCraw, led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

- Peter Ford, led the Pledge to the Texas Flag.



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- Blas Uribe, led the Pledge of the SAR.
- Bill Taylor, led the Mission Statement of the SAR. "The Sons of the American Revolution honors our Revolutionary War patriot ancestors by promoting patriotism, serving our communities, educating and inspiring future generations, about the founding principles of our Country."

Self-Introductions of Members and Guests

Led by Mark McCraw

Old Business and Announcements

- Future Meetings and Events
 - April 28, 2025 – Poster Contest Awards, Cornerstone Christian Academy, McKinney
 - Next Meeting – May 15, 2025 7 PM (In person and by Zoom).
 - May 28, 2025 – July 11, 2025 – Traveling Exhibit, Collin County History Museum in Downtown McKinney

New Member Induction Ceremony

- None

Program

- Program – This month our program is: "Religion in the English Colonies and Early America: The Great Awakening" by Randall Bush

Tom Milson, VP Programs, introduced the Guest Speaker. The program was a 38 minute presentation, followed by a short question and answer session. Tom Milson thanked Randall and presented him with a Certificate of Appreciation.



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The Great Awakening

Spiritual Revival in Colonial America

The Great Awakening was a series of religious revivals in American Christian history. It helped prepare the colonies for the American Revolution. Its ethos strengthened the appeal of the ideals of liberty, and its ministers and the members of the new evangelical faiths strongly supported the Revolution.



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Awards

- Mark McCraw, VP Awards – Mark presented the Arthur M. & Berdena King Eagle Scout Essay Award to Sophia Bergsli-Chavez. The Arthur M. & Berdena King Eagle Scout Essay Award is a national scholarship contest sponsored by the SAR for Eagle Scouts who are interested in American history and patriotism. The contest is open to all Eagle Scouts who are currently registered in an active unit and have not reached their 19th birth day in the year of application. Sophia read her award winning essay. Mark presented Sophia with a \$200 check from the McKinney Chapter SAR, a certificate of recognition, and an Eagle collectable figurine. Sophia was accompanied by her mother, brother and friend.





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- Tom Milson – also recognized a number of members for volunteering their time for the 130th Texas SAR State Convention and presented a certificate of appreciation to: Peter Ford, Paul Andreason, Blas Uribe, Mark Harrison, William Graham, Peter McLellan, Bill Taylor, Cary Barnett, Bill Watts and Tom Van Fossen. Tom Milson was also singly recognized for his substantial contribution.





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- Tom Milson – also recognized Peter Ford for his extra efforts in planning and organizing, creating a spreadsheet, contact information of attendees, email address, meal planning, etc. Tom presented Peter with a state level TX SAR Texas Silver Service Medal.





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- Tom Van Fossen – presented Tom Milson, the Patriot Medal the highest level award that can be presented by the State SAR, for exemplary work. There have been 19,000 TX SAR state members over the years, and there have only been 213 recipients of the Patriot Medal. Other recipients of the award from this chapter include Peter McLellan, William Graham, and Nathan White. Tom was given a standing ovation.



New Business

- Minutes from the last meeting have been published on the website. Tom Milson made a motion to accept the meeting minutes, motion seconded by Tom Van Fossen, no discussion, motion approved by voice vote.

- TREASURER'S REPORT SUBMITTED AS CORRECTED BY SECRETARY: CHANGE FROM, "The Chapter's funds at our February meeting were \$550.27" TO "The Chapter's funds at our March meeting were \$550.27. ALSO, THE TREASURER REPORTS TO THE SECRETARY SEPARATELY THAT 2 DONATIONS OF \$50 WERE MADE TO THE PROJECT 2026 FUND, INCREASING THE BALANCE FROM THE MARCH REPORT FROM \$1710 TO \$1810.



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Treasurer's Report: submitted and read by Peter Ford, Treasurer. "Treasurer's Report for April 17, 2025. The Chapter's funds at our March meeting were \$550.27

Our expenses for the month were:

- \$175 of awards for the SAR poster contest.
- \$200 for the Eagle Scout award

Our income for the month consisted of:

- \$1080.00 from Texas SAR for membership dues.
- \$135.50 from Texas SAR for dual member dues.
- \$114.00 from Texas SAR for new membership applications,
- \$100 (TWO \$50 DONATIONS TO THE PROJECT 2026 FUND)

The Chapter's available funds are now: \$1504.77. This does not include the Project 2026 money (\$1810.00).

The Chapter's CD balance is \$5245.2. That account will be closed on April 26th, and the amount will be made available for Chapter use." Peter McLellan asked if there has been any disbursement of the funds from the State SAR as a result of the McKinney Chapter SAR's participation with the 130th State convention. Peter Ford replied we have not received any funds yet, but he understands it may be around \$3000 dollars. No further questions or comments.

Other Announcements

- Tom Milson – discussed the Traveling Exhibit that will be sponsored by the John Abston Chapter DAR May 28, 2025 – July 11, 2025, in honor of the SAR 250th Anniversary. This will be at the Collin County History Museum in Downtown McKinney. A revolutionary War Exhibit that will be shown Tuesday through Saturday 10- 4 and the DAR would like the McKinney SAR to help with the event by staffing shifts in support of the exhibit. A sign up tool will be implemented. More information will come.

- Comments from Texas Society officers, main takeaways include:

- - None



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Benediction: Tom Milson, gave the benediction

Recessional: Lead by Mark McCraw

Adjournment: President Mark McCraw adjourned the meeting at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Blas Uribe, Secretary

Connect:

Website; TXSSAR.ORG/McKinney/

Youtube Channel : McKinney SAR