

The Plano Compatriot Gazette

The Official Newsletter of Plano Chapter #37
Texas Sons of the American Revolution

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August 2025

Issue #8



Mission Statement

The Sons of the American Revolution honors our Revolutionary War Patriot ancestors by promoting patriotism, serving our communities and by educating and inspiring future generations about the founding principles of our Country





President's Message

By Bob Johns, President



The Declaration of Independence Its Significance For Us All

The countdown to next year's 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence begins this month.

It might seem odd that our focus isn't on the first shots fired at Lexington and Concord (April 19, 1775), or the British surrender at Yorktown (Oct. 19, 1781) or the signing of the peace treaty (Sept. 3, 1783).

Instead, our attention should be on the Declaration's approval on July 4, 1776. The reason? It was the seminal event in the creation of the United States, and world-changing, too.

The following comments are excerpts from Karl Rove's column in the Wall Street Journal July 3, 2025:

The "self-evident" truths that "all men are created equal" and "endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable rights"—alongside the explanation that "to secure these rights, Governments are instituted among Men, deriving their just powers from the consent of the governed" . There had never been anything like it.

Abraham Lincoln understood the magnitude of what had happened. What held the nation together through the American Revolution and after "was not the mere matter of the separation of the colonies from the mother land," he said. It was "that sentiment in the Declaration . . . which gave liberty, not only to the people of this country, but, I hope, to the world, for all future time."

(Cont'd)





President's Message

By Bob Johns, President



The Declaration of Independence: Its Significance For Us All (Cont'd)

Yet many Americans have seemingly lost sight of the treasure those 56 delegates who met in Philadelphia left us.

We'd be better off as a country if, individually as well as in our families, neighborhoods and communities, we use the next year to read, think and talk about the American Revolution. That would help us realize how significant the U.S. founding was to world history and our responsibility in the timeless struggle to live up to the Declaration's ideals.

We'll have help. On Nov. 16, Ken Burns, Sarah Botstein and David Schmidt will premiere a six-part, 12-hour PBS documentary, "The American Revolution." Written by Geoffrey Ward, it took eight years to make.

To celebrate the 250th anniversary is fine. To live up to the Declaration's promise, however, we must honor its critical role in history by better understanding whence America came and why. No better place to start than the beginning; no better time than now. Relearn our founding principles. You have your assignments. July 2026 isn't far off.





Chapter and State News Items



The Ben Franklin Lapel Pin

by Major Dave Fautheree, Color Guard Commander

Compatriots,

Compatriot Bill Watts, who recently passed away, set up a new lapel pin to be awarded for youth activity participation. The criteria and requirements are:

- Participate in 5 SAR Youth activities and complete the Youth Protection Training online.
- Send a list of the events (from January 1, 2025 forward), the date, the place, your name, proof of your YPT certificate, and your Chapter to Tom Van Fossen (tvf1776@gmail.com). The Dallas Chapter will award you the lapel pin. It is to be worn on all clothing, not just business or colonial.

The Bill Watts – Ben Franklin Lapel Pin will be available to other Texas Chapters as well as DAR & C.A.R. members.

The SAR Youth Protection Training online course is at [SAR University Youth Protection Training](#).

Thanks,

Dave Fautheree
Plano Chapter Color Guard Commander
Texas Society
Sons of the American Revolution

****Additional Note: Compatriots Dave Fautheree and Ronald Carey were awarded the Ben Franklin Pin at the Dallas Chapter Meeting on 12 July 2025.****





Chapter and State News Items



Plano SAR Chapter #37 Christmas Dinner!

NOTE - Dinner Date has Changed from 9 December to 2 December!

This December we are again having a chapter dinner at **Princi Italian Restaurant** like we did last year. Dinner will be on **Tuesday, December 2 at 6:00**. There will be no formal chapter business meeting, no flags etc.

We are in a private area of the Princi Italia Restaurant located on the NE corner of the DNT at Parker Rd. The address is *3300 Dallas Parkway, Plano 75093*.

Dinner Includes:

- Appetizers for each table
- Caesar Salad

Entrée choice of:

- Pasta Bolognese with sides
- Shrimp Alfredo with sides
- Chicken Piccata with sides
- Water and Tea



Adult beverages, coffee and dessert, not included. If desired, these will be billed separately.

RESERVATIONS - Make your reservations by sending a check to Treasurer Scott Knightly for \$40/per person, including tip. The cost is \$40 per person check payable to **"Plano SAR Chapter 37"**. Mail your check to:

Scott Knightly
3121 Satsuma Drive
Dallas TX 75229





Chapter and State News Items



The Texas Compatriot - Summer Edition

Compatriots,

The Summer edition of The Texas Compatriot is now available for your reading pleasure. Chapter news, committee news, state news, and color guard news remain topics that everyone in the Texas Society wants to read about. You have two ways to view the newsletter:

- [Click here to download.](#)
- Access current and past editions on the public website <https://www.texassar.org>
[- About Texas SAR > Texas Compatriot Newsletter > Summer 2025](#)

Enjoy!

Best regards,

Matthew Hoffman
Editor, The Texas Compatriot
compatriot@texassar.org





Chapter and State News Items



The Texas SAR 250 Monument

Texas SAR Compatriots,

I want to update you on the status of the Texas SAR 250 Monument that will honor those Patriots who died or are buried in Texas!

The monument design is fully completed and construction will begin this August. We expect delivery and installation of the monument this September. The exact position for the monument has now been set by Texas SAR and the Texas State Cemetery.

A Dedication Ceremony is being planned for the weekend of April 17, 2026 in coordination with the Texas SAR State Convention in Austin.

We are now raising funds for the program, which will include:

- o Official Unveiling and Dedication
- o Participation of the Texas SAR Color Guard
- o Attendance by dignitaries, including elected officials and both State and National SAR officers
- o Recognition of substantial donors
- o Recognition of descendants being honored on the monument
- o Music from local choir

The Dedication Ceremony will take place the morning of April 18th at the Texas State Cemetery in advance of the Youth Awards Luncheon, and we hope that we will have a large turnout for both!

We are in need of some additional funding for the Dedication Ceremony and appreciate the generosity of our chapters and compatriots. I want to thank those chapters and compatriots who have already contributed to this effort!

To donate funds, either individually or for a chapter, please contact Monument Committee Chairman Richard Zdunkewicz.

Richard Lee Zdunkewicz
Staff Secretary, Texas SAR

staffsec@texassar.org

713.302.0237



America 250 and Patriotic Travel Events



The Battle of Brooklyn Chapter
Empire State Society Sons of the American Revolution

Announce

Patriot Grave Marking Ceremony

Honoring

Alexander Hamilton

17 August, 2025, 4:00 pm

Trinity Church

89 Broadway

Lower Manhattan, New York City, NY

Due to capacity restrictions set by the church, this event will be invitation-only, with a limited number of in-person attendees permitted.

Compatriots,

I've included this Patriot Grave Marking Ceremony for Alexander Hamilton for informational and SAR Patriot Grave Marking Medal purposes. As stated above, this event is by invitation only, so only if you know somebody in New York who knows somebody, you might get an invite. **You can, however, still receive credit toward your SAR Patriot Grave Marking Medal for Alexander Hamilton by making a minimum contribution of \$60** to help fund the ceremony and honor this key Founding Father's legacy. Those wishing to support the ceremony in this way may do so by clicking the link below to register their contribution. Donors will receive a letter acknowledging their financial assistance, which can be submitted for medal credit. **To donate**, click the following link:

👉 <https://www.zeffy.com/donation-form/patriot-grave-marking-ceremony-for-alexander-hamilton-trinity-church-new-york-city-august--17>





America 250 and Patriotic Travel Events



The Sergeant Major John Champe Chapter
Virginia Sons of the American Revolution

And

The Reverend John Marks Society
Virginia Children of the American Revolution

Invite you to the Joint

Patriot Grave Marking

For

William Ellzey

23 August, 2025, 4:00 pm

Ellzey Cemetery

near 41469 Springvalley Lane

Leesburg, Virginia 20175

For more information, contact: Barry Schwoerer 703-859-3407 barry@schwoerers.com
or Wendy Fredrick 571-325-6303. revjohnmarkscar@gmail.com.



America 250 and Patriotic Travel Events



[REGISTER HERE!](#)

This symposium about Spain's contributions to the American Revolution will be held Friday, September 19 in the afternoon and all day on Saturday, September 20, 2025, in DAR Constitution Hall. All events including academic lectures, panel discussions, and other activities will be free and open to the public with pre-registration required. More details will be updated on [this page](#) and on www.queensofiaspanishinstitute.org later in the summer.

The symposium is presented by the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), the Queen Sofía Spanish Institute (QSSI), and the Fundación Ramón Areces (FRA) with support from the Cultural Office of the Embassy of Spain in the United States. This will be the second symposium in QSSI's America&Spain250 initiative and a cornerstone event of DAR's America250 programming to celebrate the 250th anniversary of the nation's founding.

Quick Facts:

- Friday, September 19 from 4:30 pm - 8:30 pm
- Saturday, September 20 from 10 am - 8:00 pm
- This is a two day event. You will only need to register once for both days and will need proof of registration for entering the building.
- The event will consist of speakers, panels, and booths of different history and cultural organizations.
- Events will be held in DAR Constitution Hall.
- Full security check will be in progress.



America 250 and Patriotic Travel Events



The 2025 Activities Celebrating President James Monroe's 267th Birthday

Westmoreland County Ceremony
The Birthplace and Visitor's Center
4460 James Monroe Highway Colonial Beach VA 22443
5 October 2025 2:00pm

Starting at **2:00 p.m. at the Birthplace**, the 267th anniversary ceremonies are expected to include local and state elected officials. Come to see both the **Birthplace House** and the exhibits at the **Visitor Center**. The ceremony will be in front of the Birthplace House again, rather than in front of the Visitor Center. See www.monroefoundation.org for the Birthplace location at 4460 James Monroe Highway (State Rt. 205) just outside of Colonial Beach.

Please remember that President Monroe was the only President besides George Washington to have actively served in the regular army during the Revolutionary War, participating in six major battles (as well as wintering at Valley Forge, crossing the Delaware with George Washington, being seriously wounded at Trenton and cited for conspicuous bravery) and subsequently served simultaneously as Secretary of War and Secretary of State (during the War of 1812, when he helped coordinate American defenses against the British). He was also an active participant in our first American lineage society, the Society of the Cincinnati.

When James Monroe and other patriots seized the Virginia Governor's Palace on June 24, 1775, and distributed its armory of muskets, pistols, and swords to the Williamsburg militia, that act began the Revolutionary War in Virginia. Let's celebrate that 250th anniversary by honoring James Monroe in proper fashion!

We hope that you will be able to participate with us in this commemorations to emphasize the role of this great Virginian and Founding Father in establishing our country, and its system of government and values.





Contribution Opportunities



Bonham VA Summer Needs List

Dear Compatriots,

The Plano Chapter of SAR continues to support our veterans at the Bonham Veterans Center. Your generous contributions are greatly appreciated by our veterans. Attached is a list of current needs. Please inform [BJ Bjorklund](#), chapter VP for Veteran Activities, if you feel called to help with items on this list. Thank you!

Bonham VA Needs Listing

We appreciate your interest in wanting to serve Veterans and below is an updated needs listing for Summer 2025. All items must be new and in original packaging.

Gift Cards:

- Exxon or Shell gas cards (Social Work to assist Veterans to/from appointments)
- Whataburger gift Cards
- Braum's gift Cards

Clothing & Comfort Items:

- Diabetic gripper socks – *Special request as regular gripper socks are too restrictive on legs of the diabetic or patients with larger legs.*
- Men's athletic shorts (various sizes)
- Men's sweat pants - lightweight (various sizes)
- T-shirts or short sleeve pullover
- Body Wash (no bar soap or hotel/motel toiletries)
- Shampoo & Conditioner
- Deodorant
- Lotion
- Electric Razors (for Veterans on blood thinners)
- Razors (disposable double to triple blade)
- Shaving Cream

(Cont'd)





Contribution Opportunities



Bonham VA Summer Needs List (Cont'd)

Refreshments: Individually wrapped snack items to include ingredients are welcome, but no homemade food items. Items such as the following:

- Bottled water
- Breakfast pastries/muffins for coffee cart
- Peanut butter/Cheese crackers
- Chips, Cookies (Variety Pack, Individual Bags)
- Small bottles Gatorade
- Ground Coffee (regular only)
- Juices (small boxed)
- Liquid Creamer (individual packs/cups only)
- Coffee supplies (8 oz cups, sugar/Splenda packets)

Miscellaneous:

- **12 oz** Coffee insulated cup/tumbler with lids and handle
- Plastic Models (Cars, Airplanes, Ships, Etc.)
- Leather crafts
- Dominoes (Big)
- Journals, notebooks
- Art supplies - 5x7" canvas, variety of acrylic paint colors
- Adult coloring books, with colors or colored pencils
- Paint by stickers
- Markers
- Postage Stamps
- Pens, stationary
- 1,000, 1,500 and 2,000 piece Jigsaw Puzzles
- Crossword puzzles/word search (large print)
- Sudoku books (large print)
- **New** books, **new** magazines

(Cont'd)





Contribution Opportunities



Bonham VA Summer Needs List (Cont'd)

Seeking Sponsorship for the following items/activities:

- Monthly Birthday Socials
- Popcorn & Movie
- Bingo & Prizes
- Cooking Group – monthly or quarterly
- Bowling for Domiciliary Residents
- Bonham State Park Pass
- Sporting & Music Events - Baseball Games [Rangers/Roughriders] and movie tickets for Domiciliary residents.

Monetary and In-Kind Donations by mail, please send to:

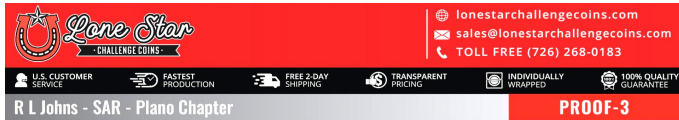
Sam Rayburn Memorial Veterans Center
Center for Development and Civic Engagement (135)
Atten: Brenda Magness, CDCE Specialist
1201 E.9th Street
Bonham, Texas 75418

- If you would like to make a monetary donation please make check or money order payable to *Bonham VA Medical Center*.
- You can also donate to the Bonham VA Medical Center using E-Donate online: Donating is just a click away with an online donation option that provides community members the account of their choice. E-Donate provides a quick, safe way for you to pledge your support to Veterans online. E-Donate also allows you to make a donation in memory of a loved one. Select *VA North Texas Health Care System* and choose a designated medical center and program, along with amount that you'd like to donate. Every penny of your donation goes to help Veterans.
- All donations must be coordinated with Center for Development and Civic Engagement (CDCE) for acceptance and delivery drop off. Should you have questions regarding donations please call **903-583-6282** or email brenda.magness@va.gov. Items may be mailed to the mailing address listed above.





Contribution Opportunities



SIDE A



SIDE B



*PLEASE REVIEW ALL DETAILS OF THE PROOF TO ENSURE ACCURACY OF SPELLING, GRAPHICS AND PRODUCT SPECS BEFORE APPROVING AS CHANGES CANNOT BE MADE ONCE PRODUCTION BEGINS

**A Special Item to Mark the
40th Anniversary of the
Plano Chapter of the SAR**

The Plano Chapter #37 of the SAR observes its 40th Anniversary next year in 2025. To celebrate the event, the Chapter Board has commissioned a Commemorative Celebration coin which is intended to both recognize our anniversary and to enhance our budget funds as a fundraiser.

The coin is a full color 2" antique brass coin. The front shows a rendering of the famous Minute Man sculpture by Daniel Chester French, presently standing in Concord in recognition of the Battle of Lexington-Concord. The reverse celebrates our chapter and gives our founding date.

This impressive coin is available to all chapter members for a \$20 donation to the chapter. Donations will enable our chapter to fund even more of the activities and awards we engage in to support veterans, youth awards, public service awards and more.

Please consider making your donation this calendar year. Personally, I plan to get five of the coins to use for recruiting awareness and for recognition.

Make your donation check payable to **Plano SAR Chapter #37** and send it to **Treasurer Scott Knightly at 3121 Satsuma Drive, Dallas TX, 75229**. You will receive one of the coins in return.

Let's make this a successful recognition program and fundraising opportunity.





Contribution Opportunities



The SAR Education Center and Museum Liberty Tree Campaign

A Message from SAR President General John Dodd

Greetings Compatriots,

It is with great pleasure that I inform you of a momentous development in our ongoing efforts to honor and preserve the legacy of our Patriot Ancestors. The Commonwealth of Kentucky's 2024 budget includes an allocation by the Kentucky General Assembly of \$5 million in the upcoming fiscal year to support the construction of the SAR Education Center and Museum in Louisville!

This monumental decision brings us closer to completion of your state-of-the-art facility that will enlighten and inspire citizens for decades. This important funding will keep construction on track, aiming for an opening date in 2026, coinciding with the 250th anniversary of our great Nation.

As we approach this historic 250th Anniversary, the importance of fostering a deep appreciation of our heritage and the principles upon which our country was founded cannot be overstated. The SAR Education Center and Museum will honor the sacrifices and ideals of our patriot ancestors, inspiring and educating present and future citizens to uphold their values of liberty and self-government.

Even if you have supported the project in the past, as our dream becomes reality, I encourage you to consider an additional contribution. The Liberty Tree Campaign is the easiest way to give. A small, recurring, monthly credit card contribution is the simplest way to make a difference. For those who are able, naming opportunities begin at \$100,000.00. Please contact Phil Bloyd for details. Thank you again for your support and for your important work on behalf of the SAR.

Yours in patriotism,

John L. Dodd
President General, 2023-2024

[Click here to make a Contribution](#)





Compatriot News



A Message From Our President

from Bob Johns, President

Our Chaplain, Rocky Miller is having surgery to replace two valves in his heart the first week of August, and according to his doctor, the recovery time may extend throughout the balance of this year. Therefore, he has requested a leave of absence from his SAR Chaplaincy duties for the rest of this year. Prayers for a fast and successful recovery certainly are appreciated. Any member who would be available to serve as temporary chaplain please contact me.

Bob Johns, President
rljohns@outlook.com



Compatriot News



Compatriot Anniversaries for August

Happy Anniversary, Compatriots!

| | |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| Ken Dabbs | 2023 |
| Ashton Higgins | 2019 |
| Ralph Kauffman | 2017 |
| Nowell Loop | 2019 |
| James Mayo | 2005 (20 years) |
| Dale Parker | 2023 |
| Charles Sprague | 2007 |
| Phillip Stephenson | 2014 |
| Richard Stephenson | 2014 |
| Scott W B Terrell | 2002 |
| Keith Thurgood | 2018 |
| Grover Thurman | 2022 |
| Marcus Wertz III | 2020 |
| James A Wilson | 1998 |
| James Wooten | 2014 |



Compatriot News



Patriot Stories

Patriot Stories

**Contributed by Kevin Ennis
Regarding his Patriot Ancestor
Richard Inman**

From the book "The Story of the Wyoming Valley" regarding the Battle of Wyoming - July 3, 1778, Luzerne county, Pennsylvania.

The incident known as "Inman's Nap" has two or more versions. The most popular one is the following: "Richard Inman started with the Hanover company up the valley the day of the battle. At every house they stopped they imbibed liquid refreshments. Inman filled a bottle so that he could have something between visits. The old man could not carry his load, so he lay down. The battle was fought and lost and men were getting out of harm's way. Lazarus Butler was urging his horse along when he came upon Rufus Bennet, who was pursued by an Indian. Bennet caught on to the tail of the Colonel's horse, and away they went. The fleet footed savage had nearly overtaken them when Bennet saw Inman sitting up, rubbing his eyes. 'Shoot that Indian!' Bennet cried. The old hunter swung his rifle to his shoulder without getting up and dropped the Indian as quick as he had often shot a deer on the run.

Four of Richard Inman's brothers were in the battle; two were killed. One swam the river in his flight, and being overheated, died. Two much whiskey probably saved the life of Richard, as well as that of Rufus Bennet. Another brother, the next winter, thought he heard the call of a wild turkey. He took his gun and went after it. The next spring his body was found scalped by the Indians that had deceived him. The Inmans became known as Indian killers and squared up with them with interest. One of the Inmans had notches in the stock of his rifle to tally the number he killed.



This Month's Revolutionary Story



Contributed by David Pickett

The Less Known Midnight Ride

On the night of June 3, 1781, 26-year-old Jack Jouett was sleeping at his father's tavern in Louisa County, Virginia, when he was awakened by the sound of Banastre Tarleton's British cavalry passing by on the road toward Charlottesville, where the Virginia legislature and Governor Thomas Jefferson had fled after Richmond fell to the British. Suspecting that Tarleton was intent on capturing them, and knowing that the road was undefended, Jouett set out on the 40-mile midnight ride that would make him famous.

Traveling by moonlight and forced to take little-used trails through the woods, Jouett rode all night, racing to Charlottesville and arriving ahead of the hard-riding British cavalry. When he reached Monticello at 4:30 a.m., Jefferson was already working in his garden. Jouett warned the governor and his guests (who included some of the legislators) that the British were coming, then sped off to town to alert the others, including Patrick Henry, Benjamin Harrison, and Richard Henry Lee.

Thanks to Jack Jouett, Thomas Jefferson and nearly all of the members of the Virginia General Assembly made it safely out of Charlottesville before Tarleton's cavalry arrived. Without his warning, it is likely the entire Virginia government would have been captured or killed.

Thanks to Longfellow, nearly everyone remembers Paul Revere. By comparison, Jack Jouett is little known outside of Virginia. June 7th is Jack Jouett Day in Virginia, in honor of his heroic ride of June 3-4, 1781.

*Here goes to thee, Jack Jouett!
Lord keep thy memory green;
You made the greatest ride, sir,
That ever yet was seen.*





BooBoo!!



by Randall Bush, Secretary



Compatriots,

I made a BooBoo. In the July Newsletter, I reported that Major Dave Fautheree, our Color Guard Commander, had received the Silver and Bronze Galvez Medals at the June Chapter Meeting. This was ***not*** the case. At that Meeting, Compatriot Fautheree was awarded the ***Bronze National (not the Bronze Galvez) Medal*** along with the Silver Galvez Medal. My apologies for the reporting error.

Randall Bush, Secretary



Connect!



Upcoming Meeting Tidbits and Officer Connection Information

5 August 2025 Meeting Highlights

- The History Minute is “The Gunpowder Shortage at The Siege of Boston” presented by Duane Carter.
- The Featured Speaker is Dr. Robert Mangrum who will present “The Battle of Bennington”.

Connect with our Officers!

President [Bob Johns](#)

Treasurer [Scott Knightly](#)

Color Guard Commander [Dave Fautheree](#)

VP of Medals and Awards [Kevin Ennis](#)

VP of Chapter Programs [Melvin Richards](#)

VP of Veterans Affairs [BJ Bjorklund](#)

VP of Youth Activities [Alan Roach](#)

Registrar [Duane Carter](#)

Sergeant at Arms [Ronald Carey](#)

Chaplain [Rocky Miller](#)

Secretary [Randall Bush](#)

[Plano SAR Chapter #37 Website](#)

“Until we meet again, let us remember our obligations to our forefathers who gave us our Constitution, the Bill of Rights, an Independent Supreme Court, and a Nation of Free Men.”



The Minutes

of the

July 2025 Chapter Meeting

Plano Texas Chapter #37

Sons of the American Revolution

**No Meeting, Therefore,
No Minutes! See You
Next Month!**