

# The Plano Compatriot Gazette

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

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October 2025

Issue #10



## 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



## Public Service Recognition

Compatriots,

In October, our Chapter will conduct one of our recognition events—the **public service certificates and medals for Plano Fire, Police and City employees**.

We will present these awards at the Plano City Council meeting on **October 27 at 7:00 PM** in the City Hall council chambers. Come meet the Mayor.

*The public is invited including our Chapter members.* The event will be part of the City Council meeting and will be conducted by the Mayor. Come observe our Chapter performing one of our SAR Mission targets, “serving our community.”

We will be recognizing these public service city employees selected by their department heads:

### Fire Department

- Firefighter of the Year – Kyle Yeck
- Paramedic of the Year – Christopher Everitt
- Lifesaving Award – Chae Ward
- Lifesaving Award – Benjamin Roth

### City Employee

- Public Safety Communications Specialist of the Year - Emily Reddington.

### Police Department

- Civilian of the Year – Emily Jackson
- Support Services/CISD Officer of the Year – Detective Josh Dollar
- Patrol Officer of the Year – Officer Brody Epstein





# Volunteer Opportunities

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**The State Fair of Texas  
Fair Park  
1300 Robert B Cullum Blvd  
Dallas TX 75210  
26 September to 19 October 2025**

**Volunteers are needed to help staff the Continental DAR House recruiting tables.**



The State Fair of Texas returns to Fair Park for its 139th year! The Jane Douglas Chapter of the DAR opens the Continental DAR House for Fair attendees to enjoy. It is the only American patriotic museum on the Fairgrounds and serves as a point of education to the community.

Anyone who would like to volunteer time at the DAR booth during the fair beginning Friday 26 September may sign up [HERE](#). Volunteering allows you free access to the Fair on the day you work. Join your fellow SAR members at the State Fair of Texas!



# Volunteer Opportunities

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**The Social Studies Conference  
Embassy Suites and Convention Center  
7600 John Q Hammons Dr  
Frisco TX 75034  
31 October and 1 November 2025**

Compatriots,

I am on a quest. Under the guidance of the Texas Society SAR, I am setting up an information booth at the Texas Council for the Social Studies Conference at the Embassy Suites and Convention Center in Frisco, and I am looking for volunteers to help me man the booth.

The conference will be held on Friday, October 31st and Saturday November 1st from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm on Friday and 8:00 am to 4:00 pm on Saturday. We are expecting at least 500 to 700 history teachers and administrators. I did this booth last year in Round Rock and it was a great success.

I would like for each shift to be at least 2 hours – more if possible. Period clothing would be great, but not absolutely necessary. I will be in Continental Uniform both days.

We will be discussing Membership, Youth Contests, and Revolutionary War Rarities. There will be handouts and sign-up sheets available for each area.

Please email me if you have any questions or would like to volunteer - At [Spiderfire@live.com](mailto:Spiderfire@live.com).

Respectfully,

Jerry D. Martin, M.Ed.  
Editor, The Rankin Register  
Robert Rankin Chapter #62  
Texas Society, SAR





# Chapter and State News Item

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## Chapter Officer Elections

Compatriots,

It's that time of year again. Officer elections! During the **November Chapter Meeting**, nominations for Officers are put forward by the Membership and voted upon. Installation of the elected Officers occurs at the January meeting. Any member in good standing is welcome to nominate another member to a position. All of us are aware of the power of the privilege to vote. Please make an extra effort to attend November's Chapter meeting in order to participate in this important process. Here is the current list of volunteer candidates:

PRESIDENT	BOB JOHNS
VP MEDALS AND AWARDS	KEVIN ENNIS
VP PROGRAMS	MELVIN RICHARDS
VP VETERANS ACTIVITIES	BJ BJORKLUND
VP YOUTH ACTIVITIES, SCHOOLS, JROTC	ALAN ROACH
VP YEARBOOK	RANDALL BUSH
SECRETARY	RANDALL BUSH
TREASURER	RONALD CAREY
REGISTRAR	DUANE CARTER
CHAPLAIN	ROCKY MILLER
WEBMASTER/HISTORIAN/NEWSLETTER	RANDALL BUSH
EDITOR	MIKE BECKER
SERGEANT AT ARMS	DAVE FAUTHEREE
COLOR GUARD COMMANDER	



# Chapter and State News Items



## Plano SAR Chapter #37 Christmas Dinner!

**\*PLEASE NOTE - Deadline for Reservations is 1 November. We are required to have a minimum seating of 20 in order to hold the event. Please bring your check to the 7 October Meeting or expedite it to Treasurer Scott Knightly at the address below!\***

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

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## 2026 SAR Dues

Compatriots,

2026 Online Dues Payment is now available. Dues Invoices have been posted to the texassar.org private website and are available to pay 2026 dues. For those of you who have a deliverable mailing address, your 2026 Dues Notices should be arriving in your home mailbox within the next few weeks. These are sent Bulk Mail to your address of record as of September 1st. If you do not receive one by Thanksgiving, please check for your notice online and help us update your address.

Texas SAR has voted that Junior Members will not be required to pay dues for 2026. Keep in mind that your dues are considered late on January 1, 2026. If they are still unpaid 30 days later, NSSAR will drop you from the rolls, and you will start to show a gap in your service and not get your magazine. So...please pay them online or by mail as soon as you can to help your Chapter and avoid a lapse in your SAR Service! As in previous years, you have 3 options for paying your dues:

**Online/Paypal (option 1)** - We encourage everyone to use this option and pay your dues by credit card through Paypal. [Click here for the online dues payment page](#) and enter your National SAR # and Name as it appears on your Membership Certificate. Then select your primary chapter and any others you maintain dual membership with and follow the checkout procedures. This is operational on the TexasSAR.org website NOW. PayPal fees have been removed for 2026 Dues payments. As mentioned, this online Paypal form also allows for secondary (dual) chapters to be added for those wishing to pay as a dual member.

**US Mail (option 2)** - You simply take the bottom section of the dues invoice you receive in the mail and send a check for the amount indicated with the pre-addressed envelope, stamp it, and return it to us by US mail. This is to be for your PRIMARY Chapter Dues Statements - it only includes dues for your Primary Chapter, State Dues, and National Dues where applicable.



# Chapter and State News Items

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## 2026 SAR Dues (Cont'd)

**US Mail (option 3)** - Use this option if you want to pay by check, but did NOT get a dues notice in the mail or you want to pay NOW for whatever reason. [Click here for the online dues invoice page on the private site](#), grab your dues notice online, print it out, and mail it back in with a check. This option is available NOW on the TexasSAR.org website. As mentioned, this online Paypal form also allows for secondary (dual) chapters to be added for those wishing to pay as a dual member.

Donations - As many of you are aware, our society has many beneficial funds that you can donate to for great purposes. Each year, when you renew your membership is a great time to donate to one of several great options. All Donation \$ will be allocated as you indicate on the form. Please review the items listed in the donations section of the online dues payment page and support these worthwhile programs. Thank you for your continued support of our programs!

In Patriotism,

Kevin Kanter  
Secretary - Texas SAR  
[sec@texassar.org](mailto:sec@texassar.org)

Don Hayes  
Treasurer - Texas SAR  
[treas@texassar.org](mailto:treas@texassar.org)



# Chapter and State News Items

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## SAR Youth Protection Training

Compatriots,

As we approach the time of contests in our SAR Society, ***please be reminded that all who participate in ANY SAR Sponsored event involving children are required to take the SAR Youth Protection Training -***

<https://www.bredenfoerder.com/youth-protection-training.html>

*Please take the training provided at the link above, and print and retain the completion certificate for your records.*

If you have taken this training even within the last two years, please review the video, as new information has been added.

Please reach out to any State or Chapter Officers if you have any questions.

In the Spirit of '76,

Mel Oller  
Texas SAR President  
[pres@texassar.org](mailto:pres@texassar.org)





# Chapter and State News Items



## The General Bernardo de Galvez Chapter, NSDAR Presents

# The American Revolution *Experience*

How were the lives of ordinary people affected by the events of the American Revolutionary War? As tensions mounted across the Thirteen Colonies, the entire Revolutionary Generation was faced with a difficult choice: to pledge loyalty to the Patriot cause and the prospect of a new nation, or remain loyal to the King as subjects of the British Empire. How would you choose?



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**Opening Reception: 10 October 2025, 6:30 - 8:30pm**  
**Public Viewing Dates: 10 - 17 October 2025, 10:00am - 4:00pm Daily**  
**Sunday Hours 12-4pm**

**Allen Christian Church  
Heritage Village, 450 E St. Mary Drive  
Allen TX 75002**





# Chapter and State News Items



## The Planting of the Liberty Tree!

Arlington Chapter SAR  
9 November 2025 2pm

### You're Invited – Liberty Tree Dedication

Please join us for a special dedication ceremony as we honor the spirit of liberty and the patriot ancestors who gathered under Liberty Trees to discuss freedom and independence.

#### Event Details:

Date: Sunday, November 9, 2025

Time: 2:00 PM

Location: Veterans Park, Arlington, Texas

Speakers: To Be Announced

Open to the public – all are welcome!

Come be a part of history as we plant a Liberty Tree and dedicate a permanent marker to commemorate the enduring values of courage, unity, and freedom.

Best Regards,

Dan Hamilton  
President, Arlington Chapter 2021-2022





# Chapter and State News Items



## The Civil Air Patrol and the SAR

Contributed by Drake Peddie

The Civil Air Patrol (CAP) is a very worthy organization that has been doing many good things for many years. While the SAR in Texas, does not have any formal programs or infrastructure to support CAP, the SAR has recognized CAP members and done some programs with them in the past. As a matter of fact, while I was president, I gave a Silver Good Citizenship medal to a CAP member down in the Houston area 4 to 5 years ago. Likewise, at the national level, there are no formal programs associated with CAP, if there ever were to be at NSSAR or Texas SAR, it would fall under the Americanism Committee and be similar to either the JROTC or Public Service Awards. There are some states that do have a stronger association with the CAP than Texas, but there is nothing at the National level as it lacks the support to get national attention to the level of a supporting committee and someone to champion it.

For over 20 years, the SAR in Texas has talked about formalizing programs for the Civil Air Patrol, the Sea Cadets and 4-H. The only one to formally recognized and continues to garner good support is 4-H. Texas is one of only about a dozen states that supports 4-H and has an annual 4-H Oration Contest (different from the Bigger Oration Contest) and annually presents awards to 4-H (scholarships and medals) presented at the state convention. This has been done for about 5 years and exists, because a 4-H benefactor came forward, to set aside funds for the annual award and set up the infrastructure to manage the 4-H program in Texas. No one has ever come forward to champion neither the Sea Cadets nor the Civil Air Patrol and organize a state committee and share the information with our 50 Texas Chapters to get it going. Nothing at the national level exists either.



# Chapter and State News Items



## The Civil Air Patrol and the SAR

Contributed by Drake Peddie  
(Cont'd)

All that being said, new contests do come up and gain support with the states and get approved by National. So there are always good opportunities for Sea Cadets and CAP. In 2020, the State of Washington came to Texas to ask for their support with a Video Contest to be added to the Youth Contests. Texas actually formalized the program and had participants before Washington and the other states who initially tried to do it. Last year in Congress, it was formally approved as a new Youth Contest.

At a minimum, presenting this info to local north Texas Chapters is worth pursuing and CAP members can be recognized by Bronze Good Citizenship medals presented by the chapters. So not sure if that answers everything, but it should tell you enough to determine where you need to start if you would like to pursue this new program with Texas SAR and beyond.

Regards,

Drake Peddie  
President - Texas SAR (2020-2022)  
President - GSW1812 Texas (2022-2024)  
Vice President General - SAR South Central District (2026-2027)





# Chapter and State News Items



## Shirley McGuire DAR Chapter Meeting 18 September 2025

On 18 September, members of the Plano SAR Chapter #37 Color Guard posted the Colors for the Shirley McGuire DAR Chapter Meeting.





# Chapter and State News Items

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## The Texas SAR 250 Monument UPDATE!

Texas SAR Compatriots,

The 250th Anniversary Monument Committee is thrilled to announce the installation of our beautiful monument at the Texas State Cemetery.

We are including a photograph here so that you can see the results of our fundraising efforts, the generosity of our membership, and the committee's hard work!





# Chapter and State News Items

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## The Texas SAR 250 Monument (Cont'd)

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

We continue to raise funds for the Monument Dedication Ceremony, which is to take place at **10:00am, Saturday, April 18th** in conjunction with the Texas SAR Annual State Convention. We are a few thousand dollars from having the funds necessary to cover the budgeted costs.

You may donate funds via PayPal when you pay your dues or via the [monument web page](#) on the Texas SAR website.

If you prefer to write a check, please make it payable to: **Texas SAR, Attn: Treasurer, 11 Winhall Place, The Woodlands, TX 77354-3313.**

If you have any questions, please reach out to Richard Zdunkewicz, Chairman of the Monument Committee.

Richard Lee Zdunkewicz  
Staff Secretary, Texas SAR  
[staffsec@texassar.org](mailto:staffsec@texassar.org)  
713.302.0237





# Chapter and State News Items

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## 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](mailto:compatriot@texassar.org)



# America 250 and Patriotic Travel Events

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## 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](http://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.

# America 250 and Patriotic Travel Events

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## The Navy-Marines 250 SAR National Event

**11 - 13 October 2025  
Philadelphia PA**

Compatriots,

Registration is open for the Navy-Marines 250 SAR National Event to be held from Oct 11-13, 2025 in Philadelphia, PA. You may register at the following link: [250th Anniversary Celebration of the U.S. Navy & Marine Corps.](#)

Hotel reservations can be made at the Wyndham Philadelphia Historic District, located at 400 Arch Street, in Philadelphia, PA. The SAR rate of \$219 per night is available from October 10-14, 2025. Reservations must be made no later than September 10, 2025, for the SAR rate.

Make your hotel reservations at the following link: [Sons of the American Revolution Hotel.](#)

Following is the full schedule of activities including the time and location for each event.

Make plans now to attend.

Patriotically,

Jeff Thomas  
Historian General  
America 250 Chair  
Sons of the American Revolution

**(Cont'd)**



# America 250 and Patriotic Travel Events

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## The Navy-Marines 250 SAR National Event (Cont'd)

### Navy Marines 250 Schedule of Activities

#### **Saturday, October 11, 2025**

8:30am	Muster at Arch Street Cemetery
9:00am	Samuel Nicholas Grave Marking at Arch Street Meeting House 320 Arch St, Philadelphia, PA
10:30am	Muster at Independence Square
11:00am	Navy Marines 250 Ceremony at Independence Square 111 S Independence Mall W, Philadelphia PA
12:00pm	Lunch on Your Own
1:30pm	Muster at St. Mary's Cemetery
2:00pm	John Barry Grave Marking at Old St. Mary's Church 252 S 4th St, Philadelphia, PA
6:00pm	Dinner at Glory Beer Bar & Kitchen 126 Chestnut St, Philadelphia, PA

#### **Sunday, October 12, 2025**

9:00am	Bus Departs Wyndham Philadelphia Historic District Hotel 400 Arch St, Philadelphia, PA
10:00am	Bus Arrives at Pennypacker Mills
11:00am	Battle of Germantown Ceremony at Pennypacker Mills 5 Haldeman Rd, Schwenksville, PA
12:15pm	Bus Departs to Germantown / Box Lunch
1:00pm	Bus Arrives at Germantown
2:00pm	Five-Patriot Grave Marking at Upper Burial Ground 6309 Germantown Ave. Philadelphia, PA
3:15pm	Bus Departs to Hotel
4:00pm	Bus Arrives at Hotel
6:00pm	Dinner on Your Own

# America 250 and Patriotic Travel Events

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## The Navy-Marines 250 SAR National Event (Cont'd)

### Navy Marines 250 Schedule of Activities

#### Monday, October 13, 2025

10:00am	Muster for Parade, location will be provided to all participants once finalized Every participant must complete a release of liability form by Sep 29, 2025
11:00am	Homecoming 250 Parade Begins JFK Blvd & 20th Street
1:00pm	Homecoming 250 Parade Ends Independence Mall, 520 Chestnut Street
1:00-2:00pm	Public Navy 250th Commemoration with Blue Angels Flyover 520 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, PA
2:00-5:00pm	Tour of the Museum of the American Revolution 101 S 3rd St, Philadelphia, PA
6:00pm	Dinner on Your Own

Please save the Date for the Navy-Marines 250 SAR National Event to be held from Oct 11-13, 2025 in Philadelphia, PA.

There are many exciting events planned for this 250th Celebration:

- 250th Commemoration to be held on Independence Square
- Patriot grave markings for Commodore John Barry and Colonel Samuel Nicholas
- Participation in the Navy Marines Homecoming 250 Parade
- Tours of Independence Hall and the Museum of the American Revolution
- Battle of Germantown Commemoration with a 5-Patriot Grave Marking

Make plans now to attend for a great America 250 event!

# America 250 and Patriotic Travel Events

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## Yorktown Victory Celebration

**18 - 19 October 2025**  
**American Revolution Museum at Yorktown**  
**200 Water St**  
**Yorktown VA 23690**



Celebrate America's momentous 1781 Revolutionary War victory at Yorktown on October 18 & 19 with artillery firings, exhibits and interpretive programs examining the significance of the American and French alliance.

In addition to commemorative programs at the American Revolution Museum at Yorktown, town-wide events feature the Yorktown Day Parade and patriotic exercises in historic Yorktown, in partnership with the Yorktown Day Association, Colonial National Historical Park Yorktown Battlefield, The American Friends of Lafayette and the Virginia American Revolution 250 Commission.

At the American Revolution Museum at Yorktown, stories of citizens and soldiers unfold daily through immersive films, exhibition galleries and interpretive programs in outdoor re-creations of a Continental Army encampment and Revolution-era farm.



# America 250 and Patriotic Travel Events

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## Yorktown Victory Celebration

**18 - 19 October 2025**  
**American Revolution Museum at Yorktown**  
**200 Water St**  
**Yorktown VA 23690**

**(Cont'd)**

Visitors to the Continental Army encampment will discover aspects of military life, from enlistment to troop supplies and flintlock muskets to 18th-century medical care. Throughout the day, visitors can discuss military tactics with the Comte de Rochambeau, and learn about early land surveying in the Virginia colony. Artillery demonstrations, showcasing the varied roles of the artillery crew, will take place in the outdoor amphitheater at 11 a.m. and 3 p.m.

On Saturday, October 18, listen to martial music played by the Fifes and Drums of York Town and a talk by Dr. Sean Heuvel about Virginians who defended their communities in the militia, followed by a signing of his new book "Virginia Militia Commanders at Yorktown."

Farm visitors can learn about typical life of a Revolution-era farming family. Special demonstrations from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. will explore 18th-century foodways and the convergence of cultures through food at the farm kitchen and enslaved people's quarters.

Admission [tickets can be purchased online](#) or in person. [Plan your visit](#) today or call (757) 253-4838 for more information. Parking at the museum is free for museum visitors. A free shuttle service is available to Historic Yorktown on the [Yorktown Trolley](#).



# Contribution Opportunities

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## Bonham VA Summer Needs List

**UPDATE: Shampoo, Body Wash and Writing Pads are Desperately Needed!**

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

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## 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

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## 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](mailto:brenda.magness@va.gov). Items may be mailed to the mailing address listed above.





# Contribution Opportunities



## 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

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## 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 Anniversaries for October

Happy Anniversary, Compatriots!

Ira Archer	2018
William Dalrymple	2020
Steven Dyche	2005
Larry Keller	2018
Spencer Madsen	2005
John H Martindale	2023
Austin H Stutts	2018
David H Stutts	2018
Austin Waugh	2022



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## Patriot Stories

**Contributed by Drake Peddie  
Regarding his Patriot Ancestor  
Garrett Dominicus Conover**

Garrett Dominicus Conover was born 12 March 1756 in Middlesex County, New Jersey to Dominicus Johnse Covenhoven and Hannah Mary Updike (Updycke), both of Dutch ancestry. Garrett was my fourth great-grandfather. Dominicus was my fifth great-grandfather. Garrett was the middle of five brothers born between 1752 and 1769 to Dominicus and Mary. All 5 brothers and their father born in 1730 were documented soldiers in the American Revolution.

During the American Revolution, it was pretty common practice for soldiers to be with the troops for 3 months at a time and then go back home for a few weeks, to take care of the family, the crops and farm animals on the family farm. So while the troops were building up near Monmouth Courthouse. Father Dominicus left the troops to go home to do just that with his five sons waiting to take on General Clinton and the British Army in Monmouth. So on a hot summer afternoon in June 1778, Dominicus and his horse went out to literally the back forty to plow the wheat field that was past due. After about 30 minutes, a very strong thunderstorm came up and temporarily halted the plowing activities. Unfortunately, Dominicus had not read Ben Franklin's work on lightning, flying kites and electricity and chose to take cover with his horse under a very large tree. Sadly, both Dominicus and the horse were killed when a bolt of lightning struck the only tree in the wheatfield where he chose to take shelter. So he never returned to the war. Believe it or not, he is still listed as a deserter - AWOL. For this reason, his name is blacklisted in the DAR archives and cannot be used. He is buried in Middlesex County, New Jersey.

All his sons came home from the war when they heard and ended up missing the battle of Monmouth. They later rejoined the troops and fought for most of the remainder of the war. After the war, Gerrett Conover and all four of his brothers and families moved to Kentucky in what would eventually be Columbia, Adair County, Kentucky. He died on 28 March 1826. The Conover clan eventually moved on to Springfield, Illinois in the 1840s and were scattered among Union soldiers in the Civil War.



## This Month's Fun Factoid



Contributed by Randall Bush, Secretary

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### How Was Military Equipment Maintained During the Revolutionary War?

During the Revolutionary War, *artificers* supported the Continental Army. Simply put, artificers were skilled artisans and mechanics who kept military equipment in good working order so the troops could operate effectively.

They typically served under the jurisdiction of the Chief Engineer in the Quartermaster General's Department, but were separate from other engineer regiments. In the Continental Army, George Washington established a *Corps of Artificers* that was often organized into specialized companies reflecting specific skills. As an example, the Corps of Artificers in the Revolutionary War Compiled Military Service Records shows the service of George Abbot in Capt. Jedidiah Thayer's Company of Carpenters. The Corps also included companies of blacksmiths and saddlers. Other units in the Continental Line included artificers employed by Brigadier General James Clinton at Forts Constitution (Clinton) and Montgomery; Baldwin's Regiment of Artificers; Patten's Company of Artillery Artificers; Post's Company of Artificers; and several independent companies of artificers, including carpenters and bakers.

After Nathanael Greene became Quartermaster General, he appointed Col. Jeduthan Baldwin, on 29 July 1778, to the command and superintendence of all the artificers in the Quartermaster's Department belonging to the Continental Army.



# Connect!

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## Upcoming Meeting Tidbits and Officer Connection Information

### 7 October 2025 Meeting Highlights

- The History Minute will be presented by Duane Carter. His topic will be “Benjamin Franklin on the Constitution, September 1787”.
- The Featured Speaker is John Maloney who will present “Diseases and Pestilence and their Impact Upon the Revolutionary War”.

### 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

**2 September 2025**  
**Chapter**  
**Meeting**

**Plano Texas**  
**Chapter #37**

**Sons of the**  
**American**  
**Revolution**

**Tuesday 2 September, 2025 Meeting**  
**Location: Outback Steakhouse,**  
**1509 N Central Expy, Plano, TX 75075**

**Call to Order:** The Meeting is called to order by President Bob Johns at 7:00pm.

**The Invocation:** Offered by Nick Gilliam



**Pledge to The American Flag:** Offered by Dr. Steven Driever

I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with Liberty and Justice for all.



**Pledge to The Texas Flag:** Offered by Michael Becker

Honor the Texas Flag; I pledge allegiance to thee, Texas, One State under God, one and indivisible.



**Pledge of The Sons of the American Revolution:**

**Offered by John Rothermel**

We descendants of the heroes of the American Revolution who, by their sacrifices, established the United States of America, reaffirm our faith in the principles of liberty and our Constitutional Republic, and solemnly pledge ourselves to defend them against every foe.



**The Sons of the American Revolution Mission Statement:**

**Offered by Bob Johns**

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.



**Self Introductions: Total Attendance: 21**

Melvin and Marita Richards, Richard and Lynn Bonaparte, Bill Evans, BJ Bjorklund, Tim Bjorklund, Alan Roach, Randall Bush, Bob Johns, Steve Driever, Tom Milson, John and Jackie Rothermel, Nick Gilliam, Scott Knightly, Bob Coberly, Grover Thurman, Ronald Carey, Tom Van Fossen, and Mike Becker.



- **Consideration and Approval of the Minutes of the August 2025 Chapter Meeting; Presented by President Bob Johns**  
The August Meeting Minutes were approved by acclamation.
- **Treasurer's Report: Presented by Scott Knightly, Treasurer**
  - Checking Account Balance \$12,903.14
  - Investment Account: \$14,752.58
- **The Revolutionary War Traveling Road Show Exhibit: Presented by Tom Milson, McKinney Chapter SAR**  
Tom discusses the success of the Exhibition and presents President Bob Johns with a Certificate of Appreciation for his services as a volunteer.



## **The History Minute**

### **“The Guns of Ticonderoga”**

**Presented by Randall Bush, Secretary**

# The Featured Speaker Presentation

## **“John Tyson - A Reluctant Patriot”**

Presented by Richard Bonaparte



## **Veterans Report**

**Presented by BJ Bjorklund, VP Veterans Affairs**

Companion Bjorklund discusses the latest work performed on behalf of the Veterans at Bonham and future needs.

# Current/Other/New Business

Presented by Bob Johns, President

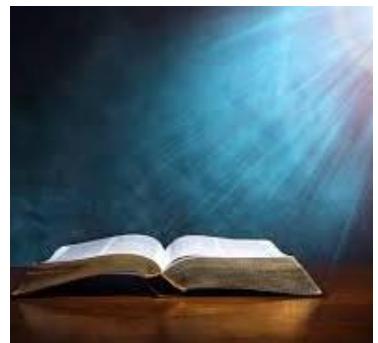


Compatriot Tom Van Fossen presents the Benjamin Franklin Pin to Michael Becker.

Treasurer Scott Knightly presents a program about the Civil Air Patrol and the synergies that exist between that organization and the SAR.



## **The Benediction: Offered by Nick Gilliam**



## **The Adjournment/Recessional:**

The Meeting is adjourned by Bob Johns, President at 8:00pm

***"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.:***

Respectfully Submitted,

Randall Bush  
Secretary  
Plano Chapter #37  
Texas Society  
Sons of the American Revolution