

The Plano Compatriot Gazette

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

In This Issue:

- President's Message - 2
- Chapter and State News Items - 4
- Contribution Opportunities - 14
- Upcoming America 250 & Patriotic Travel Events - 18
- Compatriot News - 21
- Fun Factoid - 23
- Connect! - 24
- The Minutes - 25

March 2026

Issue #3



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

March 1776: Events Move Quickly

Compatriots,

As we continue to observe our 250th Anniversary as a country, let's follow the critical events that led to our Declaration of Independence. In March, 1776, significant events occurred involving skirmishes, political intrigue and a major action in Boston:

March 2: Silas Deane sent to France by the Continental Congress as a purchasing agent for the Continental Army. French king Louis XVI permits his foreign minister the Comte de Vergennes to lend £40,000 of covert French financial aid to the Americans against their longtime rivals.

March 2 & 3: The Battle of the Rice Boats. Also called the Battle of Yamacraw Bluff, this was a land and naval battle that took place in and around the Savannah River on the border between the Province of Georgia and the Province of South Carolina. The battle pitted the Patriot militia from Georgia and South Carolina against a small fleet of the Royal Navy. A Royal Navy fleet was sent to Georgia to purchase rice and other supplies. The arrival of this fleet prompted the colonial rebels who controlled the Georgia government to arrest the British Royal Governor, James Wright, and to resist the British seizure and removal of supply ships anchored at Savannah. Some of the supply ships were burned to prevent their seizure, some were recaptured, but most were successfully taken by the British.

March 3 & 4: The Raid of Nassau. This was a naval operation and amphibious assault by American forces against the British port of Nassau, Bahamas. The raid, designed to resolve the issue of gunpowder shortages, resulted in the seizure of two forts and large quantities of military supplies before the raiders drew back to New England.

March 4 & 5: Fortification of Dorchester Heights, Boston - Continental Army under the command of George Washington installs cannons brought overland from Fort Ticonderoga NY to the heights overlooking Boston Harbor.

March 17: British evacuate Boston: A major victory for the Americans over the British, with the withdrawal of their forces after the yearlong Siege of Boston. This is the first example of the British forces being able to take a major American city, but being forced to abandon it.

As all these things were occurring, patriots all over the colonies were gearing up for a prolonged conflict against an adversary that greatly outnumbered them in resources, training and manpower. In spite of that, they stayed the course. A short time before, Patrick Henry expounded on the acts and attitudes of the British and famously pronounced "Give me Liberty or give me Death!". Today, Compatriots, we need to remember and honor that spirit by doing what we can to honor this great Nation with our words, deeds and treasure.

Chapter and State News Items and Upcoming Events

[Color Guard Upcoming Events - Major Dave Fautheree, Color Guard Commander](#)

DAR State Conference - Dallas, TX

12 March - 10:00 am event; 9:00 am show time

Place: Hyatt Regency DFW International Airport

2334 N International Pkwy

DFW Airport, TX

Contact: [David Hamaker](#) or Bill Sekel or 936-522-6018

Notes: We will present the colors for the Naturalization Ceremony at 10am, man a table for recruitment 1-3pm, and present the colors for the opening ceremony for the meeting. More details to come.

This is a **State Event**.

Medal of Honor Pilgrimage - San Antonio, TX

21 March - 8:30 am event; 7:30 am show time

Place: Ft. Sam Houston National Cemetery

1520 Harry Wurzbach Rd

San Antonio, TX

Contact: [Frank Keberman](#) or 210-760-9275

Notes: Meet at the honor guard building on the right as you enter the cemetery main entrance.

This is a **National Event**.

CAR State Conference

27-28 March - more details to come

Scout Campout - Lake Texoma

28 March - Flag Ceremonies at 9:00 am & 7:45 pm

Place: Scout Camp NW of Pottsboro

The theme is America250. Scouts are also interested in displays/demonstrations for a Colonial-era village either morning or afternoon.

This is a **Chapter Event**.

Lake Highlands HS JROTC Awards & Parade - Dallas, TX

10 April - 11:00 am; 10:30 am muster

Place: Multi-Purpose Academic Center (MAC)

Lake Highlands High School

9449 Church Rd, Dallas, TX 75238

RSVP no later than April 1, 2026, using the link below:

[Awards Ceremony Reservation Form](#).

This is a **Chapter Event**.

SAR Annual State Conference - Austin, TX

17 – 19 April - more details to come

Medal of Honor Parade - Gainesville TX

18 April - 10:00 am event; 8:00 am show time

Contact: [Bill Sekel](#) or 830-992-5619

Muskets allowed but must pass safety inspection.

Additional information such as muster point will be put out as soon as it is available.

This is a **National** Event.

NOTE: If you are not attending the Annual Convention in Austin, your participation in the Medal of Honor Parade is needed. Dust off your continental attire or gear up and participate in this salute to America's finest. **One time participation in this parade qualifies all for the Texas SAR Bronze Bernardo de Gálvez Medal.** The City of Gainesville has planned a multi-day celebration surrounding the event. Additional details can be found at: [Medal of Honor Host City](#)
If you are able to walk in the parade, please contact [Bill Sekel](#).

A Peep at the Coops - Feathered Freedom - Dallas, TX

3 May - 11:00 am- 12:00 pm event; Event times may change; Details to come

Place: Moss Haven Elementary

9202 Moss Farm Ln, Dallas, TX 75243

Engage in Colonial Attire with attendees and pose for photos as living history for families and children.

This is a **Chapter** Event.

Survive 1776 - Dallas, TX

23 May - 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm; 12:30 PM show time

J Erik Jonsson Central Library

1515 Young St

Dallas, TX 75201

Multiple Activity Stations: 6 or more volunteers; to either greet at the sign in table (where folks will fill out their "enlistment cards") run one of the stations, run the drill, or host the SAR information/recruitment table where y'all can encourage folks to study their genealogy and find revolutionary ancestors. It would also be great if anyone helping out with this event were in some level of period garb, especially if running one of the activity stations.

More details to come

This is a **Chapter** Event.

DART Older Americans Event - Fair Park, Dallas, TX

28 May - Details TBD

Present colors during opening ceremony.

This is a **Chapter** Event.

July 4th Gala - Arlington, TX

7 June - 1:30 pm - 4:00 pm event; 12:45am show time

Place: Texas Rangers Golf Club

701 Brown Blvd

Arlington, TX 76011

Contact: [Dan Hamilton](#) or 817-703-1356

This is a **National** Event.

Audie Murphy Parade - Farmersville, TX

20 June - 9:30 am event; 8:30 am show time

Contact: [Bill Sekel](#) or 830-992-5619

Notes: Muskets allowed but must pass safety inspection. More information like muster point will be passed when available.

This is a **State** Event.

Liberty & Lace Ball - Dallas, TX

27 June - 6:00 pm - 9:00 pm

J Erik Jonsson Central Library

1515 Young St

Dallas, TX 75201

Revolutionary style ball where we'll have live music, dancing, food, games, and crafts so folks can experience how our founding patriots might have celebrated their newly won independence.

Need: Any number of interested volunteers to help out by: providing information on colonial genealogical research and the SAR itself, assisting in teaching folks about "quilling", hosting gaming tables where attendees can learn colonial era games such as table-bowling and "cup and bowl", interacting with attendees through games of Pictionary using colonial terms, or even just being in period attire and posing for photos with folks.

This is a ***National*** Event.

Family Fun Days - Dallas Public Library Branches

13 & 27 June, 11 & 25 July and 8 August (Saturdays)

Details on location and time TBD.

Need: Any number of volunteers. Activities will vary, but June 13 will be Flag Day themed (and may conflict with our Flag Retirement Ceremony). We may be able to come in the role of your ancestor and talk about their experiences or do some re-enacting, but either way we will be able to set up a table to talk about joining the SAR and getting folks interested in their ancestors.

This is a ***Chapter*** Event.

NHRA Fall 2026 Nationals - Ennis, TX

18 October - All Day event; 12:00 pm show time

Place: Texas Motorplex

7500 W Hwy 287

Ennis, TX 75119

Contact: [Larry Kollie](#) or 972-903-9037

Notes: The Ellis County CG chapter, #70 will be participating in the ESPN televised opening ceremony of the fall 2026 NHRA Nationals. All TX state CG are invited to participate. Please confirm your participation to Larry Kollie by September 30, 2026. Additional information regarding parking and admittance will be provided as it becomes available. If you are considering attending and planning an overnight stay in Ennis or Waxahachie, book your room now as they will fill up fast if not already. The event actually runs from Thursday -Sunday.

This is a ***Chapter*** Event.

UPCOMING EVENT

The Texas SAR 2026 State Convention



Dear Texas Compatriots,

On behalf of the Patrick Henry Chapter of the Texas Sons of the American Revolution, we invite you all to the Texas 2026 State Convention to be held in **Austin, Texas, on April 15-19, 2026** at the **Austin Southpark Hotel**. Event registration will soon be live on the [Texas SAR](#) website. Go to “Events” to access.

Make your room reservations NOW at the **Austin Southpark Hotel** by calling the hotel directly at **512-448-2222**. When calling, it is important that you identify yourself as a part of the **Texas SAR group**, to receive the group rate and ensure that the group is credited for the room nights. You may also book online [here](#). NOTE: The default date range on the booking link is April 12th – 21st. You *must* change the dates to your desired booking dates and **CLICK “UPDATE”** for the system to accept your desired date!! Hotel Rate \$149.00 USD/Night plus tax. Rates are offered 3 days pre/post event. *Cutoff date* for booking the blocked rooms is **Wednesday, April 1, 2026**. Cancellation must be done 24 hours before date of arrival to avoid charges. If you have any issues booking a room, contact [Dennis Brunson](#) @ 979-324-8552. If you need additional information or assistance, please feel free to contact the following:

Mark Ellison marmellison1@gmail.com

Shiidon Hawley shiidon@gmail.com

Joseph Burton joseph.Burton@jll.com

Austin SouthPark Hotel
4140 Governors Row, Austin Texas 78744
P: 512-448-2222

UPCOMING EVENT
The Texas SAR 250 Monument



Compatriots,

A Dedication Ceremony at the Texas State Cemetery 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, 18 April 2026** 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
 713.302.0237

MEMBER APPROVED FLAG PRESENTATIONS

The Summer Issue of SAR Magazine contains NSSAR Goals to be fully implemented by the National Organization, State Societies and Local Chapters. Among those is increasing the issuance of SAR Flag Recognition Certificates.

To refresh your knowledge of Flag Certificates, ***“The SAR Flag Certificate is presented to individuals, companies, and government agencies that fly the United States flag regularly and properly for patriotic purposes.”***

Previously, the Chapter President was required to sign a Flag Certificate prior to issuance. To make Flag Certificates easier to award and to involve the Chapter Membership in general, ***the President General has now delegated authority to award Flag Certificates DIRECTLY to every Chapter Member!***

That means any of us who observes neighbors, businesses, etc who fly the flag regularly can award that person or business a Flag Certificate. Simply send [VP Alan Roach](#) the entity’s name to place on the Certificate, sign it when you receive it from him and award it to the deserving party at your convenience.

How about each of us make an effort to award at least one certificate a year starting this year!

Bob Johns, President



[The Plano Chapter #37](#) [Community Service Lapel Pin](#)

The Plano SAR Chapter Community Service Pin is a 1" lapel pin with artwork based on our 2" Commemorative Coin.

The Summer 2025 issue of SAR Magazine contains NSSAR's "2030 Operational Plan" which contains many goals, including some directed at local Chapters. We will be implementing those goals, one of which is to promote and improve community service by our Chapter Members.

Accordingly, we have created our new Community Service lapel pin. "Serving our Communities and Promoting Patriotism" being front and center in our SAR Mission Statement.

Any Chapter Member can earn the pin by participating in at least 3 events which focus on serving our communities and promoting patriotism. Events that are not sponsored by our or any other SAR Chapter, but by are sponsored by other community organizations, are also eligible..

Let's get involved—more of us—especially at the time of our country's 250th Anniversary!



[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

The Vietnam Veteran Lapel Pin

TO ALL PLANO SAR CHAPTER MEMBERS

WHO SERVED DURING THE VIETNAM WAR ERA:

The Department of Defense (DoD) has authorized any veterans who served anywhere and in any capacity during the Vietnam Era, Nov 1, 1955 to May 15, 1975 to be eligible to receive a **Vietnam Veteran Lapel Pin (VVLP)**.

Pins have previously been awarded at scheduled group events, but the DoD has now made it possible for eligible veterans to request a pin be delivered to their home address.

This program is open to all Veterans, not just our chapter members, so if you know of eligible veterans not in our chapter, feel free to notify them of the program. If eligible Veterans have not previously received a pin, here is how one can be ordered:

1. Veterans who served anywhere in any capacity during the period Nov 1, 1955 to May 15, 1975 are eligible to receive a pin.
2. Veterans can email whs.pentagon.wso.mbx.vnwar50th-cpp-events-application@mail.mil and a Vietnam Veteran Lapel Pin will be sent to you via USPS. Please include a good mailing address including your city and state.

If you have questions or have served during this time period, please contact [BJ Bjorklund](#), VP Veterans Affairs for more information about this well-deserved award.

The Texas Patriot Winter Edition Now Available!

Compatriots,

Please visit the Texas SAR website for the latest edition of [The Texas Compatriot!](#) The Fall/Winter 2025 Edition has been prepared for your reading pleasure! This latest issue includes numerous tidbits of information, useful to all members. Please note:

- Upcoming Texas SAR State Meeting
- Veterans Survey
- Texas Society State Flag
- Chapter Events
- A new Comics section
- Don't forget to check out an important message from the Editor!

This latest edition should impress, please, or otherwise delight your senses and fill you with informative and fun activities from across our great state! If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, feel free to contact the Editor at Compatriot@TexasSAR.org.

Thanks,

Matt Hoffman

979-415-5302

Compatriot@TexasSAR.org

Contribution Opportunities

[Bonham VA Winter 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.

Clothing & Comfort Items:

- Body Wash (no bar soap or hotel/motel toiletries)
- Deodorant
- Lotion
- Electric Razors (for Veterans on blood thinners)
- Razors (disposable double to triple blade)
- Shaving Cream
- Nail Clippers
- Brushes and Combs
- Chapstick

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

- Bottled water
- Coffee and Coffee supplies (8 oz cups, sugar/Splenda packets)
- Juices (small boxed)
- Individually wrapped snacks (no homemade)
- Danishes, donuts
- Chips
- Cookies (Variety Pack, Individual Bags)
- Candy

Miscellaneous:

- Plastic Models (Cars, Airplanes, Ships, Etc.)
- Leather crafts
- Dominoes (Big)
- Journals, notebooks
- Adult coloring books, with colors or colored pencils
- Paint by stickers
- Markers
- Postage Stamps
- Pens, stationary

Seeking Sponsorship for the following items/activities:

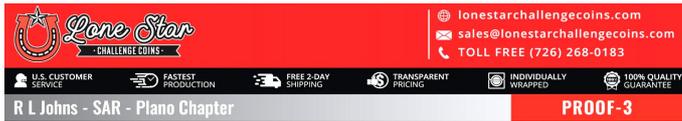
- Monthly Birthday Socials
- Bingo & Prizes
- Cooking Group – monthly or quarterly
- Bowling for Domiciliary Residents
- Bonham State Park Pass
- Sporting & Music Events - Baseball Games [Rangers/Roughriders] and movie tickets for Domiciliary residents.

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.

[The Plano SAR Chapter #37](#) [40th Anniversary Commemorative Coin](#)



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 observed its 40th Anniversary in 2025. To celebrate the event, the Chapter Board commissioned a Commemorative Celebration coin 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 have purchased 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 Ronald Carey at 5504 Overland Drive, The Colony TX, 75056**. You will receive one of the coins in return.

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

The SAR Education Center and Museum Liberty Tree Campaign

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

Upcoming America 250 Patriotic and Travel Events

[CSPAN America 250 Lectures](#)

Compatriots,

CSPAN has some America 250 lectures available for streaming from their website. They are usually about an hour long and are either university faculty giving a lecture in their classroom or notable historians giving a presentation at various institutions (e.g., the American Revolution Institute of the Society of the Cincinnati, the Museum of the American Revolution).

As the year progresses, CSPAN will have more available.

Here are links to a some of them:

[Creation of the Continental Army in 1775 | Video | C-SPAN.org](#)

[British Army During Revolutionary Era | Video | C-SPAN.org](#)

[Boston's Freedom Trail | Video | C-SPAN.org](#)

[Walking Tour of Revolutionary Philadelphia | Video | C-SPAN.org](#)

[Benedict Arnold | Video | C-SPAN.org](#)

[George Washington's Character | Video | C-SPAN.org](#)

[Colonial School for Black Children | Video | C-SPAN.org](#)

[Paul Revere's 1775 "Midnight Ride" | Video | C-SPAN.org](#)

[\[The Revolutionary - Samuel Adams\] | Video | C-SPAN.org](#)

[Religion in Colonial America | Video | C-SPAN.org](#)

[British Recruitment of Slaves During American Revolution | Video | C-SPAN.org](#)

[Washington's Lieutenants in Revolutionary War | Video | C-SPAN.org](#)

[1783 Treaty of Paris | Video | C-SPAN.org](#)

Enjoy!

Dave Fautheree, Color Guard Commander

UPCOMING EVENT

The Florida SAR

Presents:

First Amphibious Landing Memorial

**First Amphibious Landing Memorial – RIBBON CUTTING – Fisher Family Pier
222 N Pompano Beach Boulevard
Pompano Beach FL
14 March 10:00 am - 12:00 pm**

On behalf of the Florida Society, it's my pleasure to extend an invitation to SAR Compatriots across the country to join us for the dedication of our First Amphibious Assault Memorial in Pompano Beach, Florida on March 14, 2026.

For those who are not familiar with it, on March 3, 1776, the Continental Marines staged their first amphibious landing at Nassau in the Bahamas. The Florida Society has partnered with the City of Pompano Beach, Florida to erect a monument to commemorate this significant event in the history of the United States Marine Corps.

249th Anniversary of the Battle of Thomas Creek

**Seaton Creek Historic Preserve
2145 Gold Star Family Parkway
Jacksonville FL 32218
28 March 10:00 am - 11:30 am**

Please join us as we commemorate the 249th Anniversary the Battle of Thomas Creek (the Southernmost Battle of the American Revolutionary War) and our Great Nation's 250 Anniversary. The ceremony will be held at Seaton Creek Historic Preserve Park.

UPCOMING EVENT

America 250

Dallas Symphony Orchestra: Jeff Tuzik
With the U.S. Naval Academy Glee Club

Meyerson Symphony Center

2301 Flora St

Dallas TX 75201

10 & 11 April 2026 7:30pm

12 April 2026 2:00pm

America 250 is a monumental celebration taking place in Dallas, TX on April 10, 11 & 12, 2026 at 7:30 PM. This event commemorates 250 years of American history, featuring a variety of performances that encapsulate the artistic and cultural spirit of the nation. Attendees can expect a rich blend of music, art, and historical reflection, making it a unique and engaging experience suitable for all ages.



Click [HERE](#) for tickets!!

Compatriot Anniversaries for March

Happy Anniversary, Compatriots!

James A Baird	1995
Chuck Brennaman	2021
Alfred Utley	2009
Gabriel John Potts	2025
Kyle Benjamin Potts	2025
Durwood Ray	2024
Samuel Williams	2021

Patriot Stories

**Contributed by Luke Parker David
Regarding his Patriot Ancestor
Reuben Radford**

Reuben Radford, who is my sixth great-grandfather, was born in 1754 in Buckingham, Campbell County, Virginia. Reuben married Elizabeth Hackworth in 1772, when Reuben was 18 years old and Elizabeth was 16 years old. Together Reuben and Elizabeth had many children with their youngest, Samuel, born when Reuben was around 52 years old and Elizabeth was around 50 years old. I am a direct descendant of Samuel Radford.

Reuben Radford served in the Virginia Militia during the American Revolution, a chapter in his life that speaks to his dedication to the cause of liberty.

After the Revolution, in 1783, Reuben moved his family to Georgia, first settling in Wilkes County. A most interesting record exists relating to this relocation. Reuben obtained a passport of sorts dated 9 October 1783 stating his intent to travel to the Southern parts of the U. S. It states that Reuben was acquainted with tobacco farming and had been a resident of Virginia for many years. It was signed on 21 October 1783 by James Calloway, who said Reuben "supported the character of an honest, industrious, sober man, is a good planter and a fine citizen." Calloway and Reuben were neighbors for many years, and Calloway was the county-lieutenant of Bedford County.

Reuben later moved to Oglethorpe and then to Morgan County, where he continued to build a life for his family.

Reuben Radford passed away in December 19, 1819, at the age of 65 and is buried in Radford Cemetery in Bostwick, Morgan County, Georgia. Elizabeth Hackworth Radford passed away at the age of 102 and is buried in Perry County, Alabama. Together they left behind a legacy of resilience and pioneering spirit. Their story reminds us of the enduring values that helped shape our nation.

This Month's Fun Factoid

Spy Stuff in the Works! Roderigue Hortalez and Company

Roderigue Hortalez and Company was an enterprise that funneled covert French and Spanish military and financial aid to the United States prior to the formal Franco-American alliance against Britain. With the backing of the French Minister of Foreign Affairs Charles Gravier, comte de Vergennes, the enterprise was organized by Pierre-Augustin de Beaumarchais. Through the company, weapons and other war material were sent to American forces.

While the Committee of Secret Correspondence was meeting secretly in Philadelphia with agents of France, Arthur Lee was meeting in London with Pierre-Augustin Caron de Beaumarchais, the successful author of *The Barber of Seville* (and later *The Marriage of Figaro*)-who was a French agent. Lee's inflated reports of patriot strength, which either he fabricated for Beaumarchais' benefit or were provided by Lee's regular correspondent, Sam Adams, won the Frenchman to the American cause. Beaumarchais repeatedly urged the French Court to give immediate assistance to the Americans, and on February 29, 1776 addressed a memorial to Louis XVI quoting Lee's offer of a secret long-term treaty of commerce in exchange for secret aid to the war of independence. Beaumarchais explained that France could grant such aid without compromising itself, but urged that "success of the plan depends wholly upon rapidity as well as secrecy: Your Majesty knows better than any one that secrecy is the soul of business, and that in politics a project once disclosed is a project doomed to failure."

With the memorial, Beaumarchais submitted a plan proposing that he set up a commercial trading firm as a cover for the secret French aid; he requested and was granted one million livres to establish a firm to be known as Roderigue Hortalez et Cie for that purpose. Beaumarchais' memorial was followed by one of March 12, 1776, by the French Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Comte de Vergennes. Royal assent was granted, and by the time Silas Deane arrived in Paris, French aid was on its way to the patriots.

Connect!

[Upcoming Meeting Tidbits and Officer Connection Information](#)

3 February 2026 Meeting Highlights

- The History Minute, entitled “The 18th-century Quaker Legacy to all Americans Today”, will be presented by Dr. Steven Driever, Chapter Past President.
- The Featured Speaker is Joe Conger, who will present “Commander-in-Chief Guards”.

Connect with our Officers!

President [Bob Johns](#)

Treasurer [Ronald Carey](#)

Color Guard Commander [Dave Fautheree](#)

VP of Medals and Awards [Alan Roach](#)

VP of Chapter Programs [Melvin Richards](#)

VP of Veterans Affairs [BJ Bjorklund](#)

VP of Youth Activities [Alan Roach](#)

Registrar [Duane Carter](#)

Sergeant at Arms [Michael Becker](#)

Chaplain [Rocky Miller](#)

Secretary [Randall Bush](#)

[Plano SAR Chapter #37 Website](#)

The Minutes

of the

3 February 2026

Chapter Meeting

Plano Texas Chapter #37

Sons of the American Revolution

- President Bob Johns called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.
- Chaplain Rocky Miller led the Invocation, taken from Proverbs Chapter 14.
- Compatriot John Martindale led the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America.
- Compatriot Jim Smetzer led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Texas Flag.
- Compatriot Bryan Humphreys led the SAR Pledge.
- President Bob Johns read the SAR Mission Statement.
- Self Introductions. There were 30 Compatriots and Guests in attendance.
- The minutes of the January 2026 meeting were addressed and read into the record.

The Treasurer's Report was presented by Treasurer
Ronald Carey.

Financials

Income and spending

1/1/2026 through 1/31/2026

Category	Total
Income Categories	
General Donations	500.00
Investment Income	127.12
VA Cash Donations	121.00
Total Income Categories	748.12
Expense Categories	
America 250 Lapel Pins	173.50
Bank Charges	4.00
Medals & Awards	277.50
Miscellaneous	64.89
Office Supplies	11.41
Speaker Meals	24.56
Yearbook Supplies	26.09
Total Expense Categories	581.95
Grand Total	166.17

Account balances

As of 1/31/2026

Account	Total
Assets	
Bank and Cash Accounts	
Prosperity Bank	11,908.03
Total Bank and Cash Accounts	11,908.03
Investment Accounts	
LPL Financial	15,020.80
LPL Financial (Cash)	53.31
Total Investment Accounts	15,074.11
Total Assets	26,982.14
Net Worth	26,982.14

Portfolio value by investment type

All Investment Accounts

As of 1/31/2026

Investment	Quantity	Latest Price	Cost Basis	Avg Cost Per Share	Unrealized Gain / Loss	Value
Stocks						
Public Storage Series 'G'	198.000	\$21.370	4,993.76	25.221	(762.50)	4,231.26
Wells Fargo Series 'CC'	194.000	\$18.290	4,859.20	25.047	(1,310.94)	3,548.26
Total Stocks			9,852.96		(2,073.44)	7,779.52
Mutual Funds						
Entergy New Orleans	188.000	\$22.560	4,700.00	25.000	(458.72)	4,241.28
Total Mutual Funds			4,700.00		(458.72)	4,241.28
CDs						
Banc of California	1,000.000	\$1.000	1,005.00	1.005	(5.00)	1,000.00
Morgan Stanley	2,000.000	\$1.000	2,005.00	1.002	(5.00)	2,000.00
Total CDs						3,000.00
Associated Cash						
LPL Financial (Cash)						53.31
Total Associated Cash						53.31
Grand Total			17,562.96		(2,542.16)	15,074.11

- The Color Guard Report was presented by Major Dave Fautheree, Color Guard Commander. Major Fautheree provided the latest Color Guard Event schedule.

VP of Veterans Affairs, BJ Bjorklund, presented the Veterans Report. He then presented Compatriot Roger Hardin with the War Service Medal for Vietnam Service.



- Compatriot Michael Goode, outgoing Texas SAR District 6th Vice President, and Compatriot Tom Van Fossen promote Compatriot Dave Fautheree to the position of incoming Texas SAR District 6th Vice President.



- The Youth Activity Report was presented by VP of Youth Activities Alan Roach. Compatriot Roach provided the results of last year's JROTC efforts.

VP Youth Activities Alan Roach and Treasurer Ronald Carey Present the Good Citizenship Award and Medal to Ms. Ashlee Happy, 8th Grade US History Teacher, Haggard Middle School



- Induction of New Members, Supplementals and Memorials was presented by President Bob Johns.



New Member:
Compatriot Zachary
Countryman

- Old Business/Announcements was presented by Bon Johns, President.
- New Business was presented by Bob Johns, President.

President Bob Johns presents the Community Service Lapel Pin to Compatriots Rocky Miller, Roger Hardin and Michael Becker and to Compatriots Joe Conger and Nick Gilliam in absentia.



- Chaplain Rocky Miller led the Benediction.
- The Adjournment/Recessional was led by Bob Johns, President.