

Robert Rankin Chapter #62

The Rankin Register

Edition 2025 - 8

August - 2025

The Sons of the Union Veterans of the Civil War

August 7th through August 10th saw the gathering of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War (SUVCW) for their annual National Encampment. Members from "Camps" (chapters) from across the United States met at the Sonesta Hotel off the north 610 loop in Houston.

This group is the successor to the Grand Army of the Republic (GAR), the group of Union Army Veterans that fought in the Civil War and existed in the decades following the Civil War. SUVCW



was founded with a congressional charter to carry on the activities to preserve the history and legacy of the United States Armed Forces veterans who fought in the Civil War.

Many Sons of the American Revolution compatriots also belong to the SUVCW forming a

bond between the two groups. SAR member Jerry Martin set up a table of information about SAR – its mission and history. Twelve individuals signed up to receive membership information.

There is an active drive to come together as Partners in the America250 celebration.



Left, Ben Hobbins – duel member of SUV and SAR from southern California. Right, Jerry Martin, SAR

The Mission of the SAR

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.

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CHAPTER EVENTS

Monthly Meeting

Spring Creek BBQ 9/10 - 6:00pm

Constitution Week

Various 9/10 – 9/23

Stars & Stripes C.A.R.

Cinco Ranch Branch Library 9/26 – 2:00 pm

Honor Flight #35

Hobby Airport 9/20 - 7:00 pm

Stars and Stripes Meeting

Cross Creek Ranch 9/26 – 3:00 pm

Fall Leadership

Louisville 10/2 - 10/4

Monthly Meeting

Spring Creek BBQ 10/8 - 6:30

The Gem Down The Lane.

48.5 miles down Interstate 10 west of Katy, Texas, the home of Robert Rankin Chapter, lies the small town of Columbus. In this town there is a group of individuals that are so active in their community that they are

constantly featured in not one, but six separate area newspapers. Among these individuals are Judy Zachmeyer,



David Zachmeyer, Susan Glover, Donna Dittrich, Stephanie Mattix, Chantea Grisham, Donna

Pustejovsky, Norman Strey, and too many others to count. Some are from the John Everett Chapter of the Daughters of the American (DAR), some from Robert Rankin Chapter SAR, others from the Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 1127, and other groups and individuals.



They are active and represented in the annual Fourth of July Parade, Flag Days, and have a float in the



Christmas Parade every year. They get the whole town involved with participation to celebrate important dates. This group is also responsible for celebrating their neighbors for flying American Flags by awarding them dozens and dozens of SAR Flag Certificates.

The newspapers cited include the Fayette County Record Newspaper, Citizen Newspaper (Columbus), Banner Press Newspaper, Weimar Mercury newspaper, New Ulm Enterprise Newspaper, Schulenburg Sticker newspaper.

Working with the Stars and Stripes C.A.R. Society

August 24, 2025

The 2025 - 2026 National Project for the Children of the American Revolution's (C.A.R.) is the Dr. Joseph Warren Foundation. Chapter President Ali Heywood and Senior President Mrs. Kathryn Smith invited me to give a presentation about Dr. Joseph Warren. After asking the members what they knew about Dr. Warren (there is still some teacher left in my heart), I proceeded to discuss his early years growing up in Roxbury, Massachusetts. I continued with his involvement with the growing animosity that was building up with the British and the events leading up to his tragic death. The students were very attentive and asked intelligent questions.

September 19, 2025



A Rankin SAR Patriot Trump (storage container) with a number of Colonial items was discovered awhile back. None of the items had been handled, were still in their packaging, and there was no list of items. I took it on myself to ask if members of the Stars and Stripes C.A. R. Society would be interested in helping me identifying, tagging, photographing, and inventorying the items. On September 19th, we gathered at the Cinco Ranch Branch Library. We set up an assembly line for the process. We could not identify several of the items and had to "google" until they were identified. Since we had so many members there, several folded some brochures that I needed for an information booth. It was a great success and again, my teacher came out having the students identifying each of the items.





Wreaths Across America

This year, National Wreaths Across America Day will be held on Saturday, December 13, 2025. Join the more than two million volunteers and supporters who will gather to Remember, Honor, Teach at more than 5,200 participating locations in all 50 states, at sea and abroad.

AUGUST EVENT

The most important event in the Revolutionary War during August was the Battle of Long Island, fought from August 26 to 30, 1776. This battle marked a significant British victory, allowing them to capture New York City and forcing George Washington's Continental Army to retreat.

A Liberty Tree in Columbus, Texas

LIBERTY TREE

THIS LIVE OAK TREE THAT IS ESTIMATED TO BE
250 YEARS OLD HAS BEEN SELECTED BY THE
SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION
ROBERT RANKIN CHAPTER
DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOUTION
JOHN EVERETT CHAPTER
VIETNAM VETERANS OF AMERICA
CHAPTER 1127

AS OUR LIBERTY TREE TO COMMEMORATE THE 250TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF OUR UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

THESE ORGANIZATIONS HOPE THAT ALL WHO ADMIRE ITS BEAUTY AND ENJOY ITS SHADE WILL REFLECT ON THE PATRIOTS WILD HAVE SHED THEIR BLOOD AND WORKED TO CREATE THIS NATION THAT AFFORDS US THE FREEDOMS AND OPPORTUNITIES THAT WE THE PEOPLE ENJOY TODAY!

1776 - 2026

Current version of the Liberty Tree plaque.

I am pretty sure everyone knows the story of the "Liberty Tree" in Boston, Massachusetts. The tree became a rallying point of the growing resistance between the British and the American patriots. In August 1775, Loyalist felled the tree.

You may not know that there is a movement in the

United States and especially with the Nation Society Sons of

the American Revolution to symbolically "replace" the liberty tree across nation.

Our group of patriots in Columbus, including the Robert Rankin Chapter, SAR, the John Everett Chapter, DAR, the Chapter 1127, Vietnam Veterans of America, as well as other individuals and organizations, have found a tree



that appears to be about 250 years old to dedicate as a Liberty Tree. They have designed the Liberty Tree Plaque and are waiting for the Columbus City Counsil to approve the recognition. If it is approved, I will notify the membership in case you want to celebrate with them.

Civility During War

October 1777: after the Battle of Germantown, a small dog strayed into the American lines. George Washington had it fed, groomed, and sent back to its owner – British Commander Sir William Howe – under a flag of truce, with a courteous note citing the collar. A brief moment of civility amid a harsh campaign.

The 250th is here. Will You Join Us In Celebration?

July 4, 2026, will be the 250th birthday of our country.

It didn't start or stop on that day, but was a decade long process: 1773 - 1783

america250sar.org

Memorable events

250 years ago...

- 2023 Boston Tea Party
- 2024 The First Continental Congress
- 2025 Battles of Lexington and Concord.
- 2026 Declaration of Independence
- 2027 Battle of Saratoga
- 2028 French Alliance
- 2029 Siege of Vincennes/Kettle Creek
- 2030 Battle of Kings Mountain
- 2031 Siege of Yorktown
- 2032 Battle of Blue Licks
- 2033 Treaty of Paris