



**Robert Rankin Chapter #62**  
*Texas Society Sons of the American Revolution*  
**The Rankin Register**



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*Editor: Tom Jackson*

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**Message from the President**



*Robert Rankin President  
 Alex D. Thorne*

Over the years this Chapter has been blessed to have several energetic members who have made ensuring the Chapter's success a priority in their lives. If we are to succeed in the long run, we need to do a better job of spreading the work across our membership.

I sent our members two surveys; I ask that you fill them out and return them to me.

The first survey addresses our meetings: your officers want to make sure that we plan our meetings so that they are interesting to you. We want to know if there are things we can do, or should change, to increase the likelihood that you will attend regularly.

The second survey is a Member Interest Form and it lists nearly all of the SAR programs and many of the activities required to run a successful Chapter.

All successful organizations have a succession plan for its key roles. In my opinion the key roles in a SAR Chapter are probably the Committee Chairmen and the Registrars and Genealogists – because these are the members who make the Chapter run. The best succession plan for Robert Rankin is to have additional hands working on our projects and working with the documentation for new members.

**Distinguished Service Medal**

Jerry Clanton receives the chapter Distinguished Service Medal. Only one of these is given each year. The DSM is the highest-ranking medal that can be given to a compatriot at the chapter level and is awarded at the sole discretion of the chapter President.



*L-R: Jerry Clanton, IPP Michael Bierman and President Alex Thorne.*



President Alex Thorne presents Bernice Mistrot with certificates for financial support and a Chapter Service Medal for five years of support.

## May Meeting

Our speaker for the evening is Kristie Byram Campbell and she reviews the court case of Marshall v. Marbury. Her presentation is succinct and informative, and of course as a former teacher she is well accustomed to talking to a group and presenting information. We are pleased to have the outgoing Texas Senior CAR President, Jill Jackson as one of our speakers.

Numerous awards are given out – Bernice Mistrot, Jack and Jennie Muggli, Jerry Clanton and, most significantly, Jill who receives the CAR/ SAR Medal of Appreciation.



Jill Jackson, Honorary Senior State President, Texas Society of the C.A.R



L-R: Jerry Clanton, Pres. Alex Thorne, Freedom Chapter Pres. Art Byram and Guest Speaker Kristie Byram Campbell.

## Jill Jackson

Jill says, "I was seven years old when my paternal grandmother opened large Ahnentafel charts across the dining room table and showed me how to read a census." Jill's grandmother, the first to join the DAR, found she had many lines that received Kentucky land grants for Revolutionary service. Their first DAR ancestor, Moses Hough, was a private in the New Jersey Militia.

At age 30, Jill joined the DAR. As a DAR Junior Member, she volunteered with the C.A.R., serving as a C.A.R. State Chair and then an Officer. Once I aged out of Junior Membership, I briefly left C.A.R. to focus on DAR service. When my daughters were born and took interest, we volunteered in C.A.R. together.

Jill's favorite part of serving as Senior State President, was helping each State President develop a strategy to complete meaningful and successful State Projects. Jill has recreated south Texas in her yard on Brays Bayou. The children answered Texas history questions to move to the next battle, culminating at the Battle of San Jacinto!

## Robert Rankin Chapter JROTC, Chairman Tom Jackson

We have just about completed serving our schools with JROTC. Historically we have served 20 schools spread over 9 school districts. Our program has been active for eighteen years under the leadership of different compatriots.

Let's review our historical involvement. President Richard Shanks started the JROTC program by serving schools in the Cypress Fairbanks ISD in 2004. President Mistrot added Westfield in Houston ISD in 2006. President Pat Kerr, a graduate of JROTC in Pasadena, added Pasadena ISD, Galena Park ISD and Alief ISD in the 2007/2008 school year. President Jackson added Katy ISD in 2009 and then Waller ISD & Aldine ISD in 2017/2018.

The extended JROTC contest was started under the leadership of Ed Raines and Tom Jackson in 2007. Rankin nominees have placed in the top five in state ever since.

This year Allan Perkins, Michael Bierman, Harry Woodstrom and Tom Jackson attended 11 in person presentations and three were sent via mail spread among 7 school districts.



### Rankin Chapter Does it again!

For the second year in a row the Rankin Chapter sponsored the first-place winner of the state Extended JROTC Contest: Cadet Capt. Sidney Kahla. Cadet Kahla will receive a \$2,500 scholarship and will be entered into the national contest in July 2022.

L-R: Tom Jackson, Texas JROTC Chairman Randy Hall, Waller Principal Stephanie Fletcher, Waller ISD Superintendent Kevin Moran, John Thompson and Bob Mennell.

### Proposed Carrington Realignment Reasonable or Land Grab?

Under the Carrington proposed realignment of the 20 schools that we have served over the years, 13 were assigned to Carrington, 2 assigned to Hodge, 5 were kept by Rankin, and 1 from Piney Woods was assigned to Rankin.

Of the 14 we served this year, 8 were assigned to Carrington, 1 to Hodge & 5 were retained by Rankin.

Rankin candidates have placed 11 years in state winning state 7 times and national once. All schools from which a state placing candidate emerged have been reassigned from Rankin to Carrington.

The resolution is to be pursued by District Vice Presidents Ken Graalum and Richard Zdunkewicz with input from Chapter Presidents.

## Out and About



Tom Jackson, center front row, and Michael Bierman, holding the American Flag on the left, present colors along with other Compatriots at a Space Cowboys baseball game at Constellation Field in Sugar Land. The event was initiated by the Captain Edward Weyman Society TSCAR.

The Space Cowboys are a Minor League Baseball team of the Pacific Coast League and the Triple-A affiliate of the Houston Astros Major League Baseball club. This was amazing fun. The El Paso Chihuahuas came to town to play our Cowboys. The mascots as well as the logos are absolutely hilarious and great fun.

Representing Freedom chapter, you have their president Arthur Byram, front row on the left, as well as state secretary Mel Oller, wearing the dark blue vest.

## Upcoming Events

|   |               |
|---|---------------|
| Rankin Annual Meeting, Spring Creek BBQ | November 9    |
| National Congress, Savannah, GA         | July 10-15    |
| Summer Texas SAR BOM, ZOOM              | August TBD    |
| Texas Society Fall BOM, McKinney        | October 21-23 |
| Wreaths Across America                  | December 17   |

## Chapter Officers

2022-2023

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