



The Redoubt
Alexander Hamilton Chapter
Newsletter
Sons of the American Revolution



WINTER SPRING SUMMER AND FALL 2023



Alexander Hamilton (1755 – 1804), a soldier, statesman, politician, first Secretary of the Treasury, attorney, banker, and finally a duelist. The rendering above by H. Charles McBarron, depicts the victorious assault on Yorktown Redoubt 10, led by Lieutenant Colonel Hamilton. The taking of Redoubts 9 and 10 enabled General George Washington to complete the siege lines surrounding Yorktown and force the surrender of Lord Cornwallis. This British defeat ultimately ended the Revolutionary War and secured the independence and formation of our United States. We proudly honor our chapter’s namesake!

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At right our Chapter President:
DARRELL G. HUTCHINSON

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UPCOMING EVENTS:

- *Chapter Meeting: 13 Jan 2024
- *Chapter Meeting: 09 Mar 2024
- *Chapter Meeting: 11 May 2024
- *Chapter Meeting: 13 July 2024

Go to:
<https://www.txssar.org/AlexanderHamilton/meetings.htm> for event times and locations!

2023 CHAPTER MEETINGS, EVENTS AND COMPATRIOTS IN THE NEWS

January

Our January Guest Speaker was Compatriot Bill Jones. Bill's presentation focused on his career as a hot air balloon pilot



Pictured - Katie Thomas

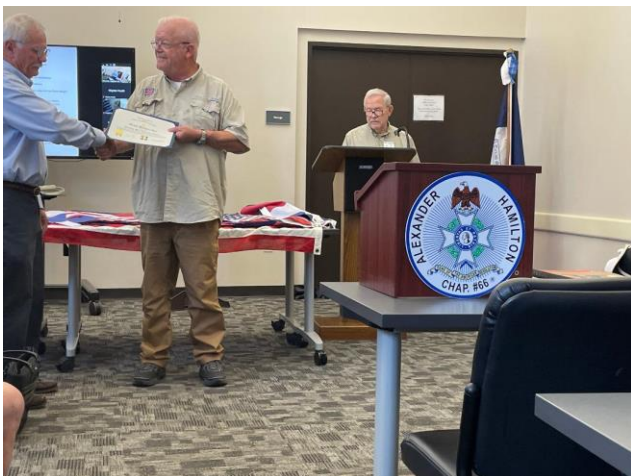
March

Our March Guest Speaker was Kathi Thomas, AIFD, PFC and DAR member. Her presentation was about her ancestor Stephen Williams. Stephen, according to the Historical Society, was the only man to have fought in all three of: The Revolutionary War, The War of 1812, and The Texas War for Independence. (

May

The May Meeting included the presentation of a New Member Certificate to Keye Perry by Steve Hodges. Sadly, Keye passed away on August 23rd (see obituary below).

Ed Deshields introduced the Guest Speaker, Peter T. Baron (pictured below) SAR Genealogical Assistant, San Antonio Chapter, Texas Society. Peter's presentation focused on Establishing America from colony to republic including: how and when it happened. He displayed several muskets, and various typical campsite items. He also explained many unique features of the items on display.



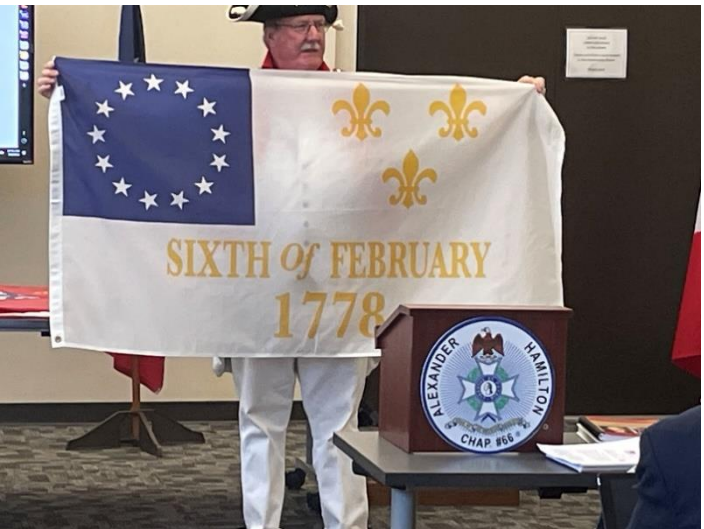
July

Presentation of Vietnam Veterans Corp. Certificate by Steve Hodges to Compatriot Grant Gee.

Our July Guest Speaker was Introduced by Ed Deshields. John Knox was visiting from the Patrick Henry Chapter. His topic and presentation included his impressive collection of replica flags from the colonial and early years of the USA. He also shared his extensive knowledge of the history associated with many of the early flags.



flags.



September

Our Guest Speaker is the author of several books. Salina Baker resides in New Jersey but joined us in Georgetown. Her presentation covered the life and service of General Nathanael Greene. He has been her subject in multiple books including "The Line of Splendor". As she explained, General Greene was one of our most important leaders of the Revolution. He was a favorite of George Washington and pivotal Commander in achieving the Patriot Forces success in defeating the British Army in the Southern Theater.



November

On November 5th we had representatives attend the Veterans Day Celebration Opening Ceremony including Darrell Hutchinson, Darrin Hutchinson, Jim Scott, Vern Eubanks and Steve Hodges. The event included dynamic guest speakers, a wonderful Military Band, great Static Displays, fabulous Flyovers by the Devil Dog and the Falcon Flight Team of Formation flyers, the inspiring Parade of Colors, and the Williamson County Sheriff's K-9 demonstration.





On November 11th at our bi monthly Chapter meeting, we inducted three new members. (Pictured are new Compatriots Hunter George, Jim Rogers, and Ryan Kirk.)

We also learned our Multi Role Chapter member, Steve Hodges would be transferring to a Washington State SAR Chapter. Steve has been filling many roles in the Chapter in recent years and his departure will leave several Chapter Coordinator position vacancies. A significant Coordinator recruiting effort has been started to address our immediate needs. Steve's "above and beyond" service is much appreciated. We wish him well in his new adventures and look forward to his visits in the future.

Our Presentation was by Compatriot Sylvester Shelton who has written the book "Amelia Earhart's Last Flight".



Pictured (left) are Vern Eubanks and Darrell Hutchinson who represented our Chapter, along with Darrin Hutchinson at the annual Wreaths Across America on Sunday, November 5th. These ceremonies, conducted all over the USA, help us to remember and honor our deceased veterans.



CHAPTER MEMBERS - WE WANT YOU!

Compatriots, your chapter needs your skills and a bit of your time to fulfill our commitments to our Society and our community. The chapter needs committee men to support our Veterans Program, Membership Program and Community Programs. Please contact Chapter President Darrell Hutchinson at txssarhamilton@gmail.com or call 512-869-4882 for details and to discuss your area of interest. Current priorities identified by the Board of Managers are supporting Veteran's groups and Membership efforts including new member recruiting, mentoring and development. Write or call today

Bit of History

In the period leading up to the American Revolution, many towns and villages began to prepare for the anticipated hostilities by preparing a document that clearly declared and committed its signatories to align themselves with the Colonial Independence from Great Britain movement. The organizers then called town meetings and explained that everyone should sign the "Pledge" document or it would be assumed by the signers, that the non-signers would be their enemy combatants in the battles to come. A sample of the wording of one such "Pledge" is as follows:

The Pledge

"Persuaded that the salvation of the rights and liberties of America depend, under God, on the firm union of its inhabitants in a rigorous prosecution of the measures necessary for its safety ; and convinced of the necessity of preventing anarchy and confusion, which attend the dissolution of the powers of government, we, the freemen, freeholders, inhabitants of Dutchess County, being greatly alarmed at the avowed design of the Ministry to raise a revenue in America, and shocked by the bloody scene now acting in Massachusetts Bay, do, in the most solemn manner, resolve never to become slaves and do associate, under all the ties of religion, honor, and love to our country, to adopt and endeavor to carry into execution whatever measures may be recommended by the Continental Congress, or resolved upon by our Provincial Convention for the purpose of preserving our Constitution, and opposing the execution of the several arbitrary Acts of the British Parliament, until a reconciliation between Great Britain and America on constitutional principles (which we most ardently desire) can be obtained ; and that we will in all things follow the advice of our General Committee respecting the purposes aforesaid, the preservation of peace and good order, and the safety of individuals and property."

IN REMEMBRANCE

Recognizing those compatriots, we have recently lost and are greatly missed.

LT COL USAF (RETIRED) KEYE E PERRY'S OBITUARY

April 4, 1947 – August 23, 2023



Lt Col Keye E. Perry, USAF (retired) – father, son, husband, grandfather, uncle, pilot, mason, coach, athlete, scout, consummate life-long learner, and gifted orator – laid down his working tools and joined the Great Architect of the Universe alongside his father, Wes, and son, Rob, on August 23, 2023 after a brief battle with a viral infection he obtained while traveling abroad. A burial service with full military and masonic honors was held Thursday September 7, 2023 at 11am at Central Texas State Veterans Cemetery in Killeen, Texas Keye was born in Denver, Colorado to Wesley and Dorothy Perry on April 4, 1947. Keye was known for his grand adventures and mischief around town with his younger sister, Pat, and their family friend Dinah Plum. His father's work moved the family from Colorado to Idaho to Oregon and onto California where Keye graduated from La Mirada High School in 1965. He attended college at the University of Southern California where he played the trumpet for the USC band and joined the ROTC. He graduated from USC with honors and was commissioned into the United States Air Force in 1969.

After attending flight school, Keye served three tours in Southeast Asia flying O-2s and B-52s, followed by Farsi language training and a brief assignment to Iran flying C-12s for the embassy. His next mission led him to serve as an instructor pilot and school squadron commander at Sheppard AFB in Wichita Falls, Texas. It was here that he met and married his bride, Becky. He then took the family to Hawaii for a Pacific Air Force role followed by a tour at the

Pentagon in Northern Virginia. His last assignment was at Griffis AFB in Rome, New York before retiring and relocating his family to Austin, Texas. He always joked that while he wasn't a native Texan, he got here as fast as he could. The next chapter began with obtaining two masters from the University of Texas, starting his second career as a CPA and in his free time, starting his Masonic journey with Parsons Lodge #222 in 1995. He served in many roles within Parsons Lodge, including District Deputy Grand Master ('15- '16).

Keye was honored by receiving the 33rd Degree Inspector General Honorary in 2019. He served the Austin Scottish Rite as the Head of all Four Bodies ('10- '17). He received the Double Eagle Award (2014), was an Emeritus Member of the Knights of St. Andrew Order of the Thistle and served as the Austin Valley Ambassador. In 1998, Keye joined the local chapter of National Sojourners, Anson Jones #507. Passionate about masonry history and the military community, he dedicated the next 20 years to serving in a variety of roles within National Sojourners including Chapter President ('02- '03), Camp Commander ('03- '04), National President ('13- '14), Trustee ('15- '23) and Chairman of the Trustees ('22- '23). Additionally, he was the President of Collingwood Library & Museum Association. He served as Deputy Area Representative for the South-Central Area ('18- '23) and was a Director of the Royal Order of Barrow Wheelers. He received the Houghton Memorial Award, the Second Highest Award in National Sojourners, in 2018 and the Donor Medal in 2019.

In 2015, Keye received the Conferral of the Orders of the Austin Conclave of the Red Cross of Constantine, serving in several positions from 2015-2022. The following year, he was knighted into the Jewell P. Lightfoot Council of Knight Masons #109. He served the Council as Excellent Chief ('19- '20) and as Secretary/Treasurer ('22- '23).

He is survived by his wife of 43 years, Rebecca Lee (Thompson) Perry; son LTC Keye Perry, Jr (US Army retired) and his wife, Connie and grandsons, Connor, Jake and Zach; son Bryan Perry and wife, Kristin and grandchildren, Hayden and Mackenzie; daughter Sarah Elizabeth Perry; and son Trevor Taubert and granddaughters, Libby and Margaret Ann. He is also survived by his mother, Dorothy Ann Perry and sister, Patricia Young and husband, Robert and nieces, Karissa, Sarah and Rachel. He will be dearly missed by many and will always be loved...

Michael Shannon Nichols

Sept 15, 1943 – July 8, 2023

Michael Shannon of Georgetown, Texas died on July 8, 2023 at age 79. Michael was born September 15, 1943 at Salt Lake City, Utah. Michael was a member of the Sons of the American Revolution since October 30, 2006. Mike had a Masonic funeral service on July 22nd at the San Gabriel Lodge in Georgetown with several members in attendance.

AND JUST WHAT EXACTLY IS A REDOUBT?

"A fort or fort system usually consisting of an enclosed defensive emplacement outside a larger fort, usually relying on earthworks, although some are constructed of stone or brick." according to Wikipedia. For details on LTC Hamilton's victorious assault on number 10, and a look at a scaled replica go to <https://ahec.armywarcollege.edu/trail/Redoubt10/index.cfm>.



PRESIDENT'S YEAR END MESSAGE

Alexander Hamilton Chapter

2023 in review

Our Chapter has succeeded in developing General Membership Meeting programs of importance and interest as they relate to the American Revolution however our issue is to encourage better attendance to learn more about how the 13 Colonies became united to become the United States of America.

On January 14 we met for the last time in Sun City. Our speaker, Compatriot, Bill Jones presented the "story of Hot Air Ballooning" of which he is an active participant. We contracted with Georgetown Parks and Rec. at that meeting to meet in their Community Room for all future meetings.

Approved was "meeting every other month, beginning with March then May, July, September and November".

On January 19 we were invited to the Genealogy Society meeting in Sun City, to hear the story of the Revolutionary War. 10 of our members attended and we learned about the muskets used and how battles were won. Steve Hodges spoke to the group, asking anyone who could possibly become a compatriot of the SAR to contact him, as he could be of help.

On February 18, members attended the George Washington's Birthday celebration sponsored by Austin Chapters of the DAR in a joint session at the Women's Club, Austin. We participated in posting the colors.

We moved in March to the Georgetown Parks and Rec Community Room at 1101 College St., Georgetown for Saturday meetings.

On March 11th we heard, Kathi Thomas who spoke about Stephen Williams, the only one who fought in the Revolution, War of 1812, and the War for Texas Independence.

At our May 13 meeting Steve Hodges presented Keye Perry with the New Member Certificate. (Mr. Perry passed away in August from an infection.) Members attended the August Services for Mr. Perry.

On May 13 Grant Gee and Rob Tucker were awarded NSSAR Veterans Multi Corps recognition for wartime certificates. Our May speaker was Peter Baron, SAR Genealogist, San Antonio who presented the story of America from Colony to Republic. He talked about the weapons of the war.

On July 1 and 2 we posted the Colors at the Sun City Live Variety Show. At the July 8 meeting, Steve Hodges and Darrell Hutchinson inducted to our chapter, new member James Wood. Steve presented Grant Gee with the Vietnam Veterans Certificate. Guest speaker, John Knox, with the Patrick Henry Chapter, talked and displayed the many flags of early America to the present, telling why they were used and when. There were DAR guests present at the July meeting.

Our featured speaker September 9, was author Salina Baker who spoke regarding her book on General Nathaniel Greene who served with honor in the American Revolutionary War.

September 23rd, we participated in "Posting the Colors" during the "Constitution Week" gathering at Chateau Bellveau in Austin. It was hosted by the DAR Chapters of Austin.

The event speaker, Michael Carpenter, County Commissioner Guadalupe County, Precinct 3 gave us the history of women and their part in "the Miracle of the United States"

And on Sunday, November 5th compatriots, Darrin Hutchinson, Steve Hodges, Vern Eubanks, Jim Scott, and Darrell Hutchinson participated in the Field of Honor Parade at 507 East University, Georgetown.

At our final membership meeting of the year, November 10, 2023 we heard from Compatriot Sylvester Shelton who has written the book "Amelia Earhart's Last Flight". His video gave us insight into the abilities of Ms. Earhart's flying capabilities to go from point A to point B (or not).

We inducted into membership of the Alexander Hamilton Chapter, Hunter Houston George, James Francis Rogers, and Nathan Weis and welcomed these new Compatriots into our Chapter at this November 10th meeting.

We closed out the year with a ZOOM meeting of the Alexander Hamilton Board of Managers on December 6th. Our concerns are “filling vacant office positions” most important to a working Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution. The Chapter members are asked to step up and take a governing role in the Alexander Hamilton Chapter. We’re not there yet.

Darrell Hutchinson, President
Alexander Hamilton Chapter 66
Sons of the American Revolution

COMING IN OUR NEXT WINTER & SPRING ISSUE 2024

CHAPTER EVENTS AND COMPATRIOTS IN THE NEWS

SEE IT THIS COMING JUNE, 2024!

This Newsletter editor was our Historian Jim Rogers.