



# The MINUTEMAN



## Dallas Chapter

Founded July 4, 1929

Texas Society - Sons of the American Revolution

May 13, 2023

Volume 24, No. 05

**Ventana by Buckner South Tower, Grand Hall**  
**8301 N US 75-Central Expressway - Dallas, TX 75225**  
**He that cannot obey, cannot command.**

Breakfast – 8:00am

Meeting – 9:00am

**PRESIDENT**

*Mark H. Harrison*

**1st VICE-**

**PRESIDENT/PROGRAMS**

*Thomas F. Van Fossen*

**2nd VICE-**

**PRESIDENT/AWARDS**

*JD Martin*

**SECRETARY**

*Bill Watts*

**TREASURER**

*Carl N. Harper*

**REGISTRAR**

*Mark Morgan*

**ASSISTANT REGISTRAR**

*Jerry Pinkerton*

**CHAPLAIN**

*Frank H. Ponders*

**ASSISTANT CHAPLAIN**

*Larry Luby*

**HISTORIAN**

*Brent Harshman*

**TRUSTEES**

*Jerry Pinkerton*

*David Temple*

**COLOR GUARD COMMANDER**

*Bill Watts*



# AGENDA

**Call to Order** – President Harrison

**Rules of Engagement** –

This meeting is being filmed and recorded. By joining this in-person or virtual meeting of the Dallas Chapter of the TXSSAR, you acknowledge and agree that these proceedings may be made public.

**Invocation** – Frank Pounders

**Pledges** – American Flag, Texas Flag, SAR - All

**Welcome** – President Harrison – Welcome to all.

## Visitors

This will be a special day because we have visitors from various chapters, contest winners and their parents. We are awarding prizes for the contest winners from the Dallas Chapter as well as other chapters in the area. According to Tom Whitelock this is the largest attendance in 20 years for our chapter. A total of 89 members, guests and awardees are here today.

## Youth Contests Award Presentations

### James M Looney Elementary School Poster Contest

★ **RyLee Steffes**

Winner | Dallas Chapter – Larry Luby presented her certificate and check - 3<sup>rd</sup> Place | Texas State Society

★ **Susuana Lamptey**

Winner | Plano Chapter – Bob Johns presented her certificate and check

★ **Aerilin Steen**

Winner | East Fork Trinity Chapter – Paul Ridenour presented her certificate and check

Tom Van Fossen reminded the assembly that all three entries were from Doris Cullins-Lake Pointe Elementary School in Rowlett. They are from the same 5<sup>th</sup> grade class. Gayle Kidd our American History Teacher of the Year in 2022 is their teacher.



## Sgt Moses Adams Middle School Brochure Contest

★ **Gloria A.**  
Winner | Dallas Chapter  
4<sup>th</sup> Place | Texas State Society

Father Edward Fruin, History Teacher attended with Gloria from the St. Timothy School Dallas.



## Joseph S. Rumbaugh Historical Oration Contest



★ **Terry Kim**  
Winner | Dallas Chapter  
1<sup>st</sup> Place | Texas State Society  
Submitted to National for judging in the National Joseph S. Rumbaugh Historical Oration Contest. Larry Luby presented his certificate and check.

## George S & Stella Knight Essay Contest

★ **Ella Kaheley**  
Winner | Dallas Chapter – Larry Luby presented her certificate and check.

6<sup>th</sup> Place | Texas State Society



Ella Kaheley read her essay to the chapter.



★ **Terry Kim**  
Winner | Edmund Terrell Chapter – John Greer presented his check and certificate  
4<sup>th</sup> Place | Texas State Society

**Tom & Betty Lawrence American History Teacher Award**



**Elizabeth Rose – Biography**

Elizabeth Rose graduated from the University of Nebraska at Kearney in May 2004. Realizing the difficulty of acquiring an American History job in small town Nebraska, she moved to Little Elm, TX where she began to substitute for Little Elm ISD and McKinney ISD while she worked on receiving her Texas teaching certificate. The following school year she began her teaching career at Texas Can Academy, a charter school for high school students who had fallen behind in a traditional school setting.

After two years, she transferred into Dallas ISD where she spent 5 years at South Oak Cliff HS and 5 years at Wilmer-Hutchins High School. After purchasing a home in the city of Mesquite, Elizabeth was presented with the opportunity to teach in the same neighborhood as where she

lived. She is now finishing her 6th year at Dr. Ralph H. Poteet High School, and her eighteenth year of teaching in total.

Elizabeth currently teaches dual credit US History, dual credit Government, AP Government and AP Macroeconomics. Her favorite subject to teach is U.S. History because she enjoys the storytelling aspect of the subject. She is passionate about exposing students to history outside of the classroom and just returned from taking a group of seniors to Washington DC for five days.

In her spare time, she works part-time for the Dallas Cowboys and for the AT&T Performing Arts Center. She enjoys traveling and spending time with her family and with her dog, Eleanor.

**Essay for the American History Teacher Award**

It is no secret that teaching, at any level in any subject, is becoming increasingly difficult in present society. Students are being bombarded with instant information and technology that makes genuine learning feel like a thing of the past. Educators are facing more and more difficulties and responsibilities each year causing teachers to ask themselves “Is it worth it?” Teaching history has its own set of challenges. Do you rely on a textbook? What if you find bias in the text? Do you supplement with outside sources? Are the sources board approved? Do you notify parents about their child learning about sensitive topics? Do you stick with the straight and narrow or challenge your students to ask, “what if?”

As a classroom teacher of almost eighteen years, I have tried every trick in the book to capture the interest of my students. How do you make the actions of men from two hundred and fifty years ago relevant to teenagers from Generation Alpha? For years I struggled with how to make the connection until I realized that I needed to get my students to feel the emotion of history. If I could

allow them to feel the anticipation, the frustration, the tension, the bravery, and the victory of history, I could get them to learn and be interested in the events of the past that have shaped our country.

The American Revolution is a topic that I teach to students using emotion. I gain their interest by using a points system where I allow them to earn points easily in the units leading up to the Revolution. Once we complete the Seven Years War, I begin to “tax” the students for actions that they need to perform in the classroom during every class meeting. I charge them points that they have earned for things that they need to be successful in class. These include the use of the pencil sharpener, the use of the television to see the notes, the use of the trash can to discard anything they no longer want. These points are not affiliated with their grade, they are points they earned previously for attending class, answering a question when called upon, or completing tasks on time. Students build these points towards a reward of their choice.

Once the British government began to introduce new taxes to the colonists in the curriculum, I began to implement taxes in the classroom. At first, students reluctantly paid the taxes without making the connection. Every new class day there was a new tax they had to pay. On the day that we were scheduled to learn about the new Tea Tax and Boston Tea Party, I notified the students that if they wanted to have access to my lecture notes, they needed to pay me with their points. This sent them into an uproar. I told them that I would address questions and concerns if they would allow one spokesperson per table group and listen to what everyone had to say. I gave them ten or so minutes to gather their thoughts and form their questions. I had questions that ranged from “How can you charge us to do what we are here to do, to learn?” to “How can you expect us to succeed if you don’t set us up for success?” I explained to them that everyone in the class had accumulated enough points to pay the new fee and they had a choice to make, pay it or don’t get access to the information, but they had to decide collectively. I gave them time to make their decision. Together, they decided to pay the fee. We moved on with the notes over the information of the various acts that charged the colonists fees and taxes. We made it to the Tea Act and the events surrounding the Boston Tea Party. I could see students connecting the dots. In my planning, it was my hope that a courageous student would point out the connection and I would reveal my plan to the unsuspecting students. However, something better happened. At the beginning of the next class, the students came in unusually quiet and suspicious. My plan was to share with them why I charged them points and then introduce the Declaration of Independence to them. A student raised his hand and asked if he could present something to me on behalf of the class. He stood at the front of the classroom, facing me, and stated that he represented every member of the class. He pulled out a piece of paper and began to read from it. It was a list of everything that they did not think was fair with my points system and how they no longer wanted to participate. Every student signed it, even one enlarged signature taking over the bottom space. They had figured me out. Their light bulbs were shining bright, and the connections were made. They had exceeded my expectations. I went on to explain my method and how I did not think that they would have figured it out before we got to the Declaration in the learning. They were proud of themselves. The emotions that they had felt allowed for deeper understanding and learning. It was more than notes from a lecture or reading from a book, it was an experience with feelings and emotions attached.

Teaching students to feel history is always my goal when lesson planning. I do my best to allow my students to see history from the point of view of those who experienced it. We use and analyze primary sources to gain this understanding. We have written letters as colonial soldiers to our families who we left behind to fight against the British. I have shown video clips of reenactments

of battles to help them understand what war was like in the 1770s. Students have taken on the roles of founding fathers to recreate discussions from the Continental Congresses. When students can immerse themselves into the point of views of those who they are learning about, history comes alive. Students walk away saying things like “why didn’t they think of...”, “I agree with what they did because...”, and “I can’t believe it took them that long to finally act.”

To be able to visit sites like colonial Williamsburg or to attend the SAR Convention on the American Revolution would be an incredible experience. I would be able to gather primary sources to use in the classroom, knowledge that is presented outside of a textbook and be able to collaborate with experts that can enhance my teaching toolbox on all things American Revolution. I believe that the best learning comes from experience and I would be able to bring this experience directly to my students as I connect them to the events surrounding the Revolution.

For the last eighteen years, I have had the privilege of teaching United States history to over twenty-five hundred students. When I reflect on having that many young adults who have sat with me in my classrooms over the years, I can only hope that I taught them something that they have been able to take with them throughout their life. If it wasn’t about the American Revolution or even about history, I hope it was about how to view events from someone else’s perspective, how to respect those perspectives and how to learn from others. The days may be long, but the years pass by quickly and I can only hope to have an influence on twenty-five hundred more students as they pass through my classroom, eager to learn the foundations of our nation.

Elizabeth ended with a “Thank You” to our Chapter.



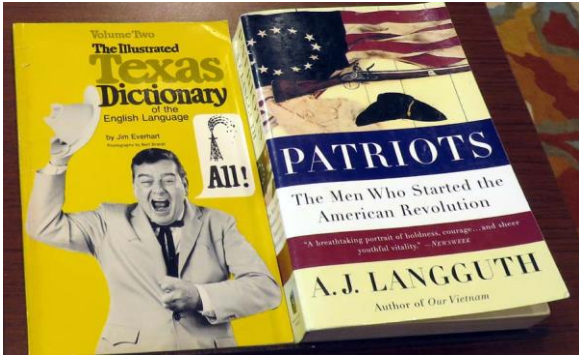
Tom Milson from the McKinney Chapter presented Elizabeth Rose the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal in recognition of her outstanding approach teaching Revolutionary History in High School.

This all got started when PG Nathan White wanted Elizabeth Rose to speak at the McKinney Chapter. The chapter was so impressed that they wanted to award her something else. That is why the McKinney Chapter awarded the medal.

Nathan White wanted all members of the Sons of the American Revolution to understand that this is why we pay our dues, so that good teachers are rewarded.

**Which part of the brain deals with voluntary movement – forebrain, cerebellum, brain stem?  
Find the answer after Color Guard Report.**

## DOOR PRIZE –



Because this meeting is different we are going to award door prizes before our guests leave.



Regan van Heyst



Jeff Morrow

## **New Members & Patriots - Jerry Pinkerton**

### **New Members**

- ★ Donnie R. Watts | *Thomas Huntley* brother of Bill Watts
- ★ Marvin D. Watts / *Thomas Huntley* brother of Bill Watts

### **New Memorials**

- ★ Marvin C. Austin | *John Austin* grandfather of Bill Watts
- ★ Bennie R. Graves | *Elisha Garland* Jerry Pinkerton received the Certificate for his nephew Bennie

### **New Supplemental Patriots**

- ★ Thomas F. Van Fossen | *Jeremiah Willison*
- ★ William B. Watts, Jr. | *Russell Jones*
- ★ William B. Watts, Jr. | *James Beasley*

## **Member Anniversaries – Mark Harrison**

★ 30 Years - Graham Martin

## **Military Service Awards – Marshall Scantlin**

- ★ Mark Hansen
- ★ Dr. Gary Sisson

## **Special Presentation**

Ora Jane Johnson a member of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas Collin McKinney Chapter and The Texas State Society United States Daughters of 1812 presented Bill Watts Certificates of Appreciation for helping them with the Grave Marking of James Lemmon on March 19, 2023.

## **Committee Updates – Tom Whitelock**

We need your help serving as a member of one of our Chapter Committees.

## **Opportunities to Serve our Chapter**

- ▶ Public Relations & Publicity
- ▶ Community Service Awards
- ▶ Member Retention
- ▶ CAR Liaison
- ▶ DAR Liaison
- ▶ Annual Audit
- ▶ American History Teacher
- ▶ Web and Social Media
- ▶ Color Guard Members
- ▶ Brochure Contest (MS)
- ▶ CAR Essay Contest
- ▶ Eagle Scout Essay Contest
- ▶ Knight Essay Contest (HS)
- ▶ Oration Contest (HS)
- ▶ Poster Contest (Elem)
- ▶ Speaker's Bureau
- ▶ Greeter
- ▶ Chapter Officer Assistant

## **Veterans Report - Marshall Scantlin**

There are brochures concerning the PACT Act. If you are a Vietnam era veteran there are benefits that can be used. Please look at the brochure for health care benefits or check online to see if you qualify.



## **OFFICERS REPORTS**

### **Secretary – Watts**

Gary Sisson moved to approve, Jerry Pinkerton seconded – minutes approved

### **Treasurer – Harper**

#### **Financials**

as of 30 Apr 2023

	Annual Budget	Actual TYD
Revenue	\$8,960	\$3,069
Expenses	\$8,704	\$3,434
Net Gain/Loss	\$256	<b>\$365</b>

### **Balance Sheet – Assets**

#### **Prosperity Bank Account**

Opening Balance 31 Dec 2022	\$9,294
Net Gain/Loss	<b>\$365</b>
Closing Balance (30 Apr 2023)	\$8,929

#### **North Dallas Bank & Trust Account**

Richie Fund	\$29,983
Minuteman Fund	\$9,391

### **Registrar – Morgan**

In Progress at Chapter — 28  
At National for Review — 8  
(5 Regular, 3 Supplemental, 0 Memorial)  
Approved — 11  
Closed — 22  
We have a total of 69 Applications

New Members Approved — 5  
Memorial Applications Approved — 3  
Supplemental Applications Approved — 3

New Member Inductions YTD — 2  
New Members Inducted Today — 2  
New Members to be Inducted — 5

### **Historian – Harshman**

Send pictures of events for future yearbooks to:

**Brent Harshman**      brentharshman@protonmail.com

When submitting photos, please identify the event, the date, and the location

Color Guard Report April – May

April 12<sup>th</sup> Patriots Day at Providence Christian School



April 17<sup>th</sup> Immigration Ceremony



# April 22<sup>nd</sup> Medal of Honor Parade



# April 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> United States Academic Decathlon





Brent Harshman received Certificates for his Silver Galvez and Silver National Medal.

Certificates of Appreciation for Peter Knightly and Reagan van Heyst were given for their participation in the presentation of the National Anthem at the James Lemmon Grave Marking Ceremony as members of the C. A. R.



Tracy Pounders presented Robert Kittrell the National Von Steuben Medal.

Mark Harrison, Brent Harshman received Certificates of Appreciation for helping at the United States Academic Decathlon.



Gary Sisson, Robert Kittrell, Tom Van Fossen and Tom Whitelock received their 250 Gold Medal Certificates for the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the American Revolution signed by President General Bruce Pickette.

## Upcoming Events

May 18<sup>th</sup>

Flag Presentation at Lake Point Elementary 5701 Scenic Drive Rowlett 1 pm  
Vietnam Veteran's Funeral at Restland Dallas 1 pm

May 29

Memorial Day Parade in Denison, Texas  
Grave Marking Ceremony in Lake Charles, LA

June 3 Big Springs Cemetery 6538 N Jupiter RD. Garland muster at 9:30 am

June 10<sup>th</sup> Audie Murphy Parade

June 17<sup>th</sup> Plano Flag Retirement at 11am

June 14<sup>th</sup> Flag Day in Greenville, TX at the Elks Club

## OLD BUSINESS -

## Next Month

1<sup>st</sup> VP - Van Fossen

Next Meeting — **June 10<sup>th</sup> @ 09:00am**

Speaker — **Bill Covington - 18<sup>th</sup> Century Origins of the Russia – Ukraine Conflict**

## JROTC

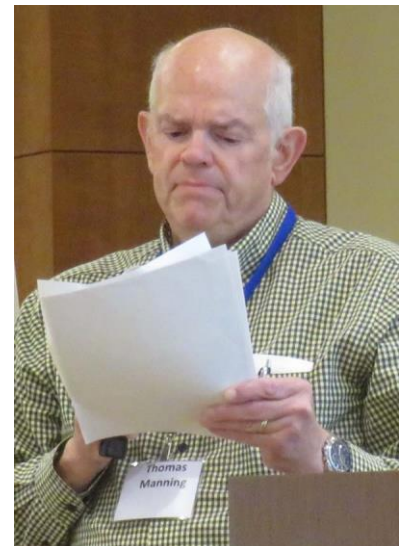
2<sup>nd</sup> VP – Martin

I've mailed and delivered many medals this year. We are finished with the Awards for this year.

## NEW BUSINESS –

Tom Manning told us about a Historic Preservation project being conducted by the DAR. They will be cleaning grave stones for 2 hours and then enjoy lunch together at Desperado's Mexican Restaurant. Everyone is invited.

**The answer to; Which part of the brain deals with voluntary movement – forebrain, cerebellum, brain stem? Cerebellum!**



## TEST YOUR KNOWLEDGE

“**That’s wonderful, you are a real Simon Pure.**” That means you don’t have to prove yourself, you are an honest person. This comes from a 1718 play by Susanna Centlivre called *A Bold Stroke for a Wife*.

“**That guy is really lubber for his age.**” Check right here next month! I hope you are enjoying this little word play.

BENEDICTION – Pounders

SAR RECESSIONAL – All

## Connect with the Dallas Chapter

President Mark Harrison - [mharrison.sar@gmail.com](mailto:mharrison.sar@gmail.com) - 214-733-7078

**Website** [www.txssar.org/Dallas](http://www.txssar.org/Dallas)

**Facebook** <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1692158937849494>

## NEXT MEETING IS SATURDAY June 10<sup>th</sup> @ 9:00AM

Join us at our next Chapter meeting:

08:00 am - Breakfast buffet for \$10 including raffle ticket for door prize

09:00 am - Meeting program

## Committee Opportunities Available at the Dallas Chapter

- |                                |                             |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| ▶ Public Relations & Publicity | ▶ Brochure Contest (MS)     |
| ▶ Community Service Awards     | ▶ CAR Essay Contest         |
| ▶ Member Retention             | ▶ Eagle Scout Essay Contest |
| ▶ CAR Liaison                  | ▶ Knight Essay Contest (HS) |
| ▶ DAR Liaison                  | ▶ Oration Contest (HS)      |
| ▶ Annual Audit                 | ▶ Poster Contest (Elem)     |
| ▶ American History Teacher     | ▶ Speaker’s Bureau          |
| ▶ Web and Social Media         | ▶ Greeter                   |
| ▶ Color Guard Members          | ▶ Chapter Officer Assistant |

**For more information concerning volunteer opportunities please contact;  
Mark Harrison, Tom Van Fossen or Tom Whitelock**

Respectfully submitted,  
William B. Watts, Secretary

*William B. Watts* 

## Remember;

“You can go your whole life and not need math or physics for a minute, but the ability to tell a joke is always handy.”

### DIRECTIONS TO LOCATION MEETING LOCATION (A) PARKING AREA (B)

