



Texas Society Sons of the American Revolution

Chisholm Trail News

Major K.M. Van Zandt Chapter

Fort Worth, Texas

11 January 2018



NEXT MEETING: January 20, 2018 TIME: 9:00 am LOCATION: Woodhaven Country Club

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK:

January 2018 marks a change for the chapter with a new group of officers who will lead the chapter for the next two years. From my perspective, the chapter will be in good hands. I hope that many of you will attend the January meeting which will highlight our "law enforcement officer of the year" award, along with the induction of the new chapter officers. I have enjoyed my two-year term as chapter president, along with a stint as chapter secretary and then vice-president.

I and several other chapter officers met informally on January 10th with a group of our "new/nearly-new members" in the new member orientation meeting. The new members attending were Kirby Boyd, Kevin Shellman, Bill Thompson, Bill Hawkins, and Erich Wisdom. The "new member orientation" is a good way for new members (over a cup of coffee and a donut) to learn how the SAR organization operates, how to navigate around the various SAR websites, and to gain a better understanding of the different youth programs and initiatives of the organization. The chapter tries to do one of these meetings about once a year; if you missed this meeting, hopefully you can make the next one which the chapter will schedule later in 2018.

President Mike Connelley

November Minutes

Please review the minutes for our November chapter meeting prior to attending the next meeting in January.
<http://www.txssar.org/KMVanZandt/docs/minutes/minutes201711.pdf>.

CHAPTER OFFICERS 2018-2019

- President
Gerald A. "Gerry" Gieger
- Vice-President
Charles O. "Chase" Sanger IV
- Secretary
Ronald J. "Ron" Turner
- Treasurer
L. Vaughn Oliver
- Registrar
David R. Davidson
- Chaplain
Roger L. Tate
- Sergeant-at-Arms & Color Guard
Commander
Robert G. "Bobby" Gresham

This Month during the Revolutionary War:

In January of 1776, Thomas Paine's publication, *Common Sense*, was published. It challenged the British government and the royal monarchy. The plain language in the document was the first to openly ask for independence from Great Britain.

During the time frame January 2-3, 1777, the Battle of Princeton, NJ, occurred. Washington had decided to hit the British again before going into winter camp and approached Princeton, NJ, during the first part of 1777. The battle with British troops was successful from the American point of view and it lifted the morale of American forces and produced an improvement in military enlistments for the Continental Army.

Armed Forces Bowl



Chapter President-elect Gerry Gieger, Registrar-elect David Davidson, and James Alderman, along with ladies from the Captain Nathaniel Mills Chapter NSDAR, at the DAR/SAR Recruitment Tent at the 2017 Armed Forces Bowl, TCU Amon G. Carter Stadium on December 23, 2017.

We welcome content submissions for the newsletter. Please send items to the editor, Ron Turner at:
rjturner0815@gmail.com

Henry “Light Horse Harry” Lee III

Lieutenant Colonel

January 29, 1756 – March 25, 1818

Henry “Light-Horse Harry” Lee distinguished himself as one of the Revolution’s most skilled and able guerrilla fighters. He began his military career as a captain of the 5th Virginia Light Dragoons and quickly earned a renowned reputation for horsemanship, hence the moniker “Light-Horse Harry.” In 1773, he was promoted to major and took command of a mixed cavalry and infantry corps called Lee’s Legion.

Lee advanced his reputation at the Battle of Paulus Hook in New Jersey on August 19, 1779. Leading a surprise nighttime raid on the British held fort, Lee and his men captured over one hundred British with only a few losses. After Paulus Hook, Washington commended Lee for the “remarkable degree of prudence, address and bravery” shown on this occasion. The Continental Congress voted to present Lee with a gold medal—an award not given to any other officers without a general’s rank.

By 1781, Lee was wreaking havoc in the southern backcountry. Now a Lieutenant Colonel, he teamed up with General Francis Marion and Andrew Pickens for a campaign of terror against Loyalists. This campaign peaked with the Battle of Haw River or Pyle’s Defeat, where Lee and his dragoons killed nearly 100 Loyalists without losing a single man. He went on to lead his legion in engagements at Guilford Court House, Siege of Ninety-Six, Eutaw Springs, and was present at Cornwallis’ surrender at Yorktown.

After the war, he was elected Governor of Virginia, serving three one-year terms, and he commanded the militiamen sent to put down the rebels during the Whiskey Rebellion.



New Member

At our November meeting, President Mike Connelley and Vice President Gerry Gieger inducted new member Kirby Boyd.



Texas SAR Annual Convention
5 April 2018 – 8 April 2018
Hyatt Regency North Dallas
701 East Campbell Road
Richardson, Texas 75081

The 123rd Annual Convention Registration 2018

Registration is now open for the upcoming state convention. Online registration is available at http://www.txssar.org/reg_apr18.htm or you can register using a printed version at http://www.txssar.org/pdf/Reg_Apr18.pdf.

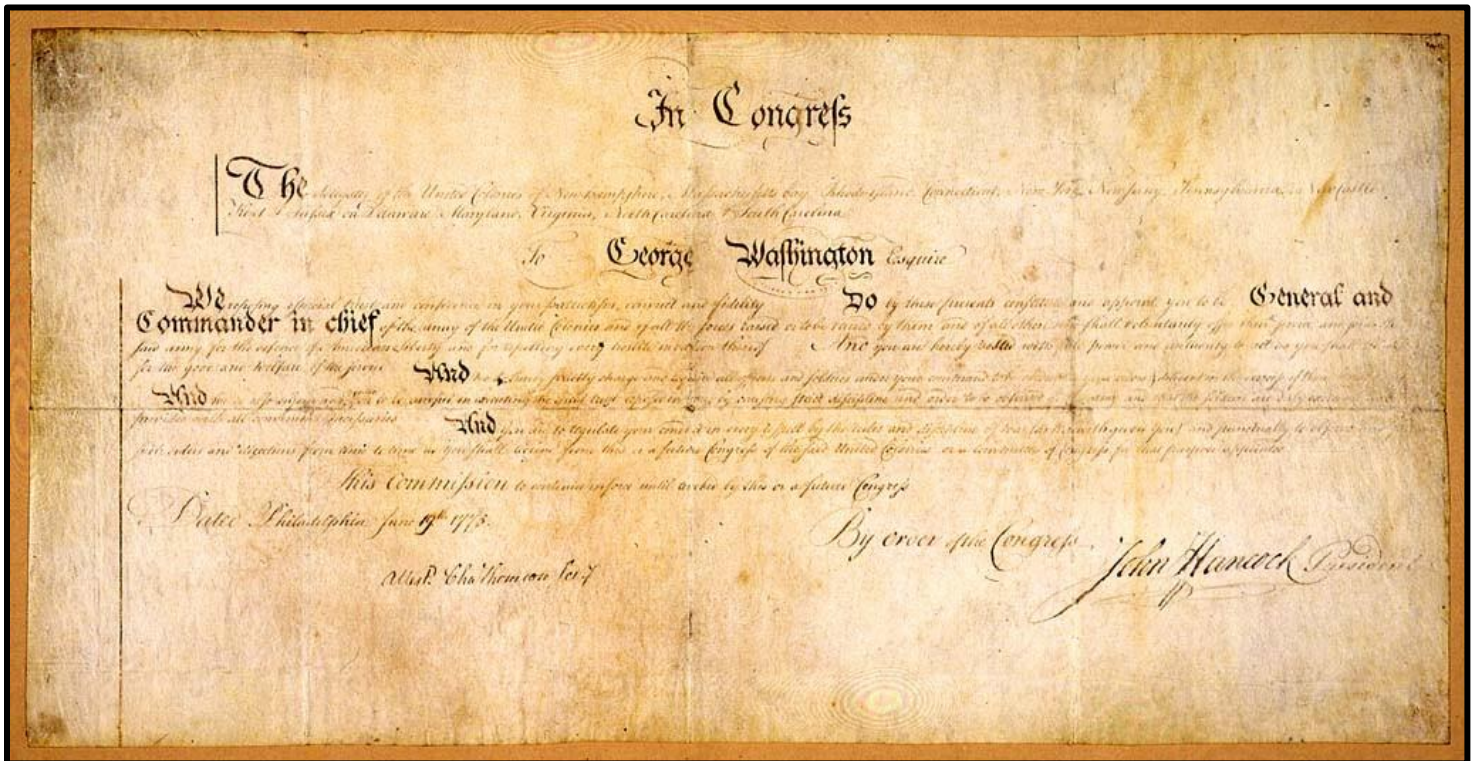
You can register and pay fees for the following:

Compatriot Registration Fee, Ladies Friday Tour Package, Friday Lunch Buffet, Saturday Youth Awards Luncheon, Saturday Evening Banquet, and Raffle Tickets for the Reproduction 1777 Charlesville Musket.

Hotel reservations must be made directly with the hotel before March 23, 2018. Rooms are limited. Make your [reservation online](#) or call the Hyatt at 972-619-1234. If calling, you must identify yourself as being with the “SAR” or “Sons of the American Revolution” and request the special rate to obtain the discounted rate. Parking is FREE.

We hope that our chapter will have a large representation at this year’s convention!

In June of 1775, George Washington was appointed Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army by his fellow Congressmen.



George Washington's jewel-encrusted Revolutionary War medal goes on display

A stunning jewel-encrusted medal owned and worn by George Washington has gone on display at the Museum of the American Revolution in Philadelphia. The exhibit marks only the fourth time that the priceless medal has been publicly displayed in the U.S. The medal is on display until March 3, 2018.



The Diamond Eagle medal is the badge of office of the president general of the Society of the Cincinnati, which was founded by Continental Army officers at the end of the Revolutionary War. The society, which takes its name from Cincinnatus, the general credited with saving the Roman republic, is the nation's oldest patriotic organization and aims to preserve the memory of the American Revolution. Commissioned by officers of the French Navy, the gold and silver medal is embedded with almost 200 diamonds, rubies and emeralds. The Diamond Eagle was presented to Washington in May 1784 at Philadelphia's City Tavern near the current Museum of the American Revolution.

Pierre Charles L'Enfant, the French-born military engineer who served in the Revolutionary War and is best known for designing the layout of Washington D.C., designed the society's insignia, which is based on the American Bald Eagle. L'Enfant traveled to France in 1783 to have the Eagle made by Parisian goldsmiths.

After Washington's death in 1799, the medal was sent to Alexander Hamilton, who, the following year, succeeded Washington as president general of the Society of the Cincinnati. Following Hamilton's death in a duel with Aaron Burr in 1804, his widow sent the medal to Charles Cotesworth Pinckney on his election as president general of the society in 1805. The Diamond Eagle continues to be passed down to each president general.

Member Name Badge

Member name badges are available through the National Society's Store. Each badge is \$25 and is available in either a pocket attachment, magnet attachment, or pin attachment. Name badges are also available for spouses. There are up to three lines available for your personalized information in the body of the name badge though the most common badge has only two lines. Line 1 is typically your chapter name. Line 2 is usually your state society name.

If you have a name tag, we encourage you to wear it at all chapter meetings and events. You can order a name badge using the link below. You will need to have an account and login to place your order.

<https://store.sar.org/category/name-tags>





Members of the Texas SAR Color Guard at the Sons of the American Revolution Convention in San Antonio, Texas in April 2017

The Color Guard is always recruiting

Several times a year the Chapter is asked to present the colors or provide a color guard or honor guard for various civic functions. We are always looking for new members. Please contact the chapter color guard commander, Compatriot Bobby Gresham, at email address: gresham817@att.net.

Membership Status

Our chapter membership levels currently are:

Emeritus =	1
Junior =	1
NSSAR Life =	4
TXSSAR Perpetual =	9
Memorial =	0
Regular =	102
Youth =	0
Dual =	3
Deceased =	3

The membership currently is 120.

SEE YOU AT THE MEETING!!!

Visit our chapter website at <http://www.txssar.org/KMVanZandt/index.htm>.