

July, 2023



Ink & Quill

TEXAS SOCIETY OF THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN
REVOLUTION, DENTON CHAPTER #23, TXSSAR INC.®



Next Meeting: 10am July 8, 2023

Emily Fowler Public Library, 502 Oakland Street, Denton

July 1 Denton 4th of July Parade—with SAR Marchers!

Chapter Officers

President—Jim Akers
Vice President—Brandon Story
Registrar & Genealogist—
Tom Richards
Recording Secretary—Mike Fry
Treasurer—Christopher Strauss
Chaplain—Bill Rowell
Past President—Mike Connelley
Sgt at Arms—Johnny Loomis
Color Guard — David Cook

Opportunities

1. July 1, Denton July 4th Parade SAR participation
2. July 8, Denton SAR Mtg
3. July 13-20 133rd SAR Annual Congress
4. September 17-23 Constitution Week

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Chapter President

Jim Akers Message:

Compatriots:

Summer 2023 is definitely upon us, but you would not believe it from the preliminary agenda for our July meeting, and our upcoming events. We will have at least five new members inducted during this meeting! That is the largest number since that cold, snowy morning in January 2021, and brings us to 38 members. In addition, we have two potential new members that will likely be submitted to the national headquarters during the first two weeks of July.

I continue to be amazed by the interesting people that we have either seeking membership, or as members. Let's get to know each other! Our agenda for the July meeting is pretty full, but let's plan on spending time in the October meeting giving a short (4 to 5 minutes) summary of our Patriot Ancestors. We may have some that fought along side each other.

Continued on the next page..

Chapter President's Message, continued

The Denton Chapter is scheduled to appear in the City of Denton "Yankee Doodle Parade" on Saturday, July 1, 2023, starting at 9:00 am.

The parade route begins near the Wells Fargo building at Austin Street and Hickory Street, and continues around the square, then down McKinney Street to the Denton Civic Center. Bring your lawn chairs and meet me and other chapter members near John Denton's grave site on the southeast side of the square to watch the parade. Or you can meet us in the parking lot of the Wells Fargo building at 7:00 am to help decorate Compatriot Mike Lester's pickup.

Compatriot Mike Lester has volunteered the use of his pickup for our parade entry, and we hope to have three members with uniforms, and other members as part of the parade. Our winning entry (hopefully) in the "Most Patriotic Vehicle" theme will be judged at 8:15 to 8:45 am in the Wells Fargo parking lot. I am sure the judges could use our help. Compatriots Bill Surlles and Jim Hobdy will be leading our entry with our SAR banner.

Please mark your calendar for Constitution Day, September 17, 2023. Constitution Day commemorates the formation and signing of the US Constitution by 39 Compatriots on that day in 1787. Our Color Guard has been asked to participate in the Benjamin Lyon Chapter (Denton, TX) of the Daughters of the American Revolution Ringing of the Bells celebration one day during that week. As soon as we have a specific date, time, and place, I will let you know. We could also use some more members of the Color Guard. For specifics, please see Compatriot David Cook.

Speaking of the US Constitution, I am currently reading "Plain, Honest Men," by Richard Beeman. This is an account of the men who met during the summer of 1787 to write the US Constitution, and thereby form an entirely new type of government. I recommend it.

This month, prospective Eagle Scout Jonathan Lange submitted a request to our chapter for financial sponsorship for his Eagle Scout project. Chapter members contributed \$560. The project is at the Lewisville Lake Environmental Learning Area (LLELA) Nature Preserve. There are pavilions from a much older Eagle Scout project, and the LLELA Nature Preserve has asked Jonathan to build railings/panels for safety and bird watching. This project benefits the community and nature enthusiasts by making it safer and more enjoyable to go hiking, bird watching, and camping. It also helps LLELA open new programs to help educate the community and focus on the new education center they are working on. When Jonathan gets near completion, we will schedule a "field trip" for the Chapter to view his work.

The Chapter Members that I know of who are also Eagle Scouts are Jeffrey Zwall and Chris Strauss. If you are also an Eagle Scout, please let me know.

Our next in-person meeting will be **July 8, 2023, 10:00 am** at the **Emily Fowler Public Library, 502 Oakland Street, Denton, TX 76201**. The speaker is scheduled to be retired UNT history professor and current president of the New Mexico Historical Society, Gus Seligmann. Dr. Seligmann is an informative speaker, with an entertaining style of delivery. Please mark your calendar for this meeting, and please feel free to bring your wives or other guests.

Promote patriotism. Preserve American History. Promote education to our future generations. These three things describe what the Sons of the American Revolution does. The Denton Chapter is committed to each of them, as shown by our activities of not only this month, but throughout the year.

Ron Akers, Denton Chapter President

**Yankee Doodle Parade
July 1, 9:00am, Denton Square**

Come celebrate July 4 Independence Day with the SAR

Those not marching in the parade, meet near John Denton's grave site on the southeast corner of the Courthouse to celebrate and cheer. The parade route begins near the Wells Fargo building at Austin St. and Hickory St., continues around the square, then down McKinney St. to the Denton Civic Center.

The SAR pickup will look something like this:



Editor's Note

The Chapter **website** is <https://www.txssar.org/Denton/>. On that site are the back copies of this newsletter, information about the Chapter, and links to the SAR State and National web sites.

We now have a **Facebook page**, www.facebook.com, search for **Denton TX SAR**. Please join and participate.

All of these communication devices take time to maintain. If you would like to help and/or take over one of these, please let me know.

Bill Surles, wsmerch@gmail.com

Denton SAR Chapter
Color Guard News, June 2023



Current Status:

The Chapter Color Guard now consists of three members as follows:
Compatriot David Cook- Commander- Colonial and Militia uniform and Kentucky rifle .

Compatriot Tom Richards- Colonial uniform

Compatriot Christopher Strauss- Colonial uniform

A Color Guard Unit must have an absolute minimum of three members, with four the desired minimum

Recent Events

April 27-Thu. 1800 hours- AFJROTC at Ryan High School

April 28- Mon 1900 hours AFJROTC at Denton High School

May- TBD- State Color Guard Rally

May 4- Thu- 1500 hours at Army ROTC at University North Texas

May 4- Thu- 1830 hours AFJROTC at Brasswell High School in Aubrey Tx.

May 5- Fri. ROTC General Review, Lewisville high School

May 29- Memorial Day parade- Dennison, or others

Our chapter needs more Color Guard members in order to have sufficient numbers to perform at different events.

Contact the Denton SAR Chapter, Color Guard Commander for answers to any questions.

Seriously consider obtaining a uniform and join the Chapter Color Guard.

David Cook

706-835-5910

davidcook1936@gmail.com

Future Opportunities

NOTE: JROTC schedules provided by Compatriot Christopher Strauss

All are Chapter events

June 1 - Denton 4th of July Parade

June 14- Flag Day events, Flag retirements

June 17- Audie Murphy Day parade, Farmersville, TX

July 1st Denton Yankee Doodle Parade

July 4th Independence Day- Various events

Additions will be added as information becomes available.

“A Color Guard member should have fun presenting historical presentations of our ancestors to the public”.

Color Guard member Requirements

A member must have a Continental or Militia uniform. The militia is the least expensive and easiest to obtain. It requires a white pair of jeans, checkered or striped shirt and a tricorn hat or round hat costing about \$50.

Townsend Company now offers costume Continental coats without lining and pockets for \$185 which is much less than the original coats for about \$500.

The time commitment is minimal where members participate based on their schedules and availability. Events normally last for one to two hours.

Color Guard participation is fun and exciting where they interact with the public, especially with children.

Denton Chapter, Texas SAR
Board of Managers Meeting
May 27, 2023

8:01AM On Saturday morning, May 27, 2023 the Board of Managers for the Denton Chapter held a breakfast meeting at the Great Egg restaurant In Denton, Texas. Present at the meeting were President Jim Akers, VP Brandon Story, secretary Mike Frye, treasurer Chris Strauss, Mike Connelley, Tom Richards, Bill Rowell, William Surlles and Jim Hobdy.

President Jim Akers discussed The July 4th celebration parade in Denton, Texas will be held on July 1st. Chapter member Mike Lester is going to provide a vehicle to be used in the parade for those who could attend. Several attendees stated they would at the parade. Akers pointed out the next meeting is scheduled for July 8th at the library; the speaker that day is retired UNT history professor Gus Seligmann.

Akers discussed trying to get an early start for the youth scholarship contest in the fall of 2023 and the difficulty in securing access to schools, It was also mentioned that the children or grandchildren of chapter members should also be urged to enter these scholarship contests. The sale of monogramed shirts continues to bring in money to the chapter and the officers are urged to support this initiative as a chapter fund raiser. It was mentioned that on about \$250 to \$300 is collected by the chapter via dues and fund raising through the sale of shirts should be supported. Past president Mike Connelley brought up the creation of a challenge coin for the Denton chapter as a fund raiser. The cost of producing the coins will be handled by past president Connelley and current president Akers. It is felt that the cost of making 100 coins for sale will be about \$500 to \$550; this being born by Connelley and Akers. Bill Rowell stated he would share with Connelley and Akers in the cost of the challenge coins. The sale of the challenge coin to members or other person will be promoted with the funds going into the chapter bank account. If they were sold at \$10.00 per coin, that could bring about \$1000.00 into the chapter treasury.

Mike Frye mentioned the idea of personally funding a challenge coin with the CAR; the consensus from the meeting attendees was to move quicker on a coin design than a contest would allow. The consensus was in favor of pursuing the design, production, and sale of a chapter challenge coin.

Raising the chapter dues was discussed but no motion or action on this topic was made.

Discussion came up on the Wreaths of America program. Discussion was positive on pursuing the sale of the Wreaths, also as a fund raiser for the chapter. No motion on this topic was made. Motion was made to close the Board of Manager meeting at 9:20AM; all were in favor and the meeting ended at 9:20AM

Mike Connelley, secretary-annual reports