

November, 2023



# Ink & Quill

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



**Next Meeting: 10am January 13, 2024**

**Emily Fowler Public Library, 502 Oakland Street, Denton**

## 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. **November 11 2023 Veterans Day**
2. **December 16 Wreaths Across America—see page 5**
3. **December 16 250th Anniversary of Boston Tea Party**
4. **January 13 2024 Chapter Meeting**
5. **April 11-14 2024 Texas State Annual Conference**

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## Chapter President Jim Akers Message:

Gentlemen:

As we approach the Fall, it is time to start selecting participants for our youth awards, including the Youth Essay Contest, the Oration Contest, the Video Contest, the Eagle Scout Contest, and the Teacher of the Year Contest. Please send me a text, an email, or a phone call with your ideas for participants in this year's contests. The qualifications can be found on the Texas SAR website ([www.txssar.org](http://www.txssar.org)). The Texas SAR has approved the additional award of \$500 for second place Teacher of the Year Essays.

The Fall Board of Mangers (BOM) meeting was held at College Station, Texas during the weekend of October 22 to 24, 2023. The highlights of the meetings included an announcement that two new SAR chapters were have been formed, one in San Angelo, and one in Ellis County. That brings the number of Texas SAR chapters to 50!

*Continued on the next page..*

**Chapter President's Message, continued**

The University of North Texas (UNT) Library will no longer be the "host" for the Texas Sons of the American Revolution Archives. UNT is withdrawing from this project, not only for the Texas SAR, but for several other organizations. It is my understanding that this is a space, or personnel issue for UNT. Instead, the Texas SAR will keep the archives in digital form, and will be housed on a server that will be maintained by the Texas SAR. This means that our archived material, such as newsletters, chapter minutes, and by-laws will have to be forwarded in digital form, instead of as documents.

Last month, I announced in this president's message that the 2024 Annual SAR National Conference will be held in San Antonio from April 11 to April 14, 2024. **That is not correct.** The **Texas SAR** Conference will be held in San Antonio on those dates. We apparently lost this bid for the national Congress to another state. No matter what conference is held in San Antonio in April, San Antonio is always a good city in which to spend a weekend. Please consider marking your calendar to attend.

The Denton Chapter is still planning to schedule a flag retirement ceremony. This ceremony oversees the respectful burning or destruction of United States flags that are torn, tattered, dirty, or otherwise not serviceable. If your flag is currently being displayed outside your home, maybe it's time to replace it with a new, clean flag. Please let me know if you have retired a flag, and we can include that flag in this ceremony.

Denton Color Guard Commander David Cook has posted future opportunities for the chapter color guard in this month's newsletter. These events start on Saturday, November 4, 2023, and include events through the middle of December—so far.

In addition to those events in David's newsletter, several other Veterans Day events will be held. Veterans Day will be observed on Friday, November 10, 2023 at 12:00 noon on the Downton Denton Square, 110 West Hickory Street, Denton.

On Saturday, Nov 11, 2023 from 5:00 pm to 9:00 pm the Texas Veterans Hall of Fame 5th Annual Induction Ceremony will be held at the UNT Gateway Center, 801 N. Texas Blvd, Denton. This event honors Texas Veterans for their service, and the keynote speaker will be Medal of Honor Recipient Dwight W. Birdwell. Tickets are \$55.00.

This is not a complete list of events Veterans Day events, so please send me a note about what you will be doing to recognize Veterans Day 2023. Personally, I will be joining my grandson and granddaughter for a Veterans recognition ceremony at their elementary school.

Because of our packed agenda at the last meeting, we were not able to include the biography of each of our patriot ancestors, as planned. We will endeavor to do that in our next meeting. Members and guests will have the opportunity to give a short (5 minutes, or less) biography of their Patriot Ancestor. Now is the time to refresh your memory of your Patriot Ancestor's service, whether this Patriot Ancestor has been approved at the SAR National Headquarters, or is one that you are working on getting approved.

I am occasionally asked by friends, family, and neighbors what the Sons of the American Revolution is. A short response to that question is: **We are a lineage-based organization that promotes patriotism, serves the community, and inspires and educates the public about the history of the American Revolution.**

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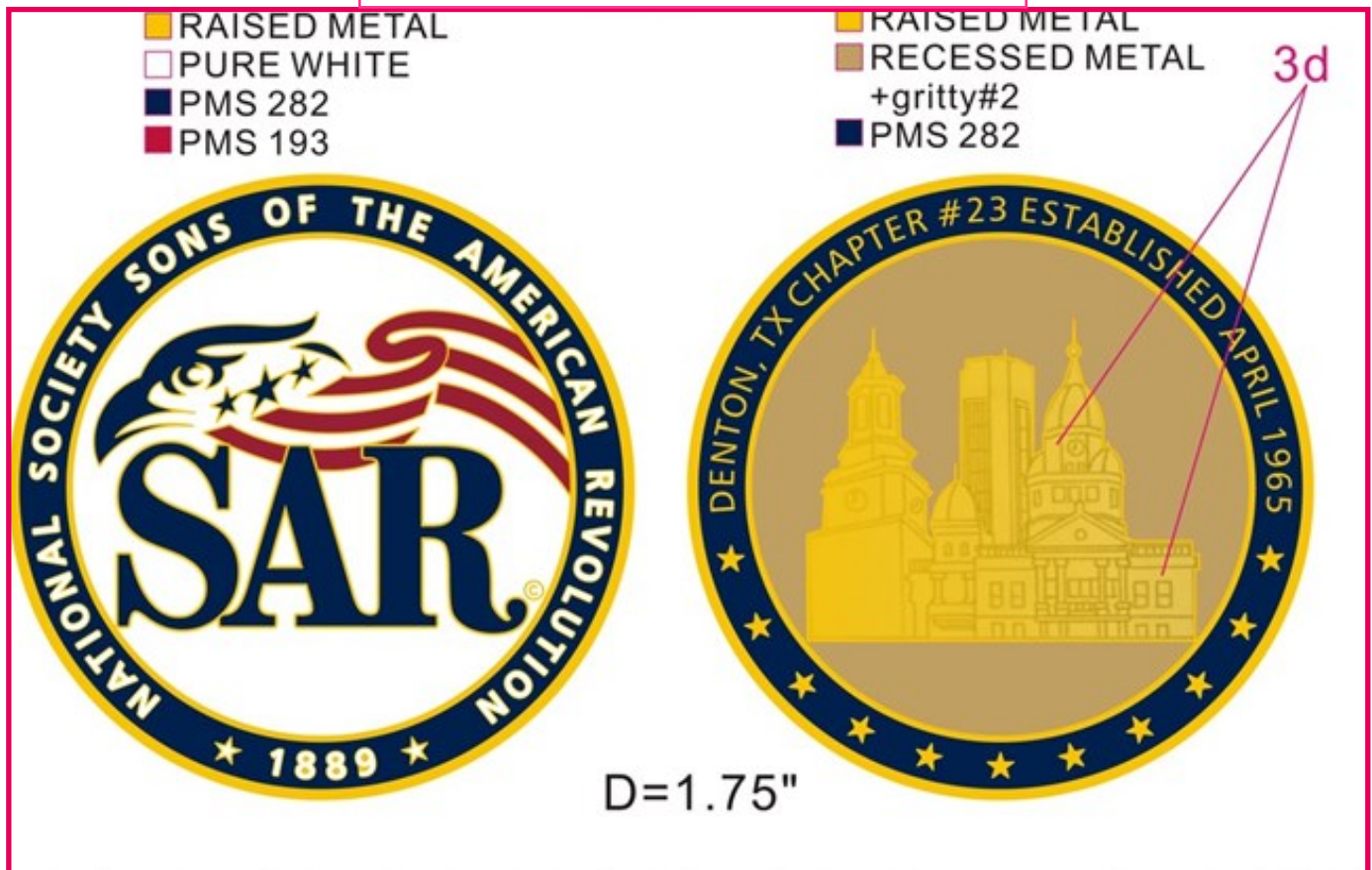
**Chapter President's Message, continued**

Our next in-person meeting will be the second Saturday in January, **January 13, 2023, 10:00 am** at the **Emily Fowler Public Library, 502 Oakland Street, Denton, TX 76201**. The speaker is again scheduled to be retired UNT history professor and current president of the New Mexico Historical Society, Gus Selig-

mann. Dr. Seligmann is an informative speaker, with an entertaining style of delivery, and at least one of our members was in his class at UNT. Please mark your calendar for this meeting, and please feel free to bring your wives and other guests.

Jim Akers, Denton Chapter President

**Denton SAR Chapter Challenge Coin**



# The Eagle Scout Project

Good day everyone!

I hope this newsletter finds you well. I'm excited to share the latest developments from my Eagle Scout project. The first execution workday was a tremendous success, and I can't wait to tell you all about it.

## **First Execution Workday Highlights:**

Our team came together on Oct 7, 2023, and we couldn't have asked for a better day to kick off our project. Our incredible team of scouts, a total of 10 volunteers, showcased their dedication and hard work.

## **Sawhorse Surprise:**

We had a minor hiccup during the workday that turned into a lighthearted moment. Our sawhorses, rated for 300 lbs, unexpectedly decided to take an early break after only 100 lbs of wood! Don't worry, no one got hurt, and it became the source of a few laughs. It's a reminder that even our tools need a breather sometimes.

## **Work Progress:**

During our first workday, we successfully prepared an impressive 60 feet of wood. It's incredible to see how much we accomplished! This achievement wouldn't have been possible without the support of our 10 effective scouters.

## **Trial Panel and Redesign:**

During our workday, we decided to put our materials to the test by creating a trial panel. To our surprise, it turned out to be incredibly sturdy, perhaps even too strong! While this might seem like a good problem to have, I recognized that we could use our materials more efficiently and create an even better panel. So, I've embarked on a slight redesign to ensure we maximize our resources and produce an even more impressive final product.

## **Reflecting on Our Workday: Start, Stop, Continue**

One of the keys to success is the ability to reflect and make improvements as we go along. During our first execution workday, we took a moment to engage in a valuable exercise known as "Start, Stop, Continue." This exercise allowed us to evaluate our progress and make necessary adjustments to ensure future workdays are not only more effective but also more enjoyable.

Stay tuned for more updates on the project's progress and photos from our workdays. This project is just beginning, and I'm thrilled to have had all of the support I have been given.

Thank you for your continued support!

Jonathan Lange,  
Troop 192 Crew 60





Neither rain, nor sleet, nor snow will delay the annual Wreaths Across America ceremony and wreath laying scheduled for Saturday, December 16, 2023 at Oakwood Cemetery, 601 East Hickory St, Denton. The SAR Color Guard will be present.

If you wish to support this effort and the Denton DAR chapter Benjamin Lyon by donating a wreath, follow these steps:

1. Go to [www.wreathscrossamerica.org](http://www.wreathscrossamerica.org)
2. Select "Local Sponsorship Group"
3. Select the number of wreaths you wish to purchase
4. Under number selection is an open box asking you to select a group to support
5. Type Benjamin Lyon Chapter
6. That takes you to cart summary and payment

There will be a brief ceremony, followed by DAR members distributing wreaths to be laid at graves. All are welcome. Dress is weather-appropriate.

Thank you for supporting this important event which remembers and honors the veterans buried at Oakwood Cemetery, as well as all veterans, active-duty service members and military families.

Carol Webster, DAR Benjamin Lyon Chapter Chair 903-451-1895

## Denton SAR Chapter Color Guard



### Future Events

The following chart shows the available events for Color Guard participation. This has been distributed to the Chapter Color Guard members, **but has been revised as noted. The list is updated frequently as new information becomes known.**

Members can participate individually or we can attend as a Color Guard unit representing the Denton SAR Chapter. New Color Guard members are welcome. Color guard members wanting to attend are to contact Color Guard Commander David Cook.

It is significant to note that several events are designated as National Events which earns 20 points toward national and state Color Guard medals.

Date	Time-muster	Event	Location	Chapter /State /National
11/4 Saturday	11:00	Field of Honor event	Red Tail Pavilion Oak park in Plano 2801 E. Spring Creek Parkway	N
11/11 Saturday	3:00	Veterans Day event	Red Tail Pavilion Oak point park in Plano 2801 e. Spring Creek Parkway	N
11/16	4:00	Grave Marking of State Presi-	Pecan Grove Cemetery	S
12/16 Saturday	10:30	Wreaths across America	3900 Oakland Circle, Denton	N

**“We are the face of the Sons of the American Revolution at the national, state, and chapter levels. Accordingly, as we further the Patriotic, Historic, and Educational Goals of the SAR let us have fun, enjoy the comradely, and practice safety for yourself and others. Yours in Patriotism**

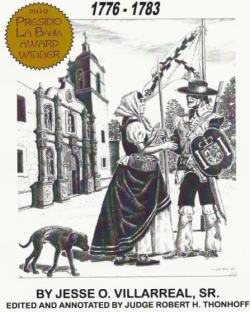
**K. Scott Collins National Society SAR Color Guard Commander”**

**David R. Cook  
Denton Color Guard Commander  
706-835-5910  
davidcook1936@gmail.com**

# TEJANO REVOLUTIONARIES: RESOURCES FOR TEJANO PATRIOTS OF THE AMERICAN AND TEXAS REVOLUTIONS

Tejano participation in the American and Texas Revolutions are the focus of two new books available in Special Collections.

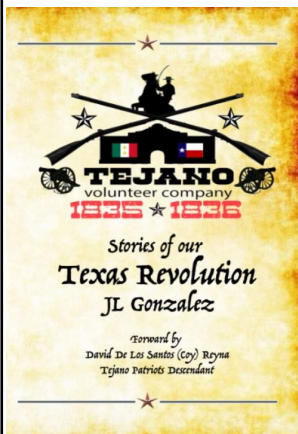
## TEJANO PATRIOTS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION 1776-1783



*Tejano Patriots of the American Revolution, 1776–1783* (Austin: published by author, 2011), is a labor of love of author Jesse O. Villareal, Sr., who discovered that he is a 9th generation Texan whose ancestors came to Texas in expeditions in the early 1700s, and were witnesses to Texas history during the American Revolution. As a descendant of numerous Texas founding families, Villareal documented his Tejano’s ancestors’ vital role in winning the American Revolution, and was inducted into the Texas Society of the Sons of the American Revolution in 2008.

Villareal read, studied, and copied original and translated archival documents to outline the history of Texas during the Revolutionary War period, 1776-1783. Each chapter features a short historical background, followed by excerpts from original Bexar Archive documents, to give readers a sense of the social and historical context of the time.

Book chapters cover accounts of life in the presidios; Spanish royal military enlistments in the presidios; Texas as the “fourth front” in the Revolution; Tejanos’ connections to the Revolution; Tejano ranchers, vaqueros, and residents who contributed to the war effort; and rosters of patriot Spanish soldiers from the presidios, as well as those stationed in the Province of Texas at the time. Illustrations, maps, a glossary, document images, and translations dot the book and bring the text to life. The author’s nine-generation ancestral line is documented in the appendix.



JL Gonzalez’s just-published book, *Tejano Volunteer Company 1835-1836: Stories of our Texas Revolution* (Coppell, Texas: Tejano Volunteer Company, 2023) tells in brief chapters the stories of the most successful militia of the Texas Revolution—the Tejano Volunteer Company.

The book is Gonzalez’s effort to right a disservice. As he states in his introduction, “...Tejanos were the common thread that wove through almost all revolutionary events...many young Tejanos played key roles during the most crucial and dire situations...descendants of these brave patriots rarely hear, or have ever heard, of their ancestor’s heroic, historic and courageous exploits in the fight for Texas.”

The slim volume will be a quick but important read for anyone interested in learning more about the vital Tejano contributions to the Texas fight for independence.

Both books are available for in-library viewing at the Emily Fowler Central Library Special Collections area.

– Nancy Gilbride Casey  
Denton Public Library Volunteer



# America 250 Decade Of The American Revolution



The National SAR has created this **Decade of the American Revolution** calendar to list Revolutionary War signature events each year that will be the focus of the NSSAR main celebration. Every State Society and all State Chapters should download the programs for the year and celebrate with us in your local area.

**2023 Boston Tea Party**

**2024 The First Continental Congress**

**2025 Battles of Lexington and Concord.**

**2026 Declaration of Independence**

**2027 Battle of Saratoga**

**2028 French Alliance 2029 Siege of Vincennes/Fort Sackville  
Battle of Kettle Creek**

**2030 Battle of Kings Mountain**

**2031 Siege of Yorktown 2032 Battle of Blue Licks**

**2033 Treaty of Paris**



## National Society Sons of the American Revolution

Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/SARmagazine>



Also see the Denton Chapter Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/409893430767486>



### 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.

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](mailto:wsmerch@gmail.com)**



## SAR Embroidered Shirt Order Form

Shirts will be ordered from Angelheart Embroidery ([tim.angelheart@gmail.com](mailto:tim.angelheart@gmail.com)) who is located in Saginaw. Shirts will be embroidered with the new SAR Logo (above) on the left breast (Jim Akers has our SAR approval to use this.) **Optional:** Patriot, Compatriot Name and Chapter can be added as well.



## Shirt Styles

		
<b>Polo</b>	<b>Short Sleeve Button Down</b>	<b>Long Sleeve Button Down</b>
Price (includes logo): <b>(S-XL) \$32.42</b>	Price (includes logo): <b>(S-XL) \$34.98</b>	Price (includes logo): <b>(S-XL) \$36.98</b>
<b>(XXL) \$34.42</b>	<b>(XXL) \$36.98</b>	<b>(XXL) \$38.98</b>

### Color Palette – Button Downs

 Athletic Gold/ Light Stone	 Bark	 Black/ Light Stone	 Bright Lavender
 Burgundy/ Light Stone	 Classic Navy/ Light Stone	 Clover Green	 Court Green
 Dark Green/ Navy	 Light Blue/ Light Stone	 Light Stone/ Classic Navy	 Maui Blue
 Mediterranean Blue	 Navy/ Light Stone	 Purple/ Light Stone	 Red/ Light Stone
 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Royal/ Classic Navy	 Steel Grey/ Light Stone	 Stone	 Strong Blue
 Teal Green	 Texas Orange/ Light Stone	 Ultramarine Blue	 White/ Light Stone
 Yellow			

### Color Palette – Polos

 Black	 Blue Lake	 Deep Orange	 Forest Green
 Gold	 Grey Concrete	 Iron Grey	 Kelly Green
 Lime Shock	 Maroon	 Purple	 Texas Orange
 Tropic Blue	 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> True Navy	 True Red	 True Royal
 Vegas Gold	 White		



<b>Shirt Order Form</b>	
Name (as you want this to appear):	Personalize with Name (right breast):  <div style="text-align: right;">Y [ ] N [ ] - Plus: \$6</div>
Chapter Name (as you want it to read):	Personalize with Chapter Name under SAR logo (left breast):  <div style="text-align: right;">Y [ ] N [ ] - Plus: \$4</div>
Patriot Name (as you want this to appear):	Personalize with Patriot Name (right sleeve):  <div style="text-align: right;">Y [ ] N [ ] - Plus: \$6 / name</div>
Shirt Color (see palette above):	
Shirt Style:	Short Sleeve Polo [ ] Short Sleeve Button Down [ ] Long Sleeve Button Down [ ]  <div style="text-align: right;">- Prices detailed above by shirt size &amp; type: \$32.42 – \$38.98</div>
Shirt Size:	S [ ] M [ ] L [ ] XL [ ] XXL [ ]
Email Address:	
Phone Number:	
Delivery Address:	<div style="background-color: yellow; padding: 5px;">Shirts to be returned to Denton Chapter during next scheduled meeting.</div> <div style="background-color: yellow; padding: 5px;"><b>ORDER DEADLINE: October 7, 2023</b></div>
Donation to Denton SAR:	<b>\$8.00</b>
TOTAL REMITTED:	\$ .

**Return Order Form & check made out to "SAR Denton Chapter" to:**

Brandon Story  
[BrandonDStory@aol.com](mailto:BrandonDStory@aol.com)  
 1412 Chestnut Dr.  
 Savannah, TX 76227