



November, 2024

# Ink & Quill

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



**Next Meeting: January 11, 2025 at 10am**

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

## Chapter Officers

President—Brandon Story  
 Vice President—Ronnie Rencher  
 Recording Secretary—Mike Fry  
 Secretary, Annual Reports —  
 Mike Connelley  
 Treasurer—Chris Strauss  
 Asst Treasurer—Bill Rowell  
 Registrar— Mike Lester  
 Sgt at Arms—Billy Roussell, III  
 Color Guard — David Cook

## Opportunities

1. November 2, Chapter Social
2. November 11, Veterans Day
3. November 16, Patriot William Gates  
Grave marking
4. January 11, 2025, Denton Chapter meeting
5. SAR National Conference, July 2027

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## Fellow Compatriots-

At the last meeting, the Chapter proposed to update the frequency of our regular chapter meetings - from once a quarter to once every other month (odd months) on the second Saturday at 10 AM- starting in January 2025. Given that our chapter is growing, this should help us keep planning items a little fresher than a three month cadence allows for currently.

Reminder: SAR Dues notices will be going out soon to your address of record. The State is encouraging everyone to pay online via PayPal as much as possible. [Click here for the online dues payment page](#) and enter your National SAR # and Name as it appears on your Membership Certificate. Then select your primary chapter and any others you maintain dual membership with and follow the check-out procedures. This is operational on the [TexasSAR.org](http://TexasSAR.org) website NOW. PayPal fees have been removed for 2025 Dues payments.

**Lastly, don't forget about our coffee social this coming Saturday (November 2) at 9 am at North Point Cafe in Denton. No agenda - just talk and socializing!**

Thank you for our support, and we will see you at our next meeting on January 11, 2025 at 10 AM at Emily Fowler.

Brandon Story  
 214-562-4944

# MINUTES FOR CHAPTER MEETING October 24, 2024

## DENTON CHAPTER #23 TEXAS SAR

President Brandon Story called meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Invocation by Ted Godwinstemler

Pledge of Allegiance of the flag of the United States by Brandon Story

Pledge to Texas Flag by Brandon Story

Pledge of SAR by Brandon Story

Guest speaker Salina Baker reviewed her book on the life of Major General Nathaniel Green

### Old Business:

Bill Surles gave report on the SAR stone bench project

Reported Denton DAR chapter would join SAR in purchasing this item

Ronnie Rencher donated \$500 to move forward with the fund raising

Jim Hobdy remaindered all to come to the North Point Café Nov 2, 2024

for a social gathering

Minutes of January 14, 2024 Submitted by Mike Frye, Recording Secretary, Seconded by Jim Akers

Treasurer's Report by Chris Strauss, \$4006.00, Motion to approve Todd Wilber Second Bill Russel

### New Business

Jim Akers reminded members of planed Veterans events

Ronnie Rencher suggested we should decide on possible fund raising events

Bill Surles made motion beginning January 2025 Chapter meet every two months second by Scott Smith

Motion Passed

Benediction Ted Godwinstemler Recessional and Adjournment Led by Fred Brown

Adjournment motion Billy Russel second Mark Miller



### Patriot William Gates Grave Marking

Compatriots,

The Freedom Chapter would like to announce an upcoming marker dedication at the historic Gates-Perry Cemetery located in Gates Crossing, a ranch community in Washington County, Texas. We will honor Revolutionary War Patriot William Gates who, as part of Stephen F. Austin's "Old Three Hundred," arrived in Texas in the early 1800s and settled in what is known today as Washington on the Brazos. The Freedom Chapter and the DAR Coughatti Trace Chapter will be adding Patriot Grave Markers within the cemetery.

We will jointly host this dedication ceremony with the DAR for these markers on **November 16, 2024, at 1:30 p.m.** Formal invitations, including details, maps, parking information, and other logistics, will be posted on the events calendar in the coming week. Please mark your calendar and share this with your members or others who may be interested. We look forward to your presence as we celebrate this significant event!

If you have any questions, contact:

David Hamaker

SAR Freedom Chapter President

[dhamaker@yahoo.com](mailto:dhamaker@yahoo.com)

(936)522-6018



## Our Chapter's Service to Veterans Via The Vietnam Veteran Lapel Pin

The Vietnam Veteran Lapel Pin project has been active for about 8-9 years now with the SAR organization, one of the major supporting organizations. The lapel pin is given to any veteran who served on active duty during the Vietnam War era which is considered to be November 1955 to May 15, 1975. For those of us who lived through that turbulent period of time in the late 60s to 1975, it was not always a good "welcome home" for those who were on active duty during that time-frame.

The goal of the program is to honor and say "thank you" to those who served. The veteran did not have to actually have served in Vietnam, but was on active-duty status during that timeframe. They could have served in Europe, or Stateside rather than Vietnam. The Military would determine where you went for active duty.

The Denton Chapter has been active with this program which is to officially end sometime in the next year or so. It can be one of the most emotional experiences you will ever encounter; the anger, emotion, frustration is still with many of our Vietnam veterans.

One chapter member, Fred Brown, had the recent experience of presenting the lapel pin to two military veterans of that era, Ken Jones who served in the military from 1963 to through the 70s and



Warren Ferrier who served when he was in his late teens.

The photo on the left depicts chapter member Fred Brown on the right presenting the lapel pin to Ken Jones.

We have all heard the stories of the way many veterans were treated on their return from service in Vietnam. It was not good and many veterans were emotionally hurt, angered, confused by the treatment they received when coming back home. The lapel pin project has been a government program designed to

correct a wrong from many years ago and it has worked.

Those that have given out these lapel pins can attest to the emotional response they generally get from the Vietnam War Era veteran who is presented with one of these lapel pins. It is something you will not soon forget. Check with me at the next chapter meeting and I will give you the lapel pin and the accompanying flyers for you to use.

Look around in your own family, your neighborhood, your work environment and take the time to identify someone that served in the military during this chaotic time and give them the thanks they deserve.... even if it is a few years late. They earned it.

Mike Connelley, past Chapter President

# Bicentennial of Lafayette's Farewell Tour



**August 16, 2024** saw the kick off this monumental Bicentennial celebration. The hundreds of events planned will trace Lafayette's footstep on the exact dates and in the exact order he followed on his tour of America as the "Guest of the Nation" between 1824 and 1825. Celebration and party at every stop.

An introductory video is here:

<https://vimeo.com/855470022>

**Did your Patriot meet Lafayette on his tour? Check out the map on the Tour website <https://lafayette200.org/>, research your Patriot's life and/or family in 1824-1825. Was he still alive? Was he or his ancestors on the Tour route? Any family documentation for that period of time?**

## November 1824

November 1, 1824 — Richmond, VA  
November 2, 1824 — Goochland, VA  
November 3, 1824 — Columbia, VA  
November 3, 1824 — Wilmington, VA  
November 4, 1824 — TJ's Monticello VA  
November 5, 1824 — Charlottesville, VA  
November 6-14, 1824 — Thomas Jefferson's, Monticello, VA  
November 14, 1824 — Gordonsville, VA  
November 14, 1824 — Orange, VA  
November 15-19, 1824 — Montpelier, VA  
November 19, 1824 — Orange, VA  
November 20, 1824 — Orange, VA  
November 20-22, 1824 — Fredericksburg, VA  
November 23, 1824 — Washington D.C.  
November 25-28, 1824 — Baltimore, MD  
November 29, 1824 — Washington, D.C.  
November 30, 1824 — Washington D.C.



# Bench for Denton

## SAR 250th Anniversary of America

### Memorial Bench Program



#### **STATUS:**

1. I have contacted Denton Memorial to see if they are interested in providing a competitive bid based on the Montgomery Memorial information.
2. I am working with the Denton DAR Bench project manager to develop a plan and a presentation.

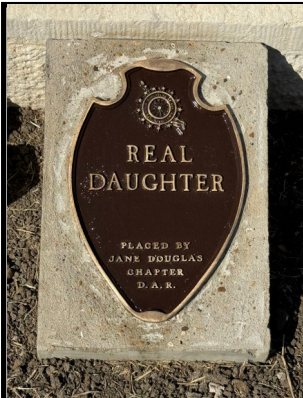
#### **Next steps:**

1. Determine bench provider based on bids.
2. Continue to work with the Denton DAR project manager on plan & presentation.
3. Present plan to Denton SAR & DAR chapters.
4. Update plan and presentation based on feedback.
5. Present plan to Denton County contacts.
6. Gain approval to install bench

# Denton SAR Chapter Color Guard



**Denton SAR Color Guard marching in the Denton 4th of July parade.**



Denton color guard members Todd Wilber and Christopher Strauss attended the "DAR Real Daughters" Grave ceremony in McKinney Saturday, October 19 in Continental uniform. The ceremony was for Nancy Barbee Mayes. They were two out of six Color Guard participants and thus provided significant Denton Chapter Color Guard representation.

Great job to both Todd and Chris.

David Cook



## Join the Denton Chapter Color Guard

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.

**“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**





# 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.

**December 16, 2023 Boston Tea Parth**

**August 14, 2024 200th Anniversary of Lafayette's arrival in the U.S. for his Tour**

**September 5, 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**

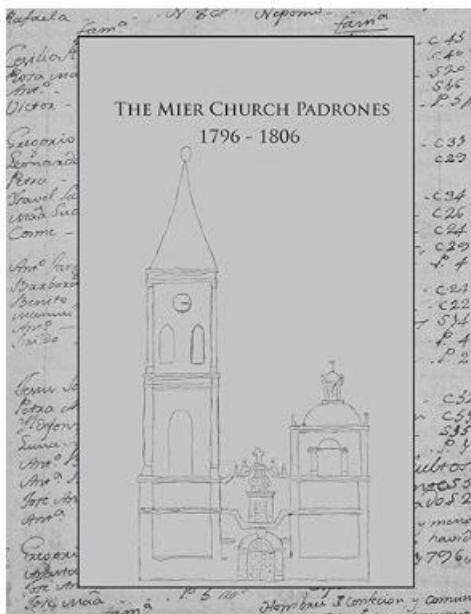
**2031 Siege of Yorktown 2032 Battle of Blue Licks**

**2033 Treaty of Paris**

Visit <https://america250sar.org/rd/> for details of each event.

## The Mier Church Padrones 1796-1806

Transcriptions can be a real boon to a genealogical researcher. Though we all know the genealogical credo to “find the most original record,” it’s not always possible to do so. The distance to a repository where the records of interest are kept may be too great for us to travel. The originals could be inaccessible for several reasons, including due to age and fragile condition. Not all records are digitized or online—in fact, the vast majority are not. Transcriptions bridge this gap, and kudos to the researchers who, with their hard work transcribing documents over the years, have granted wider access to records of interest to genealogists.



*The Mier Church Padrones 1782-1795* (2014), by Moises Garza, is one such transcription that can be of enormous help to researchers looking for their ancestors in the Parroquia of the Immacula Concepcion of Ciudad Mier, Tamaulipas, Mexico. Author Moises Garza.

What is a padron? It is a Catholic Church census. Like a regular census, these church censuses can offer family names, ages, and relationships—a snapshot in time of ancestral families.

A glimpse at the original books, available on FamilySearch, show why the transcription is so important. Pages are very damaged. The ink is faded and difficult to read. Sizable portions of the books are stained with blotches covering the writing.

In Garza’s words, “I started this project to make it easier for anyone, with roots to Mier, Tamaulipas, Mexico, to search for their ancestors.” *The Miers Padrones* book allows researchers to browse and find information on their families, without having to try to decipher the original text on the online images.

The book itself covers the Mier padrones from 1782-1795, minus the years 1792-1794 which were not available. The entries were originally recorded by four different priests of the church, and later transcribed by Garza and his collaborators Blanca Rosales and Cathy Gutierrez Barraza. The original images from which the group worked were microfilmed in 1987.

The book has an important key which lists the abbreviations found in the entries. Various columns include: the family or family number; if the person is Spaniard, Casta or Indian; the names of the heads of household and family members; family members’ marital status; members’ ages.

*The Mier Church Padrones* is available at the library for physical browsing. It is also digitized online at <https://app.box.com/s/snzu6phmbaq9qi6rf77k>. Links at the top of each page allow viewers to jump to the FamilySearch image of the page which was transcribed. (FamilySearch film 1511692).

For more information on padrones:

Moises Garza, “Find Your Mexican Ancestors Using Church Padrones,” *Mexican Genealogy*, 17 February 2016 (<https://mexicangenealogy.com/find-your-mexican-ancestors-using-church-padrones/>).

Moises Garza, “The Mier Church Padrones 1782-1797,” *We Are Cousins*, 1 January 2015

<https://www.wearecousins.info/2015/01/the-mier-church-padrones-1782-1795/>.

*The Miers Church Padrones*, PDF download, <https://app.box.com/s/snzu6phmbaq9qi6rf77k>

Penny Alvarez-Keller, “A Key to Our Mexican Past – Padrones Records,” 20 February 2018, *Digging Up Deep Roots*,

<https://diggingupdeeproofs.weebly.com/>.

NOTE: Moises Garza, *The Mier Church Padrones, 1782-1795*, p. ix; PDF version (<https://app.box.com/s/snzu6phmbaq9qi6rf77k> : accessed 10 April 2014).

—Nancy Gilbride Casey  
DPL Volunteer



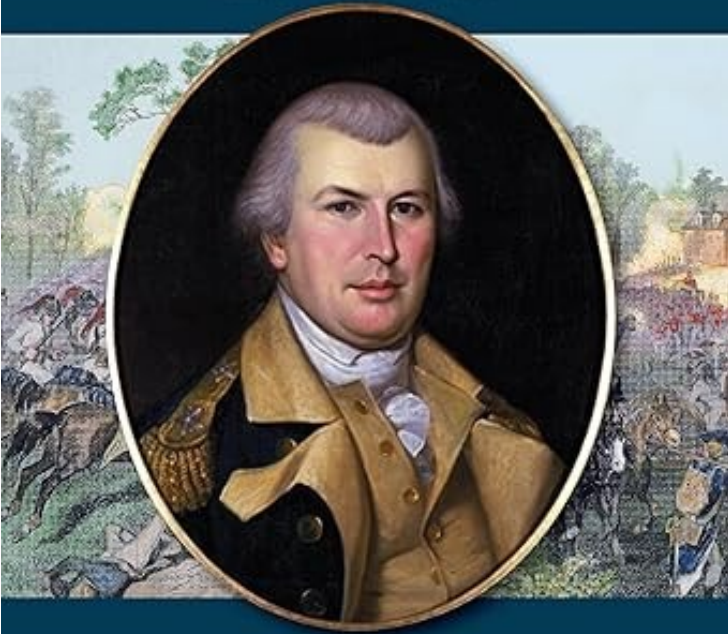
## *The Line of Splendor*

*By Salina B Baker*

*Ms. Baker was our speaker at the October chapter meeting, and she gave a very interesting overview of Nathanael Greene's service during the Revolutionary War.*

### THE LINE OF SPLENDOR

*A Novel of Nathanael Greene and the American Revolution*



Salina B Baker

When the first shots of the American Revolutionary War were fired in Massachusetts on April 19, 1775, thirty-two-year-old Nathanael Greene, a self-educated Quaker with no military experience, dismayed his family and marched toward Boston as general of the Rhode Island provincial army. General George Washington recognized his unwavering belief in American independence and the qualities that catapulted him to a major general in the Continental Army.

From the hard lessons learned on the battlefields of New York, to his appointment as Quartermaster General during the harsh winter at Valley Forge, his role in convicting the British spy who colluded to obtain the plans to West Point, to the godsend who took command of the ragged remnants of the Southern Continental Army, Nathanael Greene's complex perseverance and brilliant strategies broke military doctrines.

This is the story of the man who rose to become a national hero by resuscitating and then propelling the American states to victory in their war for independence and the personal cost of that war.

*"In *The Line of Splendor: A Novel of Nathanael Greene and the American Revolution*, Salina Baker has given readers an insight into the realm of the possible. *The Line of Splendor* is clearly a work of love.... Join her, as she invites you into *The Line of Splendor: A Novel of Nathanael Greene and the American Revolution*." —Ricardo A. Herrera, 18th and 19th century American military history historian, Professor U.S. Army War College, Department of National Security and Strategy; author of *Feeding Washington's Army**

Review from Amazon.com

## 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/dentontxsar>



### 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)**