



The Hightower Recorder

Newsletter of the William Hightower Chapter
Sons of the American Revolution



December 2021

Patriotic - Historical - Educational

2020 Texas SAR Americanism Award Chapter

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This Month in the American Revolution Washington Resigns His Commission

by Kris Krueger

In this Issue...

This Month in the American Revolution.....	1
President's Message.....	2
Patriot Inducted into Chapter.....	3
Compatriot Recognized during Native American Heritage Month.....	4
Supplemental Ancestor Recognized.....	5
Challenge Accepted.....	6
Recounting a Visit to the SAR Genealogical Library.....	7
Christmas Dinner is Here!.....	7
Anniversaries and Birth Days.....	9
SAR Annual Dues.....	10
Chapter Calendar.....	11
Chapter Leadership.....	13

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krisk96@gmail.com



General George Washington Resigning His Commission

Painting by John Trumbull, 1826. The painting hangs in the U.S. Capitol Rotunda. Notice the empty throne covered in a king's robe, symbolizing Washington giving up his power.

On December 23, 1783, George Washington made the most strategic decision of his military career. We feel its affects on the operation of our government even today.

On October 19, 1781, General Cornwallis sent shockwaves across the globe when he surrendered at Yorktown. England's house of cards had crumbled. Peace negotiations soon began. Peace officially arrived on September 3, 1783, with the signing of the Treaty of Paris.

By the signing of the Treaty of Paris, George Washington's popularity spread well beyond the United States. It had found its way across Europe, achieving an almost mythological status. He was seen as, practically single-handedly, the man who defeated the most powerful country, and king, in the world. People took notice.

Continued on page 8

Message from Chapter President Tom Jones



I want to thank all our members that continued our mission and obligations to our Patriots during this year.

As you know during the first part of the year from January to May our meetings were conducted on Zoom. We were fortunate to have several of our members that were able to direct us through that process. We were able to go back to regular meetings in September and thankfully we have not had any problems to continue this.

Also, during this time, it was also very hard to have access to the schools to present our certificates and medals to our young students in the schools and college's.

However, we found ways around those restrictions, and were able to do our best to accomplish our mission and obligations despite the restrictions we faced due to the virus's. Pictures of those presentation are in our monthly newsletters.

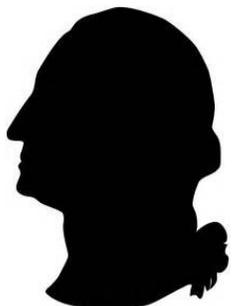
We accomplished the following:

- 8 awards to students for our essay and oral contests.
- 2 awards with \$1,000 scholarships for students going to college
- 1 presentation to our community law enforcement agency
- 1 Flag Certificate Presentation
- 1 member received the Patriots medal for exceptional accomplishments
- 1 School History Teacher whose essay came in 2nd in our National Competition
- 17 JROTC/ROTC certificates and medals to outstanding cadets
- 1 CAP Cadet Award certificate and medal
- 1 CAP Spaatz Award recognition certificate
- 30 Chapter shirts sold to members with proceeds going to Youth Awards
- 10 George Washington City/County Proclamations
- 2 Participation in 2 community parades, 4th of July and Veterans Day.
- 1 New Braunfels 3-day Folkfest.
- 2 Respectful memorials to members who passed away
- 1 Christmas Holiday Dinner with 25 attendees
- The Chapter maintained our membership. We had 10 new members.
- The Chapter maintained our fiscal funds from \$19,088.52 in 2020 to \$20,941.22 in 2021.

I am sure in 2022 we will be challenged to continue or missions and obligations to our Patriots. Unfortunately, the virus keeps coming back.

However, I am confident that our Chapter will prevail. 🇺🇸

Tom



George Washington

December 25, 1776

"My brave fellows, you have done all I asked you to do, and more than could be reasonably expected, but your country is at stake ... The present is emphatically the crisis which is to decide our destiny."

Hey Compatriot,

Got your Chapter shirt yet?

Yes! Great, hope to see you in it at our next meeting!

No? What are you waiting for? Contact Tom today.

Shirts get us recognized and support our scholarships!

Compatriot Inducted into William Hightower Chapter

At the November 11, 2021, William Hightower Chapter inducted one of its newest members into the Society. Eric Mowles is a transfer member, having recently moved from New York to the Texas. His acceptance into the SAR came during the pandemic while he was in New York, so he was not actually able to receive a ceremony before he moved. What was unfortunate for the New York Society has been a great addition to the Texas Society. Even having been in the Chapter only a few short months, Eric has been very active. He helped staff our booth at Folk Fest in October, served on the Chapter Color Guard in the Veterans Parade in New Braunfels, has spoken to a Cub Scout Pack, and has attended several meetings in uniform. Eric is also a volunteer with the Patriot Research System (PRS) and has already earned the Lafayette Volunteer Service Medal with a Bronze Oak Leaf Cluster.

And what better event on Veterans Day than to present a War Service Medal and Military Service Medal! Eric serves in the United States Air Force. Before being transferred to Texas, he was assigned as a Professor at the United States Military Academy at West Point. In appreciation for Eric's service to this country, Eric was also awarded the War Service Medal and the Military Service Medal.

We are honored Eric chose to be a part of our Society and our Chapter and look forward to many more fun adventures ahead. 🇺🇸



Compatriot Eric Mowles being inducted into the SAR and the William Hightower Chapter by Chapter President Tom Jones (at the podium), Vice President Ed Blauvelt (far right) and Registrar Robert Duckworth (Special thanks to Norman "Sandy" Sanders for contributing photos)



Compatriot Eric Mowles receives the War Service Medal from Chapter President Tom Jones for his service to the United States while deployed in the United States Air Force. Eric was also presented the Military Service Medal by President Jones.



William Hightower Chapter Compatriot Recognized During Native American Heritage Month

November is Native American Heritage Month, celebrating the Native American heritage and culture of millions of Americans across the country. One of our own Compatriots helped the US Army recognize the celebration, Sergeant Evan Blauvelt. Evan is currently serving in the US Army's 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment (Blackhorse), stationed at Fort Irwin, CA. The Regiment recognized Evan and his heritage through a Facebook post in November. Evan's quote in the post could not sum it up any better.

Evan is also a recent recipient of the SAR Life Saving Medal. Evan was presented the medal by his father, Chapter Vice President Ed Blauvelt during a visit in October. You can find the story about Evan's heroic efforts qualifying him for the award in the October issue of the Hightower Recorder at this [link](#). Congratulations, again, Evan. And, thank you for your service! 🇺🇸



At right, Chapter Vice President Ed Blauvelt presents the SAR Life Saving Medal to Compatriot Evan Blauvelt during a ceremony at Fort Irwin, CA.

Supplemental Ancestor Recognized

At our November 11 Chapter meeting, our own President Tom Jones was presented with a Supplemental Ancestor Certificate. The presentation was conducted by Chapter Vice President Ed Blauvelt.

Chapter Vice President Ed Blauvelt and Chapter Secretary Kris Krueger worked together to make the presentation without telling Tom. Tom has a pretty strict rule about not accepting awards while he sits as our President. "To give Tom a chance to receive some well-deserved recognition, Ed and I had to take matters into our own hands," said Kris.

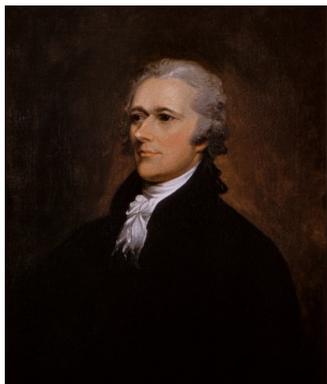
Tom's son, and our fellow Compatriot, Tim Jones also received supplemental ancestor recognition. Tim is currently out of state, so Tom will ensure Tim receives his certificate.

Their Supplemental Patriot Ancestor is Thomas Forshey. He was born about 1751 and died on December 22, 1836, in Muskingum, Ohio. He was a Recruiting Officer for Captain John Wilson and Colonel Eneas Macay. He also served in the 8th Pennsylvania Continental Line.

Tom and Tim, congratulations on completing the work to find and recognize this Patriot Ancestor! 🇺🇸



Chapter Vice President Ed Blauvelt presents Chapter President Tom Jones with a Supplemental Ancestor Certificate.



It's Time to Pay Dues for 2022!

Secretary of the Treasury Alexander Hamilton wants to make sure you take care of your dues for 2022! Your dues help support our scholarship programs and keep the Chapter running. You can pay safely online. Just go to <https://www.txssar.org/dues.htm>.

Help us accomplish our patriotic, educational, and historical missions of keeping the ideals of the American Revolution that gave birth to this Great Nation alive!

Challenge Accepted!

By Eric Mowles

What do you do when the Cub Master for the Cub Scout Pack your children belong to calls in sick? You ask, "how can I help?" The answer was to run the pack meeting and talk about the history of Veterans Day and Wreaths Across America. So, I did what any member of the Society would do: dressed up in my continental uniform and headed to the meeting.

I have heard Chapter President Tom Jones share his vision for the SAR to lead the New Braunfels Veterans Day parade numerous times:

"Our Patriot Ancestors were the first veterans"

I led with that statement when talking to my Cub Scouts about Veterans Day. We quickly transitioned into recognizing that most Scouts in the room had at least one relative in their family that has proudly served in the Armed Forces and that this is a day to recognize them. We then had a brief discussion about Wreaths Across America to further honor those that gave their lives in defense of our country.

Usually during Cub Scout meetings, when you have a lot of little children in a room, they are constantly running around, jumping, and in general not paying attention. During this presentation, the Scouts listened the entire time, answered questions and were continually engaged. The parents also got involved in the discussion (which is a rare occurrence). Overall, this led me to believe that both Scouts and parents were engaged in the meeting, resulting in a huge success.

A big thanks goes out to President Tom Jones for reminding me just how special our Patriot Ancestors are as the first veterans. 🇺🇸



Compatriot Eric Mowles working with a Cub Scout Pack. Eric gave a presentation on the history of Veterans Day and Wreaths Across America.



A Visit to the SAR Library

In last month's issue of the *Hightower Recorder*, Compatriot Rodney Young told us about his visit to the SAR's Genealogical Research Library in Louisville, Kentucky. Rod was kind enough to talk about his visit at our November 11, 2021, Chapter meeting. You can find Rod's story in our November issue, available at this [link](#). Rod, thanks for sharing your visit with us! 🍷



Compatriot Rodney Young talking about his visit to the SAR Genealogical Research Library in Louisville, KY

Christmas Dinner is Here!

The William Hightower Chapter is having its Christmas Dinner on Thursday, December 9, at the Gruene Door Restaurant, 2360 Gruene Lake Drive, New Braunfels. Special thanks go out to Blair and Candy Rudy who have been heading up the event. They have found us a great venue for a great evening.

The evening will be casual. We have reserved a room for the Chapter. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to Candy and Blair at (214) 577-0027 or bcrudy@me.com.

Please join us as we ring in the holidays with fun and fellowship!



Christmas for the Continental Army

December 25, 1776

A Christmas Miracle was delivered the next day as Washington defeats Hessian forces at the Battle of Trenton.

Washington Resigns His Commission

Continued from page 1

With the war now over, peace achieved, and American independence secured, the world watched. The global expectation was the most popular man in the world, with his standing army behind him, would march in and take over.

It would have been understood. It would have been accepted. It was almost cliché. The world guessed wrong.

Of course, it came to no surprise to anyone who knew George Washington. He did not want no dynasty and would be no king. Washington embodied the citizen farmer laying down his sword and return to his farm after the war, the American Cincinnatus. It was an image he both lived and actively cultivated throughout the war.

On December 19, 1783, Washington arrived in Annapolis, Maryland, where Congress was convened. The next day he wrote a letter to the President of the Congress, Thomas Mifflin, requesting an audience and announcing his intention to resign his commission. He requested instructions for the protocol. The Journal of the Continental Congress records a public audience was chosen and identified the protocol to follow. The date was December 23, at noon.

Congress honored the Commander-in-Chief with a formal dinner the night before. Two-hundred attended. Delegate James Tilton of Delaware noted Washington “danced in every set, so that the ladies might have the pleasure of dancing with him, or as it has since been handsomely expressed, get a touch of him.”

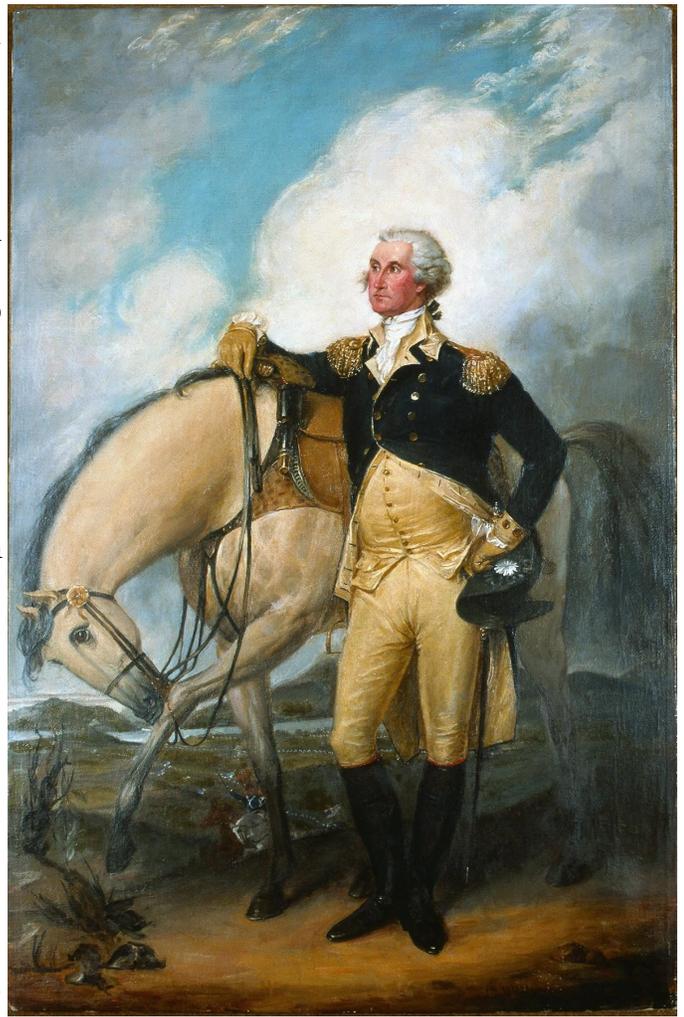
The next day, Washington entered the chambers of Congress and gave a speech. He ended, “Having now finished the work assigned me, I retire from the great theater of action... I here offer my commission, and take my leave of all the employments of public life.” Members of Congress described it as an emotional moment with plenty tears.

General Washington handed over his commission and a copy of his speech, bowed to Congress, and departed Annapolis. He was home in time for Christmas.

Washington’s popularity and respect skyrocketed as his actions were reported. When word reached the rest of the world, it reacted too. Even King George III is reported to have said, “If [he] does that, he will be the greatest man in the world.” And, for a time, George Washington was.

Washington resigning his commission to Congress and following the protocol they prescribed reinforced the precedent that the military is subordinate to civilian leadership. Washington’s action was not subtle political theater. The world noticed this demonstration of the direction the United States was going, in contrast to the way governments functioned in Europe.

It was never a plot or a ploy to gain more power, fame, or fortune. How do we know this? Because, like the great Roman General Cincinnatus, Washington put down his sword and went home to the farm, where he remained out of public arena until 1787. And then, only because he was practically begged to preside over the Constitutional Convention. And again, as if by divine intervention, he was the right person at the right place at the right point in history. 🌟



Washington at Verplanck's Point New York, 1782, Reviewing the French Troops after the Victory at Yorktown, John Trumbull, 1790

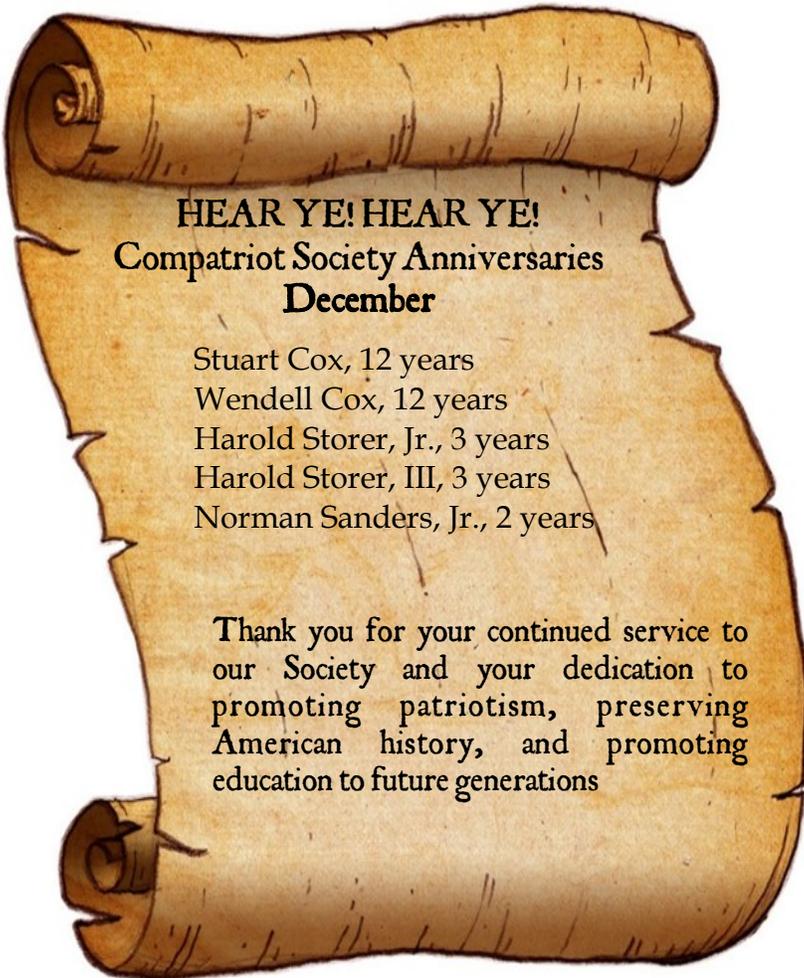
*Happy Birthday to our Compatriots
And Remembering our Patriot Ancestors*

Happy Birthday, Compatriots

Timothy Killam, December 2
Harold Storer, Jr., December 2
Michael Mark, Jr., December 6
Harold Krueger, Sr., December 9
Terry Hardemann, December 16
Joseph Scott, December 21
Timothy Jones, December 23
Lou Colantoni, December 25
Bill Washington, December 29

Remembering our Patriot Ancestors

Charles Griffin, patriot ancestor of Francis and Steven Griffin, born 12/1/1734
Benjamin Tanner, patriot ancestor of Timothy Killam, born 12/1/1758
Jesse Robinett, Sr., patriot ancestor of David and Richard B. Robinnett, born 12/3/1755
James Sullenger, patriot ancestor of Casey Wolfe, born 12/3/1775
Aaron Stebbins, patriot ancestor of Don Chandler, born 12/18/1747



HEAR YE! HEAR YE!
Compatriot Society Anniversaries
December

Stuart Cox, 12 years
Wendell Cox, 12 years
Harold Storer, Jr., 3 years
Harold Storer, III, 3 years
Norman Sanders, Jr., 2 years

Thank you for your continued service to our Society and your dedication to promoting patriotism, preserving American history, and promoting education to future generations

From the Awards Committee...

The Sons of the American Revolution offers several recognitions you may qualify for. The Chapter is unable to budget for these awards, but they can still be earned by qualifying Compatriots. They include a medal or pin and a certificate. Here is a look at several awards you may qualify for.

1. War Service Medal. Awarded to Compatriots for honorable service with the Armed Forces or an ally against a common enemy in a recognized war or action.
2. Military Service Medal. Awarded to Compatriots for military service that does not qualify for the War Service Medal.
3. Bronze Good Citizenship Medal. Awarded to Compatriots for noteworthy achievements to their community in at least 4 leadership capacities, or by some outstanding achievement in the community.
4. Service Awards. Lapel pins awarded for years of service to the SAR in 5-year increments, beginning with 5 years. If you have an anniversary in one of these years, you qualify for a service award.

Please see Chapter Secretary Kris Krueger who can help you process the award and assist with your recognition at a Chapter meeting.

**Compatriot, You earned it!
Get Recognized Today!**



Sons of the American Revolution Annual Dues

By Kris Krueger

Dues. Fees. The most difficult conversation in our Society. Dues and fees finance our programs. The SAR uses a menu of dues and fees for revenue across the National Society, State Societies, and Chapters.

The SAR is a federated system between the National Society, State Society, and local Chapters. Each collect dues and membership fees. When a Compatriot pays annual dues, the total is broken into National, State, and Chapter portions to support programs at their levels.

The National Society keeps a reference manual of the different fees. The NSSAR Membership Cost Reference Manual 2021 is the most current and available at this [link](#). The reference manual outlines all costs by the National Society.

The SAR recognizes it is made up of families and offers discounted rates for submitting certain applications, such as junior membership and supplemental applications. Compatriots should check these discounted fees when working with family members.

The Texas Society has made finding the menu of dues and fees even easier. The Texas Society maintains a website that can calculate all dues and fees. It shows what portion goes to the National Society, the Texas Society, and the local Chapter. You can find the website at this [link](#). The Texas Society's website is wonderful tool every Compatriot should get familiar with.

The Texas Society also makes it easier to pay annual dues. Texas Society has a website to pay dues online. The website will automatically calculate the dues owed and allow payment using a credit card. You can find the website at this [link](#). The website is updated annually and is ready to collect the next year's dues usually in October.

Home - About Texas SAR - Chapter Info - Patriotic - Contests/Programs - Events - JOINING INFO

TEXAS SOCIETY
SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION
PATRIOTISM, EDUCATION, HISTORY

Texas SAR Online Dues and Donations Payments
(payments are available on the Member's site if you don't have yours)

I've read the instructions...take me right to the form!

2022 Dues Payments

Regular Membership - Using this form you can make 2022 dues payments online for your primary chapter and optionally up to 5 secondary chapter memberships. Select your primary chapter from the drop down list on the Primary Chapter Dues line. Once your primary chapter has been selected, the annual dues based on the chapter selected will be reflected in the Cost column to the right, and will include chapter, state, and national dues.

If you hold secondary memberships in Texas SAR chapters, use the same technique to select those chapters by using the 1st through 5th Secondary Chapter Dues listings. You can only select one chapter in each listing and the order of selection of your secondary chapters isn't important. It is only important that you select each of them in a separate listing or your membership dues will not be credited for any chapters not selected. If you hold more than 5 secondary memberships, submit your payment to include the first 5 secondary chapters along with your primary membership chapter. When that transaction is complete, start a new transaction in which you will select any additional secondary chapter memberships which weren't included in the first transaction.

Dual Membership with Primary Chapter in Another State - Using this part of the form you can make 2022 dues payments online for a secondary Texas SAR chapter when your primary chapter membership is in another state. Select your Texas SAR chapter from the drop down list on the Dual Membership with Primary Chapter in Another State dues line. Once your Texas SAR chapter has been selected, the annual dues based on the chapter selected will be reflected in the Cost column to the right, and will include chapter and state dues.

If you are a member of additional Texas SAR chapters, use the same technique to select those additional chapters by using the 1st through 5th Secondary Chapter Dues listings as mentioned in the Regular Membership section.

Junior Members - Using this part of the form you can make 2022 dues payments online for Junior Membership. Select your Texas SAR chapter from the drop down list on the Junior Members dues line. Once your Texas SAR chapter has been selected, the annual Junior Member dues of \$5.00 will be reflected in the Cost column to the right.

Texas SAR Patriots Fund 2022 Contribution

Texas SAR uses the annual dues event to encourage adivine to the Texas SAR Patriots Fund. The Patriot Fund is the only source of

Texas Society's Dues Payment Web Site
their portion.

Some Compatriots are dual members of other Chapters and other State Societies. There are dues for these memberships as well. The Texas Society websites can help figure the cost, pay the fee, and distribute the dues to the appropriate organization when paid on the website.

Compatriots pay various dues and fees to support the goals of our Society. They pay for programs that honor the service and sacrifices of the Patriots that won our freedom, educate the next generation of those Patriots, and protects the ideals and traditions those Patriots started. 🇺🇸

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TEXAS SOCIETY
SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION
PATRIOTISM, EDUCATION, HISTORY

Texas SAR Fee Calculator
updated 14 November 2021

The following tables outline the fee distributions for Dues, Applications, Requests for Transfer, Reinstatements, Dual Memberships, and more. When calculating total fees (national, state, and chapter) the fact that several chapters have larger chapter dues rates than the "standard" must be taken into account and the dues rate for 2022 is in use in this form. For accurate fees regardless of chapter, select a Chapter from the drop-down list and enter your age (necessary only if you are interested in Perpetual Membership).

Note: National has raised their portion of the application and supplemental fees starting with any application signed by the applicant after July 15, 2021.

Note: Fees may not show in extremely narrow browser views as in smart phones held vertically.

Select your Chapter:

Enter your age: (for Perpetual Membership rate)

New Membership Applications
(amounts shown at each level include application fees and first year's dues)

NSSAR	\$135.00
Texas SAR	\$44.00
CHAPTER (no chapter selected)	
TOTAL:	

New Junior Membership Applications - New Line
(you are applying as a Junior member and the ancestor you are applying under has not been documented or approved through the SAR, DAR or C.A.R. In the past - amounts shown at each level include application fees and first year's dues:

Texas Society Fee Calculator Web Site

Dues are paid for the calendar year, from January through December. The Texas Society By-Laws require requires each Compatriot to get a notice by November 1. Compatriots have from November 1 through December 31 to pay dues for the following year. The Texas Society also provides for a grace period. As long as dues are paid by February 1, Compatriots remain active.

Compatriots can use the notice they receive in the mail to pay their dues, but there is an easier way in Texas. It is highly recommended to use the website.

All dues go to the State Society. The State Society then distributes them where they need to go at the beginning of the calendar year. This way, Compatriots only pay once. The Texas Society will then send the National Society their portion and send each Chapter

December in the William Hightower Chapter

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4 Washington Bids Farewell
5	6	7	8	9 Chapter Christmas Party	10	11
12	13	14 British evacuate Charleston	15	16 Boston Tea Party	17	18
19 Valley Forge	20	21	22	23 Washington Resigns	24 Christmas Eve	25 Christmas Day Crossing the Delaware
26 Battle of Trenton	27	28	29 British capture Savannah	30	31 New Year's Eve	

Happening this Month

December 9: Christmas Dinner, at the Gruene Door Restaurant, 2360 Gruene Lake Drive, New Braunfels

Historical Anniversaries

December 4, 1783: Washington bids farewell to his officers at Fraunces' Tavern in New York City.

December 14, 1782: British evacuate Charleston, South Carolina.

December 16, 1773: Boston Tea Party

December 19, 1777: Continental Army enters winter encampment at Valley Forge, Pennsylvania.

December 23, 1783: Washington resigns his commission to Continental Congress in Annapolis, Maryland.

December 25, 1776: Washington takes the Continental Army across the Delaware River at night.

December 26, 1776: Washington defeats the Hessians at Trenton, New Jersey.

December 29, 1778: British capture Savannah, Georgia.

January in the William Hightower Chapter

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 New Years Day
2	3 Battle of Princeton	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13 Chapter Meeting	14	15
16	17 Cowpens & MLK Day	18	19 Common Sense	20 Peace with France & Spain	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29 British Occupy Augusta, GA
30	31					

Happening this Month

January 1: New Years Day

January 13: Chapter Meeting, Granzins BBQ, New Braunfels, Social Hour: 5:30 p.m., Business: 6:30 p.m.

January 17: Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Historical Anniversaries

January 3, 1777: Washington's victory at the Battle of Princeton, New Jersey.

January 17, 1781: Daniel Morgan wins one-sided victory against British at the Battle of Cowpens, South Carolina.

January 19, 1776: Thomas Paine publishes Common Sense.

January 20, 1783: Britain signs preliminary peace articles with France and Spain

January 29, 1779: British occupy Augusta, Georgia

William Hightower Chapter Leadership

2021-2022

Officers

President Tom Jones
Vice President Ed Blauvelt
Secretary Kris Krueger
Treasurer Stan Trull
Registrar Robert Duckworth
Chaplain Don Chandler
Historian Open
Parliamentarian Joe Cox
Sergeant at Arms Robert Duckworth
Past President Steve Polk
Webmaster Will Moravits
Newsletter Editor Kris Krueger

Committee Chairs

Color Guard: Blair Rudy
Flag Awards: Tom Jones
Finance & Budget: Stan Trull
Fund Raising: Steve Polk
George Washington Proclamations: Joe Cox
Grave Marking: Open
Medals, Awards & Citations: Kris Krueger
Public Events: Patrick Hollis
Public Service Awards: Will Moravits
Publicity & Media: Will Moravits
ROTC & CAP: Tom Jones
Scouting: Kris Krueger
Youth Awards & Contests: Will Moravits

About Us

The William Hightower Chapter is the New Braunfels-based chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution. We are a male genealogical society dedicated to promoting patriotism, preserving American history, and promoting education to our future generations. Please feel free to join us the 2nd Thursday of each month September through May at Granzin Bar-B-Q, 660 West San Antonio Street, New Braunfels. Social hour begins at 5:30 p.m. and business at 6:30 p.m. Come join us for social hour at 5:30 p.m.!

