



# The Hightower Recorder

Newsletter of the William Hightower Chapter  
Sons of the American Revolution



March 2021

*Patriotic - Historical - Educational*

2019 Ross Shipman Best Newsletter Award Recipient

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## Coming Soon...

Mar 6: NSSAR Spring Leadership Meeting  
Mar 11: Chapter Awards and Officer Elections  
Mar 13: NSSAR Special Congress  
Apr 8: Chapter Meeting  
Apr 10: TXSSAR Color Guard Rally  
Apr 14-18: TXSSAR Spring Leadership Meeting  
May 13: Chapter Meeting  
Jul 10: 131st Congress

Get the Hightower Recorder!  
Email the Editor, Kris Krueger  
[krisk96@gmail.com](mailto:krisk96@gmail.com)

## This Month in the American Revolution

### General Washington - Not George!

by Stu Hoyt

Born in Stafford County Virginia February 28, 1752, and a second cousin to George Washington, William was the second son of Bailey and Catherine Washington. He was educated to become a preacher and was well versed in the Greek language. Along came the American Revolution, he and his older brother Henry flipped a coin to see who would fight and who would stay home and care for the plantation, William won.



General William Washington

He was elected a Captain in the Stafford County Minutemen on September 12, 1775, which became part of the 3rd Virginia Regiment, Continental Line, February 25, 1776. His Lieutenant, and second in command, was future 5th President James Monroe. Their first encounter was the Battle of Harlem Heights on September 16, 1776, in which he may have been wounded. They were assigned to Gen. Nathaniel Greene at the Battle of Trenton, in which he captured two enemy cannon and their men, then trained them down the main street to

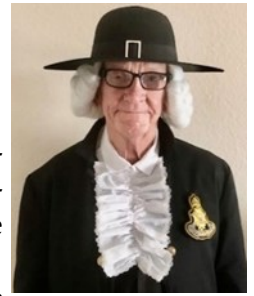
limit that battle. He was wounded in both hands and Lt. Monroe in the shoulder. They received praise from Gen. Washington.

On January 27, 1777, he was promoted to Major and assigned to the newly created 4th Continental Light Dragoons, where he fought in the battles of Brandywine, Germantown and later at Monmouth. He was assigned to the 3rd Light Dragoons in the fall of 1778, promoted to Lt. Colonel, then appointed to lead that unit after its Commander was wounded in a surprise night attack at Old Tappan, New Jersey.

His unit was transferred to the Southern Theater in November 1779 to join forces with Gen. Benjamin Lincoln. He had his first encounter with the British Legion under Lt. Col. Banastre Tarleton, in March 1780 with a minor victory near Rantowies Bridge over the Stono River in South Carolina.

Continued on page 4

# Message from Chapter President Tom Jones



As I come to the end of my first year as your President, I want to thank our Chapter Officers, Committee Chairs and all our members that contributed to our very successful year. It is commendable to everyone that we were able to fulfill our obligations to our Patriots despite all the challenges that we had to overcome.

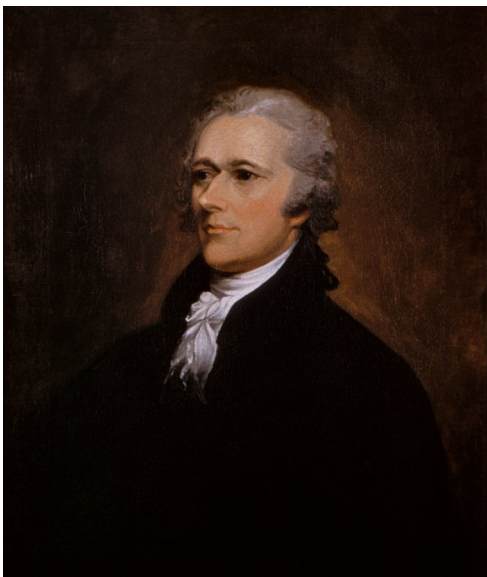
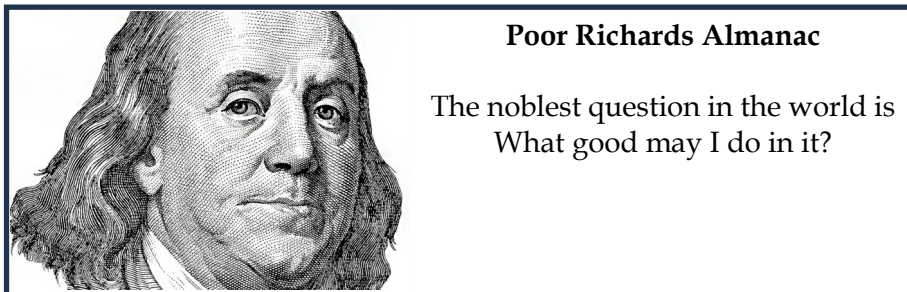
Unfortunately, a couple of our very dedicated members who have been very active in the success of our Chapter have told me that the time from has come for them to "pass the torch on to another member." We want to thank them for everything they have accomplished for our Chapter. I ask everyone to please help me fill their vacancies so we can continue their programs. If you want to be active in the Chapter programs, please join us in our Monthly Zoom meetings and contact me for more information.

Our National Society is starting a new program to focus on our SAR membership growth to continue all our programs. The new program will address the "Recruitment, Retention and Recovery" of our society members. For our Chapter to support this program, I have asked our Officers and Committee Chairs to attend a Zoom meeting on Thursday, March 25 at 6:30 PM so they can provide me their guidance, knowledge, and foresight. If you would like to join us in that meeting, please let me know and we will provide you the Zoom information to join us.

I look forward to continuing to be your President for one more year and ask for your support. With your help, we can continue to enhance our Youth Awards Programs, JROTC/ROTC medal presentation, recognize Public Service first responders, participate in parades and community functions, get city and county Proclamations for George Washington's Birthday, recognize people who honor our National Flag, and many other activities.

Like we saw the slogan on military posters: "Uncle Sam Needs You." I am sure you will agree we need to fulfill that slogan today. 🇺🇸

Tom Jones  
President, William Hightower Chapter  
Sons of the American Revolution



## Still Owe Dues for 2021?

Secretary of the Treasury Alexander Hamilton wants to make sure you have paid your dues for 2021! It is never too late to get caught back up. Your dues help support our scholarship programs and keep the Chapter running. If you have not paid your dues yet, it's easy to fix! 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! 🇺🇸

## A Picture is Worth a Thousand Words

by Stu Hoyt

Each year the SAR State Societies struggle to find candidates who are willing to take the time to write a 500-word essay to fulfill the requirements of the George and Stella Knight Essay Contest. The subject must relate to the period around and including the American Revolution. This doesn't seem like much but to students who are struggling to meet the academic demands to get into one of our institutes of higher learning, it is another time consuming requirement. Lace that demand with a small monetary achievement and it might gain some interest, but not much.

As a former Chairman of the Scholarship Committee for our chapter, I was impressed with the accomplishments of the applicants, who carry a heavy academic load, compete in extra curricular activities and still have time for an after school job and community projects. I am exhausted just reading their scholarship applications. Our goal is to promote patriotism, history, and education to keep the memories of our patriot ancestors and our founding fathers alive in the minds of our youth today.

There are some who are willing to go the extra mile yet it would be nice to enlist the cooperation of a History teacher and English teacher who would give credit for a contest essay in their class. A few of us were invited to one of our local high schools to award the winner of our chapter George and Stella Knight Essay Contest with a Certificate, Medal, Outstanding Citizenship Pin and a check for \$500.00. Nicholas Hargett, a sophomore at Byron Steele High School in Cibolo, TX wrote his award winning essay titled "The Fight for Our Rights".

Participation in the ceremony were Jim Clements of the Patrick Henry Chapter and State Society Secretary; Nicholas Hargett, proud essay winner; Will Moravits, William Hightower #35 Youth Contest Chairman, and Stu Hoyt, Chapter Historian.

Behind us was the "The Knight," the school mascot. Looking on were Kris Krueger, Chapter Secretary; Nicholas's mother, and Ms. Jana Cervantes, the principal looked on. ⚙

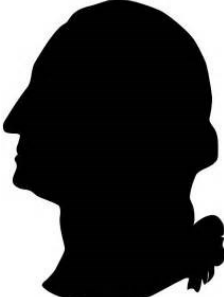


Essay Contest Winner Nicholas Hargett with Youth Programs Committee Chair Will Moravits, Texas Society Secretary Jim Clements, and Stu Hoyt

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### Introduction to A New Feature for the *Hightower Recorder*

Not many chapters can say they are blessed with an array of internal talent like the William Hightower Chapter has. One of our Compatriots has agreed to step up to writing a regular column for the newsletter featuring book reviews. The *Hightower Recorder* is excited to announce in this edition our newest feature: book reviews by Ed Blauvelt. With Ed's background and education, we are excited to see the books he reviews for us. In his first review, Ed is digging into the bookshelf of the Commander-in-Chief himself, George Washington. This is an opportunity for us to catch a glimpse into the mind of General Washington. How did he develop his sense of strategy, planning, and military science to lead the Continental Army with a winning vision? Ed is going to introduce us to those books that shaped the Commander-in-Chief's victorious strategy. See Ed's first book review on page 6, Count Turpin's Essay on the Art of War. ⚙



#### Washington's Rules of Civility

Rule 14

Turn not your Back to others especially in Speaking, Jog not the Table or Desk on which Another reads or writes, lean not upon any one.

Later that day, they bested a detachment of Tarleton's men at the Rutledge Plantation. In April, Tarleton would retaliate by destroying the Continentals at Monck's Corner.

After the defeat of Gen. Horatio Gates at Camden, the Southern Army was assigned to Gen. Nathaniel Greene. He divided it into two parts and placed Washington's Dragoons under Gen. Daniel Morgan. Two major accomplishments accredited to William Washington against the Loyalists were their defeat at Rugeley's Mill, near Camden and Hammond's Old Store, in December 1780. Washington tricked the Tories into surrendering by using a "Quaker Gun," which is a felled tree trunk on wagon axles to look like a cannon.

In January 1781, Washington was instrumental in maneuvering the retiring militia off the field at Cowpens and around behind trapping and routing the British forces. He personally chased Tarleton for about 26 miles before he had to turn back to support Morgan's retreat to the Dan River. William Washington's last battle of the Revolution was at Eutaw Springs. He was commanded to flank the British forces. His cavalry was unable to complete the maneuver by a dense thicket. In an attempt to reposition his men, he ran straight into a line of British fire. His horse was shot and pinned him to the ground. He was bayoneted and captured, spending the rest of the war in house arrest in Charleston. The British commander in the South, Lord Cornwallis, would later comment that "there could be no more formidable antagonist in a charge, at the head of his cavalry, than Colonel William Washington."



William Washington at the Battle of Cowpens

During the tensions with France in 1798, George Washington was appointed Commander of the Army and asked William Washington to accept a commission as a general, which he did. He served in that position until 1800. He died on March 6, 1810 after a long illness at the age of 58. 🌀

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## History in the Making

by Stu Hoyt

History is basically defined as recording and relating an event in the past. Relating history without adding one's own bias is an art in itself. Being able to convey the past and making it interesting is a unique skill, which is not common to the average person. As a member of the Speakers Bureau for our the William Hightower Chapter, I have



From left to right: TXSSAR Secretary Jim Clements, Becky Williams, Stu Hoyt, Youth Programs Chairman Will Moravits, Steele High School Principal Jana Cervantes. The school mascot is in the background.

had the pleasure to interact with some of those with this special talent. It is a pleasure and entertaining to observe these artists in action. My hat is off to them when the young faces in their audience come alive because they "get it."

One of those unique individuals is Rebecca Williams, an 11th grade history teacher at Byron Steele High School in Cibolo. I was invited to visit her classroom to share some thoughts on the American Revolution to three of her classes, of course in Continental Uniform with my displays. She is in love with her work and dedicated to her profession. I was extremely pleased when she won the William Hightower Chapter Teacher of the Year. It was even more exciting when we learned she is the Texas Society's Teacher of the Year, heading for the National contest.

On February 25, 2021, some chapter members visited Steele High School to honor Becky. She was presented with a Certificate, a Good Citizenship Medal and a check for \$500.00. 🌀

**Book Review: An Essay on the Art of War.**  
**Translated from the French of Count Turpin, by Captain Joseph Otway**  
By Edward Blauvelt, SMSgt, USAF (ret), MMH, MAS, MAM, BAS

*"Many a man, depending on his rules, has found that marches, the camps, the dispositions, the maneuvers performed exact and strict order in the closet, have not only been very difficult, but even impracticable in the field."*

- Comte Heri Roland Lancelot Turpin de Crissé

When military historians discuss the Art of War, specific names spring to mind, such as Carl von Clausewitz, Baron Jomini, Sun Tzu, Niccolò Machiavelli, Alfred Thayer Mahan, Giulio Douhet, along with another twenty or so other less known, but still prodigious, strategists. During the American Revolution, there were only a few examples to assist military leaders. Most of these were from the ancient world, such as Xenophon, Thucydides, Trajan, and Hannibal. These early theorists offered commanders useful strategies and tactics to take advantage against their enemies.

So, who did General George Washington refer to for tactical advice during the American Revolution War? He had a few references. These included 18th-century contemporaries of Washington, such as Alexander Pope, Daniel Defoe, Henry Fielding, Frances Burney, Denis Diderot, Johann Gottfried Herder, Johann Wolfgang von Goethe. Within Washington's library were several essays on the art of warfare, including some minor works like Lieutenant Thomas Webb's (British 48th Regiment) *Military Treatise on the Appointments of the Army* published in 1759, which claimed it contained many useful hints never recorded before.<sup>1</sup>

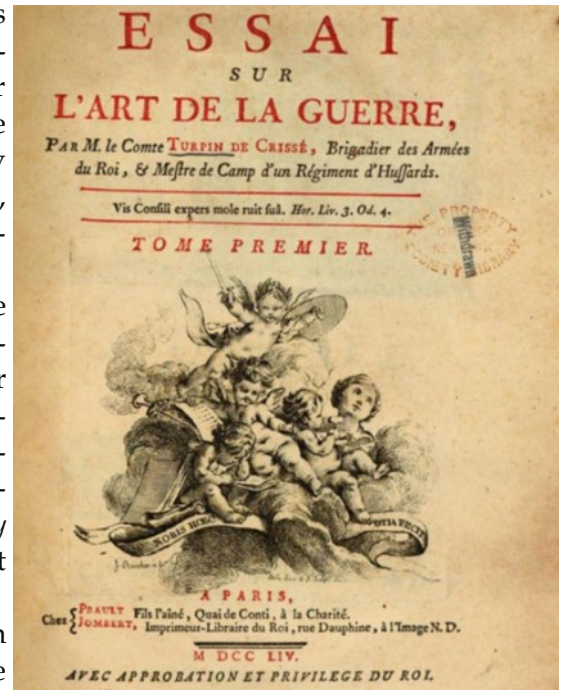
In 1758, Washington accompanied General John Forbes (a Scotsman serving in the British Army and led the Forbes Expedition during the French and Indian War) on his expedition against Fort Duquesne. Forbes had been impressed by a new French book, the *Essai sur l'Art de la Guerre*, (An Essay on the of Art of War) French Comte Heri Roland Lancelot Turpin de Crissé, (or simple Count Turpin), published in Paris in 1754.<sup>2</sup> Count Turpin's essay was translated into English by Captain Joseph Otway, Washington maintained a copy in his library.

Comte Heri Roland Lancelot Turpin de Crissé (May 19, 1754 - c.1800) was a Paris-born French army officer and amateur painter. Count Turpin was born in France in 1715 and entered the French army at an early age. In 1734, he was a Captain, and ten years later, Colonel of Hussars. Count Turpin served with distinction in Italy and under Marshal Saxe and took part in the Seven Years War. In 1761, he was promoted to the grade of Mare'chal de Camp. And in 1792, lieutenant general. He emigrated to America during the French Revolution. The Count used his military and artistic skills to put pen to paper, creating one of the first modern theories on the Art of War.<sup>3</sup>

Turpin's essay is currently available as a reprint in a two-volume set on Amazon for \$25 per volume. Turpin's essay contains five separate books to assist a commander. Book One covers the operations of a campaign. Book Two, precaution against attack. Book Three, guarding one's cantonments, quarters, and maneuvers. Book Four, attacking an enemy's cantonments and quarters. Finally, Book Five covers the use of small parties and light troops against an enemy.

Most of the early books of the era on military tactics concentrated on drill and discipline, such as Baron von Steuben's book *Regulations for the Order and Discipline of the United States' Troops*. Turpin books were among the first useful guides with information on troop placement and application against specific terrain and varying targets. Turpin's book also provides military leaders with sound tactical advice that not every practice always works during a battle.

I think it is safe to say that Count Turpin's essay is the forerunner to Napoleon's strategist Baron Antoine Henri de Jomini's book *The Art of War*, written over a year later. Both texts offer a commander the same sage advice on troop placement and terrain employment, and applying overwhelming firepower to win each battle and, finally, the war. Some may find Turpin's two-volume set a slight challenge to read.



Continued on page 6

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

**HEAR YE! HEAR YE!  
Compatriot Society Anniversaries  
March**

Charles Motz, IV, 28 years  
Bill Washington, 22 years  
David S. Robinett, 21 years  
Richard B. Robinett, 21 years  
Terry Hardeman, 12 years  
Michael Mark, Jr., 8 years  
Luke Werner, 8 years  
David Elkins, 2 years  
Sean Newlin, 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

Nicolaas Deal, March 13  
Sean Newlin, March 16  
Stuart Cox, March 18  
David S. Robinett, March 23  
Thomas Richey, March 24

**Remembering our Patriot Ancestors**

Isaac Clark, ancestor of Will Moravits, born 3/31/1731  
Nehemiah Houghton, Sr., ancestor of Blair Rudy, born 3/23/1738  
Theophilus Thomas, ancestor of Terry Hardeman, born 3/8/1739  
Moses Cutter, ancestor of Stu Hoyt and Raymond Sanford, born 3/26/1760  
Nathaniel Dodge, ancestor of Chris Baker, born 3/28/1762

Book Review  
Continued from page 5

The difficulty is because the books are period piece reprints using spelling from the 1700s era ("f" used for "s" etc.). However, the books still provide the reader with excellent insight into General Washington's strategies and tactics during the Revolutionary War. Turpin's tactical advice includes how to position a force to attack an opposing army, employ light infantry units, avoid ambushes, and conduct retreats, considering the terrain and opposing forces.

One of Count Turpin's main points in his first book is the bane of many invading armies is knowledge of the terrain. Count Turpin explains that even with adequately trained and equipped soldiers, a commander will most likely lose the battle without knowing the opposing force's country. The two volumes further offer detailed explanations on how and why to maneuver troops in specific fashions depending upon the target, troop formations, and fortifications being assaulted or protected. There are also detailed diagrams to accompany Turpin's instructions. One example explains how to form foraging teams in an enemy's territory. This information would be advantageous to Washington and his field commanders to counter British foraging units scouring the New Jersey countryside to feed their troops quartered in New York City during the war. Another example is how to move troops across a river, say crossing the Delaware River on December 25, at night, during a snowstorm.

These books are well worth reading for both serious historians and amateur history buffs. The books provide a great understanding of America's early modern military leaders' battle tactics and strategies deploying and employing their forces. The diagrams offer detailed instructions for troop placement and movements. If you have not started to read about American Revolutionary War battle tactics yet, this is a great first start for your library. 🇺🇸

End Notes

1. The Military Studies of George Washington Author(s): Oliver L. Spaulding, Jr. Source: The American Historical Review, Jul., 1924, Vol. 29, No. 4 (Jul., 1924), pp. 678, Published by: Oxford University Press on behalf of the American Historical Association Stable URL: <https://www.jstor.org/stable/1841231>
2. Ibid
3. Ibid

# *William Flightower Chapter Leadership*

**2020-2021**

## **Officers**

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Vice President Ed Blauvelt  
Secretary Kris Krueger  
Treasurer Stan Trull  
Registrar Robert Duckworth  
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Historian Stu Hoyt  
Parliamentarian Cliff Caskey  
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Webmaster Will Moravits  
Newsletter Editor Kris Krueger

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

