

# **Minutes of the Meeting of the Dallas Chapter**

## **TEXAS SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION**

**May 12, 2007**

The meeting of the Dallas Chapter, SAR, was called to order at 8:30 a.m. in the Mesquite Room at the Embassy Suites, (13131 North Central Expressway, Dallas, Texas) by Chapter President, Charles Baker. Most members had processed through the breakfast line.

President Baker announced that a member of the Dallas Chapter, Elvin Brown, had passed away since the last meeting. Elvin had been a member a little longer than 6 years and had been an active participant in both our monthly meetings and various parades and other PR functions.

Grant Kee, Elvin Brown's grandson, blew "Assembly" on his trumpet bugle style to open the meeting.

Chaplain Frank Pounders reported that there were no known sick and led the attendees in a word of prayer.

Ralph McDowell led the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag, D. A. Sharp led the Pledge to the Texas Flag and Graham Martin led the Salute to the SAR Flag. Tracey Pounders led the Chapter in the singing of "America".

Past Chapter President Ralph McDowell introduced the meeting's greeters, Bill Barnard, Jim Fairbairn and Robert Smith.

Guests and prospective members attending the meeting were introduced.

President Baker conducted the Americanism Presentation with the assistance of Grant Kee who played several bugle calls including "Mess Call" and "To the Colors." Baker read the story of the writing of the tune to "Taps, and then read the words that were later added." Grant played "Taps." Grant is 15 years old, a Life Scout, a member of Bugles Across America (an organization that plays "Taps" at military funerals) and is a sophomore in Summit High School in Mansfield. President Baker presented a Bronze Good citizenship Medal to Grant which he can wear on his Boy Scout uniform.

President Baker presented one of the newly instituted Dallas Chapter President's Medals to Col. E. Graham Martin for his consistent, long term record of service to the chapter.

Last month's minutes created by Chapter Secretary Byron Christian were approved as posted on our website.

Second Vice President Allen Christian reported that 28 ROTC and 23 Good Citizenship medals were presented this year with the assistance of many volunteer presenters. Today's presentation to Grant Kee makes the total to date 52.

A call went out to all members to be observant about institutions that properly display the American Flag and would be deserving of a Flag Certificate presentation. This is an area where we have been a little lax of late.

Treasurer Hank Voegtle announced that there were 37 members and 12 guests attending the meeting for a total of 49 attendees (32 ate breakfast). He stated that as of the end of April we had \$3,920.91 in our Chapter Checking Account, \$7,958.26 in the Minuteman Fund and over \$28,000 in the Richie Fund.

Registrar Gerald Irion swore in new member Michael George Petridis whose ancestor was Richard Leedom.

#### Old Business:

The November 10 evening meeting will be held at the Embassy Suites Hotel. The menu will be a "South of the Border Buffet." Cost will be \$40 per attendee. Dress Code will be Color Guard uniform, tuxedo or dark suit.

This Chapter needs a Publicity Chairman. President Baker asked that anyone interested in filling this position to please notify him.

#### New Business:

- President Baker announced that the challenge to raise \$1,000 for the Patriots Fund is progressing well. Last month we raised \$500 by passing the hat. The Elvin Brown Memorial Fund will be added to this plus what was raised today. He again passed a tricorn hat for donations. It was suggested that the goal should be to raise the challenge amount to at least \$2,000, to be given to the Patriots Fund in memory of Elvin Brown. At the end of the meeting Treasurer Hank Voegtle announced that in addition to last month's \$500 we had raised \$1,559.
- The Texas Marine Memorial to Medal of Honor Awardees will be conducted on Friday May 25<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 AM in The Woodlands north of Houston.
- Color Guard Activities upcoming:

National PolkaFest Parade on May 26<sup>th</sup> in Ennis, Texas (Picture taking at 9:30 with parade beginning at 10:00)

Annual Templin "Moravian" Feast (Jim Templin will send out directions and timing for this event) A fee of \$5 per person will be collected and earmarked for the Patriot Fund Drive.

Duncanville Memorial Day Parade (beginning at 9:00 AM at the War Memorial in Duncanville)

Annual Dallas Memorial Service at Restland Cemetary at 1 p.m. on Memorial Day

First Vice President Bob Clark introduced SAR President General Nathan White who reported on his recent activities on behalf of the SAR, including a talk with President George Bush at the White house about the role of the SAR and a presentation to this year's outstanding cadet at West Point.

First Vice President Bob Clark introduced our Main Speaker, David Appleby, retired Colonel in the USAF and current Treasurer General of the SAR. He discussed the need for an even greater emphasis by SAR on education as to our National Heritage. Revisionist History and "Political Correctness" are changing the popular view of the importance of the American Revolution.

After Treasurer Hank Voegtle presided over the door prize drawings, the Benediction was given by Chaplain Frank Ponders, followed by the SAR Closing led by Secretary Byron Christian. The meeting was adjourned at 10:10.

Respectfully submitted,  
Byron Christian, Secretary, Dallas Chapter-TXSSAR