

March 12, 2011

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Dallas Chapter, TXSSAR

Sons of the American Revolution

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by President David Temple.

Chaplin Frank Pounders gave the invocation after it was announced that Laurie Crapo was recuperating at home but David Hall's condition, according to Bob Northcraft, has not changed. On a brighter note, it was nice to see that Art Ingalls was in attendance after a lengthy illness.

The Pledge of the Allegiance to the U.S. flag was given by Compatriot Gary Sisson, the Pledge of Allegiance to the Texas flag was given by William Richardson, and finally the Salute to the S.A.R. flag was led by Dr. Baker. The first stanza of "America" was sung heartily by the attendees.

FCP Ralph McDowell introduced William Richardson as the sole greeter.

The guests were the following: Mark and Bradley Sue Howell, Henrietta Slagle, Andre Copling, Bret Stidham, Matt Leatherwood, Linda Faris, Jason Evans, Eddie Burns, Jim Cook, Phil and Donna Cekal, and David Wallace. District 6 Vice President Harmon Adair was also in attendance.

The minutes of the February 2011 meeting stood as posted with no corrections.

Registrar John Guittard was absent. No new members to induct.

FCP Ralph McDowell recognized Tex Whitaker's birthday by presenting him with the customary cupcake with one lighted candle. Happy birthday, Tex!

Color Guard Commander, LTC Bob Northcraft, awarded Barbara Baker a color guard certificate for Patriotism for 2010, since she had done so much work behind the scenes. Also Jan Holland from Houston was nominated on the state level as Teacher of the Year and is headed to National. Good going, Bob, for recognizing the work of special women.

Treasurer Jim Fairbairn reported 14 guests and 29 members. In the checking account was \$6,093.00, the Minuteman Fund, \$8,390.66, and the Ritchie Fund, \$30,366.04.

Second Vice President, Nick Harper, reported that there were 10 respondents for the Bronze Medal and the Good Citizenship award. Registrar John Guittard will receive an award for his 15 years of service. (Addendum: Nick Harper needs volunteers to help in distributing these awards to the various schools.)

Compatriot John Morton had entries for the Battle of the Cowpens poster contest. Brigadier General Daniel Morgan was the Commander of the American troops at the time. Members were asked to vote for the poster after the meeting that showed the best artwork and research. Hopefully, we will have a state winner and even go to National.

President David Temple presented the awards to the recipients of the Dallas Fire-Rescue Department including the following: Officer Andre Copling (nominated by Lt. Matt Leatherwood) for the EMS Medal and Captain Brett Stidham (nominated by Chief Stuart Grant) for the Fire Safety Medal.

President David Temple discussed the State annual meeting at Sheraton DFW for March 24-27, 2011. He needed volunteers for registration to sign a sheet going around. Also he encouraged attendance at the conference, especially Banquet Saturday night.

First Vice President Bob Northcraft introduced the Americanism speaker, Dr. Baker, who spoke on the USS Constitution honoring the anniversary of the U.S. Navy. It was interesting that it was the only surviving ship of the American Revolutionary Period and is still maintained by the Navy. The handout, which Dr. Baker distributed, was interesting since it gave not only the picture of the ship but data about it. On the humorous side, he made his talk even more interesting giving the ship's history when it was in service and winning sea battles, with the inordinate amount of rum each sailor consumed as opposed to the 43,000 gallons of fresh water aboard ship.

First Vice President Bob Northcraft introduced the main speaker, Greg Totterdale, an eloquent speaker from Wheeling, West Virginia, who spoke on the National Road from Maryland to Illinois. It was interesting since he noted that it was the first national highway, financed entirely by the federal government, built at first by chopping down trees, and later finished with road materials. It was started in 1811 and finished by 1820 with the government turning it over to the states which turned it into a National Pike (toll road). It drew commerce with taverns along the way (some 620 or 1 per mile) to providing comfort for the passengers in stagecoaches and other types of wagons. Later the road gave way to the steam engine and the railroad. Today, it is known as U.S. Highway 40, with restaurants along the way. After Greg was finished, he was presented the Liberty Bell by Bob Northcraft.

Treasurer Jim Fairbairn conducted the door prize drawing.

Chaplin Frank Pounders gave the Benediction.

The S.A.R Recessional was led by President David Temple.

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

Respectively,

Robert Kittrell

Secretary