

January 14, 2012
Minutes of
DALLAS CHAPTER #2
SONS OF THE AMERICAN EVOLUTION

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 am at Presbyterian Village North in Dallas by Chapter President David Temple. He asked for the Chaplain's "sick call" report from Frank Ponders, who stated he was saddened having to report the passing of two Compatriots: Douglas C. Peabody (#90682) and Robert T. Coursey (#138683). He combined memorial statements with the invocation.

Pledges of Allegiance to the U.S. Flag, the Texas Flag and salute to the SAR Flag were led respectively by Skip Gustafsan, Glenn Toal and Dr. Charles Baker. Former Chapter President Tracy Ponders raised the attendees' spirits leading them in singing the first stanza of "America."

FCP/Chief Greeter Ralph McDowell introduced this morning's team – Dan Nicewander & Frank Ponders.

Guests attending were recognized and introductions also included FSP of TXSSAR Robert Coker, District 6 VP Harmon Adair and TXSSAR President-Elect Robert Clark.

FCP Charles Baker regaled all with a questionable humorous penguin joke.

As required by our Constitution; a full text reading of the previous month's meeting minutes was performed by 2011 Secretary Robert Kittrell and were approved by voice-vote. They will now be posted to the website. Treasurer James Fairbairn reported that today's attendance included 29 members and 6 guests. He also stated that the checking account was at \$4,280.03, the Minuteman Fund contained \$8,403.22 & the Ritchie Fund had increased to \$30,444.36.

FCP McDowell aka/Benjamin Franklin shared some the wise and witty maxims from *Poor Richard's Almanac* as a part of the Americanism program which was followed by 1st VP Bob Northcraft's playing 30 second recorded segments of historical significance of Martha Washington, Betsy Ross, William Alexander & Lord Sterling.

Color Guard Commander Northcraft next bestowed *North Texas Merit Awards* (medal and certificate) LC Charles Baker, Maj. Tom Whitelock and Cap. Tom Smith for their continued outstanding service and volume participation.

The President then returned to the podium to present his certificates to for 11 month attendance to Nick Harper, Charles Baker & James Fairbairn. 12 month PAs were given to Bob Northcraft and Bob Kittrell. FCP Tom Whitelock received a 12 years of "perfect attendance" certificate, yet the biggest applause was reserved for FCP Ralph McDowell who completed 18 years Perfect Attendance.

For their exceptional hard work during the past year, Chapter Service Medals were presented to Officers Bob Northcraft, Nick Harper, Robert Kittrell, John Guittard, Frank Ponders. Tom Whitelock, additionally recognized with a CS medal, for his budget/finance research and for compiling Compatriot history (1929-2011). The Meritorious Medal and certificate were awarded to retiring Treasurer James Fairbairn.

Last year's recipient of the Sisson "Golden Sledgehammer Award" inturn presented the special Chapter's hardest worker honor to James Fairbairn for his years of devotion as Treasurer and Chairman of Veteran Affairs. During the ceremony original initiator FCP Dr. Gary Sisson (joined by former winners) came forward to also present a "roasting photo plaque" and take the annual picture.

Robert Coker next called the 2012 Officers to the podium to swear them in and charge the membership to support their activities. Those taking the oath of office were: Robert Northcraft- *President*, Nick Harper- *1st Vice President*, Robert Kittrell- *2nd Vice President*, John Guittard- *Secretary*, David Temple- *Treasurer*, & Frank Ponders- *Chaplain*.

(note – Registrar, Historian & Sgt-at-Arms positions open)

FCP Temple put the President's Ribbon around Bob Northcraft's neck and presented him with the chapter gavel, after which Bob expressed his appreciation for his election and desire to administer to the needs and expansion of the Chapter in the coming year.

He recognized the sterling performance of his predecessor with presentation of plaque and Past President's ribbon/medal to David, prior to having compatriot Fairbairn conduct the door prize drawings.

After Chaplain Pounders gave the Benediction, President Northcraft adjourned the meeting at 10:00 am by leading the members in the SAR Recessional.

**Respectfully submitted by,
Robert Kittrell (with John Guittard)
Secretaries of record**

(as modified by TMW)