President Northcraft's opening comments related to extending the Chapter's appreciation to Charles and Barbara Baker for arranging to have Presbyterian Village North host us in their newly remodeled diningroom. He then called the September meeting to

## **SEPTEMBER 8, 2012**

Minutes of Dallas Chapter #2
Sons of the American Revolution

order at 8:29am. Chaplain Frank Pounders was called upon next to take the sick call and thus asked all to pray for recovery from pain for Mike Petridis, Robert Coker & Helen Templin. He then asked Invocational blessings for all.



Pledges to the United States Flag and Texas Flag were led by Alan Peterson and Robert Kittrell respectively. Tom Smith led the Compatriots in the pledge to SAR followed by John Morton keeping everyone standing (and toe-tapping) by leading them in the first stanza of *America*.

EVERYONE WAS IMPRESSED WITH THE FACILITY'S NEW

DÉCOR.....AND EVEN HOW THEY PLANNED
FOR OTHER RESIDENTS !!!!!

The President asked everyone to "charge their glasses" for a toast to the man that grew the corn that fed the goose that provided the quill pen to write the *Constitution*. Minutes of the previous were approved as posted on the Chapter website.

FCP Ralph McDowell and compatriot Glenn Toal served as the "Greeters" this morning. Five guests introduced were Barbara Baker, Jay Bowden, Alan Peterson, Sarah Petridis and Donna Cekal. Drake Peddie (Denton Chapter President) also is visiting today.

Jokemeister Charles Baker was very "frank" with a witty story on the beauty gained when lying about your age. He was followed by Tom Smith's true tale of the two "Augusta Golf Courses".

1st Vice President Nick Harper asked Registrar John Guittard to come to the podium for an overdue presentation of a <u>Certificate of Appreciation</u> for his previous guest speaker stint.

John receives well deserved kudos





Nick next introduced FCP Hank Voegtle to present the an Americanism program on the life and times of **Charles James Fox** of England who was a supporter of the Treaty of Paris.

As a member of Parliament he often presented bills favoring America's independence as it would benefit Britain.

The meeting's Guest Speaker was USN (ret) Captain Bob Whitlock. He regaled the members with a chronicle of his career as a fighter pilot. Bob first developed his interest by building model airplanes as a youth as well as being excited at seeing his older brother going through flight training in Pensacola, Florida.

The initial life shattering experience he had was having to deal with a "Marine Drill Instructor" before he won his wings in Beeville, Texas after extensive jet training.

Capt. Whitlock mentioned that after viewing aerobatic techniques of a hummingbird the other day, he now knows we are no match

for God's creatures. One last humorous aside was that guite a few wives followed their tour through the Mediterranean when he was aboard the USS Roosevelt. Once when the ladies couldn't find out which port the men were to dock, they went to the nearest Soviet Embassy to ask where the Carrier was and the Russians told them where they were with no problem.





Far left: USS FD ROOSEVELT at anchor in Greece.

<<Bob receiving Certificate of **Appreciation & Minature Cannon** 







2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Kittrell presented Compatriot Philip Cekal an Appreciation Certificate for being a presenter of the Bronze Good Citizenship Award during the Chapter's youth months.



The VP also recognized three members for their years of SAR membership:

Mike Petridis 5yrs, Robert Northcraft 5yrs

& Tom Smith 55yrs.

A reminder that the State Fair will start on September 28<sup>th,</sup> and the President asks that any members willing to volunteer to sit at the recruitment table in the DAR House to please email him so that a schedule can be made up. FCP Ralph McDowell made a motion to contribute a cash gift of \$200 to the Jane Douglas Chapter to help in their expenses during the FAIR. Being seconded by Frank Pounders – the motion was approved by voice vote.

FCP Tom Smith pointed out that we have always expended a large amount of effort, expense and time for this promotion & recruitment project. He wondered if there was any correlation to the number of visiting prospects and the final amount of applicants. In the last couple of years no record has been kept; however, the Secretary related his experience and data from the seven he had volunteered. (80 Average total prospects requesting TXSSAR contact information of which nearly 30 were for the Dallas Chapter and finally 10 started application process, but we only finished with 3-4 new members each year) Nick Harper also pointed out that the two recruits he had last year are now members.



The day's handouts ref: Constitution Week told of its creation and celebration.



The "Old DI" James Fairbairn asked support for Homeless VETs.



Drake Peddie, Harmon Adair & Bob Northcaft visited about the 2013 TXSSAR Conference.

Treasurer Temple reported 31 members present and \$ 3,658.79 in the checking account. Other fund accounts will be reported on a "quarterly" basis. Registrar Guittard announced that the national website has a new and improved application form that is easy to use. He also stated that Alan Peterson's papers had been sent to the TXSSAR Registrar. No monthly reports were given by Newsletter Editor or Historian

## **Announcements**

Former Veterans Affairs Committee Chair Jim Fairbairn reminded Speaker Whitlock that he was a Marine Instructor who always looked forward to "Drilling" pilots as well as officers to be. Jim's real reason for going to the podium was to solicit donations of personal care items for the Veterans Services of Dallas' project "Homeless Stand Down." Collections will be at the VA Hospital Resource Center on 10/26/12 and items can be brought to our next meeting.

FCP Baker informed the Chapter that the TXSSAR President requested that he head up the preregistration and fees data collection for the 2013 State Conference and that he needed a volunteer to serve as Table Chairman. He appreciates the fact that other North Texas Chapters have said they would help out on various aspects of the Conference- due to limited manpower & last minute notification. Three members (Nick Harper, John Morton and George Ramphrey) said they would help man the table since East Fork—Trinity Chapter is willing to spearhead the Registration operations.

President Northcraft informed everyone that modifications to our "Boat Float" will enable us to display our Thirteen Colony Flags during parades or other selected flags as needed. David Hall's wife, Phyllis, has agreed to store the boat & trailer until Veterans Day. He needs someone to tow the float on Nov 12.

Bob asked all to refer to the handout sheets of Constitutional history and trivia to note that one particular interesting fact was that in 1915 the original *Liberty Bell* traveled from the city of Philadelphia to San Francisco by train for the *Panama Exposition* in celebration of the Canal Completion. It is his hope to travel the same route with the "Hall Bell and trailer" in 2015.

Door prizes were given out just prior to the Chaplain's Benediction and SAR Recessional.

Adjournment at 9:50

Respectfully submitted by Tom M. Whitelock, Secretary



Charles Baker admires George Ramphrey's door prize



Sarah Petridis was a double winner this morning



Tote that barge-lift that bale (or Flag)
.....alas, no rest for the wicked