

June 13, 2015
MEETING MINUTES OF
DALLAS CHAPTER #2

SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION



1st Vice President, Mark Hansen called monthly meeting to order at 8:30am in the dining room of the Presbyterian Village North Retirement Community in Dallas, Texas. The group was led in the invocation by Chaplain Frank Ponders. Pledges to the **United States Flag** and **Texas Flag** were led **Chapter Secretary, Alan Peterson** and **FCP, Jim Templin** respectively. **FCP, Charles Baker** led the affirmation to the **SAR pledge**.. Next, Compatriot **Tracy Ponders** lead the attendees in "*My Country Tis of Thee.*" **Head Greeter, Ralph McDowell** recognized **Frank Ponders and himself** as the greeters for the morning's meeting .



1st Vice President, Mark Hansen recognized visitors and guests for the morning's meeting. This was followed by a joke from **Dr. Charles Baker**.

1st Vice President Hansen recognized **Jeanette Prasifka**, who was visiting the meeting. Ms. Prasifaka announced that there would be a free public flag retirement ceremony at Flag Pole Hill tomorrow, June 14th at 1Pm to celebrate Flag Day. The public is welcomed to help retire old flags. The ceremony will be 25 minutes.



Americanism

Today's Americanism speaker was **Chapter Secretary, Alan Peterson**. His topic was " The Buffalo Nickel". Mr. Peterson presented the history of the making of the Buffalo Nickel. 1.2 billion buffalo nickels were minted between 1918 and 1938. This was the first American coin with the true likeness of an American Indian imprinted on it. **President, George Ramphrey** had provided several Buffalo Nickels for attendees and a drawing was held for attendants to participate and take home a nickel.

OFFICER'S REPORTS

1st Vice-President Mark Hansen elected to proceed with officer reports prior to the featured speaker. The 1st Vice-President had nothing to report at this time. **2nd Vice-President, Jim Fairbairn** was absent from today's meeting. **1st Vice-President Hansen** asked for a motion to waive the reading of the previous month's minutes and to approve them as posted on the website. There was a motion and second. The motion passed. **Registrar, Jerry Pinkerton** reported that there were several potential members in process.

Treasurer, Nick Harper presented a typed budget report. There were 23 members present today along with 6 guests. The checking account balance for the end of May was \$6,372.78. **Membership Chairman, Ralph McDowell** was asked for an estimate on current members which was 270. He stated that the Dallas Chapter was now the 2nd largest chapter in the U.S.. We had been surpassed by the Virginia Chapter.

Boy Scout Chairman, Hank Voegtle announced that the committee was submitting a nominee for the Robert Byrd Award for Adult BSA Volunteers. **Color Guard Chairman, Rob Kittrell** was not at the meeting, but **FCP, Tom Whitelock** announced that there were several Color Guard activities upcoming: The Flag Pole Hill Ceremony tomorrow; The Audie Murphy Parade on June 27th at 10am; and the July 4th Lake Highlands Parade.

FCP, Tom Whitelock asked to pass the hat to raise some funds for a young lady who won TXSSAR Oration Contest. She represented the Tyler Chapter of SAR. Compatriot Whitelock stated that she has limited funds and only so much of her expenses are paid by the National Committee. There was discussion on how to assist her. There was a motion from Frank Pounders and a 2nd from John Morton to use \$500.00 from the Richie Fund to assist her. During the discussion phase, **FCP Tom Smith** stated that the Richie fund was created for these situations. **Chapter Secretary, Alan Peterson** asked if the Richie Fund had stipulations that it was only available to Dallas Chapter contestants. Chapter members stated that there were no such restrictions. **FCP Tom Whitelock** stated that the young lady had already raised \$350.00. **Chapter Secretary, Alan Peterson** made a motion that there be a revision to the motion and that the amount from the Richie Fund be changed to \$150.00. There was a second to the revision motion and the revision was approved. The group then approved the original motion with revisions. There was no opposition to either motion. **Webmaster, Dr. Charles Baker** stated that the website was in order and that the minutes were posted for reading.

Program

1st Vice-President, Mark Hansen introduced the morning's speaker: **Jim Templin**. Mr. Templin is a Dallas Chapter Member, a graduate of the UT Pharmacy School and worked for the Hesser Drug Company for 30 years. He is a member of a variety of Historical Societies.

Mr. Templin's topic for the morning was the CSS Henley, an experimental Confederate Naval Vessel. The Henley was built in 1864 and was used by the Confederate Navy to break the blockade of Charleston Harbor. It is considered the 1st U.S. Submarine and used a system of torpedo bombs.

The Henley was successful in bombing a ship in the Charleston Harbor, yet the vessel sank with the its crew. It had been a mystery for years as to what happened to make it sink. In 2001, the Henley was finally raised and the crew was recovered and an investigation began to discover the reason for the loss. After the bodies were accounted for, there was a funeral for the crew members and over 10,000 people attended. It remains a mystery as to why the Henley sank.



1st Vice-President, Mark Hansen, awarded Mr. Templin with a certificate of appreciation and a miniature Liberty Bell.

Treasurer, Nick Harper held the drawing for the morning. The benediction was pronounced by **Tracy Pounders**, and the recessional was led by **1st Vice-President, Mark Hansen**. The meeting adjourned at 9:50am.

Respectfully submitted,
Alan Peterson, Chapter Secretary
