

FEBRUARY 13, 2016
Minutes of Dallas Chapter #2
Sons of the American Revolution

President Ramphrey called the monthly meeting to order at 8:29 am in the dining room of Presbyterian Village North in Dallas, Texas. Chaplain Frank Ponders was called upon next to take the sick call and thus ask healing prayers for recovery from pain for FCP Bob Northcraft. Prior to invoking an invocation blessing, FCP and Chaplain Ponders informed the members that Compatriot James Templin had passed away February 9th. A memorial service is being planned for February 28 in Ennis.

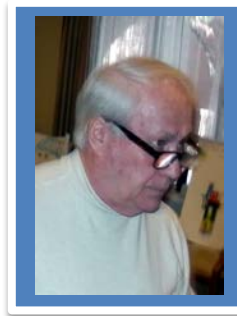


Pledges to the United States Flag and Texas Flag were led by John Morton and Mark Hansen respectively. President Ramphrey led attendees in the affirmation to SAR.

That was followed by <Tracey Ponders keeping everyone charged up by leading them in the first stanza of "My Country Tis of Thee."

FCP and Head Greeter Ralph McDowell noted that he and the Chaplain welcomed the members and following guests:

Ann Cooper, Barbara Baker, Bradley Sue Howell, Harold & Virginia Marshall, Gary & Melinda Garza and son Calen as well as prospective members:



Brian Sisson, Tom Van Fassen & Don Shaffer.

FCP Charles Baker got *down and dirty* for his joke of the day with a tale of construction workers digging (and filling) holes for invisible trees.

Bill Watts reported that he and Plano Chapter's Alan Johnson had recently conducted an information and training session for seventeen new SAR members from around north Texas.

The program was activities they can and community attendance was



to acquaint Compatriots with the various events and participate in. Service to and interest in chapter, youth programs are of primary importance. A certificate of awarded to < Jerry Brown by Bill.

District 6 Vice President Drake Peddie announced that the upcoming TXSSAR Annual Conference would be held at the Hyatt Regency (N. Dallas) Hotel in Richardson on March 31-April 3. A number of educational and entertaining events are being planned and he hoped that all Compatriots would take advantage of the sessions. The usual silent auction will be staged to secure revenue for the Patriot Fund.

Last year's Sisson *Golden Sledgehammer Award* winner **Nick Harper** came forward to present the Dallas Chapter's hardest working member for 2015 with his weighty prize. **John Morton**,> who chaired three separate committees and made a number of presentations, received also his recognition pin and the famous "raze frame." In addition John picked up a Perfect Attendance Certificate & 15yr Membership award from President Ramphrey.



Americanism

for the month was presented by FCP Mark Hansen who described an informative history on Alexander Hamilton by way of a high-tech rendition of the current Broadway Musical (and his own legalized rap & dance – well maybe more like sway).

<<< Afterwards, Compatriot Hansen introduced his longtime friend and original sponsor for his SAR membership, the most Honorable and Reverend **John M. Marshall**.

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Guest Speaker

Judge Marshall presented very enlightening presentation on the American Revolutionary service of Poland's *Tadeusz Kosciuszko*. Upon his arrival in Colonies, and after reading the Declaration of Independence in 1776, Kosciuszko was so moved that he sought a meeting with its principal author, Thomas Jefferson. The two later became close friends, and maintained a correspondence for more than 20 years until Kosciuszko's death in 1817.

George Washington commissioned the Polish engineer to use his expertise in building military fortifications at Fort Clinton (better known now as West Point). By war's end, Tadeusz was made a brigadier general and received U.S. citizenship.



In addition to his current religious duties, FCP Marshall (1979) also instructs classes (as an honorary professor) dealing with American jury procedures and trial law at various universities in Poland each year.

He was presented the *Chapter Service Medal* and a Certificate of Appreciation for his years of service and being our speaker for the day.

Officers & Committee Reports

2nd Vice President – Compatriot Garrison is in the process of securing the names of high school candidates that will be selected to receive JROTC and Citizenship awards during the next two months. The President reminded members that the sign-up sheets for them to volunteer to make presentations will be circulated shortly, and we need as many Compatriots to help as possible.

Registrar – Jerry Pinkerton and assistant Jerry Brown stated that they are expecting to have confirmation of two new membership applications as well as completion of the paperwork on a prospective member that was one of the group acquired during the Texas State Fair.

Treasurer – **Kenneth Lamb** alerted the membership that the current revenue at registration of attendees did cover the cost of room rental and breakfast cost. He made a motion that the coffee fee and table service be increased to \$ 5.00 and that the breakfast fee (\$10.00) remain the same. The President called for a second and the motion was approved by voice vote.



Also voted approval was, that FCP Robert Kittrell and former Treasurer Phillip Ceval be removed from the authorized “signature card” for the checking account at the bank and that George Ramphrey and Kenneth Lamb join Nick Harper as official signatories starting in March.

Current checking account balance as of February 31, 2016 is \$6,279.63

Membership & Retention – Chairman FCP Ralph McDowell reported that Chapter currently has 240 registered (DUES PAID) members and that we have additional 40 that were sent reminder letters that we need them to send in their 2016 dues. It may take 4-5 volunteers to make calls, in order to secure a more positive response.

Prior to announcing and celebrating FCP **Tom Smith's** > *Four Score Birthday* with song and a crusty old muffin, Ralph noted that we had just received a \$25 rebate check from Tom Thumb Groceries Co.



By the way, Compatriot Smith joined SAR in 1957.

Secretary – FCP Hansen made a motion to wave the reading of the minutes for January, as proposed by Compatriot Whitelock because the Chapter's Constitution requires at least one set be read at the annual meeting – and a reading of the Dec/2015 minutes was not done in January. By voice vote, the motion was amended that the January minutes were approved as the official required set and needed not to be read.

CAR Activities - Liaison Nick Harper introduced DAR **Baily Sue Howell** > who outlined the recent events that the *David Pendleton Society* has been involved with so far this year.

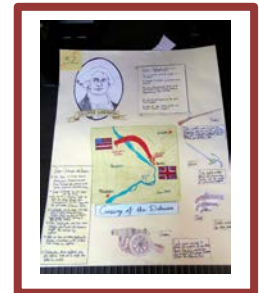


Held at the State Fair DAR House, youth presented a skit based on the "TENTS" and sleeping equipment of George Washington.

Poster Contest - John Morton asked the attendees to please stay after the meeting to vote on the various artwork of fifty students that he has displayed in the adjoining room. The top choice by judged ballot count (creative and research) will be sent on to the State competition.



He also expressed a desire to add an additional \$100 award amount to the budget, to spread out (\$25 each) runner up contestants at more than one school so as to excite the institutions' staff for continued participation in upcoming years.



Tom Smith reminded us, funds for Youth contests can be obtained from the Minute-man Account if needed.

Oration Contest – Compatriot Whitelock stated that the Chapter is still awaiting paperwork on a contestant entry. Statewide, three regions are represented.

Knight Essay Contest – Chairman **William Richardson** > presented this year's Dallas Chapter winner **Calen Garza** a scholarship check for \$300.00 along with a certificate. After Calen introduced his parents and grandparents, he noted that he would also be interested in competing in the Oration Contest, to which the members gave out with a hardy cheer.



VA Affairs – Compatriot Morton reported that not only did we donate a large collection of Christmas decorations for the "Patriot Tree" at the hospital, but our \$150.00 contribution helped support the cost of a Holiday meal for 60 of the veterans.

The drawing for door prizes was held by Nick Harper and Benediction was offered by Chaplain Pounders. President Rhamprey led the membership in the SAR closing just prior to adjournment at 9:52am

Respectfully submitted by Tom M. Whitelock, Secretary