

JUNE 11, 2016

**Minutes of the Dallas Chapter #2
Sons of the American Revolution**

President Ramphrey > gaveled the meeting to order at 8:29am.



He called for Chaplain Frank Ponders to give the sick-call and offer up the morning's Invocation. Compatriots were asked to keep Laurie Crapo* & FCP Bob Northcraft in their prayers.

FCP Robert Clark and 1st VP Warren Johnson, respectively led the membership in pledges to the United States Flag and Texas Flag. After the reciting the affirmation to **SAR**, FCP Tracy Ponders got everyone feeling good by having them join in on singing the first stanza of *America*.

Head Greeter Ralph McDowell introduced his sidekick for the day – FCP Frank Ponders. Twenty-five SAR members attended the meeting along with six guests:

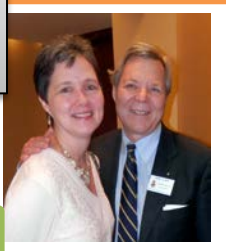
Donna Ceval v



< **Ann Cooper**,
v **Jeanette Prasifka** and

prospective members

Robert Ransone v



Don >
Shaver
(approved)



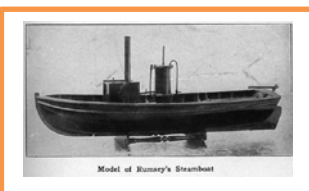
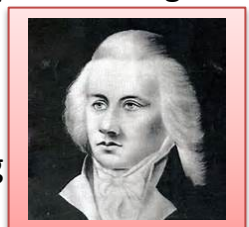
& < **Tom Van Fossen**



Good old boy Ramphrey, layed down his autographing pen long enough to serve as the *Louisiana Joke Meister* for the day. True to his southern heritage, he was sure to tell a real knee slapper – *come hell or high water*.

Americanism

1st Vice President Johnson introduced FCP Nick Harper, who presented a very interesting and educational speech, titled *The Inventor of the Water Jet*. – **James Rumsey**>
Born in 1743, he became a mechanical-engineer who was chiefly known for exhibiting a steamboat on the Potomic in 1787.



In 1784, he had shown George Washington a working model of a mechanical boat that he had designed. It took many revisions & testing trials over the next three years. The demonstration took place twenty years before Robert Fulton

constructed and demonstrated the *Clermont*. The idea of jet propulsion was not Rumsey's alone. Daniel Bernoulli (1700-1782) originated the idea of propelling watercraft in that way.



GUEST SPEAKER

Texas Society President < **Mike Radcliff**, was introduced to the attendees and presented a special gift for taking time out of his busy schedule to visit with us and explain his program for the coming term year. President Radcliff emphasized that all

Chapters need to look at more effective membership growth by having Compatriots that sponsor new prospects, should become more involved with their application, the proper process and qualifications – not rely on (or over burden) the Registrar. Likewise, take a genuine interest in their attendance and the reason for their wanting to join SAR.

He further pointed out that the limited participation time by active members may cause a reduction in youth programs, thus each Officer and/or Committee Chairman needs to establish a mentor or assistant process in order to cover responsibilities and present a good community image. He feels that there is no value in “burning out the troops” for just points sake.

One of the President's goals is to make sure “dues billing” is moved up to September so that it doesn't become a last minute (December) notice and cause a drawn out project for renewals and a potential reduction of membership. He noted how FCP Ralph McDowell has “fought the good battle” for so many years to get delinquent members to make payments. Mike said that he's forming a new committee to look into automatic credit card renewals so that members can always have their dues paid on time. This method may very well help in retaining new members. In addition, he hopes that more Chapters institute the new “familiarization” program wherein older members have a special training session get-together with new members to explain SAR's various programs and hopefully excite them into participating.

Members were reminded that on June 18th a US Flag Retirement Ceremony will be held at the *Veterans Memorial* in Frisco Commons and that all are invited to participate at 10:00am.

Jeanette Prasifka
aka: **Lady J.**



Officers & Committee Reports

1st Vice President/Programs – Warren Johnson reported that Mr. Joshua Tate will be our guest speaker in July and the next three months' Americanism speakers will be Compatriots Glenn

Toal, Robert Kittrell and William Richardson. **Secretary** - Tom Whitelock stated that last month's minutes have been distributed and posted on the new Chapter website (address is: www.txssar.org/dallas) By motion and voice vote; they were approved. **Registrar** – Jerry Pinkerton has a number of Compatriot's supplementals at national for approval and expects to initiate Donald Shaver at July meeting. **Treasurer** – May checking account- month end \$8,146.35 reported. **Membership** – Ralph McDowell commented that we're down to eleven "dues unpaid members" and at last review, the Chapter has 263 active members. **CAR** -- Nick Harper, no report at this time. **Color Guard** – Robert Kittrell left word with the President to remind everyone the following events are coming up: 5/16 Citizenship & Immigration Services – Irving 9:30 A, 5/28 Annual Polka Parade – Ennis 9:00 A, 5/30 various Memorial Day events (schedules forthcoming), 6/18 Audie Murphy Parade – Farmersville 10:00 A **also** Congressman Sam Johnson's Flag Retirement Ceremonies - Frisco 10:00 A, 7/2 Reading of Declaration of Independence on Court Steps – Gainsville 10:00 A, 7/4 Lake Highlands Parade – 8:30 A **also** Park Cities Parade – University City 10:15 A. **Oration Contest** – Tom Whitelock mentioned that he is going to introduce a special recognition to the Regional 1st Place Winners this year since they don't any cash or award. **Newsletter** – Bill Watts reminded all Officers and Committee Chairmen to **please** send him their reports and photos for use in the bi-monthly publication. bill_watts@att.net He also alerted everyone to the unique colonial gear and attire presentation that will be at the Plano Haggard Library. **VA Affairs** – John Morton asked members to remember to bring items for the VETs.

After a brief drawing for door prizes, the Chaplain gave the Benediction. All recited the SAR Recessional; President Ramphrey then adjourned the meeting at 9:20am.

Respectfully submitted

By Tom M. Whitelock, Secretary



***Here Ye, Here Ye** – a shout out to the following members:
D.A. Sharpe, Mel McCoy, Robert V. Baylis, Cole Youngman, John Guittard, Al Sloan, Robert Keever, Harry Friedrich, Robert Mencke, James R. Elliott, Michael Mamminga, John Watterfield, Stephen Linville, Robert Tanner Jr., David Hill, Art Ingalls, Drury Blair, Louis Dorfman Jr., Richard Jones, and Frank Sutherland-Hall.
We've missed seeing and getting to visit with you at one of our monthly meetings. Hope all is well and that you'll consider joining us sometime soon for our second Saturday (each month) breakfast.*



*** Laurence W. Crapo**
(please keep him in your prayers)