

DALLAS SAR CHAPTER – ZOOM MEETING MINUTES – AUGUST 15TH, 2020

President Van Fossen gavelled the meeting to order at 9:05 am.

FCP Whitelock offered the opening Invocation followed by Van Fossen leading the Pledges to the American Flag, the Texas Flag and the SAR.

Van Fossen welcomed 21 members and guests to the August meeting. He discussed the just completed Annual State Meeting that was held from 8/3-8/8. The Dallas Chapter had 7 Registered delegates, which was 2 more than last year's meeting in Austin. This was the first State Annual Meeting to be conducted via the internet – ZOOM. Van Fossen stated that one of the good things that came out of this meeting structure was the ability of participants to have a chance to attend all of the Committee Meetings of their choosing. Before, in face-to-face meetings, held over a 2 ½ day period, some workshops/committee meetings overlapped/conflicting in timing. He stated he was able to attend all of the committee meetings this year and got a much better view/understanding of the total activities and actions of the State Society. The consensus opinion after the meeting was that future Committee Meetings could be held in this medium, and still have our face-to-face General Sessions.

Van Fossen also stated that the original slate of State Officers submitted for election in March was approved with two changes : (1) David Kinsey , President of the McKinney Chapter , was elected the new State Treasurer , and (2) Bob Kubin, from East Fork Trinity, was elected the new Northern Texas Color Guard Commander.

1st Vice President Mark Harrison introduced the morning's Guest Speaker – one of our own members, FCP Bill Watts.

Bill's presentation was titled "The Last Man Standing".

Bill discussed the last living veterans of the American Revolution that were ever photographed for history. As photography was such a new technology, the earliest recorded photograph of a Revolutionary Veteran was taken about 1825, 42 years after the end of the Revolution and 13 years after the War of 1812. As many of the veterans were advancing in age there was an effort to locate as many of them that could be found. After continual research of public records, a group of veterans was located in states in New England. Many of these men were over 100 years old . The last confirmed veteran photographed was a man named John Kitts in 1866. Kitts was 100 years old and had joined the service at age 16. He finished his career at the Battle of Yorktown. A book about this photography project was published entitled "Don't Tread on me".

OFFICERS REPORTS

1st Vice President – Harrison announced that he has great lineup of guest speakers for the Fall Meeting series. As we move thru the current pandemic situation, some of his guests may be juggled as their presentations are better suited for face-to-face meetings.

2nd Vice President – The JROTC Awards for this year were put on hold after we had awarded 5 certificates and 5 medals. 2nd VP Jack Carpenter has remained in contact with many of the area HS's in preparation for their reopening and reviving their respective ROTC training.

Registrar - Jerry Pinkerton, with the help of Compatriot Mark Morgan, has been very busy during the Covid-19 time frame. The Chapter now has an inventory of 17 approved new members (ready to be inducted) 14 member Supplemental applications and 7 more pending regular applications at National.

Jerry has put together a brief program to be used by Chapter members to visit approved members homes or place of their choosing to induct them into the Dallas Chapter. Other members will be invited to join in these inductions in Colonial attire , with all social distancing and required health measures followed.

A big THANK YOU to both Jerry and Mark for their work. And a special shoutout to Linda Harrison, Mark Harrison's wife , who has also assisted Jerry and Mark. Also to State Inland Registrar and Chapter Member Jerry Brown for his great stewardship. All of these folks help grow our Chapter.....!

Historian – Brent Harshman has continued to collect and collate Chapter material for this years Chapter scrapbook. Brent and President Van Fossen are planning on a visit to the State SAR Archives at the UNT Library once they are reopened to the public (selected students/faculty currently). Brent's contact information is : brentharshman@protonmail.com

Treasurer - Nick Harper has provided the updated Chapter Treasure's report as of 7/31, and it is on file with the President. The President has decided to keep each month's report on file until we once again meet face-to-face and Nick can distribute his report in hard copy. It was decided we should not publish our financials on the internet.

Color Guard – As Robert Kittrell has been convalescing from his leg injury, he has asked that we find an active replacement for the Chapter Color Guard Commander. As a helping hand with experience in this area at the Chapter and North Texas level, FPC Bill Watts has been asked by the President to assist with the Chapter Color Guard activities. Bill listed a few upcoming events for the Chapter Color Guard:

*September 14th – Posting of the Colors for the Rebecca Boyce DAR Chapter in Waxahachie, Texas @6:00pm – First Baptist Church

Bill, President Van Fossen and 4 other Chapter members will drive to this meeting , post the Colors and Bill will spent some time discussing the Wreaths across America Project that he and FCP Whitelock have been involved in.

*November 8th – Ft Worth – Massing of the Flags – Bill has joined this event in the past and has been asked if the Chapter would participate this year , if it is held. He has committed himself and will be soliciting other Chapter members to join. More details to come.

*November 11 – Veterans Day Parade – if it is held , Bill will want volunteers for this event as well. Our Chapter placed 2nd in the Historical Division last fall. We were in formed that we were put in the Historical Division since we had FCP Whitelock on our float !

Youth Contests – We will be looking for volunteers to assist the Officers with this years Youth Programs. It only requires a few hours a month until the end of the year and is most rewarding.

Old Business – there was no Old Business brought forward.

New Business – President Van Fossen took this time to announce the Individual and Chapter awards we received at this year’s State Meeting:

1. The John K. Harrell Award for Chapter CAR Activities – SAR Chapter Flag Streamer
2. Outstanding Public Service Award – Certificate - one of only 9 Chapters State wide to receive this Award
3. J.M. Looney Elementary Poster Contest – 3rd Place by Caitlin Dulac – Sponsored by the Dallas Chapter – ribbon, Certificate plus \$150 from the State Society, \$100 from the Dallas Chapter(thanks to Compatriot John Morton for his continued Chairmanship of this contest)
4. Texas SAR CAR Essay Scholarship Contest – 2nd Place by Jakob Sogan-Sponsored by the Dallas Chapter – Certificate plus \$750 cash award from the State, \$300 from the Dallas Chapter
5. Knight Essay Scholarship Contest – 1st Place by Jakob Sogan – Sponsored by the Dallas Chapter – Certificate plus a \$2500 Scholarship (to the school of his choice), \$300 from the Dallas Chapter
6. Enhanced ROTC Award – 1st Place by Kathleen Dang – Sponsored by the Dallas Chapter – Bronze Medal, Certificate plus a \$2500 Scholarship(to the school of her choice), \$300 from the Dallas Chapter

And a special thank you to 1st Vice President Mark Harrison for being the State Oration Contest Chairman. He conducted the entire Oration Contest by way of ZOOM Presentations including all of the contestants and contributing Judges from all over the State.....WELL DONE, MARK...!!!

President Van Fossen now provided the Benediction and then had VP Harrison conduct the Door Prize Drawing. Harrison asked Compatriot Singleton to select a number between 1 and 21 ,that had been assigned at random. Mitch selected #13 which belonged to applicant Jon Tompkins ...!!!! Jon won a bottle of The Federalist Cabernet Sauvignon and a Dallas Chapter Baseball Hat. (to be delivered to Jon)

Van Fossen led the SAR Recessional and adjourned the meeting at 10:12 am

REMINDER

Our September Chapter Meeting will again be on ZOOM on Saturday, September 12th @ 9:00am. Watch you email for the Agenda and the meeting ZOOM LINK

Submitted by acting Secretary Van Fossen