



THE MINUTEMAN



Volume V, Issue 12

Dallas Chapter Founded July 4, 1929

December 2000

President's Message

by J. Mark Hansen

TXSSAR ON THE MOVE

One of the “perqs” of my office is that I receive more publications from the National Society than most Compatriots do. The most recent issue of *The Headquarters Dispatch*, the business newsletter of NSSAR, provided some phenomenal statistics on our Society’s growth during the past few decades.

The National Society now has an estimated total membership of 24,573, a gain of 3,697 members (17.7%) since 1980. In comparison, the national membership grew by only 61 members (less than 0.3%) during the 50 years before 1980! If our Society is any reflection of American society in general, these numbers indicate that patriotism appears to be waxing rather than waning.

The largest state society, with 2,276 Compatriots is – you guessed it – Texas. The smallest (22 members) is – no surprise here, either – Alaska. The state with the most SARs per capita (1:1,997) is Delaware; that with the least (1:46,580) is Minnesota.

TXSSAR grew by 68% from 1980-2000. The South Central Region of NSSAR, of which we are a part, grew by only slightly less than that (66.8%). The South Central was the fastest growing region over the past twenty years.

These numbers lead one to raise the question as to why Texas should not be its own region. Having our own region would increase our representation and clout nationally. TXSSAR’s membership presently constitutes almost two-thirds of the South Central Region membership. TXSSAR’s membership is already larger than that of 10 out of the 13 regions. Only 3 regions are larger than Texas: The South Atlantic, Central, and Mid-Atlantic Regions.

Compatriots, what do you think? Is it time to start a grass roots campaign to get our great state its own region? Think about it, and let me hear from you at our next meeting.

December Meeting

Dr. Mary Lynn Johnson will be speaking at our December 9 meeting, on the subject of “Cooking in the Revolutionary War Era.”

For future program suggestions, feel free to call 1st VP Gary Sisson at 214-528-0543.

SAR Compatriot Randall Reagan spoke at the November meeting on the subject of “Religion in Colonial America.”



qq



SPECIAL JANUARY BRUNCH MEETING CANCELED

As reported last month, Compatriot and former Governor William P. Clements, Jr., has expressed to the Chapter his regret that he will be unable to speak at the special brunch planned for January 13, 2001, at the Harvey Hotel, due to hip surgery he is scheduled to undergo. As a consequence, we will have our regular monthly meeting at Luby's that day. We wish Gov. Clements a quick recovery and look forward to his speaking on a future occasion.

THE MINUTEMAN is the monthly newsletter of the Dallas Chapter-Texas Society, Sons of the American Revolution, a non-profit organization. (Photos by Charles Baker)

Meetings are held on the Second Saturday of each month at Luby's Cafeteria, 6221 E. Mockingbird Lane, Dallas, Texas. Coffee served with fellowship at 7:30, breakfast at 8:00, and meeting from 8:30 'til 9:30. Guests are welcome at our meetings.

OFFICER REPORTS

Registrar's Report:

Chapter membership now stands at 298.
 October meeting: 43 members, 7 guests.
 Don Hay, Registrar

Treasurer's Report:

Regular Checking: \$ 1982.43
 Endowment Funds: \$ 30,046.26
 Jack Carney, Treasurer



New Compatriot Dan Nicwander was sworn in at the November Chapter meeting.



Chapter Treasurer **Jack Carney** gave the Americanism Presentation at our November meeting.



DA R Member Jeannette Prasifka received an SAR Medal of Appreciation and accompanying certificate from Dallas Chapter President Mark Hansen in recognition of her help and hospitality at the Continental DAR House during the Year 2000 State Fair of Texas.



Second Notice of vote to amend Dallas Chapter Bylaws

This is the second of two required notices concerning a vote that will be taken at the January 13 meeting of the Dallas Chapter to amend the Chapter Bylaws. The complete text of the proposed changes was included in the President's Message that was published in the November, 2000 issue of **THE MINUTEMAN**. The gist of the proposed change is to bring the Bylaws into conformity with what has been the practice over the past several years concerning the dates leading up to the annual installation of Chapter Officers.

The date of appointment of the Nominating Committee would be specified as November (rather than August); the report of the Committee, and nominations from the floor, would be in January (rather than October); the election would be in February (rather than November); and the installation of officers would be in March (rather than December). Other than these changes of dates, no other changes are proposed.



IT'S TIME TO REA\$\$\$ YOUR MEMBERSHIP STATUS

By the time you read this edition of **THE MINUTEMAN**, you should have received your annual dues notice. Due to a change in the TXSSAR fiscal year and dues year, Compatriots not paying their 2001 dues by December 31 will be dropped from the rolls.

That's not the only financial decision SAR members need to make, however. It is very likely that the cost of Perpetual (Life) membership will be raised at the State Convention coming up in March. Current dues for 18-25 year-olds will likely go up from \$575 to \$775. Dues for Life Membership for men 26 years and older will likely go up from \$500 to \$675 for men under 50, and, from \$500 to \$600 for men over 50.

There is also a proposal on the table to increase the annual dues from the present \$43 to \$45 in a couple of years. All of these facts are reason enough to ponder whether you should pay for a Life Membership by December 31. It is especially advantageous for younger men. In that way, you will be insulated from all dues increases in the future.



Compatriots Dr. Charles Baker, Ralph McDowell, David Hill, Arthur Ingalls, and Jack Carney gathered in the Reunion Arena parking lot prior to catching the shuttle to the beginning of the Veterans Day Parade in downtown Dallas. Cold blustery weather limited the crowd of spectators to an official estimate of 10,000 people, but there were probably about that many others in the parade itself. Due to a conflict with the Board of Managers meeting, the ranks of the SAR Color Guard in the parade were greatly reduced from 1999.

Color Guard activities such as this provide great publicity for the SAR, and we often get inquiries and eventual applications for membership from people we meet while in uniform.

