



THE MINUTEMAN



Volume VI, Issue 8

Dallas Chapter, TXSSAR, Founded July 4, 1929

August 2001

President's Message

by Dr. Gary N. Sisson

“Salesmen of Americanism”

For the first time in years I was in town on Independence Day and able to participate in some local activities with a number of SAR compatriots. The Dallas Chapter was well represented in various early morning neighborhood parades by uniformed Color Guard members and others in period costume. At noon (disguised as Patrick Henry) I joined those who participated in the activities at Dallas' Old City Park. As a young woman sang a wonderful rendition of our National Anthem, a couple with two small children caught my attention. The mother placed her hand over her heart and helped her small son to do the same. She then noticed her husband's neglect and helped his hand to its proper place. He gave her a disparaging glance and lowered his hand back to his side. I could not help but wonder what caused his lack of patriotism, whether temporary or permanent.

Later that afternoon, Debbie and I “cooled off” at the Meyerson as we attended “A Star-Spangled Spectacular” with the Dallas Wind Symphony. It was truly a spectacular production that made me proud to be an American. The printed program included a biography of John Philip Sousa who reportedly listed his occupation as “Salesman of Americanism”. I thought that perhaps the gentleman at Old City Park had not been properly sold Americanism. I hope he went home with a better attitude. There are many Americans like him with whom we interact daily. Let us honor our patriot ancestors, and be “Salesmen of Americanism.”

BE SURE TO CHECK OUT OUR NEW DALLAS CHAPTER WEBSITE AT SARDALLAS.ORG

August Meeting

John Slate, Dallas City Archivist, will be our speaker on August 11. Mr. Slate has done a significant amount of research on cemeteries in Dallas.

For future program suggestions, feel free to call 1st VP Cliff Slagle at 972-380-1500.

Dr. Jim Johnson, an SAR compatriot and a Professor at UNT, spoke at our July meeting on “Quotes from the Revolutionary Period.”

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Registrar's Report:

Chapter membership now stands at 306.

June meeting: 39 members, 12 guests.

Don Hay, Registrar

Treasurer's Report:

Regular Checking: \$ 3,067.07

Endowment Funds: \$ 32,805.80

Tracy Ponders, Treasurer



THE MINUTEMAN is the monthly newsletter of the Dallas Chapter of the Texas Society, Sons of the American Revolution, a non-profit organization. (Pictures by Dr. H. 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 9:40. Guests are welcome at our meetings.



Former TXSSAR President Dick Arnold was sworn in as the NSSAR Trustee from the State of Texas, by Bob Coker, another Former TXSSAR President



The Dallas Chapter received a plaque from the Fannie C. Harris Elementary School for assistance in tutoring children for the TAAS Test and for other ongoing contributions of time during 2000-2001.



“From Small Beginnings...”

The Lake Highlands 4th of July Parade started in 1981, when Dr. Charles Baker's daughters, Jennifer and Rachel, below, decorated their trikes and wagons and rode down the sidewalk to the park with three neighbor's children. The parade now annually draws 5000 people and features skydivers and a carnival afterward. Dick Arnold furnished the “float” to commemorate the 20th Anniversary

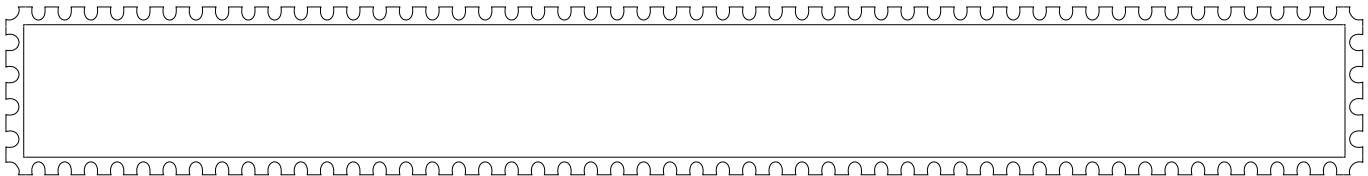
SAR/DAR participants in this year's Lake Highlands 4th of July Parade were Rick Fawkes, Tom Smith, Betty Arnold, Ralph McDowell, Col. Dick Arnold, David Hill, Art Ingalls, and Dr. Charles Baker. Rick Fawkes and David Hill are dressed as army scouts. Art Ingalls carries an antique musket from the Civil War. Emanuel Prodan is the flautist.





Two new Dallas Chapter compatriots were sworn in during the July meeting: At left, Richard Dale "Rick" Fawkes, appeared in a colonial gentleman's coat. At right, Robert Earl Fonville took a more 21st Century approach.

Dr. Jim Johnson received the traditional Liberty Bell paperweight and Certificate of Appreciation as our monthly



Gary "Patrick Henry" Sisson joined the company of participants (at left) in the 4th of July Parade at Dallas' Old City Park. A number of other patriotic groups in uniform or period costume participated in that event, notably members of the Texas Long Rifle Association, who posed above with SAR members. Events such as this provide great publicity for the SAR. To order your uniform or period costume, call Darlene at

