



# THE MINUTEMAN

Volume VIII, Issue 7

Dallas Chapter, TXSSAR, Founded July 4, 1929

July 2003

## President's Message

by Jack Carney



### Celebrate Independence!

On July 4<sup>th</sup>, 1826, the fiftieth anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, both Thomas Jefferson and John Adams died within a few hours of each other. While Thomas Jefferson was the author of the declaration itself, John Adams was, in the words of Mr. Jefferson, the pillar of its support on the floor of Congress; its ablest advocate and defender against the multifarious assaults, which were made against it."

In a letter to his wife Abigail, Adams said, "the greatest question was decided that was ever debated in America; and greater, perhaps, never was or will be decided among men. A resolution was passed, without one dissenting colony, 'That these United States are, and of right ought to be free and independent states.' The 4th of July, 1776, will be a memorable epoch in the history of America. I am apt to believe it will be celebrated by succeeding generations as the great anniversary festival. It ought to be commemorated as the day of deliverance...from this time forward, forever. ... I can see that the end is worth more than all the means; and that posterity will triumph."

Fifty years later, Thomas Jefferson was asked to attend the anniversary program in Washington. He declined due to poor health, but he sent a letter to the committee expressing his view of the significance of the occasion: "May it be to the world, what I believe it will be, (to some parts sooner, to others later, but finally to all,) the signal of arousing men to burst the chains under which monkish ignorance and superstition had persuaded them to bind themselves, and to assume the blessings and security of self-government. That form which we have substituted, restores the free right to the unbounded exercise of reason and freedom of opinion. All eyes are opened, or opening, to the rights of man."

### July 12 Meeting

Dallas County Sheriff Jim Bowles will be our speaker for July. In addition to serving as Sheriff for 19 years, he is a veteran of two military services in two wars.

For future program suggestions, please feel free to call 1<sup>st</sup> VP Tracy Ponders at 214-368-8767.

Mona Neil, Deputy Chief of the Tactical Division, Dallas Police Dept., spoke on Dallas' approach to Homeland Security at the June 14 meeting.  
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**Registrar's Report:**  
Chapter membership stands at 295.  
Last Meeting: 36 Members, 12 Guests  
Mel McCoy, Registrar

**Treasurer's Report:**  
Checking & Cash: \$ 3809.74  
Endowment Funds: \$ 34,523.90  
Tom Smith, 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 Charles & Barbara Baker)

*Meetings are held on the Second Saturday of each month at **Crowne Plaza Suites**, 7800 Alpha Road, Dallas, Texas. Coffee served with fellowship at 7:30, breakfast at 8:00, meeting from 8:30 'til 9:45. Guests are welcome.*

## Chapter Meeting News



From upper left: New Compatriots were sworn in at the June meeting: **Judson Barrett Hughes, Jr.**, **Andrew Franklin Steele III**, and **Wayne Davis Wende** (from the CAR). Compatriot **Clark M. Gray** (North Central Texas Chapter in Wichita Falls) invited members to the First Annual Patriot's Wheat Field Dove Hunt on September 6, 2002; all proceeds to benefit the TXSSAR Patriots Fund. Below: Seventeen Compatriots participated in the Flag Day Program at Valley View Mall, which was later shown on Channel 4. From left: **Willie Walker**, **Mike Radcliff**, **Chris Casey**, **Bill Bellomy**, **Ralph McDowell**, **Mel McCoy**, **James Templin**, **Cliff Slagle**, **Jack Carney**, **Art Ingalls**, **Rick Fawkes**, **David Hill**, & **Charles Baker**. In front: **Graham Martin**, **Tom Whitelock**, & **Bob Coker**. Not Pictured: **Richard Arnold**.



To see these pictures in color, check out our Chapter Website at <http://sardallas.org> While you are there, you can get lots of other useful information. There are links to Chapter Minutes, to the DAR, CAR and other organizations of interest, Chapter Officers, Minuteman Newsletter archives, and lots of other good info.

## Americanism Trivia Quiz (Answers in next month's issue)

- Here's a tough one: What was the name of the patriot in whose Pennsylvania home General George Washington spent 12 days (December 14 to 25, 1776) while planning the Battle of Trenton? (Hint: One of his descendants is a member of the Dallas Chapter of SAR.)
- What characteristic earned John Hancock his place as president of the Continental Congress?
  - His brilliant inventions
  - His decisive actions
  - His inspired speeches
  - His wealth
- The Declaration of Independence lists how many grievances against the King of England?
  - 5
  - 13
  - 27
  - 72
- What was the name of the Bedford Militiaman who carried the flag from Bedford to the Concord Bridge for "the shot heard round the world"?



Compatriot **George W. Bush**,  
One President, Under God ...

**C**ompatriots **Tom Green** and **Richard Arnold** participated in the gravemarking of Patriot **Benjamin Clark** at Clarksville, TX on May 24. >>>



**T**he SAR North Texas Color Guard appeared in period clothing at the Dallas Memorial Day Observance at Restland Cemetery on May 26. Left to Right: **David Hill**, **Gene Shields** (Van Zandt Chapter, Fort Worth), Dr. **Charles Baker**, **Mel McCoy**, **Charles Windham**, **Tom Smith**, **Richard Arnold**, **Cliff Slagle**, **Art Ingalls**, **James Alderman** (Van Zandt Chapter), **Bill Bellomy**, and **Bill McSpedden**.

