



THE MINUTEMAN

Volume IX, Issue 5

Dallas Chapter, TXSSAR, Founded July 4, 1929

May 2004

President's Message

by Tracy Pounders



Today's Patriots

Starting a new term, I can't help but try to think back to the days just before the Declaration of Independence. These were the days when our forefathers and foremothers were contemplating the meaning of Liberty, Freedom and Independence. They weren't stupid – they knew that the cost of these was high. And they had to decide whether securing these rights for their children and their children's children was worth the sacrifice of their lives, their property and their sacred honor. They decided that it was.

Our forefathers and foremothers bought our freedoms and rights by mortgaging their lives and property and honor. It is by these sacrifices that we are able to know Freedom. For these sacrifices we honor them as Patriots.

But let us not forget that Patriots live today, also. Today there are men and women who are giving their lives, property and honor to secure Freedom in this world. Men and women, military and civilian, are taking arms and hands to bring Freedom to persons in Iraq and Afghanistan and elsewhere. They are not stupid – they know that what they are doing may cost them their lives, their property and their honor. But they have decided that what they are doing is more valuable than Life, Property or Honor.

While it is good and proper to remember the sacrifices of our forefathers and foremothers, let us not lose sight of the fact that patriots live today, too. Honor these modern day patriots by thinking of them. Honor them by appreciating their choices and their sacrifices and the sacrifices of their families. Honor them by remembering them in your prayers.

May 8 Meeting

Compatriot Lloyd Bockstruck, Head of the Genealogy Section of the Dallas Public Library, will speak on the "History of the Dallas Chapter of the TXSSAR."

For future program suggestions, please feel free to call 1st VP Tom Whitelock at 214-534-3476.

Frank L. Baker, DMD, and Professor at the Texas A&M Baylor College of Dentistry, spoke at our April 10 meeting on "250 years of American Dentistry." > > >



Registrar's Report:

Chapter membership: 288; 10 pending
Last Meeting: 28 Members, 11 Guests
Mel McCoy, Registrar

Treasurer's Report:

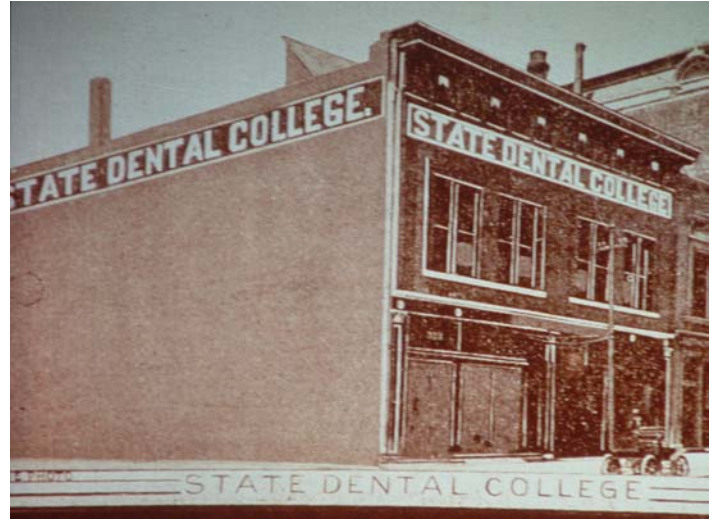
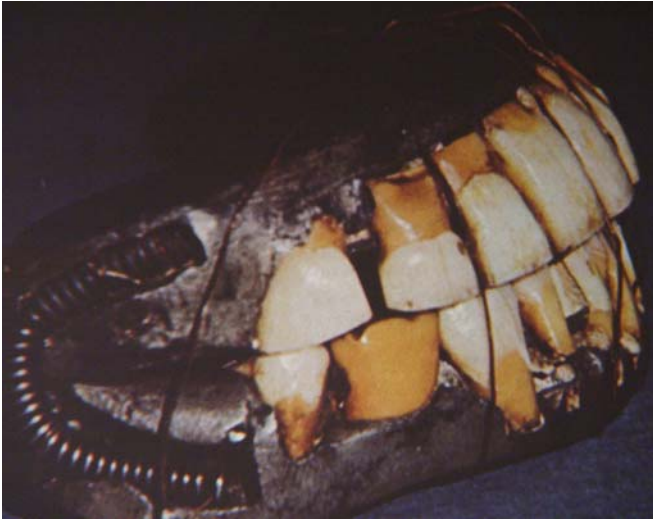
Checking & Cash: \$ 4,004.55
Minuteman Fund: \$ 8,214.80
Ritchie Fund: \$27,132.19

Elvin Brown, 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 morning of each month at **Crowne Plaza Suites**, 7800 Alpha Road in Dallas, near LBJ & Coit Road. Coffee served with fellowship at 7:30, breakfast at 8:00, meeting from 8:30 'til 9:45. Guests are welcome.

Dallas Chapter Meeting News



Dr. Frank Baker began his fascinating presentation on “250 Years of American Dentistry” with a discussion of George Washington’s teeth and dentures. Upper left is a picture of Washington’s actual dentures, made not of wood but of hippopotamus ivory. Upper right is an early picture of the State Dental College in Dallas, which eventually evolved into the Texas A&M Baylor College of Dentistry. Below left, SAR Choirmaster and President **Tracy Pounders** led the 39 souls present in a rousing rendition of “America.” Below center: Compatriot **John L. Morton** gave the Americanism presentation on the SAR emblem. Below right: First V.P. and Program Chairman **Tom Whitelock** presented Dr. Frank Baker with the traditional miniature Liberty Bell and Certificate of Appreciation.



Fly your American Flag!

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. Need to check an address or phone number of a Dallas Chapter compatriot? See <http://sardallas.org/compatriots>



On a cool blustery April 10, the mysterious melody played by bagpiper Mike Bardwell led the SAR Color Guard to the grave of **John Abston**, the only Revolutionary War patriot buried in Collin County. Color Guard members from the Dallas Chapter who helped to mark the grave included Compatriots **Charles Baker**, **Bill Bellomy**, **Robert Coker**, **Rick Fawkes**, **Ralph McDowell**, **Mel McCoy**, and **Tom Whitelock**. A picture of the marked grave is shown at left, below.

At right, Below: "Present Firelocks" was the command given as members of the North Texas Militia prepared to lead these little Patriots in the Pledge of Allegiance. The occasion was Colonial Day at Providence Christian School in Dallas, and these first graders learned about the colonial way of life, from school to clothing, to foods and games. The nickname at Providence Christian School is "The Patriots." Participating in the flag program and Color Guard were (Left to Right) Compatriots **Art Ingalls** (rifle), **Tom Whitelock** (Bedford Flag), **Tom Smith** (Navy Jack), **Charles Windham** (Fort Moultrie Flag), **Mel McCoy** (13-Star Flag), **Ralph McDowell** (Guilford Court House Flag), **Richard Arnold** (Betsy Ross Flag), **Cliff Slagle** (flintlock), and **Charles Baker** (speaker at podium).



