



THE MINUTEMAN

Volume IX, Issue 6

Dallas Chapter, TXSSAR, Founded July 4, 1929

June 2004

President's Message

by Tracy Pounders



Honor All Patriots

When I first joined this society, I thought that we only recognized the men who actually fought in the Continental Army. This is not true. I was surprised to discover that we honor all of those who did patriotic service to the United States during that period. While this includes those who carried a gun, it also includes persons who did the less glamorous jobs of providing food, money, medical services, lodging, gunpowder and supplies to the soldiers, who served on Colonial juries and councils, and even those who cleaned up after the soldiers.

I think it is appropriate that we honor all of the men and women who laid the foundation for this great nation. Some of this patriotic service was not glamorous. Not all of the Patriots we honor placed themselves directly in harm's way. Not all of our patriot ancestors were called to carry a gun, but each and every one of them were needed to lay the foundation. It is right that we honor them.

Just as in the past, not all Patriots today are called upon to carry a gun. And most of them are not fighting in far away lands. They drive the police cars, put out the fires, and operate the telephones. They serve on juries, and pick up our trash. Some, such as police and firemen, place themselves in harm's way on a daily basis. Some don't like to serve on our court system's juries, but they do so anyway and take the job seriously. And some, such as the sanitation workers, place themselves in harm's way in ways that we don't know, and perhaps have not cared to concern ourselves with. These modern-day patriots deserve our attention and prayers, just as our forefathers and foremothers who gave patriotic service to our infant nation. It is right and good to do so.

June 12 Meeting

TXSSAR President **Roy Adams** will be our featured speaker in the regular Chapter meeting on June 12

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

Compatriot **Lloyd Bockstruck**, head of the Genealogy Section of the Dallas Public Library, gave a historical overview of 75 years of the Dallas Chapter and its leaders. >>



Registrar's Report:

Chapter membership: 290; 8 pending
Last Meeting: 40 Members, 8 Guests
Mel McCoy, Registrar

Treasurer's Report:

Checking & Cash: \$ 3598.98
Minuteman Fund: \$ 8,214.80
Ritchie Fund: \$26,428.18

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 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



New compatriots who were sworn in at the May 8 meeting were **Allen Christian**, sponsored by former chapter president **Cliff Slagle**, and **Doyle Stacy**, sponsored by **Compatriot Bob Sanders**. Bottom, left to right, North Texas Militia Commander **Charles Baker** explains that there really is such a thing as a FREE LUNCH for color guard members who march in the National Polka Festival Parade in Ennis on May 29, and for those who appear in uniform or period clothing at the City of Dallas Memorial Day Commemoration at Restland Cemetery on May 31. See calendar on page 4 for details. Treasurer **Elvin Brown** gave the Treasurer's Report. FCP **Mark Hansen** gave an Americanism presentation on our flag, "The Flag of the Free." Ennis resident and **Compatriot Jim Templin** invited the PolkaFest Color Guard to enjoy the three K's (Kielbasa, Kraut, and Kolaches), plus all the other trimmings of authentic Czech feasting, at his and Helen's house after the parade. (Here, Jim explains the finer points of eating Czech food.)



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.



Far Upper Left: Second V.P. Tom Smith received accolades from President Tracy Pounders for his work in arranging over 40 school awards presentations this spring. Near Upper left: Henrietta Slagle (pictured) and Barbara Smith received Daughters of Liberty Medals for their preparation for, and work in, the 2004 TXSSAR State Convention. Above and above right: First VP Tom Whitelock presented a very special SAR Clock to Compatriot Lloyd Bockstruck for his many occasions of speaking to the Dallas Chapter. Lloyd displays the "Skeleton in the Clock's Closet," a picture of how Lloyd looked when he first joined the Dallas Chapter, many years ago.

The American Fighting Man in Iraq averages 19 years old. He can strip a rifle in 30 seconds and reassemble it in less time in the dark. He can recite the nomenclature of a machine gun or grenade launcher and use either one effectively if he must. He digs foxholes and latrines and can apply first-aid like a professional.

He sometimes forgets to brush his teeth but never to clean his rifle. He can cook his own meals, mend his own clothes, and fix his own hurts. If you're thirsty, he'll share his water with you; hungry, his food. He'll even split his ammunition with you in the midst of battle when you run low.

He has learned to use his hands like weapons and his weapons like they were his hands. He has seen more suffering and death than he should in his short lifetime. He has stood atop mountains of dead bodies and helped create them. He has wept openly for friends who have fallen in combat and is unashamed.

He feels every note of the National Anthem vibrate through his body while at rigid attention. He is paying the price for our freedom. Beardless or not, he is not a boy. He is the American Fighting Man who has kept this country free for over 200 years.



