



THE MINUTEMAN

Volume IX, Issue 7

Dallas Chapter, TXSSAR, Founded July 4, 1929

July 2004

President's Message

by Tracy Pounders



Turn It Over to Normal Citizens?

A few years ago, I was ordered to appear for jury duty in Dallas County. The jury was composed of old and young, educated and not, black and white, and I was convinced, as a former prosecutor that I knew the jury's character. I could pick out the wolves and the sheep, the ones who would listen, and the ones who wouldn't. As a contracts attorney, I had my doubts about this jury's ability to understand the complex nature of this contracts case. And at that moment, I understood why our Founding Fathers were so reluctant to turn over the governing of our nation to normal citizens.

The trial lasted a week, but we finally went into deliberations. And I knew that the three other jurors who I thought paid attention and I would have our work cut out for us digging a verdict out of this bunch.

Boy, did I have it wrong! Not only had everyone listened, but they could recall all of the details, some minute, of the trial. Everyone had an opinion, and they could articulate the opinion and the reason for the opinion. And the lawyer tricks that I was convinced that only I noticed? They saw them for what they were and asked me if all lawyers were jerks. Present company excluded, of course.

The experience surprised me. It filled me with hope. It told me that Americans, no matter their background, take their oaths as jurors and as citizens seriously. And it confirmed in me the wisdom of our Founding Fathers to leave the ruling of our nation to its people, and to trust the Common Sense and the Hearts of the normal American Citizen.

July 10 Meeting

The 75th Anniversary of the founding of our SAR Chapter will be celebrated with a dinner meeting at the Hackberry Creek Country Club. Separate invitations are being mailed

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

TXSSAR President Roy Adams spoke on leadership and membership at our June 12 meeting. He especially emphasized SAR dads getting involved with their sons in the CAR.



Registrar's Report:

Chapter membership: 280; 4 pending
Last Meeting: 34 Members, 14 Guests
Mel McCoy, Registrar

Treasurer's Report:

Checking & Cash: \$ 3,419.45
Minuteman Fund: \$ 8,223.65
Ritchie Fund: \$26,351.86

Tom Smith, Treasurer

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.



Left to Right & Top to Bottom: District VP **Ralph McDowell** presented a collage titled “The Battle of Kolache” to **Jim Templin**, honoring his arranging our participation in the National PolkaFest Parade on May 29, and also for Jim and Helen inviting us to their home for a Czech lunch afterward. **Art Ingalls** and **Tom Whitelock** wondered exactly what klobase is, but unanimously decided that it was a code word for great food. The North Texas Color Guard led off the parade which was viewed by more than 70,000 spectators. **Art Ingalls** and others saluted the flag at the Dallas Memorial Day Service in Restland. The Texas Artillery Salute Battery fired the 21-gun salute at the end of the program. The Color Guard enjoyed our own private tent at the service. Every grave in the Restland Field of Honor was decorated with a flag.



Oops! Sorry we insulted the Bohemians of Ennis last month. Klobase sausage is Czech; kielbasa is Polish...

