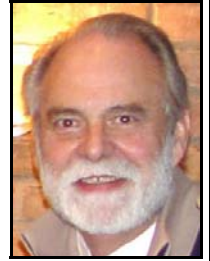




THE MINUTEMAN

Dallas Chapter
TXSSAR
Founded July 4, 1929
March 2005



It just seemed the

“Natural” Thing to Do

by Tom Whitelock, President, Dallas Chapter

Not too long ago I was privileged to participate with Compatriots FSP **Dick Arnold**, **Peter Rowley** and **Mike Radcliff** in a US Citizenship and Immigration Naturalization Ceremony. I was further honored to participate in the Northern Region TXSSAR Color Guard for this Federal ceremony held in Arlington, Texas. For those of you who have never attended or experienced this very moving patriotic event, let me tell you that it is indeed....special.

From the start of the program, as we (SAR) were called forward to present and post colors, I could sense an air of anticipation by the assembly for what was to occur. I saw a sea of smiling faces and a sincere gleam of appreciation in the eyes of each newly naturalized citizen as they took the Oath of Allegiance in support and defense of our laws and Constitution. There was a satisfying degree of attentiveness as former citizens of sixty-two countries viewed a warm welcoming message by President Bush.

But what affected me most was to hear the strong proud chorus of over 450 men and women recite in unison their loyalty with the Pledge of Allegiance.

My colonial attire as well as the military uniforms worn by my fellow Compatriots may have indeed been the primary attention getter; for nearly every family wanted to have a picture taken with us prior to, during and after the ceremonies. You'd be surprised how many parents would bring their children over and explain who we represented in American history. When one young boy stated we looked like Pirates, it was his Grandmother, citizenship certificate and US Flag in hand, that adjusted his learning curve by politely exclaiming: "the only thing these men ever pirated was freedom from the British."

I sincerely hope you, too, have the opportunity to observe and even participate in one of these citizenship ceremonies in the year ahead. It's a great memory that you won't forget. As for me, it seemed the natural thing to do, and thank God, I'm glad I did.



March 12 Meeting

We are honored to have our new TXSSAR President and Compatriot **Jim Heath** as our main speaker. Our Americanism speaker will be our Chapter and Regional Oratory winner, Erica Lastufka.

For future program suggestions, please feel free to call 2005 1st VP **Tom Smith** at 214-691-8023.

Registrar's Report: (Mel McCoy)	
Membership:	265
Last Meeting:	36
Guests:	14
Treasurer's Report: (Allen Christian)	
Checking & Cash:	\$726.14
Minuteman Fund:	\$8,290.62
Ritchie Fund:	\$27,054.87

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 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 NEWS



Clockwise from upper-left: At the February meeting, Jean-Michel Roy, Consul-General of Canada, enlightened us with many facts about the long-standing cooperation and trade relations between the U.S. and Canada; Elizabeth Shaw, winner of our Dallas Chapter and the Regional Essay Contest, read her winning essay, "The Poet of the Revolution"; Compatriot **Bill Welch**, Chairman of the Dallas Chapter Essay Contest for the past five years, was recognized with appreciation for his hard work; Chapter President **Tom Whitelock** presented the Texas Chapter Service Award to FCP **Gary Sisson** because of his numerous presentations of the Patrick Henry speech to various SAR and DAR chapters as well as other organizations; Compatriot **Charles Baker**, the 2004 Golden Sledgehammer Award winner for the "hardest working member in the Dallas Chapter" presented the 2005

award to the team of **Tom and Montye Whitelock**. Tom's hard work is well-known. What is not so widely known is Montye's monthly effort for the past five years in attaching stamps, addresses, and closure stickers to this Newsletter. That's over 61,000 stickings.



To see these pictures in brilliant 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.



Compatriot **John L. Morton** will head the Poster Contest Committee for 2005-6. John is an insurance broker. He is part owner of brokerage businesses in Rockwall and Irving. John was recruited into the SAR by our late Compatriot **Henry Rather** at the SAR Table in the Jane Douglas DAR House at the State Fair — another example as to how that project pays off!

John's patriot ancestor was Col. James Barrett who commanded the Minutemen in the famous battle at Concord's North Bridge. On April 19, 1775, Col. Barrett gave the famous order to advance but hold fire unless fired upon, then to fire as fast as they could. When the British fired the first shots "heard 'round the world," Patriots lay dead. In the battle that followed, the British suffered a humiliating defeat with three times as many casualties as the Patriots. Barrett was the first commander to order American forces to fight against the soldiers of the King of England. "Patriots Day" is still observed as a New England Holiday on April 19.



In Memorium

HARRY C. POST III,
1940-2005

See Page 4 for more information

The statue in the picture at right currently stands outside the Iraqi palace, now home to the 4th Infantry division. It will eventually be shipped home and put in the memorial museum in Fort Hood, Texas.

The statue was created by an Iraqi artist named Kalat, who for years was forced by Saddam Hussein to make the many hundreds of bronze busts of Saddam that dotted Baghdad.

Kalat was so grateful for the American liberation of his country; that he melted three of the heads of the fallen Saddam and made the statue as a memorial to the American soldiers and their fallen warriors. Kalat worked on this memorial night and day for several months.

To the left of the kneeling soldier is a small Iraqi girl giving the soldier comfort as he mourns the loss of his comrade in arms.



Welcome the Troops! There is a daily arrival of troops on R&R from Iraq at DFW Terminal B, Gate 35. Call 972-574-0392 after 5 p.m. to learn the next-day arrival time. **Welcomers are always needed.**

