



The MINUTEMAN



Dallas Chapter

Founded July 4, 1929

Texas Society — Sons of the American Revolution

March-April, 2009

UPCOMING MEETINGS

April 11, 8:30 a.m.
(Breakfast at 8:00 a.m.)

Tom Lawrence, the 2009-10 President of the Texas Society of SAR will be our main speaker.

May 9, 8:30 a.m.
(Breakfast at 8:00 a.m.)

Allen B. Clark, a 1963 graduate of West Point, lost both legs as a Green Beret in Viet Nam and has spent most of his career in Veterans Affairs work. Clark is a popular speaker and is the author of a book, "Wounded Soldier, Healing Warrior." For more information about his inspiring message, go to <http://woundedsoldierhealingwarrior.com>



RESPONSIBILITY

by Henry "Hank" Voegtle, President, Dallas Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution



"A billion here, a billion there, and pretty soon you're talking real money" — Attributed to Sen. Everett Dirksen

At the beginning of March, I attended the SAR's Leadership Conference in Louisville, Kentucky. It is at this semi-annual meeting where the work of the society and its committees is handled. There are two dinners at the conference. Compatriot David M. Walker, President and CEO of the Peter G. Peterson Foundation, spoke at Friday night's dinner.

From 1998 to 2008, David was Comptroller General of the United States and head of the Government Accountability Office (GAO). Now free from the constraints of public office, David's presentation was sobering. Its essential theme is that as a nation we are suffering from a staggering load of debt and a crisis of responsibility.

The late comic Freddie Prinze had a tag line, "It's not my job." Our national leaders might as well use the line "It's not your money" when they spend beyond the government's revenue. By not asking us, the people who elected them, to pay for these spending programs, they force our children, our grandchildren and even our great-grandchildren to pay off this debt. And what is the source of this debt? Two ongoing wars, economic stimulus, pork barrel projects, and corporate bailouts, not to mention regular governmental operations and the Social Security and Medicare "trust funds." And we don't "own" as much of our national debt as we did in World War II. Instead, we've sold it to other countries.

Bill Clinton left office with a balanced budget—not because of anything he had done, but because the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings Deficit Reduction Act had an effect on federal spending. Gramm-Rudman expired in 2002, and with its demise balanced budgets ended.

So where are we now? The United States as a country is drowning in debt. As I write this, what the Peterson Foundation calls the real national debt is fifty-six trillion, four hundred billion dollars, \$56,400,000,000,000.00! We've made promises to pay Social Security to the tune of \$6.6 trillion; we have publicly held debt and other future obligations of \$13.5 trillion; and there is \$36.3 trillion in current and promised Medicare benefits. That is \$184,000.00 for every person in the United States.

Dallas Chapter Meeting News



In February, Alton Brouard spoke on "The Cajun Role in the American Revolutionary War." Alton is a member of a Cajun family whose roots begin in Nova Scotia, then to Louisiana before the Revolution. They fought on our side since it was the British who tossed them out of Nova Scotia

In March, Robert Estrada, an investment banker and a member of the Board of Directors of the Dallas Federal Reserve Bank, spoke on the role of the Federal Reserve System in our current economy.



Naomy Martinez of Kiest Elementary School received a certificate and winning \$100 check from John Morton, Chairman of the Dallas Chapter Poster Contest. This year's theme was "The Midnight Ride of Paul Revere." The contest is annually open to Fifth-Graders. Naomy's mother, teachers and principal were there to back her up.



Dallas Chapter Volunteers are needed to help with the Fall TXSSAR Board of Managers Meeting which the Dallas Chapter will be hosting on Friday, October 30, to Sunday, November 1. We need people to help man the Registration Booth, coordinate tour buses, to serve as liaison with the hotel, and others as liaison with the Ladies Auxiliary. Please call Local Chairman Charles Baker at 214-343-0717 if you can help.

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, the Ladies' Auxiliary of TXSSAR, and other organizations of interest, Chapter Officers' e-mail addresses, **Minuteman** Newsletter archives, and lots of other good information. You can also click on "Meetings" to find out about the next Dallas Chapter meeting program.

Last Issue's Americanism Quiz:

1. Who was the first Continental Congressman to introduce a resolution in Congress for a declaration of independence, stating "That these United Colonies are, and of a right ought to be, free and independent States, that they are absolved from all allegiance to the British Crown, and that all political connection between them and the State of Great Britain is, and ought to be totally dissolved."?

Answer: Richard Henry Lee of Virginia introduced the resolution on June 7, 1776. On June 10, Congress appointed a committee to prepare a declaration of independence.

2. What British Admiral attacked Charleston, South Carolina in June, 1776?

Answer: Admiral Sir Peter Parker led an attack that failed because he could not get past Fort Sullivan on Sullivan's Island.

3. From a half-finished Fort Sullivan, built of palmetto logs 16 feet apart and filled with sandy soil, who repelled the British attempt to take Charleston?

Answer: On June 28, Col. William Moultrie, under the command of General Charles Lee, repelled the British attack. The fort was renamed Fort Moultrie in honor of his defense there.

New Americanism Quiz (Answers in June Issue):

1. When and where were the first and last naval battles of the American Revolutionary War?

2. Who were the five members of the Congressional Committee appointed to write the Declaration of Independence?

3. How many days did it take Thomas Jefferson to write the first draft of the Declaration, and how many changes were included before it was submitted to Congress?

4. Of the 56 signers of the Declaration of Independence, what experience did 15 of them share?



The Dallas Chapter again won recognition as the "Best Chapter in the State of Texas," amassing over 11,000 points in the 2008 state competition. Dallas Chapter members attending the recent TXSSAR State Convention in Nacogdoches were (Front Row) Allen Christian, Ralph McDowell, Mike Radcliff, Cliff Slagle, Mark Hansen, and Bob Clark. (Back Row) Peter Rowley, Bob Northcraft, Harmon Adair, David Temple, Hank Voegtle, Gerald Irion, Tom Whitelock, and Charles Baker.

Welcome the Troops. There is a daily arrival of troops on R & R leave from Iraq at DFW International Airport. Call 972-574-0392 after 5 p.m. on the day before to learn the next-day arrival time and location.

Dallas Chapter Color Guard News



Our own Dallas Chapter Color Guard Commander Bob Northcraft received a surprise promotion to the SAR rank of Lieutenant Colonel during the State Meeting in Nacogdoches. Here he is shown leading the Texas State Color Guard at the opening of the Annual Youth Awards Luncheon.



The Dallas Chapter Color Guard won first place in the Veteran Organization Category in the November 11, 2008, Dallas Veterans Day Parade. Members and friends of the color guard who were in the parade reconvened in front of Highland Park Cafeteria on February 14 to show off the trophies that they won, First Row: Bob Northcraft, David Hall (owner of the Liberty Bell), Tom Whitelock, and Robert Tanner, Jr. Back Row: Harmon Adair, David Temple, Rick Fawkes, Barbara Baker, Pearl Harbor Survivor Robert Tanner, Sr., Laurie Crapo, and Charles Baker.

Would you like to receive a full-color copy of each issue of *The Minuteman* Newsletter? Simply send an e-mail to hc_baker@sbcglobal.net and request your free subscription.

THE MINUTEMAN is the bi-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 Highland Park Cafeteria, or as announced on our website at sardallas.org. Breakfast served with fellowship at 8:00, program from 8:30 a.m. until about 10:00. Guests and Fellow compatriots from other chapters are always welcome.



On a blustery April 5, our color guard took part in Gainesville's annual Medal of Honor parade in which 14 recipients of the Congressional Medal of Honor were recognized. Above left, First Sergeant McNeerney of the Vietnam War was one of the 14 honorees. Above right, Dallas Chapter Compatriot James Henderson was the Belladier for the parade. This unusual picture was taken from reflection in the truck rear view mirror from inside the truck pulling the Liberty Bell, as James gave it all he had. (Note the reversal of the letters on the "State" Theater in the mirror.) Below, some of the color guard members lined up for this picture: Drake Peddie (Plano Chapter), Peter Barron (San Antonio Chapter), Dick Arnold, Bob Northcraft, Jim Johnson, Tom Whitelock, and Charles Baker. Not pictured: Laurie Crapo, Robbie Hall, Bob Spence, Barbara Baker, and David & Phyllis Hall.



Dallas Chapter

Sons of the American
Revolution
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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

NOTE: Ideas, news or submissions for **THE MINUTEMAN** should be given to **Charles Baker**, Editor, 214-343-0717.

Registrar's Report:

(Al Sloan)

Membership:	303
Last Meeting:	34 Members 14 Guests

Treasurer's Report:

(Bob Spence)

Checking & Cash:	\$ 4,186.98
Minuteman Fund:	\$ 8,034.36
Ritchie Fund:	\$ 30,107.86

Board of Managers Meeting

The Texas Society SAR Board of Managers meets three times per year: once at the Annual Conference in March, once in the summer, about the first weekend in August, and once in the fall, about the first weekend in November. The Dallas Chapter will host the Fall BOM this year on Friday afternoon, October 30 until noon Sunday, November 1. About 50 visiting SAR members and 35 Ladies Auxiliary (LATXSSAR) members will attend.

Because of excellent room rates and excellent food quality and prices, the host hotel will be the Holiday Inn Select in Richardson. FCP Charles Baker has accepted the Local Arrangements Chairperson position.

This event is an excellent way to see how TXSSAR operates, and to get involved in a TXSSAR committee by attending. Please call Charles at 214-343-0717 if you would like to get involved by serving on a local arrangements committee. BOM registration info will be posted at TXSSAR.org

Inside: RESPONSIBILITY

Date	Time	Event	Place
Apr. 11	8:00 a.m.	Regular Dallas Chapter Meeting: TXSSAR President Tom Lawrence will speak.	Highland Park Cafeteria, Casa Linda Plaza, east quadrant, behind El Fenix
Apr. 22	8:00 a.m.	Color Guard will Open the Annual Colonial Day Program 7:30 muster	Providence Christian School, 5002 Lovers Lane
May 9	8:00 a.m.	Regular Dallas Chapter Meeting: Allen B. Clark, Veterans advocate, will speak	Highland Park Cafeteria, Casa Linda Plaza, east quadrant, behind El Fenix
May 23	9:00 a.m.	Color Guard: National PolkaFest Parade	Ennis, Texas
May 25	All Day	Color Guard: Memorial Day Activities	Duncanville, Dallas, and Commerce