



THE EAST TEXAS PATRIOT

Sons of the American Revolution Chapter # 57 Longview, Texas



Volume 14, Number 1

February 6, 2020

The President's Message

HAPPY NEW YEAR to you and your family. Nancy and I wish for all of you to have a very happy, healthy, and safe 2020. We are beginning not only a new year, but a new decade. East Texas Chapter #57 also begins with a new staff of officers. They may be some of the same people, just wearing different hats. Your officers have pledged to perpetuate the Chapter into the future and with your help, it can grow and prosper as we did under the leadership of Carl Hedges and his staff. That is my wish for the next year.

One of the first things that need to be considered is to reconstruct the Chapters Bylaws. I will be appointing a Bylaws Committee as an AD HOC Committee. They will meet and begin to focus on the Bylaws as they are written now and how to make changes for our chapter. This will not be a fast project. Thus the reason for the committee designated as AD HOC.

We will need to begin to think in terms of “fattening up” our treasury. All suggestions will be taken seriously. We cannot continue to do all of the good things that we do without money to buy our supplies. It is important to give recognition outside the Chapter without purchasing the awards from SAR.

In order to conduct the proper business of the Chapter, the President will have periodic Officer Board meetings. These will usually occur at a convenient time between regular meetings.

A very interesting book came to my attention recently. “*George Washington's Secret Six*” by Brian Kilmeade. General Washington had a huge task at hand to win the war against a powerful military force much larger than what he had at hand. He needed to know what the British were doing and where they were. They had captured New York City. Without the largest city in the colonies, it was impossible to win. “The General George Washington that never told a lie” maybe never did. But he decided he needed spies. However, his decision was that he never know who they were. As a result, the Culper Ring was formed of six people. One of them has never been identified. Who was it and how did they accomplish to remain unidentified for years—and win to boot! Read the book, it is great! Maybe someone will want to give a program on the subject in the future.

There are so many great books available for enjoyment as well as research. Please don't be shy and share your discoveries with your friends in the Chapter. This can lead to many great programs. It is not necessary to always feel that we have to go outside the Chapter for good programs.

See you at Jason's Deli.

Gary

Minutes and Treasurer's Report of December 5, 2019

The East Texas Chapter #57, TXSSAR, held its bimonthly meeting on December 5, 2019, at Jason's Deli Restaurant in Longview, Texas at 7 PM. The meeting was called to order by President Carl Hedges. The opening prayer was given by Chaplain, J.D. Denton. The pledges to the United States Flag, the Texas Flag and the SAR Flag were given and guests were introduced. Guests were Richard Kuna, Patti McEiligott, James and Martha Hunt, Bobby Reid, and TXSSAR Dist. 10 Vice President, Bill Sekel.

After dinner, the meeting resumed with the consideration of the Minutes of the previous meeting and the Treasurer's report as printed in the newsletter. Both were accepted as presented.

As a fund raiser, the hat was passed for excess change from members. During old business, it was announced that dues for SAR are now due and are \$57.00. If anyone is interested in joining the Color Guard, contact Compatriot John Bolton. For the program, Carl Hedges presented a Power Point presentation of the highlights of his past six years as president.

Service certificates were presented by Present Carl Hedges. A medal was presented to Gary Fletcher for his service to the chapter. Certificates were given for five, ten, fifteen, and twenty year memberships. A Past President pin and certificate were presented to Carl Hedges.

Dist. Vice President, Bill Sekel called new officers forward for the installation. After reminding each of their duties in the upcoming year, the group of new officers were installed.

It was announced that the next meeting will be on February 6, 2020. Please send news items to Mickey Cole our Webmaster.

The meeting was adjourned with the SAR Closing and the benediction by Compatriot J.D. Denton.

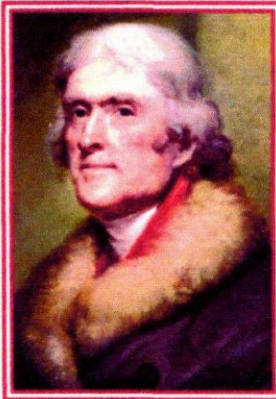
John Bolton, Secretary

Treasurer's Report

November/December 2019

Beginning Balance (11/1/2019)	\$1186.56
Deposits: Membership	
Total Deposits:	0
Checks: J. Bolton-Meeting Decorations	\$23.21
J. Bolton – Stamps	\$35.20
Total Checks:	\$58.41
Ending Balance (12/31/2019)	\$1128.15

Mickey Cole, Treasurer



How Did Jefferson Know??

John F. Kennedy held a dinner in the white House for a group of the brightest minds in the nation at that time. He made this statement: "This is perhaps the assembly of the most intelligence ever to gather at one time in the White House with the exception of when Thomas Jefferson dined alone."

Especially read the last quote from 1802.

When we get piled upon one another in large cities, as in Europe, we shall become as corrupt as Europe . - *Thomas Jefferson*

The democracy will cease to exist when you take away from those who are willing to work and give to those who would not. - *Thomas Jefferson*

It is incumbent on every generation to pay its own debts as it goes. A principle which if acted on would save one-half the wars of the world. - *Thomas Jefferson*

I predict future happiness for Americans if they can prevent the government from wasting the labors of the people under the pretense of taking care of them. - *Thomas Jefferson*

My reading of history convinces me that most bad government results from too much government. - *Thomas Jefferson*

No free man shall ever be debarred the use of arms. - *Thomas Jefferson*

The strongest reason for the people to retain the right to keep and bear arms is, as a last resort, to protect themselves against tyranny in government. - *Thomas Jefferson*

The tree of liberty must be refreshed from time to time with the blood of patriots and tyrants. - *Thomas Jefferson*

To compel a man to subsidize with his taxes the propagation of ideas which he disbelieves and abhors is sinful and tyrannical. - *Thomas Jefferson*

Thomas Jefferson said in 1802:

'I believe that banking institutions are more dangerous to our liberties than standing armies. If the American people ever allow private banks to control the issue of their currency, first by inflation, then by deflation, the banks and corporations that will grow up around the banks will deprive the people of all property - until their children wake-up homeless on the continent their fathers conquered.' - *Thomas Jefferson*

...Submitted by Historian Robert Pelton and President David Whaley

Officers of the Sons of the American Revolution, Chapter #57

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Our February program will be brought to us by Gem Meacham a native of West Texas. She has lived in Kilgore since 1987 and is active with the Kilgore Historical Preservation Foundation and Gregg County Historical Commission. She is currently president of the Texas Shakespeare Festival Guild. Gem and her husband are both retired from Kilgore College



Carl Hedges was presented a Past President Medal.



Our next meeting will be February 6, 2020 at Jason's Deli in Longview. Dinner at 6:00 pm and the meeting will begin at 7:00 pm. You are encouraged to attend and support Chapter #57.