

Minutes for Chapter Meeting
May 17, 2014
Major K. M. Van Zandt Chapter #6, Texas SAR

9 am.

President Russell Leavens called the meeting to order.

- **Chaplain Roger** Tate led the invocation.
- President Leavens led the pledge to the flag of the United States of America, the pledge to the flag of the State of Texas and the pledge to the SAR flag.
- President Leavens requested an ancestor roll call from the members present and requested that each member mention their ancestor in one sentence. President Leavens recognized compatriot Ken Cox who discussed the Veteran's activities this year that will surround the 200th anniversary of our National Anthem. Cox is attempting to reach members of the War of 1812 organization to get their participation in the celebration.
- President Leavens introduced new member Jimmy Dwight Tom and his wife, Cheryl; Tom was inducted into the organization. Dwight is currently employed by the US Post Office in Colleyville, Texas. He is currently attending the Texas A&M law school and is scheduled to graduate in 2016.
- President Leavens stated that compatriot Ralph Smith has agreed to accept the position of secretary for the K M Van Zandt chapter. A motion was made and seconded and Ralph was elected as the new secretary for the organization; he will assume his duties in June 2014.
- Reports from the Officers:
- President Leavens called for reports from the chapter officers and committees:
- Vice President / Acting Secretary Mike Connelley reported on multiple activities in the absence of Treasurer Vaughn Oliver. As acting secretary, he passed around several thank you notes received as a result of the chapter's activities in the past. Compatriot Connelley noted the secretary duties will now be assumed by the newly elected chapter secretary Ralph Smith. The treasurer report of Vaughn Oliver noted the current balance of the operating fund is \$7,906.97; the Pray TCU fund is \$2,287.92 and the Goodman Youth Fund is \$,776.96 for a total balance in all funds of \$12174.78.
- Compatriot Alderman mentioned at this point that repairs are being made to the chapter trailer and he was wondering if the issue of registration of the trailer should be discussed this point. Vice President Connelley stated the trailer, which was donated to the chapter several years ago, was never formally transferred into the name of the chapter and that the Texas registration has now expired. Registration must be accomplished, otherwise the trailer cannot be utilized on Texas highways. Connelley checked with the Parker County automobile registration department who stated that an Application of Texas certificate of title needs to be filled out in name of chapter with the address of a member / officer of the organization which is where the Texas license plate information will be sent. The driver's license of this member will be used for verification of an accurate address. Parker County assured Vice President Connelley that the registration procedure is simple to accomplish. While the trailer had a farm / ranch exemption, it can no longer have that status unless the person whose address is being used currently possesses that status with Texas; Parker County said the registration fee will run about \$50.00 per year. Alderman noted the trailer is currently being kept by member Gerry Gieger and he may be the person best positioned to register the trailer. Past president Ray Leftwich stated he has recently discussed this with Gieger and Gieger feels a younger chapter member would be the one to do this task. Alderman suggested the chapter treasurer, which is a more stable chapter office, to be the individual to register the title but than any member could till this task. Vice president Connelley

said he would inform all of the chapter officers via an email as to the method of registering the trailer in the name of the chapter.

- Genealogist Gerry Gieger report was not present at today's meeting and his report was presented by former President Ray Leftwich. Leftwich said there is essentially no change from the April report with two applications in the process at TXSSAR and eight additional inquiries for membership in the process of being handled.

Old and New Business

- President Leavens stated the certificate of appreciation for Louis Scoma and his wife will be held until such time as they can attend a chapter meeting. Leavens also said he would hold any discussion or vote on changes to the constitution until next meeting when Treasurer Vaughn Oliver should be in attendance.
- Compatriot Donald Goodman made mention of a flag destruction day at the American Legion and to bring in any old flags that need to be properly destroyed. Goodman also reminded the membership of the July 4th parade and to be at this house at around 9AM if you intend to participate. The SAR trailer will lead the parade. Compatriot Ken Cox added that a number of American Legion posts and other patriotic organizations will be having Memorial Day programs around the Fort Worth area. He recommends that all Compatriots find one convenient to their location and to participate.
- District Vice-President James Alderman reported that the chapter has completed all of the ROTC / JROTC award programs for this year. He added that the color guard also participated in a DAR program at Blue Bonnet Cemetery and that on Monday of this past week the color guard members (Alderman, Gerry Gieger and Bobby Gresham) also participated in the "Family-less Veterans" service at the National Cemetery in Dallas. Alderman pointed out that this past year the chapter lost 20 members due to the non-payment of dues. He considers this a disturbing trend and feels the chapter needs to address this concern.
- Alderman also pointed out that the DAR is marking the graves of daughters of a Patriot and the SAR is thinking of beginning a program to mark the graves of the sons of a Patriot of the American Revolution. This may be a program the chapter needs to think about in the future as this program is developed by the SAR.
- President Leavens stated the speaker for the day had a family health emergency and could not be present. Chaplain Roger Tate gave a short and informative talk on the Armed Forces Day / Flag Day celebration.
- President Russell Leavens called for a motion to adjourn which was made and seconded.
- President Leavens led the recessional.
- Chaplain Roger Tate gave the benediction and the meeting was concluded at 10:15AM. In attendance, per the sign-in sheet and observation, were 18 members and 3 guests for a total of 21 attendees.

Respectfully submitted,

Lawrence M. Connelley, acting, Secretary, Major K. M. Van Zandt chapter