

Minutes for Chapter Meeting
June 21, 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. He also announced the death and burial of compatriot Dr. Ed Maddox whose funeral was June 19, 2014 in Decatur, Tx and burial at Greenwood Cemetery in Fort Worth.
- President Leavens called for approval of the minutes of the May meeting. Motion was made and seconded. Vote was taken and minutes were approved.
- President Leavens recognized Vice President Mike Connelley to report on the concept of beginning a mentor program for new and recently jointed chapter members. He will provide more info and a proposal for how to proceed.
- President Leavens called for reports from the chapter officers and committees:
- Vice President Mike Connelley reported on the Knight Essay contest that it will gear up in August and September. There will be an emphasis to encourage participants from students in public, private and home school education. He raised the question of whether the chapter will offer a monetary award of the local chapter winner. There was discussion about offering \$200 but further study will be done to clarify the amounts of the state and national awards. A recommendation will be brought at a future meeting.
- The Treasurer's report was given by Vaughn Oliver. The current balance of the operating fund is \$7883.96; the Pray TCU fund is \$2,288.01 and the Goodman Youth Fund is \$1,777.03 for a total balance in all funds of \$11,949.00. Motion made by Don Goodman, Seconded Gerry Gieger, vote passed. Treasurer's report approved.
- The July program will be presented by Compatriot Chester Hardy.
- Compatriot District VP James Alderman mentioned at this point that Saturday Nov. 8 will be the 50th Anniversary celebration of the Vietnam conflict. DAR District 2 will host the celebration luncheon at the Ridglea Country Club. The luncheon speakers will be Flight Nurse Betty Rogers and Seven year POW Col. Jerry Curtis. All chapter compatriots are encouraged to save the date and plan to attend. The event will be held to honor all Veterans who served on active duty in the Vietnam era. Compatriot Alderman display the official flag of the Commemoration of the Anniversary of the beginning of the Vietnam conflict in 1964. Flags are available for \$24.
- Genealogist Gerry Gieger report will be given next month.

Old and New Business

- President Leavens called on Treasurer Vaughn Oliver to discuss the proposed change of the chapter constitution to add meetings in July and August. The draft document will be distributed to all members and a vote will be taken at the July meeting.
- Compatriot Donald Goodman reminded the membership of the July 4th parade and to be at his house at around 9AM if you intend to participate. The SAR trailer will be decorated with banners, bunting and flags, and lead the parade. The trailer repairs have been completed and the cost was \$640. The invoice was given to Treasure Oliver.

Compatriot Ken Cox added that plans are underway for Fort Worth Veterans Day Parade on November 11, 2014. The theme is Honoring The Flag as 2014 is the 200th Anniversary of the adoption of The Stars and Stripes as our Nation's flag. The Parade Grand Marshall will be Larry Casey, 1812 President. Ken will submit the chapter application to be an entry in the parade.

- District Vice-President James Alderman reported that the chapter has experienced a decline in our relationship with local DAR chapters and recommends efforts be taken to rebuild it. DAR members attending our chapter meetings should always be recognized and treated with great respect and cordiality. The DAR operates at a very professional level and carries a high standard for conduct at chapter meetings. They are honored guests. When a DAR Regent attends we should not only recognize them but call on them to provide an update report on DAR activity. It will be interesting, challenging, and potentially prompt ideas for programs and speakers, thus enhancing the chapter meetings for us all.
Further, he mentioned the need of members to participate in the Color Guard. He commented on several requests to provide the Color Guard at area events.
- President Leavens introduced our speaker for the day, Compatriot Gerry Gieger. Gerry gave a program on some of his experience during the period of the Cold War. Career wise he worked on the Huey Cobra program and the remanufacturing upgrade of the Marine Corps Cobra. Then he recounted the travails, injuries and near-death hospitalization during his 1986 Christian mission trip to Warsaw. Following this personal observation of life in a former communist country he returned to America with a renewed appreciation for his country.
- 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 10:42AM. In attendance, per the sign-in sheet and observation, were 18 members and 3 guests for a total of 21 attendees.

Respectfully submitted,

Ralph E. Smith, Secretary, Major K. M. Van Zandt chapter