

**Minutes for Chapter Meeting**  
**March 21, 2015**  
**Major K. M. Van Zandt Chapter #6, Texas SAR**

**9:00 a.m.**

**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 the previous month's minutes be considered as posted on the Chapter Web page. The minutes were approved as posted. Special guest Cathy McWilliams was introduced at the meeting; Cathy is a member of the Scottish American Military Society and was in attendance to observe the meeting format. The organization is for individuals of Irish / Scottish descent with ancestors that fought in America's Wars.
- **President** Leaven asked for a confirmation vote from the membership concerning the decision by the Board of Managers to limit the number times the ancestor roll call is done at a chapter meeting. The BOM felt that it was redundant and losing its impact if the roll call is done each month. The chapter vote was affirmative to the BOM decision to limit the ancestor roll call to a few times each year.
- **President** Leavens introduced Bob Northcraft, former State Color Guard Commander and member of the Dallas chapter. Northcraft presented the K M Van Zandt chapter with a sword owned by deceased member Virgil Ellis. Northcraft said that the family wanted the sword to go to the chapter. Ellis' remains will be interned at the National Cemetery in Dallas over the next few months and the chapter will be notified of the date; the chapter membership is urged to attend the service when scheduled.
- **Chaplain** Roger Tate introduced Roger Cobb – Mills who spoke on the continuing evolution of genetics genealogy. Tate discussed how to effectively utilize the results of genetic studies, especially those coming from Family Tree.

**Reports from the Officers**

- **President** Leavens called for reports from the chapter officers and committees:
- **Vice President** Mike Connelley briefly mentioned the youth fund activities of the chapter; a handout given to members contained a brief write-up on each of the programs. The SAR programs are (1) Children of the American Revolution Essay Contest, (2) Americanism Elementary School Poster Contest, (3) Knight Essay Contest, (4) Oration Contest, (5) Eagle Scout Contest and (6) the ROTC / JROTC award program. The chapter "passed the hat" to collect contributions that will be utilized to replenish the chapter youth funds balances. Members are urged to assist in one of the youth programs. Vice President Connelley added that the Arlington SAR chapter will be partnering with the Van Zandt Chapter in the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary commemoration of the Viet Nam War.
- **Compatriot** Ken Cox discussed the upcoming DAR / SAR sponsored Vietnam War veteran recognition program coming up on May 9, 2015 at Carswell Joint Reserve Base; volunteers will be needed and everyone is also urged to attend.

- **Treasurer** Vaughn Oliver reported the current total balance in the chapter funds is \$13,342.47. This is with a balance in the operating fund of \$8,765.92; Pray TCU fund at \$2,538.87 and the Goodman Youth Fund of \$2,037.68.
- **Genealogist** Gerry Gieger has no new members for induction but did mention that the DAR has asked for assistance with the Flag Day ceremony on June 13, 2015. The Fort Worth DAR chapter is handling it this year and the color guard will be assisting. Details to follow as they are known.
- **President** Leavens called for a motion to adjourn.
- **President** Leavens led the recessional.
- **Chaplain** Roger Tate gave the benediction and the meeting was concluded at 10:45 AM. In attendance, per the sign-in sheet and observation, were 21 members and 3 guests for a total of 24 attendees.

Respectfully submitted,

Lawrence M. Connelley, Vice President and Acting, Secretary, Major K. M. Van Zandt Chapter