

Minutes for Chapter Meeting  
February 21, 2026  
Major K. M. VanZandt Chapter #6, Texas SAR



9:30 a.m., **President Steve Hole** called the February 21, 2026 meeting to order. There were 24 members in attendance, 5 Guests, and 4 prospective members.

- **Color Guard Commander Vann Cunningham** posted the colors, then led the chapter in the pledges to the American Flag, the Texas Flag, and the SAR Flag, along with the SAR Mission Statement.
- **Treasurer Greg Riffel** provided the opening prayer.
- **President Hole** recognized guests that were in attendance from the DAR and other SAR chapters. He also recognized prospective members that were in attendance. Finally, he introduced the new chapter officers for the year 2026.
- **President Hole** recognized Texas SAR **President Mel Oller** as our guest of honor.

Presentations:

- **President Hole** presented DAR guest Meg Anderson with the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Bronze Medal Certificate.
- Texas SAR **Color Guard Northern Adjutant Dan Hamilton** presented **Past President Bobby Gresham** with The Hannah White Arnett Bronze Medal Certificate for his outstanding service to the NSDAR.
- **President Hole** presented **Color Guard Northern Adjutant Hamilton** with the Henry Knox Achievement Award for his committed service to the SAR.
- **President Hole** presented the chapter with a Proclamation from the Town of Trophy Club for the Evacuation of Boston on March 17, 1776.
- **President Hole** conducted a birthday celebration in remembrance of the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of George Washington's 44<sup>th</sup> birthday.
- Texas SAR **President Oller** presented **President Hole** with two grave marking medals – the Patriot Grave Marking Medal and the Compatriot Grave Marking Medal. This was **President Hole's** second medal for Patriot Grave Marking.

Program:

- Texas SAR **President Mel Oller** was introduced by **President Hole** as our distinguished guest speaker. **President Oller** conducted a Q&A session with the members regarding any state news and events. He then gave a presentation on *Freemasons in Early America and George Washington's Army*.

**President Hole** then called for Officer Reports:

- **Vice President Jeff Sparks** gave an update on the programming for upcoming chapter meetings and informed the membership that he plans to continue with the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary theme throughout 2026.
- **Chaplain Ralph Smith** gave an update on his daughter's condition after her accident and thanked the chapter for keeping the Smith family in their prayers.
- Minutes for the January meeting were presented by **Secretary Bruce Morgan** via email to the Chapter members, dated 01/26/26:
  - **Past President Gerry Gieger** made a motion to accept the minutes as presented.
  - **Past President Bobby Gresham** seconded the motion.
  - The motion was adopted.

- The Treasurer's Report was presented by **Treasurer Greg Riffel**:
- The Registrar's Report was presented by **Registrar Turner**:
  - The Chapter currently has 4 supplemental applications at National.
  - The Chapter currently has 2 new member applications at National.
  - The Chapter currently has 2 new member applications at State.
  - The Chapter currently has 4 supplemental applications at State.
  - The Chapter has 8 prospective members in the pipeline.
- The Color Guard report was presented by **Color Guard Commander Cunningham**:
  - An announcement was made regarding a color guard event with the DAR at the Naturalization Ceremony on March 12<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m.
  - An announcement was made regarding the Medal of Honor parade in Gainesville, TX on April 18<sup>th</sup>.
  - **Secretary Morgan** volunteered to drive the chapter trailer at the Medal of Honor Parade. All Compatriots are invited to come join if they are in uniform.
- **Past President Gieger** made an announcement requesting help to present SAR and War of 1812 awards to TCU Air Force and Army candidates.

Continuing Business:

- **Past President Gieger** made a plea to the chapter urging members to participate in the flag certificate program.
- **President Hole** brought before the membership an issue with the SAR pop up banner owned by the chapter. The banner is in disrepair and either needs to be fixed or replaced. A motion was made by **Past President Gieger** to do just that. It was seconded by **Compatriot Bob Jacobs**. The motion carried.

New Business:

- **Compatriot John Anderson** announced that the Arlington Genealogical Society will be having an event on March 14 to celebrate their 55<sup>th</sup> anniversary.
- **President Hole** gave an update on the March 21<sup>st</sup> chapter meeting.

Closing Admonition was rendered by **Past President Gieger**.

Closing Prayer and parting words were given by **Treasurer Riffel**.

At 11:45 a.m. the motion to adjourn was submitted by **Past President Gieger** and seconded by **Registrar Turner**.

Respectfully Submitted by Secretary Bruce Morgan, Major K.M. Van Zandt Chapter, Texas SAR