

Minutes for Chapter Meeting

September 19, 2026

Major K. M. Van Zandt Chapter #6, Texas SAR



9:30 a.m., September 19, 2026 **President Steve Hole** called the monthly chapter meeting to order. There were 23 members in attendance, 5 prospective members, and 2 guests.

- **Chaplain Ralph Smith** provided the opening prayer.
- **Compatriot David Fleming** led the chapter in the Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag.
- **Compatriot Kim Brimer** led the chapter in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Texas Flag.
- **Compatriot Bob Jacobs** led the chapter in the Pledge to the SAR.
- **Compatriot Vann Cunningham** led the chapter in the SAR Mission Statement.

Recognition and Awards:

- **President Hole** recognized the two guests in attendance Jan Smith (wife of Chaplain Ralph Smith) and Satoko Yano (wife of prospective member James Avery).
- **President Hole** recognized the following prospective members who were in attendance: James Avery, Dean Chesney, John Cook, Bob Gurney, and David Perkins.
- **President Hole** presented Jan Smith with the Bronze 250th Anniversary certificate.
- **President Hole** presented 5 year anniversary certificates to **Compatriot Rodney Buttermore** and **Compatriot David Fleming**.
- **President Hole and Registrar Ron Turner** presented **Compatriot Brimer** with his 23rd Patriot Supplemental.
- **President Hole** recognized **Secretary Bruce Morgan, Texas SAR District 5 Vice President Art Munford, and Texas SAR State Historian John Anderson** with thank you letters for their donations to the trailer refurbishing fund.
- **President Hole** discussed items to be raffled off at the Texas SAR BOM meeting October 23rd-25th which included a replica George Washington Battle Sword for the featured raffle item.

Program:

- **Vice President Jeff Sparks** gave a presentation on Nathan Hale (June 5, 1755 – September 22, 1776). The presentation included questions asking the relevance of Nathan Hale and what he meant to the Revolution. A video was shown describing the Hale House and it gave a history of the Hale family. **Vice President Sparks** then talked of the importance of Nathan Hale's mission and eventual capture as a spy for General Washington.

New Business:

- **Registrar Turner** announced that the TxSGS Family History Conference will be held in Fort Worth on November 6th – 7th. The chapter has secured a table for the conference and **Registrar Turner** is seeking volunteers to help man the information table.

Continuing Business:

- **President Hole** asked **Secretary Morgan** to give an update on the trailer project. He informed the chapter that the refabrication work has been completed and the trailer has been moved to the paint

shop. He gave a time line of the completion of the project to be in a couple of weeks with the hope of the trailer being brought to the October chapter meeting for inspection.

- **President Hole** gave an update on the Fall State SAR BOM steering committee meeting:
 - The Fall BOM Meeting will be hosted by the Maj. K.M. Van Zandt, Denton, and Arlington SAR chapters.
 - The meeting will be held at the Hilton Garden Inn Dallas / Arlington South October 23 thru October 25th.
 - **Past President Mike Connelley** discussed various silent auction items that would be acceptable to be donated. The chapter was reminded that all proceeds from the silent auction would be used for the Texas SAR Patriot Fund.
 - **Registrar Turner** described what the responsibilities would be for volunteers and asked that members sign up to assist with the meeting on the website.
 - The Arlington chapter will be in charge of the giveaway bags for the registered members.

President Hole then called for Officer Reports:

- **Vice President Sparks** informed the chapter that the two remaining SAR Lifesaving awards were presented to the following recipients: Bryan Phillips and Nick Baugh both of the Haltom City Fire Department. He announced that **Compatriot Cunningham** will be discussing Benjamin Franklin for the program at the October meeting. He is working on a presenter from the Medal of Honor Museum to be the guest speaker in November and is looking for ideas and volunteers for topics to be presented in 2027. **Past President James Alderman** provided the name of Mike Caldwell as a potential contact for the MOH Museum. Lastly, **Vice President Sparks** gave an update on the chapters progress in the 2026 Wreaths Across America campaign.
- **Chaplain Ralph Smith** had nothing to report.
- Minutes for the July meeting were presented by **Secretary Bruce Morgan** via email to the Chapter members. No corrections were noted.
 - **Past President Gerry Gieger** made a motion to accept the minutes.
 - **Compatriot Joe Wade** seconded the motion.
 - The motion was adopted.
- The Treasurer's Report was presented by **Treasurer Greg Riffel**.
 - **Past President Alderman** made a motion to accept the report as presented.
 - **Compatriot Bob Jacobs** seconded the motion.
 - The report was approved.
- **Registrar Turner** presented the registrar's report:
 - YTD the chapter has had 4 new members approved and 6 supplementals approved.
 - At National awaiting approval the chapter has 17 new member applications and 9 supplementals.
 - The chapter has 3 new member applications awaiting prospective member signatures.
 - The chapter has 10 new member applications and 13 supplemental applications in progress.
 - The chapter has 1 new member application and 2 supplemental applications at National that have been pended needing further information.
- The Color Guard report for last month and upcoming events was presented by **President Hole**:
 - The SAR South Central District Meeting was held August 21st in Richardson and was attended by **President Hole, Registrar Turner, and Compatriot Doug Schwetke**.
 - The Color Guard was asked to be flag bearers for the 90th Infantry Division Anniversary meeting and **President Hole and Past President Gresham** were in attendance.
 - **Registrar Turner** reminded the chapter of the color guard need for the Texas SAR BOM Meeting.

- **President Hole** reminded the chapter of the Fort Worth Veteran's Day Parade- November 11th.

Announcements:

- **President Hole** presented the chapter with a flag streamer presented by **Compatriot Schwetke**.
- **Past President Gieger** asked chapter members to consider joining the following organizations as they need a more active membership: National Society Sons and Daughters of the Pilgrims, Sons of the Republic of Texas, General Society of the War of 1812.

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

The Benediction was given by **Chaplain Smith**.

At 11:08 a.m. the motion to adjourn was submitted by **Compatriot Brimer** and seconded by **Past President Gieger**.

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