

# January 2014 minutes

Published by Ray Cox on January 5, 2014

## January 11, 2014 minutes

At 11:00 a.m., President Ray DeVries announced "the time has arrived", and called the meeting to order.

He then read an article entitled "Bye Bye SR71 Blackbird".

Russell Fontenot led the pledges to the Flag of The United States of America, the Flag of The State of Texas, and the Flag of the SAR.

Chaplain Mike Nichols led the opening prayer.

Secretary Rick Malley introduced our guests for the day.

Minutes from the previous meeting were approved.

In the absence of Treasurer Bill Freeman, President Ray DeVries gave the treasury report, stating that we have \$2161.29 in our account.

President DeVries then presented Adam Nelson with an award for the SAR Essay Contest. In addition, the chapter also presented Adam with a check for \$100.00 for his scholarship fund.

President DeVries announced that the chapter would be presenting a Flag Display Certificate to the Oaks at Wildwood HOA on January 29.

President DeVries requested everyone with a uniform to attend.

President-elect James Scott gave a report about the Eagle Scout presentation program. The chapter presented 2 awards in December, and four more will be receiving these awards in the future.

The joint DAR/SAR meeting was announced for February 15, at Austin Women's Club, and anyone wishing to attend should sign up as soon as possible.

After breaking for lunch, President-elect Jim Scott introduced Col. Patrick McCasland, who gave a presentation "Studies In Observation Group Prairie Fire".

After the presentation, Mr. Scott presented Col. McCasland with a memento of his visit.

Russell Fontenot led the SAR Recessional.

Chaplain Mike Nichols closed in prayer.

# February 2014 minutes

There is no chapter-specific meeting for the AH Chapter owing to the joint/SAR meeting being conducted for February 15, at Austin Women's Club.

# March 2014 minutes

Published by Ray Cox on March 5, 2014

## March 8, 2014 minutes

11:07 a.m. "Hello"

-President Ray DeVries read information about Martha Raye and her Vietnam era USO shows.

-He then read a humorous story about a bagpiper.

- President DeVries let the pledges to the flag of The United States of America, the flag of the State of Texas, and the flag of the Sons Of The American Revolution.

- Frank Elrod opened in prayer.

- Secretary Rick Malley introduced the nine guests.

- President DeVries gave the treasurers report. We have \$2083.09 after paying our portion of the joint SAR/DAR meeting in February.

- President DeVries then presented President Elect James Scott, who swore in member Frank Wickstrom (who he learned is his fifth cousin), and Jim Lindsey. He was assisted by Registrar Dan Stauffer.

- Vaughn Gray was presented with his certificate, having been sworn in at our last meeting.

- President DeVries mentioned that there will be information regarding uniforms which will be emailed soon. Also, committees will be formed to help with flag presentations, Eagle Scout presentations, and essay contests. He also mentioned that there has been a request that we participate in forming a genealogy club at Fort Hood.

11:35 a.m. The meeting broke for lunch, and we resumed at 12:05 p.m., with President Elect Scott presenting our speaker, Jesse Villareal, Sr. who discussed "Tejana Patriots of the American Revolution. 1776 - 1783". After the presentation, President Elect Scott thanked Mr. Villareal for his work.

- President DeVries read about a record breaking shot from a British rifle, at more than 1.54 miles.

- He then read about literature from Johnson and Johnson.

- President DeVries led the SAR Recessional.

- Frank Elrod closed in prayer.

# April 2014 minutes

Published by Ray Cox on April 5, 2014

## April 12, 2014 minutes

President Ray DeVries read an article regarding the Marines. He then read a "lighter side" article entitled the \$2.99 Special

Frank Wickstrom led the pledges to the Flag Of The United States Of America, the Flag Of The State Of Texas, and the Sons Of The American Revolution.

Chaplain Mike Nichols led the opening prayer.

President DeVries informed us that Mr. Dan Stauffer would be 90 years old on April 23, and that he had been presented with the Patriot Award at the State Meeting.

Treasurer Bill Freeman was present at the meeting after having been ill for a couple of months. However, President DeVries gave the treasurer's report, stating that we have \$2413.00 in our account.

Sargent At Arms Lane Redwine provided information regarding replica Revolutionary War era uniforms.

President DeVries states that the following committees need to be formed and asked anyone interested to let him know:

- Flag Committee - To present awards to places that properly display the Flag Of The United States.
- Distinguished Service Awards Committee - Presents awards to civil servants.
- Eagle Scouts Committee - James Scott has been working on this effort.
- American History Teacher Awards Committee - Mike Nichols will head this committee.
- Genealogy Club For Wounded Warriors at Ft. Hood
- Color Guard - (he also mentioned that the guard has been invited to a Naturalization Ceremony on May 9, 2014)

President DeVries said that we have had a request from the Children Of The American Revolution, which will meet in Austin, asking for monetary assistance. Our chapter will send \$50.00

President DeVries stated that we have received 4 Junior Sons Of The American Revolution applications.

President Elect James Scott offered his help in assisting children and young people to become interested in the Revolution.

At this time, lunch was served.

After lunch, President Elect Scott introduced our own Russell Fontenot who presented "Spanish Influence On The American Revolution: The Military Adventures of Don Bernardo de Galvez."

After his discussion, President Elect Scott presented him with a memento.

President DeVries reminded the color guard of the July 4 Sun City presentations.

He then gave a couple of light hearted stories

Frank Wickstrom led our recessional.

Mike Nichols closed with prayer.

The month of May will be the chapters five year anniversary.

# May 2014 minutes

Published by Ray Cox on May 5, 2014

## May 10, 2014 minutes

President Ray DeVries began with a series of humorous "Who Do's"? He then read a description of how the tradition of using "Taps" at military funerals began.

President DeVries led us in the pledges to the flags of The United States of America, The State of Texas, and the Sons Of The American Revolution.

Chaplain Mike Nichols gave the opening prayer.

Secretary Rick Malley introduced our guests.

Minutes were approved.

Treasurer Bill Freeman reported that we have \$2046.52

President DeVries asked for volunteers for the Flag Presentation committee.

He also reported that the Color Guard had been to a naturalization ceremony in Austin, on the day previous to the May meeting.

The Genealogy Club at Ft. Hood is still a work in progress.

He also reported that at the beginning of the school year, we had 7 schools participating, but another was added last week, bringing to a total of 8 schools that will have had awards presented.

We have 3 new member applicants within the past month.

Sergeant At Arms Lane Redwine talked about possibly creating a registry of chapter members, along with a history of the founding of the chapter.

At this time, lunch was served.

After lunch, Past Registrar Dan Stauffer, Past Secretary William Towry and Past President Harlan Green, all charter members, discussed the organization and founding of Alexander Hamilton Chapter #66 TXSSAR in 2009.

President DeVries reported that Tom Orton will be next month's presenter.

He then read a light hearted passage about growing older.

He read a story about "Your most valuable possession."

President DeVries led our recessional.

Chaplain Mike Nichols led the closing prayer.

# June 2014 minutes

Published by Ray Cox on June 5, 2014

## June 14, 2014 minutes

11:05 a.m. President Ray DeVries called the meeting to order

- William Cabanis led the pledges to the flags of the United States Of America, The State Of Texas, and the Sons Of The American Revolution.
- Chaplain Mike Nichols led the opening prayer.
- Secretary Rick Malley introduced our guests.

- Ed Clendenon reported about the AMC television series about the Revolutionary War series "Turn".

- Minutes of the May 2014 meeting were approved.

- President DeVries reports no expenditures during the past month.

- President DeVries reported about the headquarters of The Sons Of The American Revolution moving.

- Historian Roger Gore reported on behalf of the Flag Committee, stating that a presentation will be made at Sun City.

- President DeVries reports that the Color Guard will present the colors at the Independence Day celebration in Sun City, as well as at a small town south of Austin.

- President DeVries stated that a committee person is needed for the Distinguished Service Award Committee.

- He also reported about Eagle Scout awards that have been presented.

- It was reported that JROTC Awards were presented to 8 students at 8 different schools.

- Mike Nichols states that he has sent info packets to 12 different school districts within Williamson County, asking for nominations for the American History Teacher award.

- President DeVries reports that the genealogy group at Fort Hood will begin soon.

- Registrar Harry Walden reports that he has "a lot" of application are pending.

- Sargent At Arms Lane Redwine asks that everyone send him info to place in the membership registry.

- The July meeting will meet in the bar area of the bowling alley, because of a scheduling conflict. President Elect James Scott will preside over the meeting.

- Compatriot Vaughan Gray asked if the State Society has an annual meeting.

It was reported that they do indeed, and it is held at a different place each year.

-LUNCH

- After lunch, President Elect Scott introduced our speaker, Tom Orton, who gave a lengthy presentation imagining what things would be like if England had won the Revolutionary War.

- Following the presentation, Pres Elect Scott presented Mr. Orton with a memento of his visit with us.

- William Cabanis led the SAR Recessional.
- Chaplain Mike Nichols dismissed the group with prayer.

# July 2014 minutes

Published by Ray Cox on July 5, 2014

## July 12, 2014 minutes

President Elect James Scott called the meeting to order at 11:15 a.m. with some additional comments regarding June's meeting, and what would it be like if England had won the Revolutionary War.

Compatriot Bill Cabanis led the pledges to the flags of the United States Of America, The State Of Texas, and The Sons Of The American Revolution.

Chaplain Mike Nichols led the opening prayer.

Secretary Rick Malley introduced our guests.

Minutes of the previous meeting were approved by voice vote.

Treasurer Bill Freeman gave the treasurer's report stating that we have \$2038.57 in our account.

President-Elect Scott reported that a flag certificate was presented to Heritage Oaks, with President Ray DeVries, President-Elect Scott, and Tom Northen being in attendance in their Revolutionary uniforms.

Mr. Scott mentioned that there had been plans to present a certificate to Sun City, however the manager was out of town at the time, so that will be rescheduled.

Mr. Mike Nichols reported that he has been communicating with area school districts and making them aware of the Outstanding History Teacher Award that can be presented.

He also states that a special citizen's award will be presented in August or September, and that there are expectations of presenting law enforcement certificates as well.

Mr. Scott reported that the Eagle Scout award program will continue when school starts back and the various troops begin their activities again.

He also stated that the JROTC program will continue in the schools as well.

The color guard presented the colors for the Sun City July 4th ceremonies with President Ray DeVries, President-Elect Scott, and Tom Northen doing the honors.

Mr. Northen and Mr. Scott both encouraged all of us to consider purchasing and wearing uniforms to various functions that the color guard is invited to attend.

Mr. Scott told us that the genealogy club at Ft. Hood will be meeting July 25 and August 4 to begin identifying people that are interested in the program.

We were reminded that the September meeting will be our bi-annual joint meeting of the SAR and DAR in Austin. This meeting will be in honor of Constitution Month.

Registrar Harry Walden reported that we have a couple of applications that are completed and waiting approval, as well as other applicants who are in the "gathering" process.

Mr. Scott talked about the membership directory that Lane Redwine is working on.

President-Elect Scott recognized Past-President Don Bunnell's attendance, after having been unable to attend for quite some time.

District 4 SAR Vice President Ron Wolcek let us know that many of the projects we are doing, and awards we are presenting are within the state and national incentives and that the chapter gets "points" for these achievements.

At this point the group broke for lunch.

After lunch, President-Elect James Scott introduced compatriot Vaughan Gray who presented a moving recitation entitled "I Am America".

President-Elect Scott introduced our guest speaker, C. Wayne Dawson, who spoke about "What A Nation Must Fear The Most".

After his presentation, President-Elect Scott presented Mr. Dawson with a memento of his visit with us.

Mr. Scott reminded us to bring our checkbooks to the August meeting, so that we may pay for the joint SAR/DAR September meeting.

August's meeting will feature Allie James, who is the curator of the state capital.

Chaplain Mike Nichols led in prayer.

Compatriot Bill Cabanis led the recessional.

# August 2014 minutes

Published by Ray Cox on August 5, 2014

## August 9, 2014 minutes

- President Ray DeVries opened with a couple of humorous stories.
- Frank Elrod led the pledges to the flags of The United States Of America, The State Of Texas, and The Sons Of The American Revolution.
- Chaplain Mike Nichols opened with prayer.
- Secretary Rick Malley welcomed our 9 guests and 18 members. Minutes of our previous meeting were approved.
- Treasurer Bill Freeman reported that we have \$2031.37 in our account.
- President DeVries, Registrar Henry Walden and Historian Roger Gore inducted new member Dennis Sustare.
- President DeVries states that two flag certificates are ready to be presented to two locations in Sun City. He also asked Roger Gore to check on two other locations.
- President DeVries told us that the EMS Service Award will be presented to Dr. Stephen Benold on Tuesday at the Commissioners' meeting.
- Mike Nichols stated that so far, only GHS has responded to our call for Outstanding History Teacher Award. However, when school is out of session, it is difficult to get a response.
- No new Eagle Scouts are up for promotion at this time. We have had six who have received awards so far this year.
- JROTC will start back at the beginning of the school year.
- September 20 is the joint DAR/SAR meeting in Austin. Alexander Hamilton #66 color guard will be on hand.
- The color guard has been invited to the Naturalization Ceremony at the Delco Center on September 29.
- Ft. Hood wounded soldiers Operation Genealogy Search Club is having to work out some problems for access, since Ft. Hood is an active military post.
- There are numerous SAR membership applications in process.
- Lane Redwine told us that he has had good response on the membership registry. Everyone is requested to provide information for the registry.
- President DeVries informed us that Patrick Henry chapter is having a raffle to raise money for their color guard. Tickets are \$10.00 each.
- The Federation of Genealogical Researchers will meet in San Antonio August 27 - 30.

At this time we broke for lunch.

- At noon, President-Elect Jim Scott introduced our speaker, Ali James, who is curator for the Texas State Capital. She told us about many interesting "unknowns" and behind-the-scenes tidbits about the building and some of the articles housed there.
- After her presentation, President-Elect Scott presented her with a memento of her visit.
- President DeVries read a poem about "The Ball".
- Frank Elrod led the recessional.
- Chaplain Nichols closed in prayer.

# September 2014 minutes

Published by Ray Cox on October 5, 2014

No minutes are recorded for this month because the chapter supported attendance at a joint SAR & DAR meeting in September.

# October 2014 minutes

Published by Ray Cox on October 5, 2014

- President Ray DeVries began with stories about a Marine jet and a police radar in Kingsville, TX, and another about Moe Berg.
- Pledges to the Flag of The United States of America, the Flag of The State of Texas, and the Flag of the Sons Of The American Revolution were led by Frank Wickstrom.
- Chaplain Mike Nichols led the invocation.
- Bill Freeman gave our treasurer's report, stating that we have \$1920.21 in our coffers.
- New member Jeff Fleece was sworn in by President Ray DeVries, Registrar Henry Walden and Historian Roger Gore.
- Dennis Sustare was also presented with his certificate of membership, because it had not arrived in time for our previous meeting.
- Secretary Rick Malley introduced our 4 guests and announced that we had 19 members present.
- Past President Harlan Green presented Nominating Committee recommendations for 2015 - 2017. They are  
President: Jim Scott  
President Elect: Lane Redwine  
Secretary: Rick Malley  
Treasurer: Bill Freeman  
Registrar: Harry Walden  
Historian: Roger Gore  
Chaplain: William Towery  
Sergeant At Arms: Frank Wickstrom  
Election will occur at the November 8, 2014 meeting.

- Roger Gore told us about locations that have been nominated for flag presentations. They are: all fire stations in Georgetown, Chik-Fil-A in Wolf Ranch, and What-A-Burger D. B. Wood Road.
- There have been no ROTC awards since school has started back.
- President Elect Jim Scott is working with a Boy Scout troop, locally, for an Eagle Scout award.
- President DeVries told about Color Guard activities at the joint DAR/SAR meeting, as well as at the Naturalization Ceremony at the Delco Center, in September.
- Fort Hood genealogy club (Operation Ancestry Search) training is about to begin. Will Else made a motion, with Mike Nichols and others seconding, that our chapter should pay the Internet transmission cost once every three months, for this effort. Motion carried with no opposition.
- Registrar Harry Walden stated that he has five applications that are ready to submit, and a sixth that has issues that need to be worked out.

-We broke for lunch at 11:30 a.m.

- President Elect Jim Scott introduced our speaker John Knox, who told us many different and interesting facts about our flag and it's history. During the course of his presentation, he showed us more than 30 different flags that have been a part of our nation's history, concluding with the current

flag that flies over our land.

- After Mr. Knox's program, Mr. Scott presented a memento of his visit.
- Frank Wickstrom led the SAR recessional.
- Chaplain Mike Nichols closed in prayer.

# November 2014 minutes

Published by Ray Cox on November 5, 2014

## November 8, 2014 minutes

- President Ray DeVries opened by telling a story.
  - Compatriot Will Else led the pledges to the flag of The United States Of America, the flag of The State Of Texas, and the flag of The Sons Of The American Revolution.
  - Chaplain Mike Nichols led the opening prayer.
  - Guests were introduced and members recognized by Secretary Rick Malley. There were 10 guests and 17 members present.
  - Minutes of the previous meeting were approved.
  - Treasurer Bill Freeman reported that we have \$1467.68 in our account.
  - Officers for the upcoming term were elected by acclamation, with no other nominees being presented.
  - Mike Nichols reported that the chapter would be presenting a Distinguished Service Award to Sheriff James Wilson, at Commissioner's Court on November 18, 2014.
  - President DeVries reports that he has contacted all of the flag recipients, and that Chik
- Fil
- A has confirmed acceptance, and will be presented with their award on November 11, 2014 at 5:00 p.m. The Sleep Center has tentatively agreed to November 21 at noon.
  - President DeVries reports that he will send an email regarding Eagle Scout essays.
  - OAS genealogy club begins Friday November 14 at Fr. Hood.
  - Registrar Harry Walden reports 2 applications were sent to national headquarters to be confirmed, 5 to state to be reviewed, and 8

- 10 to be started.

- While waiting for lunch, President DeVries read a story about the robot lie detector.

- After lunch, guest speaker Betty Schleder provided great information and videos about Austin Honor Flight.

- Following her program, President DeVries presented her with a memento of her visit.

- As closing remarks, President DeVries told about the 13 folds of the American flag at funerals.

- Will Else led the recessional.

- Mike Nichols closed in prayer.

# December 2014 minutes

Published by Ray Cox on December 5, 2014

## December 13, 2014 minutes

- President Ray DeVries opened with a series of U.S. Marine jokes.
- Sargent At Arms Lane Redwine led pledges to the flag of the United States Of America, the flag of the State Of Texas, and the flag of the Sons Of The American Revolution.
- Chaplain Mike Nichols led the opening prayer.
- Minutes from the previous meeting were approved.
- Secretary Rick Malley recognized our guests.
- Treasurer Bill Freeman reported that we have \$1469.16 in our account.
- TXSSAR District 4 Vice President Ron Walcik was introduced, and presented the chapter with a NSSAR Patriotism Award. He then spoke to us about Society "branding", membership (goal 5000 by 2018, recruit, retain, reinstate), create an "elevator speech", and producing a state recruiting video. He asked that all chapters participate in recognizing Vietnam veterans in 2015, which is the 50th anniversary of the beginning of that war. He noted that the NSSAR Congress will meet in Houston in 2018, and that the state convention will meet there in 2015, to be a "dry run" for some of the ideas and plans for the National meeting.
- Mike Nichols reported about the Law Enforcement Service Award that was presented.
- President DeVries stated that we have presented 8 Flag certificates to different businesses in town.
- Registrar Henry Walden stated that the state registrar has resigned, and a temp has been appointed who will work with us on new applications.
- The Ft. Hood genealogy research group has started, and the next meeting will be January 15. Jim Nelson, of Patrick Henry Chapter, talked about a young lady who was from Angola, who was doing research, and he was able to assist her.
- At this time, lunch was served.

- After lunch, President DeVries maintained that we had planned to honor Past President Harlan Green, to his widow and daughter. However, they have not arrived. And we will honor him, when they come in.

- President DeVries introduced Jim Nelson, President of Patrick Henry Chapter, who spoke words of praise for outgoing president Ray DeVries.

- Mike Nichols presented President DeVries with a 15 year S.A.R. award.

- President DeVries presented incoming officers for installation.

- TXSSAR District 4 Vice President Ron Walcik administered the oath of office for the officers who were present.

- Mr. DeVries spoke words of appreciation to the outgoing officers. At this Mr. DeVries gave James Scott "the power of the office".

- President Scott praised Past President DeVries for his leadership.

- At this time, Mrs. Green and her daughter Brenda arrived. Past President DeVries presented them with a posthumous Distinguished Service Award Medal and certificate in honor of Past President and Compatriot Harlan Green. Mrs. Green and his daughter both thanked the chapter for the awards.

-President Scott spoke about his friendship and camaraderie with Harlan.

- Incoming President James Scott presented Outgoing President Ray DeVries with Distinguished Service Award, and Chapter Recognition Award. He then gave a few thoughts about his vision for the chapter.

- President Scott told us that our guest speaker for January will be Alan Gonzalez, who endured many hardships during his military career, and is now a motivational speaker.

- Secretary Rick Malley reminded everyone of end of the year dues, and about the state report, and asked that anyone who has had any type of SAR involvement during the past year, should email him about that involvement.

- Sargent At Arms Redwine led our recessional.

- Mike Nichols closed in prayer.