

## Meeting Minutes for TXSSAR Arlington Chapter #7

Division Street Diner, 1800 Division Street, Arlington, TX 76012

**May 10, 2014**

- President **David Friels** called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m.
- The pledge of allegiance to the U.S. flag was led by compatriot & CAR President **Kyle Rankin**.
- The pledge of allegiance to the Texas flag was also led by compatriot **Kyle Rankin**.
- President **David Friels** led the SAR pledge.
- The invocation was led by Chaplain **Bill Covington**.
- There were **seven** guests in attendance: Peter Baron Sr., Grant Hamilton, Nicolas Hamilton, James "Jim" Jacobson, Drake Peddie (SAR), Lorna Rankin (DAR), & Mike Smith.
- A motion was made from the floor to approve the minutes of the previous meeting. The motion was seconded by compatriot **Dennis Walton**, and the minutes of the previous meeting were approved.
- Program:
  - ❖ Guest and SAR Compatriot of numerous north Texas chapters **Drake Peddie** made a presentation on the "common man who did uncommon things" - **Timothy Murphy** of the "Saratoga Riflemen." Drake Peddie, in costume as patriot Timothy Murphy, noted the following information:
    1. Timothy Murphy was born in 1751 and given the name "William Haskins."
    2. Following his capture in an Indian raid by the Iroquois tribe, the young child had been renamed "Tear" by his Indian captors based on his teardrop-shaped birthmark.
    3. As a result of Sir William's desire for friendlier relations with the Indian tribes, the future Saratoga rifleman was eventually repatriated and given the new name "Timothy Murphy" to reflect his ancestral Scots-Irish heritage.
    4. Indentured to a family in Pennsylvania, Timothy Murphy continued to acquire frontiersman and marksmanship skills in addition to his Indian language skills.
    5. By his mid-teens, Timothy Murphy had already attained quite a reputation for his eyesight, marksmanship, and bravery. At the onset of the Revolutionary War, Timothy Murphy joined the Northern Army.
    6. It was noted during the presentation of the distinction between hollow tube muskets (e.g., Brown Bess) which were less accurate and rifles which were considerably more accurate. Due to the ability of a rifleman to target a particular individual, the use of a

rifle was considered more of a criminal offense by the British than use of a musket which was less targeted in battle. Consequently, upon capture, colonial riflemen were quite often killed on the spot by their British captors.

7. Timothy Murphy was a member of Daniel Morgan's Riflemen and participated in battles at Quebec and Saratoga. Fellow patriot Aaron Wright documented these battles in his diary.
8. Under orders from American officers, Timothy Murphy is credited as the sharpshooter who shot British General Simon Fraser at the Battle of Saratoga. Morgan called on Murphy and said: *"That gallant officer is General Fraser. I admire him, but it is necessary that he should die, do your duty."* The death of this British general resulted in chaos, panic, and general loss of morale among the British soldiers.
9. The Battle of Saratoga is considered to be one of the most influential battles in world history and was used weeks later by Benjamin Franklin to gain French support for American Independence.
10. Following the Battle of Saratoga, Morgan's Riflemen were sent to Valley Forge. In the spring of that year, Timothy Murphy returned to the Mohawk Valley of New York and killed a notorious Tory leader.
11. Timothy Murphy considered his proudest accomplishment the stubborn defense of Middle Fort in 1780.
12. Timothy Murphy was married twice and passed away in 1818. In 1910, a monument was constructed at the site of his tomb by his descendants. In 1929, New York Governor Franklin Delano Roosevelt dedicated the Timothy Murphy monument by saying: *"This country has been made by the Timothy Murphys – by the men in the ranks. Conditions here called for the qualities of the heart and the head that Tim Murphy had in abundance. Our history should tell us more of the men in the ranks, for it were them and not the generals that we are indebted to for our military victories."*
13. The bronze plaque on the New York grave for Timothy Murphy reads:  
*"Tim Murphy – Patriot. Soldier. Scout. Citizen who served distinguishably in Morgan's Rifle Corps. Fought at Saratoga and Monmouth and whose bravery repelled the attack of the British and their Indian allies from Middlefort, October 17, 1780, and saved the lives of the colonists of the Schoharie Valley. Here too, this warrior sire, with honor rests. Who braved in freedom's cause his valiant breast."*

- ❖ Guest and SAR Compatriot **Drake Peddie** was presented with a SAR Chapter **Certificate of Appreciation** by Chapter President **David Friels**.
- ❖ Texas Society CAR President and SAR Junior Charter Compatriot of **Kyle Rankin** made a presentation regarding the proposed CAR project goal to raise \$20,000 to repair ten historic flags. The national theme for the CAR this year is: "O, Say Can You See ..."

➤ Officer and Committee Reports:

❖ Treasurer **Ron Carter** presented the **Treasurer's Report**:

- The balance of the checking account has been reduced by the outstanding checks for the chapter poster contest winners in the amounts of **\$35** (1<sup>st</sup> place winner), **\$25** (2<sup>nd</sup> place winner), and **\$15** (3<sup>rd</sup> place winner).
- A check has been written in the amount of **\$123.02** to pay for the two chapter SAR signs for the Division Street Diner building. The balance of the checking account was reported at the meeting. The amount of cash on hand was also reported at the meeting.
- The direct deposit of application fees and membership dues from the TXSSAR into the chapter account has not occurred as of the time of the chapter meeting.

❖ Registrar **John Anderson** presented the **Registrar's Report**:

- There were no changes in membership since last month. The chapter now has 32 active compatriots, including 4 junior members. The TXSSAR website for our chapter is suspect but shows 27 members, not counting 5 members with unpaid dues. If your 2014 dues are unpaid, please remit ASAP.
- The application of **Robert Beauseau** was NSSAR approved in late April. As previously reported, he has moved to southern California and will transfer his membership in the fall.
- **John Anderson's** supplemental application was "pending" in late April. John Anderson will be working on getting this application moving again. By NSSAR policy, an application may be pending for up to three years prior to approval at no additional cost.
- **Kevin Jorrey** added his supplemental application at the April meeting. John Anderson has heard that this supplemental application was approved by the Texas Inland Registrar and is now at the national level for their review.
- **Michael Smith** has his SAR application in progress. It was processed by the Texas Inland Registrar and is now at the national level for their review.
- **Dennis Walton's** stepson (**Grant Hamilton**) and grandson (**Nicolas Hamilton**) have SAR applications ready for submission. Nicolas application will be signed today, his birthday. Birthdays happening during the months of April, May, and June were announced for chapter compatriots.
- **John Anderson** has been in e-mail contact with other candidates interested in the application process. Those applicants in attendance at the chapter meeting were welcomed. Of the recent applicants, one is a current Arlington CAR member, another candidate is a father of a new Houston area DAR member, and another candidate is a current Arlington Sons of Confederate Veterans member.

❖ Historian **John Anderson** presented the **Historian's Report**:

- He reported that former Arlington Chapter member C. "Tom" Bellows resides in Arlington near John's neighborhood. John introduced himself to Tom Bellows. According to Tom Bellows, his grandfather added Tom's SAR application back in the early 1970s while Tom was in law school. John invited Tom to attend any of our chapter meetings, and his name has been added to the chapter's "SAR interested" e-mail contact list.

❖ Chapter Webmaster **John Anderson** provided a **Web Activities Report**:

- [www.txssar.org/Arlington](http://www.txssar.org/Arlington) is the Arlington chapter home page.
- Recent pictures are posted at [www.txssar.org/Arlington/photos2014.php](http://www.txssar.org/Arlington/photos2014.php). Additions to the website photos include:
  1. April 19<sup>th</sup> – photo of **James Alderman & Robert Gresham** (Ft. Worth chapter) and **Ron Carter** (Arlington chapter) assisting **Captain Molly Corbin** (DAR chapter) in the making of one of their chapter founding member gravesite presentations at the Bluebonnet Hills Cemetery in Colleyville, Texas.\*  
\*It was noted that Ron Carter should receive credit for this service in the upcoming 2014 SAR Chapter Report.
  2. April 12<sup>th</sup> – photo of compatriot **Tom Waldrop** receiving his Lamplighter Award
  3. April 12<sup>th</sup> – photo of compatriot **Roger Wehr** and his **American Revolution Food Riots Quiz**
- Video scrapbooks are posted at [www.txssar.org/Arlington/videos.php](http://www.txssar.org/Arlington/videos.php)

❖ Secretary **Roger Wehr** presented **the ROTC /JROTC Awards Report**:

- On April 21<sup>st</sup>, Secretary **Roger Wehr** presented a **SAR ROTC Bronze Medal & Certificate** to **Cameron Martin** of Mansfield High School.
- On May 1<sup>st</sup>, Vice President **Bob Wehr** presented a **SAR ROTC Silver Medal & Certificate** to **Brian R. Reniker** of the University of Texas at Arlington.
- On May 2<sup>nd</sup>, Secretary **Roger Wehr** presented a **SAR ROTC Bronze Medal & Certificate** to **Kaela Lapointe** of Arlington High School.
- On May 9<sup>th</sup>, Registrar **John Anderson** presented a **SAR ROTC Bronze Medal & Certificate** to **Jonathan Turner** of Timberview High School.
- On May 9<sup>th</sup>, Treasurer **Ron Carter** presented a **SAR ROTC Bronze Medal & Certificate** to **Jorge Trevino** of Legacy High School.
- On May 13<sup>th</sup>, President **David Friels** will present a **SAR ROTC Bronze Medal & Certificate** to **Deandre' Farris** of Lake Ridge High School.

❖ Treasurer **Ron Carter** also presented information related to the **Awards & Activities Report**:

- Our chapter will recognize **192** poster contest entrants for 2014. On June 2<sup>nd</sup>, Key Elementary School will be recognized for its poster contestant entrants.
- A motion was made from the floor of the Chapter membership to reimburse **Ron Carter** in the amount of **\$24.62** to compensate him for expenses related to certificates, awards, and ribbons. President **David Friels** noted that the request for reimbursement was "completely appropriate." The motion was seconded by **Ray Wehr**.
- **Ron Carter** wearing Revolutionary War attire assisted **Captain Molly Corbin** (DAR chapter) in the making of one of their chapter founding member gravesite presentations at the Bluebonnet Hills Cemetery in Colleyville, Texas on April 19, 2014.
- **Ron Carter** also made a guest presentation in Revolutionary War attire at Mary Moore Elementary School for the entire fifth grade class. In addition to recognizing the poster contestants, a SAR **Flag Certificate** was presented to Ms. Helland on behalf of **Mary Moore Elementary School**.
- **Ron Carter** while wearing Revolutionary War attire presented a SAR **Flag Certificate** to the **Legacy High School JROTC Color Guard**. Another SAR Flag Certificate will be presented to **C.B. Berry Elementary School** in the near future.

➤ Unfinished Business

❖ Sergeant-At-Arms **Ray Wehr** gave an update on the **Arlington "4<sup>th</sup> of July" / Independence Day Parade**.

- **Ray Wehr** previously had attended a planning meeting / workshop on March 20<sup>th</sup> and reported again that there is a \$25 entry fee and a May 1<sup>st</sup> application deadline. Ray Wehr announced that the parade application has been submitted. Next month more information will be forthcoming regarding parade presence and "back-up" plans for various contingencies. Re-imbusement for the **\$25** entry fee will be brought up with Treasurer **Ron Carter**.
- The theme of the Independence Day Parade is "Celebrating American Ingenuity." The parade officials need a *20 second description* of the SAR/DAR for the emcees of the parade. **Ray Wehr** has volunteered to put together this description of our SAR chapter.
- **Ray Wehr** announced that the parade preparations appear to be going well, but that we should have a contingency plan for the trailer, in case some unexpected problem should arise.
- **John Anderson** asked whether the DAR was committed to participating with our chapter in the parade. **Lorna Rankin** (Arlington DAR) was present at this chapter meeting. The **local DAR chapter** will be working with our chapter in this parade

endeavor. It was also suggested that the CAR might also be interested in participation, although the parade has not been discussed at their CAR meeting at this time.

- The issue of banners for the parade trailer was discussed. It was suggested that both the SAR and DAR produce 18-inch promotional banners for the sides of the trailer. John Anderson suggested to **Lorna Rankin** that the DAR be responsible for their own banner and also suggested a local banner shop on Division Street. Lorna noted that she is not currently a chapter officer of the local DAR, although she would have the most recently elected DAR officers report back to our SAR chapter.
- **Lorna Rankin** asked about the possibility of **CAR participation** with the parade and the parade banners. **Ray Wehr** noted that the trailer will allow up to 20 riders. However, it was suggested that some SAR members may be willing to walk the distance of the parade or some other contingency plan. It was also suggested that some members might ride bicycles in conjunction with the parade trailer. President **David Friels** asked Lorna Rankin if she would have some representative from the local CAR group contact our SAR chapter regarding possible parade participation and banners. Lorna Rankin gave her DAR contact information to Ray Wehr.
- **John Anderson** reported information regarding insurance for BOTH the tractor and the trailer (i.e., that the insurance for the towing vehicle ALSO covers the trailer.) John Anderson noted that the liability insurance on the towing vehicle from Fort Worth to Arlington may not be a problem. However, the insurance of the tractor used in the Arlington parade is NOT KNOWN. For this reason, the insurance of a tractor used in a parade should be researched. **David Friels** asked and both **John Anderson / Ray Wehr** confirmed that a tractor had been chosen as the towing vehicle for the Arlington parade.
- **John Anderson** suggested that those persons who desire to ride on the trailer should be made to sign a liability waiver. While riders may be willing to sign such a waiver, John Anderson noted the potential liability of parade audience members. John noted that the chapter needs insurance coverage to insure against accidents involving the parade audience. John noted that he did not have the legal background to know what the chapter's liability might be in such an event but stressed that the chapter must be covered. Guest **Grant Hamilton** suggested that it would be wise to:
  - 1) get a *copy of the insurance information from the tractor towing the trailer*, and
  - 2) get a *waiver of liability from the riders on the trailer*.
- **David Friels** made a motion to do the previously mentioned suggestions:
  - 1) get a *copy of the insurance information from the tractor towing the trailer*, and
  - 2) get a *waiver of liability from the riders on the trailer*.

Before the motion was seconded, **John Anderson** also suggested contacting an insurance agent regarding the parade audience. **Ray Wehr** noted that the tractors pulling the parade floats were not companies but individuals as "tractor enthusiasts." Ray Wehr noted that he would contact these individuals for information on such issues.

**Lorna Rankin** also noted that these tractor enthusiasts have been involved with pulling trailers for many years and stated that parade officials should have information on such liability issues.

- **David Friels** amended the previous motion to include:  
*3) contacting an insurance company to obtain insurance for liability issues related to the parade.*

The above motions were seconded by compatriot **Dennis Walton** and the motions were approved by those chapter members in attendance.

- Due to the fact that there is only one more chapter meeting before the parade, **David Friels** made a *motion to empower a committee to make any other executive decisions pertinent to our chapter's participation in the Arlington Independence Day Parade. This committee will include the current Parade subcommittee members - **Ray Wehr, Roger Wehr, and Bill Covington** - and include Treasurer **Ron Carter**.*

The motion was seconded and the membership in attendance voted in favor of this motion. **David Friels** noted for the record that all previous motions during this chapter meeting had also been approved. David Friels commended **Ray Wehr** for his efforts in coordinating the parade entry which will give the chapter greater visibility and service to the community.

❖ Treasurer **Ron Carter** gave an update on the chapter signs for display at the **Division Street Diner**.

- **Ron Carter** noted that the price of creating a second sign was only **\$27**; therefore the decision was made to make a second sign. He suggested that the second sign might be utilized for guest presentations by chapter members at other locations.
- **Ron Carter** noted that the price for creating the first sign was **\$96**. (The combined cost of both signs was approximately **\$123**.)
- **Ron Carter** asked for volunteers to help install the sign on the Division Street Diner.
- **David Friels** commended **Ron Carter** for his efforts in procuring two signs at a reasonable price.
- **Drake Peddie**, impressed by the price and quality of the new chapter signs, suggested that our chapter give information related to the procurement of the two signs to the District Level of the TXSSAR.

❖ President **David Friels** noted that the **Rotary Club** may have inadvertently taken our SAR flags and other chapter materials when the Rotary Club left the Division Street Diner.

- ❖ Registrar **John Anderson** gave a recap on the possible purchase of chapter vests.
  - Due to upcoming public TXSSAR events, there was another discussion on whether chapter members should consider purchasing an embroidered **SAR Chapter vest**. The advantages and disadvantages of vest materials and embroidery were discussed.
  - **Roger Wehr** also presented pricing information on shirts from the National SAR website store and possible prices on custom designed shirts/vests from other website outlets.
  - **David Friels** asked how many members would be interested in obtaining a chapter vest. Three to five members in attendance expressed possible interest in obtaining a vest in the future.
  - The use of the SAR logo and where to obtain information on the use of the SAR logo was also discussed.
  - **Ray Wehr** made a motion that the issue of chapter vest/shirt selection be postponed for a future meeting. This motion was approved by those members in attendance.

➤ New Business

- ❖ On June 21<sup>st</sup>, the Plano SAR chapter will be participating in the **Audie Murphy Parade** at Farmersville, Texas. Anyone who has a Revolutionary War uniform is welcome to participate in this parade. Anyone interested should contact **Drake Peddie** of the Plano SAR chapter.
- ❖ President **David Friels** noted that there is an opportunity to nominate social studies teacher, compatriot, and chapter Chaplain **Bill Covington** for the **Tom & Betty Lawrence American History Teacher Award**.

**Ron Carter** made a motion that he would write up the award application on behalf of Bill Covington. The motion was approved by the membership in attendance.

The National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, whose mission and objectives are patriotic, historical, and educational, wish to identify, recognize, and commend Outstanding Social Studies Teachers. These extraordinary educators at private, public, and parochial institutions, who teach our children in a middle or high school setting, will be recognized for actively addressing the history of the American Revolutionary era.

The Tom & Betty Lawrence American History Teacher Award winner will represent a teacher whose instruction on the Revolutionary War era from 1750 - 1800 demonstrates educational efforts in the classroom that exceed and excel above current, accepted, curriculum requirements. The Tom & Betty Lawrence American History Teacher Award winner will be able to choose a trip to one of the following seminars:

- 1) Freedoms Foundation Summer Teacher Graduate Workshop at Valley Forge, Pa.,
- 2) Colonial Williamsburg Summer Teacher Workshop in Williamsburg, Va.,
- 3) Jefferson Symposium at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville, Va., or



#### 4) SAR Annual Conference on the American Revolution.

This award, valued at \$1,400.00, will reimburse the winner for expenses including tuition, room and board, and transportation. The National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution will provide this professional educational opportunity to an educator who will bring back to the classroom a heightened level of creativity and enthusiasm to their students of the American Revolutionary era.

The educator must be a teacher at the middle or high school level at a recognized public, private, or parochial institution.

The award program will be conducted in three (3) phases: Local Chapter, State Society, and National Society.

The relevant deadlines are as follows:

Applicant Entry Deadline to Local Chapters: 18 December (Suggested)

Chapter Entry Deadline to State Societies: 8 January (Suggested)

State Societies Candidate Deadline to National Society: 21 February (Mandatory).

More information and the relevant application forms for this award can be located at the following website address: [www.sar.org/Youth/History\\_Teacher\\_Award](http://www.sar.org/Youth/History_Teacher_Award)

#### ➤ Meeting Adjournment:

- At approximately 10:45 a.m. a motion was made to adjourn the meeting. President **David Friels** concluded the meeting following the **Benediction** by Chaplain **Bill Covington**.
- **Attendance for the May meeting** included **thirteen** chapter members: John Anderson, Ron Carter, William Covington, David Friels, Kevin Jorrey, Dick Lee, Sonny Parks, Bill Rankin, David Rankin, Kyle Rankin, Dennis Walton, Ray Wehr, & Roger Wehr.

Our **next chapter meeting** is scheduled for **June 14, 2014 at 9:00 a.m.**

#### **Roger Wehr**

TXSSAR Arlington Chapter Secretary

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