

Meeting Minutes for TXSSAR Arlington Chapter #7

First Dixie Café, 2400 West Pioneer Parkway, Suite 105, Pantego, Texas 76013

January 9, 2016

I. Call to Order

President **David Friels** called the meeting to order at approximately **9:01** a.m.

II. Invocation

Chaplain **Bill Covington** led the invocation.

III. Pledges

The pledge of allegiance to the U.S. flag was led by **Kevin Jorrey**. The pledge of allegiance to the Texas flag was led by **Kevin Jorrey**. The SAR pledge was led by **Kevin Jorrey**.

IV. Guest Introductions

There were **four** guests in attendance: **Alves "A. J." Key** – Korean War veteran, **Larry Kinnard** – President of the Korean War Veteran's Association, **Ned Myers** – SAR applicant, and **Carl Bailey Oehler** – Magna Carta member and SAR applicant.

V. Approval of the Minutes for Previous Month's Meeting

A motion was made to **approve the minutes** of the previous meeting by **Dennis Walton**. This motion was seconded by **Grant Hamilton**, and the minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

VI. Officer and Committee Reports

A. Treasurer's Report

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

1. No checks were issued during the previous month. The balance of the checking account was reported to those members in attendance
2. The expenses from 2015 were reported and the expected revenue for 2016 was estimated.
3. Anticipated expenses for 2016 include rosettes, poster contest awards, JROTC certificates/medals, office supplies, and expenses related to the Arlington Independence Day Parade.
4. "The bottom line" was that generous donations have allowed the chapter to operate without an increase in chapter dues.

B. State Activities Report

Ron Carter presented the **State Activities Report**:

1. The Texas SAR "State Meeting" will be held at the end of March in McKinney, Texas, and will be hosted by the Plano Chapter. Attendance at the Saturday session is recommended, as there will be the results of the oration and essay contests as well as the BSA awards.
2. Posters for the chapter poster contest will be collected and judged at the February meeting. The goal for the Arlington chapter is to collect at least 100 posters.
3. The CAR Patriot Paws Program will take place on January 9th. More information on this program can be located at <http://www.patriotpaws.org/>

C. Registrar's Report

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

1. Corey Walker, his father, sons, grandsons and nephews (total 9) have been approved by National SAR. Four are adult regular memberships and five are junior members. Their inductions could be as early as February 2016, if their packets are received by then. All of the inductees live in our area.
2. The Mike Hutchins family (total 5 all adult) have been approved and previously reported. Their inductions could also be in February 2016, if their packets are received by then.
3. As of today's date and including the Walker family, our chapter has **49** active compatriots, including **11** junior chapter members.
4. 2016 Texas SAR dues are now past due. Please advise the chapter if there are any hardship issues.
5. Current applications in progress are:
 - a. Candidate **Ned Myers** has his application in progress and has been sent to the Texas SAR Inland Registrar for his review. It will be several weeks before it completes the process.
 - b. Candidate James Benton has his application in progress and is nearly ready to send to the Texas SAR Inland Registrar for his review.

D. Webmaster's Report

John Anderson presented the **Webmaster's Report**:

1. Our chapter homepage is at www.txssar.org/Arlington or www.texassar.org/Arlington. Since inception in June 2011, we now have had 3,320+ total hits (accesses) to this website. Most of these are by our membership, but occasionally by candidates and other chapters.
2. Please click on your Compatriot Profile at <http://www.txssar.org/Arlington/roster.php> and contact **John Anderson** if the profile needs revision or if you wish to be added to the "Speakers Bureau" at <http://www.txssar.org/Arlington/speakers.php>.
3. **John Anderson** thanked everyone for providing pictures and videos for our website.
4. The **private** chapter online **Dropbox** can be accessed at <https://www.dropbox.com>. Contact **John Anderson** if you need a login or have access questions.

E. Grave Marking Committee Report

John Anderson presented the **Grave Marking Committee Report**:

1. The Arlington chapter has two Texas Society SAR Past Presidents both buried in the Arlington Cemetery at 801 Mary Street. They are cousins and are:
 - a. **Benton Carter Collins**, 1893-1972, TX SAR President 1942, unmarked.
 - b. **Dr. Valin Ridge Woodward**, 1890-1969, TX SAR President 1938, previously marked.
2. Both descend through maternal lines to their common ancestor Patriot **William Terrell Lewis** of Surry Co, NC. He was active in the organization of troops in Hanover County, VA and the suppression of Tories in Surry County, VA.
3. The grave marking is now scheduled for Saturday **March 12, 2016 at 2:00 PM**. This date is the same as our 2016 inductions by Texas SAR President **Larry Stephens**. He has agreed to stay in Arlington for the day and take part in the Grave Marking ceremony. **John Anderson** has re-contacted the compatriot families and have advised them of the schedule.
4. Suggested invitees to the grave marking include: the Collins & Woodward families, the Arlington Historical Association, the Arlington Genealogical Society, local city government officials, local DAR, SAR, CAR chapters, the local Boy Scout troops, the North Texas SAR Color Guard, and local ROTC groups. A draft copy of the announcement brochure has been given to the chapter secretary.
5. Compatriot **Drake Peddie**, commander of the Texas SAR Color Guard, has agreed to be the emcee. Texas SAR President **Larry Stevens** will be in attendance.

F. Historian's Report

Kevin Jorrey presented the **Historian's Report**:

1. An effort is being made to collect information available from Dropbox. As noted previously, the chapter continues to work on the grave markings of the two past state society SAR presidents who are buried in Arlington, Texas: **Benton Carter Collins**, 1893-1972, TX SAR President 1942, and **Dr. Valin Ridge Woodward**, 1890-1969, TX SAR President 1938.
2. Pictures will be collected and later taken to the Texas SAR archive at the University of North Texas in Denton, Texas.
3. Once at UNT, Registrar **John Anderson** and Historian **Kevin Jorrey** will conduct additional research, using the SAR archival information available at the UNT Special Collections Library.

G. Eagle Scouts & Awards Report

Roger Wehr presented the **Eagle Scout and Awards Report**:

1. Local **Troop 68** will have at least two more **Eagle Scout** presentations in the months ahead. Certificates will be awarded pending the upcoming Eagle ceremonies.
2. Regarding the **SAR Eagle Scout Scholarship**, **Andrew Faletti** has been noted as a potential candidate. There are three merit badges which Andrew Faletti has earned which gives him greater consideration for this award by the SAR: American Heritage, Genealogy, and Law. Moreover, Andrew Faletti is an Eagle Scout with four Eagle palms and is a Vigil (highest honor) member of the elite Order of the Arrow.

H. Nominating Committee Report

Bob Wehr presented the **Nominating Committee Report**:

1. The Nominating Committee met the week after Christmas, and a slate of officer candidates was presented at the meeting.
2. **John Anderson** was nominated to serve as Chapter President; **Bill Covington** was nominated to serve as Chapter Sergeant-at-arms; **David Friels** was nominated to serve as Chapter Secretary; **Kevin Jorrey** was nominated to serve as Chapter Historian; **Kevin Jorrey** was also nominated to serve as Chapter Registrar; **Dennis Walton** was nominated to serve as Chapter Treasurer; **Bob Wehr** was nominated to serve as Chapter Chaplain; **Roger Wehr** was nominated to serve as Chapter Vice President;
3. **Bob Wehr** invited any chapter member who has any interest in serving the chapter in any capacity to please contact the Nominating Committee. David Friels seconded Bob Wehr's comments, adding "we would love to have your participation."

IX. Unfinished Business

A. Kroger's Support of Non-Profit Organizations

David Friels noted that the application for the Kroger Non-Profit Organizations program has been sent; however, the most recent tax form is needed. Two easy steps are needed to complete this project.

X. Meeting Plans for the Future

Bill Covington will be making the presentation at the next meeting. The posters from the 2016 poster contest will be judged at the end of the meeting. Also, a group photo will be taken at the next meeting.

XI. Guest Lecture

David Friels introduced guest speaker **A.J. Key** of the Korean War Veteran's Association (KWVA). **A.J. Key** was a member of the US Air Force and currently teaches criminal justice at Dallas Baptist University. The handout materials from the "Tell America Program" included "A Brief Account of the Korean War" by Jack D. Walker and "The Korean War and Its Historical Impact" by Irwin Z. Braun.

Key topics in **A.J. Key's** guest lecture included:

1. Today there are 237 Korean Veterans Chapters in the United States with approximately 14,000 members. Membership in the Korean War Veterans Association (KWVA) includes those veterans who fought and the Korean War as well as those who have served in Korea since the hostilities ended in 1953. Unfortunately, the legacy of those veterans who fought in the Korean war is now dying. Within a decade, there may not be many living Korean War veterans.
2. The KWVA was founded in 1985. The "Tell America Program" has been promoted by KWVA to promote an educational awareness of events and significance of the Korean War.

3. After World War II, not much in the United States was known about Korea. By the end of World War II, Korea had been ruled by Japan for roughly sixty years. At the end of the war, Russia was placed in charge of Korea north of the 38th parallel, and the United States was placed in charge of Korea south of the 38th parallel. This arrangement was intended to keep communist China in check. The United States maintained a military presence in Korea until 1948, in order to allow South Korea to establish its own government. After 1948, a small, American group of largely unarmed observers was left in South Korea.
4. The Korean War marks the beginning of the Cold War. In June 1950, North Korea –under the direction of the Soviet Union- attacked South Korea. In the United States, there was a disagreement between Secretary Acheson and President Truman, who wanted to stop the spread of communism.
5. General Douglas MacArthur wrongfully believed that the entry of U.S. forces (from Japan) onto the Korean peninsula would cause the hostile forces to flee. Unfortunately, MacArthur misread the situation, and the hostile forces were able to penetrate further below the 38th parallel. By August 1950, the American forces were reduced to holding a small perimeter at Pusan.
6. MacArthur's invasion at Inchon Bay allowed American forces to regain a foothold on the Korean peninsula and allowed for the North Korean forces to be trapped and killed. MacArthur argued further that the entire Korean peninsula should become unified. At that time, he mistakenly believed that Korean unification would not cause China to enter the conflict.
7. 500,000 – 800,000 Chinese forces entered the Korean War in October – November 1950, overwhelming the unprepared U.S. forces. By November and December of 1950, the cold weather proved a major obstacle (i.e., frozen troops, guns which would not fire, trucks which would not start.) Consequently, the Chinese were able to push below the 38th Parallel.
8. In April 1951, President Truman replaced General MacArthur with General Ridgeway, following MacArthur's defiance of Truman and the death of Walton Walker. Ridgeway's new command improved the morale of the U.S. troops.
9. In July 1951, China and North Korea sought a negotiated settlement. By January 1952, a stalemate had been obtained and hostilities had reverted to trench warfare. The stalemate was broken by death of Josef Stalin in 1953 and the election of President Eisenhower, who had suggested the use of nuclear weapons to end the war.
10. A truce was signed between the warring parties in 1953, although officially the conflict continues to the present day. Prior to the truce, 36,000 U.S. forces were killed in action, and 103,000 U.S. forces were wounded. Today South Korea is considered a strong military ally and trading partner of the United States.

XII. Meeting Adjournment, SAR Closing Admonition & Benediction

At approximately 10:40 a.m. a motion was made to adjourn the meeting. **David Friels** concluded the meeting with the SAR closing admonition, and Chaplain **Bill Covington** gave the benediction.

XIII. Attendance Summary & Next Meeting Information

Attendance for the November meeting included **four** guests and **fourteen** chapter members: John Anderson, Ron Carter, Richard Coffey, Bill Covington, David Friels, James Gibson, Grant Hamilton, Nicholas Hamilton, Mike Hutchins, Dick Lee, Kevin Jorrey, Dennis Walton, Bob Wehr, & Roger Wehr.

Our **next chapter meeting** is scheduled for **February 13, 2016 at 9:00 a.m.** at the ~~First Dixie Café located at 2400 West Pioneer Parkway, Suite 105, Pantego, Texas 76013.~~

Roger Wehr
 TXSSAR Arlington Chapter Secretary
 www.txssar.org/Arlington
wehr@uta.edu