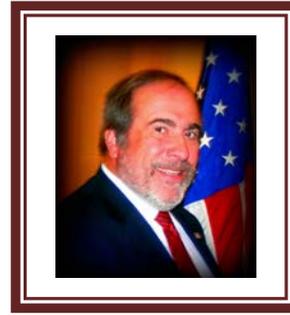


JANUARY 14, 2017
Minutes of the Dallas Chapter
Sons of the American Revolution



2017 Chapter President
Michael Petridis

Outgoing President **George Ramphrey** called the monthly meeting to order at 8:31am in the dining room of the Presbyterian Village North community facility in Dallas, Texas.

He then asked Chaplain **Frank Ponders** to announce family & friends currently on sick-call and then to render the morning's Invocation. Pledges to the **United States Flag** and **Texas Flag** were led by FCP **Robert Kittrell** and FCP **Tom Whitelock** respectively. FCP **Tom Smith** led us in the affirmation to the **SAR**. Compatriot **John Morton** next led the attendees in "*My Country Tis of Thee.*"



FCP **Charles Baker** put everyone in a jovial mood with the story of what can happen to a bully on a bad day if he steals your beer off the bar and drinks it before you do.

Head greeter, FCP **Ralph McDowell** acknowledged FCP **Frank Ponders** helped him again in welcoming the 24 Compatriot members and 8 guests.

Ralph > also reported that the Chapter had received a \$30 rebate check from Kroger.



GUEST SPEAKER

John Morton, Chairman of the American History Teacher contest introduced the 2016 Chapter winner **GAYLE KIDD >** of Rockwall High School, who then proceeded to read her award-winning essay.



Afterwards, John asked her husband Steve and District Curriculum Director Jennifer Shue to come forward and join Gayle at the presentation of her Certificate and \$350 Cash Award. Mrs. Kidd noted she appreciated the honor and would be using most of the money to purchase various historical teaching tools and "period" demonstration items.

President Ramphrey presented Arthur C. Omberg, John L. Morton, H. Charles Baker, and Robert A. Kittrell (11/12 Attendance Certificates). **Perfect Attendance in 2016 Awards** were given to E.Thomas Smith & Frank H. Pounders. Special recognition Certificates were presented to Tom M. Whitelock (18 years Perfect Attendance) and to



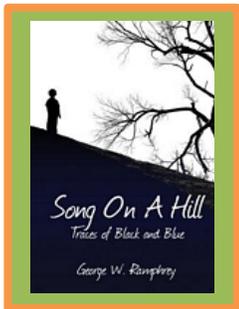
Ralph L. McDowell, whose Certificate for continuous **23 years Perfect Attendance** was given to him by 1993 Chapter President **Michael A. Mammaing** > (who gave Ralph his very first Certificate).



Sisson Golden Sledgehammer

*****AWARD*****

The 2016 winner was Registrar **JERRY W. PINKERTON**, who for over two years has devoted time and talent to the advancement of the Chapter by genealogy research, color guard participation and historical presentations. Secretary Whitey Whitelock > helped him hoist the sixteen pound award prior to reading aloud from his "RAZE Plaque" gift.



George next honored his 2016 administrative staff with special service appreciation gifts of his autographed copies of various youthful adventurous autobiographies: 1st VP/Warren Johnson, Registrar/Jerry Pinkerton, Treasurer/Nick Harper, Historian/Robert Kittrell, Chaplain/Frank Pounders, Membership/Ralph McDowell, Asst. Registrar/Jerry Brown, and Secretary/T.Maxwell Whitelock.

Other books awarded: *Dream on the Hill, Promise on the Hill, Song on the Hill & Tales of the Mystic Knights Lodge Hall Band #69*

CHAPTER AWARDS.....WERE GIVEN TO:

BILL WATTS

Meritorious
Service as
Newsletter Editor
Color Guard
Chapter Presentations



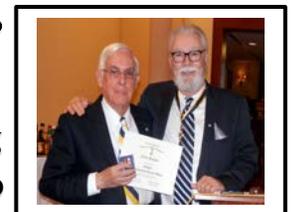
JOHN MORTON



Service to Veterans
Over 300 Volunteer Hours

NICK HARPER

Distinguished
Continuing
Assistance to
Dallas Chapter



2017 New Officers Installation

Texas Society District Six Vice President swore in the following new Dallas Officers that were in attendance:

Michael Petridis President, **Robert Kittrell** 1st VP, **Nick Harper** Treasurer, **Jerry Brown** Registrar, **Frank Pounders** Chaplain.

2nd VP, Secretary & Historian Officers will be installed at a future meeting date.

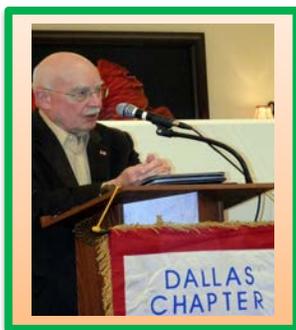


Past President Ramphrey next placed the Chapter's official presidential ribbon around President Petridis' neck and handed him the chapter gavel. In turn, Mike gave George an appreciation plaque and his past president pin.



President Petridis outlined the following plans and goals for his administration:

- * He feels that we need to increase “Brand Awareness” by embracing technology and the new avenues of communication in order to increase our membership as well as expanded media of our community participation.
- * More joint DAR/CAR participation.
- * After sending out a *Monkey Survey* to 70 Chapter members, Mike received less than 26 responses.
- # *Of those answering, a majority preferred remaining at the current facility for monthly meetings at the same morning mealtime.*
- # *Almost all of the responding Compatriots objected to having meal and/or facility expenses reduced by solicited sponsor programs.*
- # *The idea of having joint meetings with other metro/regional chapters as well as dinners for charity purposes was liked by those who sent back their survey.*



After reviewing the other survey questions and response Opinions, the President concluded his remarks by stating that further avenues of branding our image would be open for consideration and discussed throughout the coming year.

< Compatriot RADM **James Eckelberger** came forward to present information on the upcoming April 22nd Military “Patriot’s” Ball. Although sponsored this year by the Navy and usually a dinner/dancing Black Tie event, the general public is most welcome. James extended an invitation to our members to purchase a ticket and to please attend.

OFFICER'S REPORTS

1st Vice President Kittrell made a pitch to secure volunteers for either Americanism or Main Program Speakers for the coming year. He also asked that if any Compatriots know of a public speaker who provides an historical or American Revolution presentation - please let him know.

Since **2nd Vice President (elect)** Tanner was unavailable, President Petridis reminded everyone that Robert faces a daunting task of contacting, scheduling and presenting the various 2016/2017 JROTC, Citizenship and Community Service Awards during March, April & May. He'll need assistance from our members, so please volunteer to help out by signing up to make a presentation.

Past **Secretary** Whitelock informed the attendees that it was the custom to read the minutes (in its entirety) at the annual meeting, **UNLESS** FCP **Mark Hansen**

was present to motion a waiver. Since the good lawyer left early, Tom proceeded to start up with the tradition, until that is, the Chaplain rose and quickly nullified the verbal report by getting the others in the room to vote for silence and approve the previous meeting's minutes as distributed and posted on the website. Mike called for an affirmative "YEA" and closed the matter by noting that the 2017 Officer position still needed to be filled.

Treasurer Nick Harper handed out 2016 end of the year financial report- no one had any questions as to the report. Budget had been set at a balanced (Revenue/Expenses) **\$7,032.00**. Actual amounts were **Rev. \$7,175.70 *** Exp. \$6,306.31 (+\$ 869.39)** December 31 accounts Balances: **Checking -\$7,477.81** **Richie Fund -\$29,464.48** **Minuteman Fund -\$10,233.48**

New **Registrar** Jerry Brown reported that 4 applications are at national (4-5 month delay in approval), 2 are being reviewed at state, 1 additional will be mailed to state this coming week and he, Jerry Pinkerton & Don Shaver are currently researching three new prospects.



With respect to membership; Compatriot McDowell said that we currently have **255** members that have paid their 2017 dues & **55** yet to pay. Reminder notices are now in the mail to them. A motion was made to pay the dues of FCP/FSP <**Richard Arnold** & longtime member **L.W.Crapo**> in honor of their service to the Society. After an affirmative voice vote, the President instructed the Treasurer to prepare a \$120 check for mailing to TXSSAR.



Poster Contest Chairman John Morton reminded everyone to attend the next month's meeting in order to vote for the best elementary school entries.





John then passed his **Veterans Affairs** report over to <James Fairbairn for an announcement of the special Certificate of Appreciation from the *Homeless Veterans Association* to Dallas Chapter for their 2016 cash donation.

He also read a “thank you” letter from Director Ken Robertson stating that Veterans Resource Center really appreciates our continual support each year.



He asked that everyone please start bringing “COFFEE” donations (1lb. or larger cans of ground roast).

FCP Ramphrey reported that he had just completed the Annual Report and that our Chapter did very well with record points in a number of graded sections showing an increase over previous years. (ie. 30,000+ pts. Stark Award)



Young Sarah Petridis>

(aka. Future CAR President and DAR Regent)

Listens intently as her father and George discuss how many hours it will take “Dad” to complete the annual report.

Color Guard Commander George Ramphrey said that he’d be sending out notices soon of the various upcoming events and activities that members can participate in and alerted Compatriots that we still have a military **Blue&Buff** uniform for sale (42-44 tall? coat/shirt/pants/vest.) Mike asked that the “Banner” be brought to all parades for identification purposes.

Knight Essay Contest Chairman William Richardson said that for the first time that he can remember, we don’t have a student Chapter winner that can be entered in the TXSSAR competition, but hope to turn that around this next year.

Boy Scouts Chairman Hank Voegtle stated that the first Eagle Scout presentation of the year is planned for February 4 and that we do not have a Chapter ES Essay contestant to enter in the State Competition.

President Petridis commented that our Compatriots need to help communicate and promote our various **youth cash & scholarship** programs to the schools and community – way in advance of the Spring cut off registration dates.

Oration Competition for 2016 was completed at the TXSSAR BOM in October, and we need to start looking to the High Schools for our 2017 Chapter competition right now.

Nick Harper, **CAR** liaison, noted that **Essay Contest** contestants’ applications are now being accepted.

Newsletter & Website (www.txssar.org/dallas) The President commented on the fact that only 130 members have registered their *Email addresses* with the Chapter in order to receive a newsletter, meeting notices and emergency information blasts.

He will introduce a form of “fireside chat” within a new style of communication in the very near future.



Look for “Constant Contact” or “Mail Chimp”

Having no *New or Old Business, nor Comments or Bills discussed*, The Treasurer proceeded with drawings for door prizes.

Chaplain Pounders gave the Benediction and Past President Ramphrey followed with the SAR Recessional Closing.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:08am

Submitted by
TMW