



**THE**  
**DECEMBER 8, 2018**  
 News & Minutes of Dallas Chapter  
 Texas Society - Sons of the American Revolution  
 Chapter Chartered July 4, 1929



# MINUTEMAN

\*\*\* *Happy Holidays* \*\*\*



President <**Bill Watts** gaveled the monthly meeting to order at 8:42 am in the Dallas Presbyterian Village North dining room and started his opening comments with a request that we all remember those that were killed at Pearl Harbor on December 7<sup>th</sup> 1941 . He next asked Chaplain **Frank Ponders** to report the sick-call and offer up invocation blessings. Color Guard Commander **Robert Kittrell** & North Texas CG Adjutant **Tom Whitelock** were called forward to post Colors so that pledges to the United States & Texas Flags could be led by President **Watts**. He also led the membership in the *Affirmation to SAR* – followed by **John Morton** getting attendees into a patriotic mood by leading them in singing the first stanza of *America*.

Head Greeter FCP **Ralph McDowell** and assistant **Chalmers Omberg** greeted thirty SAR members & guests to this morning's meeting.

Ladies attending the session were given special Christmas gifts and Laura Watts > shows hers off.



**TxSSAR VP Gary Lowell**  
**EFT Pres. Les Anderson Kip**  
**Guest Bob Sipple Rolland**

**SPECIAL NOTICE #1**

**<FCP Gary Sisson will be at the January meeting and hopes all former recipients of his "Sisson Golden Sledgehammer Award" will join him in honoring the 2018 winner by bringing their TMW Raze Frames for display.**



FCP **Ralph McDowell** was asked to come forward for a very unique recognition award. He was honored by the Chapter and TX Society with a Certificate – for having accomplished *25 Years Perfect Attendance*. He had a “few words” to share with everyone and proudly elaborated that twenty-five years meant he had attended **300 meetings, said the pledge to the US Flag 300 times and had breakfast with total of nearly 10,000 member-friends.**



# AMERICANISM.....



1<sup>st</sup> Vice President in charge of Programs, **Tom Van Fossen**, next introduced the “one and only”

## **JAMES J. JOHNSON, Jr. presenting his YANKEE DOODLE CHRISTMAS**

The former Denton Chapter President & TxSSAR Historian, started his presentation with a song, and then explained that the substance of the remainder of his oral conversation would be under three topics: *The Origin & Religious Celebration of*

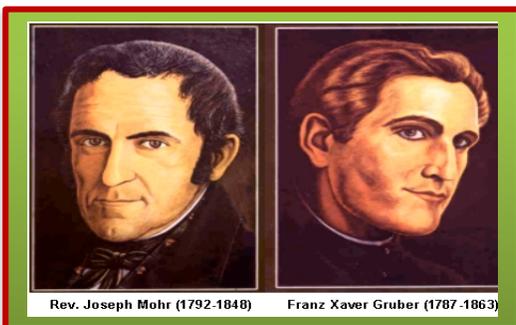
*Christmas, Traditions of Christmas and Amazing Number of December Events between the years - 1773 and 1783.*

During the first segment Dr. Johnson explained how, on December 25<sup>th</sup>, Christopher Columbus’ ship Santa Maria ran aground at Espanola & thus established the “City of Nativity”. During the first and second segments of his presentation, the former TxSSAR Color Guard Commander, passed around pictures depicting scenes of religious & festive events held >> during the 1700s.

James concluded the third segment by relating true tales of many historical December events, especially the strange one of George Washington crossing the Delaware December 25, 1776 - (Nine times ???)



## **SPECIAL NOTICE #2**



***The world’s most beloved Christmas Carol, Silent Night, is celebrating its 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the collaboration of two good friends –Rev. Joseph Mohr (writer of text) and Franz Gruber (composer of music). On Christmas Eve, 1818, the congregation of Saint Nicholas Church near Salzberg, Austria, heard the first performance of this wonderful music.***

# GUEST SPEAKER

**Thomas Jackson**



*Texas Society*

The President opened his presentation by quoting Thomas Jefferson “*I am well pleased to be here*” and continued by congratulating the Chapter & North Texas for providing the Society with a number of Compatriot leaders. He next presented a video memorial vignette honoring former US President George HW Bush. **John Greer** had brought to President Jackson’s attention that we have had a large number of notable Texans who joined SAR needing to be recognized and recorded in our archives. In fact members from throughout the State have served as its Governor

(**Greg Hogg-Burford Jester-Ross Sterling-Marion Daniel-Bill Clements-Rick Perry-George W. Bush-Greg Abbot/soon**)



This project will continue along with the desire of Thomas’ primary goal to increase our membership 5% by our becoming more “ROBUST”, seeking new member Compatriots - that automatically become notable just by joining SAR.

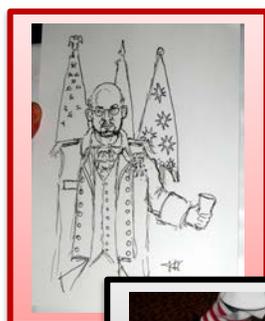


Using the new DAR “Finder Form” created by Drs Robert & Jane Cohen, Texas won 2017 most finder forms turned in, (and probably 2018 too), truth be told- over half of our new members last year came by way of the ladies help. The President hopes that all Chapters will establish and publicize a “tracking system” that will assure there is constant follow-up during the application period.

< A special “POP-UP” display for promotion use by the North Central Color Guard at various events, is being donated by Texas Society.



JJJJ sketching “El Presidente”  
(although we first thought he was one of Santa’s Elves )>



Pres. was presented a Cert. of Appreciation, Eagle Plaque & 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Coin.





Registrar **Jerry Pinkerton** next introduced our newest member, **< Gray Harrison** to be inducted by President **Jackson**



**Mom (Linda Harrison)** pins on the SAR Rosette

**Proud Dad Mark joins in telling about ancestor patriot Richard Sutton**



**Gray** was given his new member “TxSSAR Challenge Coin”, as President Jackson welcomed him into the Society and reminded him that as such, *He has joined an organization that attracts elite men to it with the only requirement, that their Patriot ancestor aided in the freedom cause to create our Country.*

By acclamation motion from State Chancellor **Tracy Pounders**, a second and voice vote – the slate for 2019 Officers was approved and will be installed at the January 12<sup>th</sup> meeting.

## Officers & Committee Chairmen Reports

**President** –No, **1<sup>st</sup> Vice President**/Programs- He and Mark are already working on the first three months scheduled speakers, **2<sup>nd</sup> VP**/Awards –The new “Safety Medals/Certificates have been bought and will be added to the “Community Awards” program in the coming year,

**Secretary** –Motion made and seconded for approval of November minutes, accepted by voice vote. Also request made for members to send him record of their 2018 activities for Annual Report, **Treasurer** –Nov. finance report was handed out to members when they signed in, year-end final tallies will be handed out at January meeting.

**Registrar** –The Chapter has 7 adult and 3 junior applications at State or National for approval, results should be known by January, **Historian** –Reminded all to send him any photos, documents and videos for our scrapbook. President Watts added his appreciation to Compatriot Slonaker >> for his establishing a video record of our Chapter meetings and various color guard activities, **Chaplain** -Felt we all should “...express IT”. **Membership** –Reported that recent active roster is 257.



...also a rebate check for \$60 from Kroger was turned over to the Treasurer, **Color Guard** –we were represented at the KIA funerals at DFW Nat. Cemetery during December 7<sup>th</sup> Pearl Harbor Day ceremonies. Commander **Kittrell** reminded Compatriots to be sure to send in a report of their visitations with Veterans at Hospitals/Nursing Homes, **Veterans Affairs** –



Keep up the donations to the VA Hospital and please consider contributing “warm clothing/back packs/suitcases” which will be combined with the collections of coats/blankets /warm clothing being gathered by Compatriot **Warren Johnson**.

**Chapter website:** [www.txssar.org/dallas](http://www.txssar.org/dallas)

After our drawings for door prizes, Chaplain **Pounders** delivered the Benediction. We concluded the meeting at 10:24 am by reciting the SAR Recessional.

*Respectfully submitted by,*  
**Tom M. Whitelock**



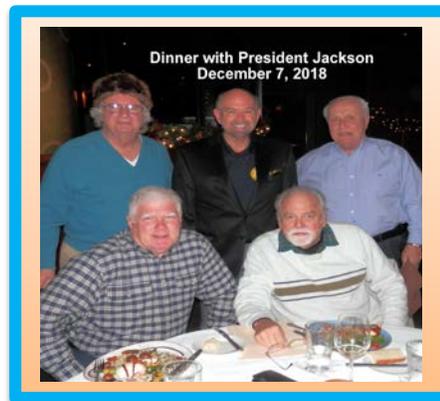
## *Other Monthly Events*



Come Rain, Sleet or Snow \* We're always there

**"GIVE ME YOUR HUDDLED mASSES"**

**HOWEVER, IN BETWEEN KIA SERVICES WHEN THE HEAVY RAINS CAME-WE SHOULD HAVE HAD A BEACH UMBRELLA !!!**



Dinner with the  
"Boss Man"

## **FINAL SPECIAL NOTICE** *(of the year)*

To all Compatriots, we need you to select at least one of these listed areas to participate in during the coming year. Contact one of the new 2019 Officers to volunteer to head-up or assist or take part in \* **7-10 minute Americanism presentation** \* **Youth Contests** \* **JROTC/Citizenship presentations** \* **Member Recruitment/State Fair** \* **Color Guard Activities** \* **Community/1<sup>st</sup> Responders Awards** \* **Assistant to Officer or Committee Chairman** \* **Liaison to DAR or CAR Societies** \* **Chapter Promotion** \* **Chapter Record Keeping** \* **Website and/or News Letter Editor**

