



THE

October 12, 2019
News & Minutes of Dallas Chapter
Texas Society - Sons of the American Revolution
Chapter Chartered July 4, 1929



MINUTEMAN

Celebrating Our 90th Anniversary 1929-2019

The monthly meeting was called to order at 8:37 by President **Tom Van Fossen** in the dining room of the Presbyterian Village North in Dallas Texas. Before saying an invocation, FCP and State Chaplain **Frank Ponders** invited all fellow Compatriots to join in his 90th Birthday celebration tomorrow (time and location on flyers being handed out). **T2 & 2vp Alan Prather** led the pledges respectively for the U.S. and Texas State Flags. Compatriot **John Morton** was warned by the President to only lead attendees in singing the first stanza of *America*, and not to try slipping in a verse of the **OU** fight song, since this was TX/OU weekend.



After introductions of TxSSAR Officers and guests that were present, President **Van Fossen** alerted members to be sure to mark their calendars...

for Tuesday Evening - January 14th

which is not the date (1/11/20) of our regular scheduled meeting. Oh, we'll still have some business (but very - very short in time) since most of the evening will be filled with good food,

entertaining music, presentation of the "Sisson Golden Sledgehammer Award", honoring our 2019 Officers & Committee Chairmen. Installation of those who will serve during 2020,

but most of all we'll celebrate our *Ninety years as an SAR Chapter.*

^Crown Plaza * Addison will serve as the venue and official invitations in the mail soon. Oh yes, there are plans under way for a SILENT AUCTION of unique items – We'll see ???



Before First Vice President <**Mark Harrison** introduced our special Guest Speaker for the day, he related how much he had enjoyed & learned attending the recent BOM.



He emphasized that you didn't need to be a Chapter Officer to attend the many and varied TxSSAR committee meetings.



Guest Speaker

Maestro **ROBERT CARTER AUSTIN**
Director of
Los Colinas Symphony Orchestra

..who spoke on music of the revolutionary era, however he did have professional presentation help by way of the very charming and talented violinist Ms. **Marina Dichenko**. >



His WIT in historical tales & getting the members to sing along on the more popular tunes of the day (long ago) and her mastery of classical pieces was enjoyed by all in attendance, for which both were rewarded with the now famous Dallas Chapter “90th Anniversary Mugs” & SAR Certificates of Appreciation. >



Mr. Austin also proved to be a master of marketing as he made his “pitch” to attendees to consider the advantage of becoming patrons of the symphony and the benefits of hearing an outstanding orchestra that serves three different cities on three different nights of the week each month, within their yearly season.

Officer and Committee Chairman Reports

President- Requested that all members who participated in award presentations, that were involved with Veterans, State Fair SAR Recruitment, Color Guard events and made Chapter, Society and/or Community presentations, get their resume of activities to him ASAP so that he can start working on the Annual Report. **1st V.P.-** Next month’s Americanism presentation will be presented by our newest member – **Brent Harshman** and the main speaker will be FCP **Mike Petridis** giving us a closer look at the *Battle of Bunker Hill*. **2V.P.-** Said that he needs all members to send him emails stating which schools (and dates) they presented JROTC or Good Citizenship awards so that he can verify his yearend report to the President. **Secretary-** Apologized for leaving the handout copies of the “Minuteman” at home, (having additional printer problems),but assured all that it will be posted on the Chapter website. **Treasurer-** Members received finance statements as they signed in this morning, which reflected an October 1st balance in the checking account of \$6,835.96. **Historian-** was complimented by **T2** on his additional effort to expand video coverage of the Chapter and receive recognition by other SAR Chapters at the recent Board Of Managers meeting. **Registrar- Jerry Pinkerton** > was awarded the *Liberty Medal* for his outstanding work during 2018-presented by **Jerry Brown** & our President.





While **T2** was handing out Certificates of Appreciation, he called up **<T1** to the podium to receive one on behalf of the Chapter's participation during "Wreaths Across America" last December.

Committee Reports

Membership- With a number of applications in the NSSAR "pipeline" and a goodly amount of prospects from our recruitment table at the Texas State Fair this month, we should hopefully move above our current 261 count of active Compatriots. **Veterans Affairs-** Compatriot **James Fairbairn** reported that the new VA Hospital and Clinic facility planned for the Garland area is underway. **CAR-** Chapter liaison, FCP **Nick Harper** offered two opportunities for members to assist him by participating in showing the SAR colors on October 27 (2pm) at the Dallas Arboretum and/or November 10 (2pm) tour *Hall of State Fair Park*.

Genealogy/TxSSAR Committee- It was reported by Inland Registrar Jerry Brown that he and Coastal Registrar Jack Muggli are working on reactivating the State's Genealogy Committee as a "training tool" for Chapter Registrars to participate in during the Spring & Fall meetings.

Color Guard- Commander **Kittrell** informed us that as this date, he still hadn't been informed as to our position in the Veterans Day Parade, however he was assured by TxSSAR CGC Tim Wilson, that we would have a trailer this year.

President **Van Fossen** again emphasized the need for members to consider volunteering to Chair one of our many committees.

There being no further business, all joined in to sing *Happy 90th Birthday to Frank Ponders* just prior to Door Prize drawings, the Benediction and SAR Recessional.

Adjournment 9:52am



Respectfully Submitted
Tom Whitelock,
Secretary

Other October Events.....

The Chaplain receives his OFFICIAL trimmings when son Tracy confers the rank of Admiral in the TEXAS NAVY by Governor Abbot's proclamation.



Top notch recruiters Smith & Kittrell < at State Fair.



New Bossman **David Temple** > calls the Fall BOM meeting to order while "future leader" < **Tracy Ponders** checks out his current "Go-To-Funds account" that he set up for his campaign.



Meanwhile, Dallas (2&half year terms) Chapter President **Tom Van Fossen** > prepares to post colors at the opening BOM session.

