



**Sons of The American  
Revolution**  
**Texas Society,  
McKinney Chapter**



**July 16, 2020**

**Meeting held via Zoom® teleconference**

**Attendees**

There were 20 SAR members and guests in attendance for this Zoom® meeting. Attendees included: David Kinsey, Tom Milson, Nathan White, Luis Juarez, Mark McCraw, Donald Babbs, Peter McLellan, Drake Peddie, John Greer, Tom Van Fossen, Tomm Schultz, Ralph Thompson, Clayton Tangen, Alfred Lisi, Ken Davis, Blas Uribe, Bob Arnold, Gary Baker, Weldon Copeland and Tom Kowak.

**Call to Order**

David Kinsey, Chapter President, called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm.

**Invocation**

- Donald Babbs, Chaplain, gave the invocation.

**Pledges**

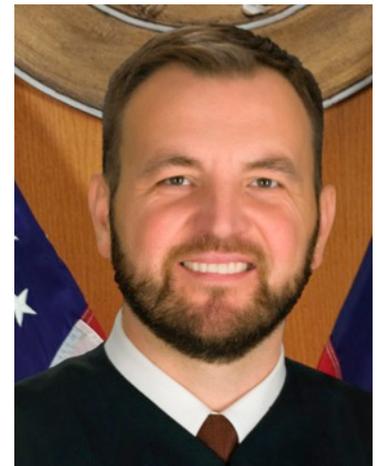
- David Kinsey, Chapter President, led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.

- Blas Uribe, Compatriot, led the Pledge to the Texas Flag.

- Tom Milson, Secretary, led the Pledge of the SAR.

**Program**

Mark McCraw, VP of Programs introduced our speaker Tom Nowak. Tom Nowak, Judge of the 366th District Court of Collin County, Texas who will speak about AMERICAN FREEDOM. Tom Nowak was born in Poland and was a communist refugee when he arrived in Dallas, Texas in 1985. He attended Baylor Law School, he is former felony prosecutor and he is a reserve Assistant Staff Judge Advocate in the United States Air Force.





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Tom began his presentation with a brief history of his birth country Poland. Poland at one time was the biggest country in Europe. It was one of the first kind of democracies having an elected king. When America was in it's infancy fighting for it's freedom, Poland was also fighting for it's freedom from Prussia, the Ottoman and Russia. There were a number of polish individuals that contributed to America. There were glassmakers in the Jamestown Colony. The West Point fortifications were built by a Polish engineer, Tadeusz Kosciuszko. Kosciuszko was a freedom fighter in Poland. Casimir Pulaski was an American Revolutionary War hero and " the Father of the American Calvary". He gave his life in the American Revolution at battle of Savannah. There are a number of Pulaski counties in America named for this Patriot.

Tom then discussed his childhood remembrances of communist Poland. He was a baby when his father left to work in Austria. The rest of the family planned to join him but martial law was declared and the Polish borders were closed. He remembers that men with guns came to the house and took their passports. At that time his father went to the United States and requested asylum fearing he would never be able to return to Poland. It took a number of years before the family was able to join Tom's father in America. As a six year old Tom saw the solidarity protest in Poland where the people wanted basic freedom with the resulting response by the government. He remembers his mother getting up in the middle of the night to stand in line for the groceries and meat. When he came to America he remembers the change from waiting in line for food in Poland to getting lost in the supermarket!

Tom grew up in Mesquite, Texas. He remembers he had to explain a lot about where he was from and what is life was like in Poland as compared to living in the United States. This created in Tom a love for American History and the fights for freedom. That put him on the path for becoming a lawyer.

Tom then discussed his education and experiences as a lawyer and judge.

After his presentation Tom answered several questions from the audience and President Kinsey presented Judge Nowak with the SAR Certificate of Appreciation.

#### **Old Business and Announcements**

- Next meeting is on August 20, 2020 at 7:00 pm. Location TBD.
- TXSSAR 125<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference that was planned to be held in The Woodlands, Texas on July 31 through August 2, 2020 has been cancelled. Will meeting will be held remotely on August 8<sup>th</sup>, via Zoom™ with committee meetings starting on August 3<sup>rd</sup> via Zoom™.



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- The South Central District meeting is scheduled for August 28-29 at the Hyatt Regency, 701 East Campbell Road, Richardson, Texas. David stated the odds of proceeding with in an person meeting is 50/50.

- The 2020 Fall BOM is scheduled for November 13<sup>th</sup> at the Hyatt Regency, Frisco, Texas. The meeting will be co-hosted by the McKinney and Edmund Terrell Chapters.

- On July 18<sup>th</sup> David Kinsey will participate with the North Texas Color Guard at the internment ceremony for Compatriot Montie Gene Monzingo at the Old Saltillo Cemetery.

#### **New Business**

- Minutes from last meeting have been published on the website. Tom Milson thanked Blas Uribe for taking and documenting the minutes of the June meeting. Tom Milson made a motion to accept last months meeting minutes as written, motion seconded by Mark McCraw, no discussion, motion approved by voice vote.

- Treasurer's Report: Ralph Thompson, Treasurer reported stating that the Chapter bank balance as of today is \$2,781.81. After the switch over to Prosperity Bank, we were charged a service charge of \$10 on June 30<sup>th</sup>. Ralph went to the local branch to complain about the charge. The representative submitted a request for a waiver of the monthly service charge, which has now been approved. Ralph was told that the waiver would be a permanent waver. The available balance shows as \$2991.81 as of today, so Ralph assumes they are reversing the service charge. Nathan White made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report, motion seconded by Peter McLellan, no discussion, motion approved by voice vote.

**Benediction:** Chaplin Babbs gave the benediction.

**Recessional:** Mark McCraw, VP Programs lead the recessional.

**Adjournment:** President Kinsey adjourned the meeting at 8:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas E. Milson, Secretary