



SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION FREEDOM CHAPTER

**September 15, 2020
MINUTES**

Call to Order: 6:01 PM – David Underdown President

VIA ZOOM

Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag – David Underdown

Pledge of Allegiance to the Texas Flag – David Underdown

SAR Pledge – Mel Oller

Invocation – David Underdown

Introduction of Guests: Guests Kelly Troublefield, Don Haynes, and Speaker Tom Jackson. Kelly and Don are prospective members.

Roll Call – None held due to the length of program by our distinguished guest speaker.

Old Business

Minutes of Last Meeting – accepted/online website

Treasurer's Report: Balance as of 8/31/20 - \$5,835.15

Registrar's Report – 13 Applications approved in 2020; 3 currently at State and 1 at National; 7 applications are in process.

Patriot Day Celebration 2020 – Compatriot President Dave Underdown, John Thompson, David Hamaker, and Ed Sellards attended The Woodlands Patriots Day Commemoration Programs. Congressman Kevin Brady was the guest speaker for the morning program and it was held at the Main Fire Station in The Woodlands. Pictures are posted on the Chapter website. President Dave Underdown presented a number of SAR Flag Certificates.

Patriot Biographies – Raymond Smith and President David Underdown submitted Patriot Biographies. Ed Sellards reminds all compatriots that if they submit a bio, please send a copy to him for Chapter records. Each bio submitted counts 5 points in the Chapter annual report.

Members Present – 12

Program

Compatriot Tom Jackson, TXSSAR President for 2018-2019, gave a superb program on the U.S. Constitution, ratified September 17, 1787. Tom challenged us to continually study the details and genius of our nation's guiding document. High lights included: the history of Constitution day, the predecessor to the U.S. Constitution, The Articles of Confederation, and quiz time for the members - which challenged our woeful lack of knowledge! In 30 minutes, Tom provided interesting facts and stories how our founding fathers shaped it to fruition. It was an educational and delightful trip back to our civics or history class that most of us took for granted. No one was bored, unlike many high school or college classes we attended many moons past.

Compatriot John K. Thompson recited a delightfully bizarre and almost unbelievable story (but it really happened!) about a lady who "Lived Once but was Buried Twice". Believe it or not, as Paul Harvey famously said! No summary provided here....those desiring to know the rest of the story are highly encouraged to contact John. I know he would be delighted to retell or send you the whole story electronically!

New Business

Wreaths Across America – John Meredith reported on his work with Rosewood Cemetery and possible participation for a December event. The Cemetery is maintained by the local Funeral home and has yet to provide John a response. The UDC Chapter that is sponsoring the Oakwood Cemetery has formally requested a Color Guard/Honor Guard for the December program, along with a speaker. Mel Oller and others talked about how the National Wreaths Across America works and their personal experiences attending local events. John Meredith brought up the fact that there are many other county cemeteries that could be adopted by our chapter. Art Byram and Ed Sellards also commented on the opportunity to participate in December at the Houston National Cemetery. President Underdown and John Meredith will discuss further recommendations and details regarding Chapter participation and report back at the October Meeting.

South Central District Meeting (via ZOOM) – President Underdown and Mel Oller provided a brief overview of the SCD to be held September 19. This regional SAR Leadership meeting, hosted by Compatriot Larry Steven, Piney Woods Chapter, will be held virtually in lieu of in-person. Purpose of the meeting was to allow national SAR office candidates to campaign for their nomination by our District to national office and to formally elect Larry Stevens as VP General for the South Central District. This event counts as a National Event for Color Guard points if present and in uniform.

Scouting Activities – no report

Upcoming events – none noted

Announcements - **This Day in History:** U.S. Constitution ratified 17 September 1787
233 years and 2 days from today, 15 September 2020.

Benediction: David Underdown

Closing/Adjourn: 7:10 PM by Mel Oller 'Until We Meet Again'