



**SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION
FREEDOM CHAPTER**



March 21, 2023 MINUTES

Call to Order: 6:30PM

Art Byram

Post Colors (Declared State CG Event/TXSSAR Pres. J. Kuykendall)

Don Hayes, Don Kluth, Ed Sellards, Hiram Dunlap, David Hamaker

Pledges

Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag – led by Art Byram

Pledge of Allegiance to the Texas Flag – led by David Hamaker

SAR Pledge – led by Art Byram

Invocation – Chaplain Don Stone

Members Present – 21 **Guests** – 26 Prospective Members - 3

Minutes of Last Meeting: minutes from February 21, 2023 meeting posted online. Seconded and approved.

Treasurer's Report: \$ 3,954.31 as of February 28, 2023. Seconded and approved.

Registrar's Report: 20 applications currently in works; 8 new members to date

Ancestor Roll Call – None this month due to length of program and awards.

Induction of New Member: 1st VP David Hamaker inducted new Compatriot David Zimmerman into the Freedom Chapter, President Art Byram presented both with the SAR Rosette and their Membership Certificate.

Awards:

1. SAR Public Service Law Enforcement Medal: Chief of Police Oak Ridge North, Tom Libby; presented by TXSSAR President Jim Kuykendall and State Secretary Mel Oller.
2. SAR 250th Gold Letters of Achievement: Compatriots J. Thompson, M. Oller, J. Meredith; presented by Chapter President Art Byram.
3. SAR Military War Medal: Joe Andrews; presented by Secretary Ed Sellards
4. SAR Bronze Roger Sherman Medal: David Hamaker, Ed Sellards; presented by Art Byram.
5. 20 yr Membership Pin: Don Stone; presented by Art Byram.
6. TXSSAR Member recruitment pins: D. Myers, L. Johnston, E. Sellards; presented by 1VP David Hamaker.
7. SAR Chapter Orations Medal: Joe Freuhwirth; presented by David Hamaker

8. SAR Chapter Essay Medal: Allison Freuhwirth; presented by David Hamaker.

Speaker/Program: **Allison Freuhwirth** presented her Essay on Deborah Sampson and her role in the American Revolution. Deborah joined the 4th Mass. Regiment as a man and was wounded in service. She obtained an invalid pension after the war.

Joe Freuhwirth presented his Oration on the importance of the 'Battle of the Capes', the naval battle between French and British forces off the Virginia Coast; Critical role in helping Washington's Army defeat Cornwallis at the Battle of Yorktown.

Scouting Report: Ben Bonnett reported that many opportunities existed for programs with the Scouts in Montgomery County and encouraged Compatriots to get involved and even give a program.

[CG EVENT CATEGORIES: N: National S: State C: Chapter]

Upcoming Events and Color Guard Activities:

30 Mar -	TX SSAR Conference	Spring	S
6 Apr -	US Naturalization Program	Bryan	S
7 Apr -	Space Cowboys	Sugarland	C
22 Apr -	Medal of Honor Parade	Gainesville	N

Old Business

- Secretary Sellards reported that the following Chapter 250th Medals achieved to date: **Gold 12; Silver 1; Bronze 4**. Freedom leads the Texas Society. Two more Gold and two more Bronze anticipated over the next three months.
- Secretary Sellards reported that Compatriots are encouraged to contribute to the Chapter Veterans Medal Fund by sending their check to Treasurer Don Hayes.
- DAR State Convention was held in Dallas Tx, March 18, and was attended by Compatriots Art Byran and Don Hayes. They were accompanied by their wives, Susan and Rowena.
- James Lemmon Patriot Grave Marker Dedication Program held in Lancaster, Tx, March 19. Compatriots Hamaker, Sellards, and Hayes participated in the Color and Honor Guard.

New Business

- CG Commander Hamaker announced that the Chapter CG now has 15 members and is expected to continue to grow in 2023!
- Chapter Youth Awards Winners Announced: Orations – Joe Fruehwirth; Essay – Allison Fruehwirth; JROTC Enhanced – Cristian F. Mazariegos.
- 11 School JROTC Programs will be presented Youth Medals & Certificates in April/May; JROTC Chapter Chair Sellards to coordinate schedule.
- 7 April CG for Sugarland Space Cowboys baseball game – CAR/DAR/SAR collaboration; Freedom Chapter will present the Colors.

- 2023 TXSSAR Convention Chapter Chair Loren Johnston announced that Registration for the 2023 Convention is open and encourages all Chapter members to register and attend. TXSSAR Conference 29 March – 1 April 2023 at the Springwoods Village Marriott
- Loren Johnston called for volunteers to help man the TXSSAR Conference Registration Desk and is in process of filling all time slots.
- Conference Registration Goody-Bag Party at Art Byram's home Sunday, 26 March.
- Grave Marking Programs for both Patriots and Compatriots are being planned by Compatriots Thompson and Hamaker for later in the year.

This Day in History – by Don Stone; 21 March 1617. Pocahontas (Christian name Rebecca) died in Gravesend, England. She was the wife of Virginia planter John Wolfe. John and Rebecca were in England to promote the Jamestown Colony for continued immigration and investment. Pocahontas has become famous in history for her saving of Captain John Smith from the hands of local Indians, led by her father. A little history and a lot more legend.

SAR Closing/Adjourn: President Art Byram, 8:10 PM 'till we meet again'