



**SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION
FREEDOM CHAPTER**



February 21, 2023 MINUTES

Call to Order: 6:33PM

Art Byram

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 – 23 **Guests** – 18

Minutes of Last Meeting: minutes from January 17, 2023 meeting posted online.

Treasurer's Report: \$ 4,336.18 as of February 2022.

Registrar's Report: 20 applications currently in works! We are off to a gang-buster year!

Ancestor Roll Call: led by Art Byram

Art Byram introduced District 8 VP Ken Graalum. He brought us sad news and called for prayers for Dianne Jones, wife of Past President James Jones. She fell in their kitchen and was in critical condition (later passed).

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

Awards: None this month

Speaker/Program: Dr. Diane Severance was introduced by Compatriot John K. Thompson. Diane is the Director of the Dunham Bible Museum, located on the campus of Houston Christian (former Baptist) University. Diane's late husband was a member of the Freedom Chapter. Dr. Severance gave an inspirational talk entitled "The Bible and the American Revolution". The use of Holy Scripture was extremely influential with the Founding Fathers. Diane identified the major bibles held at the Museum that influenced our Nation's beginning. All in attendance received a copy of the booklet "The Bible and the American Revolution".

Scouting Report: None.

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

Upcoming Events and Color Guard Activities:

14 Mar -	Coushatti Trace DAR Mtg	Conroe	C
27 Mar -	Stockton JH STAR Testing Program	Conroe	C
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 displayed the Grand Raffle Prize for the 2023 State Conference, a framed limited-edition print of Rick Reeve, “Forged in Fire”, Gen. Washington and Von Steuben at Valley Forge. Membership is reminded that Freedom Chapter is host this year.
- Compatriot Hamaker reported that a new War of 1812 Chapter in Montgomery County is being formed and encouraged all to check to becoming members; should have first meeting in April or May.
- Compatriot David Hamaker reported on February CG events at the Humble Educational Center and Revolutionary War Days event at Jesses Jones Park in support of Piney Woods Chapter. Compatriots Byram, Hamaker, Thompson, Sellards and Hayes attended in Humble. Compatriots Hamaker, Hayes, and Myers attended event at Jesse Jones Park.
- Compatriots Thompson and Hamaker attended the Paul Carrington Chapter G. Washington Dinner.
- G Washington Brunch at the Honor Café 15 Feb attended by 12 Compatriots and 4 Guests.

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 will coordinate schedule and arrange for presenters by mid-March.
- 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 now open and encourages all Chapter

members to register and attend. Location: Springwoods Marriott Hotel (Exxon Campus).

- Loren Johnston called for volunteers to help man the TXSSAR Conference Registration Desk and is in process of filling all time slots.
- Conference Goody-Bag Party at Art Byram's home Sunday, 26 March.
- TXSSAR Conference 29 March – 1 April 2023 at the Springwoods Village Marriott.

This Day in History – by Don Stone; 21 February 1885: the George Washington Monument was dedicated in Washington DC. At 550ft tall, it was at that time the tallest structure in the U.S. Located inside the cornerstone was placed a Holy Bible.

‘First in Peace, First in War, First in the Hearts of his Countrymen’

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