



SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION
FREEDOM CHAPTER



June 20, 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 – Don Stone

Members Present – 23 **Guests** – 10

Minutes of Last Meeting: minutes from the May 2023 meeting were posted online after the June Meeting.

Treasurer's Report: \$ 5,973.90 as of May 31, 2023. Funds from the Texas Society from the 2023 TXSSAR Convention have yet to be distributed to the Chapter. An estimate of at least \$1,000 is expected.

Registrar's Report: Registrar Huntington. 4 new applications to State; 8 applications at National; 10 new members to date. 7 Supplemental applications are currently at National and 1 has been approved to date.

Ancestor Roll Call – Led by President Art Byram.

Recognition of Guests – 1VP Hamaker recognized past Texas State President Jim Kuykendall, Danean Myers and Susan Johnston, Coughatti Trace DAR Chapter; Kay Stone, Margaret Montgomery DAR Chapter; and Rowena Hayes, Regent Heritage Trails DAR Chapter.

New Member: President Byram and 1st VP Hamaker inducted Ronald Frick and received his certificate and rosette.

Awards: Art Byram and Ed Sellards awarded David Zimmerman:

The NSSAR Veterans Multi-Corps Certificate, a 50th Vietnam Commemoration Pin, and the **NSSAR Military Service Medal**.

Scouting Report: None.

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

Upcoming Events and Color Guard Activities:

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|-----------|--|--------------------|---|
| 30 Jun - | Reading of the Decl. of Independence | Conroe CH | C |
| 01 Jul - | Stars and Stripes w. Symphony | Conroe | N |
| 04 Jul - | Independence Day Parade | Oak Ridge North | N |
| 05 Jul - | Part 2 'The American Revolution' Video | Honor Café, Conroe | C |
| 06 Jul - | US Naturalization Program | Bryan | C |
| 15-20 Jul | NSSAR Congress | Orlando | N |
| 12 Aug - | Battle of Medina | Leming | S |

Old Business

- Compatriot Grave Marking program for 3 Compatriots at Garden Park Cemetery (Cashner) and 1 Compatriot at Forest Park Cemetery.
- All Compatriots are encouraged to attend a Memorial Day Program. Please let Secretary Sellards know if you attended by sending him a short email identifying the location and type of event. Include if you were in colonial or continental uniform.
- ALL Compatriots are encouraged to celebrate Flag Day, 14 June.
- ALL Compatriots are encouraged to celebrate Independence Day by attending or participating in a Community event or Parade.
- A motion was made by 1st VP Hamaker to raise dues for 2024 from \$9.50 to \$20.00. Discussion resulted in tabling of motion until the Executive Committee developed a Budget and brought back to the Chapter the reasons why an increase is justified. The Chapter dues have remained the same for over 20 years. Discussion and Vote to be held at June Chapter meeting.

New Business

- Upcoming Chapter and Color Guard events (noted above).
- Vote on the 2024 Chapter Budget.
- SAR 2023 NSSAR Congress is being held in Orlando, Florida. Compatriots Oller, Byram, and Sellards will be attending.

Program

Chapter Budget for 2024 was brought forward by the President and Treasurer for discussion. An increase in Chapter dues for 2024 from \$9.50 to \$20.00 was proposed and an itemized budget of 2023 expenses was provided to all in attendance. Based on the activity of the Chapter in 2022 and 2023 it was evident that more income from the membership was needed to meet the SAR core missions of the National, State, and Chapter. While the budget reflects around \$1,650 deficit for 2024, the existing Chapter funds provide for over a 200% cushion. This is the first time in the history of the Chapter that a formalized budget has been prepared. The membership present decided

to review in 11 months and determine any changes needed for the 2025 budget. Secretary Sellards made the formal motion to raise the Chapter dues for Freedom Chapter from \$9.50 to \$20.00 for the 2024 calendar year. It was seconded by Texas State Secretary and Past Chapter President Oller. After additional comments and discussion, the vote was called for and the motion passed 21 to 1 in favor. Members will see the change reflected in their dues statement for 2024 later in the fall. All Compatriots are encouraged to make additional contributions in support of the National, State and Chapter programs.

This Day in History – by Don Stone; 20 June 1782 – The Great Seal of the United States of America was approved. For a ‘bird’s eye view, pull out your wallet and check it out *carefully* on the reverse side of the \$1 bill (...what are you waiting for...).

SAR Closing/Adjourn: President Art Byram, 8:12 PM’till we meet again’