



SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION
FREEDOM CHAPTER



August 15, 2023 MINUTES

Call to Order: 6:33PM

Art Byram

1st VP Hamaker led the Color Guard (Hamaker, Sellards, Hayes, Kluth) in the posting of the Colors

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** – 17

Minutes of Last Meeting: minutes from the June 2023 meeting posted online, seconded by 1st VP Hamaker, and approved.

Treasurer's Report: \$ 5,365.77; seconded by Secretary Sellards and approved. A \$200.00 donation was given to the Chapter by Compatriot Don Stone.

Registrar's Report: Registrar Huntington. 3 new applications to State; 9 applications at National; 16 new members to date. 8 Supplemental applications are currently at National and 1 has been approved to date.

Ancestor Roll Call: None this month.

Recognition of Guests: 1VP Hamaker recognized TXSSAR President Sam Massey and 1st Lady Catherine Massey; past Texas State President Jim Kuykendall; Past President of Paul Carrington Chapter Mark Worthen; Kay Stone, Margaret Montgomery DAR Chapter; and Rowena Hayes, Regent Heritage Trails DAR Chapter.

New Members: President Byram and 1st VP Hamaker inducted Terry Simpson, Matthew Hoffman, Everett Cochran, and William Miles; all received certificates and rosettes.

Awards: Art Byram presented a letter to Hiram Dunlap acknowledging his earning of the SAR 250th Gold Medal.

TXSSAR President Sam Massey presented the SAR Compatriot Grave Marking Medal to Compatriots David Hamaker, Ed Sellards, and Don Hayes.

TXSSAR President Massey presented the following **SAR National Awards** from the 132nd National Congress to Chapter President Byram:

1. **President General's Activities Award** for the chapter that shows the most complete practice of implementing SAR programs for 2022-2023.
2. **The Ohanesian History Presentation Award** for the chapter whose members collectively, orally make the most presentations on any aspect of the American Revolution to classes or groups in schools K-12, in their respective geographic service area for 2022-2023.
3. **Eagle Scout Trophy** for the local Cypress young man who won the National Eagle Scout Scholarship for 2022-2023.

Program

TXSSAR Sam Massey spoke to the Chapter about upcoming projects and activities within the Society but primarily congratulated our Chapter for having such a successful and active chapter over the past 12 months. His best line from his talk was: "you are doing everything right" !

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

Upcoming Events and Color Guard Activities

18 Aug -	Honor Guard for Comp. Tom Houston		
30 Aug -	Texas Ramblers Program Daughters SRT	College Station	C
11 Sep -	Patriot/1 st Responders Day	The Woodlands	C
07 Oct -	Compatriot Grave Marking Program	San Antonio	C
20-22 Oct	TXSSAR BOM	College Station	S
26 Oct -	US Naturalization Program	Bryan	C
04 Nov -	Compatriot Grave Marking Program	San Antonio	C
10 Nov -	JROTC Klein ISD Veterans Day	Klein	N
11 Nov -	Montgomery Co Vets Comm/Vets Day	Conroe	N
02 Dec -	Dickens on the Strand Parade	Galveston	S
09 Dec -	Christmas Parade	Conroe	C
16 Dec -	Wreaths Across America	Montgomery	N

Old Business

- The 2024 Chapter Budget was approved; annual dues will increase to \$20 for 2024.
- SAR 2023 NSSAR Congress was held in Orlando, Florida. Compatriots Kuykendall, Oller, Byram, and Sellards attended.

New Business

- President Byram announced that the TXSSAR – CAR Liaison role is expanding and if interested please see him for details about how you can be involved.
- TXSSAR State Secretary Mel Oller encouraged compatriots to attend the upcoming BOM in College Station 20-22 October; National candidates for office in 2024 will be making presentations.
- The design of a Chapter Bench in support of the SAR 250th Commemoration Program is being investigated by Compatriots Kuykendall and Oller. They will be collaborating with the Montgomery County Veterans Commission to have it placed at the Veterans Park in Conroe. This will be revisited at the September Chapter meeting.
- Ed Sellards announced that Compatriot Charles Lano has earned the SAR 250th Silver Medal.
- President Byram shared a picture from the Conroe Courier of our Chapter Compatriots with Couthatti Trace DAR ladies at the 30th of June 'Reading of the Declaration of Independence' on the steps of the Conroe Court House.

This Day in History – by Don Stone; General 'Andy' Jackson was appointed to command all troops in the New Orleans area this day, 15 August 1814. The Chapter was entertained with Johnny Horton's highly popular 1959 hit "*the Battle of New Orleans*" 'we fired our guns and the British kept-a-coming....there wasn't nigh as many as there was a while ago.....we fired once more and they begin a runnin' on down the Mississippi to the Gulf of Mexico.'

SAR Closing/Adjourn: President Art Byram, 7:33 PM 'till we meet again'