



SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION
FREEDOM CHAPTER



October 17, 2023 MINUTES

Call to Order: 6:30 PM

Art Byram

1st VP Hamaker led the CG (Miles, Lano, 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 – 26 **Guests** – 18

Minutes of Last Meeting: minutes from the September 2023 meeting posted online, seconded by John Meredith, and approved.

Treasurer's Report: \$10,980.43; seconded by David Hamaker and approved.

Registrar's Report: Registrar Huntington. 20 new members to date; 8 applications at National; 10 Supplemental applications at National.

Ancestor Roll Call: None this month due to length of the program.

Recognition of Guests: 1st VP Hamaker recognized Past President Jim Kuykendall; State Secretary Mel Oller; past State CG Commanders Don Stone and John Thompson (ALL current Freedom Chapter members), all DAR ladies present, and guest Jeff Feister.

New Members: 1st VP Hamaker inducted Jeffrey Calendar and Ronnie Brant. Each were presented with their membership certificate and a rosette.

Awards: None this month.

Program

- 1) Mrs. Denise Bennett: "Adrienne, the Marquise de Lafayette". Denise gave a heartfelt portrayal of the young bride of 'Marie-Joseph Paul Yves Roch Gilbert du Motier de La Fayette, the -Marquis de Lafayette' (yes, I looked it up!) and better known in America just as Lafayette. Dressed from head to toe in 18th century

dress, Mrs. Bennett wowed the audience with her superb historical overview of the impact that Lafayette had on American Independence told from the wife's point of view. Using the historical record and excerpts from Adrienne's own diary, the audience was transported back in history, getting an almost backseat account of the life and times of the Lafayette and his entire family. Their first son was named George Washington de La Lafayette, in honor of our first President. If you were not able to attend, you missed a real treat.

2) Ms. Arabelle Campbell, President of the Captain Edward Weyman CAR.

Arabelle, Art Byram's granddaughter, brought greetings on behalf of our local CAR Chapter. She outlined their overall programs and highlighted the State and National CAR projects that they are raising funds for. A number of SAR members contributed and were provided pins in appreciation. Freedom Chapter will be presenting colors at the CAR State Convention, being held at HCU, next Spring.

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

Upcoming Events and Color Guard Activities

S/N	20-22 Oct	TXSSAR BOM	College Station
C	26 Oct -	US Naturalization Program	Bryan
C	04 Nov -	Compatriot Grave Marking Program	The Woodlands/Conroe
C	09 Nov -	School Presentation/Heritage Museum	Conroe
C	09 Nov -	Tunnel for Towers Veterans Prog	Harris County
C	10 Nov -	School Presentation/Heritage Museum	Conroe
N	10 Nov -	JROTC Klein ISD Veterans Day	Klein
N	11 Nov -	Montgomery Co Vets Comm/Vets Day	Conroe
N	11 Nov -	Conservatory at Alden Bridge Vets Prog	The Woodlands
C	13 Nov -	Twin Creeks DAR Meeting	Spring
C	13 Nov -	School Presentation Keenan Elem	Conroe
C	15 Nov -	Peachtree Elem School Presentations	Conroe Library
C	17 Nov -	School Presentation/Heritage Museum	Conroe
S	02 Dec -	Dickens on the Strand Parade	Galveston
C	09 Dec -	Christmas Parade	Conroe
C	15 Dec -	Lady Washington DAR Christmas Lunch	Houston
N	16 Dec -	Wreaths Across America	Montgomery

Old Business

- President Byram announced that the Freedom Chapter has worked with a local company to build a granite bench (an NSSAR 250th project) for the upcoming new Education Building at the Montgomery County Memorial Veterans Park in Conroe. The Company is donating the bench, so there will be no cost to the

Chapter. The Veteran's Commission voted to approve the project. The location of the bench will be placed at the front entrance of the building. A ribbon cutting ceremony for the new building is scheduled for November 11, 2023, Veterans Day. All Chapter Compatriots are urged to attend.

- 1st VP Hamaker announced that the Wreaths Across America event is fully funded for 2023. A big thanks to Compatriot Tom Stuewe for his efforts!
- Compatriots Hamaker and Sellards announced that the Chapter will be conducting the second Chapter Compatriot Grave Marking Program in November; date to be determined at October meeting.
- Coushatii Trace DAR Chapter and Freedom Chapter is teaming up at Travis Middle School in Conroe 17 and 18 October for school/class presentations.
- November Chapter Meeting date changed from 21 November to 14 November due to the Thanksgiving Holiday.

New Business

- Secretary Sellards made a motion that the Chapter donate \$500.00 to the Texas SAR's Austin Monument Project in accordance with the State President's challenge of donating the equivalent of \$3.75 per chapter member. The motion was seconded by William Myers and was unanimously approved.
- State Secretary Oller encouraged all Compatriots to pay their upcoming dues online.
- Chapter Compatriot Grave Marking Program set for 4 Nov at The Methodist Church, The Woodlands and at Cashner Cemetery in Conroe.

This Day in History – by Don Stone;

17 Oct 1777: British forces under General 'Johnny' Burgoyne surrendered to Major General Horatio Gates at the battle of Saratoga. This victory resulted in the formal recognition of the American forces by the French Crown. One of the best American Generals critical to winning the battle was Brigadier General Benedict Arnold!

SAR Closing/Adjourn: President Art Byram, 7:50 PM 'till we meet again'

Sons of the American Revolution Mission Statement

'The Sons of the American Revolution honors our Revolutionary War patriot ancestors by promoting patriotism, serving our communities, and educating and inspiring future generations about the founding principles of our Country.'