

January 10, 2015
MEETING MINUTES OF
DALLAS CHAPTER #2
SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION



Outgoing President Rob Kittrell called monthly meeting to order at 8:30am in the dining room of the Presbyterian Village North retirement community in Dallas, Texas with the posting of the colors by Compatriot Tom Whitelock.

Pledges to the **United States Flag** and **Texas Flag** were led by incoming **President George Ramphrey** and **Mark Hansen** respectively. **Dr. Charles Baker** led the affirmation to the **SAR pledge**. Next, Compatriot **Tracy Ponders** lead the attendees in “*My Country Tis of Thee.*” The group was led in the invocation by Chaplain Frank Ponders.

Head Greeter, Ralph McDowell recognized **Gary Sission** as the greeter for the morning’s meeting . **President Kittrell** recognized visitors and guests for the morning’s meeting. This was followed by a joke from **Dr. Charles Baker**. Approval of the minutes for the December meeting were tabled as they were unavailable for viewing prior to the meeting.

President Kittrell introduced **American History Essay Contest Chairman, John Morton**. Mr. Morton introduced the contest winner, **Shareesah Mason** who teaches in the **Dallas Independent School District**. Ms. Mason was asked to read the essay that she submitted to the chapter. Through her essay, Ms. Mason shared how she uses classroom creativity to engage the students interest in the American Revolution. Members were inspired by her teaching methods. Ms. Mason was presented with a check and a certificate from the chapter by Chairman John Morton.



Americanism



1st Vice-President Mark Hansen presented the morning’s Americanism speech. Mr. Hansen presented a talk on “The Origins of American Football”. The group learned that football was actually an offshoot of the game of rugby. The first football game was between Harvard and Tufts University in 1875. The “father of football” is considered to be Walter Camp. Mr. Hansen was recognized with a certificate of appreciation by outgoing President Rob Kittrell.

Program



1st Vice-President Mark Hansen introduced the main speaker for the morning, **Bill Murchison**. Mr. Murchison started his journalistic career at the Corsicana Daily Sun and became a contributing editor for both the Dallas Times Herald and later The Dallas Morning News. He is an alumnus of The University of Texas and is the author of 5 books. His presentation this morning was based on one of his books entitled “*The Cost of Liberty: The Life of John Dickenson*”.

Mr. Murchison explained that many considered John Dickenson to be an opponent of the American Revolution because he felt the colonists were not prepared in many ways to face a war with a formidable opponent; however he is known as the “penman” of the American Revolution. Mr. Murchison offered member an opportunity to purchase an autographed

copy of his book

Golden Hammer Award

Gary Sission, FCP, and founder of the Golden Hammer Award was on hand to announce the winner of this prestigious symbol of contribution of time and effort to the Dallas Chapter. The winner of this year's "hammer" was Treasurer and FCP, Nick Harper. Mr. Harper will get the privilege of having the golden sledge hammer around his house for the year 2015.



New Members

Incoming **President George Ramphrey** took the podium to introduce and induct three new members to the Dallas Chapter. The following new members were sworn in: Robert Curry, Jerry Brown, and Kip Rolland. Each new member shared information on their patriot forefather.



2015 Officers



FCP and Former TXSSAR State President, Bob Clark was in attendance to assist with the swearing in of the 2015 Dallas Chapter Officers. The following compatriots took the oath of office: President, George Ramphrey; 1st Vice-President Mark Hansen; 2nd Vice-President, Jim Fairbairn; Treasurer, Nick Harper; and Chapter Secretary, Alan Peterson.

OFFICER'S REPORTS

The only officer reporting this week was Nick Harper who presented the Treasurer's Report for the month. Mr. Harper reported that there were 29 members in attendance and 6 guests for today's meeting. The checking account balance is \$3,617.86 which included the accrual of \$42.47 in interest.

PRESIDENT'S NOTES

Outgoing President Rob Kittrell presented the Chapter Service Award to Historian and Veterans Affairs Chairman: **Harry Friedrich**. Chairman Friedrich expressed his appreciation for the recognition of his work with veterans.



Incoming **President George Ramphrey** recognized State Color Guard Captain, Drake Pettie. Mr. Pettie was in attendance to swear in FCP Rob Kittrell for the role of Color Guard Commander for the Dallas Chapter.

Treasurer, Nick Harper conducted the door prize drawing. The benediction was conducted by Chaplain, Frank Pounders and the recessional was led by President George Ramphrey. The meeting was adjourned at 10:15

Respectfully submitted,
Alan Peterson, Chapter Secretary