

**May 14, 2016**

**Minutes of Dallas Chapter #2**

Sons of the American Revolution

TEXAS SOCIETY



Prior to the Chapter meeting being called to order at 8:31 am, by President Ramphrey, Compatriot <James Fairbairn spoke to the membership about his niece- Elizabeth's current project to send cards and letters to our fellow Compatriot **Austin Fairbairn**, who is an Air Force **Lieutenant**. Participation in writing a greeting and/or wishing him safe service will be greatly appreciated by the family & the sponsoring "Nathaniel Mills" DAR Chapter.

Chaplain Frank Pounders gave the sick-call and rendered the morning's Invocation along with a brief memorial remembrance for Compatriot members that recently passed away this year:

***Carl Keith Beers, Alan Pickens\*, and James Templin***

Pledges to the **United States Flag** and **Texas Flag** were led by Warren Johnson and Bill Watts respectively. FCP Tom Whitelock led members in the affirmation to **SAR** followed by John Morton getting everyone in a patriotic mood to sing **America**.

FCP Ralph McDowell stated that Compatriot Gerald Tyler helped in greeting an additional twenty members and the following guests: *Barbara Baker, Melinda Garza, Calen Garza, Harold Marshall, Lenore Marshall* and *Ben Black* (Colorado Compatriot) to this morning's meeting.



FCP & Joke Meister Charles Baker regaled the membership with the tale of "Jimmy Boy" and his backwood's wantta-be warriors negotiating war with the U.S. President.

## Americanism



<Calen Garza, our Chapter Knight Essay winner, did us proud by also representing Dallas #2 in the State Oration competition. Prior to being presented the local and state award certificates by Oration Chairman FCP Whitelock, Calen repeated his award winning (2<sup>nd</sup> place) speech for the Compatriots.

The theme was centered on U.S. Supreme Court Justice *Antonin Scalia's* "belief that the federal government should only be given powers explicitly stated in the Constitution. Thus he was a strict constitutionalist who consistently reminded himself of the beliefs of the founding fathers, ultimately allowing the original intentions, legacies and philosophies of the Revolutionary Era to continue to thrive in today's modern era".

# GUEST SPEAKER

Our own Bill Watts (Newsletter Editor) appeared in his Color Guard Frontiersman attire to instruct the members in a hands-on demonstration of how to prepare for firing a musket. He handed out paper strips, sand and marbles to each Compatriot to roll into a tube form a cartridge. He next demonstrated how black powder was loaded in the musket along with the cartridge. Since this was less accurate when fired, most hunters carried a “speed loader” in order to get shots off faster and on target.



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After showing off all the items carried in colonial times for preparing to firing as well as cleaning the gun, Bill answered an assortment of questions related to the use of the weapon in that era, for which he received a grateful applause



and Certificate of Appreciation from 1st VP Johnson.

A number of members such as **Kip Rolland**> had follow-up questions for Bill, after the session.



President Ramphrey called FCP Ralph McDowell forward to speak on the new Outstanding Citizenship Pins that are replacing Good Citizenship Medal that we had been presenting in past years. He said that the Compatriots who volunteered to award these lapel pins, can enhance the ceremony by relating the story of the minuteman’s purpose and why he was chosen to be emblazoned on the pin.

## Officers & Committee Reports

**1<sup>st</sup> Vice President/Programs** – Warren Johnson reported that June’s Guest Speaker will be our newly elected Texas Society President **Michael Radcliff**. **Secretary** - Tom Whitelock stated that last month’s minutes have been distributed and posted on the **Chapter** website. By motion and voice vote; they were approved. He also reminded everyone that the new Chapter website address is: **[www.txssar.org/dallas](http://www.txssar.org/dallas)** **Registrar** – Jerry Pinkerton has a number of Compatriot’s supplementals at national for approval. **Treasurer** – Kenneth Lamb had no report as of this date. **Membership** – Ralph McDowell commented that we’re down to eleven “dues unpaid members” and at last review, the Chapter has 263 active members. **Newsletter** – Bill Watts asked that all Officers and Committee Chairmen please send him their reports and photos for use in the bi-monthly publication. **[bill\\_watts@att.net](mailto:bill_watts@att.net)**

[Color Guard](#) – Bob Kittrell said the up-coming events are the Ennis Polka Festival Parade on May 28 \* Restland Memorial Day Parade on May 30. Bob reminded every one to consider coming out to Frisco on June 18<sup>th</sup> and help in the Flag Retirement Ceremonies sponsored by Congressman Sam Johnson and spearheaded by Jeanette Prasifka. [North Texas CG](#) – Bill Watts also added that another moving experience for color guard members to participate in the Naturalization Ceremonies for new citizens, one of which is coming up this next Monday. [Poster Contest](#) – John Morton reported that our student entry won 2<sup>nd</sup> place during the recent Texas Society state competition contest.

The Treasurer next held the door prize drawing followed by Chaplain Ponders rendering the Benediction and the President concluding the meeting at 9:40am with the SAR Recessional.

Respectfully submitted by,  
Tom M. Whitelock- Secretary



\*

1998 photo taken by [Alan Pickens](#) at *The Ball Park* when Dallas Color Guard presented the colors and a Flag Certificate prior to a Texas Rangers' game. Shown are (m) Ralph McDowell, and (r) in front of Mike Radcliff is former Chapter and TXSSAR President Richard "Dick" Arnold (who will be celebrating his 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday on July 7<sup>th</sup>.)