



# THE MINUTEMAN



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September 2000

## President's Message

by J. Mark Hansen

### CROWING AND CREDITS

At this, the mid-point of my term of office, a little crowing and a lot of thank you's are in order. State Society President Richard Arnold rose at our last meeting and made this stirring declaration: "Gentlemen, the Texas Society leads all others in the nation, and the Dallas Chapter leads the Texas Society." President Arnold's bias -- he is, after all, a past president and a continuing member of our Chapter -- in no way diminishes my pride in our accomplishments.

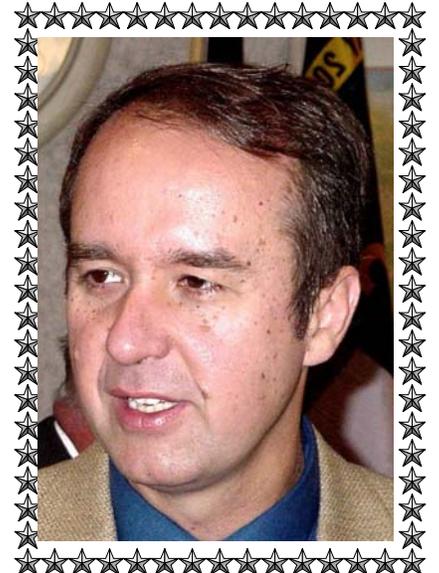
There is a military maxim that goes: "A commander is responsible for everything his unit does or fails to do." That saying justifies my personal pride in our Chapter's success, but also requires that I give credit where credit is due, namely to all those whose counsel and assistance I am enjoying. **Dr. Gary Sisson** has been bringing outstanding guest speakers to our meetings. Our Awards VP **Cliff Slagle**, in addition to his other, considerable duties as State Society Treasurer and Color Guard member, supervised our presentation of more medals and certificates in the Dallas and Richardson schools than ever (and in fact made many of the presentations himself). **Judge Tracy Ponders**, our Secretary, has used innovative technologies to compile comprehensive minutes of our meetings. Our stalwart Treasurer, **Jack Carney**, has kept our finances in reassuringly good order. **Don Hay**, our Registrar, has tackled the Herculean tasks of updating our membership roster and shepherding new member applications through the system with enthusiasm and dogged determination. **Nick Gilliam**, our Historian, is collating the many photographs, newspaper clippings, and mementos we accumulate throughout the year into our scrapbook, which will compete with those of other chapters at the State Convention next spring and, eventually, go to the Dallas Public Library's Genealogy Section. Our Chaplain, **Frank Ponders**, keeps tabs on Com-

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### September Meeting

**A**ndrew Falk, Ph.D. candidate in History at U. of Texas (Austin), will speak on "How Political Parties Got Started after the Revolution". For future program suggestions, feel free to call 1<sup>st</sup> VP Gary Sisson at 214-528-0543.

**J**aan McCoy, Program Director of "Legends" Radio Station KAAM 770, addressed the chapter on "How to Start Your Own Radio Station — Three Times"



*(President's Message Continued from page 1)*

patriots who are ailing and has offered solace and SAR grave markers to the families of those who have passed on. **Hank Voegtle**, our Sgt.-at-Arms, has faithfully hauled our Chapter's flags and other accouterments back and forth from his home, set them up at meetings, and manages, besides, not only our Chapter's Eagle Scout awards program, but also the State Society's as well. **Alan Pickens** is our regular photographer at meetings and makes sure we are mentioned in local papers several times a year. Our endowment continues to grow with **Herb Jones'** oversight. **John Warterfield**, our DAR Liaison, has been instrumental in coordinating several events with our sister organization. **Henry Rather** is hard at work on our annual campaign to recruit new members, not only for our Chapter, but others as well, at the Texas State Fair, and is also making arrangements for our special meeting at the Harvey Hotel on January 13, when former Texas Governor Clements will speak. (Henry has also been busy as a special events coordinator for the State Society.) Our school contest chairmen, **Bill Welch** (essay), **Judge James Kerr** (oration), and **Professor Charles Baker** (poster) are poised to do a great job with those projects. (Charles Baker has also been indispensable to me in editing and composing our newsletter.) Last but not least, our past president and current district vice president, **Ralph McDowell**, has been my alter ego and wise counselor through these first six months.

No president of this SAR Chapter -- reputedly the largest in the world -- could be successful without the dedication and hard work of men like these. My hat is off to them.

**THE MINUTEMAN** is the monthly newsletter of the Dallas Chapter-Texas Society, Sons of the American Revolution, a non-profit organization. (All photos by Charles Baker)

*Meetings are held on the Second Saturday of each month at Luby's Cafeteria, 6221 E. Mockingbird Lane, Dallas, Texas. Coffee served with fellowship at 7:30, breakfast at 8:00, and meeting from 8:30 'til 9:30. Guests are welcome at our meetings.*



## THE GENEALOGY CORNER

by JUDGE EDWARD F. BUTLER, SR.  
TXSSAR SOCIETY GENEALOGIST

**IMMIGRANT SHIPS TRANSCRIBERS GUILD** (ISTG): *THE COMPASS* web site contains links to Web sites for researching emigration, immigration, and naturalization; more than 100 passenger list sites; ethnic research; libraries and archives; types, descriptions, and images of passenger ships; and additional worldwide maritime information available both online and offline <http://istg.rootsweb.com/>

**GenTech 2001 Conference.** The 2001 GenTec Conference is returning to Dallas for its meeting on 26-27 Jan. 2001. This group has been the leading edge in technological advances in genealogy. Rest assured there will be demonstrations of computer software and high tech methods of finding and writing about your ancestors. I've attended four conferences and have found them to be highly informative.

**City Directories Online.** Visit this site for a free look. Then, if you want to find an ancestor in a City Directory from one of 103 Cities in 30 States from 1859-1868, 1871, 1873, 1880-1881, 1890-1892, 1905 and 1908-1910, then you can pay to research. The URL is <http://www.citydirectories.psmmedia.com/>

**Duties of the First Line Sponsor.** It is the responsibility of the first line sponsor of a new SAR applicant to insure that the applicant has prepared the application according to the rules and guidelines; that the application is submitted with the correct number of copies; with adequate documentary proof of the lineage of all individuals who are a necessary part of the pedigree; and with the appropriate fee. If an application is inadequate, it will be returned to the sponsor.

**NEW INTERNET MAILING LIST INDEX.** <http://lists.rootsweb.com/> This page makes it a breeze to find, join, or search a mailing list. There are mailing lists for many family surnames; Counties or regions from each state; Provinces or foreign countries, etc.

## CHAPTER NEWS

New member **Tom Whitelock** was sworn in at the Chapter's August meeting. Dallas Compatriot and FPG **Clovis Brakebill** has published a new book, *the Descendants of Peter Brakebill, 1760-1844: A Soldier in the American Revolution from Pennsylvania and Maryland Who Settled in Tennessee*. President Brakebill has generously donated to the Dallas Chapter all royalties from the book, the first printing of which has already sold out. The book earned President Brakebill the Minnesota Society's Stephen Taylor Award for 1999-2000, which President Brakebill received at the 110<sup>th</sup> National Congress this past June.



**J**ack Haughton, V.P. International District, requested help in contacting eligible youth in other countries, concerning membership in CAR, and patriotic activities such as poster and essay contests.

**N**ewly-sworn Compatriot Tom Whitelock shows the Delaware flag that he purchased for the Chapter in honor of his patriot ancestor.



### OFFICER REPORTS

**Registrar's Report:**

Chapter membership now stands at 292.  
At the July meeting, there were 29 members and 6 guests.  
Don Hay, Registrar

**Treasurer's Report:**

Regular Checking: \$ 2901.78  
Endowment Funds: \$ 29,873.73  
Jack Carney, Treasurer

### CONSTITUTION WEEK BRUNCH

**T**he Dallas Area Regents Council of the Daughters of the American Revolution invite all the members of the SAR to the Brookhaven Country Club, 3333 Golfing Green, Farmers Branch, TX on **Saturday, September 16, 2000**, beginning at 10:00 AM. This year's program will be presented by Compatriot **Frank Gibson**, of the SAR Austin Chapter. The cost of this year's brunch will be \$17.00 per person. Please make your checks payable to: Dallas Area Regents Council and send to Mrs. Cindy White, 14709 Marsha, Balch Springs, TX 75180-3606. If you should have any questions you may call Comp. John Warterfield at 214/361-2721 or Mrs. Cindy White at 972/286-3698. **Reservation deadline: September 6.**

### MEET YOUR CHAPTER OFFICERS

Newsletter Editor Dr. H. Charles Baker is descended from David Baker, a corporal from the Virginia Line in the "cannonade" under General George Washington in the Battles of White Plains, Trenton, Princeton, Bradywine, and Germantown. David's father, Thomas Baker, died when his powder magazine at his home in Culpepper, Virginia, exploded while he was making gunpowder for the patriots, and David's eight brothers and four sisters all fought or contributed to the cause of the Revolution. David's brother Richard was killed in the Battle of Trenton.

Charles received his Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering from the University of Texas (Austin) and teaches telecommunications courses in the S.M.U. Electrical Engineering Department. His popular freshman course, Introduction to Modern Telecommunications, is taken by about half of all SMU students.

Charles married Barbara Anne Allen, a descendent of Patriot Jones Broach who served in the North Carolina Line.

Charles and Barbara have two daughters: Jennifer is the Children's Librarian at Lewisville Public Library, and Rachel is a schoolteacher.

