



THE MINUTEMAN



Volume V, Issue 11

Dallas Chapter Founded July 4, 1929

November 2000

President's Message

by J. Mark Hansen

It has come to my attention that our Chapter Bylaws need amending; and, in accordance with Article VI, Section 2 of the Chapter Constitution, I hereby give the first of two required notices of the proposed amendment.

The current Bylaws (or, at least, the only copy anyone can find), which was last revised in June 1990 (if a handwritten notation on my copy can be believed), dictate that Chapter officers be nominated, elected, and installed in October, November and December of each calendar year. For at least the eight years I have attended meetings, however, we instead have started the nomination process in January and ended with installation at our March meeting. Chapter greybeards tell me that is because the State Society installed its officers in March, and it was thought that we should conform. The Chapter Bylaws, however, as far as anyone knows, were never amended to record that change.

The proposed amendment is simply to change the specific months referred to in Article VI, Sections 1-4, of the Chapter Bylaws. The present wording is shown with <<angle brackets>>, and the proposed wording with [straight brackets]:

Article VI

Nominating Committee

Section 1: A nominating committee shall be appointed in <<August>> [November] of each year. It shall consist of at least three of the most recent Chapter presidents, all of whom should have attended regularly during the past year and are, as a consequence, in a position to be familiar with chapter activities and membership, with the most recent serving as Chairman.

Section 2: The nominating committee shall report its nominations for Chapter Officers at the monthly meeting in <<October>> [January] Other nominations may be made by members from the floor at this <<October>>

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October Meeting

Randoll Reagan will speak at our November 11 meeting on the subject of "Religion in Colonial America."

For future program suggestions, feel free to call 1st VP Gary Sisson at 214-528-0543.

Her Britannic Majesty's Consul, Paul Martinez, spoke at the October meeting, giving a fascinating description of what the Consul does.



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[January] meeting, following the report of the nominating committee. All nominations shall be reported in the Chapter Bulletin prior to the <<November>> [February] meeting.

Section 3: Chapter officers shall be elected at the regular Chapter meeting in <<November>> [February] of each year.

Section 4: Chapter officers as elected shall be formally installed with proper ceremony at the Chapter meeting in <<December>> [March] of each year.

THE MINUTEMAN is the monthly newsletter of the Dallas Chapter-Texas Society, Sons of the American Revolution, a non-profit organization. (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.

SPECIAL JANUARY BRUNCH MEETING CANCELED

Compatriot and former Governor William P. Clements, Jr., has expressed to the Chapter his regret that he will be unable to speak at the special brunch planned for January 13, 2001, at the Harvey Hotel, due to hip surgery he is scheduled to undergo. As a consequence, we will have our regular monthly meeting at Luby's that day. We wish Gov. Clements a quick recovery and look forward to his speaking on a future occasion.



Chapter Registrar **Don Hay** reported two new members (not present), and two applications pending.

OFFICER REPORTS

Registrar's Report:

Chapter membership now stands at 298.
October meeting: 42 members, 6 guests.
Don Hay, Registrar

Treasurer's Report:

Regular Checking: \$ 2413.23
Endowment Funds: \$ 29,949.08
Jack Carney, Treasurer

CHAPTER NEWS

Under the superb supervision of Chapter Special Events Chairman **Henry Rather**, several of our Dallas Compatriots helped staff the DAR House during the State Fair this past month. Thanks to Compatriots **Bob Coursey, Cliff Slagle, Don Hay, Frank Ponders, Graham Martin, Tom Smith, Charles Baker, Clovis Brakebill, and Paul Cooper**. Over 150 potential new Compatriots were found.



Dr. Gary Sisson

Against a red, white, and blue background, First V.P. Dr. Gary Sisson gave the Americanism presentation based on the one dollar bill.

Veterans Hospital Liaison Dr. Bill Barris announced that reading materials and other incidental items are badly needed at the Hospital. He urged everyone to bring magazines and toiletries to the November meeting, for him to distribute in the hospital.



Dr. Bill Barris

THE GENEALOGY CORNER
 by **JUDGE EDWARD F. BUTLER, SR.**
TXSSAR Genealogist

KNOW THE HISTORY SURROUNDING YOUR FAMILY

Sometimes it's helpful to know the historical events that occurred at the time and in the place your ancestors lived. For instance, early pioneers in western Pennsylvania were forced out in the late 1700's, not by Indians or other civil unrest, but by a large forest fire that destroyed the entire western half of the state. To find their unique circumstances, you should locate a local history of the towns and counties where your ancestors lived. Consider the following events:

Religious intolerance e.g. Lord Calvert in Maryland was a Catholic. During the mid 1600's he forced the early Virginia Settlers to either swear allegiance to the Pope or leave the state. There was a small war. Many Protestants migrated to Westmoreland Co., VA. If they were Quakers, there will be minutes of their meetings of AFriends@ Colonial Wars with France & the Indians - Major battles & Indian Uprisings

Major epidemics

- Wagon trains that went through on their way west for the Gold Rush
- Land Rush announcements
- Natural disasters
- Local skirmishes (for example, the Honey War in southern Iowa in the 1830's to 1840's)
- Railroads and local waterways
- Natural barriers such as woods, rivers, mountains, and deserts that precluded transportation

Web Sites of Genealogical Software Companies Offering Support

Ancestral Quest - <http://www.ancquest.com/faqs.htm>

Brother's Keeper - http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/Brothers_Keeper/

Family Tree Maker - <http://www.familytreemaker.com/supptop.html>

Family Tree - <http://www.sierra.com/sierrahome/familytree/>

Ged4Web - <http://www.ged4web.com/>

Genealogy Detective 2000 - <http://www.genealogy-detective-2000.com/>

Kindred Connections (MyTrees.com) - <http://www.kindredkonnnections.com/>

Legacy Family Tree - <http://www.legacyfamilytree.com/Support.asp>

Personal Ancestral File - <http://help.surnameweb.org/genprograms/upgrade402.htm>

Ultimate Family Tree - <http://www.uftree.com/>

Thanks to Diana J. Muir, Professional Genealogist

The SAR Color Guard provides some of the best possible publicity for the SAR. Last year's Veterans Day Parade (pictured) was televised before an estimated audience of over six million people, including US military bases worldwide. This year's parade (Nov. 11) will have an even larger audience, since it is downtown and on a Saturday.



