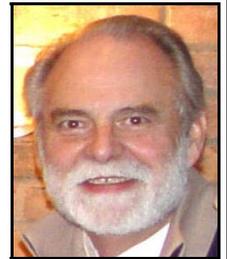




# The MINUTEMAN

Dallas Chapter  
TXSSAR  
Founded July 4, 1929  
May-June 2005



## A "Cover" Story

by Tom Whitelock, President, Dallas Chapter,  
Sons of the American Revolution

When, where and why I choose to wear the Chapter's official uniform has usually been a definite "cause and effect" undertaking over the last year. However, events during these past few months have made me rethink the reasoning behind the three Ws and look beyond the public relations and promotion value we often seek by donning the blue & buff attire.

I guess my mental inquisition started as I joined others in welcoming back our servicemen and women at DFW airport. For sure the purpose in shaking their hand was to extend the appreciation of a grateful nation for their commitment and devotion to duty, but then it hit me as one young Marine responded with "you were there first." He had noted my uniform and with a knowing smile recalled how our patriot ancestors had likewise fought for freedom's sake.

As I drove toward home later that morning, I decided to exercise my right to vote (early) in the recent election. I had no qualms about doing so in costume and for those of you who know me well, I was already planning the "one-liner quip" for the Registrar when I entered. True, I did get the stares, but put everyone at ease with my statement that, "I have been waiting for over two hundred years to vote." What I wasn't expecting was as fast a reply from the gentleman stamping my voter card. "That's okay, George," he said. "We've been keeping your privilege to do so for just as long." Again, the image I had portrayed was not of a man in costume but rather of an historical ideal that has survived since 1776.

A few more events in the weeks that followed really increased my pride in being a member of SAR and impacted my desire to take every future opportunity to wear my uniform. The first was to attend Colonial Days at a local school and be asked by parent as well as child what my Patriot Ancestor was like. The second was when I had the honor of presenting ROTC medals at various high schools and a university. It was more than just "photo-op" occasions; it was a true historical working and educational experience. I was amazed at how young cadets would come up to me and start explaining to their friends about the design and function of my uniform during the Revolutionary War.

The final impact on my W's analysis came at our last Chapter meeting when I felt that I could show no better way to honor a fellow Compatriot receiving a very special award than to appear in my Color Guard uniform. God knows I'll be doing it again soon as we muster the troops for holiday parades, and I would welcome the company of any others who choose to do so.

### June 11 Meeting

Our speaker will be Mrs. Sonia Brown speaking on the subject of Thomas Jefferson and the Louisiana Purchase. As we are in the bicentennial of the Lewis & Clark expedition, this is a very timely topic.

For future program suggestions, please feel free to call 2005, 1<sup>st</sup> VP, Tom Smith at 214-691-8023.

#### Registrar's

##### Report:

(Mel McCoy)

Memberships:	279, 13 pend.
Last Meeting:	57
Guests:	38

#### Treasurer's

##### Report:

(Allen Christian)

Checking & Cash:	\$ 2,524.70
Minuteman Fund:	\$ 7,849.54
Ritchie Fund:	\$26,442.35

THE MINUTEMAN is the bi-monthly newsletter of the Dallas Chapter of the Texas Society, Sons of the American Revolution, a non-profit organization. (Pictures by Charles Baker, Allen Christian, Tom Whitelock, Barbara Smith and Barbara Baker)

Meetings are held on the Second Saturday of each month at **Crowne Plaza Suites**, 7800 Alpha Road in Dallas, near LBJ & Coit Road. Coffee served with fellowship at 7:30, breakfast at 8:00, meeting from 8:30 until about 9:45. Guests are welcome.

## DALLAS CHAPTER NEWS



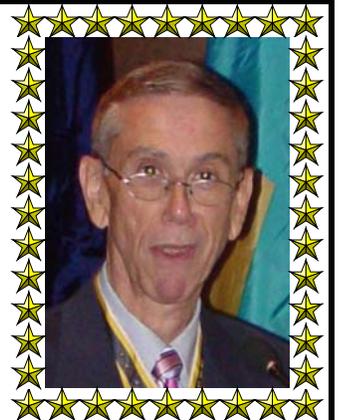
Following his excellent presentation on Henry Knox, Compatriot **Lloyd Bockstruck** was presented one of the highest honors in the SAR — the Gold Good Citizenship Medal. On the authority of the Executive Committee of NSSAR, the medal was presented to Lloyd by TXSSAR President **Dr. Jim Heath** as **Tom Whitelock** looked on.

At right, **Lloyd Bockstruck** shows off his new medal, flanked by COL **James Johnson**, and President **Tom Whitelock**. The Gold Good Citizenship Medal is the only solid gold medal presented by the SAR.



Compatriot **Richard Stanford** spoke at our April meeting on “Greenbacks: Banking Systems from the Revolution to the Civil War.” He gave a fascinating presentation ranging from the “Pieces of Eight” to the development of the Dollar as the basis for our monetary system. Unfortunately, our picture of Richard was destroyed in an electronic disaster inside Charles’ camera.

Compatriot **Lloyd Bockstruck** (right) gave a historic presentation on the life of Patriot Henry Knox at our May meeting. Knox developed the art of field artillery under General George Washington, which contributed to victories in significant battles such as at Trenton. Following the Revolutionary War, Knox succeeded Washington as Commander of the Continental Army and later served in Washington’s Administration as the first Secretary of War.





Above: Former recipients of SAR Service to Veterans Medals presented new Service to Veterans Medals. **Cliff Slagle** on left presented to **Dick Jones**, far right; **Ralph McDowell**, second from left, presented to **Bert Huls**.

Right: Part of the 50,000 spectators in Ennis are shown behind the award-winning North Texas Color Guard. See p. 5.



Below: Five new compatriots were sworn in by TXSSAR President Dr. **Jim Heath**. They are left to right:: Compatriots **Robert Tanner, Jr.**, **Robert Tanner, Sr.**, **Kenneth Bell**, **Paul Bowden**, and **Stephen Barnard**.





Left and above: The color guard assisted in the annual Colonial Day at Providence Christian School. After opening ceremonies, Dr. Gary “Patrick Henry” Sisson repeated his famous speech for the boys and girls in their colonial garb. Shown here behind Tom White-lock are Compatriots Mike Rad-cliff, Tom Smith, Ralph McDowell, Mel McCoy, Jim Templin, Cliff Slagle, and Gary Sisson. Not pictured but participating were Richard Arnold and Charles Baker.



Center: Lloyd Bockstruck, congratulated Graham Martin on his receiving the 25-year SAR Service Pin.



Lower: SMU Engineering sophomore and Air Force ROTC Cadet Kevin Ochs visited the May Chapter meeting with AF instructor CPT Dale Lathrop. Kevin was selected by the Air Force instructional staff as the outstanding cadet in the AFROTC program at SMU. SAR presents bronze ROTC medals to high school Junior ROTC students who exhibit exemplary qualities of leadership, academics and patriotism. Silver ROTC medals are presented to college ROTC cadets. The silver medal being worn by Cadet Ochs was presented to him by Tom White-lock in military ceremonies on Saturday, April 30.

To see these pictures in brilliant color, check out our Chapter Website at <http://sardallas.org> While you are there, you can get lots of other useful information. There are links to Chapter Minutes, to the DAR, CAR and other organizations of interest, Chapter Officers, Minuteman Newsletter archives, and lots of other good info.

Dallas Chapter Compatriot and 2nd VP **Charles Baker** recently journeyed to the Old Town Cemetery in Bakersville, NC to mark the grave of his great<sup>3</sup> grandfather David Baker who fought under General George Washington at the Battles of White Plains, Trenton, Princeton, Bradywine and Germantown. CPL David Baker was in charge of the canonade under COL Henry Knox. Following his discharge, David joined his widowed mother in North Carolina and founded Bakersville. David's father, Thomas Baker, had been killed when his powder magazine in Culpepper, VA exploded. Thomas was supplying gunpowder to the Continental Army. Charles was unable to find an SAR Chapter near Bakersville,



so he decided to "take the bull by the horns" and mark the grave himself. After marking the grave, he informed the local Mitchell County Historic Society whose representatives were very pleased.



Pictured above are just a few of the Poster Contest entries for our Chapter. See p. 6 for the announcement of the winner.

Above-left: The award-winning North Texas Color Guard at the National PolkaFest Parade in Ennis on May 28. The "Best Marching Unit" trophy will be on display at our June 11 meeting. Left to right: Compatriots **Glen Toal, Tom Whitelock, Mel McCoy, Dallas Windham, Charles Windham, Art Ingalls, Tom Smith, Charles Baker, Jim Templin, Chalmers Omberg, Cole Youngman, and Gerald Tyler.**

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 ★ Welcome the Troops! There is a daily arrival of troops on R&R from Iraq at DFW Terminal B, Gate ★  
 ★ 39. Call 972-574-0392 after 5 p.m. on the day before to learn the next-day arrival time. ★  
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