



THE

December 14, 2019  
News & Minutes of Dallas Chapter  
Texas Society - Sons of the American Revolution  
Chapter Chartered July 4, 1929



# MINUTEMAN

## Celebrating Our 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary 1929-2019



Prior to the monthly meeting being called to order at 8:37am by President <Tom Van Fossen, in the dining room of the Presbyterian Village North in Dallas Texas, he welcomed “1<sup>st</sup> Responders” from Fire Stations #28 and #37 > who were to be honored guests.



After *Invocation* was given by FCP and State Chaplain **Frank Ponders**, the President asked FCP **Tom Whitelock** & FCP **Robert Kittrell** (in uniform) to post colors. >



Chapter website:  
[txssar.org/Dallas](http://txssar.org/Dallas)

and then T2 & Compatriot **Mark Howell** led the pledges respectively for the U.S. and Texas State Flags. 2VP **Alan Prather** led fellow Compatriots in the affirmation to SAR and **John Morton** was again asked to get the attendees in a patriotic mood by joining him in singing the first stanza of *America*.

### AMERICANISM...

Our sixth Community Service Award and passionate description by T2, of the May 2018 hideous attack on Danyeil Townzen being set on fire, and her miraculous recovery due to the quick action by fireman **Peter Hartnett** > was presented next. The President continued to laud the fireman for having jumped off his firetruck to rush to her side and wrap her in his heavy fire-resistant jacket. For his valor he was awarded the SAR Life Saving Medal, Certificate and the Chapter’s new *Wooden Challenge Coin*.





In his appreciative comments Fireman Hartnett acknowledged that all good deeds are derived from a “team effort” and to that point, President **Van Fossen** asked that we rise to applaud the rest of Peter’s team of 1<sup>st</sup> Responders and our honored guests.

## *Guest Speaker*

# DAN REED

His topic for the day: *The First Rifle Musket* was set aside briefly as he first provided a scenic route tour of his family history – all pointing to why as a youth, he discovered the unique firearm> stored away in his Grandmother’s closet. He even dropped a **Golden Nugget** in our laps, commenting that his Grandfather, *Byron Beecher Williams (SAR# 60886)* was once a Dallas Chapter member in the mid-40s. His Patriot was Pvt. Thomas Tucker of NC.

Meanwhile, back on the firing line, Dan explained further how the rifling grooves were installed, starting just after the War of 1812 at Harper’s Ferry armory. Two unique facts about the gun were \*starting in 1812, former “Flint-locks were now being converted to Percussion” and \*the actual rifling of the former “clear/smooth bores” started about two inches inside the front of the barrel, so as to allow the paper cartridges to slide/load in.



Since Compatriot Reed once again provided an entertaining and informative presentation, as well as staying within the allotted time limit (for great repeat speakers), he was presented the one of kind *Dallas Chapter 90<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Mug* instead of his third fifth Liberty Bell and the usual Certificate of Appreciation. (Aw shucks, who’s counting, Dan is always enjoyable to have come speak)

While introducing various TxSSAR Officers who were in attendance at this month’s meeting, President Van Fossen asked State President **David Temple** > to comment on the Society’s yearend activities and future plans for 2020. Of prime importance is the upcoming youth contests’ deadlines and membership dues (retention).





President **Van Fossen** reported that the PNV meeting facility will be available for us to use during 2020 (at the same time and price) with only one caveat, that we please be clear of dining area not later than 10:00am on each monthly second Saturday morning, so that the wait-staff can reset the room for the resident's lunch. To that end we will tighten up our business agendas and presentations.

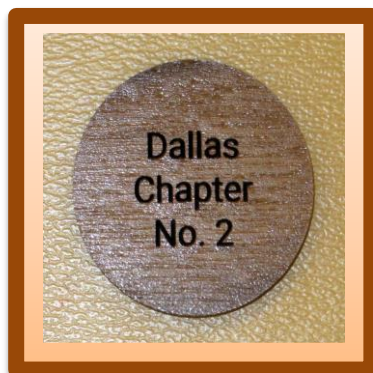
***T2 also reminded all that January's Meeting is Tuesday 1/14/20 and will be a dinner with spouse/guest & music to celebrate our CHAPTER's 90<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY along with installation of 2020 Officers. 6:00-8:30pm at Crowne Plaza Dallas-14315 Midway Road Addison, Texas Reservations required-TVF 972/965-7224 or NH 214/349-6584***

Secretary's November Minutes (as distributed & posed on website) were approved by voice-vote. Treasurer's proposed Budget for 2020 was approved as distributed and voted on.

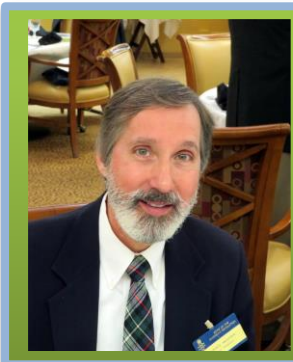
President Van Fossen and Registrar, **Jerry Pinkerton**, preformed the induction ceremony of our newest member **John Paul Labanowski** whose Patriot is *Augustine Willet*. John was also given a TxSSAR Challenge Coin



**T2** alerted all members that, while we are working on the design and production for our very own medal challenge



*These special promotional coins are being offered at \$3 each or two for \$5 and five for \$10. Revenue from their sale goes toward youth awards and other yearly programs and/or personal gifts and unique advertisement. GET YOURS FROM NICK HARPER*



A recent transfer (and former Compatriot) **<Harry Moore** is going thru the reinstatement process and will become an active member of the Chapter shortly.

The President's *Advisory Committee* has effectively counseled him in implementing some new and exciting programs for our current & future Chapter members. One major project that has recently been put on the "Back Burner" going into 2020, is the power point presentation for new Members' indoctrination being spearheaded by **Marshall Scantlin**> (who is currently recovering from surgery.)



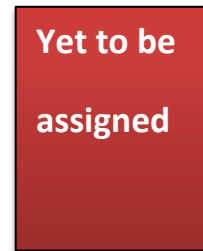
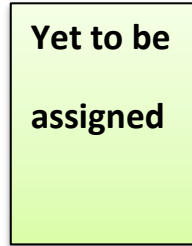
Secretary **Whitelock** was called upon next to read the slate of Officer nominees for 2020 Chapter operations.

**PRESIDENT**

**1<sup>ST</sup> VICE PRESIDENT**

**2<sup>ND</sup> VICE PRESIDENT**

**SECRETARY**



**Tom Van Fossen**

**Mark Harrison**

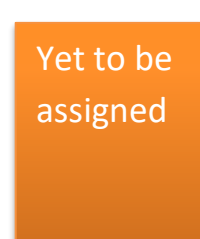
*All names listed here, received, approval by voice vote, now all we need is for a few good men to step forward to fill in the open service spaces for 2020 Officers.*

**REGISTRAR**

**TREASURER**

**CHAPLAIN**

**HISTORIAN**



**JERRY PINKERTON**

**NICK HARPER**

**FRANK PONDERS**

The Secretary took a moment by passing his “tricorn” to solicit funds for giving our kitchen and waitstaff a thank you holiday bonus for their year of service.

Bradley Sue Howell came forward to the podium to announce that CAR members of the *David Pendelton Society* are planning to drive up north to the Allen Cemetery in order to participate in the WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA ceremony. FCP **Kittrell** will also attend.

Color Guard Commander Kittrell also made mention that our entry in the Veterans Day Parade had won 2<sup>nd</sup> Place in the *Patriotic Events* division.

After the drawing for Door Prizes, Chaplain **Pounders** gave the *Benediction*, followed by **T2** leading us the SAR Closing. Adjournment 9:52 am

Respectfully submitted by,  
*Tom M. Whitelock*

## *Other December Events*



President Van Fossen surprised the PVN chef and waitstaff supervisor with a holiday bonus (to be distributed among their teams) for a year of great service.

They both have been alerted that our Chapter’s January meeting will be a dinner event on the evening of the 14<sup>th</sup> at the Crowne Plaza Dallas (Midway Road). However, we’ll be back at PVN on February 8, 2020-same routine & time.

Both Robert Kittrell > and T1 participated in the “Wreaths across America” on the 14<sup>th</sup> after the Chapter’s monthly meeting. Bob participated in ceremonies along with DAR, CAR, and VFW members, while Tom sought out veteran’s graves in little known smaller cemeteries to place wreaths on.

