



THE EAST TEXAS PATRIOT

Sons of the American Revolution

Chapter # 57 Longview, Texas



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The President's Message

“ I Am Totally Amazed “

I watch with interest our daily news and must question the thought and work of our elected officials. What is their objective in serving? It seems that rules have been made by them, but they cannot be followed by them. That we will only use those rules that are for our benefit and discard the rest. I really question the TIME and MONEY spent on various topics, especially when televised and messes up my favorite programs. I would like to know what was really accomplished with the hearing of the accusations of a now Supreme Court Justice and what did we learn from President Trump's former lawyer. Was Attorney Client privilege broken and a new precedent set? Do these men and women have nothing else to do or try to accomplish? If not, maybe they are not needed. Think of the money the taxpayers could save if their time in D.C. was reduced. In education, the teachers are being driven crazy by the elected officials for accountability to prove that they are teaching their subject. Perhaps those elected officials should show and prove their accountability to us on their job performance. The old story does apply “What is good for the Goose is also good for the Gander.”

Enough of my soap box talk. I have been contacted by Major Roland Beasley of the Longview High School Jr. ROTC with the information for this year's honor and awards program. It will be held in the Little Theater at 10:00 am on Wednesday, May 1, 2019. Please put this on your calendar and make plans to represent the SAR. Please submit Flagg Certificate proposals for Flagg Day on Friday, June 14, 2019.

We need to see your smiling face at our meetings, and we need to grow in numbers. I encourage you to make it a point for perfect attendance or at least attend most of the time. Have you thought about bringing a friend that just might wish to become a member? It was my wife's involvement with DRT and DAR that first drew my attention. Then an invitation to attend a meeting by Barney Hilburn. Thus, this year completes my sixth year as the East Texas Chapter #57 Sons of the American Revolution President. I do have many fond memories and shall never forget SAR.

God Bless America! I'll see you at Jason's Deli on April 4, 2019 at 6:00 pm. Later,

Carl



Our April program should be a great one presented by Leonard D. Reese III. Born in PA, Leonard was a Marine and served as a Combat Rifleman in Vietnam in 1969-1970 with the 1st Marine Division. He has recently written a book called, The Nam Within, which discusses his life before, during and after his time in combat and his inner conflict with PTSD. Mr. Reese's book sells for \$17.00 and will be available at the meeting.

Minutes and Treasurer's Report of February 7, 2019

The East Texas Chapter #57, TXSSAR, held its bimonthly meeting on February 7, 2019, at Jason's Deli Restaurant in Longview, Texas at 7 PM. The meeting was called to order by President, Carl Hedges. The opening prayer was given by Chaplain J.D. Denton. The pledges to the United States Flag, the Texas Flag and the SAR Flag were given and guests were introduced. Guests were John and Suzanne Whitsell, a prospective member, Bob and Martha Harness, speaker for the evening and Rob Kornegay.

After dinner, the meeting resumed with the consideration of the Minutes of the previous meeting and the Treasurer's report as printed in the newsletter. Both were accepted as presented. John Bolton proposed a yearbook to replace the one of 11 years ago. He will present the cost at a later time.

President Hedges asked once again for everyone to update their e-mail addresses. As a fund raiser, the hat was passed for excess change from members.

Under new business, President Hedges stressed the importance of SAR and each of us doing our part to keep the organization current. At this time, he presented several medals. Web Master and Treasurer, Mickey Cole, received *The Roger Sherman Medal*, given to a compatriot in recognition of outstanding service rendered to the Chapter. John Bolton received the **Chapter Distinguished Service Medal** in recognition of conspicuous service to the Chapter. Carroll Bolton received the **Lydia Darragh** medal to recognize her assistance working behind the scenes to support the SAR. **The Martha Washington Award** for outstanding service to the Chapter was presented posthumously to Liz Hedges.

The speaker for the meeting, Bob Harness, spoke on his sculpting of the monument "Footprints in the Sand" located in Carthage, Texas. Mr. Harness shared his experiences of making this and other large monuments throughout the South.

It was announced that the next meeting will be on April 4, 2019. The program will be presented by former Marine and author Leonard D. Reese, III.

The meeting was adjourned with the SAR Closing and the benediction by J. D. Denton.

John Bolton, Secretary

Treasurer's Report

January/February 2019

Beginning Balance (01/1/2019)		\$1353.90
Deposits: Membership "Pass the Hat" Donations	\$15.96	
Total Deposits:		\$15.96
Checks: J. Bolton - Stamps	\$25.00	
C. Hedges Guest speaker meal	\$ 8.66	
Total Checks:		\$33.66
Ending Balance (12/31/2018)		\$1,336.20

Mickey Cole, Treasurer

The Midnight Ride of William Dawes??

“Was the 18 of April in ’75...” Every schoolchild knows of the midnight ride of Paul Revere, but William Dawes made an even more daring gallop out of Boston that same night in April 1775. Unlike his counterpart (Paul Revere), he managed to evade capture by the British. Yet it’s Revere’s name that has been remembered. Dawes, meanwhile, is the Rodney Dangerfield of the American Revolution, getting no respect at all.

Dr. Joseph Warren learned through Boston’s revolutionary underground that British troops were preparing to cross the Charles River and march to Lexington, presumably to arrest John Hancock and Samuel Adams. Warren devised a plan to warn Hancock and Adams. He would send one rider by land and one by sea.

Warren knew that the rider who had to take the longer land route and pass through the British checkpoint had the riskier mission, but he had the perfect man for the job, William Dawes. The 30-year-old was a militiaman and a loyal patriot. Unlike Revere, however, he wasn’t a known rabble-rouser, and his would be a familiar face to the British manning the checkpoint.

Unlike Revere, who awoke town leaders and militia commanders along the way to share his news, Dawes let them sleep, because he was focused on getting to Lexington as quickly as possible.

Dawes arrived at this destination, Lexington’s Hancock-Clarke House about half an hour after Revere, who had traveled a shorter distance on a faster horse. Thirty minutes later, the dynamic duo mounted their weary horses again to warn the residents of Concord, and Dr. Samuel Prescott joined them.

Before they could reach Concord, however, the three riders encountered a British patrol around 1:30 a.m. Revere was captured. Prescott and his horse hurtled over a stone wall and managed to make it to Concord. The quick-witted Dawes, knowing his horse was too tired to outrun the British officers tailing him, pulled up in front of a vacant farmhouse and shouted as if there were patriots inside: “Halloo, boys, I’ve got two of ‘em!” Fearing an ambush, the two Redcoats galloped away, while Dawes reared so quickly he was bucked off his horse. He was forced to limp into the moonlit night and recede into obscurity.

Little is known about what happened to Dawes after his midnight ride. He went into the provisions business and was a commissary to the Continental Army. According to some reports, he fought at the Battle of Bunker Hill. Dawes had seven children, compared to Revere’s 16. Dawes died at age 53 in 1799; Revere lived until he was 83.

Both men were relatively unheralded when they died, but the silversmith got the identity boost of a lifetime when Henry Wadsworth Longfellow penned “Paul Revere’s Ride” in 1861. Longfellow’s historically inaccurate verses not only held Revere in high esteem, but they wrote Dawes out of the storyline altogether. How did Revere land Longfellow’s leading role while Dawes couldn’t even warrant a mention? Revere was more prominent in Boston’s political underground circles and he had written detailed first-person accounts of his mission, while very few records of Dawes and his ride exist. Contemporaries couldn’t even recall his name. William Munroe, who had stood guard at the Hancock-Clarke House, later reported that Revere arrived along with a “Mr. Lincoln.” The final indignity, was that Dawes is most likely not buried in Boston’s King’s Chapel Burying Ground, where his grave has been marked, but probably five miles away in his wife’s family plot. Even in death, Dawes still can’t get any respect.

Officers of the Sons of the American Revolution, Chapter 57

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Carl Hedges & John Bolton as John Receives the Distinguished Service Medal.



Carl, Mickey & Carolyn Cole. Mickey received the Roger Sherman Medal.



Carl presenting the Lydia Darragh medal to Carroll Bolton



Leonard Reese III



Liz Hedges was presented the Martha Washington Medal posthumously

Next meeting will be April 4, 2019 at Jason's Deli in Longview. Dinner at 6:00 p.m. and the meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m.