



Sons of The American Revolution

Texas Society, McKinney Chapter



November 21, 2019

Meeting held at Spring Creek Barbeque, McKinney, Texas

Attendees: There were 35 SAR members and guests in attendance. Attendees included: David Kinsey, Tom Milson, Mark McCraw, Donald Babbs, Preston Kinsey, Peter McLellan, Gary Sandt, Gary Graybeal, Clayton Tangen, Quentin Tangen, Bob Johns, Ted Wilson, Blas Uribe, Chris Hill, Laura Hill, Thomas Hill, Travis Hill, Karis Hill, Piper McCraw, Wanda White, Nathan White, Luis Juarez, Lynn Stanford and family, Jack Pionthawski, Tanera Pionthawski, Genicia Auorim, R. B. Alley III, Seanna Arredondo and family, Ralph Thompson.





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Call to Order: After our BBQ dinner, David Kinsey, Chapter President, called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Invocation: Don Babbs, Chaplain, gave our invocation.



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Color Guard: Members of the North Texas Color Guard presented the colors.





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Color Guard front to rear: Ted Wilson, Don Babbs, R. L. Johns and David Kinsey



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Pledges:

- Tom Milson, Secretary, led the Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag.
- Tom Milson, Secretary, led the Pledge to the Texas Flag.
- Tom Milson, Secretary, led the Pledge of the SAR.

Self-Introductions: Member and guests provided self-introductions.

Old Business and Announcements

- Be sure to visit our new Chapter Website at www.mckinney.sar.org .
- Next meeting will be on December 12, 2019, 6:30 pm at Peter & Dagny McLellan's Home, McKinney, Texas. PLEASE RSVP TO DAVID KINSEY BY NOVEMBER 30, 2019!
- The members in attendance were asked to please make sure your contact information is correct. To correct info, visit the TXSSAR private website, go to the "Members" tab, then "Member Contact Change Form."
- Check out our McKinney Chapter Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/McKinney-Texas-Chapter-Sons-of-the-American-Revolution-107393830680900/>
- TXSSAR 125th Annual Conference will be held in The Woodlands, Texas on March 26-29, 2020 at the Weston Woodlands.
- Dues Statement have been mailed. Please remit dues ASAP so we can have 100% Chapter member paid going into the New Year.

New Business:

- Minutes from last meeting have been published on the website by Tom Milson, Acting Chapter Web Master. Peter McLellan made a motion to accept last months meeting minutes as written, motion seconded by Mark McCraw, no discussion, motion approved by voice vote.
- Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Peter McLellan reported that we had \$1,189.93 in our bank account. Tom Milson made a motion to accept the Treasurer's report, motion seconded by Clayton Tangen, no discussion, motion approved by voice vote.



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Public Service and Heroism Award Ceremony: The Sons of the American has five Public Service and Heroism commendations. At this Chapter meeting we recognized three outstanding individuals.

- Officer Seanna Arrendondo – Heroism
- Fire Fighter Jack Piontkowsky – Life Saving
- Fire Fighter Lynn Stanford – Fire Safety

The Heroism Award was presented to Officer Seanna Arrendondo of the Prosper Police Department. On April 28, 2019 at 12:53 a.m., officers were dispatched to a general area in Prosper regarding a reported structure fire, which was initiated by a lightning strike. At this time, the exact address was unknown. Officer Arrendondo responded and was able to locate the house. Prosper Police Chief Doug Kowalski said " She relayed the address to dispatch and notified the fire personnel. She then knocked on the door of the house and was met by a female adult who was completely unaware that the house was on fire. Officer Arrendondo ordered the family out, and then went into the home to assist the adults in carrying out the children. The fire had ignited most of the roof and spread onto the second floor where the children's bedroom was located. Officer Arrendondo evacuated the family. Fire personnel arrived on scene and engaged the fire, which had fully engulfed the roof within a short time."





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The Life Saving Award was presented to Fire Fighter Jack Piontkowsky of the McKinney Fire Department. After being dispatched crews found the victim clinging to a tree surrounded by swift water. It was determined they needed to deploy the McKinney Swift Water Rescue Boat. Due to the distance from the shore to the tree, there was no possibility of tethering the boat. Tethering of the boat is standard procedure to increase safety for firefighters and the victim. Jack Piontkowsky and Brian Hardy knew they would have to row to the victim. After getting the victim to hold onto boat, they would have to either row back to shore or attempt to row into Towne Lake. As they were fighting the current, they identified a branch above the water as an opportunity to stop the boat. They reacted quickly and were able to stop the boat, get the victim into a life jacket and into the boat. They were then able to row the victim back to the shoreline. The rescue was a success and the boy was reunited with his family. These fire fighters were faced with split second decisions in very dangerous conditions. Jack Piontkowsky remained calm under pressure in this critical incident. He demonstrated exemplary courage.



The Fire Safety Award was presented to Fire Fighter Lynn Stanford of the McKinney Fire Department. Fire Fighter Stanford has dedicated countless hours to ensure the readiness of the McKinney Fire Department. He has often forfeited personal plans and time to make sure the



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department has properly function tools. Our rescue tools are vitally essential for operations in life or death situations. Lynn has also dedicated a great deal of time and effort to keep our antique fire engines operational for parades and event that raise fire safety awareness,



The Emergency Medical Service Award was scheduled to be presented to Ronald Eernisse of the McKinney Fire Department. However due a last minute personal issue, Ronald was unable to attend this meeting. His award will be presented at a future date.

Secretary's Note: At the April Chapter meeting the Law Enforcement Award was presented to Chief Doug Kowalski of the Prosper Police Department.

New Members Induction Ceremony: Chapter President Kinsey inducted Thomas and Travis Hill, as their parents Collin County Judge Chris and Laura Hill looked on. Chris and Laura then placed the SAR Rosette pins on their sons as their daughter Karis looked on.



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Chris and Laura Hill, Thomas and Travis Hill, Chapter President David Kinsey





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Bernardo De Galvez Award: This medal was created for Texas Color Guard only in an attempt to show recognition for the Color Guard and get others interested in joining. The Bronze requires that a person participate in the George Washington Parade in Laredo, or three State and National events. Ted Wilson, Texas Society, Vice President, District 11 presented this award to Robert (Bob) L. Johns (Plano Chapter). Both are members of the North Texas Color Guard.



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Bob Johns and Ted Wilson

Youth Education Discussion: Ted Wilson briefly discussed that the Texas Society is looking for volunteers to visit schools. Teaching resources are available. For more information contact Stu Hoyt, stu_hoyt@yahoo.com Education Chairman or Larry Stevens, wardtracker@aol.com. Vice-Chairman

Benediction: The benediction was given by was given by Donald Babbs.

Recessional: The recessional was led by was led by Mark McCraw, VP programs.

Adjournment: President Kinsey adjourned the meeting at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas E. Milson, Secretary