

Meeting Minutes for TXSSAR Arlington Chapter #7
First Dixie Café, 2400 West Pioneer Parkway, Suite 105, Pantego, Texas 76013

June 13, 2015

I. Call to Order

President **David Friels** called the meeting to order at approximately **9:10** a.m.

II. Invocation

Chaplain **Bill Covington** led the invocation.

III. Pledges

The pledge of allegiance to the U.S. flag was led by **Kevin Jorrey**. The pledge of allegiance to the Texas flag was led by **Kevin Jorrey**. The SAR pledge was led by visiting compatriot **James Gibson**.

IV. Guest Introductions & Special Recognitions

There were **seven** guests in attendance: **James Gibson** of the South Coast SAR Chapter in Orange County, California, **Sgt. Petty** and Officers **Aaron Morgan** and **Clayton Wolf** of the Dalworthington Gardens Department of Public Safety (DPS), **Dan & Kerry Howard**, and DAR member **Peni Andrews** – family members of new SAR member **Mark Howard**.

V. New Member Induction

Compatriot Mark Allen Howard was inducted into the Arlington Chapter of Texas SAR. He was accompanied by his parents **Dan & Kerry Howard**, and his grandmother - DAR member **Peni Andrews**.

VI. Public Safety Recognition - Sr. Officer Clayton Wolf

Dalworthington Gardens DPS **Sgt. Petty** accompanied **Sr. Officer Clayton Wolf** for his recognition of the **SAR Law Enforcement Commendation certificate and medal**. Officer Wolf is a twelve year veteran of Dalworthington Garden's DPS – police, fire and EMT. During his tenure, he has served in the capacity of dispatcher, firefighting squad, the "Top Gun" squad (3 years), and has received numerous DPS commendations and certificates of merit. According to Sgt. Petty, Officer Wolf "goes above and beyond the call of duty" and "...takes care of each of you like he would his own Mom and Dad." Chapter President **David Friels** presented **Sr. Officer Clayton Wolf** with his award.

VII. Guest Lecture by Sgt. Petty: "Background of the Dalworthington Gardens Department of Public Safety"

The following points were made during Sgt. Petty's lecture:

1. Many people believe that the 3 square miles of Dalworthington Gardens (DWG) -surrounded by Arlington- is a "speed trap," but this belief is false. In reality, DWG gives twice as many warnings (as opposed to tickets) relative to other areas.
2. The Department of Public Safety (DPS) of DWG is somewhat unique for this area by combining police, fire and EMT services. DWG was the first police department to carry heart defibrillators.
3. A majority of the cases faced by DWG are cleared within 48 hours. DWG was quick to implement the "blood draw" program – i.e., issuing search warrants for blood in cases involving suspected drunk driving cases. By doing so, much paperwork has been eliminated and the conviction rate is at 100%. Consequently, many other cities are following DWG's example.
4. Officers in the DPS require training for BOTH police and fire services. Other community services provided by the DPS include monitoring of home alarm systems and a free handgun licensing service for residents of DWG.
5. The reputation of DWG was displayed in a recent criminal court case. The defendant argued unsuccessfully that if he had been informed with more accurate signs that he was in DWG then he would have committed his offense elsewhere. DWG was pleased to hear this compliment.
6. Members of the general public are welcome to accompany DWG officers on "ride alongs." This program allows the public to get an idea of what the DPS encounters.
7. There are no body cameras for the DPS; however, the police cars are equipped with video cameras.
8. Over a twenty year period, the media perception of law enforcement has been on a steady decline and is getting worse.
9. There are forty sworn officers in DWG's DPS. There are fifteen to sixteen members who are on the payroll.
10. There are many volunteers who fill help the ranks. These volunteers are fully licensed and come from diverse occupational backgrounds such as doctors, lawyers, and pilots.

Ron Carter noted that **Chief Bill Wayburn** of DWG's DPS is invited to join the Arlington Chapter of Texas SAR.

V. Approval of the Minutes for Previous Month's Meeting

A motion was made to **approve the minutes** of the previous meeting by **Ron Carter**. This motion was seconded by **Bob Wehr**, and the minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

VIII. Officer and Committee Reports

A. Treasurer's Report

Treasurer **Ron Carter** presented the **Treasurer's Report**:

The bank balance and the petty cash on hand figures were reported. Due to the upcoming Independence Day Parade, there may be additional expenses reported at the next meeting. There was also an invoice for the medals which were ordered previously. This invoice will be submitted at a subsequent meeting.

B. Registrar's Report

President **David Friels** presented the **Registrar's Report** on behalf of **John Anderson**:

1. As of the Texas SAR roster for Arlington as of 10 April 2015, we have **33** active compatriots including **6** junior chapter members. This total includes new compatriot Mark Howard, grandson of Peni Howard Teel Andrews.
2. No current applications are pending, unless guests are present today.

C. Webmaster's Report

President **David Friels** presented the **Webmaster's Report** on behalf of **John Anderson**:

1. Our chapter homepage is at www.txssar.org/Arlington or www.texassar.org/Arlington. The latter website is the new access to obtain information on SAR activities at the state level.
2. Since inception in June 2011, we now have had 2,679+ total hits (accesses) to this website.
3. Recent pictures are posted at www.txssar.org/Arlington/photos2014.php
4. Scrapbook videos are posted at www.txssar.org/Arlington/videos.php. Also included is the link to the "Texas SAR and You" by Bob Cohen.
5. John Anderson thanked everyone for providing pictures and videos for our website.
6. The online private chapter **Dropbox** can be accessed at <https://www.dropbox.com/sh/1izglvhvuhh9mzy/AAAXOVZ4zk-KaK3JcagRBQnHa?dl=0>
7. Contact John Anderson if you need a new login or have access questions to **Dropbox**.

D. Historian's Report

Historian **Kevin Jorrey** presented the **Historian's Report**:

Historian **Kevin Jorrey** noted that the goal of our chapter is to have the gravesites of the two past Texas SAR Presidents marked by the next state meeting.

E. Veteran's Coordination

It was noted that **Mike Smith** – the Arlington chapter's veteran's coordinator - was away at this time. It was noted by President **David Friels** that there was no additional news available of the previously postponed Viet Nam Veterans' 50th Anniversary Celebration.

F. Brochure

It was noted that **Dennis Walton** – the creator of the Arlington chapter's new brochure- was away on a road trip. It was noted that this task has been successfully completed.

G. Awards & July Plans

Treasurer **Ron Carter** noted that there were 98 poster contest entries. The poster entry by Haley-Beth Wehr has been submitted to the National SAR level for judging. District VP **Ron Carter** noted that the State Chairman should be informed of the chapter awards presented to law enforcement officers. Also, it would be helpful if records were kept of SAR guest presentations, such as those made by compatriot and lecturer Bill Covington. President **David Friels** thanked **Ron Carter** and **Bill Covington** for their service on behalf of our chapter. President David Friels also recognized compatriot **Dick Lee** for providing our chapter compatriots with U.S. flag pins. President **David Friels** also noted that a Persian Gulf War veteran will be recognized at the upcoming July meeting.

IX. Unfinished Business

A. Arlington Independence Day Parade

Compatriot **Ray Wehr** presented preliminary information on the upcoming Independence Day Parade. He reported that there would be two trailers and two tractors for the upcoming parade. He noted that the SAR banner would precede the two floats. He advised those who wish to participate to be at the staging area EARLY! It was noted the Fort Worth Chapter of SAR was willing to allow the Arlington Chapter to borrow its trailer. The construction and decoration of the floats will take place at the AISD "bus barn." **Roger Wehr** noted that it would be a good idea to have brochures available for distribution at the parade.

B. Planned Grave Markings for Past Texas SAR Presidents

Historian **Kevin Jorrey** noted that the goal of our chapter is to have the gravesites of the two past Texas SAR Presidents marked by the next state meeting.

X. New Business

A. Genealogy Lock-In at Waco, Texas

Lecturer and Chaplain **Bill Covington** noted that there is a **genealogy "lock-in"** at Waco, Texas on the third Friday of October which run from 6 p.m. until midnight. There will be tables set up for various genealogy organizations. It was noted that Waco, Texas has two DAR chapters. In the past the SAR from the Waco area has not been represented at this event. Bill Covington will set up a presentation table at this upcoming event.

B. District Wide Joint-Meeting

District VP **Ron Carter** noted that there will be an upcoming District wide event and asked whether the Arlington chapter would be interested in hosting this event. He also encouraged all of our chapter members to receive the e-mails from the DADA system.

XI. Meeting Adjournment, SAR Closing Admonition & Benediction

At approximately 10:30 a.m. a motion was made to adjourn the meeting. **Kevin Jorrey** concluded the meeting with the SAR closing admonition and Chaplain **Bill Covington** gave the benediction.

XII. Attendance Summary & Next Meeting Information

Attendance for the May meeting included **seven** guests and **twelve** chapter members: Ron Carter, Richard Coffey, William Covington, David Friels, Grant Hamilton, Nicholas Hamilton, Mark Howard, Kevin Jorrey, Dick Lee, Bob Wehr, Ray Wehr, & Roger Wehr.

Our **next chapter meeting** is scheduled for **July 11, 2015 at 9:00 a.m.** at the **First Dixie Café** located at **2400 West Pioneer Parkway, Suite 105, Pantego, Texas 76013.**

Roger Wehr
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