

# Meeting Minutes for TXSSAR Arlington Chapter #7

First Dixie Café, 2400 West Pioneer Parkway, Suite 105, Pantego, Texas 76013

November 14, 2015

## I. Call to Order

President **David Friels** called the meeting to order at approximately 9:05 a.m.

## II. Invocation

Vice-President **Bob Wehr** 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 **Kevin Jorrey**.

## IV. Guest Introductions & Preliminary Announcements

There were five guests in attendance: **Nancy Davis** – DAR member and wife of **Jack Davis**, **Darrell Gates** – SAR applicant, **Mike Hutchins Sr.** – SAR applicant, **Andrew Faletti** – son of **Gary Faletti**, compatriot **John L. Greer** – former Past Chapter President of the Plano chapter (1998-1999) and District 11 Vice President (2000-2002).

Prior to the commencement of the meeting, **John Greer** gave several announcements. His first announcement was regarding past Texas SAR members who had participated in the Texas SAR State Color Guard. Such notable members include: **Judge Joe McDonald Ingraham**

<SEE [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Joe\\_McDonald\\_Ingraham](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Joe_McDonald_Ingraham) > and **General John B. Wright** who is buried in Arlington National Cemetery.

**John Greer** also encouraged the chapter members to establish a **Veteran's Program**. He noted various items which are often requested at the VA clinics including: magazines for both men and women, coloring books for the children of younger veterans, and other more unique items such as guitar strings, pool cues, and suitcases.

Finally, **John Greer** gave ideas to promote **chapter membership recruitment** such as the use of guest speaker events, national advertisement in the SAR magazine (i.e., a \$20 per year advertisement), and the use of public awards (e.g., SAR Law Enforcement awards.)

## V. Induction – Compatriot John “Jack” Davis, Jr.

**John Anderson**, **David Friels**, and **Nancy Davis** administered the induction ceremony of new compatriot **Jack Davis**, who is originally from Houston, Texas. He is an alumni of Texas A&M University and a member of the Mayflower Society. The patriot ancestor of Jack Davis was **Ebenezer Chapman** of Hebron, New York. <SEE <http://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&GRid=36663533> >

## VI. Recognition – Ron Carter, future Texas SAR Patriot Award recipient

**John Anderson** described the events related to the most recent BOM meeting and announced that **Ron Carter** was selected by the Texas SAR to be a future recipient of the **Patriot's Award**. John Anderson noted that based on the size of the state society, Texas SAR was eligible to award up to five awards. Potential recipients were then evaluated on a point system to determine eligibility for the Patriot's Award. Based on Ron Carter's numerous activities on behalf of the SAR, he had more than enough points to qualify for this honor. Only four Texas SAR members will receive the Patriot's Award.

## VII. 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 **Dennis Walton**, and the minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

## VIII. Officer and Committee Reports

### A. Treasurer's Report

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

1. The balances of the checking account and petty cash funds were announced to the chapter members.
2. Members were encouraged to pay their dues in a timely manner to help the State Society avoid the clerical costs involved with reinstatement of members with late payments. The payment deadline to prevent being dropped from SAR membership is December 31<sup>st</sup>.
3. Chapter dues collected at this time by the Texas SAR will be received by the Arlington chapter in Spring 2016.

### B. State Activities Report

**Ron Carter** presented the **State Activities Report**:

Both **John Anderson** and **Ron Carter** attended the BOM meeting in Galveston, Texas. **Ron Carter** reported on the following events and updates from the recent BOM meeting:

1. Communications within the Texas SAR will hopefully improve with the implementation of the “Share File” system.
2. It is important for members to have their dues paid by December 31<sup>st</sup> in order to avoid being dropped from membership.
3. The Texas SAR has increased the number of scholarships awarded through the Patriot Fund.
4. The CAR Essay Contest will now offer scholarships for 1<sup>st</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> place. To be eligible to compete for this scholarship, a CAR member must be at least a high school sophomore and been a member of CAR for two years. The deadline on this contest is January 15, 2016. Three judges will rank these essays.
5. Members are encouraged to attend at least a part of the upcoming State SAR meeting. At the banquet, **Ron Carter** will be receiving the Patriot Award, and he would appreciate seeing someone in the audience whom he recognizes.

## C. Registrar's Report

**John Anderson** presented the **Registrar's Report**:

- Two changes in membership since last month gives our chapter **35** active compatriots, including **6** junior chapter members.
  - Compatriot **Jack Davis**' induction is today.
  - Compatriot **James Gibson**'s co-membership with the California SAR is now complete, and he is now Texas SAR compatriot.
- 2016 Texas SAR dues are payable now. Please advise the chapter if there are any hardship issues.
- John Anderson** assisted **Bill Covington** at the Genealogy Lock-In at Waco, Texas on Friday October 16<sup>th</sup>.
- John Anderson** twice supported the Texas SAR at the Texas State Fair. The Arlington chapter received nine membership leads living in our area.
  - The first day of service was with **Bill Watts** of the East Fork of the Trinity chapter.
  - The second day of service was with **David Temple** of the Dallas chapter.
- Current applications in progress are:
  - Corey Walker**, father, two sons, three grandsons, and two nephews (**9** total family members) have applications which have been approved by our Texas Inland Registrar and are now at the national level for their review.
  - Mike Hutchins**, son, brother, uncle, nephew (**5** total family members) have applications which have been approved by our Texas Inland Registrar and are now at the national level for their review.
  - David Friels** has forwarded information regarding candidate **Joseph Connole**, and his application is now in progress. Joe lives in Irving and works for the Boy Scouts of America (BSA). He has a Saturday schedule conflict, but we can work something out.

## D. Webmaster's Report

**John Anderson** presented the **Webmaster's Report**:

- Our chapter homepage is at [www.txssar.org/Arlington](http://www.txssar.org/Arlington) or [www.texassar.org/Arlington](http://www.texassar.org/Arlington). Since inception in June 2011, we now have had 3,140+ total hits (accesses) to this website. Most of these are by our membership, but occasionally by candidates and other chapters.
- Please click on your Compatriot Profile at <http://www.txssar.org/Arlington/roster.php> and contact **John Anderson** if the profile needs revision or if you wish to be added to the "Speakers Bureau" at <http://www.txssar.org/Arlington/speakers.php>
- John Anderson** seeks to amend our chapter brochure to include a resizable QR-code image with the caption of "Scan Here For Our Chapter Website."
- Recent pictures are posted at [www.txssar.org/Arlington/photos2015.php](http://www.txssar.org/Arlington/photos2015.php)
- Scrapbook videos are posted at [www.txssar.org/Arlington/video2014scrapbook.php](http://www.txssar.org/Arlington/video2014scrapbook.php). Also, included is the link to the "TX SAR and You" by Bob Cohen.
- John Anderson** thanked everyone for providing pictures and videos for our website.
- Once enrolled, the online **private** chapter **Dropbox** can be accessed at <https://www.dropbox.com>. Contact **John Anderson** if you need a new login or have access questions.

## E. Grave Marking Committee Report

**John Anderson** presented the **Grave Marking Committee Report**:

- The Arlington chapter has two Texas Society SAR Past Presidents both buried in the Arlington Cemetery at 801 Mary Street. They are cousins and are:
  - Benton Carter Collins**, 1893-1972, TX SAR President 1942, unmarked.
  - Dr. Valin Ridge Woodward**, 1890-1969, TX SAR President 1938, currently marked.
- Both descend through maternal lines to their common ancestor Patriot **William Terrell Lewis** of Surry Co, NC. He was active in the organization of troops in Hanover County, VA and the suppression of Tories in Surry County, VA.
- The grave marking is now scheduled for Saturday **March 12, 2016 at 2:00 PM**. This date is the same as our 2016 inductions by Texas SAR President **Larry Stephens**. He has agreed to stay in Arlington for the day and take part in the Grave Marking ceremony. **John Anderson** has re-contacted the compatriot families and have advised them of the schedule.
- Compatriot **John Greer** is here today because of his interest as Chairman of the Texas SAR Past President Grave Marking Committee.
- John Anderson** has purchased and brought the SAR grave marker for discussion. In the past, our chapter has discussed options on how to fund such expenses. **John Anderson** hopes that those with interest and ideas will remain after the meeting today to discuss this topic more.
- Suggested invitees include: the Collins & Woodward families, the Arlington Historical Association, the Arlington Genealogical Society, local city government officials, local DAR & SAR chapters, the local Boy Scout troops, the North Texas SAR Color Guard, and local ROTC groups.

## F. Historian's Report

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

As noted previously, the chapter continues to work on the grave markings of the two past state society SAR presidents who are buried in Arlington, Texas: **Benton Carter Collins**, 1893-1972, TX SAR President 1942, and **Dr. Valin Ridge Woodward**, 1890-1969, TX SAR President 1938. It was also noted that a photograph of the Woodward home may be available. At the end of the year, pictures will be collected and later taken to the Texas SAR archive at the University of North Texas in Denton, Texas.

## G. Eagle Scouts & Awards Report

### **Roger Wehr** presented the **Eagle Scout and Awards Report**:

1. Local **Troop 68** will have at least four more **Eagle Scout** presentations in the months ahead. Certificates will be awarded pending the upcoming Eagle ceremonies.
2. Regarding the **SAR Eagle Scout Scholarship**, **Andrew Faletti** has been noted as a potential candidate. There are three merit badges which Andrew Faletti has earned which gives him greater consideration for this award by the SAR: American Heritage, Genealogy, and Law. Moreover, Andrew Faletti is an Eagle Scout with four Eagle palms and is a Vigil (highest honor) member of the elite Order of the Arrow.
3. A potential candidate for the **JROTC Bronze Medal** has expressed interest in obtaining the **Enhanced Medal**, which offers a scholarship. More research and clarification is needed regarding eligibility for the enhanced medal.
4. Both **Ron Carter** and **Roger Wehr** have printed and distributed fliers regarding the upcoming **poster contests**. Ron Carter has contacted several schools in South Arlington which have participated in this contest in the past. Roger Wehr has contacted several schools in North Arlington including: Pope Elementary, Swift Elementary, and Wimbish Elementary. Two fliers were provided to each school: one for the 5<sup>th</sup> Grade history teacher and one for the art teacher.

### **H. Heart of Texas Event Report**

#### **John Anderson** presented the **Heart of Texas Event Report**:

1. **Bill Covington** and **John Anderson** attended the Genealogy Lock-In at Waco, Texas on Friday October 16<sup>th</sup>.
2. **John Anderson** noted that **Bill Covington** has made a good impression with this audience in Waco, Texas.

## **IX. Unfinished Business**

### **A. Planned Grave Markings for Past Texas SAR Presidents**

According to **John Anderson**, the cost of the newly obtained grave marker is \$76. This expense may be reimbursed through petty cash or funds might be collected by "passing the hat" as in the past. It was noted that the two graves are approximately 150 to 200 yards apart in the Arlington Cemetery on Mary Street. **David Friels** also noted that in the case of compatriot **Ray Bommer's** SAR marker, the mounting had been made on granite rather than in cement.

### **B. Kroger's Support of Non-Profit Organizations**

**Richard Coffey** described the two step process involved in taking part in the Kroger program for non-profits. The first step involves obtaining and submitting tax information to Kroger. The second step involves having members submit their Kroger frequent shopper ID # and information to Kroger. **David Friels** stated that he would also attempt to ask for more information on this program in which a percentage of each grocery bill is donated to a non-profit organization.

## **X. New Business**

### **A. Texas SAR Bumper Stickers**

Any member who is interested in obtaining a Texas SAR bumper sticker is encouraged to see **John Anderson**. A \$5 donation to Texas SAR is suggested.

### **B. Viet Nam Era Veterans Meeting**

**John Anderson** announced a Viet Nam Era Veterans Meeting scheduled for next Saturday at the Woodlake Country Club. Those members who are interested in attending should contact John Anderson so that their names will appear on the invitation list. Compatriot **Mike Smith** will attempt to attend this meeting as well, if his health will permit him to do so.

### **C. Military Bowl Event and SAR Booth**

**John Anderson** announced that various chapters of the Texas SAR will be putting up an information booth at the Military Bowl held on December 29<sup>th</sup>. Although tickets for the game will be provided at no cost to participants, there will be a booth fee of \$250 which will be divided among those chapters which will participate. **Ray Wehr** noted that the tickets to this game are worth approximately \$60 to \$80 and expressed an interest in participating in this event. **Dennis Walton** made a motion that the chapter pick up the tab for the booth fee for those chapter members who work at the SAR booth. This motion was seconded by **Bob Wehr**. Roger Wehr may also be attending this event pending transportation.

### **D. Officer Nominations Committee for 2015**

**John Anderson** announced that chapter needs to organize a committee for officer positions. A vote will be taken in February 2016, and the new officers will be installed in March 2016. Bob Wehr volunteered to serve as chairman of this new committee. The officer positions have a two-year term.

### **E. Flag Certificates**

**John Anderson** has noted a potential recipient of a flag certificate. This individual has been advised that he must attend a chapter meeting in order to obtain his certificate. Secretary **Roger Wehr** will check to see if there are flag certificates in the chapter inventory to make this event possible.

### **F. Advertisement in the National SAR Magazine**

**Dick Lee** has offered to pay the \$20 for a chapter advertisement in the National SAR Magazine. **Dick Lee** would like the advertisement to mention that out-of-state SAR members are invited to attend our chapter meetings. Treasurer **Ron Carter** noted that he would be in charge of spending this donated money for this purpose.

### **G. Flier Distribution for the Upcoming Poster Contest**

**Ron Carter** has fliers ready for distribution for any chapter member who is willing to drop off a flier at a local elementary school or other organization for 5<sup>th</sup> grade students.

### **H. Shipping Cost for SAR Shirts and Other SAR Merchandise**

**David Friels** has noted that the high shipping cost involved with SAR shirts and other merchandise. David Friels and Ron Carter both suggest that orders made to the SAR national office should be bundled in order to get a lower average shipping cost per item. Chapter members who may be interested in purchasing a shirt from the SAR website are encouraged to contact David Friels in order to benefit from a lower shipping cost.

## **XI. Guest Lecture**

**John Anderson** introduced **John L. Greer**, whose accomplishments include: starting the SAR Veterans Program in Texas in 1998; being the SAR Veterans Administration Volunteer Services Deputy Rep in Bonham, Texas; being a member of the Texas SAR Veterans Committee for eighteen years; serving on the Patriot Fund Committee for ten years; and serving as a member of the Texas SAR color guard for eleven years. **John Geer** presented a lecture entitled "O, Say Can You See" – a review of the "**Star Spangled Banner**" and a historical overview of the flag and the United States since the War of 1812. **Key topics** in his lecture included:

1. a way to remember the names of the original thirteen colonies; the fourteenth state was Vermont, and the fifteenth state was Kentucky.
2. a list of the states in the union at the time of the War of 1812; the Flag Act of 1794 provided for a flag of fifteen stars and fifteen stripes.
3. a review of unique flags (i.e., the fifteen stars and fifteen stripes of the "Star Spangled Banner" and the 49-star flag of the United States which was used for one year, following the admission of Alaska into the United States in 1959);
4. the importance of Fort McHenry during the War of 1812;
5. the individuals involved in the production and the dimensions of the Star Spangled banner and the storm flag; the flag measured at 30 feet by 42 feet; the smaller storm weather flag measured at 17 feet by 25 feet.
6. Mary Pickersville was paid \$405.90 for producing the larger flag and \$168.00 for producing the smaller flag.
7. the British ships engaged in a 24-hour bombardment of Fort McHenry;
8. the inspiration behind the four-verse poem written by Francis Scott Key which was originally titled "The Defense of Fort McHenry" and later re-titled as the "Star-Spangled Banner."
9. the Armistead family took possession of the flag; eventually through marriage and donations, the Star Spangled Banner was eventually donated to the Smithsonian Museum which repaired the flag in 1912 and again in 1996.
10. a small piece of the original flag was auctioned off in 1998 and sold for \$38,000.

Chapter compatriot and veteran **Dick Lee** noted his own experience in viewing this flag first hand which he described as an emotional experience. He stated that it was a "great thing for him to see" as a **World War II veteran**.

## **XII. 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 President **David Friels** gave the benediction.

## **XIII. Attendance Summary & Next Meeting Information**

**Attendance for the November meeting** included **five** guests and **fourteen** chapter members: John Anderson, Ron Carter, Richard Coffey, Jack Davis, Gary Faletti, David Friels, James Gibson, Grant Hamilton, Kevin Jorrey, Dick Lee, Dennis Walton, Bob Wehr, Ray Wehr, & Roger Wehr.

Our **next chapter meeting** is scheduled for **December 12, 2015 at 9:00 a.m.** at the **First Dixie Café** located at **2400 West Pioneer Parkway, Suite 105, Pantego, Texas 76013.**

Roger Wehr  
TXSSAR Arlington Chapter Secretary  
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