



SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION



FREEDOM CHAPTER

NOVEMBER 19, 2024, MINUTES

Call to Order: 6:30 PM

President Hamaker

Compatriot Myers led the CG (Compatriots Byram, Miles, Hoffman, Kluth, and Lano) in the posting of the Colors.

Invocation Compatriot David Hamaker

Pledges

Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag led by President Hamaker

Pledge of Allegiance to the Texas Flag led by President Hamaker

SAR Pledge led by President Hamaker

Mission Statement led by Compatriot William Myers

Members Present – 24 **Guests** – 15

Minutes of the Last Meeting: Secretary Kluth reported minutes from the October meeting were posted online to the Chapter's website and approved as circulated.

Treasurer's Report: On the behalf of the Treasurer, Compatriot Hamaker reported an ending balance of \$11,192 and the report approved as read.

Registrar's Report: No report.

Scouting Report: Compatriot Bonnett announced 70 flags were retired by the scouts.

Youth Programs Report: Compatriot Hamilton stated the Chapter should have multiple entries this year from various schools.

Media/Newsletter Report: Compatriot Hoffman spoke about the Yearbook and asked compatriots for suggestions to improve it.

Recognition of Guests: President Hamaker introduced Tanya Saunders representing *Texas Gravestone Care*. First Vice President Sellards requested first-time visitors to introduce themselves, which included our newest members Garrison Kluth and John D. Poole. From our sign-in sheets, Texas State President Elect, Past State Secretary, and Past Chapter President Mel Oller; District 7 VP and Past Chapter President Art Byram, Past Chapter President John Thompson, and Madame Regent Heritage Trails Mary Thompson were present.

New Members: John D. Poole and Garrison Kluth were inducted into the Freedom Chapter and presented their membership certificates and rosettes by Compatriots Hamaker and Sellards.

PROGRAM: The program was a Sons of the American Revolution podcast entitled, "I Didn't Know That" about less known facts from our nation's history. Deborah and Benjamin Franklin had a common law marriage. Several attempts to unify the colonies occurred before the Declaration of Independence. The Colonies won 33% of the battles fought during the War.

AWARDS

- Chapter Awards Compatriots Hamaker & Sellards
 - 250th Silver Medal and Certificate – Susan Hutchison Johnston
 - 250th Gold Medal and Certificate – Matthew Hoffman
- Color Guard Awards
 - Bronze Galvez – Patrick Verhagen
 - Silver Galvez – Loren Johnston
 - Bronze National – Loren Johnston

OLD BUSINESS

- None

NEW BUSINESS

- Compatriot Hamaker presented Tanya Saunders, representing *Texas Gravestone Care*, an Award and a Certification of Appreciation for the Company's contributions to the Freedom Chapter.
- Color Guard and other Events – Compatriot David Hamaker spoke about Dickens on the Strand and Wreaths Across America among upcoming events.

ANCESTOR ROLL CALL: No roll call.

This Day in History – Compatriot Hoffman's history moment was for November 19. On this date in 1620, the Mayflower reached Cape Cod. In 1776, US forces abandoned Fort Lee, New Jersey and retreated to Pennsylvania after the British and Hessian troops took Fort Washington, New York.

Benediction – Compatriot Lano.

SAR Closing/Adjourn: President David Hamaker, 7:45 PM... 'till we meet again'.

Sons of the American Revolution Mission Statement

'The Sons of the American Revolution honors our Revolutionary War Patriot ancestors by promoting patriotism, serving our communities, and educating and inspiring future generations, about the founding principles of our Country.'