



THE MINUTEMAN



Volume VI, Issue 2

Dallas Chapter Founded July 4, 1929

February 2001

President's Message

by J. Mark Hansen

Fathers and Sons

Time for me, at age 46, has begun to not only pass, but impress on me unkind intimations of mortality. Time, too, however, in one of its benevolences, seems to compress, bringing me closer to those ahead on life's journey. What once seemed only a point of light at tunnel's end is becoming a steady stream, warming me, illuminating my commonalities, and blinding me to past differences, with my progenitors.

Humorously, Mark Twain once remarked that, as a youth, he was dismayed by his father's ignorance, but was astounded, as he grew older, at how much the old man had learned. A lot of us middle-agers, who once shouted from barricades, real or imagined, "Don't trust anyone over thirty," have developed the same appreciation for our elders. It must be that way in every time and place.

Fathers beget sons, who may belabor, but eventually become, themselves, fathers who beget sons. And a son who never accedes to the title "father" enters a kind of limbo, a condition of pending oblivion. Whose memory will preserve him? Fathers are immortal, their lives venerated and names embellished – we call them, in order of ascending rank, "grand," "great," and, finally, "forefathers" – but only if their sons remember.

We remember. From generation to generation, reaffirming our faith in the principles of liberty and our constitutional republic bequeathed to us by our patriot ancestors, we remember. From age to age, we remember our fathers, grandfathers, and great-grandfathers who shed their blood in defense of those patriotic ideals. We, their Sons, remember their sacrifices and will continue to defend those ideals against every foe, until we sons and fathers meet again.

February Meeting

Compatriot **Lloyd Bockstruck**, head of the Genealogy Section of the Dallas Public Library will be our speaker at the February 10 meeting.

For future program suggestions, feel free to call 1st VP Gary Sisson at 214-528-0543.

Rob Hoffman, Circle 10 Council, Boy Scouts of America, spoke at our January 13 meeting. (See inside) >>





New Compatriot **John L. Morton** was sworn in at the January meeting. He was sponsored by Henry Rather.



Past Chapter President **Harry Post** received the Silver Good Citizenship Medal on January 13..

THE MINUTEMAN is the monthly newsletter of the Dallas Chapter-Texas Society, Sons of the American Revolution, a non-profit organization. (Photos by Charles Baker)

Meetings are held on the Second Saturday of each month at Luby's Cafeteria, 6221 E. Mockingbird Lane, Dallas, Texas. Coffee served with fellowship at 7:30, breakfast at 8:00, and meeting from 8:30 'til 9:30. Guests are welcome at our meetings.



Dallas Chapter Historian **Nick Gilliam** gave the Americanism presentation on Juan Seguin, Texas Patriot

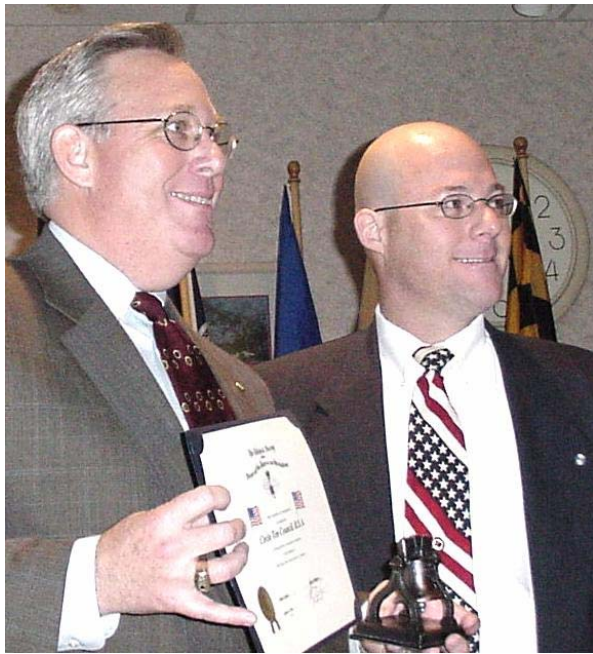


PHOTO OP:

Rob Hoffman received the traditional speakers' Liberty Bell from 1st VP **Dr. Gary Sisson**, plus a certificate recognizing the Circle 10 Council of the Boy Scouts of America for its patriotism and proper display of the American Flag.

OFFICER REPORTS

Registrar's Report:

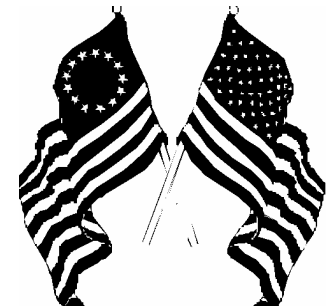
Chapter membership now stands at 299
January meeting: 42 members, 9 guests.

Don Hay, Registrar

Treasurer's Report:

Regular Checking: \$ 746.11
Endowment Funds: \$ 32,332.13

Jack Carney, Treasurer





Tracy Ponders, Secretary, presented the Annual Reading of the Minutes.

Dallas Chapter Officer Nominees

The following were nominated for the 2001-2002 chapter year. The election will be held at the February 10 meeting.

President :	Dr. Gary N. Sisson
1 st Vice President—Programs:	Clifford V. Slagle
2 nd Vice President—Awards:	Jack R. Carney
Treasurer:	Tracy A. Ponders
Secretary:	Nick B. Gilliam
Registrar:	Don B. Hay
Historian:	Hank T. Voegtle III
Chaplain:	Frank H. Ponders

Genealogy - Major Epidemics in North America

By Judge Ed Butler, TXSSAR State Genealogist

In case you ever wondered why a large number of your ancestors disappeared during a certain period in history, this might help. Wars of course account for a large number of deaths. Epidemics have always had a great influence on people - and thus influencing as well, the genealogists trying to trace them. Many cases of people disappearing from records can be traced to their dying during an epidemic or moving away from the affected area. Some of the major epidemics in the United States are listed below:

1657 Boston Measles	1841 Nationwide [especially severe in the south] Yellow Fever
1687 Boston Measles	1847 New Orleans Yellow Fever
1690 New York Yellow Fever	1847-8 Worldwide Influenza
1713 Boston Measles	1848-9 North America Cholera
1729 Boston Measles	1850 Nationwide Yellow Fever
1732-3 Worldwide Influenza	1850-1 North America Influenza
1738 South Carolina Smallpox	1852 Nationwide [New Orleans-8,000 die in summer] Yellow Fever
1739-40 Boston Measles	1855 Nationwide [many parts] Yellow Fever
1747 CT,NY,PA,SC Measles	1857-9 Worldwide [one of the greatest epidemics] Influenza
1759 N. Amer [areas inhabited by white people] Measles	1860-1 Pennsylvania Smallpox
1761 North America and West Indies Influenza	1865-73 Philadelphia, NY, Boston, New Orleans} {Smallpox Baltimore, Memphis, Washington DC} {Cholera [A series of recurring epidemics of:] {Typhus {Typhoid {Scarlet Fever {Yellow Fever
1772 North America Measles	1873-5 North America and Europe Influenza
1775 N. Amer [especially hard in NE] epidemic Unknown	1878 New Orleans [last great epidemic] Yellow Fever
1775-6 Worldwide [one of the worst epidemics] Influenza	1885 Plymouth, PA Typhoid
1783 Dover, DE ["extremely fatal"] Biliious Disorder	1886 Jacksonville, FL Yellow Fever
1788 Philadelphia and New York Measles	1918 (high point year) Influenza Worldwide MORE people were hospitalized in WWI from this epidemic than wounds. US Army training camps became death camps, with 80% death rate in some camps.
1793 Vermont [a "putrid" fever] and Influenza	
1793 VA [killed 500 in 5 counties in 4 weeks] Influenza	
1793 Philadelphia [one of the worst epidemics] Yellow Fever	
1793 Harrisburg, PA [many unexplained deaths] Unknown	
1793 Middletown, PA [many mysterious deaths] Unknown	
1794 Philadelphia, PA Yellow Fever	
1796-7 Philadelphia, PA Yellow Fever	Finally, these specific instances of cholera were mentioned:
1798 Philadelphia, PA [one of the worst] Yellow Fever	1833 Columbus, OH
1803 New York Yellow Fever	1834 New York City
1820-3 Nationwide [starts Schuylkill River and spreads] "Fever"	1849 New York
1831-2 Nationwide [brought by English emigrants] Asiatic Cholera	1851 Coles Co., IL, The Great Plains, and Missouri
1832 NY City and other major cities Cholera	
1837 Philadelphia Typhus	

