

# INK & QUILL

PATRIOTISM, AMERICAN HISTORY, & EDUCATION  
ARE CORNERSTONES OF THE TXSSAR

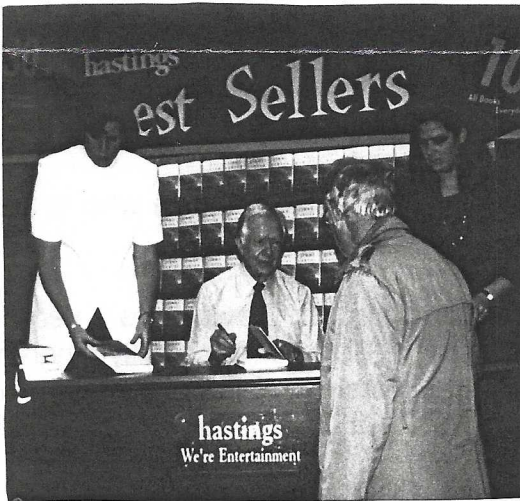
Texas Society of the Sons of the American Revolution  
Denton Chapter #23, TXSSAR Inc. Newsletter

January 1998

Volume 3 Number 10



## REVOLUTIONARY WAR BOOK BY EX-PRESIDENT IN PROGRESS



Former President Carter & Compatriot  
Jim Johnson

### FORMER PRESIDENT JIMMY CARTER VISITS DENTON TO SIGN BOOKS

On Wednesday, December 10, 1997 at Hastings Video and Book Store in Denton, former President Jimmy Carter signed autographs for the purchasers of his books. He has authored 12 books including his current inspirational work, *Sources of Strength*. President Carter signed approximately 3600 books in 3 hours for over 3000 people.

In an interview in the *Dallas Morning News* December 28, 1997 Jimmy Carter indicated that he is currently working on a novel about the revolutionary war. "I am writing about that period because no one knows much about the last three years of the war," Carter said.

President Carter also related, "The British made their major move to the south, Georgia included, and a lot of my ancestors were involved at that time."

In doing research for the book, he has found dramatically different accounts of the same events. He has learned how to become a cobbler and how to produce indigo and silk. The book will probably be completed in 1998.

### MYTHS AND TRUTHS ABOUT THE MINUTEMEN TOPIC FOR THE JANUARY 8, 1998 MEETING

Compatriot Jack Haughton will present a program at 7 P.M. on January 8, 1998 at the Good Samaritan Village in Denton which deals with the misconceptions concerning the minutemen.

"Minuteman" was the name given to the citizen soldier of the revolution who was ready to fight on a minute's notice. The most familiar visual image of the minuteman is the famous statue created by Daniel Chester French. War savings stamps in World War II also used this image to sell stamps and war bonds.



**NEXT MEETING: JAN. 8, 7 P.M. GOOD SAM**

# TEXAS SOCIETY OF THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION DENTON CHAPTER #23

Minutes for the Meeting of December 4, 1997

The meeting was called to order by President Baird at 7:00 P.M. at Good Samaritan Village.

Opening ceremony and pledge of Allegiance were lead by President Baird .

Treasurer Vaughn reported a balance , after newsletter expenses, of \$205.38.

Motion was made by Tom Cain to move the next meeting to the second Thursday because the first Thursday is January first, New Year's Day. Motion was seconded and carried. Next meeting is to be January 8, 1998.

Don Howard was introduced as a prospective member with his lineage established.

Dave Hestand was introduced as a prospective member with a blood uncle who is a compatriot. Dave was invited by Tom Cain.

Dr. Jack Davis was introduced by Program Director Tom Cain. Dr. Davis gave a very fine program on silver and silversmithing in the colonies and in Europe (especially England). Paul Revere was mentioned as an important American silversmith. His presentation was supported by slides and samples from his collection.

Motion was made by compatriot James Johnson to make a fifty dollar donation to the John Casey Scholarship Fund at the Dallas YMCA. Motion was seconded and passed.

Nominating Committee was selected for next year's officers. The committee is composed of compatriots Bell, Fletcher, and Jagoe.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:35 P.M. with the SAR Closing.

Respectively Submitted by

Gerald S. Brenholtz  
Secretary



## *Last Survivors of the Revolution*



Editor's Note: A special President's Day Program entitled *The Last Revolutionaries* presented by Sarah Grant Reid and sponsored jointly by the Benjamin Lyon Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution and Chapter #23 of the Texas Society Sons of the American Revolution will be held on February 22, 1998 at St. David's Episcopal Church in Denton. The program is based on interviews with Revolutionary War pensioners who were still alive during the American Civil War. The interviews were conducted by Elias Brewster Hilliard, a Congregational minister and compiled by Mrs. Reid's mother, Elinor Brewster Davenport (a relative of Rev. Hilliard).

Almost forty years ago portions of the interviews, submitted by Rev. Hilliard's grandson, the poet Archibald McLeish, were featured in *American Heritage* (April 1958 Volume IX, Number 3).

In the summer of 1864 Rev. Elias Brewster Hilliard was asked by a Hartford, Conn. publisher to interview the last surviving soldiers of the American Revolution. There was at that time seven survivors, six of which were available for interviews. A photographer-artist preceded Rev. Hilliard's visits with the veterans. He took pictures of each former soldier and drew sketches of their homes. The photos and drawings were reproduced in *American Heritage* (available at most libraries). All of those interviewed were over 100 years of age.

**Samuel Downing** was living in Edinburgh, New York in 1864 and was 102. During the revolution, when the teenager tried to enlist, the recruiting officer said he was too small but referred him to another officer who signed him up. He served in several actions including the attack on and capture of a British supply wagon train. He served under Benedict Arnold in the Mohawk Valley. Downing said of Arnold, "...a bloody fellow he was. He didn't care for nothing; he'd ride right in. It was come on boys! ... They didn't treat him right; he ought to have had Burgoyne's sword." "How would Washington treat traitors if he caught them?" Rev. Hilliard asked. Mr. Downing replied, "Hang 'em to the first tree!"

**Adam Link** died shortly after his picture was taken and the interview was based on information from the photographer and relatives. He enlisted at Wheeling, West Va. at the age of 16 for the frontier service. He spent all of his military time in and around Wheeling.

**Alexander Millner** was 104 in 1864. He, as a lad, enlisted as a drummer boy. For four years he was a member of Washington's Life Guard. He said of Washington, he "...never changed countenance but wore the same (expression) in defeat and retreat as in victory." Mr. Millner was at the battles of White Plains, Brandywine, Saratoga, Monmouth, and Yorktown. (Continued next month)

## Upcoming Events

January 8, 1998..... Monthly Meeting  
Good Samaritan  
February 22, 1998....President's Day  
St David's

## SAR Membership Participation List

1. Submit articles for newsletter
2. Complete & submit the biography of your ancestor
3. Complete your supplementals

**TXSSAR CHAPTER #23  
OFFICERS**  
**PRESIDENT**  
**JAMES BAIRD**  
**VICE PRESIDENT**  
**TOM CAIN**  
**SECRETARY**  
**GERALD BRENHOLTZ**  
**TREASURER**  
**WILLIAM P. VAUGHN**  
**CHAPLAIN**  
**LINWOOD J. ROBERSON**  
**HISTORIAN**  
**ADAM DAVIDSON**  
**NEWSLETTER EDITOR**  
**JIM JOHNSON**

## THE LAST REVOLUTIONARIES

Denton Chapter #23 TXSSAR and the Benjamin Lyon Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution will co-sponsor a special President's Day event entitled "The Last Revolutionaries," a presentation by Sarah Grant Reid on February 22, 1998 at 2 P.M. in St. David's Episcopal Church in Denton.

The program is based on interviews with Revolutionary War pensioners who were still alive during the American Civil War. The original interviews were conducted by Elias Brewster Hillard and later compiled by Mrs. Reid's mother, Elinor Brewster Davenport Grant.

Sarah Grant Reid has performed many informational programs on such topics as Madame Tussaud, the Empress Josephine, Clara Barton, and Audrey Hepburn. Please put this event on your calendar. For more information see page 3.

## EXPRESSION OF APPRECIATION

Ben Casey wishes to express his family's appreciation for the SAR's support of his father's (John B. Casey, Sr.) scholarship fund. In Ben's own words, "It will benefit young people forever."

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