

INK & QUILL

“Uniforms of the Revolution”

We were superbly entertained and informed at the last meeting which was June 4th. James Johnson brought a display of mannequins accurately dressed in the uniforms used in the Revolution. And James, himself, came in uniform.

The concept of a military uniform, we learned, starts with the need for protection; that is, protection from the elements and from the enemy. The Japanese, very early, had found paper mache to be an effective protection against arrows. Later, metal armor was used by warring parties. The revolutionists uniforms were made of wool and were designed mainly as a shield from the elements, although one carryover from days of armor was some use of the gorget. The gorget is a boomerang shaped piece of metal worn around the neck.

The second function of the uniform is the presentation of a show of authority. Soldiers, identical in uniform and in great numbers, present an image of authority.

Identification is the third function of the uniform. Uniforms identify the army, the unit, rank and soldier.

The fourth thing about a uniform is that it adds to the esprit decor, the idea of being a member of a select unit. It has been shown that units possessing the feeling of excellence, end up actually exhibiting such excellence.

The uniforms of the revolutionary army were not standard in the sense that we now define standard. But if we had to

describe the standard, it would be a dark blue coat with white, buff or red facings. Most of the New England states had white facings. Pennsylvania and Virginia used red facings. The general staff of Washington had buff facings.

In closing, Jim remarked that the revolution was a war for all Americans - over 10,000 negro slaves fought in the war for their freedom and for ours.

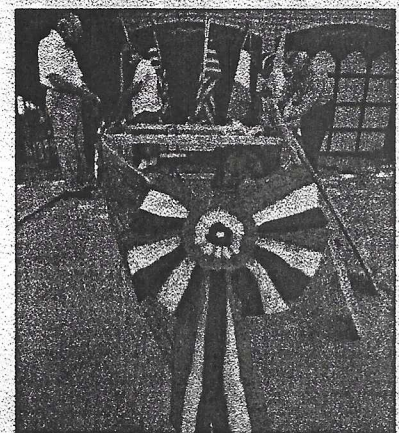
“When I think about what being an American means to me, I think of Thomas Jefferson. I think Jefferson summed it up as well as any man could when he said ‘We hold these truths to be self evident - that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their creator with certain inalienable rights - that among these are life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.’”

CONSTITUTION DAY

CELEBRATION

The Daughters of the American Revolution and the Sons of the American Revolution will co-sponsor a celebration to commemorate ratification of the Constitution at 4:00 pm September 17th at the old courthouse on the square. The Constitution of the United States of America will be read in its entirety by descendants of soldiers and patriots of the American Revolution. The event is being organized by Dorothy Bertine. Anyone who would like to participate, please contact Jim Johnson.

Fourth float



From left, Gerald Breenholtz, Chris Casey, Jim Johnson and Samuel Hayes work on the Sons of the American Revolution float, Crossing the Delaware, for Denton's Fourth of July parade Saturday. *Note: Won First Place*

Vice President James Johnson called the meeting to order with the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and the Pledge to the SAR. Vice President Johnson announced that a meeting would be held at his home on June 30th to complete preparation for the July 4th parade.

Other announcements included a need to think about ordering ROTC medals, the need to build a budget, and come up with ideas for fund raising.

James Baird remarked that, after a lengthy search for a typist, he had located one whom he could recommend - Rhonda, at The Office.

Vice President Johnson the gave an excellent presentation, "Uniforms of the Revolution."

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Samuel Haynes, Secretary

**NEXT MEETING SEPT. 3rd
7pm Good Samaritan**

**"A COLONIAL DIARY"
Frank Barrow
(Took 3 years to compile)**

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