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TEXAS SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

Denton Chapter #23, TXSSAR Inc. Newsletter

"Patriotism, American History, & Education"

Minutes for the Meeting of April 1, 1999

The meeting was called to order at 7:15. Tom Bailey gave the invocation and Dave Heston led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America. The Pledge to the SAR followed. President Bell then introduced Dorothy Bertine whose presentation was "The United States Constitution." Following are some excerpts from Ms. Bertine's excellent program. "The Constitution was born in Philadelphia, then taken to New York, then to Washington and, in 1921, to the Library of Congress where it was put on display. The Constitution is the second most important document in the world, second only to the Bible." To gain insight into the remarkable abilities of those involved in formulating the ideas inherent in the Constitution, we were invited to go back and read the Federalist Papers in which the great wisdom of Hamilton, Jay and Madison is exposed.

The Articles of Confederation first bound the thirteen colonies together to facilitate action as one but each state had been encouraged to write its own constitution. However, when the states actually tried to work together to function as one government, they found that the arrangement didn't work very well. For example, New York passed a tariff on vegetables and butter. In retaliation, New Jersey passed a duty on their lighthouse. Each state could have its own currency, carry on foreign trade and so on. The resulting turmoil dictated that a new document for government was required. In 1787 a meeting of the states resulted in a preliminary understanding that religion, morality and knowledge are necessary for good government and that there should be no slavery or involuntary servitude and that public schools were vital to the survival of the nation. Then, with awareness of these basic requirements and the great diversity of wants of the differing states, Alexander Hamilton, George Washington, Benjamin Franklin, Madison, Jay, Morris and the others locked themselves in a room at extreme risk to their lives and commenced the arduous task of argument, negotiation, and compromise in producing our United States Constitution.

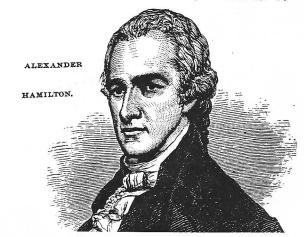
Following the program, V.P. James Johnson presented Ms Bertine with an SAR Certificate of

Appreciation and a token George III ha-penney in gratitude for a captivating and infomative evening.

President Bell announced that on April 24th a rememberance would be observed at the IOOF cemetery in honor of civil war veterans buried there.

The meeting ended with the SAR closing and the closing prayer by Tom Bailey.

Respectfully submitted, Samuel Haynes



MAY 6th MEETING JOHN GREER "Timothy Murphy - Best Shot in The American Revolution" 7 PM Good Samaritan Village

TXSSAR Chapter #23 Officers President Bill Bell Vice President & Programs James J Johnson Secretary & Newsletter Samuel Havnes Treasurer William Vaughn Chaplain Tom Bailey Historian Tom Cain Geneologist & Membership Gerald Brenholtz

The SAR is making Donations to the Veterans Hospital - Bring magazines, books (paperback or hardbound), soap, clothing, envelopes, pens, or stationery to the May 6th meeting.

MAY 22nd, Jim Johnson will be giving a program "Voices of the Revolution" at the Frankfort Village Branch Library, Carrollton, 1 pm

