



# The Cradle of Texas Crier

Cradle of Texas Chapter # 33  
Sons of the American Revolution



Volume 11, Number 1

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Milt Wing, Editor

## State President George West to be Honored Guest at January Meeting at Bay City Country Club on Saturday Evening, Jan. 12<sup>th</sup>, 20078.

### Location and Time of The Meeting

The meeting will be held at Bay City Country Club in Bay City located off Highway 35, 0.9 miles west of the Colorado River, in the back of the LeTulle Park Complex. Time of the meeting is at 6:00 P.M.

### Our Featured Guest Speaker Is Texas SAR State President, George West

We are pleased to have as our guests, George West the President of the Texas Society of the Sons of the American Revolution and his wife, Judy.

George was born in 1938 in Coffeyville, Kansas, but he arrived in Texas as fast as his mother and Dad and World War II could get him there in 1943. He grew up in Corpus Christi and graduated from high school there. He received his bachelor's degree in Physics at St. Edwards University in Austin, Texas in 1961.

After teaching two years in high school, he was offered a position at what is today the Department of Energy's Pantex Plant near Amarillo, Texas. His work included research and development with high explosives that are used in today's nuclear weapons, testing the

resistance of structures to accidental explosion, and security of facilities as threats have changed. The last twenty years were devoted to highly classified intelligence activities and George served as a member of a team that



was awarded 2 National Intelligence Meritorious Unit Citations by the Director of Central Intelligence for "furnishing information that provided critical guidance to United States policy makers involved in sensitive negotiations." In 1992, George served as an expert consultant for the 14<sup>th</sup> IAEA (International Atomic Energy Agency) inspection in Iraq, under the supervision of the UN Security Council. For the last ten years, George was a member of several delegations involving Mutual Reciprocal Inspections of nuclear weapon related facilities in Russia and in England. He retired from Pantex in 2005 after 42 years, but has since been asked to return as a part-time consultant.

George joined the Panhandle Plains chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution in 1993, and has since

proven six supplemental ancestors, including two women. He has made many speeches in the Texas Panhandle for various groups about the American Revolution, and has been a participant in fifth grade science programs. He has been awarded numerous medals by his chapter and the Texas Society, including the Silver Color Guard and Patriot medals.

**Color Guard Candidates:** We are still looking for members who are willing to serve as Color Guards in Uniform at various functions. Contact Arnold Seidule.

## President's Corner

Compatriots:

This will be the last time you will hear from me as your president. We are starting off the new year, 2008 with a January 12<sup>th</sup> meeting in Bay City. We have our State President as our Speaker, George West. His wife, Judy, will accompany him. He has asked that each SAR member to have a one page biography of one of your Revolutionary War ancestors which will be compiled and given to the archives. Let us try to make a 100% compliance.

The meeting will be at 6:00 P.M. at the Bay City Country Club. There will be induction of officers and presentation of special awards. The tickets are \$16.00 per person. The deadline for reservations is Jan. 7, 2008. Pay at the door. You may RSVP to Arnold Seidule, 979-299-1935; Tillman Daniel, 979-245-6211; George Easterling, 979-849-8628; Russell Dart-713-436-1039.

This would be a good time to review the purposes of the Sons of the American Revolution. They are patriotic, historical and educational. These include:

- Perpetuating the memory of Revolutionary War Patriots*
- Promoting fellowship among their descendants*
- Inspiring the community with a reverence for the principles of government founded by our forefathers*
- Encouraging historical research of the American Revolution*
- Preserving the records of Revolutionary War Patriots*
- Marking the locations of the Revolution: its events and its soldiers*
- Celebrating the anniversaries of the Revolution*
- Fostering true patriotism*
- Maintaining and extending the institutions of American Freedom*
- Carrying out the purposes of the Preamble of the Constitution*
- Following the injunctions of Washington's farewell address*

Fraternally,  
Tillman Daniel, M.D.

## Minutes of the December Meeting

The Cradle of Texas Chapter#33, Sons of the American Revolution met at Smithhart's Texas Grille in Angleton, Texas on Saturday, Dec. 8, 2007. In attendance were DAR members, wives of members and other guests. Those included were: Freda Daniel, Coryne Choate, Lee Slonek, Janice Seidule, Kay Mudd, Cherre House, Sue Dart, Mary Sechrest, Mary Nita Wing, Dot Salisbury, Ladene Rogers, and Margie Griffith. Members and prospects in attendance were Tillman Daniel, Mike Rees, Garvin Germany, Don Pugh, Tim Hall, George Hall, Roger Byler, Milt Wing, Clell Sechrest, Donald Mudd, Tom Mudd, Robert Seidule, Frank Seidule, Arnold Seidule, George Easterling, Jim Salisbury, William Wood, Barton Griffith, Alton Rogers, Julian Taylor, Harry House, Bill Fenn and Paul Woodridge.

The meeting was called to order by President Daniel at 11:30 A. M. Frank Seidule, in revolutionary uniform, posted the colors of our nation. The pledges were recited to the United State and Texas flags and to the SAR. Rev. Roger Byler gave the invocation.

President Daniel welcomed the members of the SAR, DAR and guests with a special welcome to Bill Wood, a transfer from Waco who moved to Bay City and new member Harry House with his DAR wife Cherre, Bill Fenn who brought Reverend Byler and Paul Woodridge.

The minutes were approved as published in the Cradle Crier.

President Daniel announced that the Bay City Country Club would be the venue at 6:00 P.M. on Saturday, January 12, 2008 of a special Chapter meeting. He noted that the new officers would be inducted and awards given by our special guest and speaker, State SAR President George West. He advised the members that attendance would have to be reserved by signing in on the list which was circulated during the meeting or by contacting Arnold Seidule in the Brazosport and Lake Jackson areas, George Easterling in the Angleton area, Russell Dart in the Pearland area and finally himself in the Bay City area.

President Daniel then heard nominations from the nominations committee chair for Chapter officers: Mike Rees for President; Garvin Germany for Vice President; Milt Wing for Secretary; Russell Dart for Treasurer; Tim Hall for Genealogist; Donald Mudd and Arnold Seidule for Executive Committeemen. Roger Byler moved these nominations be elected, there was a second. The slate was elected by acclamation.

President Daniel paused the proceedings for lunch. After lunch President Daniel announced that all members were invited to the Seidules' for a party at 2:00 P. M. after the meeting.

President Daniel then asked George Easterling to induct our newest member, Harry House. George

conducted the ceremony of the presentation of the rosette and the admonition of the non-political nature of our organization. George noted that the induction actually meant an increase of five new members to the Chapter because of Harry and Cherre's four grandsons who were admitted to membership with him.

President Daniel then asked Mike Rees to introduce the Program. Mike introduced Walter J. Denby, known as "Pete" to his friends. Mike gave a special welcome to Pete's daughter, Karen Peterson, her husband Mike and their son Sean Peterson.

Pete then related the inspiring story of his coming of age in London during the depression. He described his experiences during London's aerial siege--the "Blitz". He talked about his enlisting in Africa and the Middle East during the last great war. He finished with telling of his coming to Texas with his family after the War. Upon concluding, Pete was presented with a certificate of appreciation and received a round of ovation.

President Daniel adjourned our body by asking the group to recite the SAR closing. Chaplain Rev. Roger Byler then was asked to lead the assembly in benediction.

#### Important Dates

President's Dinner, Jan.12, 2008  
 NSSAR Spring Leadership Meet, Feb.21-23, 2008  
 TXSSAR State Conference, Arlington, Mar 27-30, 2008  
 NSSAR Convention, Sacramento CA. Jul. 5-9, 2008  
 TXSSAR Board of Managers, Tyler, Aug. 1-3, 2008

## George Washington's Farewell to Arms, Dec. 4, 1783.

Finally the War for Independence was over. It was time for a return to private life. George Washington's officers gathered for a last farewell at Faunce's Tavern in lower Manhattan on December 4, 1783. The assembled officers of the Continental Army were dressed in their best uniforms. Washington, as did the others, ate absentmindedly. Taking a glass of wine, he spoke what was in all their hearts:

"With heart full of gratitude, I now take leave of you. I mostly devoutly wish that your latter days be as prosperous as your former ones have been glorious and honorable. I cannot come to each of you but shall be obliged if each of you will come and take me by the hand."

The first to come was Henry Knox. The men looked at one another and said nothing. Their faces said it all. Not a word was spoken to break the silence.

One more parting was required: the formal resignation of Washington's commission. Washington

begged to leave and walked to the waterfront where a barge awaited to take him to the Jersey shore. As soon as he was seated, the barge cast off, and the tall figure in it's stern raised his hat in final farewell.

The Government was temporarily located at Annapolis. Thomas Mifflin, President of the Congress Addressed Washington: "Sir, the United States in Congress assembled, are prepared to receive you"

Washington congratulated Congress and commended to them the officers who had served him so faithfully and well. He spoke of Nathaniel Green, Henry Lee and his own staff. His voice trembled.

"I consider it an indispensable duty to close this last solemn act of my official life by commending the interest of our dearest country to the protection of Almighty God, and of those who have superintendence to them to his holy keeping... Having now finished the work assigned to me, I retire from the great theatre of action, and bidding affectionate farewell to this august body under whose orders I have so long acted, I here offer my commission and take my leave of all the employments of public life."

He then handed his commission to President Mifflin, an event unprecedented in history. At last he could return to Mount Vernon.

Editor's note. Little did he suspect that the nation would call again to this majestic person.

## Alternate Building Plan

An alternate plan to the SAR Downtown Headquarters move will be presented in February to the executive board. Perhaps you have seen the latest SAR magazine article where the Downtown plan is discussed. An alternate plan will be considered and the advantages are presented here for your comparison to the SAR article.

The newly suggested property is The Fulton Conway Building located at 805 West Main Street in Louisville, KY. The advantages listed are as follows:

**Purchase Price:** \$600,000 less

**Exterior Restoration Cost:** Considerably less because it is only two stories compared to five.

**Interior Improvement Cost:** Current plan involves tear out of infrastructure not suitable to SAR occupancy, since it is a functioning office setting for multiple clients. No costs are compared.

**Location:** FCB provides access to River views which will be useful in marketing efforts by SAR.

**Building Configuration:** Two stories allow for Museum and Library to be on same floor with administrative facilities above. Efficiency is improved over the 5 story location.

**Accessibility:** Two stories provide more flexibility and convenience to users due to only one flight of stairs which can replace one elevator in the alternate proposal.

**Building Structure:** Less reinforcement required to support Library and museum requirement as they would be located on first floor only.

**Roof Garden:** Is possible with the FBC building, not with the present plan.

**Façade:** Due to frontage expense the new building will allow a more dramatic façade considered suitable for a museum or Library.

**Unique:** Basic architecture will allow for unique design. The other plan places a unique facility in a five story office building.

**FINANCIAL REPORT**  
October 31, 2007

General Fund Balance 26 November 2007	\$3,398.15
Income	0
Disbursements	
Guest Lunch	\$34.77
Total Disbursements	\$34.77
Balance December 26, 2007	\$3,633.38
Barbara McAlexander Fund	
Balance on Hand	\$1,000.00
Total Bank Balance October 31, 2007	\$4,363.38

**Cradle of Texas Officers-2008**

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