

SAR Sentinel

Oklahoma City Chapter Sons of the American Revolution



September 2010

Heading by Megan Sanford

A NEW NEWSLETTER and a NEW Newsletter Editor

Your SAR Newsletter has a new format and a new editor. Compatriot Patrick Cowan has been selected to edit the SAR Sentinel. Patrick will be assisted for a few months by Past President Wayne Nash and Compatriot Bob Peterson. Patrick is a native of Sayre, OK and came to the Oklahoma City Chapter early in 2010. You will also note that there is a new heading and format. Megan Sanford, the talented wife of Compatriot Mike Sanford, contributed the heading. This is very appropriate, colorful, and representative of the Oklahoma City Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution.

With all the newness it is the desire of the Editor and his associates to make this instrument a "tool" to convey to the members a comprehensive reporting of what is important in the life and times of the Oklahoma City Chapter of SAR. There will be different reporting each month with some news reported on each month. We will carry all the Chapter, State and National events that are planned. Your Chapter will be making news in several communities and that will be reported on each month. New members are being added and a short Bio with a picture will be put in the month following their induction, Our Chapter's Color Guard has numerous events that they participate in each year and pictures of those events will be shown for your viewing. Our Chapter will be making our presence known in the community by giving awards to various persons who by their outstanding action give to the community beyond the normal call to duty. A picture of these important people along with a brief report on the reason they are being recognized will be reported on.

Our president, Glenn Fast of Enid, will be authoring an item each month. He will enlighten all of us on his plans for Chapter growth and events that the Chapter will be involved in. Be sure and look for his report.

Other Chapter members who will be contributing will be Robert R. Thomas on applications for membership; Wm. Melton will be reporting on Awards that are being planned and given to members of the community who provide outstanding services in their line of work; Peter Keltch will keep us posted on events and happenings at the National level of SAR; George Thompson, Oklahoma State President will do the same service on Oklahoma State Events and happenings; Al Lankford will report on his recommendations for good books to read; Our Color Guard Commander, Henry Baer, will tell us about events that the Color Guard has and will participate in along with pictures; Mike Sanford, our Events Reporter will keep us informed on our Chapter's presence at various functions within the area—Mike has also established a FaceBook page for SAR (see his report in this month's Newsletter); the featured speaker each month will be announced with a picture and a short Bio.

A Good Book to Read...by Al Lankford

While on vacation in Georgia this past summer I spent some time in Savannah and was surprised to encounter a Revolutionary War battle site that was of great significance but had been largely overlooked. I had spent time in Savannah on several occasions and was aware that there had been some Revolutionary War activity in the area but had assumed that it was a minor skirmish; I discovered that I was mistaken. This may partially be accounted for by the fact that archaeologists only discovered artifacts in 2005 that allowed them to precisely fix the location of the Spring Hill Redoubt where much of the action occurred. This battle is referred as the "Siege of Savannah" or the "Second Battle of Savannah". The battle took place September 16 to October 18, 1779 and was characterized by author H. Ronald Freeman in his book "Savannah Under Siege" as "the bloodiest hour of the Revolution". It was essential to the success of the British southern strategy that Savannah be held as a prelude to the taking of Charleston South Carolina.

The action started with a patriot bombardment of Savannah which lasted from October 3 to 8 with little effect except to destroy a large part of the town. It was decided that a frontal assault by patriot forces, numbering about 5,050, was the only remaining option. This was Bunker Hill all over again except this time the British, numbering about 3,200, held the prepared positions and unlike the patriots at Bunker Hill they had plenty of ammunition, including grapeshot and canister. Another thing working against the Patriots was that their entire battle plan had been overheard and leaked to the British, they were well prepared. The patriot assault was a disaster ending in a futile Calvary charge in which General Casimir Pulaski lost his life in this the bloodiest hour of the revolution.

As you probably know the story is in the details and I would encourage you to do some further reading on this engagement. There are many stories within this story and space does not permit details but I have read the book mentioned above and can recommend it and would loan my copy if anyone is interested. Also if one is in the Savannah area there are many places of interest but for those interested in Revolutionary War History Savannah History Museum and Battlefield park is a must see.

Chapter President's Report

I want to get the Chapter off to a good start with the first meeting on Sept. 13th.



You can help me by marking your calendar and making your plans to be present. Come early and enjoy a meal of BBQ. I will start the meeting at 7:00pm.

We have some new members to induct, a Budget to review and discuss, and several other very important items that will improve our Chapter and expand the work. I plan on seeing you there.

September Speaker

There will not be a featured speaker this month. The time allotted to the speaker will be used for other business items. Among those important items is the induction of 4 new members and the introduction of one new member transferring from out of state. They will be taking the oath and we will take picture of the member and his guest, if present. That picture will be presented to the member as a souvenir of an important occasion. There will be other items of business presented to the members. Mark your calendar now and be present on the evening of September 13th for this important occasion.

The three Chapter members arranging speakers will have a speaker scheduled for our October meeting along with a slate of speakers for the coming months. These men were charged at the planning meeting to bring us speakers that are well versed in Revolutionary War events and persons.

New Members

In this section we will feature new members with a picture and a short Bio. We begin this edition with new members going back to the beginning of September of 2009. Prior to that date our efforts to gather pictures and other data on new members were not in place.

Daniel Cunning

Daniel and his wife Lacey live in Midwest City, OK Daniel's patriot ancestor is Joseph Steams. Lacey, Daniel's wife is the grand daughter of our chapters Registrar, Robert R. Thomas. His patriot ancestor is Joseph Steams.



Samuel Browning



Samuel and his wife live in Oklahoma City. He is retired from more than one career but one of importance was his serving several years in the Military. His Patriot ancestor is Samuel Murrell.

James Blair

James Blair comes to our chapter having first become a member in Indiana and then living in the state of Kansas for a number of years. He transferred into our Chapter in early 2010. He lives with his wife Tina in Edmond, OK. His patriot ancestor is Samuel Kelso



Patrick Cowan



Patrick transferred in to our Chapter in early 2010. With his renewal the Chapter gains a knowledgeable and hard working member. He and his wife live in Oklahoma City.

His Patriot ancestor is James Largent.

OKC SAR on Facebook!...by Mike Sanford

Compatriots.....With assistance from President Glenn Fast and Past President Wayne Nash, I have constructed a Facebook Page for the Sons of the American Revolution Oklahoma City Chapter. So far I have posted links to our current newsletter and to Glenn Lee's fantastic Oklahoma Society website. I have also posted several pictures sent to me by President Fast and Wayne. Check it out let me know what you think. I believe this can be a good way for us to communicate with one another and others outside of our Chapter that might be surfing Facebook. It is also a breeze to post pics and even video. And you don't need a Facebook account to view the page! <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Sons-of-the-American-Revolution-Oklahoma-City- chapter/ 138671089501290?ref=ts>

OKCSAR Annual Planning Meeting—Minutes

This is a summation of the meeting that was held on August 7th, 2010. There were 16 present. Glenn Lee was appointed Secretary. President Glenn Fast provided an agenda and the length of the meeting was set at 2 hours. After the President's welcome and some preliminaries the items discussed were as follows:

1. Editor of the News Letter. It had been determined earlier to appoint a new Editor. James Blair was approached and accepted. However, he has taken employment out of state and another editor was required. Past President Wayne Nash volunteered to find an editor and assist him in the task of creating a News Letter. Compatriot Patrick Cowan agree to be the Editor. Bob Peterson and Wayne Nash. will assist him for a few months
2. Glenn Lee will modify the OKSSAR website to include a page of past presidents.
3. President Fast distributed a list of new officers and appointees.
4. There were 6 Past Presidents present at the meeting and President Fast called on each one to make some brief comments about the Chapter during their term. Charles Britton talked briefly about the Chapter during 1980. He passed around some newsletters from that date. Pen Woods spoke about his term of service as well as did Henry Baer and Mike Sanford. George Thompson spoke briefly and reported on the South Central District meeting to be held in Little Rock in August and the fall Leadership meeting in Louisville, KY, Sept 23—26. At that event there will be a ribbon cutting for the New Library.
5. The subject of Speakers for the coming year of 9 months was introduced by Wayne Nash. He is being assisted in this task by Al Lankford and Martin Reynolds. They presented a list of prospective speakers and a list of 9 was approved to select speakers for 5 months. President Fast requested that the months of September, December and May be omitted to have time for business items. The month of December is a time when the Chapter assists the Marine Corp in their program "Toys for Tots." A representative of the Marine Corp will be invited to accept the collection and Ron Schrouf will request the officer (s) that attend to also give a short talk. Ron will be assisted in this by Wm Melton. January will be a joint meeting with CAR and George Thompson also reported that the Oklahoma Prairies Chapter of DAR has cancelled the joint meeting that was to be held in the spring of 2011.
6. A discussion was held on the event of Frank Appl, Norman Chapter, coming to present a report on "The George Washington endowment Fund."
7. The annual Board of Managers meeting of all OKSSAR will be held here in Oklahoma City Oct. 9th.
8. Henry Baer, Color Guard Commander, reported that the Color Guard will participate in the next St. Patrick Day's Parade; Veterans Day, Nov 11; Wreaths across America on Dec 11th and State Congress in March or April of 2011 here in Oklahoma City
9. Martin Reynolds brought up the subject of the Chapter's Budget. It was determined that the outgoing Treasurer, George Thompson, would meet with the incoming Treasurer, Daryl Nash and data would be gathered and a budget would be prepared.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:40am.

IMPORTANT

NOTICE !!! Your HELP is needed! If you have access to a computer and have an E-mail address, please e-mail it to George Thompson at gdt40@cox.net and copy Wayne Nash at pnwnash@sbcglobal.net. We would like to communicate with you by this means. Thank you for your assistance.

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