



**Silicon Valley Chapter  
of the  
Sons of the American Revolution**

**Chapter Meeting Minutes  
19 October 2013**

Kind of Meeting: Regular Chapter Meeting

Name of Chapter: Silicon Valley Chapter

Date and Place of Meeting: Saturday 19 October 2013  
The Forum at Rancho San Antonio  
23500 Cristo Rey Drive  
Cupertino, California 95014

Presence of Officers:

President:	Present – Terry Briggs
Vice President, Membership	Present – Alan Fitch
Vice President, Programs	Absent - Brent Schmitz
Registrar:	Vacant
Secretary:	Absent – Jeff Moore
Treasurer:	Present – Bill Dunton
Past President:	Present – Doug Bergtholdt

Hours of Meeting: 9:45 AM Call to Order  
11:40 AM Adjournment

Number Present: 24 Members  
1 Associate  
11 Guests

**Invocation by Compatriot Richard Ferman**

**Pledge of Allegiance led by Compatriot Alan Fitch**

**Pledge to SAR led by Compatriot Douglas Bergtholdt**

**Attendance:** Twenty-four members, one associate and eleven guests attended the meeting.

**Actions Taken:**

1. **New Member Inductions:** none

2. **Presentation to 2013 SVSAR-De Anza College Patriotic Essay/Scholarship winner:**  
President Terry Briggs introduced Compatriot Richard Knock who in-turn introduced Juan Corrales, winner of the 2013 SVSAR-De Anza College Patriotic Essay/Scholarship. Juan Corrales read his winning patriotic essay. Compatriot Knock presented Juan Corrales a flag flown over the US Capitol on July 4, 2013 at the request of California Representative Anna Eshoo. Compatriot Knock also presented Juan Corrales the SAR Outstanding Citizenship pin.
3. **Presentation of CASSAR Bronze Major General Baron von Steuben Medal:**  
President Terry Briggs presented the CASSAR Bronze Major General Baron von Steuben Color Guard Medal to Compatriot Richard Knock for Compatriot Knock's participation in SAR Color Guard events with the SVSAR and with SAR Chapters in Southern California.
4. **Introduction of Speaker:** President Briggs introduced Compatriot Michael Malone, who gave an informative and entertaining presentation titled: "A Battle, A Soldier and A Flag" about the Battle of Saratoga, the Buell family who participated in the Battle of Saratoga, first flags used by the Americans and a flag believed to be from the Revolutionary War period and thought to be previously owned by one of Mike Malone's ancestors, Samuel Buell. The presentation was followed by questions and answers.
5. **Approval of Minutes:** A motion was made by Compatriot Douglas Bergtholdt that "The membership of the SVSAR Chapter approves the minutes of the September 21, 2013 SVSAR meeting, which were posted on the SVSAR Website for a least a week prior to the meeting." Motion was seconded by Compatriot Jack Mallory and passed unanimously by the members present.
4. **President's Report**
  - a. 2014 dues notices will be mailed to members in late October. Total dues will remain unchanged at \$67.00. Members are encouraged to remit their dues by December 15, 2013.
  - b. SVSAR members are needed to serve as chapter officers and committee chairmen for 2014. Past President Doug Bergtholdt will chair the nominating committee for chapter officers. Elections will be held at the December 7, 2013 SVSAR meeting for President, Vice President Membership, Vice President Programs, Secretary, Treasurer, Registrar and Chaplain. Compatriot Terry Briggs has agreed to continue to serve as President. Compatriot Alan Fitch has agreed to serve as Registrar. Compatriot Brent Schmitz has agreed to continue to serve as Vice President - Programs.
  - c. Committee Chairmen are needed for programs: Guest Speakers, Eagle Scout recognition, and DeAnza Patriotic Essay Contest.
  - d. CASSAR Fall Board of Managers Meeting will be November 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> in El Segundo near the Los Angeles Airport. CASSAR officers and SVSAR members Terry Briggs and Doug Bergtholdt will be attending.
  - e. Revolutionary War Military Records Workshop will be held Saturday, November 9<sup>th</sup> at the Santa Clara Family History Center. The SVSAR will have an information table and provide a color guard.
  - f. Efforts are continuing to further enhance the SVSAR's collaboration with area DAR chapters and CAR societies. SVSAR Compatriot Bill Jennings is the current Senior President of the local Captain Matthew Ramsay Society, Children of the American Revolution.

**5. Vice President Programs:** VP Brent Schmitz was not present but President Briggs reported on the following:

- a. Eagle Scout Scholarship applications are due to SVSAR by no later than November 16<sup>th</sup>. An SVSAR Eagle Scout chair is needed.
- b. 2013 Youth Knight Essay Contest for high school freshmen, sophomores, juniors and seniors; submissions are due to SVSAR by no later than December 31<sup>st</sup>.
- c. Youth Brochure Contest for middle school students. Theme "Francis Marion, the Swamp Fox." Submissions are due at SVSAR by no later than December 31<sup>st</sup>.

**6. Vice President Membership Report:** Compatriot Alan Fitch (also SVSAR Webmaster)

- a. Compatriots were recognized for their 5 year increment membership anniversaries.
- b. Members were encouraged to view the SVSAR website periodically for announcements and meeting and event updates.

**7. Registrar (Vacant)**

- a. President Terry Briggs reported that the SVSAR has 121 Compatriot and Junior Members, that there were no new membership approvals since the September SVSAR meeting, that two supplemental patriot ancestor applications have been submitted for approval and that one new member application would be submitted within the next week.

**8. Treasurer's Report, Treasurer Bill Dunton**

- a. Treasurer Dunton reported that the chapter has a current bank balance of \$19,439.90 and that all funds were in the checking account in order to avoid paying bank service charges for multiple accounts and because interest rates are currently very low.
- b. It was also reported that the income from meeting meals were balancing well with the costs paid to the Forum for meeting meals.

**9. Secretary's Report:** Secretary Jeff Moore was not present and there was no report.

**10. Past President's Report (Compatriot Doug Bergtholdt, also CASSAR Secretary)**

- a. Compatriot Bergtholdt reported that the California Society, SAR has a current membership of 1,706 and that with the CASSAR approval of the Yosemite Chapter (located in the Fresno Area and the Eagle Chapter (located in northern San Diego County and southern Riverside County) that there are now 26 SAR chapters in California.
- b. Compatriot Bergtholdt also reported that the 2014 NSSAR annual Congress would be in Greenville, South Carolina and that reservations for the 2014 Congress were now being accepted.

**Committee Reports:**

1. **Chaplain:** Vacant. Volunteer needed.
2. **Chairman Social Events.** Compatriot Jack Mallory reported that an event is being planned for February or March 2014. The event is to be a visit to the Revolutionary War framed print collection of attorney Richard Alexander in downtown San Jose. More information to follow.

3. **Chairman Wreaths Across America.**
  - a. Compatriot John Kohli reported that on October 11th there was a fund-raising dinner dance in South San Francisco that raised approximately \$9,000 and was well attended. One attendee was State Senator and SVSAR Member Jerry Hill.
  - b. Compatriot John Kohli reported that the SVSAR color guard would participate in the December 14, 2013 Wreaths Across America ceremony at Golden Gate National Cemetery in San Bruno and that SVSAR President, Terry Briggs would read the NSSAR proclamation at that event. If other SVSAR members are available, they would also participate at the Wreaths Across America ceremony at Madronia Cemetery in Saratoga.
4. **Chairman ROTC/JROTC (Compatriot John Kohli)**
  - a. Compatriot John Kohli reported that ROTC and JROTC medal presentations would be made at a number of schools again in the Spring of 2014.
5. **Chairman Photography (Compatriot John Kohli) No report**
6. **Color Guard Commander (Compatriot Chris Palmer)**
  - a. The Color Guard has been very active. Terry Briggs attended an event with the YAPs on October 12, 2013 at the Masonic Home in Union City, CA. Upcoming events include the November 3rd Veterans Parade in Pleasanton with the YAPs, the Santa Clara Military Records seminar on November 9th, November 11th San Jose Veteran's Day Parade, and December 14, 2013 Wreaths Across America with contingents at both Golden Gate National Cemetery and Madronia Cemetery. Possible participation at the Pleasanton December Holiday Parade with the YAPs. Volunteers are needed. Some uniforms are available.
7. **Chairman Eagle Scout Recognition (Vacant)**

**Unfinished Business:**

- a. Compatriot Richard Ferman reported that a seminar will be held on November 9th at the Family History Center in Santa Clara on Quince Street regarding Military Records available from the National Archives in Saint Louis. In addition, a representative of "Fold Three" will be there also to provide information on obtaining Military Records.

**New Business:** (none).

The next meeting will be on December 7, 2013 at 9:30 AM at the Forum. The guest speaker presentation at the meeting will be by Fritz Trapnell who will make a presentation about his father Admiral Frederick Trapnell a pioneering naval aviator.

**Benediction by Compatriot Richard Ferman**

**SAR Recessional led by Compatriot John Kohli**

The meeting was adjourned by President Terry Briggs

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Briggs

President, Silicon Valley Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution