



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

**Chapter Meeting Minutes  
18 January 2014**

Kind of Meeting: Regular Chapter Meeting

Name of Chapter: Silicon Valley Chapter

Date and Place of Meeting: Saturday 18 January 2014  
The Forum at Rancho San Antonio  
23500 Cristo Rey Drive  
Cupertino, California 95014

Presence of Officers:

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

Hours of Meeting: 9:35 AM Call to Order  
11:23 AM Adjournment

Number Present: 18 SAR Members  
4 Guests

**Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag led by Compatriot Peter Verbica**

**Invocation by Compatriot Jack Mallory**

**Pledge to SAR by Compatriot Doug Bergtholdt**

**Introduction of Speaker by President Terry Briggs:** Compatriot Neil Hotelling gave a very interesting presentation entitled “John Steinbeck, Westering Spirit of a Noble Knight.” Compatriot Hotelling is the president of the SAR Monterey Bay Chapter.

**After a short break, the meeting was resumed.**

**Presentation of Certificates and Medals:** Compatriot Alan Fitch was presented with the Meritorious Service Medal for his two years as Vice President, Membership, SVSAR Web-Master and his current position as Chapter Registrar.

**Induction of New Member:** Compatriot Alan Fitch inducted new member Kyle Montano.

**Raffle:** No raffle was conducted.

**Approval of Minutes of December 7, 2013:** Motion to approve the December 7, 2013 SVSAR meeting minutes as published on the SVSAR website was made by Doug Bergholdt. Second to the motion was made by Jack Mallory. The minutes were unanimously approved.

### **Officers Reports:**

#### **President Terry Briggs:**

- a) Currently, the SVSAR Chapter has 105 members, which includes 4 junior members for a total of 101 compatriot members. During the year, 2 members transferred to other chapters, 1 died and 15 dropped their membership. SVSAR is the fourth largest chapter in California.
- b) The Chapter is in need of a Vice President Programs and Vice President Membership. In addition, chairman of Eagle Scout recognition committee and De Anza College patriotic essay contest committee are needed. President Briggs has been filling in, but cannot completely cover all the work related to these activities.
- c) CSSAR Spring 1014 Annual Meeting and election of CASSAR officers is coming up on Friday, April 11 and Saturday April 12 at the Embassy Suites Sacramento, River Front.
- d) Efforts will continue to be made in 2014 to further enhance the SVSAR's collaboration with the area SAR and DAR Chapters and CAR Societies. SVSAR, member Bill Jennings is the Captain Matthew Ramsey Society, CAR Senior President. President Terry Briggs represented the SVSAR at a number of CAR meetings last year and most recently in January. Other SVSAR members interested in collaborating with DAR and CAR are encouraged to contact President Briggs.
- e) The SVSAR website continues to be updated by President Briggs for announcements, meetings and events.

#### **Vice President Programs Brent Schmitz (Report given by President Terry Briggs):**

- a) Speakers are lined up for February, March and April 2014. Additional speakers are needed for the remainder of the 2014 SVSAR meetings.
- b) The SVSAR Eagle Scout Scholarship winner was David Egan. His application was sent to CASSAR for judging. The CASSAR scholarship winner was from another SAR chapter. Applications for 2014 are due to SVSAR by no later than November 15<sup>th</sup>.
- c) No youth Knight Essay Contest applications were received for 2013. 2014 applications are due by no later than December 31<sup>st</sup>.
- d) No applications were received for the 2013 youth Brochure Contest. 2014 applications must be received by no later than December 31<sup>st</sup>. This is open to middle school students. Theme is "Francis Marion, the Swamp Fox."

- e) Youth Oration Contest applications are due to SVSAR by no later than March 1, 2014. This is open to high school students in grades 9, 10, 11 and 12. A 5 to 6 minute video taped original speech are due to the SVSAR by no later than March 1<sup>st</sup>.
- f) The 2014 youth Poster Contest for students in grades 3, 4, and 5 are due to SVSAR by no later than March 16<sup>th</sup>. The theme is "Francis Marion, the Swamp Fox."
- g) Valley Forge Teacher Scholarship nominees are due to SVSAR by no later than March 16<sup>th</sup>.
- h) ROTC recognition and awards are to be made in April and May 2014.

**Vice President Membership (Vacant) Report Given by President Briggs:**

- a) SVSAR membership is 105 (101 compatriot and 4 junior)
- b) 5 year increment anniversaries were recognized: John Field Foley, 55 years, and Chris Palmer, 10 years.

**Registrar Alan Fitch:** There have been two new members since the December meeting. Some new member applications are in the works. During 2013, there were 18 new members.

**Treasurer Bill Dunton:** Chapter account is in balance. \$3,802 dues payments were sent to CASSAR for the chapter's NSSAR and CASSAR dues.

**Secretary Jeff Moore:** No report.

**Past President and CASSAR Secretary Doug Bergtholdt:** Compatriot Bergtholdt reported that he will be undergoing ankle surgery on February 5<sup>th</sup> resulting in his being out of commission for approximately three months. A medal recognizing the 125<sup>th</sup> anniversary of SAR is available to purchase.

**Committee Reports:**

**Chaplin:** Vacant

**Social Events (Jack Mallory):** Plans are being made to tour the Military Vehicle Technical museum on May 3<sup>rd</sup> at 10:00 AM. This will be the last opportunity to visit this incredible collection of military tanks and other vehicles, since it has been sold to the Collins Foundation in Massachusetts. The fee is \$50.00 for members and \$65.00 for nonmembers. Maximum attendance is limited to 30. Contact Jack to sign up.

**Wreaths Across America (John Kohli):** Ceremonies were conducted at the Golden Gate National Cemetery and Madronia Cemetery in December. Donations to Wreaths Across America are requested. Terry Briggs, Chris Palmer, John Kohli and Doug Bergtholdt were part of the color guard at the Golden Gate National Cemetery, and there was one SVSAR member who attended the Madronia ceremony.

**ROTC/JROTC and Photography (John Kohli):** Medals and certificates have been ordered for presentation ceremonies in April and May 2014. SVSAR member volunteers are requested to attend ROTC and JROTC awards ceremonies in April and May.

**Color Guard (Chris Palmer):** The color guard has been very active. This marks our 16<sup>th</sup> year of active participation in a variety of events. On December 7th, the color guard participated in the holiday parade in Pleasanton with the Young American Patriot's Fife and Drum Corp (YAPs). Upcoming events include the St. Patrick's Day Parade in Dublin, CA with the YAPs. Volunteers are needed, and uniforms are available to borrow.

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:** None.

**In conclusion, President Terry Briggs announced that the next meeting will be held on Saturday, February 15, 2014. Alan Fitch led the SAR Recessional, and Jack Mallory gave the Benediction.**

**The meeting was adjourned at 11:23AM.**