



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

**Chapter Meeting Minutes
19 April 2014**

Kind of Meeting: Regular Chapter Meeting

Name of Chapter: Silicon Valley Chapter

Date and Place of Meeting: Saturday 19 April 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:	absent – Jeff Moore
Treasurer:	Present – Bill Dunton
Past President:	absent – Doug Bergtholdt

Hours of Meeting: 9:39 AM Call to Order
11:35 AM Adjournment

Number Present: 19 SAR Members
5 Guests

Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag led by Compatriot Charles Chicks

Invocation by Compatriot Richard Ferman

Pledge to SAR led by Compatriot Russell Breed

Introduction of members and guests by President Terry Briggs

Presentation of SAR certificates and medals: None.

Welcome to members and guests. President Briggs reminded attendees who would like to have breakfast to deposit \$15.00 into the container at the sign-in table or \$3.00 for coffee and juice.

Introduction of Speaker by President Terry Briggs: Compatriot Alan Fitch, who gave a presentation entitled, "Governor Thomas Fitch, Populist vs. Imperial Politics - The Revolution of 1766." Following the presentation there were a number of enlightening question and comments.

Raffle: There was a raffle that raised \$68 for SVSAR youth programs. The format is to conduct a youth programs fundraising raffle every other SVSAR meeting.

After a short break, the meeting was resumed.

Approval of March 15, 2014 meeting Minutes: Compatriot Charles Chicks moved to approve the March 15, 2014 SVSAR meeting minutes as published on the SVSAR website. Compatriot Alan Fitch seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously in a vote of the members present.

Officer Reports:

11.1 President's Report

- 11.1.a. Compatriot Peter Verbica is now serving as chairman of the Eagle Scout Recognition and Scholarship Committee and recently there have been regular requests for SVSAR Eagle Scout recognition certificates.
- 11.1.b. The SVSAR desperately needs members to serve as officers and committee chairmen. There is no VP Membership, chairman to arrange for guest speakers and no De Anza College patriotic essay contest chairman for 2014. Terry Briggs has been filling-in but cannot completely cover all of the work related to these activities.
- 11.1.c. The De Anza College patriotic essay and scholarship committee, chaired by default by SVSAR President Terry Briggs, selected a 2014 winner, Alejandro Arteaga. The SVSAR received a very nice thank you email from Alejandro.
- 11.1.d. The Valley Forge History Teacher scholarship committee, chaired by default by SVSAR President Terry Briggs, selected a 2014 winner from the SVSAR, Patti Harjehausen from Dublin, CA and a history teacher at Bishop O'Dowd High School. Patti's application was submitted to the CASSAR committee who will make their selection of two teachers to award the teacher's scholarship for a week long study program at Revolutionary War sites on the east coast. The CASSAR selection will be made before the end of April 2014.
- 11.1.e. CASSAR Spring 2014 Annual Meeting and election of CASSAR officers was held on Friday, April 11 and Saturday April 12 at the Embassy Suites Sacramento, River Front. Terry Briggs and Doug Bergtholdt attended as CASSAR officers. There were three current NSSAR officers present including President General, Joe Dooley. There was also one past President General present. SVSAR received 3 best chapter contest certificates in the large chapter category for Community Service, CASSAR Programs and Publicity. The SVSAR also received 2 Color Guard flag streamers, one for 2013 Wreaths Across America and one for 2013 Best Color Guard in the large chapter category. Doug Bergtholdt and Terry Briggs received certificates for distinguished service in 2013 for service as CASSAR officers. Jim Faulkinbury of the Sacramento Chapter was installed as the new CASSAR President. There were some bylaws changes to

update processes for managing CASSAR funds and there was a change in the CASSAR Life Membership program. For CASSAR life membership a compatriot must pay for an NSSAR life membership before paying for a CASSAR life membership. This does not affect existing CASSAR life members.

- 11.1.f. CASSAR Fall 2014 Board of Managers Meeting will be held in early November on a Friday and Saturday in Petaluma with the meeting hosted by the Redwood Empire Chapter SAR.
 - 11.1.g. The SVSAR website continues to be regularly updated by President Briggs for announcements, meetings and events. Please refer to SVSAR website for useful dates of meetings and events and other chapter information
 - 11.1.h. On March 16th, the SVSAR, at the invitation of the Santa Clara County Historical and Genealogical Society, gave a presentation at the Santa Clara Library about SAR as a lineage society and also had an information table to talk with interested people before and after the meeting. Terry Briggs presented and Alan Fitch provided information at the information table. Other lineage societies that made presentations included the Society of Mayflower Descendants, Colonial Dames of North America, the DAR and Order of the Founders of North America.
 - 11.1.i. On April 16th, The SVSAR, at the invitation of the San Mateo County Genealogical Society gave a presentation at Grace Lutheran Church in San Mateo about SAR as a lineage society and also had an information table to talk with interested people before and after the meeting. Terry Briggs presented and Alan Fitch provided information at the information table. Other lineage societies that made presentations included the Society of Mayflower Descendants, Colonial Dames of North America and Daughters of Utah Pioneers.
 - 11.1.j. The San Francisco Chapter, SAR is hosting a luncheon on Saturday, June 28, 2014 celebrating Independence Day. The luncheon will be a luau-style lunch at the Four Seasons Restaurant on Grant Avenue in San Francisco China Town. The Four Seasons Restaurant is the oldest restaurant in China Town and has been operating since 1906.
 - 11.1.k. The France Society of the SAR has a list of 12 young people who would like to do a youth exchange with SAR families in the US. These exchanges would be for short-term exchanges of a couple of weeks. The youth range in age from 11 to 18 years of age. If you are interested in serving as a host family for one of these youth, please contact Terry Briggs who can provide you the contact information for an SAR program coordinator.
 - 11.1.l. The SVSAR members need to start thinking about SVSAR officers to be elected in December 2014. Terry Briggs will complete his second term as SVSAR President in December 2014 and will likely not agree to serve as SVSAR President for a third year term.
- 11.2 Vice President - Programs - Brent Schmitz (oversees youth and scholarship programs and guest speakers). Report by President Terry Briggs.
- 11.2.a. Report on upcoming meeting guest speakers for 2014 SVSAR meetings. Terry is working on trying to find a guest speaker for the May, September, October and December SVSAR meetings. If any

- members can identify and assist in arrangement for future guest speakers it would be greatly appreciated.
- 11.2.b. Eagle Scout Recognition and Scholarship Applications. Applications for 2014 are due to the SVSAR no later than November 15, 2014.
 - 11.2.c. 2014 youth Knight Essay Contest - for high school freshman, sophomores, juniors and seniors. For 2014, essays are due to the SVSAR no later than December 31, 2014.
 - 11.2.d. 2014 youth Brochure Contest for middle school students. Theme: "George Rogers Clark." For 2014, brochures due to the SVSAR no later than December 31, 2014.
 - 11.2.e. 2015 youth Oration Contest. No entries were received by the March 1, 2014 deadline for the 2014 youth Oration Contest. Promote to high school students grades 9, 10, 11 & 12. 5 to 6 minute video taped original speech. Speech video tapes are due to the SVSAR no later than March 1, 2015.
 - 11.2.f. 2015 youth Poster Contest for students of grades 3, 4 & 5. Theme: "George Rogers Clark." Posters due to the SVSAR no later than March 16, 2015. No posters were received by the SVSAR by the March 16, 2014 deadline. Some California Chapters have made connections and are receiving 300 to 400 posters to their chapters.
 - 11.2.g. 2015 Valley Forge Teacher scholarship nominee(s). Promote. Teacher applications due to the SVSAR no later than April 1, 2015.
 - 11.2.h. ROTC/JROTC Recognition and awards. Awards are made in April and May 2014. John Kohli has been making presentations at High Schools.
- 11.3. Vice President - Membership - vacant, report by President, Terry Briggs.
 - 11.3.a. SVSAR current membership: 106 (102 Compatriot + 4 Junior)
 - 11.3.b. Report April 2014 - 5 year increment membership anniversaries: (none for April 2014).
 - 11.4. Registrar - Alan Fitch
 - 11.4.a. New members since March SVSAR meeting: (none)
 - 11.4.b. Supplemental patriot ancestors approved since March 2014 meeting: one, David Welling
 - 11.4.c. New member applications in for approval: Two.
 - 11.4.d. Supplemental patriot ancestor applications in for approval: Three.
 - 11.4.e. A number of gentlemen have communicated with President Terry Briggs and Registrar Alan Fitch expressing interest in membership and several applications have been started.
 - 11.5. Treasurer - Compatriot Bill Dunton
 - 11.5.a. 2014 SVSAR account books are up-to-date through March 2014.
 - 11.5.b. It currently appears that the net proceeds from the SVSAR fundraising tour of the Military Vehicle Technology Foundation are approximately \$1,260.
 - 11.5.c. The net proceeds from the SVSAR fundraising at the 4.19.2014 SVSAR meeting is \$68.

- 11.5.d. Treasurer Dunton is open to suggestions for interest earning deposit vehicles in which to place the SVSAR's youth awards funds. Currently all of the funds are in the SVSAR checking account and the account balance is such that there are no monthly service charges.
- 11.6 Secretary - Compatriot Jeff Moore - absent, no report
- 11.7 Past President - Past President Doug Bergtholdt (& CASSAR Secretary) - absent, no report.
- 12. Committee Reports: The Presiding Officer will asked committee chairmen to stand and give a summary report.
 - 12.1. Chaplain - Vacant, **volunteer needed**
 - 12.2. Chairman of Social Events: Compatriot Jack Mallory
 - 12.2.a. Reminder for the May 3, 2014 tour of the Military Vehicle Technology Foundation. All 34 available tour tickers were sold and the tour will take place as planned with an optional social following the tour at the nearby Alpine Inn (Zott's)
 - 12.2.b. The SVSAR is considering organizing another fundraiser in the form of a tour of the Revolutionary War period print collection at the downtown San Jose office of attorney Richard Alexander.
 - 12.3. Chairman of Wreaths Across America: Past President John Kohli - Saturday December 13, 2014 has been confirmed for the Wreaths Across America ceremonies at Golden Gate National Cemetery and Madronia Cemetery, Saratoga.
 - 12.4. Chairman of ROTC/JROTC: Past President John Kohli - Award and medal presentations are being made by John Kohli at high school and college JROTC and ROTC awards programs in April and May 2014. As of the date of this meeting John Kohli has presented awards and medals at two JROTC awards ceremonies.
 - 12.5. Chairman of Photography: Past President John Kohli - photographs are being taken for record at SVSAR meetings.
 - 12.6. Color Guard Commander: Compatriot Chris Palmer
 - 12.6.a. Recent color guard events: Chris Palmer marched with the YAPs in the Saint Patrick's Day Parade in Dublin, CA. Doug Bergtholdt served on the CASSAR Color Guard at the CASSAR Annual Meeting on April 11th and 12th in Sacramento.
 - 12.6.b. Call for interested additional volunteers. Some outfits available to be borrowed for future events.
 - 12.6.c. Upcoming future SVSAR Color Guard participation events include possible informal attendance at the Saratoga Madronia Cemetery Memorial Day ceremony, formal participation at the Saratoga Independence Day ceremony, possible participation in the July 4th Rose, White and Blue parade in the San Jose Rose Garden area, formal participation in the November 11, 2014 San Jose Veteran's Day parade and formal participation in the December 13th Wreaths Across America ceremony at Golden Gate National Cemetery.
 - 12.7. Chairman of the Eagle Scout Recognition: Peter Verbica, report by President Briggs.
 - 12.7.a. Upon request Peter Verbica has been preparing and mailing certificates of recognition to new Eagle Scouts. Peter Verbica will receive requests for, prepare and mail recognition certificates in for the remainder of 2014.

- 12.7.b Presentation of 2013 SVSAR Eagle Scout Scholarship Medal and certificate to David Egen will be arranged for a future SVSAR meeting.
- 12.8. Chairman of Guest Speakers: vacant, chairman needed. Speakers needed for May, September, October and December 2014 SVSAR meetings.
- 12.9. Chairman of De Anza College Patriotic Essay Scholarship: vacant, chairman needed. The SVSAR scholarship is proceeding for 2014. The scholarship will need to be presented to Alejandro Arteaga, the 2014 scholarship recipient at a future SVSAR meeting.
- 13. Unfinished business
 - 13.1 A motion was made by Compatriot Jack Mallory that the SVSAR officers and committee chairman meet, in the near future, to discuss and develop recommendations for changes or increases of SVSAR youth contest awards, including monetary awards and possibly making a donation to the Young American Patriots Fife and Drum Corp (YAPs) and giving SVSAR recognition to the YAPs founder Jason Giaimo. The motion was seconded by Compatriot Chris Palmer. In a vote of the SVSAR members present the motion passed unanimously.
- 14. New business and correspondence: (none)
- 15. Next meeting will be **Saturday**, May 17, 2014 at 9:30 AM at the Forum. Our guest speaker is yet to be identified. Information will be put on the SVSAR web-site and included in email meeting announcements when the information is available.
- 16. Compatriot Chris Palmer led the SAR Recessional.
- 17. Compatriot Richard Ferman gave the Benediction.
- 18. A motion to adjourn the April 19, 2014 meeting of the SVSAR was made by Compatriot Charles Chicks. The motion was seconded by Compatriot Chris Palmer. In a vote of the SVSAR members present the motion to adjourn was passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 11:35 AM.

These minutes of the April 19, 2014 meeting of the Silicon Valley Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution were prepared by SVSAR President, Terry Briggs. If SVSAR members have changes or corrections they think should be incorporated into these meeting minutes, please contact SVSAR President, Terry Briggs.