



Silicon Valley Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution

Chapter Meeting Minutes 20 September 2014

Kind of Meeting: Regular Chapter Meeting

Name of Chapter: Silicon Valley Chapter

Date and Place of Meeting: Saturday 20 September 2014
San Jose West Valley Library Community Room
1243 San Thomas Aquino Road
San Jose, CA

Presence of Officers:

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

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

Number Present: 16 SAR Members
2 Guests

Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag led by Compatriot Alan Fitch

Invocation by Compatriot Richard Ferman

Pledge to SAR by Compatriot Doug Bergtholdt

Introduction of Members and Guests by President Terry Briggs

Welcome to members and guests. President Briggs reminded attendees who would like to have refreshments, to place \$3.00 into the container at the sign-in table.

Introduction of Speaker by President Terry Briggs: No speaker at this meeting. A speaker is needed for the December meeting.

Raffle: There was no raffle.

Presentation of SAR Law Enforcement Medal: President Briggs presented this medal to Compatriot Douglas Bergtholdt in recognition of his many years of service to the San Jose Police Department.

Introduction of New Members: Registrar Alan Fitch presented new member certificates to new members Gregory Sherwood and Sam Prather. New members not present were Jim Niforopulos, Kendal Coffman, Robert Shamblen and Brian Shamblen. Those recognized for Supplementals were Alan Fitch, David Welling and Bill Jennings.

Approval of May 17, 2014 SVSAR Meeting Minutes: Compatriot Brent Schmitz moved for approval and Compatriot Richard Ferman seconded. Motion carried.

Officer Reports:

A. President Terry Briggs:

- SVSAR meeting venue will be at the San Jose West Valley Community Room for the October 8th and December 6th meetings. Alternate meeting sites will be discussed under “Old Business.”
- President Briggs shared the sad news that Compatriot Bill Jennings wife, Tricia, died suddenly on September 16th. A sympathy card was circulated for signatures expressing the members’ condolences.
- Under “Old Business” a discussion will be had regarding SVSAR support of SAR Youth Programs.
- 2015 dues renewal process will begin with invoices being mailed in mid to late October. The amount will remain unchanged at \$67.00. It is requested that dues be paid by December 15th.
- SVSAR officers and committee chairmen are needed for 2015. Officer elections will held at the December 6th meeting. Officers are President, Vice President, Membership, Vice President Programs (Brent Schmitz has volunteered), Secretary (Jeff Moore is considering standing for another term.), Treasurer (Bill Dunton has volunteered), Registrar (Alan Fitch has volunteered), Chaplain (Richard Ferman is considering). Vacancies exist for Vice President, Membership and committee chairman for De Anza College Patriotic Essay

Scholarship. President Briggs has been filling in, but cannot completely cover all the bases.

- CASSAR Fall Board of Managers Meeting will be held on November 7, 8 and 9 in Petaluma. President Briggs and Past President Bergtholdt will be attending.
- The NSSAR National Congress was held in July 2014 in Greenville, SC. The new President General is Lindsay Brock from Florida. At this meeting the Congress approved an increase in Supplemental fees from \$40.00 to \$60.00. The new headquarters in Louisville, KY is now occupied, and the old building has been sold. Funds are being raised for the museum and exhibits in the new headquarters.
- Efforts are continuing to be made to further enhance the SVSAR's collaboration with area CAR Societies and DAR Chapters.
- President Briggs has a collection of books and DVDs about pre-Revolutionary War and Revolutionary War periods available to members to borrow.

B. Vice President, Programs Brent Schmitz.

- Compatriot Mile Malone will be the speaker for the October meeting. Speakers are needed for the December meeting as well as meetings in 2015.
- The 2015 SAR Youth Poster Contest submissions for students in Grade 5 are due no later than March 16, 2015. The theme is "Battle of Lexington and Concord."
- Brochure submissions by 8th Graders are due by no later than December 31, 2014. The theme is "Founding Documents."
- The 2015 Youth Oration Contest is open to all high school students. The theme is "How Has the American Revolution Made Us Better Persons." 5 to 6 minute videos of the speeches are due at SVSAR no later than March 1, 2015.
- Applications for the Valley Forge Teachers' Program Scholarship are due by March 16, 2015. SVSAR's nominee, Patti Harjehausen from Bishop O'Dowd High School, was selected by CASSAR to attend the 2014 program.
- Requests for four Eagle Scout Recognition certificates have been received and been forwarded to Chairman Peter Verbica and Peter has provided the SAR Eagle Scout Recognition Certificates to the Eagle Scouts along with invitations to apply for the SAR Eagle Scout Scholarship. The deadline for receiving SAR Eagle Scout Scholarship applications is November 16, 2014.
- The deadline for receiving SAR Knight Essay Contest applications is no later than December 31, 2014.
- No applications were received by the March 1, 2014 deadline for the Youth Oration Contest.
- ROTC Recognition and awards are made in April and May 2015.

C. Vice President Membership: Report given by President Briggs.

- SVSAR membership stands at approximately 110, which makes us the fourth largest chapter in the state.
- David Welling and Lee McLaughlin were recognized for five years of membership, and Anthony Girdley for 30 years.

D. Registrar, Alan Fitch:

- Since June 4 new members and 8 supplementals have been approved. 3 new applications and 4 supplementals are under review, and 2 new drafts have been received.
- The NSSAR application fee for supplementals has increased from \$40.00 to \$60.00.
- A number of inquiries regarding membership have been received by both President Briggs and Compatriot Fitch.

E. Treasurer, Bill Dunton: Books are up-to-date and balanced.

F. Secretary, Jeff Moore: No report.

G. Immediate Past President and Current CASSAR Secretary, Doug Bergtholdt:

- Reported at as of the NSSAR Congress, there were 160 new CASSAR members bringing the total California SAR membership to around 1,600. The national reports having 31,000 members and membership continues to grow.

Committee Reports:

A. Chaplain: Vacant. No report.

B. Chairman, Social Events: Jack Mallory: The visit to the Military Technology Foundation was a great success, with 35 attendees. \$1,500.00 was raised for scholarships. A fundraising event to visit the Revolutionary War period print collection at the offices of attorney Richard Alexander in downtown San Jose is being considered.

C. Wreaths Across America (John Kohli):

- The chair of the Golden Gate National Cemetery Wreaths Across America has resigned. Consideration is being given to combining with another organization.
- December 13th will be the next distribution of wreaths at Wreaths Across America ceremonies at cemeteries across the country including at Golden Gate National Cemetery and Madronia Cemetery. The SVSAR Color Guard will participate at Golden Gate National Cemetery and possibly at Madronia Cemetery.
- A decision must be made as to how much money we will donate for Wreaths Across America. In 2013, the SVSAR donated \$210.00 to Golden Gate National Cemetery and another \$210.00 to Madronia Cemetery.

D. ROTC/JROTC and Photography (John Kohli): Awards were given to Santa Clara University ROTC members on May 15th. Junior ROTC events are planned on April 4, 2015 at Andrew Hill High School, April 15th at Oak Grove High School and on April 23rd at Overfelt High School.

E. Color Guard (Chris Palmer):

- Recent Color Guard Events: President Terry Briggs marched with the YAPs on Memorial Day on the USS Hornet in Alameda. July 4th a contingent

participated in the Saratoga Independence Day celebration, and President Terry Briggs marched with the YAPs at the Ardenwood Farm Independence Day Celebration in Fremont. A five man SVSAR color guard presented the colors at the September 6th DAR California Northern Council meeting in Walnut Creek.

- Upcoming events include the November 11th Veterans Day Parade, Wreathes Across America at both the Golden Gate National Cemetery and at the Madronia Cemetery. Participation is a possibility at the Pleasanton December Holiday Parade with the YAPs.
- Volunteers are needed. Some uniforms are available to borrow. A discussion was held as to where to purchase uniforms and accouterments.

F. Chairman Eagle Scout Recognition (Peter Verbica):

- Many certificates have been given out.
- Deadline for Eagle Scout Scholarships is in mid-November 2014. The chapter gives an award of \$100.00 to the winner and the State gives \$750.

G. Chairman of Guest Speakers: (Vacant) No report.

H. Chairman of De Anza Scholarship: (Vacant) No report.

Unfinished Business:

A. Youth Awards:

- After a lengthy discussion, a committee was appointed to investigate the number and amounts SVSAR gives annually to various youth projects. The committee consists of Peter Verbica, Chair; Brent Schmitz, Sam Prather, Jeff Moore and Richard Ferman, who will serve as the tax consultant. The committee will report back to the membership during the October 18th meeting.
- Ida Price Middle School has requested a donation of \$583.00 to help purchase costumes for an upcoming play on the Revolution. Jack Mallory moved and Jeff Moore seconded that SVSAR donate \$300.00. Motion was unanimously approved.
- Jack Mallory moved and Chris Palmer seconded a motion to donate \$200.00 to the Young American Patriots (YAP) Fife and Drum Corps. A Motion was approved, with one “nay” vote.
- Doug Bergtholdt moved and Sam Prather seconded a motion that a Certificate of Appreciation be presented to the founder of the YAP Fife and Drum Corps, Jason Giamio. Motion was passed unanimously.
- Dwayne Meyer moved and Jack Mallory seconded a motion that a donation of \$100.00 be sent to the California State Children of the American Revolution to support their state conference in the spring of 2015. Motion was passed unanimously.

- B. SVSAR Meeting Venue:** Richard Ferman briefly presented a possibility of holding 2015 SVSAR meetings at the American Legion Hall for Post #318 located on Minnesota Avenue in San Jose complete with a generous breakfast. If SVSAR meetings were to be held at the Post #318 American Legion Hall the meetings would need to be held on Sunday Mornings. Brent Schmitz moved and Chris Palmer seconded a motion to delay discussion of this subject. The motion was unanimously approved.

New Business: None

Conclusion:

- President Terry Briggs reported that a certificate of appreciation has been received from the DAR for the SVSAR color guard participation at the DAR Northern Council meeting in Walnut Creek.
- The next SVSAR meeting will be on Saturday, October 18th at 9:30 AM at the San Jose West Valley Library Community room. The speaker will be Compatriot Mile Malone who will speak on "The Silicon Valley during the time of the American Revolution."
- President Terry Briggs led the SAR Recessional and Richard Ferman read the benediction.
- Meeting was adjourned at 11:45 AM.

End of 9.20.2014 Meeting Minutes