



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

**Regular Chapter Meeting
25 April 2015**

Name of Chapter: Silicon Valley Chapter
Date and Place of Meeting: Saturday 25 April 2015
San Jose West Valley Library Community Room
1243 San Thomas Acquino Road
San Jose, CA

Presence of Officers:

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

Hours of Meeting: 9:37 AM Call to Order
11:55 PM Adjournment

Number Present: 18 SAR Members
3 Guests

Pledge of Allegiance to the American Flag led by Compatriot Mike Montgomery

Invocation by Compatriot Richard Ferman

Pledge to SAR by Compatriot Russell Breed

Introduction of Members and Guests by President Terry Briggs: In consideration of time, President Briggs introduced guests, but not members.

Introduction of Speaker: Compatriot Jeff Moore spoke on “Interesting Facts about Benjamin Franklin – 1706-1776.”

Presentation of Compatriot Medals and Certificates: None

Introduction of New Members: None

Raffle: None

Approval of March 21, 2015 Minutes: Approved with one token “nay sayer.”

2015 SVSAR Officers: Vice President Programs, Vice President Membership positions are vacant. A new President will be needed for 2016 as President Terry Briggs has announced that he will not be standing for another term.

Officer's Reports:

President (Compatriot Terry Briggs):

- CASSAR Spring Board Meeting was held on Friday, April 17th and Saturday, April 18th in Irvine, CA. Compatriot Kent Gregory of the Orange County Chapter was installed as the 2015-2016 CASSAR President, and compatriot Ron Barker of the Gold Country Chapter was installed as the Executive Vice President. Compatriot Derek Brown of the Thomas Jefferson Chapter was elected Vice President North, which puts him in-line for CASSAR President. Past SVSAR President Doug Bergtholdt attended as CASSAR Secretary and SVSAR President Terry Briggs attended as CASSAR Genealogist.
- The CASSAR Fall 2015 Board of Managers Meeting will be held on November 6th and 7th in Riverside, CA at the historic Mission Inn.
- Our sympathies are with the Stahler family on the passing of SVSAR member Gregory Stahler on March 26th.
- SVSAR has been asked to host the November 16, 2016 CASSAR Fall Board of Managers Meeting in San Jose or Santa Clara. Member discussion of this request is an Old Business topic of this meeting.
- Efforts are on-going to further enhance the SVSAR's collaboration with area DAR and SAR Chapters, and CAR Societies. President Briggs is serving as California CAR co-chairman of DAR, SAR and SR relations.
- SVSAR May 2015 meeting is scheduled for the library community room. Local historian Ray Cosyn will make a presentation on the Abraham Lincoln Funeral Train. Compatriot Jim Hollanbaugh will be the speaker at the September 19th meeting. His subject is the Expulsion of the Tories during the Revolutionary War.
- SVSAR website continues to be updated.

Vice President, Programs (Oversees Youth Programs and Guest Speakers) President Terry Briggs gave the report since this position is vacant:

- Compatriot Chris Palmer has volunteered to give the speech during the October 2015 SVSAR meeting. His subject will be, "Bleeding Kansas and Kansas Statehood."
- No Eagle Scout Recognition and Scholarship Applications were received by the November 2014 deadline.
- No 2014 Youth Knight Essay Contest applications were received by the December 31, 2014 deadline.
- No 2014 Youth Brochure Contest for middle school students were received by the December 31, 2014 deadline.
- Speech video tapes for the 2016 Youth Oration Contest for high school students are due to the SVSAR by no later than March 1, 2016.
- Applications for the 2016 Youth Poster Contest (grades 3, 4, & 5) are due to SVSAR by no later than March 16, 2016.
- Applications for the 2016 Valley Forge Teacher Scholarship are due to SVSAR by no later than March 16, 2016.
- ROTC Recognition awards are given in April and May, 2015.

Vice President, Membership (President Terry Briggs gave the report in the absence of a chairman):

- SVSAR membership stands at 101 members and 3 junior memberships. This is about the same as last year.
- No five-year increment memberships were announced.

Registrar (Compatriot Alan Fitch):

- There have been no new members since the March meeting.
- Supplemental Memberships approved included one for Compatriot Alan Fitch and two for Compatriot Bill Jennings.
- Currently there are three new member applications submitted for approval.
- Six supplemental Patriot Ancestor applications have been submitted for approval.
- A number of inquiries have been received regarding membership in SVSAR and 5 membership applications are currently being prepared.

Treasurer (Compatriot Bill Dunton):

- Accounts are up-to-date.
- Tour of Attorney Richard Alexander's 1776 Collection generated additional funds to support SVSAR youth programs (see Social Events Chairman Report).

Secretary (Compatriot Jeff Moore)

- No report.

Past President & CSSAR Secretary (Compatriot Doug Bergtholdt):

- Consult CASSAR website for information on CASSAR activities.

Committee Reports

Chaplain (Compatriot Richard Ferman)

- No report.

Social Events (Compatriot Jack Mallory):

- \$940.00 was raised in connection with the tour April 11th tour of Attorney Richard Alexander's Revolutionary War Collection. There were twenty-seven attendees.

Wreaths Across America (Past President John Kohli):

- Next event will be on December 12, 2015 at the Golden Gate National Cemetery in San Bruno. There will be a possible ceremony also on December 12th at the Madronia Cemetery in Saratoga.
- The Vietnam Memorial Portable Wall is coming to the Golden Gate National Cemetery later this year.

ROTC/JRROTC (Past President John Kohli):

- Forthcoming presentations will take place at Santa Clara University, San Jose State University, Del Mar High School and Branham High School.

Photography (Past President John Kohli):

- No report.

Color Guard Commander (Compatriot Chris Palmer):

- Recent Color Guard Events: Compatriots Chris Palmer, Ranney Thayer, Doug Bergtholdt, Davis Crowder, Jim Niforopulos, Terry Briggs and David Valadez served as part of the color guard on February 7th at the San Jose Saint Francis Cabrini Four Chaplains Memorial Ceremony. Chris Palmer, Ranney Thayer and Terry Briggs marched with the YAPs on March 14th at the Dublin, CA Saint Patrick's Day Parade.
- Up Coming Events: May 25th Memorial Day with the YAPs at the USS Hornet in Alameda; July 4th Rose, White and Blue Parade in the Rose Garden area of San Jose; July 4th Independence Day Celebration with the YAPs at Ardenwood Historic Farm and Park in Fremont; July 4th Independence Day Parades in San Jose and Pleasanton; November San Jose Veterans' Day Parade; Brigade of American Revolution in Nevada City Labor Day weekend, and December 12th Wreaths Across America at Golden Gate Cemetery
- The president and immediate past-president of the Delta Chapter SAR are interested in participating with SVSAR at some future color guard events.
- Additional volunteers are needed. Some outfits are available to borrow.

Eagle Scout Recognition (President Briggs gave the report in Compatriot Peter Verbica's Absence):

- President Briggs and Compatriot Verbica have been preparing certificates of recognition to new Eagle Scouts.

Unfinished Business

- **CASSAR request for the SVSAR to host the November 2016 CASSAR Fall Board of Manager's Meeting:**

The SVSAR has been asked by the CASSAR to host the November 16, 2016 CASSAR Fall Board of Managers Meeting in San Jose or Santa Clara. A lengthy discussion ensued regarding the chapter financial liability and chapter member volunteer time requirements. Compatriot Chris Palmer moved and Compatriot Jeff Moore seconded that SVSAR decline the invitation. The motion passed unanimously for the SVSAR to decline to host the November 16, 2016 CASSAR Fall Board of Managers Meeting.

- **Future SVSAR Meeting Venues:**

President Terry Briggs reported that Holders Country Inn would be willing to cater breakfast at our current venue, the West Valley Library Community Room, at a cost of about \$14.00 per person for those interested in eating breakfast. The restaurant has a back room, but it is not available on Saturday mornings. The Hometown Buffet Santa Clara has a suitable private room at \$8.50 per person with a minimum of \$212.50. The room does not have AV equipment and no place to project images, although President Briggs has a projector and screen, as does Compatriot Jeff Moore. Other venues were discussed. Pam and Compatriot Troy Trammel volunteered to do some research on a restaurant located in the Willow Glen area that is not open on Saturday mornings that was recommended by Daniel Holder. Compatriot Richard Ferman volunteered to look into the Palo Alto Garden Inn.

- **Future SVSAR "Identification with Brother Patriotic Organizations" proposal by Compatriot Jim Hollabaugh and future SVSAR involvement with the South Bay United Veterans Alliance 501(c)(3) proposed by Compatriot Richard Ferman were discussed.**

New Business

- None

Next Meeting.

- Saturday, May 23rd at 9:30 AM at the San Jose West Valley Library Community Room.

SAR Recessional

- Lead by Jim Niforopulos.

Benediction

- Read by Chaplain Richard Ferman

Motion to Adjourn

- Moved by Sam Prather, Seconded by Richard Ferman. Unanimous approval to adjourn.

Meeting Adjourned by President Terry Briggs at 11:55 AM