

**CALIFORNIA SOCIETY**  
**SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION**  
140<sup>TH</sup> FALL BOARD OF MANAGER'S MEETING  
November 5-8, 2015  
Mission Inn, Riverside

**Session I**

**November 5, 2015**

The meeting was opened by President M. Kent Gregory at 9:05am. The invocation was given by Chaplain Lou Carlson. The Color Guard presented the Colors. The Pledge of allegiance was led by Jim Klinger. The Pledge to the SAR was led by Past State President Charles R. Lampman. The National Colors were posted. The California Colors were posted. The SAR Colors were posted. Lastly the CASSAR Colors were posted.

**A Roll Call** of officers present was conducted (**Exhibit A**) by State Secretary Douglas Bergtholdt. He determined that from the number present that a quorum was established.

Introductions were conducted by President Gregory. Those Presidents General present included; Charles R. Lampman 2001-02, Robert Ebert 2006-07, Karl Jacobs 2007-08, Steve Renouf 2008-09, Louis V. Carlson, Jr. 2009-10, John Dodd 2011-12, J. Stephen Hurst 2013-14, James Faulkinbury 2014-15.

**The minutes** from the April 17-18 meeting had been sent out by the State Secretary to the membership. President Gregory asked if there were any corrections. Historian Jim Blauer reported that there had been two that he was informed about and had made the changes in the final copy. With no other changes Lou Carlson moved that the minutes be accepted as corrected. This was seconded by Owen Stiles. The motion passed.

**National Officer Remarks**

**FPG 2009-10 Ed Butler** noted this was his fifth time here and this time he brought his wife Robin. **FPG 2014-15 Lindsey Brock** noted that exciting things were coming up at headquarters in Louisville, KY having to do with Kings College professors and SAR Fellows.

**VPG Western District John Dodd.** Reported on the leadership and Council of VPGs meetings. He announced the Cruise to Alaska on the Holland America in May 2016. Magic Travel is working with us on this trip and more information will be forth coming as time gets closer. He made note of his being Chair of the SAR/France exchange program. He is looking for applications for the coming year. He noted that rooms for the Congress in Boston had been filled. Lastly he noted that Mike Elson of Virginia was working on the hosting of visiting professors to Kings College in England to study the papers of George III. These are the King's personal papers.

**Secretary General Mike Tomme** brought greetings from the President General Tom Lawrence. He noted the membership figures by state society; (**Exhibit B**) Texas has 2660, Florida 2130, Virginia 2056, California 1902, Georgia 1819, Pennsylvania 1804 and Ohio have 1746 members. He reported that Solid Light is the company they are in favor of working with on the remainder of the build out on the museum. This is to be voted on at the Spring meeting.

**Registrar General Russell DeVenney** noted he was glad to be here. He reported on his concerns for the new membership module and is working on streamlining things at national.

**Inspector General Warren M. Alter** is happy to be here and is looking forward to this weekend.

**Riverside Chapter President Brian Stephens** welcomed everyone to Riverside and the Mission Inn. He gave directions for those needing the facilities, and how to get to the Spanish Art Gallery at 12 noon for lunch. Those needing a map of the resort can get one at the front desk.

**California Officer Reports**

**President Gregory** spoke on the ceremonies he attended which included; Congress, Fall Leadership, several chapter events, DAR events, visited hotels for the 2019 Congress and worked with the Riverside chapter on this meeting.

He reported that we had 64 pended applications at National and that Jim Faulkinbury and Terry Briggs worked with the chapters and their registrars on these applications. They have gotten down to 23-27 that are over a year old. One chapter has had problems with the pended applications and Terry Briggs has worked with them to get their numbers down.

The insurance question is to be reported on at this meeting.

The Richard F. Locke Award has been budgeted with \$1,000. \$250 in prizes will be presented at the April meeting.

He reported he had fun at Congress. California received several Awards including; First Place in the Poster Contest, The Graham T. Smallwood Award, Streamers were garnered for the state, Four chapters submitted Patriot ancestor bios, Historian Jim Blauer has been given the State Certificates for the awards, Color Guard Commander Jim Fosdyck has been given the streamers and Steve Renouf received the Winston C. Williams SAR Magazine Award for most useable magazine material.

The question arose on our acronym SAR. It is not pronounced SAR, but is S-A-R.

**Executive Vice-President Ron Barker** reported it has been a busy year. He attended the Conference on the American Revolution where there were 15-20 professors who read their papers on a subject related to the event. This year's subject was the contributions made by foreign countries such as the Dutch, Spanish, French, Portuguese and Russians to the American Revolution. On July 4<sup>th</sup> he marched in the parade in his hometown. He visited several chapter meetings; he attended Congress and the Fall Leadership Meeting.

**Vice-President South Jim Fosdyck** reported that the state is evenly divided with 13 chapters in the North and 13 chapters in the South. When attending chapter meetings he pushes on the subject of retention of members. He encouraged chapters to issue at least one Flag Certificate during the year. If over half the chapters do so the State will receive an award at Congress. He attended over 30 events other than chapter meetings.

**Vice-President North Derek Brown** reported he had visited 8 chapters so far and has more lined up. He attended the Congress and at the Fall Leadership meeting and he worked with the Eagle Scout Committee to vote on those to receive the Robert E. Burt Volunteer Scouting Awards. He pushes the Flag Certificate issue and after having visited the Redwood chapter they issued 15-18 Flag Certificates.

**Vice –President Membership Phil Hinshaw** reported that he had had 13 inquiries so far and will make his report at the April 2016 meeting. He noted the new book by Ed Butler on Bernardo De Galvez. Phil went to Pensacola and noted there were several things to see there.

**Secretary Douglas Bergtholdt** reported we had 200 new members as well as supplementals, transfers in and out, Life Memberships at National the State and is expecting the new member's application to be out soon.

**Treasurer Bob Taylor** reported he is learning on the job. Those checks that have been requested were sent out on time. We are in the Black (**Exhibit C**) at present and expect we will be at the end of the year. We had 2 life Memberships with three more to come. For budget items members can check to see how much is left for their category. We are doing well.

**Chancellor J. Jeffries Goodwin** was absent. He had surgery a week ago.

**Genealogist Terry Briggs** reported they had reduced the number of pended applications. Any application over three years old should be withdrawn from National. He encourages chapter Registrars to check out National Genealogy information on the National website

**Registrar Owen Stiles** reported it had been a difficult job on new applications and supplementals. The supplementals have been slow in being approved. He does not get the report on the supplementals as it goes to the State Secretary. There are 270 applications in various stages. We had 2 memorial applications this year. The fee for the Memorial Application is \$380.00. It is usually small things that have been holding up most of the applications.

**Historian Jim Blauer** noted his report which is the minutes from the last meeting had already been approved by this assemblage.

**Chaplain Lou Carlson** reported that there were only a few deaths. He will be running for Chaplain General. He announced that Joe Dooley had been elected to the Capitol City Historical Society.

**Investment Trustee Stephen Renouf** welcomed **John Dodd** on board as one of the trustees with him and **Richard Hawley**. Steve noted that copies (**Exhibit D**) of their report were available. As of October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2014 we have \$356,185.05 in the fund. By the end of the 12 month period on October 31, 2015 we had \$361,713.16 in the fund. The Life Fund has \$195,532.57. The Permanent Fund has \$92,308.21. The Education Fund has \$34,906.76. The Congress Fund has \$19,298.89. The Unallocated Fund has \$19,666.73. These funds are left over money that is not earmarked for the other funds.

National Trustee Jim Faulkinbury reported he had attended DAR meetings and the CAR State meeting, is National Genealogy Chairman which revamped the policy. He encouraged Registrars to check it out. He reported the IT Committee is overseeing development of a new application program. The security changes for the Merchandise Center has created some problems. The new applications will be on line. Once fully implemented, the applications can be viewed on line, make notes and send back to the chapter for needed documentation.

PG Tom Lawrence has created a share file to give members full disclosure of what is going on at National. He supports the Solid Light Project and encourages members to send in bios on their ancestors.

The Nomination Committee will give their report later.

It was moved and seconded that we recess for a break at 10:20am.

The meeting was reconvened at 10:40am

It was noted that Santa Barbara was now in attendance.

## CHAPTER REPORTS

**Butte**—Absent-No Report.

**Coachella Valley**—absent—will be here later to give their report.

**Eagle**—Wayne Rogers reported that last year they had won Best Chapter in their division and that they have just created a Color Guard for the chapter. They have issued Eagle Certificates to local Eagle Scouts and are participating in the Scholarship Contest for Eagles. They are very active and have visited with other chapters.

**General George C. Patton**—They are doing well. They have issued 14 Eagle Certificates at Courts of Honor last year. They have 5 or 6 new members. Bob Taylor runs the Spirit of America Award as well as doing Color Guard duty.

**General George Washington**—Owen Stiles reported the chapter is doing well. They are having the problem where no one is stepping up to replace any of the old guard officers. They recently found a place at an Italian Cottage. They have monthly meetings, interesting speakers, awards presented monthly like Flag Certificates, they have supplementals in progress, they are in the Eagle Scout Scholarship Contest and they do Wreaths Across America. They hope to have 200-300 at their Wreaths Ceremonies. This will be their 17<sup>th</sup> year in the Veterans Day Parade.

**Gold Country**--was reported by Dave Gilliard. He reported the chapter is doing well and has participated in the July 4<sup>th</sup>, Veteran Day, and Constitution Day parades as well as participating in the Youth Contests.

**Harbor**—James Gill reported they meet the first Tuesday of the month at Alpine Village. The chapter is growing as they are now getting about 30 to attend each meeting. Jim Olds the Program chair has good presentations for their meetings. Karl Jacobs has done over 200 Eagle Certificates. They have done ROTC/JROTC Presentations. It has been difficult to get members to step up and take on an office or committee. They have had some problems with doing all the Youth Programs. Karl came up with the chapter logo.

**Kern**—Artie Burr reported they had members attending Congress and the Trustees' meeting in Louisville. They have 45 members and 18-20 are active. They have 5 Life Members. The Color Guard does programs for the fifth grade classes in elementary schools. They need to find a fund raiser to shore up their treasury.

**Monterey Bay**—Absent, no report.

**Mother Lode**—Absent, no Report.

**Orange County**—Jim Klingler reported they had hosted the Spring meeting. They have been very successful in getting new members. They began the year at 105 and are now at 146 members. That is an increase of 40%. The Color Guard did some 24 events through October. More are scheduled for the remainder of the year, three with the DAR. The Veteran's Corps has 10 members and is working to get more. They have a page on their website for this listing. They have 2 officers on the National Level and five on the State Level. They have entries for several youth contest including ROTC/JROTC Awards and Eagle Scholarship Contest. They are giving out Flag Certificates as well.

**Redding**—Absent, no report.

**Redlands**—Absent, no report.

**Redwood**—James Beatty reported the chapter has been resurrected. New blood is being brought up to fill positions. They are getting programs for their meetings. Their Color Guard participates in 7 programs. They participate in the Wreaths Across America and several parades, some of which are held at night. They issued 14 Eagle Certificates last year and so far three this year. They have sent in 2 applications for the Burt Award and one has been approved. They also do Public Service Awards.

**Riverside**—Brian Stephens reported they are approaching 100 members. Gary Jensen serves as the State Eagle Scout Chairman. The State Color Guard Adjutant is Mark Kramer. They participate in the ROTC/JROTC Program. They have connected with 2 DAR and a CAR chapter. They have gotten support from both the Vice-President South and the State President.

**Sacramento**—Alan Brooking the chapter Registrar reported they have 9 meetings with guests and one for members only. They do Wreaths, Memorial Day, Veteran's Day Parade and they go into the schools. They have a ROTC/JROTC Program. Their poster won both State & National this year.

**San Diego**—Ray Raser reported they have over 200 members. They do a Constitution Day Program with 11 DAR chapters, 2 CAR and 1 SAR chapter. They hosted a joint meeting with the Mayflower Colony this year. They held their first Genealogy Day. They had their Memorial Day ceremonies aboard the U.S.S. Midway. They had a Brochure Contest winner, placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in the state Poster Contest, and issued over 600 Eagle Certificates. They presented awards for ROTC/JROTC, Sea Cadets, Law Fire and Heroism. They are working on rebuilding their Color Guard and website. They were in the Coronado July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade. They participate in the Ancestor Search Program with our military wounded. They had 20 computers donated for this program. They had members at the Congress and Fall Leadership meetings this year. In November they had WWII members who were highlighted. They will be at Fort Rosecrans for the Wreaths Program this year.

**Santa Barbara**—Ron Zell reported they had 5 new members last year. Many are younger. They have 5 in the process and recently had three calls about the chapter/membership. They now have 45 members. They have 8 members in the Color Guard. They participate in the July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade and Veteran's Day Parade. They do a Fallen Heroes Exhibit.

**Silicon Valley**—Terry Briggs reported they were up to 118 members. They have done 30 supplementals this year. The Color Guard has done 12 events this year. They have participated in the ROTC/JROTC awards, Eagle Certificates have been issued. They have had 7 meetings with speakers. They have a fund raiser for the youth contests. They do a tour of an attorney's office which has prints from the American Revolution.

**Sons of Liberty**—Dick Hunphrey chapter secretary reported they had the Massing in February where they had a triple flyover. Their Revolutionary Minute has been well received.

**South Coast**--Absent, no report.

**Thomas Jefferson**—Don Gurley reported he serves as both President and Registrar of the chapter. They have 2 National Committee Members in Derek Brown and Stephen Renouf. Steve won the Carl F. Bessent Award for the most outstanding multi-sheet newsletter. They had 13 new members and 5 supplementals approved. They have participated in the Knight Essay and Brochure Contests. They gave out ROTC/JROTC Awards and Eagle Certificates. They have also honored Wounded Warriors.

**Yosemite**—Absent, no report.

## **YOUTH CONTESTS**

**Poster Contest**—David Gilliard reported (**Exhibit E**) he had a poster contest flyer and that he is the National Committee chairman. Those interested in information for the State competition should go to the State website. He noted the state took first place this year and that it is the fourth time we have done so.

**Brochure Contest**—Tom Adams reported that information for this contest is on the website.

**Eagle Contests**—Gary Jensen reported (**Exhibit F**) that he needed all chapter Scholarship applicant entries in his hands by December 1<sup>st</sup> so that he may get them judged before the 1<sup>st</sup> of the New Year. He noted a change in the Burt Awards where the number per state is based on membership numbers. Our membership allows us 4 Burt Awardees per year. The only State with more is Texas. They get 5 for their SAR membership. He filled out the annual Eagle Certificate report for the State and sent it on to National.

**Oration Contest**—Dan McKelvie reported that they are due by March 1<sup>st</sup>. The speeches are to be recorded on a flash drive and sent to him..

**JROTC/ROTC**—Chairman James Gill reported that he has placed the enhanced JROTC Contest on Facebook.

We recessed for lunch at 11:45am, to reconvene at 2pm.

### **PUBLIC SERVICE LUNCHEON**

The Public Service Luncheon (**Exhibit G**) was opened by Brian Stephens at 12:10pm. The invocation was given by Lou Carlson. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mark Kramer. The SAR Pledge was led by Charlie Gentis.

The head table and honored guests were introduced. They included; President Kent Gregory, His wife, President of the Ladies Auxiliary Lisa Gregory, FPG Ed Butler and his wife Robin, FPG Lindsey Brock and his wife Billie, VPG Western District John Dodd, Secretary General Mike Tomme and his wife Cilla, Registrar General Russ Devenney and his wife Laura, Inspector General Warren Alter and Fire Chief for Riverside, Bill Stamper.

President Gregory brought greetings and welcomed the ladies to our luncheon.

Brian Stephens reconvened the luncheon program at 1pm.

**Fire Safety Award**--Brian introduced Compatriot Mark Kramer who has received this award and read his bio. Mark in turn introduced Scott Hutchings from the city of Riverside and read his bio. Scott joined the RFD in 1992. Served in NYC as a rescue specialist after 911. He has served as an honor guard both locally and nationally. In 1995 he participated in a rescue that earned him an RFD Commendation. Brian along with President Kent Gregory presented Scott Hutchings with the SAR Fire Safety Award.

**Law Enforcement Commendation**—Henry Lucas has served on the Narcotics Task Force and Swat Force. He introduced our recipients today—Officers Ian Crocker and Strawberry Cruz. They received a call of an 18 year old girl who had threatened to kill her parents or herself. She had a large Chef's knife. The officers upon arrival were able to talk her out of the room and tazered her forcing her to drop the knife. She was taken to the hospital and placed under observation. They were presented the Law Enforcement Commendation Medals and Certificates and each received a challenge coin from the Riverside Chapter.

**Silver Good Citizenship Medal**—Brennan Leininger was a member of the USAF. In 2011 he went to the Riverside National Cemetery for the Memorial Day Ceremony. He realized there were very few flags placed on the graves of all the heroes buried there. He wanted to get flags for every grave for both Veterans Day and Memorial; Day. He spent \$10,000 to purchase 21,000 flags. He was able to get volunteers to help put the flags out. He started the Flag For Every Hero program and they raised over \$70,000 to purchase 175,000 flags, so each grave would have a flag placed on it. The flags are later collected and stored after each event. He is to retire on November 14<sup>th</sup>. He was presented the Silver Good Citizenship Medal and Certificate.

With no further Awards to be presented Henry Lucas led the Recessional.

The Benediction was led by Chaplain Carlson.

The luncheon was adjourned at 1:28pm.

## SESSION II

The meeting was opened by President Gregory at 2pm.

### YOUTH AWARDS (Cont.)

Derek Brown is the Youth Activities Chairman. Information on Youth Protection will be sent out as new information becomes available. We need to get permission to use photos of our contest winners.

**Sea Cadet Program**—Bob Taylor reported that there are a number of Battalions and Squadrons here in California. There are only 2 chapters doing this. In Orange County Chairman Gus Fischer presented the award to Chief Petty Officer Sierra Marcoo in January. Another chapter presented one to a 1<sup>st</sup> Class Petty Officer.

**Spirit of America**—(Exhibit H) Bob Taylor reported he had had a couple of inquiries. This is a Good Citizenship Award to a boy and girl in the 8<sup>th</sup> grade. They are selected by the school. The district selects the winner from all school recipients. They had 5 schools where medals were presented.

**Valley Forge**—(Exhibit )Bob Taylor reported the teachers who are from the North and went this last year will be in attendance. They did the American Revolution in the middle states. He asked for ideas on other possible themed programs Valley Forge could use. He used as examples, Colonial Presidents and the Revolution in the southern states.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

**CA 250**—John Dodd reported there is a California 250 pin if a compatriot gives \$250 to the Campaign to raise money for the Center for Advancing America's Heritage.

**Premium Medal**—This redesigned medal is more in line with what they had at the beginning of our National Society. \$250 of the cost of the medal goes to the Center.

**California Compatriot**—Ron Barker requested that he would like to get our chapters to send him photos from our events and a listing of our new members. Photos can be sent via email.

**Chief of Protocol**—Jim Fosdyck reported we should make sure candidates for National office from our state are endorsed by the Chapter and State.

**Color Guard**—Jim Fosdyck reported that at Congress this year the Color Guard Committee approved the use of Memorial Day, Veteran's Day and July 4<sup>th</sup> events to be National Events for our Color Guard. He suggested that chapters may wish to join together in these sorts of activities.

**CAR**—Terry Briggs reported that as Liaison he is working to improve our relationship with the CAR. He attended the meeting in Long Beach. The attended the State Meeting in April 2015. They had a workshop at Pleasanton, CA.

**Compliance**--Chairman Karl Jacobs noted his email is [KARSAR@earthlink.net](mailto:KARSAR@earthlink.net). He has two things to report. 1) Yes he has sent in the 990 forms to both State and Federal. 2) Reconcile chapter. Know that the reconciliations have been sent to the State Secretary. These are required by January 2<sup>nd</sup>.

**Congress**—John Dodd reported that the people from National came out and checked out various hotel sites and selected the Costa Mesa Hilton for the 2019 Congress. It is conveniently near the freeway among other considerations. The Congress will be from Saturday July 6-Wednesday July 10<sup>th</sup>. There may be something planned for the 5<sup>th</sup> on Friday, but nothing as yet. We will have a host Society Reception which may be as a cruise of Newport Harbor. Saturday there will two tours. These have not as yet been finalized, but might be any of these; Nixon Library, Bowers Museum, Queen Mary, Aquarium of the Pacific or Mission San Juan Capistrano. Chaplain Lou Carlson is working on having the Memorial Service at the Mission. It might be at Christ's Cathedral also. There may be a pre or post tour to the Reagan Library in Simi Valley. Need 75 to 100 to get this tour off the ground. Chaplain Lou Carlson noted three reasons for attending Congress. 1) It is tax deductible, 2) You can see how Congress is run, and 3) Fundraising. The ladies have raised \$2400 so far and \$400 has been raised this year. The State Society has put \$19,200 in the budget so far.

### OLD BUSINESS

There will be a Color Guard workshop at 3:30pm

**Insurance Liability**—Ron Barker was to get quotes on insuring for the firing of black powder from muskets by the Color Guard. He noted Hartford Insures the Texas Society. Roger Cooper cannot beat Hartford's price. The September policies purchased included; D and O (Directors & Officers) Insurance for \$945 for state or each chapter. The black powder runs \$293 per year for a \$1 million policy. This does not cover chapters as they will

have to be done individually since they have a separate Tax ID and control their elections and budget. Mike Tomme noted without insurance we need to police our own members from firing their muskets in parades when they are not covered. He is open to a change in policy which will include chapters as well as their state society. Black Powder insurance is required by all who fire their muskets.

**Reconciliation Report Procedures**—Secretary Douglas Bergtholdt reports that the California Society has been months late in getting their reconciliation report in to National and this for several years. Chapters need to be accurate in their reporting. Have had several who were dropped but had paid. Chapter needs to compare their records with those of National. Chapter Secretaries need to get reconciliations to Doug Bergtholdt on time. If there are questions, contact Doug and he will help you. You should send just one check to him made out to CASSAR

**Best Chapter Contest**—Phil Hinshaw passed out a handout (**Exhibit I**). Chart A has been discontinued. Of 26 chapters only 10 submit forms. Chart A is what was done in 2015. This was by Chapter Membership. Chart B places the same number of chapters in each group. David Grinnell moved that Chart B be adopted for the next contest in 2016. This was seconded. There was a short discussion and the motion passed. There was a question of whether we should make the year from March 1<sup>st</sup> to the end of February for tallying the scores. No decision was made on this so it remains on a calendar year. President Gregory noted that the rules would be placed on line on the State Website, but not the scores. It was suggested chapters check items 2,3, and 4 for options.

With no further questions, President Gregory recessed the meeting at 3:20pm.

#### OFFICERS DINNER

We arrived at the Proabition Restaurant by 6:30pm and we were seated in our room for our group. Members and spouses dressed in the 1920's fashion style. There was a video that played music and showed pictures and people of the 1920 Prohibition era. There was a considerable amount of socializing and dinner was served in buffet style.

By 9:30pm members and spouses started to head back to the hotel and call it a night.

#### SESSION III

November 6, 2015

The meeting was called to order by President Gregory at 9am. The Invocation was given by Chaplain Lou Carlson. The Pledge to the Flag was led by Ray Raser. The SAR Pledge was led by James Gill. Once again special guests were introduced. They included; FPG Ed Butler, FPG Lindsey Brock, FPG Larry Magerkurth, VPG Western District John Dodd, Secretary General J. Michael Tomme, Registrar General Russ Devenney, Inspector General Warren Alter and Foundation Board Member Randy Ellis. Darren Gillick was introduced from the CAR as he will be our page this morning. His mother Tanya was also introduced.

Darren handed out a list (**Exhibit J**) of WWII Members. Ernie McCullough was introduced as a WWII Veteran in attendance.

**The Roll Call** was made by Secretary Bergtholdt and a Quorum (**Exhibit A**) was established. (Exhibit ).

**Candidate Forum**—Members of the National Society who are running for office were asked to say a few words to the members.

**J. Michael Tomme** (GA) is running for President General (**Exhibit K**). He spoke on the things he done and things he wished to accomplish. He would like to see chapters have an educational outreach to groups like schools, cub scouts, rotary clubs, etc. He would like to see better retention of our members. Have a Mentor Program where members not only help with the application process, but also help with the research. The CAR is losing the opportunity to join the SAR as Junior Members. This would lead to a simple and smooth transfer from Junior Membership to regular adult membership. Lastly he wants to see our computer system to be state of the art.

**Warren Alter** (AZ) is running for Treasurer General (**Exhibit L**). He has been a leadership capacity since 2004 and has attended every Congress since 2005. Has served in Arizona on a chapter, state and as a National Officer and on various National Committees. He is well versed on the subject of finances.

**Randy Ellis** (OK) is running for Treasurer General. He has served as Chairman of the Budget Committee for 6 years. He spent ten years as controller for a business in San Jose, CA. It will be a challenge to make the financial decisions where the museum and Education Center are concerned. We need a growing educational outreach program. National is behind in their planning.

**Russell DeVenney** is running for Registrar General (**Exhibit M**). He reported that as of November 5, 2015 the National membership was at 34,282. He spoke on Membership, reconciliations, retention, and dues for 2016. Changes are occurring on the website where a new module app is being put in place. Applications will be done on

line in the future. Still has some kinks they are working on. He reported that supplementals take 4-6 month to get approved. He plans to check into the problem here and see about fixing it.

**Lou Carlson** (CA) is running for Chaplain General. He has received support from Lindsey Brock via email.

**John Dodd** (CA) is running to be on the Foundation Board. He is in favor of the Solid Light Proposal for the museum. He served as Chancellor General for 2 years and sat in and participated in the Foundation Board meetings.

**Larry Guzy** was absent, but Ron Barker spoke on his behalf for the office of Secretary General (**Exhibit N**). He is currently Treasurer General. Ron spoke on his work with the SAR.

Candidates were asked to step out. It was motioned that we endorse Mike Tomme, Russ DeVenney, Lou Carlson, John Dodd and Larry Guzy. This was seconded by David Gilliard. There was no discussion and the motion passed.

Warren Alter and Randy Ellis are both running for Treasurer General. Larry Magerkurth feels we need a long term treasurer to get us through the planning and building of the museum. He supports both men for this job as they are both amply qualified. Chuck Lampman moved that we endorse both candidates for this office. This was seconded by Don Gurley. David Grinnell is not comfortable supporting both for the same position. Chuck Lampman noted that this leaves our state delegates open to vote for either candidate. Though the motion passed there was some opposition.

President Gregory announced that the state would endorse all those who have come forth who are running for office.

**FPG Larry Magerkurth** reported he is proud of the SAR, what it has accomplished and what it is trying to accomplish. He served on the Foundation Board for 9 years. When he started they had less than \$1 million for the Center (CAAH). They had difficulties trying to raise money. The efforts of Jack London and Sam Powell have worked to improve our financial; situation. He feels it is important that we move forward into the digital age.

## **REPORTS** (Cont.)

### **Chapters**

**San Francisco**—Bob Ebert reported that the chapter is doing well.

**Redlands**—is doing well. They are inducting new members and are raising money by selling T-Shirts to members.

### **Committees**

**DAR Liaison**—Alan Brooking reported that he attended the Continental Congress of the DAR in Washington, D.C.

**Ethics**—Lou Carlson reported that there were no problems reported last year, but if problems should crop up between individuals and the chapter, they can call on the committee for assistance.

**Flag Committee**—The chair for this committee is vacant. The VPs have been contacting their chapters to present certificates to worthy individuals or businesses.

**Information Technology**—Greg Hill had no report.

**Medals & Awards**—David Grinnell reported we had given out 71 awards the previous year. The 2014 budget was \$1300 and we spent \$1250. The 2015 budget was \$1300 and so far have spent \$976.11.

**Media and Public Relations**—David Gilliard has nothing to report.

**Nominating Committee**—Jim Faulkinbury gave the following report.

President—Ron Barker

Executive Vice-President--Jim Fosdyck

Vice-President North--Derek Brown

Vice-President South—Bob Taylor

Vice-President Membership—Phil Hinshaw(2 year term 2015-2017)

Secretary—Douglas Bergtholdt

Treasurer—Jim Klingler

Registrar—Owen Stiles

Chancellor—J. Jeffries Goodwin

Historian—Jim Blauer

Chaplain—Lou Carlson

Surgeon—Vacant

Trustees of the Investment Funds—Stephen Renouf (2014-2016), John Dodd (2015-2016), and Richard Hawley (2016-2018).

National Trustee—Kent Gregory

Alternate Trustee—Ron Barker

**Veterans**—Dan Henry and Hammond Salley had Jim Fosdyck report on the Honor Flight program (**Exhibit O**). WWII veterans are flown to Washington, D.C. to attend the WWII Memorial. Funds are raised and used so they have no cost. The trip is free. When they return to their airport there are a lot of people there to greet them. There are 130 airports throughout the country where the veterans fly in and out of. Now they are starting to do the Korean and Vietnam Veterans. Arnie Burr paid his own way to join them. Dan Henry is doing the paperwork to present to the National Color Guard Committee to make this a National Color Guard event (Exhibit P. In November there were flights in Massachusetts, Texas, Oklahoma, Missouri and Arizona. The Orange County Register did an article on this. We need to get involved in this.

**Wreaths Across America**—Don Littlefield absent—No report.

**Operation Ancestor Search**—Ray Raser reported that Ancestry has terminated their sponsorship in this program. Efforts are being made to partner with Veteran's Organizations. The program is in a state of transition and needs volunteers to keep it going.

Recess was called at 10:10am for 15 minutes.

We reconvened at 10:30am.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Executive Vice-President Ron Barker reported on the **Budget (Exhibit Q)**. The proposal is based on 1882 members, 192 new members 309 Life Members and 200 drops. They are looking at income of \$95,482. Executive expenses are at \$5,000, Committee Expenses are at \$18,780, Program expenses are at \$2,250 and operating expenses at \$61,615. Total expenses equals, \$87,645. Transfers to the investment accounts totals \$5,750. This will give us a net surplus for the year of \$2,087. It was noted the D + O is down to \$1,000 and liability is down to \$550. It was also noted that the California Compatriot is mailed out to 14 people who pay \$5.00 per year. There are three issues during the year and printed copy and mailing adds up to \$3.20 each time. That totals \$9.60 per year. Jim Fosdyck moved that we increase the fee for the hard copy to \$10.00 This was seconded by Jim Faulkinbury. There was no further discussion. The vote passed and it is to begin in the Fall of 2016 as secretaries have already mailed out notices to renew memberships for 2016.

**Valley Forge**—Bob Taylor asked that we pay for expenses and wants \$100 to cover for those who attend the state meetings. It was moved by Owen Stiles and seconded by Jim Faulkinbury. The motion passed.

With all expenses and receipts accounted for, it was moved by Owen Stiles that we accept the budget as presented for 2016. The motion was seconded and it passed.

A **Resolution (Exhibit R)** in support of the **Educational Center and Museum** is to be voted on at the Winter Trustees/Leadership Meeting in Louisville in February. Donations have dropped and some states are against this resolution, John Dodd moved that we accept this resolution. This was seconded by Lou Carlson.

Discussion ensued. John Dodd noted that it was a small minority who are against this resolution. We need to have the majority heard and he urged support for this resolution. Randy Ellis noted that this would further our work with educational outreach and the museum. This is a very high objective of the society and we need to proceed with these efforts. There are some 2 million visitors to the museums along Main Street during the year. Mike Tomme feels we need to move forward. Yes it is going to be expensive, but if we do not get our name out there to the public with a class education and outreach center as well as our museum, we will be dead in the water in promoting our society and its goals. Jim Faulkinbury reported that the Trustees at the Trustee meeting are very supportive of this resolution and effort.

Lou Carlson noted that these plans will spread out over a 15 year period. We have to keep going as we have already expended a great deal of time, money and energy to see this come to fruition. Ed Butler reported that the gift shops there on Main Street make over \$700,000 a year. It is estimated that we can clear over \$250,000 per year.

The motion was voted on and passed to accept the resolution and support it at the Trustees meeting in February 2016.

**Veterans Committee** Chairman Ron Barker spoke on the American Committee on the Vietnam War which is now observing the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the beginning of that war. The SAR has become a partner in the 50th year anniversary Vietnam War Commemoration. The objectives are to thank and honor veterans and their families of the Vietnam War era for their services and sacrifices on behalf of the United States. The federal government is partnering with organizations for the commemoration and will provide pins to be presented to Vietnam era veterans and family members that supported them.

**Congress Medal**—Karl Jacobs requested that he be given some guidance on what the state is looking for the 2019 Congress medal (**Exhibit S**) to be produced for that event. He sent papers around with drawings of a working model. He reported that whether we design one side or both the price is the same. He is working on the original logo of the Sons of Revolutionary Sires. There are two possible designs for the front. 1) General Galvez flag shown on ship. 2) Soldiers in California, not Galvez. A printed copy of a soldado inside Mission San Juan Capistrano is a possibility. He requests input on these ideas for the medal. What does the State Society desire for this medal.

**Website**—Ron Barker spoke on the Members Only Section. He sees nothing private in that section and feels it should all be placed on the public side of the website, but keep the members only section for possible use in the future.

President Gregory noted that I.T Chairman changed items without notifying anyone. He requests that all changes in the website be sent to the President.

**Orations Contest** Chairman Dan McKelvie reported that this has not been done for many years. When this program was restarted a couple years ago, we had no entries. This year we have 5 entries. It was decided that we should have the students send in a flash drive of their oration and use it to judge them. The State winner went to Louisville this year.

**National Society** information changes. Note that the dues have changed at National so you must adjust your national dues amount when sending out dues notices.

A couple of issues have been raised. The first is who do we have for our point of contact in the State Society for any questions about the SAR and membership. The Point of Contact should be the State Secretary and Chapter Registrars as they are the ones who deal with the applications.

The second item Jim Faulkinbury reported on is that there is going to be a new application process. There are problems with the application process and because the priority was changed to first implement security for the Merchandise Center, fixes for problems have been delayed. Jim Faulkinbury is on the IT Committee and working with Chairman Bill Marrs to identify the problems that are still noted in the application process. It was noted that Rick Hollis reports there is a new SAR Pin. Members can go and buy their own pin from the online merchandise site.

**Future Events**—These include the Spring annual Membership Meeting, April 15-16, 2016. On June 10-11<sup>th</sup>, 2016 the Conference on the American Revolution will be held this year at the Huntington Library in Pasadena. All are welcome to attend. This year's topic is "Empire of Liberty".

**Congress**—will be in Boston this coming year and the hotel has already been filled. They are working on a second hotel.

**Fall Board of Managers Meeting**—In two weeks they should have the information on where this is going to be held. The 2017 Fall Board of Managers meeting is being worked on by Jim Fosdyck and Ray Raser. Possibly in the San Diego area. Ray noted the first weekend in November would not work. He said the week before would. It is \$189 at one venue they checked out, but there are others that are cheaper. Though a motion was requested to move the meeting to one week earlier, it was decided to revisit the issue at the next meeting.

We recessed for lunch at 11:40am.

### **VALLEY FORGE/AWARDS LUNCHEON**

The luncheon (**Exhibit T**) was opened by Brian Stephens at 12:15pm. He welcomed all. Lou Carlson gave the invocation. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Nike Tomme. The SAR Pledge was led by Ron Barker.

The head table was introduced. Seated there were; President Kent Gregory, Ladies Auxiliary President Lisa Gregory, FPG Ed Butler and his wife Robin, FPG Larry & Barbara Magerkurth, FRG Lindsey Brock and his wife Billie, VPG Western District John Dodd, Secretary General Mike Tomme and wife Cilla, and Registrar General Russ DeVenney and wife. In the audience were Inspector General Warren Alter, CAR member Darren Gillick. Darren was asked to come up and say a few words. He thanked our society for our continued support of the CAR and their Wounded Warrior Project which is their yearly project this year. President Gregory presented Darren with a Brown Bess Musket pin, an SAR Challenge Coin, and a Gold Quarter. Brian then introduced his wife Diane.

Lunch was served at 12:25pm.

We reconvened at 1:05pm.

Bob Taylor our Valley Forge Chairman introduced us to two teachers, Jenny Stacks and Nicole Jacobson. Jenny & Nicole did a power point program on their Valley Forge trip and experience. They handed out a paper

and as we went along in the program they asked us various questions concerning their trip and the history they experienced.

They showed many photos of Valley Forge, Mad Anthony Wayne, Washington Crossing the Delaware, Fort Mifflin, Brandywine, the Battle of Clouds where the Paoli Massacre took place and they also showed us Constitution Center. Here one sees all the life size statues of all the signers of the Constitution.

Following the presentation they were each presented with the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal and Certificate.

## AWARDS

Gary Jensen presented the **Robert E. Burt Boy Scout Volunteer Award** to Curtis Porter and Rick Kunzler.

**Chapter Awards** were presented to Redding, Yosemite, Monterey Bay, Eagle, Thomas Jefferson, Redwood Empire, Sons of Liberty, Silicon Valley, San Diego, Sacramento, Kern, General George S. Patton, South Coast, Harbor, General George Washington, Gold Country, Orange County, Riverside, San Francisco and Delta Chapters.

Color Guard Awards were presented by Commander Jim Fosdyck. Those chapters who participated in the Field of Honor event each received a streamer. They were; Orange County, Riverside, Harbor, Patton South Coast chapters and the State.

**Streamers** from the Let Freedom Ring event were presented to the State, Orange County Riverside and Harbor Chapters.

Streamers & awards were also presented that came from Congress. For the Patriot Ancestor bios that were sent in during the 2014-2015 year streamers went to Eagle, Riverside, San Diego and Thomas Jefferson chapters.

The **Colonel Richard F. Locke Award** for the highest percent of growth in a chapter also gets a \$250 check and a certificate. These went to—Small Chapter—Yosemite with a 126% growth, Medium to small chapter—Kern with a 10.5% growth, Medium to large chapter went to General George S. Patton with 5% growth, Large Chapter—Thomas Jefferson with 21% growth, and the super large chapter to San Diego.

**Liberty Medals** were awarded to Jim Fosdyck and Ron Zell. Oak Leaf Clusters were awarded to Charlie Gents, Don Gurley(3), Karl Jacobs (2), Owen Stiles, and Ray Raser (4). Those absent who also received this award were; Robert O. Bill from Yosemite, Russell Hanes—Central Coast, Tom Chilton—Sacramento, David Hayball—Sons of Liberty, Grant Noah—2 Oak leaf Clusters—San Francisco, Leon Smith--South Coast, and Alan Fitch—Silicon Valley.

President of the Ladies Auxiliary Lisa Gregory announced the Ladies were spending their time working on a service Project for Veterans. They made 11 blankets that will be distributed to Veterans.

Session IV will begin at 2:30pm.

It was announced the table décor was done by Linda Jensen.

The Benediction was given by Lou Carlson.

The Recessional was led by FPG Larry Magerkurth.

The Luncheon was adjourned at 2:05pm

## SESSION IV

The fourth session was convened at 2:30pm. President Gregory congratulated the awardees from the luncheon.

## NEW BUSINESS

John Dodd spoke to the membership about safety procedures when dealing with the youth in our Youth Programs. There is a Youth Safety Program. John moved that ***“Any SAR member who will have contact with youth in conjunction with chapter, state or national youth programs shall first complete the Youth Safety Program sponsored by the Boy Scouts of America or the equivalent” (Exhibit U)***. The motion was seconded. Discussion ensued.

Gary Jensen, State Eagle Scout Chairman, noted that this BSA program is to keep us safe. It encourages all who deal with kids to take the program on the BSA website. This keeps you covered for 2 years. Once you are finished with the program you can print out a certificate which notes that you have taken the course. This training course takes about 20 minutes.

With no further discussion the motion was put to a vote and passed unanimously.

A second motion by John concerns the Megan’s Law data base. John Moved ***“that the chapter registrars be tasked with checking the Megan’s Law Data Base for all new applicants and provide written confirmation to the State Registrar of the results. If confirmation is not provided or if the application is prepared by the State Registrar, the State Registrar shall check the Megan’s Law database concerning the application prior to forwarding the application. If an applicant’s name appears on the Megan’s Law Data Base, the Registrar shall***

***not forward the application, but shall bring the matter to the attention of the State President for resolution.”*** (Exhibit V) This motion was seconded by Steve Renouf. Discussion ensued. There was one known sex offender not allowed to join by SAR standards. Megan’s Law state website needs to be checked by the state Registrar/Secretary.

Terry Briggs asked that this be communicated to all who are involved in the application process. Inspector General Warren Alter is in favor of this proposal. We need to send a statement or form that is filled out saying they have checked the website and their findings. Gary Jensen noted this due diligence is to keep us safe. With no further discussion the vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

Terry Briggs reported that we need to communicate the process of doing an application with the new system. The differences need to be explained and get all the registrars on the same track. Jim Faulkinbury feels we need to list procedures to set up this process. Owen Stiles noted we will need visual, written and audio capabilities. With no further discussion on this or any other matters before the State at this time, it was moved by Phil Hinshaw that the meeting be adjourned. This was seconded and the motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:05 pm.

## WESTERN DISTRICT MEETING

November 7, 2015

The meeting was opened by Vice-President General John Dodd at 3:06pm. Steve Renouf was asked to take over the conducting of the meeting so as not to have a conflict of interest issue arise. Steve noted we need a motion to accept the slate of candidates as the State had done at this meeting. Since John is running for office, he relinquished his role as presiding officer and passed it over to Steve. It was moved by Gary Jensen that we vote to support the candidates that the state endorsed who are running for national office. The motion was seconded The motion passed.

With no further business before the western District, the Benediction was given by Chaplain Lou Carlson.

The Recessional was led by Don Gurley.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:10pm.

It was announced that there would be 2 breakout meetings. One for Registrars and one for secretaries.

## GALA BANQUET

The Banquet (Exhibit W) was opened by President Gregory at 7pm. The Invocation was given by State Chaplain Lou Carlson. The California Society Color Guard under the command of Jim Fosdyck presented the Colors. The National Anthem was sung by State Historian Jim Blauer. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by FPG Lindsey Brock. The Colors were posted and the Color Guard retired. The SAR Pledge was led by Vice-President General of the Western District John Dodd.

Master of Ceremonies for this evening was the Rev. Louis V. Carlson, Jr. He proceeded to introduce the head table and honored guests. At the head table there was; President Kent & Lisa Gregory, FPG Ed & Robin Butler, FPG Larry & Barbara Magerkurth, FPG Lindsey & Billie Brock, VPG John Dodd, Secretary General Mike Tomme, Registrar General Russ & Laura DeVenney.

Also in attendance were Warren Alter and his wife, Randy & Teri Ellis, Counsel of Spain, Honorary Counsel Maria Olson, Professor Iris Istran and Leroy Martinez.

With the introductions over there was a short skit by a couple of youngsters about King George III.

President Gregory thanked our hosts from the Riverside chapter. Those included, President Brian Stephens and his wife Diane, David Leonard, Greg Rice, Henry Lucas, Gary Jensen and his wife Linda, Mark Kramer, Jack Terry, Charlie Gentis, Terry Weedon and Darlene ?.

Brian Stephen then presented a gift bag with a chapter challenge coin to the Counsel General of Spain.

Dinner was served at 7:20pm.

The Raffle was conducted at 8:10pm. Winners included; Sharon Wood, Larry Magerkurth, Lou Carlson, Steve Hurst, Jim Blauer, Billie Brock, Joy Renouf, Janet Brown, Darien Taylor, Don Gurley, Robin Butler, Steve Renouf, and Emily Banks. The ladies reported that they made \$1,515 from the raffle.

Emcee Lou Carlson introduced our Speaker Ed Butler. Ed spoke on his book (Exhibit X), “Spain our Forgotten Ally in the American Revolution”. He gave a slide presentation. He explained how on one of the trips the National Society took to Spain he was asked by then Prince Felipe de Bourbon, now King, had asked that Ed write a book on the role Spain played in the American Revolution. Ed spent 4 ½ years writing this book. Ed noted if it had not been for Spain’s involvement in the American Revolution, it is very possible we would be flying the British Flag today. He spoke of the rancheros and presidios set up by the Spanish in various parts of North America.

At the time Carlos III was King of Spain. Both Spain and France's king were of the House of Bourbon. Carlos had been on the throne for 30 years when 19 year old Louis came to the throne in France. In May 1776 both Spain and France agreed to support the American Revolution financially. Each country contributed 1 million livres to the cause. In Early 1776 Carlos III appointed Bernardo De Galvez as Governor of Louisiana and he served from 1777-1787. He recruited Acadians for the militia from 1776-1779. Colonists received artillery, arms and other military items from Spain.

When a hurricane killed the cattle and ruined the hay to feed the cattle, San Antonio shipped cattle to Louisiana. On May 8, 1779, Spain declared War on Great Britain. On August 27, 1779 they fought the Battle of Manchac and on September 11-21, 1779 they fought the Battle of Baton Rouge. Between the two battles the Spanish took 375 prisoners. They then took Fort Natchez which gave them another 80 prisoners. They would take 5 more forts and eight ships yielding 1,000 prisoners. Of a fleet of 63 British ships taking troops to Boston, 55 were captured by Spain, eight of which were War Ships!!!

They continued their war efforts under General Galvez at places like Pensacola, Mobile, St. Augustine, Fort San Carlos, and Fort St. Joseph.

It was the Spanish who paid off the French soldiers who were at Yorktown. The Peace Treaty was signed on September 3, 1783. Bernardo de Galvez would be made an honorary citizen of the United States of America in 2014. Other recipients include; Winston Churchill 1963, Raoul Wallenberg 1981, William & Hannah Penn 1984, Mother Teresa 1996, Marquis de Lafayette 2002, and Casimir Pulaski 2009.

The ambassador was called forth and remarked that he had read the book and liked it very much.

Ed was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation for having spoken to the society about his book and the contribution Spain made to the cause of the American Revolution. Ed noted he had copies on hand and would be selling them after the banquet.

The Ladies Auxiliary reported that they had made 11 blankets that would be sent to the local Veterans Hospital.

## **AWARDS**

The **Martha Washington Medal** was presented to Linda Jensen and Diane Stephens.

James Gill received the **SAR Silver Color Guard Medal**.

The **Gold Von Steuben Color Guard Medal** was awarded to Wayne Rogers and Ernie McCullough.

The **Silver Roger Sherman Medal** was presented to Richard Hawley, John Dodd, Jim Faulkinbury and Ron Barker.

The **Meritorious Service Award** was presented to Jim Klingler and Brian Stephens.

The **Patriot Medal (Exhibit Y)** was presented to Charlie Gentis and Derek Brown.

With no further business Phil Hinshaw led in the recitation of the recessional.

The Benediction was given by Chaplain Lou Carlson.

The Colors were retired by the State Color Guard.

The Banquet was adjourned at 9:50pm.

Respectfully Submitted  
April 15-16, 2016

James F. Blauer  
State Historian