



SIGNERS CHAPTER NEVADA SOCIETY
MEETING MINUTES – January 5, 2019

Call to Order: The monthly meeting of the Signers Chapter of the Nevada Society of the Sons of the American Revolution (NVSSAR) was held on **January 5, 2019**, at Giuseppe's Italian Grille, 2630 W. Horizon Ridge Pkwy., Henderson NV 89052. The meeting was called to order by President Donald L. Hotchkiss, Jr. at 9:11 AM.

Attendance: Our January meeting was attended by 19 people - 12 members, 2 candidates (Jim Farmer and Pat McLeish), and 5 special guests.

Blessing: Chaplain DeBeauchamp provided us with an inspirational invocation and asked for continued blessing on us all.

Pledge: President Hotchkiss led the group in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by the SAR pledge.

Introduction of Guests: Secretary Robert Till introduced our special guests at this meeting. The guests were Denise Selleck, Virginia Requa, Jan Thompson, Patty Maycumber, and Beth Farmer.

Induction of New Members: President Donald Hotchkiss Jr. inducted one new member, Jim Farmer, who is sponsored by Vice President Charles Smith. Compatriot Farmer's patriot ancestor was Reuben Hildreth, a soldier from New York during the Revolution. Compatriot Farmer reported that he is pleased to become a SAR member and that he is interested in both the civic and genealogical activities of the organization. VP Smith also welcomed Compatriot Farmer and mentioned Farmer's past work and contributions in developing military GPS systems.

No Awards were presented.

Minutes Approval:

1. The minutes of the December meeting, as prepared by Secretary Till, had been distributed to the membership via the Internet.
2. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Compatriot Larry Kesler and seconded by Compatriot Tommy Thompson.
3. The members unanimously approved the motion.

Officer Reports:

President: President Hotchkiss gave a brief review of events listed on our calendar and provided some details regarding the planned summer tour of the Old Nuc Test Site and efforts to arrange access to the Jasper site.

Vice President Admin, Registrar: VP/Registrar Charles Smith reported that he has been working with potential candidates including candidates for Nevada's northern SAR chapter. He noted that national approval of the member

application for Jim Farmer took about 5 weeks and that this is about average. He also reported that he has typically been working with about six individuals each month who are interested in membership. (See Attachment 1.)

Secretary: Compatriot Till reported that he has had no recent communications.

Treasurer: Compatriot Al Conant gave the Treasurer's Report. He indicated that the chapter currently has \$2,991.07 in the operating budget, \$4,135.30 in the scholarship fund, and \$13,369.02 in the scholarship savings account. (See Attachment 2.) The motion to approve the Treasurer's Report was made by Compatriot Larry Kesler and seconded by Compatriot Tommy Thompson. The motion was unanimously approved.

Committee Reports: In the interest of time, President Hotchkiss summarized activity within these committees unless the committee chairs had something new or unique to be reported.

Birthday Chair: Compatriot Joe de Beauchamp reported that there were 9 member birthdays this month.

Awards Chair and Civic Awards Chair: Pres. Hotchkiss reported that almost all awards for the year have been given or delivered to the appropriate members. This position is open and needs a new chair.

JROTC Awards Chair: In the spring, members will be asked again to help deliver these awards to the schools in their area.

State Conference Chair: Pres. Hotchkiss reminded the group of the state meetings scheduled for next April 12-14 in Tonopah, NV and to make their reservations now by calling the Hotel at 775-482-3030 and asking for the special SAR rate.

Old Business: Pres. Hotchkiss reported that the Signers Chapter **Christmas party** on Dec 15 was a great success. He thanked Luis Marzullo for making his home available and being a gracious host.

New Business:

Report of Nominating Committee: Compatriot Ben Allen referred to the Proposed Slate of Chapter Officers for 2019 (which had been circulated earlier). He moved acceptance of the slate and Compatriot Thompson seconded. Three times, Pres. Hotchkiss called for any nominations from the floor. Seeing none, he put the motion to a voice vote and the motion passed unanimously. He then called Compatriot Charles Smith to the front and proceeded to swear him in as the new President. The gavel was then passed to Pres. Smith and a picture was taken.

Pres. Smith called forward the other elected officers for their swearing-in. Chaplain DeBeauchamp, Secretary Bob Till, and Treasurer Al Conant were sworn in at this time and pictures were taken.

Wreaths Across America: Treasurer Conant reported that our chapter processed 93 wreaths this year and that 35 had been set out at the cemetery. The event was a success and he thanked those who were able to be there.

Award Presentation: Pres. Smith presented a certificate and pin to Compatriot Hotchkiss in recognition of his two years of service as chapter president and the many accomplishments during that time.

SAR Annual Dues: Treasurer Conant has been handling the collection of annual dues and he is happy to report that almost all dues have been collected.

Announcements for Good of the Order: Chaplain DeBeauchamp alerted the group to a book available on Amazon that details the history of our SAR state organization - *A History of the Sons of the American Revolution in Nevada: 1910-2015* [Ben L Allen, Rev. Anthony A Perry].

VP Swearing-In: At this time, Pres. Smith did the swearing-in for VP Jeff Gutting who was not able to be present earlier in the meeting.

Master Calendar: Upcoming events of the next 6 months are listed on the agenda of today's meeting. In addition, Secretary Till noted that the George Washington Dinner should be included there (Feb 23).

Those events already listed on the agenda include: Jan 18 Executive Committee **Coffee Meeting**, Jan 22 LV **CW Round Table Meeting**, **NSSAR Annual State Conference** on April 12-14 in Tonopah, the bus tour of the **Old Nuc Test Site** on June 17 and the **NSSAR National Congress** in July in Orange County, California.

Heritage Moment and Program Speaker: Compatriot Don Hotchkiss spoke about his personal discovery of the rich heritage of military involvement in his family. He described his encounter with the history of Civil War involvement of his ancestors which led him eventually to more discoveries about Hotchkiss patriots during the Revolution and the organizations (like SAR and CW Round Table) that support research and education about our country's history.

Pres. Smith also spoke for a few minutes (while members finished their meals) about the military involvement of some of his ancestors and his genealogical efforts in documenting this.

Adjournment: The SAR closing was recited and the meeting was adjourned at 10:07 AM by President Smith.

The next meeting of the Signers Chapter will be at 9:00 a.m. on February 2, 2019, at Giuseppe's Italian Grille.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert Till

Secretary, Signers Chapter

Attachment 1

Attachment 2