



**SIGNERS CHAPTER NEVADA SOCIETY**  
**MEETING MINUTES – June 2, 2018**

**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 **June 2, 2018**, at Giuseppe's Italian Grille, 2630 W. Horizon Ridge, Henderson NV, 89052. The meeting was called to order by President Donald L. Hotchkiss, Jr. at 10:39 AM.

**Attendance:** Our June meeting was attended by 26 people - 14 Members, 2 candidates, and 10 Special Guests.

**Blessing:** President Hotchkiss provided us with an inspirational invocation and asked for continued blessing on us all.

**Pledge:** President Hotchkiss led the group as the SAR pledge was recited.

**Introduction of Guests:** As Secretary, Compatriot Robert Till introduced our special guests at this meeting. The guests were Virginia Requa, Em Becker, Denise Selleck, Jan Butler, Luiz Marzullo, Janet Thompson, Samantha Carmer, Peggy Roberts, Beth Till, Adam Carmer (candidate), Alexander Carmer (candidate), and Dr. Kay Moore (our guest speaker).

**Awards:** President Hotchkiss took this opportunity to recognize chapter members who had recently assisted with the presentation of awards to JROTC and ROTC students in our local schools. Each was given a SAR tie-tack for his efforts. The recognized members included Len Becker, Michael Gravitt, Jeff Gutting, Larry Kesler, Gary Parriott, Tommy Thompson, Anthony Perry (not present), and Charles Smith (not present). Through their efforts the Chapter presented awards at 26 different schools.

**Induction of New Members:** President Donald Hotchkiss Jr. inducted two new members – Alexander Carmer and Adam Carmer, son and father respectively. They were accompanied by Adam's daughter Samantha Carmer. Each candidate was presented with the SAR certificate and pictures were taken. Adam explained that their patriot ancestor's surname was Sears.

**Minutes Approval:**

1. The minutes of the May meeting, as prepared by Secretary Robert Till, had been distributed to the membership via the Internet.
2. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Compatriot Jeff Gutting and seconded by Compatriot Len Becker.
3. The members unanimously approved the motion.

**Officer Reports:**

**President:** President Hotchkiss mentioned again the Friends of the Fort fundraiser for which our chapter can generate funds by assisting at the fireworks booth. President Hotchkiss will send around an email sign-up list. He reminded members too of the State SAR Society meeting next April to be held in Tonopah NV, a town with much history and much appeal that is roughly halfway between Reno and Las Vegas. He also mentioned the Go Fund Me page set up to receive funds in support of the 20 K-9 dogs used by the metro police. Funds will be used to purchase much-needed harnesses and leashes for the dogs.

**Vice President Admin, Registrar:** Vice President and Chapter Registrar Charles Smith was out of town. His report, submitted earlier, is attached. (See Attachment 1.)

**Secretary:** Compatriot Till had no new communications to report on. With regard to the Master Calendar, he reminded members that we are continuing to include in the agenda a “moving window” of upcoming events of interest to SAR members.

**Treasurer:** Compatriot Al Conant gave the Treasurer’s Report. He indicated that the chapter currently has \$ in the operating budget, \$ in the scholarship fund, and \$ in the scholarship savings account. (See Attachment 2.) A motion was made by Compatriot Larry Kesler and seconded by Compatriot Jeff Gutting to approve the treasurer’s report. The motion passed unanimously.

Compatriot Conant spoke about the need to raise funds for the scholarship awards that we give annually. He suggested that it might be time to begin an annual collection process with members asked to donate once each year. He plans to mail members with a request to sign up to pledge a donation.

#### **Committee Reports:**

In the interest of time, President Hotchkiss reported briefly on committees having little new information to share at this time. He noted that our Facebook page is operational and new photos are added. The Veterans Committee continues to receive donations of toiletries to be delivered to veterans and their families.

**Birthday Chair:** Compatriot Joe DeBeauchamp reported that there are 7 member birthdays this month, but none of those individuals are here today. One of today’s guests, Peggy Roberts, has a birthday this month.

**Constitution Day Dinner Chair:** The date for the dinner is set as Sep 22 and the speaker will be Mark Hall-Patton, Curator of the Clark County Museum. The location will again be the Las Vegas National Golf Club.

#### **Old Business:**

None at this time.

#### **New Business:**

President Hotchkiss mentioned the efforts to bring Carl Closs to Nevada. Mr. Closs has frequently appeared in the role of George Washington, providing both education and entertainment to audiences. Our plan is to find 10 schools willing to support an appearance by Mr. Closs. The 10 paid programs would help defray travel costs and make him available for our Saturday night State Society program in Tonopah next April. Two schools have committed, but we still need 8 more.

**Heritage Moment:** Compatriot Till gave a brief presentation on his patriot ancestor William Hobson who fought with one of the Massachusetts regiments during the Revolution and was taken prisoner for 11 months. It is quite possible that he was held in one of the British prison ships in New York Harbor. Prisoner exchanges were not common for enlisted men and it is tempting to think Hobson may have escaped (perhaps like Christopher Hawkins who with thunder-synchronized blows of a stolen axe managed to break through a porthole)!

## **Speaker Program**

Special guest Dr. Kay Moore gave an informative presentation on Independent Dames during the Revolution, noting the heroic and often little-known actions of many women assisting in the fight for independence.

## **Announcements and Remarks for the Good of the Order:**

President Hotchkiss thanked our speaker and mentioned upcoming speakers and topics of the next few months.

Guest and DAR member, Janet Thompson, mentioned that the Francisco Garces chapter of DAR will sponsor a Flag Day event next Saturday at 9:00 AM in Lorenzi Park (Rose Garden area, the NW corner).

**Adjournment:** The SAR closing was recited and the meeting was adjourned at 12:15 PM by President Hotchkiss.

**The next meeting of the Signers Chapter will be July 7, 2018. Location TBA**

Respectfully submitted,

*Robert Till*

Secretary, Signers Chapter

Attachment 1

Attachment 2