



**SIGNERS CHAPTER NEVADA SOCIETY**  
**MEETING MINUTES – October 6, 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 **October 6, 2018**, at Giuseppe's Bar & Grille, 2630 W. Horizon Ridge Pkwy., Henderson NV, 89052. The meeting was called to order by President Donald L. Hotchkiss, Jr. at 9:14 AM.

**Attendance:** Our October meeting was attended by 27 people - 17 Members (including 2 inductees, David Smith and Marcus Green), 9 Special Guests (including possible transfer from CA Society, Mel Butler), and 1 Candidate (W. Todd Coffelt).

**Blessing:** Compatriot Joe de Beauchamp then 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:** Compatriot Michael Gravitt introduced our special guests at this meeting. The guests were Em Becker, Gary Blagg (stepson of inductee David Smith), Trish Blagg (wife of Gary Blagg), Mel Butler (prospective transfer from California Society), Alex Green (mother of inductee Marcus Green), Tom Hillery, Luis Marzullo, Patty Maycumber, Denise Selleck, and the candidate was W. Todd Coffelt.

**Awards:** President Hotchkiss awarded the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal to Steven A. Fields. He also awarded the following S.A.R. Member Awards for longevity:

Joseph de Beauchamp	5 Years
Leonard Becker	10 Years
Fred Boughton	15 Years
Larry Kesler	15 Years
Jeff Gutting	20 Years
Ben Allen	25 Years

**Induction of New Members:** President Hotchkiss swore in two new members, David Smith and Marcus Green (junior member).

**Minutes Approval:**

1. The minutes of the September 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 Michael Gravitt and seconded by Compatriot Charles Musser.
3. The members unanimously approved the motion.

## **Officer Reports:**

**President:** President Hotchkiss reported that S.A.R. annual dues of \$50 are due in December and that there will be a Signers Chapter Christmas party at the home of Luis Marzullo on December 15. He also mentioned the Nevada Society NSSAR Annual State Conference will take place April 12-14, 2019 in Tonopah, Nevada at the Mizpah Hotel (775) 482-3030. Please make your reservations now. NSSAR National Congress will take place July 15-17, 2019 in Orange County, California, and announced the opportunity for Signers Chapter members to participate in a special all-day bus tour of the Nevada National Security Site (NNSS) on June 27, 2019. He then sent around three sign-up sheets for Christmas Party, Nevada State NSSAR Annual Conference, and NNSS tour. Please contact Don Hotchkiss if you are interested.

**Vice President Admin, Registrar:** (See Attachment 1.)

**Secretary:** No Report.

**Treasurer:** Compatriot Al Conant gave the Treasurer's Report. He indicated that the chapter currently has \$4,768.95 in the operating budget, \$3,672.30 in the scholarship fund, and \$13,366.85 in the scholarship savings account. (See Attachment 2.)

A motion to accept the Treasurer's Report was made by Compatriot Larry Kesler and seconded by Compatriot Carl Cooper. The report was unanimously approved.

**Committee Reports:** In the interest of time, Pres. Hotchkiss summarized activity within these committees unless there was something new or unique to be reported.

**Facebook Chair:** Compatriot Antonio Reyes continues to work on our Facebook page.

**Veterans Committee Chair:** The group was reminded that Compatriot Len Becker continues to collect donations such as toiletries for use by veterans and their families. A large, brown grocery bag of items was collected at the Constitution Day dinner. Compatriot Becker delivered that bag along with another grocery bag of items that had been previously collected to the Fisher House of Greater Las Vegas. Fisher House sent Compatriot Becker two thank you notes, one for S.A.R. Signers Chapter and one for D.A.R. Silver State Chapter. Compatriot Becker requested that the two thank you notes be submitted to Secretary Robert Till for safekeeping.

**Birthday Chair:** Compatriot Joe de Beauchamp reported that there are 8 chapter member birthdays this month. He also reported that Barlane "Ike" Eichbaum, friend and longtime member of SAR, passed away on October 1st and a condolence card and phone call was made to the Battle Born chapter and his wife.

**Awards Chair and Civic Awards Chair:** Pres. Hotchkiss is temporarily handling this. He mentioned we are searching for new awards and civic awards chairs. Nominations may be sent to his attention.

**Flag Certificate Chair:** Pres. Hotchkiss noted that Compatriot Kesler had recently sent a Flag Certificate to the Mt. Moriah Lodge F&AM #39 in Henderson, NV, presented it to the Master of the Lodge, Dennis Ashley.

**State Conference Chair:** Pres. Hotchkiss said that he is handling state conference matters and reminded the group of the meetings scheduled for next April.

**Heritage Moment Chair:** The schedule for monthly heritage moments has been filled for the rest of 2018 and into 2019. Please let Charles Smith know of your interest in giving a future Heritage Moment talk.

## **Old Business:**

**Wreaths Across America:** Compatriot Al Conant announced that Wreaths Across America would take place at the Southern Nevada Veteran's Memorial Cemetery in Boulder City on December 15, 2018. He passed out forms that may be used to order wreaths. Order forms are due by mid-November to allow for submission and delivery.

**Constitution Day Dinner After Action Report:** Compatriot Michael Gravitt reported that 85 tickets were sold and 85 guests attended. \$3,085.00 was raised through ticket sales. Expenses were \$2,985.75. There was an excess of \$99.25. The silent auction sponsored by the D.A.R. Silver State Chapter raised \$230 for the Signers Chapter Scholarship Fund. The raffle sponsored by the S.A.R. Ladies' Auxiliary raised \$250 for their scholarship fund.

Looking ahead, Compatriot Gravitt also mentioned that the George Washington Birthday Dinner will be on Saturday, February 23, 2019, at the Las Vegas National Golf Club.

## **New Business:**

Pres. Hotchkiss noted that we need a new chair for the Awards & Civic Awards Committee. We also need a color guard commander.

He also asks that if anyone knows a principal at a local private school, please let him know.

A new camp (#31) of the Sons of Union Veterans (SUV) is forming in Henderson NV and having its organizational meeting immediately following this Signers Chapter meeting. All are invited to attend.

**Remarks for the Good of the Order:** None.

## **Master Calendar:**

Upcoming events were mentioned (and were noted on the meeting agenda).

**Heritage Moment:** Compatriot Michael Gravitt spoke about the RW2QA Project of the Jamestown Society and the Patriot to Passenger Project of the General Society of Mayflower Descendants. Both projects help S.A.R. and D.A.R. members link their Revolutionary War Patriots to Jamestown and/or the Mayflower. Compatriot Gravitt will follow-up with an email the week of October 7 with links to the projects and Patriot lists.

## **Speaker Program**

President Don Hotchkiss played an informative 30-minute video entitled, "Battle of Brandywine 09-11-1777." After the video, he mentioned that it would be nice to have follow-up videos in the coming months.

**Adjournment:** The SAR closing was recited and the meeting was adjourned at 10:21 AM by President Hotchkiss.

**The next meeting of the Signers Chapter will be at 9:00 a.m. on November 3, 2018, at Giuseppe's Bar & Grille.**

Respectfully submitted,

*Michael Gravitt*

Secretary Pro Tem, Signers Chapter