

TEXAS SOCIETY SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION
116th Annual Convention
Sheraton Grand DFW Airport Hotel, Irving, TX
March 24 through 27, 2010

FIRST GENERAL SESSION, MARCH 25, 2011, 3:45 P.M.

President James T. Jones called the meeting to order at 3:45 p.m., Friday, March 25, 2011 and gave a welcome. The Color Guard advanced the colors and President-Elect Bill Marrs led the pledge to the flags of the United States of America. The TXSSAR Chaplain, the Rev. James Taylor, gave the invocation.

Dallas Chapter President David Temple brought greetings to the membership from the Dallas host chapter, after which President Jones read a proclamation from Congressman Kenny Marchant, in whose district the convention was being held, commemorating the history and service of the TXSSAR. Irving President Pro Tem Rose Cannaday presented a proclamation from the Mayor of Irving declaring March 25, 2011 as "Texas Society Sons of the American Revolution" Day.

The minutes of the previous meeting, as posted on the website, were approved unanimously upon motion by Allen Henshaw, seconded by Peter McLellan.

President Jones announced an increase in the TXSSAR investment accounts and that the state membership stood at 2,650 members.

The President next awarded certificates for contributions to the TXSSAR. He then introduced the co-chairs of the Medals and Awards Committee, Russell Dart and Stephen Rohrbough, who presented the Friday Opening Session awards.

The opening session concluded with brief announcements by Host Chairman David Temple and was adjourned at 5:00 p.m. by President James Jones.

SECOND GENERAL SESSION, MARCH 26, 2011, 9:00 A.M.

President James T. Jones called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. Followed by a pledge to the U.S. flag. President General David Sympson was recognized to give brief remarks. The Medals Committee proceeded with presentation of additional awards.

Officer Reports:

- President-Elect – no report on file
- State Secretary – report on file

- Staff Secretary – report on file
- Treasurer – budget report presented during finance committee report
- Registrar (coastal) – 165 new applicants and 42 supplementals
- Registrar (inland) – report on file
- Chancellor – four written opinions
- Historian – report on file
- Trustee – report given by President at end of Third General Session

Below are the reports of committees. The minutes of the committees will be reprinted in a separate document:

1. Audit Committee.

Internal audit report submitted to Staff Secretary. Happy to report that the TXSSAR has implemented a whistleblower policy, records retention policy and that we are in compliance with Sarbanes Oxley requirements.

All new officers need to sign conflict of interest statements, including committee chairs. We received clean opinion on 2009 audited financial statements. The 2010 books and records have been delivered to CPA for audit.

All 990N returns were filed with IRS. This year's chapter returns should be filed and notice given to Treasurer. Thanks and appreciation were extended to Peter McLellan for a job well done as Treasurer. John Beard has been nominated as his successor. The audit committee will recommend to the bylaws committee changes to the job description of treasurer.

2. Credentials Committee.

TXSSAR State Secretary Bob Cohn reported that there were no challenges to delegates.

3. Bylaws Committee.

TXSSAR Chancellor Henry (Hank) Voegtle reported that no resolutions were proposed. He presented the following proposed amendments to the Texas Society Sons of the American Revolution Constitution from the Bylaws Committee which had been read and approved previously by a vote of the October 31, 2010 Board of Managers in Houston, Texas:

Substitute for Section 1, Article III, the following section:

SECTION 1. Any male shall be eligible for membership in the Society who is a citizen of good repute in the community, is the lineal descendant of an ancestor who was at all times unflinching in loyalty to, and rendered active service in the cause of American Independence, either as an officer, soldier, seaman, marine, militiaman, in the armed forces of the Continental Congress, or of any of the several Colonies or states; or as a signer of the Declaration of Independence; or as a member of a Committee of Safety or Correspondence; or as a member of any Continental, Provincial, or Colonial Congress or Legislature; or as a recognized

patriot who performed actual service by overt acts of resistance to the authority of Great Britain; provided, however, that no person advocating the overthrow of the Government of the United States by use of force or violence shall be eligible for membership in this Society.

Substitute for Section 3, Article III, the following section:

SECTION 3. There shall be the following classes of members:

- (1) Active Members and Perpetual Members. An Active Member or Perpetual Member shall be any member of the age of eighteen years and over, excepting those members described in Subsections (2) through (3) of this Paragraph, who meets all the requirements for membership as defined in this Constitution and in the Bylaws of the Texas Society.
- (2) A Youth Registrant shall be a male under the age of eighteen years whose Youth Registrant application has been submitted and approved in accordance with the Bylaws of the National Society.
- (3) A Junior Member is a male under the age of eighteen years who has met the membership requirements of the Sons of the American Revolution. A Junior Member cannot vote.

Substitute for Section 5, Article III, the following section:

SECTION 5. A member of this Society who has been active in good standing and who has been approved as an Emeritus Member by the National Society shall be designated an Emeritus Member of this Society. An Emeritus member who has received Emeritus status from the National Society shall be exempt from further payment of Texas Society dues.

Delete word “perpetual” from Section 8, Article III

Delete Section 4, Article V

Delete Section 1, Article VIII

Section 2, Article VIII, renumber as Section 1 as follows:

SECTION 1.

(a) A Local Chapter of this Society may be organized, reorganized or be reactivated at any time or times in any city, town or village in this state upon the written application of not less than six members of this Society in good standing or not less than six persons eligible for membership in the Society. The persons desiring to organize, reorganize or reactivate a Local Chapter shall address a petition for that purpose to the State Secretary who shall notify the Board of Managers and the District Vice President for the location where the chapter is to be located.

(b) The District Vice President shall investigate the proposed Local Chapter and report on the viability of the proposed Local Chapter and its impact on existing chapters and report same to the Board of Managers. Upon the receipt

of the District Vice President's report, the Board of Managers shall vote to approve the application, which approval shall be by a majority of the Board of Managers.

(c) The full amount of the dues for the current year must accompany the petition, and if any of those signers of the petition are not members of the Society, approval of the Board of Managers shall be withheld until their membership is duly passed upon and granted. Once the application is approved by the Board of Managers and all other conditions stated above are met, the petitioning organization must elect officers and schedule a date for the Installation and Chartering. On the date designated, the officers of said organization shall be installed, and a Charter shall be presented to them, establishing a new Chapter of the Society.

(d) A Local Chapter of this Society shall not be created for any purpose other than local needs and interest in furthering the objectives of this Society and no Local Chapter shall be created based upon affinity in any subgroup or organization of this Society.

Sections 3 through 7, Article VIII, shall be renumbered Sections 2-6 respectively.

Substitute Article XI with the following Article XI:

This Constitution may be superseded by a new Constitution, amended, or in any manner changed, at any Annual Meeting of the Society or at any special meeting called for that purpose. A copy of such proposed New Constitution, Amendments, or change shall be provided to the President and Secretary of each Chapter of the State Society by the State Secretary not less than thirty days prior to the Annual Meeting at which the same is to be voted upon .Notice of such proposed New Constitution, Amendments, or change may be given by the deposit of said copy by the state Secretary in the United states Mail, first class postage prepaid, not less than thirty-three days prior to said convention and separately addressed to each President and Secretary at the last known mailing address of each respectively, or by e-mailing it to each President and Secretary not less than thirty-three days prior to said convention and separately addressed to each President and Secretary at the last known e-mail address of each respectively as shown by the records of the State Secretary, shall constitute a compliance with the requirements of this provision. Any change voted by the members at the meeting shall be incorporated therein upon final adoption. A two-thirds vote of the delegates present shall be required for adoption.

These TXSSAR Constitutional changes were each passed unanimously. The proposed changes to the TXSSAR Bylaws were discussed and upon motion of James Taylor and seconded by Allen Henshaw the bylaw changes were referred back to the Bylaws Committee for further study.

4. Americanism Committee.

The Americanism Committee recommended selling “challenge TXSSAR coins” for \$10 each to be given by Joe Dooley.

5. Finance Committee.

Treasurer Peter McLellan presented the 2011-2012 budget on behalf of the Finance Committee, which passed unanimously. DAR gave \$200 check to TXSSAR Color Guard.

6. Color Guard.

The Color Guard Commander Don Stone reported that the color guard was averaging one event per week. He announced that Compatriot Peter Baron had been recognized as TXSSAR Color Guardsman of the Year. Wall of Honor shows deceased members of the Color Guard. The new Commander will be Marvin Morgan, with Peter Rowley as Adjutant. The following five outstanding guardsmen were nominated as Color Guardsmen of the Year: Compatriots Peter Baron, Drake Peddie, Tom Thompson, Jim Mitchell and Bob Northcraft. The Color Guard then requested that Color Guard commander be a state officer. A new Color Guard manual will be completed in the future.

7. Council of Chapter Presidents.

Chairman Steve Lee reported on the committee.

8. DAR Liaison Committee.

No report given.

9. Awards Committee.

An update on awards to history teacher and youth awards.

10. Patriot Fund Trustees.

No report given.

11. Information Technology Committee.

No report given.

12. State Meetings Committee.

Chairman George Harcourt reported that the summer 2011 BOM would be sponsored by the Freedom Chapter and the 2012 Annual Convention would be in San Antonio. Plano will host a BOM in 2012. The State Meeting committee voted to limit the BOM's to only one other than the one at the annual meeting. That issue was referred to Long Range Planning Committee.

13. Veteran's Committee.

Chairman Frank Rohrbough recommended that the committee's activities be publicized through a column in The Compatriot. The TXSSAR has submitted over 100,000 veterans points for our national report. Also, the recognition of the greatest generation registration program is proceeding.

14. ROTC Committee.

Report posted given.

16. District V.P.

Reports on file.

16. Trustee's Report

Trustee's approved at Leadership Meeting:

The Louisville headquarters façade will be renovated at a cost of \$190,000.

Sale of 5th Street property to close October 1, 2011.

Constitution and By law changes to eliminate the Youth Registrant Program which will require approval at the 112th Congress in July.

At 11:30 a.m., the meeting adjourned until 2:30 p.m.

THIRD GENERAL SESSION, MARCH 26, 2011, 2:30 P.M.

President James Jones called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m. Followed by a pledge to the U.S. Flag, the committee reports continued.

President Jones presented the TXSSAR Americanism awards and the Outstanding Chapter Awards.

President Jones gave the Executive Committee Report. A copy of that meeting's minutes are printed elsewhere.

Nomination Committee and Election of Officers.

The report of the Nominating Committee was presented by the Chairman, Past TXSSAR President Tim Lawrence. He announced that the Nominating Committee supported President-Elect William M. Marrs becoming President. The Committee proposed the following slate of statewide officers who were elected by acclamation after it was determined that there were no other nominations from the floor. Nathan White was elected by acclamation.

There were no motions to reject William M. Marrs as President, therefore he was elected.

President-ElectRobert M. Clark
SecretaryRobert S. Cohen
Staff Secretary.....Steve Rohrbough
TreasurerJohn Beard
Registrar (Coastal)Gerald W. Irion
Registrar (Inland)Michael J. Radcliff
ChancellorHenry J. Voegtle
ChaplainThe Rev. James C. Taylor
Historian.....Larry Stevens
Trustee.....Harry M. Fife
Alternate Trustee.....William M. Marrs

Chairman Lawrence then presented a list of compatriots qualified and willing to serve as District Vice Presidents:

- District 1.....William H. Holcombe Jr.
- District 2.....William G. Harper
- District 3.....Patrick D. Hollis
- District 4.....Ronald J. Waliak
- District 5.....James Alderman
- District 6.....Harman L. Adair
- District 7.....George F. Dersheimer
- District 8.....John K. Thompson
- District 9.....Arthur G. Munford
- District 10.....Michael J. Everheart
- District 11.....Peter Rowley

Peter Baron moved and James Taylor seconded the nomination from the floor of Frank Rohrbough of San Antonio for TXSSAR District 3 Vice President. All other names other than for District 3 were elected by acclamation.

For District 3 VP, Patrick Hollis of New Braunfels was elected with 22 votes to Frank Rohrbough's 20 votes on a vote by standing.

There was no old business or new business, although permission slips to post essays and orations online must be returned to Ray Cox.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Minutes of the TXSSAR Board of Managers Meeting
Sunday March 27, 2011
Sheraton Grand DFW Hotel, Irving, Texas

General Session – 9:00 AM

The meeting was called to order by President William M. MARRS at 9:00 AM.

Invocation. President MARRS asked the TXSSAR Chaplain, Reverend James Taylor to give the Invocation.

Colors Posted. President MARRS asked the Color Guard to advance the Colors.

Pledges. President MARRS asked President Elect Robert to lead the pledges. Clark President Elect Robert Clark led the pledges to the United States Flag, the Texas Flag, and the SAR Flag.

President MARRS opened the meeting saying it was a pleasure to serve as TXSSAR President and asked the members of the Board of Managers for their cooperation to move forward with the proceedings of the Society.

President MARRS asked Former State President George West to make a presentation. George West made a presentation of the "Tom Whitelock Award" to the new President, Bill MARRS. George West said that if it was appropriate to present the Tom Whitelock Award for an outgoing President, surely it was appropriate to give one to an incoming President. He then presented President MARRS with the "Tom Whitelock Award".

President MARRS called Past State President Tom Green to make another presentation. President Green called Compatriot Mark Hansen to be recognized. He said that he could not understand why Mark's company would not permit Mark to continue to serve the TXSSAR Society as Chancellor. Notwithstanding the employer's decision, President Green presented Mark with a U.S Flag that had been flown over the State capital and thanked him for his long and faithful service to the Society.

Presidents Report. President MARRS said that he had a good time last evening in that he enjoyed seeing his family and having the opportunity to visit with them since it had been a little over a year when he last saw them.

Rules of Order. President MARRS asked Chancellor Henry Voegtli to present the Rules of Order. He presented the Rules of Order, announced the members of the BOM (who could vote), time to speak was limited to 3 minutes, and said that 15 members are needed to have a quorum

President MARRS asked the members in attendance to raise their hands to determine whether there was a quorum. There being more than 15 members with their hands raised, the President established that a quorum was present.

Old Business. President MARRS asked if any members had any old business to discuss. There were no items brought up by the members.

New Business.

1. President Marris asked for a Resolution to allow the new Treasurer, John C Beard to be authorized to open a bank account for the TXSSAR and prepare a letter reflecting him as the Treasurer for TXSSAR. A motion was made to approve a Resolution naming John C. Beard as TXSSAR Treasurer and authorize him to conduct the business of the Society. The motion was seconded. The motion carried. The TXSSAR Secretary will prepare the letter appropriate for the Treasurer to take to the Bank to establish the TXSSAR Bank Account.
2. President Marris informed the members that a "Conflict of Interest" form had to be signed by all Officers of the Society to comply with Sarbanes Oxley. Forms were handed out to be signed. Also, forms are available on the TXSSAR private web site. These forms need to be signed and returned to the TXSSAR Secretary. This form must be signed every year. A form signed last year cannot be carried over to a new year.

Other Business.

1. Patriots Fund Trustees – The Trustees agreed to meet after the meeting. Members of the committee include George West, Russell Dart, Tom Green, James Jones, Mike Radcliff, and John Beard appointed by President Marris.
2. Youth Award Parental Release Forms - Ray Cox stated that he had not received "parental Release Form for TXSSAT Youth Contest Award winners stating that he could not post names, essays, and other information on the TXSSAR web site until such forms are signed and sent to him. Note that TXSSAR Youth Contest Chairmen are responsible for contacting parents to submit these forms to the webmaster.
3. Yearbook – Larry Stevens reported that he was working on the TXSSAR Society yearbook and said he needed some information from Chapters to complete it.
4. Editor for TXSSAR Compatriot Newsletter – President Marris announced that Larry Stevens had requested that he be relieved of the duties as TXSSAR Compatriot Newsletter, but that he agreed to complete the next issue of the Newsletter. He announced that there was a need for a volunteer to step up and fill the position of Editor. (later in the meeting, Charles Baker, Dallas Chapter, said he would accept the position of Editor of the TXSSAR Compatriot Newsletter.)
5. Silent Auction – Chairman of the State convention auction announced that 3 items were left to be picked up from two compatriots.
6. Registrars – Mike Everhart reminded the attendees that many applications (almost one third) do not have correct addresses as defined by the US Postal Service. He advised Chapter Genealogist to go to the Post Office and check for the correct addresses on applications to ensure paperwork is deliverable to addressees. Bob Cohen stated that he implemented a tracking procedure and is paying for postal tracking service to track all applications because too many applications are being lost in the system. It is worth the money to have this information and he encouraged Chapters to do the same.
7. Notices of death of a SAR member – Reverend Taylor asked Chapters and BOM members to notify him when a member dies, so he can send condolences to the surviving spouse. There is a "death notice" form to report deceased members (including any personal information) on the TXSSAR Private web site for reporting any changes of a SAR members' status or personal information. Please use it.
8. E-mail addresses – Peter Baron asked if the list of e-mail address collected by the TXSSAR Officers could be sent to each Chapter so the Chapter could bump it against a Chapter's e-mail list who then could forward any new address for Chapter members to the TXSSAR Secretary for posting on the TXSSAR web site.
9. Famous Ancestors on Chapter members list – Charles Baker announced that there are number SAR members who have "famous ancestors" that can be used as history for the Chapter that can

gain publicity for the Chapter, TXSSAR and SAR. He encouraged Chapters to look into the ancestry files and identify any “famous people” of current SAR members and see if they could get some publicity for the Chapter or SAR.

10. Change of address – President Bill Marrs told attendees that he had changed his address and no longer had the Post Office Box he used so long. Phone number and home address has not changed and he had business cards for anyone who wanted his card.

Color Guard Retires the Colors. President Marrs asked the Color Guard Commander to retire the Colors. The Color Guard retrieved the Colors.

Benediction. President Marrs asked the Chaplain to give the benediction. Reverend James Taylor gave the benediction.

Meeting Adjourned. The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen Rohrbough,
TXSSAR Staff Secretary