

**Minutes of the TXSSAR Board of Managers Meeting  
October 30 – 31, 2010  
Hilton Westchase Hotel**

**FIRST GENERAL SESSION**

**Saturday, October 30, 2010, 3:45 p.m.**

The meeting was called to order by President James T. Jones at 3:45 p.m. in a ballroom at the Hilton Westchase in Houston. The colors were advanced and posted by the TXSSAR Color Guard. President Elect Bill Marrs led the pledges to the United States Flag, the Texas Flag, and the SAR flag. Chaplain, James Taylor, offered the invocation.

President Jones recognized immediate past President General Ed Butler who reported on Past President General Dr. George Brandau of Houston who could not join us at this BOM due to ill health. Mr. Butler then described the video tape summarizing his year as recent NSSAR President General. President Jones then recognized South Central Vice President General Harry Fife, and TXSSAR Past Presidents Graham Martin, Tom Green and Jim Heath.

John Beard moved that the minutes of the March meeting of the summer July 31 – August 1, 2010 meeting be approved as printed on the website. The motion was seconded by Past President Tom Green and passed unanimously.

Chancellor Henry Voegtle next presented the Rules of Order for the meeting.

**I. Officer Reports**

A. President's Report.

President James T. Jones began his report by recognizing Tom Jackson along with the host Robert Rankin Chapter, the State Meetings Chairman George Harcourt, our excellent web master Ray Cox for making this meeting possible. He recognized the first time attendees and encouraged them to attend future state meetings.

President Jones commented on his attendance at the September 25, 2010 NSSAR Library dedication in Louisville, Kentucky. He stated that it is a beautifully constructed building and is the first phase of the new headquarters. He noted the Library had been in the planning and money raising stage for a number of years and now that Phase 1 is completed it is time to move to Phase 2, the Museum and Administrative offices. The SAR Foundation has issued a challenge to all State Societies, to donate \$1,000 by the State Society and \$500 by each chapter. Two State Societies, Virginia and Washington have met that challenge. All 26 Virginia Chapters and all 5 Washington Chapters have each donated \$500. Patrick Henry and Paul Revere chapters have each donated \$500. We have some chapters that are barely surviving, but most of our chapters should be able to donate the \$500. Make the check payable to SAR Foundation and mail to

State Treasurer Peter McLellan who will forward it to National, and maintain a list of the Chapters who have donated.

President Jones then accepted \$500 checks from Drake Peddie, President of the Plano Chapter and Ray Cox, President of the PineyWoods Chapter payable to the SAR Foundation. He thanked them for their donations and encouraged additional chapters to step forward.

The President then presented streamers to the Patrick Henry and Paul Revere Chapters for each contributing \$500.00 to SAR Foundation. He presented the Meritorious Service Medal to John Beard for his assistance in bringing the National Society and Texas Society in full compliance with Sarbanes-Oxley. He also announced that Dan Stauffer was awarded two Liberty award Oak Leaf Clusters.

B. President-Elect Report.

1. President Elect Bill Marrs then stated how he was privileged to travel to Kerrville to present the Westmoreland Veteran's Service award to William H. Nelms, who had earned an incredible 13,000 service points.

2. He also discussed his work with the Long-Range Planning Committee discussing plans to assist our "frail" chapters. This will be done by Long-Range Planning Committee members mentoring struggling chapters.

3. District V.P.'s have met and discussed how they can assist their respective chapters.

C. State Secretary Report– Bob Cohen reported that 115 new members have been accepted during his term. He went over the procedures for dropping and adding members.

D. Staff Secretary Report – Bob Clark outlined his primary responsibilities of providing minutes of the BOM and Executive Committee meetings, and of editing the Officer and Committee reports.

E. Treasurer's Report – Peter McLellan gave his report along with that of the Finance Committee. He said that all tax returns have been filed for both the state and for all the TXSSAR chapters. All rebate distributions to the chapters have been made. The next distribution checks will be paid in December 2010. Paypal is working well. The treasurer office obtained a laptop computer for only \$612.00, which was below budget.

F. Chancellor's Report – Chancellor Henry Voegtler stated that there is no ongoing or threatened litigation. Mr. Voegtler then discussed proposed amendments to the TXSSAR Constitution Art. V, III and to the By Laws in Article III. President-Elect Bill Marrs moved for the changes outlined to be approved and it was seconded by Allen Henshaw, whereupon it was passed unanimously.

G. Chaplain's Report – Chaplain Taylor gave a prayer for PPG George Brandau.

H. Historian Report – Chairman Larry Stevens reported that TXSSAR history books are still for sale. A request was made for biographies and photos of past TXSSAR presidents.

I. Vice President of Contests and Awards Report – Vice President Stephen Rohrbough reported that a large number of service awards are being given. There is an increase in youth awards. In addition, annual chapter report forms are being simplified. The inventory of medals is currently being replenished from national.

J. Newsletter Editor Report and Website – Editor Ray Cox mentioned that a webmaster seminar will be given in March in Dallas in conjunction with annual meeting. Email addresses can be updated online.

K. Council of Chapter Presidents – President Steve Lee stated that they had a great meeting and may need to increase their meeting time from one and a half hours to two at the annual meeting.

L. The foregoing reports supplement the written reports previously filed with the staff secretary.

## **II. Committee Reports**

- A. Contests and Awards – Chairman Russell Dart proposed a new 911 award to honor emergency telephone operators and to change the size of chapter grouping for chapter awards. The new groupings were approved. The new 911 award proposal was referred to Contest and Awards committee for preparation of a referral to NSSAR committee on Contests and Awards.
- B. Color Guard Report – Chairman Don Stone reported that 23 members were present at the committee meeting. A wall of honor of deceased members should be built.
- C. DAR Liaison Report – Chairman Tom Greene urged that the DAR, CAR and SAR not have meetings on conflicting days in March.
- D. Executive Committee – President Jim Jones reported that the Executive Committee: (1) Endorsed Joe Dooley for Treasurer General and Larry Cornwell as Genealogist General in the contested NSSAR elections and endorsed all of the uncontested candidates. It was unanimously supported. (2) A time and place is being explored to present Ross Perot with a previously approved NSSAR Gold Good Citizen medal.

The First Session was recessed at 5:15 p.m. to begin again on Sunday morning at 9:00 a.m.

**II. Committee Reports (Continued)**

The meeting was called to order from recess by President Jim Jones at 9:00 a.m. The pledge to the United States and Texas Flag was led by President Elect Bill Marrs. The Invocation was given by Chaplain James C. Taylor.

President Jones commented that this meeting had been well planned and executed. He presented a number of awards to those who contributed to the success of the meeting. He presented Tom Jackson of the Robert Rankin Chapter with the Meritorious Service medal; and Steve Tanner, David Jones, Pat Kerr with the State Silver Service Award.

Chancellor Henry Voegtle next presented the Rules of Order for the meeting.

President Jones then recognized Past President Ed Butler, Chancellor General Tom Lawrence, and Past State Presidents Graham Martin, Tom Green, and Jim Heath.

President Jones proceeded to continue to call for reports from the various committees. Only those committees who proposed action items are listed in these minutes. The other reports are to be posted on the TXSSAR website.

- D. Executive Committee Report (Continued) – President Jones discussed a proposal to amend NSSAR Handbook pertaining to the SAR Gold Good Citizenship medal requirements. One of the proposals will limit the role of Medals and Awards Committee to only an advisory capacity with approval solely from the National Executive Committee. This proposal is supported by the Arkansas, Massachusetts and Virginia Societies. This recommendation to submit the proposal to the NSSAR Executive Committee passed unanimously. Next, the Executive Committee recommended that the Texas Society offer to host the 2016 NSSAR Congress in Houston. An Exploratory Committee to look into that proposal will be chaired by Tom Lawrence and include Sam Massey, Tom Jackson, Steve Lee, Allen Henshaw, Bill Marrs, John Thompson, Larry Stevens and George Harcourt. The recommendation passed unanimously.
- E. Former State President’s Committee – Chairman Jim Heath gave the report. There was a proposal to amend, Sections 6 and 7 of Article 17 of the TXSSAR By-Laws to clean up grammatical errors. The wording of these changes shall be posted to the chapters prior to the annual meetings
- F. Patriot Trustees Committee – Chairman Jim Heath reported that the State Treasurer reported that the fund was currently growing at 5% to 6% annually and that the earnings plus Patriot Fund Expense donations would support youth programs, although there were not enough earnings to adequately fund all of the TXSSAR youth scholarships.

- G. Genealogy Committee – Co-Chairman Gerald Irion announced that online purchase of record copies of DAR applications is now allowed.
- H. Nomination Committee – The Chairman, Immediate Past TXSSAR President and Chancellor General Tom Lawrence gave an overview of the process for nominating TXSSAR officers.
- I. Patriot Fund Projects Committee – Chairman Arnold Seidule moved that funding from ROTC medals be moved to the General Fund from the Patriot Fund due to cost. Past-President Tom Lawrence recommended the proposal be referred to the finance committee.
- J. Patriot Medals Selecting Committee Harry Fife announced that Steve Lee, Pete McClellan, Jim Mitchell, Dan Reed, and James Taylor will receive the Patriot Medal at the annual meeting in March 2011.
- K. ROTC Sub-Committee Chairman John Thompson, 275 medals were given out this year, however the enhanced ROTC medal needs nominees.
- L. Chairman George Harcourt of the State Meetings Committee announced that the 2011 annual meeting would be in Dallas in March, the Freedom Chapter will host the summer 2011 meeting, and the fall 2011 BOM meeting will be in Galveston. The 2012 annual meeting will be in San Antonio. These locations passed unanimously. In addition, Chairman Harcourt stated that this BOM meeting in Houston had a good attendance.
- M. Veterans Committee Chairman Frank Rohrbough announced that the National Society is compiling a list of all still living WWII Veterans. Applications are on the NSSAR Website.

New Business – President-Elect Bill Marrs proposed that Harry H. Burnham and John Bannister be elected as Emeritus members. It passed unanimously.

There was no further business. President Elect Bill Marrs led us in the SAR closing. The Colors were retired. Chaplain James Taylor gave the benediction.

The second session adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



TXSSAR Staff Secretary