

Newsletter of the Fernando de Leyba Chapter Sons of the American Revolution

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President Charles Lilly did a good job for his first meeting. It is the opinion of MOSSAR Honorary Vice President Baldwin that President Lilly has a promising future within the SAR if he so desires.

Meeting Minutes

The presentation of the Colors was conducted by colorguardmen Baldwin and Morris followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, National Anthem, SAR Pledge and Invocation.

Treasurer's Report: \$997.03

Genealogist Report:

1 new member application sent to NSSAR 2 supplementals @ NSSAR 2 applications being worked 6 supplementals being processed at Chapter

Colorguard Report: The Color Guard Commander Baldwin reported that there was no new activites since the last report. However, there are opportunities the month of April. MOSSAR has the annual meeting at the end of the month. Next month there is the annual Battle of San Carlos which will be held at the MO Historical Museum (Jefferson memorial) in Forest Park. On Memorial Day, we will be supporting the DAR Cold Water Cemetery Memorial Service.

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Other Business: Compatriot Baldwin reported on the activities at MOSSAR. Compatriot Baldwin also gave a report on the NSSAR Leadership meeting. The President General and Executive Director signed for the purchase of the Fulton-Conway building as an investment and will more money, NSSAR headquarters will move into the building along with The Center for Advancing American Heritage. As a reminder Compatriot Baldwin reaffirmed that the process for the new center is three fold: 1) Purchase of the facilities; 2) Raise money to configure the desired interior; and 3) sell off the existing complex after the move and use the money to advance the education of the American people.

With no old business or new business brought up, President Lilly closed the business part.

Our Speaker for this meeting was Tom Pearson – St. Louis City Librarian Downtown - Rare Book room.

Tom gave an interesting program titled: The Revolutionary War: Strategy, Tactics, Weapons, Logistics and Transportation.

With the conclusion of Tom's presentation, President Lilly proceeded to close the meeting with the SAR recessional and the Color Guard retrieving the Colors.

OPINION SHAPER

I am going to use a portion of this newsletter each month to "enlighten" the Chapter Compatriots of different aspects of the Sons of the American Revolution in the hopes that by knowing a little bit more about the SAR, Compatriots will become more proud of being a member of the SAR and hopefully elicit more participation in the activities offered by the SAR.

The SAR website (http://www.sar.org) provides the information on the many facets of the SAR. When one goes to this website, besides the general information tabs, there is a tab labeled **Education/Youth**. Holding the left mouse button down over this tab, will bring up some subtitles showing the

different youth contests such as the Eagle Scout, Rumbaugh Oration, Knight Essay, ROTC/JROTC, Americanism, etc.

One of the purposes of the SAR is to get youth to be more knowledgeable with American History. What better way to encourage participation than providing a contest? However, the information about these contests needs the Chapters to be disseminated and thus are encouraged to be active in this process.

Another tab on the SAR website is **HISTORY**, personally one of my favorites. It contains links to a litany of information about the American Revolution, including a link to the **REAL STORY of the AMERICAN REVOLUTION (RSAR)** site. It is a site to help teachers present the real story and not the bastardized story by liberal historians. This site even provides links to obtain lesson plans for the teachers, A VERY BIG help to teachers. In reading the material, it filled in gaps of my knowledge base.

The **Words on Liberty** provides the link to several documents that were used in developing our Declaration of Independence, Constitution, etc., all worth the time to access and read.

There are many opportunities to be more involved. The Veterans need volunteers and the SAR gives a medal for those who volunteer in support of Veterans. We have the Color Guard, who participates in schools, youth activities, presentation of the Colors in meetings, memorials and parades. We assist in the Children of the American Revolution to provide a society for children to learn about the American Revolution and socialize. Of course there is the participation in the Missouri Society of the Sons of the American Revolution (MOSSAR), our state level part of the SAR whose job it is to support Chapters and communicate the Compatriots concerns to NSSAR.

I have personally found that the more participation in the SAR, the better I've become. Not specifically because of what I received in recognition, but because I was able to give to others and help others and see the joy that they received. I've helped Compatriots through their application process. I've helped kids succeed in contests. While marching in parades, I can hear parents tell their kids what I was about and then stand erect when it dawns on them what I represent and how their liberty and rights were derived.

One may argue that they do not have the time. If it is important, one will make time. I took and held leadership positions in the SAR while raising a family, working full time and going to graduate school while participating in

three other organizations. How could I find the time? I realized that it does not take too long to make a difference and I obtained the satisfaction of knowing that my time was not wasted, that I did make a difference. I did not do it for personal recognition. I participated because I want to give something back for the freedoms that I received and continually receive. I want to honor my father and ancestors who fought for these rights and privileges to be an American. I want to make a difference. Now I am asking each of you. What do you want to do?

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