



NMSSAR

NEW MEXICO SOCIETY OF THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

EUGENE M. TOMLINSON, PRESIDENT

Second Quarter 2010

Gene Tomlinson, Editor

President's Column

Eugene M. Tomlinson

Much has happened this quarter in our Society. We have had our Board of Managers (BOM) meeting in Albuquerque with the introduction of the New Mexico Spanish Presidio Soldiers Color Guard and Dr. Tom Chavez spoke to us.

Your president along with Trustee Jim Thornton and alternate Trustee Capt. Walt Baker attended the 2010 Congress in Cleveland.

We have put together our education presentations for the schools in Albuquerque. The SAR Education Program for New Mexico Schools should begin during the fall semester in Albuquerque and be expanded to Las Cruces and Santa Fe during the school year.

We are actively looking for new members and encouraging applications from prospects that are coming forward and showing interest in our Society. Color Guard members in uniform help market our Society to those interested in joining.

The Guard took part in the massing of Colors for Flag Day in Santa Fe and presented and posted the Colors for the Pancakes on the Plaza event in Santa Fe on July 4th.

The Color Guard, now with 9 members in uniform, is functioning and will be seen in appropriate community activities next fall. The Color Guard will be presenting and posting the Colors at Chapter and BOM meetings during our fall and winter activities.

We are looking forward to a visit in November of the PG. Mark your calendars for Nov. 10th in Santa Fe and a Veterans Day dinner on Nov 11th in Albuquerque. featuring PG Sympson. Tentative plans are underway for his visit.

Secretary's Corner

Ray Alexander

On June 5th 37 members, wives and other guests attend the Board of Managers meeting at the Albuquerque HardRock Resort where the guest speaker was Dr. Thomas E. Chávez, a historian and author with a Ph. D. from the University of New Mexico. Dr. Chávez retired as the Executive Director of the National Hispanic Culture Center in Albuquerque and was formerly director of the Palace of the Governors in Santa Fe, New Mexico. He discussed Spain's support to the 13 Colonies and how it helped the struggling forces defeat the English not only at Yorktown, but in the Gulf Coast and up to Mississippi River.

We currently have 99 members and we continue to add new members to the New Mexico Society. We have one application currently being considered by National and several prospective members working on applications.

We are preparing the current State Roster of Members and should have it out in the next few weeks.

NMSSAR RECEIVES AWARDS AT THE 2010 NATIONAL CONGRESS

At the 2010 National Congress, NMSSAR was presented the Admiral William R. Furlong Memorial Award & Streamer for Flag Certificates and The Officer's Streamer Award for attendance at both preceding Leadership meetings & Annual Congress by the State President and Trustee. Distinguished Service Medals were awarded to Capt. Walter Baker and Rev. Perkins Patton. Liberty Medals were awarded to Raymond Alexander and Jim Thornton.

AWARDS COMMITTEE
Capt. Walter F. Baker (Ret.) Chairman

Editors Comments

This is the tenth quarterly newsletter produced for the NMSSAR and presented on the website or mailed to those without e-mail. It is a pleasure to correspond with all compatriots in our Society. We have enlisted the fine support of Sam Baty and Vernon Casius in Albuquerque and George Biles in Gadsden Chapter to provide interesting information of their Chapters' activities.

We need more of you to become active in supporting our Society. I will be pleased to put your information in the newsletter and/or on the website. This issue contains too much of your president words; we need more input from all compatriots.

We are beginning to be noticed by the citizens of New Mexico. Our Color Guard is drawing attention. As we prepare for the 2012 Congress in Phoenix and our State's centennial year, we need to increase our presence in New Mexico and tell our story and that of the early Spanish settler's support to the American Revolutionary War. As Dr Tom Chavez noted: "The 13 Colonies would not have won their freedom



from England without the help of the Spanish in New Spain and their fleets around the world." Our Revolution was but a part of a world war pitting England against Spain and France for control of vast areas and their resources that were being discovered during the 18th Century.

Our newsletters and website will continue to bring you information regarding current activities of the NMSSAR and the education of all about New Mexico's involvement in the Revolution.

Gene Tomlinson, Editor

John Valdes, Valdes Paint and Glass receives Flag Certificate in Santa Fe from President Gene Tomlinson flanked by son John and daughter Janice

The following medals and awards were presented this past year:

A. NM Society:

1. Gold Good Citizen's Medal/Certificate to retired **U.S. Senator Pete Domenici**.
2. One Flag Certificate.

B. NM Chapters:

1. Albuquerque Chapter:

- (a) Four ROTC Medals/Certificates.
- (b) 27 JROTC Medals and Certificates.

2. Gadsden Chapter:

- (a) Two ROTC Medals/Certificates.
- (b) Eight JROTC Medals/Certificates.
- (c) One Flag Certificate.

3. Santa Fe Chapter:

- (a) One JROTC Medal/Certificate.
- (b) Two Flag Certificates.
- (c) Six Eagle Scout Certificates.

Dr. Rudy Byrd, MD and Vice President of the Arizona Society carries the New Mexico State Flag at the opening Session of the 2010 Congress in Cleveland, OH. Rudy 's uniform is that of General Galvez's Officers of the New Spain Army. We are most indebted to Rudy for his support. **We will be working with the Arizona Society as co-sponsors of the 2012 Congress in Phoenix. Let's get ready to support.**



EDUCATION COMMITTEE REPORT

Major Jim Robertson, Education Chair

In keeping with the Center for Advancing America's Heritages, an arm of the Sons of the American Revolution, statement: **"If we fail to teach our children how American freedom was established and preserved we cannot expect them to pass it on to future generations."** the NMSSAR is preparing a series of lectures on the various facets of the War for Independence, for presentation in the school systems of the public, charter and private sectors.

Because NMSSAR is few in number when compared to the school systems this could be considered a Herculean task. The committee has polled the Albuquerque schools to determine their interest in such a program and there is interest. **We need to determine the interest of the SAR membership emphasizing the amount of work and preparation involved in order to offer a professional product.**

The National Society is planning development of programs and exhibits that teach American values and unity in one overriding American cultural identity. The history of the American Revolution and the founding of the U.S. Government and how this translates into today's society will be the focus of the lessons. Such programs will be distributed to states and chapters for their local use in meetings/events and at schools in the immediate future. What is available at national at the moment is being explored. The NMSSAR Education Committee has been in contact with the National Office and has several items to be distributed to the three New Mexico Chapters.

Of special interest to the New Mexico SAR as a whole, is the Spanish contribution to the American cause. Most American history books have not adequately explained Spain's role. The substantial military and economic, as well as moral support supplied by Spain reflect that Spain was an important ally of the colonists. The SAR deems Spanish intervention important enough to suggest backdating the SAR membership eligibility date from December 24, 1776 to May 1776 and it accept applications on a case-by-case basis that reflect actual involvement with securing the agreement with King Carlos in order to properly recognize their descendants as compatriots. The Education Committee is looking to prepare a unique unit emphasizing Spain's intervention on the side of the colonists.

ALBUQUERQUE CHAPTER NEWS

Albuquerque Chapter May meeting saw the introduction of the Color Guard Uniforms. During the meeting Color Guard activities and the care of the Uniforms were discussed.



President Tomlinson and George Garcia, ABQ Color Guard Commander show the new NMSSAR Uniforms.



From left to right: Jim Hesse, John Farris, George Garcia, and James Robertson

The four gentlemen shown above head four of seven crucial committees set up to support SAR outreach in the ABQ area: Jim Hesse – ROTC activities; John Farris – Treasurer/donations; George Garcia – Color Guard; and James Robertson – Student Education. President Tomlinson praised these gentlemen for their initiative and support.

During the meeting President Tomlinson inducted new Compatriot Charlie Ben Maldonado who was sponsored by his third cousin, Compatriot George Garcia .



New Member Charlie Ben Maldonado, and NMSSAR President Eugene Tomlinson

NMSSAR COLOR GUARD ACTIVITIES

Your newly formed Color Guard began its activities at the June 5, 2010 at the Board of Managers meeting in ABQ.



Jim Thornton, George Garcia, Gene Tomlinson and Lionel Rael prepare to present the Colors for the first time. Jim Hesse (not shown) joined in.

At the Flag Day Massing of Colors at the Bataan Memorial in Santa Fe the Color Guard prepared and paraded the Colors



Jim Thornton and George Garcia carry the lances, Jimmie Fennel the Colors, Charles Martinez the State Flag and Lionel Real the SAR flag.



NMSSAR Color Guard members prepare to Present and Post the Colors at the Pancakes on the Plaza in Santa Fe on the Fourth of July Gene Tomlinson has the New Mexico State Flag, Teddy Adams and Jim Thornton the lances and Jimmie Fennel the Colors. Later Jim Thornton and Jimmie Fennel marched in the El Dorado parade carrying the Colors.

Your Color Guard is operational

and is showing the Colors at appropriate functions of the NMSSAR and in the community.



Your Color Guard prepares to present and post the Colors at the 4th of July Pancake Breakfast in Santa Fe. Over 12,000 breakfasts are served.



The Color Guard presents the Colors in front of the Band Stand as over 200 Santa Feans and visitors sing the Star Spangled Banner. Many of those attending the Santa Fe Concert Band's concert came up to see who we were and ask about our uniform. Having a Color Guard makes the NMSSAR visible

We do need your further support.

To date we have raised almost enough funds from your donations (we borrowed \$130.00 from our Treasury) to purchase the nine (9) coats and breeches. The members of the Color Guard have purchased their own hats, shirts, socks, garters, and parade gloves. *We have need to request further donations for the Color Guard.*

We will initially accept up to seven more members, three more in Santa Fe and two more in Albuquerque. We need to also have Guardsmen in the Gadsden Chapter. So we are far from complete, but we are a working and growing unit.

With your continued support we will, over the next several years, complete the Color Guard and expand the equipment and details to the uniforms.

We plan to add the baldric (over the shoulder white sword holders) and swords and other details to complete our uniforms.

All the coats and breeches belong to the NMSSAR and will be passed on to new members of the Color Guard. Some of those leaving the guard may also wish to pass on their hats, shirts, socks, etc. so that we can minimize future expenditures.

Your help will be most appreciated. You can send your donations to John Farris, our Treasurer or give them to your chapter officers. We are making good progress with your support and we are making an impact of the community with our presentation of the Colors. NMSSAR is beginning to fulfill the SAR Mission Statement.



NMSSAR Newsletter
Gene Tomlinson, Editor
2750 La Silla Dorada
Santa Fe, New Mexico
87505-6703