

From the President's Desk

New Mexico Society Compatriots, the 3rd quarter of 2012 has been quite active for our New Mexico Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. We have received considerable positive feedback about the fine and strongly attended National Congress co-hosted in July by the Arizona and New Mexico Societies. During the final evening's formal banquet, the New Mexico Society presented the incoming President General, Steve Leishman, with a \$1,000 check for him to donate to the Center for Advancing America's Heritage (CAAH). The Arizona Society presented the out-going President General with a similar amount for him to donate to CAAH. These gifts were meaningful and represented a boost to both these PG's goals of finishing this long-running capital campaign.

Compatriot Sam Powell of the North Carolina Society recently gave a challenge grant of 1.5 million dollars to the National Society to spur Patriots and friends of the SAR to make donations to CAAH. Sam has also assumed the Presidency of the SAR Foundation. (The SAR Foundation; PO Box 1776; Louisville, KY 50201-1776; (502)-315-1777 or on-line at www.SarFoundation.org) This is a good time for you to donate your own money to complete the construction and outfitting of the Center for Advancing America's Heritage. Every dollar you

give will be matched by another dollar from Sam and Karen Powell's generous challenge grant. A picture of this generous couple follows. At the Fall 2012 Leadership Conference, Sam and Karen sat for the final dinner banquet with your State President, Vice President General Jim Thornton and Mary Ann, and NMSSAR 1st VP Mike Barger (below in his Scottish kilt and colors – Mike was also recognized as a new George Washington Fellow of NSSAR) and Patricia. Other New Mexico Society Compatriots in attendance at this Louisville Leadership Conference were NM State Trustee Ted Adams and NSSAR Minuteman Captain Walt Baker and Elsa

The only member of the NM Color Guard who was able to attend the Leadership meeting in Louisville was your State President. Below are pictures of a few members of other state society color guard members who were in attendance. Also shown at the far right is the Captain of the New Mexico Color Guard, George Garcia.

Your State President attended meetings of the Albuquerque and Gadsden Chapters of NMSSAR in September. Both meetings were well-attended. The Albuquerque Chapter had 29 persons in attendance and offered an informative and well-received program. The Gadsden Chapter had 21 persons in attendance, a number who are prospective members and eager to join SAR.



Sam and Karen Powell



VPG Jim and MaryAnn Thornton



1st VP Mike Barger

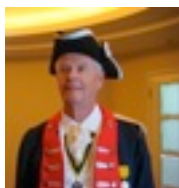


As stated in an earlier e-mail sent to all members of NMSSAR, the President General's schedule does not permit him to visit New Mexico or Arizona this fall on his national swing among state districts and societies. So the Banquet being planned for November has been cancelled. The next statewide meeting will be held on January 26, 2013 and will be hosted by the Albuquerque Chapter. Details will follow. New state officers for 2013 will be sworn in at that time during the State Board of Management meetings held after the Albuquerque Chapter concludes its meeting. Please mark your calendars for this important day in our society's history.

One final point: The Genealogist General, Larry Cornwell, gave a terrific presentation at the Leadership Conference in Louisville on helping new members apply for membership. Rather than highlight all the points he makes in this memo, we urge you to go to: www.NSSAR.org and look at the first page that appears on the middle of your screen: "Important Items." We have an active recruitment program in NMSSAR but we all can improve the process by taking heed of Compatriot Larry's advice on how best to bring in new and younger members. Since he became Genealogist General, Compatriot Cornwell's goal of shrinking the application approval time from 4 plus months to 3 weeks is being achieved in almost all cases. Compatriot Larry's pitch is easy to follow and will help you maneuver through some of the complexities of doing effective genealogical research.

Please have safe Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Hannukah Holidays.

Fraternally,
George Biles
2012 President, NMSSAR



Three Rivers Chapter New Mexico Society Sons of the American Revolution

The Three Rivers Chapter holds its regular meetings on the 3rd Saturday of odd months at 8 A M at the Roadside Restaurant in Bloomfield, NM. Visitors and prospective members are welcome. The next meeting in November 17th, 2012.

This year Phil Morin coordinated the 225th Anniversary of the signing of the US Constitution with the Desert Gold Chapter DAR. Resolutions from the following: City of Aztec, City of Bloomfield, City of Farmington and San Juan County New Mexico commemorating the signing were obtained. Chaplain Lee Wooderson was quoted in the local paper at one of the signings.

Doug & Linda Smith

Albuquerque Chapter New Mexico Society Sons of the American Revolution

22 September 2012 Meeting Minutes
Landry's Seafood Restaurant

President John Robinson opened the meeting of the Albuquerque Chapter at 11:55 am.

The Invocation was led by Compatriot Yost. We recited the Pledge of Allegiance. New Mexico Chapter President George Biles led us in the SAR Pledge.

Members Present: Compatriots: John Robinson, George Biles, John Farris, Lionel Rael, George Garcia, Ken Yost, Phil Blumenfeld, Mike Barger, Ray Alexander, Harold Jacobs, Sam Baty, Richard Almeter, Marc Ahlen

Guests Present: Col. (ret.) Ben Braden (speaker), Barbara Robinson, Caroline Rael,

Belinda Garcia, Carl N. Henry, Paul L. Kouts, Hugh Formhals, Lawrence McDonald, Ralph Barker, Clarice Yost, David B. Harris, Danise Ahlen, Colin Ahlen, Paige Ahlen, Kevin Carr

Guest Speaker: Col. Ben Braden, USMC (retired)

Old Business

President Robinson approved the May 2012 minutes.

2012 Congress in Scottsdale-review

New Mexico Society President George Biles thanked members and families of the Albuquerque Chapter for their participation.

Awards

President Biles presented the following awards: Past President Award to Compatriot Ray Alexander, Officer's Attendance Award to George Garcia.

Flag Certificates

President John Robinson plans to present a Flag Certificate to Don Chalmers Ford.

Changes to Albuquerque Chapter

Constitution

Compatriot Barger reported that the proposed changes to our chapter's constitution and by-laws should be finalized by the time of our meeting in November. We will all receive a copy of the proposed changes in time for our review and discussion at our meeting in October.

Committee Reports

Nominating Committee

Compatriots Rael, Jacobs, Robinson, Garcia and Barker will prepare and present a slate of candidates for next year's officers.

Treasurer's Report-Compatriot Blumenfeld

There is a balance of \$2519.34 in the checking account.

Registrar's Report-Compatriot Alexander

Carl Henry's application was recently submitted to National. We have received an application from Carl Rosen. President Robinson's supplemental application was recently submitted to our chapter.

Veteran's Affairs / ROTC – Compatriot

Adams

We distributed 28 awards to ROTC members; thanks to all who helped to distribute these awards. Compatriot Barger asked if we would like to donate used clothing to the Veteran's Administration.

Color Guard/Historian Report-Compatriot Garcia

On June 16th the Color Guard presented the flags at the Purple Heart ceremony as part of the 100-year centennial of New Mexico statehood. We are looking for a hat for Marc Ahlen to wear in the color guard, as these hats have recently become quite expensive and difficult to find. Compatriot Garcia has awards for John Farris and John Robinson for helping at the National congress in July.

Calling Committee Report-Compatriot Yost

Compatriot Yost has sent out 16 cards; 7 of those were birthday cards. He asked the national office if they would consider printing official cards as a motivator for members to reply when we contact them.

New Business

President General's Visit

Compatriot Barger informs us that there will be a dinner for the President General on the evening of Thursday, Nov. 15th, at a location to be decided.[editor's note: The PG later informed VPG Thornton that the PG could not visit AZ or NM in 2012.]

News from President Robinson

- Some from our chapter may participate in the Veteran's Day celebration at Chalmers Ford.
- Some of us may wish to make a field trip to the Albuquerque Public Library to learn about their genealogy resources. Please contact President Robinson if you are interested.
- President Robinson read an essay from a 5th grade girl in Billings, Montana pertaining to her pride in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.
- Improvements are being made to the National website.

December 2012 ABO Chapter Meeting

We discussed with general approval an informal gathering in lieu of a formal meeting for the month of December. Details will be provided later. We can conduct any necessary business by email.

Purchase of a Digital Projector

Compatriot Farris made a motion that our chapter authorize expenditure of up to \$500 for the purchase of a digital projector. Compatriot Adams seconded the motion. Discussion included a commitment by Compatriot Farris to be the caretaker of the projector. Compatriot Barger asked how often we would use it, and suggested that we may wish to establish rules for its use, especially concerning loan to parties outside of our chapter. Chaplain Yost spoke of its educational advantages. Secretary Blumenfeld offered to help with its operation. President Robinson put the matter to a vote. The purchase was unanimously approved.

Suggestion for Outreach

Compatriot Jacobs suggested that Bosque Farms likes to have outside speakers, and asks if we would like to consider sending someone from our chapter for that purpose.

Adjournment and Recessional

Compatriot Farris made a motion to adjourn at 2:58 pm. Chaplain Yost provided a benediction; Compatriot Barger led us in the reading of the SAR Recessional.

P. Blumenfeld, Secretary/Treasurer

Albuquerque Chapter President John Robinson Initiates the Fall 2012 Season

Albuquerque SAR Chapter President John Robinson presided over the first meeting of the fall 2012 season. In attendance was NMSSAR President George Biles. The very affable President Biles added a lot to the meeting. During the social period (1130 – 1200), he went around and casually and enthusiastically talked to the SAR members and their guests. It was a very enjoyable time for all involved.

As was his usual modus operandi, President Robinson handled all of the agenda items in a very professional and efficient manner. The meeting had many items on the agenda, as ABQ SAR members were busy over the summer. There were some 6 items of old business, 7 committee reports, and 6 items of new business on the agenda.

A high priority on the agenda was a review of the 2012 SAR Congress that was held in Phoenix, AZ in July, 2012. The state of New

Mexico SAR (NMSSAR) was a co-host of the Congress along with the Arizona SAR Chapters. President Biles gave the review.



From left to right: Albuquerque SAR Chapter President John Robinson and NMSSAR President George Biles

The ABQ SAR Chapter was honored to have Ben Braden, retired U.S. Marine Colonel, as its guest speaker. Colonel Braden was masterful in his discussion of “Marine fire power 1775 to present.”

The meeting was held at Landry’s Seafood Restaurant. It was a great choice, as the number of people in attendance was 29, which more than doubled the typical number of attendees. There was adequate space for those who attended, and the food was delicious.

Guest Speaker Ben Braden Prepares to Speak

Compatriot Yost conferred with Compatriot Blumenfeld prior to the start of the meeting. Both of these gentlemen have worked very hard in support of the ABQ SAR operation.



From left to right: ABQ SAR Chaplain Ken Yost, ABQ SAR Secretary Philip Blumenfeld, and Guest Speaker Retired Marine Colonel Ben Braden

Guest speaker Braden makes last minute changes to his speech, which he gave in an outstanding fashion.

NMSSAR State Secretary Ray Alexander Talks with Potential Members Paul Kouts and Hugh Formhals

Compatriot and State Secretary Ray Alexander goes over paperwork with Paul Kouts. Compatriot Alexander has served in essentially all of the NMSSAR offices and is familiar with all aspects of the operation.



From left to right: Prospective member Hugh Formhals, Compatriot Ray Alexander, and prospective member Paul Kouts

Hugh Formhals was a member of ABQ SAR some years ago, and we hope he will join us again. Hugh was a member of ABQ SAR back when Colonel Calhoun was ABQ SAR President.

ABQ SAR President John Robinson Calls the Meeting to Order



From Left: Belinda Garcia, Compatriot Garcia, Compatriot Barger, President Biles, President Robinson, and Compatriot Blumenfeld

ABQ SAR Chaplain Ken Yost Provides the Invocation at the Start of the Fall, 2012 Season

President John Robinson asked Chaplain Yost to give the Invocation. Compatriot Yost provided a very moving prayer that was warmly received by the attendees.



ABQ SAR Chaplain Ken Yost (second from left) gives the Invocation.

NMSSAR Members Salute the U.S. Flag During the Pledge of Allegiance



From left to right: Belinda Garcia (wife of Compatriot Garcia), Compatriot Garcia, Compatriot Barger, President Biles, President Robinson, and Compatriot Blumenfeld

Guest Speaker Colonel Ben Braden (USMC Retired) Initiates His Very Moving and Stimulating Talk on Marine Firepower 1775 to Present



From left to right: President Biles, President Robinson, Secretary Blumenfeld, Guest Speaker Braden (standing), Barbara Robinson (wife of President Robinson), and Guest Ralph Barker

After his introduction by President Robinson, Colonel Braden gave a very

comprehensive talk on Marine firepower. There were many appropriate questions asked from the floor. Among them were those asked by Compatriot and former NMSSAR President Teddy Adams (shown below).

Colonel Braden finished his speech by stating some of the challenges that Marines face today and in the future. These include robotic warfare, lightening the weight carried by Marine expeditionary forces, providing computers and power sources (such as batteries) for operation in the 21st century, and protecting the thousands of contractor personnel that will be needed now and later.

Compatriots Listening as Colonel Braden Answers Questions



From left to right: Compatriot Almeter, former NMSSAR President Adams, and Compatriot Alexander

President Robinson Converses with ABQ SAR Members and Guests During the Lunch Break



From left to right: Compatriots Morrell, Almeter, Adams, and President Robinson

ABQ SAR Meeting Takes Up Again with President Robinson Asking NMSSAR President Biles to Discuss the Recent 2012 Congress in Phenix and Present Some Certificates



Listening to President Biles (from left): Compatriots Morrell, Almeter, Adams, Alexander, Guest Formhals, and Guest Kouts

President Robinson asked President Biles to discuss the 2012 Congress that took place in Phoenix, AZ in July, 2012. The Congress was co-hosted by NMSSAR along with the AZ Chapters. President Biles said he was very happy with the NMSSAR support and participation. He gave special thanks to those from New Mexico who actively supported the effort.

President Biles gave certificates to Compatriots Alexander and Garcia. Compatriot Alexander has worked long and hard in his support of NMSSAR. He got the certificate for serving as a past NMSSAR President.

Compatriot Garcia received a flag certificate as commander of the NMSSAR Color Guard. Compatriot Garcia and members of the Color Guard have worked tirelessly in support of SAR. They have performed magnificently, and President Biles complimented Compatriot Garcia for the Color Guard's support of the 2012 Congress, mentioning how members had worn the very hot uniforms in Phoenix!

President Biles Presents Certificates



NMSSAR President George Biles Presents Compatriot Ray Alexander for being a former NMSSAR President.



NMSSAR President George Biles Presents Compatriot and Color Guard Commander George Garcia with a FlagCertificate.

Young as well as Old Attend ABQ SAR Meeting

We are delighted that Compatriot Ahlen brought his family to the meeting. It was a joy having them here!



Counterclockwise from upper left: Compatriot Marc Ahlen (next to Denise), Denise Ahlen (Mark's wife), Colin Ahlen (Marc's son), and Paige Ahlen (Marc's daughter)

NMSSAR Members Listen as Compatriot Barger Discusses the Constitution Rewrite and Review



From left to right: Compatriot Garcia, Compatriot Barger, President Biles, and Compatriot Blumenfeld. Standing are President Robinson and Guest Speaker Braden

Former ABQ SAR President Michael Barger discussed the Constitution review and rewrite during the Old Business part of the meeting. He said that it will be passed to ABQ SAR members by email for their review.

President Robinson chatted briefly with Colonel Braden shortly before the latter's departure. Colonel Braden had another commitment, so he had to leave early.

Compatriot Alexander Provides the Registrar Committee Report

Compatriot Alexander stated that there are an impressive number of potential new SAR members in the pipeline. Compatriot Alexander has spent long hours drafting the paperwork.



Seated: Compatriot Adams

Compatriot and Former NMSSAR President Teddy Adams Gives Committee ROTC and Veterans Affairs Reports

Compatriot Adams thanked members for attending ROTC graduations. When asked, Compatriot Adams said that ROTC graduation notices aren't normally sent out until close to the time of graduation.



Seated from the left: Barbara Robinson (wife of President Robinson), Guest Ralph Barker, and Guest Kevin Carr

Compatriot and NMSSAR Color Guard Commander George Garcia Provides the Color Guard Committee Report



Standing from the left: Compatriot Garcia, President Robinson

President Robinson asked Compatriot Garcia to give the Color Guard Report. Compatriot Garcia reviewed the Color Guard activities and discussed some of the future Color Guard commitments.



Compatriot Garcia praised his wife, Belinda, for her support of the Color Guard activities. Belinda has regularly attended the ABQ SAR meetings, for which we are all extremely pleased.

Compatriot Yost Completes the Committee Reports by Discussing the Calling Committee Projects

Compatriot Ken Yost discussed his efforts to contact ABQ SAR members prior to Chapter meetings. He identified those members who he has been unable to contact and asked if those present had any dealings with them.



Seated clockwise from lower left: Guest Carl Henry, Compatriot Yost (standing), Claryce Yost, Belinda Garcia, Compatriot Garcia, Compatriot Barger, Compatriot Farris (back to camera), and Guest Paige Ahlen (partially shown)

President Robinson Leads the New Business and Open Discussions

President Robinson led the New Business and Open discussions. Primary among these were the recommendation by Compatriot Farris to buy a viewgraph projector and the suggestion by Compatriot Barger to have a possible December meeting that would be informal. The proposed December meeting would address any issues that needed to be resolved.

The ABQ SAR members voted to commission Compatriot Farris pay up to \$500.00 for a viewgraph projector and, if necessary, a screen. Nothing definite was decided on a December meeting, as members worried that there were too many competing functions in December.

Members and Guests Stand as Chaplain Yost Leads the SAR Recessional



Chaplain Yost (third from left) leads members in reciting the SAR Recessional, and President Robinson then closed the meeting.

Sam Baty and Vernon Casias

Compatriots Can Again Support the New Mexico Society Color Guard with Their Donations

Last year we asked New Mexico Compatriots for donations to purchase Color Guard Uniforms – Work Coats and Breeches. Color Guard members contributed \$200 each for hats, shirts, socks, garters and gloves. Your response was fantastic with over \$4,500 donated in about six months.

We outfitted nine members in Santa Fe and Albuquerque. This year we are again asking for your support to continue our program to outfit up to five more members. The New Mexico Society owns the Work Coats and Breeches and will pass them to new Color Guard members as required. With proper care, these Uniforms should last a good number of years and be altered, to fit new members as they step forward.

Your Color Guard is being noticed as described elsewhere in this newsletter and prior ones. It is a major public information tool to expand our membership and provide awareness to the people of New Mexico as to who we are and what we represent. It is a teaching tool for our education program and was a major part of our participation in the 2012 Congress in Phoenix, AZ in July of 2012 as well as other State Centennial events in 2012. We need your support and we need your personal participation.



Let's do it again this year!

New Mexico Society of the Sons of the American Revolution Financial Support to the NMSSAR Color Guard Uniform and Equipment Project

Please provide a generous financial donation to our Color Guard Uniform and Equipment Project. This will be a tax deductible donation since we are a Nationally Recognized 501 c (3) non profit organization whose NMSSAR tax I.D. number is: 86-6015024.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Your donation in the amount of: \$ _____ is most appreciated.

Make checks payable to: NMSSAR (please state donation is for the Color Guard Uniform Project)

Mail this form with your check to:
Mr. John Adams Farris, Treasurer, NMSSAR
9303 Topanga Court NE
Albuquerque, New Mexico
87122-1225

Thank you for your support:
George Garcia, Color Guard Commander
(Keep a copy of this form for your tax records)