

ABQ SAR Chapter Continues its Tradition of Having a Well Attended Meeting on 5/24/14 by Both SAR Members and Their Spouses (Many of whom are in DAR) Compatriot Sam Baty



(Left to right) Compatriot and State Registrar Paul Kouts, Compatriot and ABQ SAR President George Garcia (President's Spouse Belinda Garcia is seated between the two), Compatriot and ABQ SAR Treasurer Joe Yake, Compatriot and ABQ SAR Registrar Ray Alexander

ABQ SAR President George Garcia was very relaxed as the ABQ SAR social hour commenced. There was once again a very nice exchange of ideas between Chapter members. One could readily surmise that the attendees enjoyed one another's company!

ABQ SAR Chapter President George Garcia Calls the 5/24/14 Chapter Meeting to Order



President Garcia started off the meeting by making much appreciated announcements. He said that Compatriot and ABQ SAR Secretary Carl Henry had been in the hospital and would not be in attendance at today's meeting. He asked Compatriot Sam Baty to take meeting minutes, and Baty said that he would. President Garcia also announced that Compatriot Teddy Adams' wife had fallen and broken her hip. He was also not at the meeting.

President Garcia also had three items that he passed around to the attendees. They included Mayor Berry of Albuquerque's proclamation of 'SAR Day' on 4/30/2014 honoring SAR's 125th anniversary (SAR was established on 4/30/1889), a letter from SAR President General Dooley encouraging Congress to honor the commitment made to Spain by placing a statue of Bernardo de Galvez in Congress, and a \$40 note (which President Garcia said that he had never seen before).

President Garcia once again did an outstanding job of running the meeting. After calling the meeting to order, President Garcia followed the traditional meeting

agenda. The Chapter Chaplain (Compatriot Thomas) gave the invocation, followed by the attendees reciting the pledge of allegiance and pledge of the SAR. President Garcia asked Compatriot Robert Rodriguez to lead the Pledge of the SAR. Robert did an outstanding job of leading the meeting attendees.

President Garcia asked Mr. Ralph Barker, who was awarded an SAR Certificate for flying the American flag, to lead the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America. Mr. Barker did admirably in leading the attendees.

After lunch, President Garcia continued with Old Business, Committee Reports, New Business, and Other Business. The unique aspects of the agenda happened during the Old Business, New Business, and Other Business segments.

President Garcia went around the room letting ABQ SAR members and their spouses introduce themselves. As alluded to previously, President Garcia gave an award to Mr. Ralph Barker for flying the American flag. The award meets the spirit of the SAR desire to give awards to people in law enforcement, firefighting, instruction, etc.

The President then stated that the guest speaker would be Compatriot and ABQ SAR Chaplain John Thomas. John and his wife Jean had taken a trip to the ancestral homes in Pennsylvania and Ohio. John's speech was very well received by meeting attendees.

President Garcia Passes around the Documents He Described in his Opening Comments



Compatriot and ABQ SAR Vice President Jake Jacobs held up Mayor Berry's proclamation that proclaims 'SAR Day' as 4/30/2014, 125 years after the SAR was founded. Compatriot Jacobs' action allowed Compatriot Baty to snap a picture!

Compatriot and ABQ SAR Chaplain John Thomas Provides the Meeting Invocation



Compatriot and Chapter Chaplain John Thomas once again gave a very meaningful invocation and prayer. His efforts were very much appreciated by Chapter members and their guests.

Compatriot Robert Rodriguez Prepares to Lead the Meeting ng Attendees in the Pledge of the SAR



(Left to right foreground) Compatriot Robert Rodriguez, Award Winner Ralph Barker (to Compatriot Rodriguez' right)

Compatriot and ABQ SAR Chaplain John Thomas Brings Mr. Chuck Crisler, Assistant Vice President of Public Relations for the Kirtland FCU, as His Guest



(Left to right seated) Guest Chuck Crisler, Compatriot and ABQ SAR Chaplain John Thomas

Later in the Program, Compatriot Thomas introduced Mr. Chuck Crisler, Assistant Vice President of the Kirtland Federal Credit Union and sponsor of Project HAVEN, and asked Mr. Crisler to say a few words about Project

HAVEN. Mr. Crisler stated that Project HAVEN was initiated to assist Wounded Warriors in making home modifications. He talked briefly about changes the Wounded Warriors had made to their homes and went through the vetting process and told how the Kirtland FCU would like ABQ SAR to support this very worthwhile program.

Compatriot and ABQ SAR Chaplain John Thomas Provides the ABQ/SAR May Program (and wife Jean provides very significant help!)



(Left to right) Compatriot Thomas and Wife Jean



(Left to right foreground) Compatriot Thomas Making the Presentation and Wife Jean (back to camera) changing Slides for him

Compatriot Thomas and Jean divided their trip to view ancestral homes into three parts: Pennsylvania during the great American Revolutionary War (including General Washington's home while his troops were at Valley Forge); Gettysburg of the American Civil War; and Ohio shortly after the end of the Revolutionary War. The state of Ohio was very generous in giving out fertile land to the Revolutionary War veterans. ABQ SAR Chapter members were very fortunate that Jean and Compatriot Thomas were willing to share this most important information!

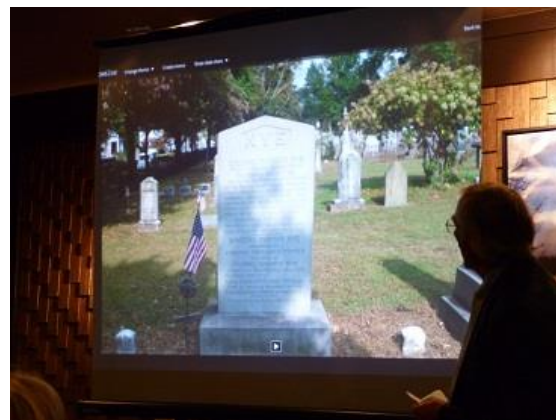
Compatriot Thomas started off by saying how important Pennsylvania was to America's Revolutionary War effort. Thomas showed Valley Forge including General Washington's home (it was mighty rustic by today's standards!).

Compatriot and ABQ SAR Chaplain John Thomas Shows the Famous Civil War Landmark (Little Roundtop) When Jean and He Travelled to Gettysburg, PA



There it is: The famous Little Roundtop. Compatriot Thomas and his lovely wife, Jean, had quite a trip!

Compatriot Thomas and his Wife Saw a Lot of Superb Landmarks during their Great Trip to Ancestral Homes



Compatriot Thomas reiterated how the state of Ohio gave land to many of the Revolutionary War veterans. The Ohio soil was very amenable to growing items of

need. Therefore, the veterans took significant advantage of the generous offer.

Compatriot and ABQ SAR Treasurer Joe Yake Prepares to Give the First Committee Report (the Treasurer's Report)



(Left to right) Compatriot and State Registrar Paul Kouts, Compatriot and ABQ SAR President George Garcia (President's Spouse Belinda Garcia is seated between the two), Compatriot and ABQ SAR Treasurer Joe Yake, Compatriot and ABQ SAR Registrar Ray Alexander

Compatriot and ABQ SAR Treasurer Joe Yake started the Committee Reports by giving the Treasurer's Report. He stated the following amounts for the two SAR funds as of the May 2014 time frame: **Treasurer's Report/ General Fund: Balance - \$1,545.24**

Treasurer's Report/ Dedicated Fund: Balance - \$1,506.72

Compatriot Alexander, the ABQ SAR Registrar, did not give a report, but President Garcia asked if the Albuquerque Journal had been contacted to run SAR events. Compatriot Alexander said that it had not been contacted. Compatriot Baty added that the ABQ Journal was difficult to get articles carried in, because their budget had been cut.

Compatriot Baty, the ABQ SAR Historian, reminded ABQ SAR Chapter attendees to send the names of the awards they had received during the previous year to him at his email address

Dr. Lawrence Morrell of the ROTC Committee did not provide an ROTC report.

President Garcia Provides the Color Guard Report



ABQ SAR Compatriot and President Garcia reviewed the upcoming Color Guard events. These included a Pancake Breakfast on July 4, 2014. President Garcia also told of the functions that the Color Guard would not be able to support due to inadequate Color Guard personnel.

State NMSSAR President Michael Barger Gives an Update



(Left to right) Compatriot Robert Rodriguez (forefront), Award Winner Ralph Barker, NMSSAR President Barger (addressing Mr. Barker)

State NMSSAR President Michael Barger stated that a cemetery where veterans are buried had fallen into disrepair. He asked for volunteers to pull weeds, etc. At least one person volunteered.

President Garcia Brings the May 2014 Meeting to a Close and Adjourns the Meeting



President Garcia brought the May meeting of the ABQ SAR Chapter to a close. During his closing session, the President announced that the next scheduled meeting for the Chapter would be at 11:30 AM on September 27, 2014. This meant that the months of June, July, and August would be off!