

**House of Delegates Meeting
Indiana Society, Sons of the American Revolution
South Bend, Indiana – October 29, 2005**

The Fall Quarterly Meeting of the House of Delegates of the Indiana Society, Sons of the American Revolution was held in Muncie, Indiana and hosted by the Continental Chapter. Friday evening was an opportunity for informal fellowship and discussion. The Saturday session was called to order at 10 a.m. by President T. Rex Legler II followed by the Invocation, colors were posted by the Color Guard, and Pledges to the American Flag and S.A.R were led by Vice President Garry M. Eckard. Because Secretary Brandon Halleck and Chancellor John Kesler, Sr. had been delayed en route, until their arrival Compatriots Robert Burton and Charles Bragg, respectively, were designated to serve pro-tem as Secretary and Parliamentarian. Compatriot Burton called the roll and determined that a quorum was present as follows:

Alexander Hamilton Chapter:

1 delegate-at-large

Alexis Coquillard Chapter:

15, including 1 delegate-at-large

Anthony Halberstadt Chapter:

2, including 1 delegate-at-large

Continental Chapter:

1 delegates-at-large

Clarence A. Cook Chapter

4, including 2 delegates-at-large

Daniel Guthrie Chapter

2 delegates-at-large

John Martin Chapter

1 delegate-at-large

William Knight Chapter

1 delegate-at-large

William Henry Harrison Chapter

1 delegate-at-large

Reports

Minutes for the meeting of July 16, 2005, were approved by consent. It was noted that these had been posted on the INSSAR web site and are expected to be in the future. Chapter and INSSAR officers who have received a mailed copy in the past are to notify Secretary Halleck if they wish to receive a paper copy, one of which will always be prepared for permanent minutes. On motion of National Trustee Roger D. Barnhart, seconded by Treasurer G. Thomas Schnuck, the agenda for this meeting was approved.

Treasurer G. Thomas Schnuck's printed report showed \$8,773.29 in cash and money market accounts and \$42,163.45 in CD's for a total of \$49,699.62 in total assets compared with \$50,936.74 in July.

District Director North – Willard Watterson reported that the Van Gordon Chapter in Crown Point is still inactive. Watterson stated that the Alexis Coquillard Chapter will take over the responsibility of their ROTC medals and certificates in the spring. The Simon Kenton Chapter has asked that the Alexis Coquillard Chapter present a program this winter to Professor Plaff's history class at St. Joseph College. Compatriot Watterson also reported that their color guard had participated in two parades.

District Director – North Central was not present.

District Director – At the Daniel Guthrie meeting on August 16: 4 new members received their SAR Certificates, Compatriot Terry English received two supplementals, and Compatriot Ed Hitchcock reported on the grave dedication for Patriot William Henson. Director Howell attended the annual Tri-Chapter meeting – William Knight Chapter, John Martin Chapter, and William Henry Harrison Chapter were present. The meeting was held at Wabash College in Crawfordsville, Indiana.

District Director South – David Benton Chapter and Ohio Valley Chapters continue to meet regularly and received positive publications about their involvement in the community.

In the absence of *Hoosier Patriot* editor John Van Zandt, President Legler reported that he had learned that copies of the issue for this meeting, not delivered to all members until a day or two ago, had been delivered in good time to the Post Office, but that with the bulk mailing rate we pay it is not obligated to mail immediately. To allow for preparation and try to avoid late receipt by members in the future, Editor Van Zandt has established a deadline for receipt by him of items for publication of six weeks before the date of each House of Delegates meeting. This means that items for publication prior to the January 2006, meeting must reach him by the middle of December.

President T. Rex Legler II presented information from Martha Barnhart about the National Ladies Auxiliary. Notes of interest are – the Ladies Auxiliaries are formed with the sole purpose of supporting SAR; dues are \$5 annually, when a state auxiliary is formed all dues are kept in the state. The delegation was encouraged to learn that members of the auxiliary do not have to be a member of the DAR – any spouse, daughter, sister, mother or aunt can join. To date, \$2,000 has been donated to NSSAR. Our state chapter has a balance of \$170 – all of which will go to support Indiana programs.

Compatriot Steve Oberlin presented his report that the INSSAR Color Guard has participated in 58 events over the past six months with approximately 10 others scheduled for the remainder of the year. Some notable events were the four day July 4th concerts with the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra, Midwestern Roots Genealogy Conference, several parades and cemetery ceremonies. Commander Oberlin noted that the Color Guard will be participating at the Commemoration of the 225th anniversary of the de LaBalme Massacre. This event will include

local dignitaries, representatives of the Miami Nation and the DAR. In addition, while there will not be a 2005 NSSAR President General's Color Guard Trophy, our local Color Guard is preparing for a submission of this year's events in the anticipation of the award being reinstated next year. Compatriot Oberlin provided a report on the treasury balance. To date, the Color Guard treasury balance is \$5,628.17. Compatriot Chuck Bragg attended the 225th anniversary of King's Mountain and presented Commander Oberlin with a banner – which will be added to the state SAR flag.

Registrar Noel Reen reported that to date, he has 21 Membership and Supplemental Applications (New Applications – 15; Supplemental – 6) awaiting NSSAR approval. He continues to work with the Secretary and has been working on clearing up duplicated state numbers. In addition, Registrar Reen continues to work in clearing up discrepancies in records and to obtaining missing information for pending files. Registrar Reen also noted that copies of DAR applications that are to be used as “references” documents on our SAR applications will not be accepted at SAR unless they're stamped “Record Copy” or “Duplicate Copy”.

National Trustee Roger Barnhart reported on the SAR Central District Meeting in Charlestown, WV on the October 22, 2005. The event was attended by President General Downing who spoke about “The Center for Advancing American Heritage” fund raising programs and encouraged all compatriots to give towards this noble endeavor. The “Revolutionary War Graves Committee”, chaired by Ted Williams is very active and have proposed to the NSSAR Executive Committee a program to develop a master roster of military and service provider patriots of the Revolutionary War. For more information, please visit www.rsar.org.

President Legler II led the discussion on several youth programs sponsored by the Indiana Society. While discussing the Eagle Scout program, he mentioned that a move the INSSAR should make is to commit to fundraising activities so that the Eagle Scout program could be self-sustaining. We are still seeking a chairman for the Knight Essay contest. Any interested compatriot should contact President Legler. Compatriot Tom Schnuck has agreed to serve as chairman for the Youth Programs Committee.

Vice President Eckard informed the delegation that all medals and awards must be submitted no later than December 31 to be included in our numbers for the NSSAR and must be submitted to the INSSAR Vice-President. Chuck Bragg reported on membership – noting that membership numbers have increased to 647.

Our webmaster, Compatriot Steve Oberlin stated that there were updates on the website. In addition, members will be able to view past state meeting minuets and copies of the *Hoosier Patriot*. It was noted that our website is one of the best in the state – linking chapter websites, officer information, and discussion boards for all members to view/utilize. All chapters are encouraged to update and personalize their individual websites.

Compatriot Ted Williams presented updates on the Revolutionary War Graves project. The number of known/located graves has increased substantially since 1985. Compatriot Williams discussed the proposal of a “Master Roster of Military and Service Provider Patriots of the

Revolutionary War” (as mentioned earlier in the minutes). Copies of this proposal can be obtained by contacting Compatriot Williams.

Old Business

The Handbook History Revision is getting the finishing touches and will be ready to send off to the printers.

Vice-President Eckard presented on the planning stages for the INSSAR April 29, 2006 meeting. The meeting will be held at the Marriott East in the downtown Indianapolis. James Alexander Thom will be the guest speaker. Compatriot Eckard noted that this will be the first SAR/DAR State Society joint meeting. Vice-President Eckard also fielded questions about room rates, prices, etc. This information will be forthcoming.

New Business

President Legler presented on the 2005 Central District Meeting. Legler highlighted the many achievements our state society and local chapters have put forth over the past six months. To note: The grave marking ceremony for the force commanded by Colonel Augustin De La Balme, The INSSAR Color Guard with over 58 events, and the formation of a new chapter in Warsaw.

Compatriot Chuck Bragg was unanimously endorsed by the State Society for the position of Genealogist General. In addition, the society voted unanimously to endorse Compatriot David Simpson for Historian General. INSSAR Secretary Halleck will write letters of endorsement to be submitted no later than December 31, 2005, to FPG Henry McCarl.

President Legler reminded members that nominations for Indiana Society officers for 2006-2007 will be reported at the January meeting, so suggestions should be submitted to National Trustee Barnhart prior to that time. The election will occur at the Annual Meeting in April. Also, a preliminary budget will be submitted in January and voted on in April.

President Legler also spoke of plans of the National Society to seek reinstatements from those who have inactive in the past few years. Mailings will go to the last known address encouraging reinstatement either with the inactive member’s former chapter or, if now living in another state, with a chapter near his current address. A program of awards to both chapters and state societies is included in the National Campaign. President Legler, estimated that not more than one in seven of current members participates actively in SAR activities, pointed out the variety of existing programs in which members can get involved.

Compatriot David Simpson, a member of the Louisville, KY chapter and currently Historian General of the National Society, gave a power point presentation of a National Society program entitled “Developing Outreach Support”. The purpose of the program is to educate members about SAR programs, to encourage greater participation by members, and to convert “certificate members” - those who may or may not continue as active members after they receive their

membership certificates, but who certainly are not active participants in one or more of the many SAR activities available.

In closing, President Legler encouraged chapters to submit pictures for use in the INSSAR website, reminded members of the next meeting in Evansville, January 21, 2006, and extolled participation of families as SAR fathers encourage sons and grandsons to join and as CAR members and wives of SAR participate in parades .

The meeting closed with benediction by Compatriot Jeff Jones.

Respectfully submitted,

Brandon R. Halleck, Secretary
Indiana Society Sons of the American Revolution