

INDIANA SOCIETY, Sons of the American Revolution
Winter State Meeting - 12 January 2008
Host - Clarence A. Cook Chapter - Indianapolis, Indiana

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM by President Robert D. Howell, Sr. The invocation was given by Rev. Charles Carpenter, State Chaplain. The Pledge to the National Colors and to the SAR was led by Vice-President G. Thomas Schnuck. Compatriot Earl Salisbury was appointed Parliamentarian. The agenda was approved. State Secretary Jack E. Moore took the Chapter Roll Call and determined a quorum was present. State Recording Secretary T. Rex Legler II confirmed the report..

Attendance:	DistrictChapter	Compatriot
1	Gen Thomas Posey George Rogers Clark Ohio Valley	0 0 Donald Counts J.D. Strouth John West
2	David Benton Daniel Guthrie John Hay	0 James Arnold Ronald Burkhart (Application submitted) Charles Carpenter Robert Cunningham Edward Hitchcock Robert Howell T. Rex Legler II 0
3	Clarence A. Cook Benjamin Franklin Alexander Hamilton	David Betzner Ronald Darrah Garry Eckard Gordon Flick Wade Harshman Stuart Hart Scott Hosier Jack Moore Michael Oberlin Steven Oberlin Earl Salisbury 0 Charles Bragg
4	William Henry Harrison William Knight John Martin	Noel Reen 0 0

5	Continental	Dennis Babbitt Jack Carmichael Mark Kreps G. Thomas Schnuck Alan Teller
	Thaddeus Kosciuszko Simon Kenton	0 0
6.	Alexis Coquillard Anthony Halberstadt	Grafton Cook Willard Waterson Charles Peters

There were 13 members of the Ladies Auxiliary in attendance who departed for their program under the leadership of Chairman Pro-Tem Karen Bragg. The Minutes of the 27 Oct 2007 meeting were approved with the amendment to state that State Secretary Jack E. Moore had NOT tendered his resignation but would complete his term while training Secretary nominee William Sharp. The Treasurer's Report was presented by Chuck Peters and accepted without amendment. The 2008 Budget was submitted for consideration by the members in attendance with approval to occur at the 19 April 2008 Annual State Congress in Muncie. The District Directors Reports were given in order. A moment of silence was called for by President Howell in memory of recently deceased Compatriot Robert E. Burton. The position of District Director for District #3 is currently vacant and a candidate is being sought for the annual election in April. The Hoosier Patriot had no report. Compatriot Michael Oberlin was appointed Interim Editor to publish the next issue required to fulfill Constitution mandated notification to members of the upcoming state officer election and 2008 budget approval in April. Discussion ensued regarding the increasing costs of mailing the HP. All compatriots with e-mail access are being asked to submit their addresses to the HP Editor to receive their HP on-line. It is also published at the INSSAR state website <inssar.org>. Members without e-mail access will continue to receive their HP via US Mail. Discussion concerning either a postage surcharge being added to the annual state dues or a reduction in state dues for those who chose to receive the HP electronically ensued. No motions were made but the subject will be revisited at a future state meeting. The State Color Guard report was submitted including a financial statement for FYs 04 - YTD as requested by the State Treasurer for IRS purposes. When asked by Compatriot Legler if the report was acceptable, State Treasurer Peters said "Yes". State Registrar Noel Reen gave his report and also ended with a plea that when there appears to be a problem with an application he attempts to contact the primary sponsor (first line signer), preferably by e-mail, to iron out any difficulties. In some cases he has no alternative but to mail the packet back to the primary sponsor or applicant to get the needed information that may have been acquired by much quicker means. Primary sponsors are asked to provide their e-mail address and telephone number to assist in speedy application processing. Also discussed was the need to inform applicants who submitted late in the year that they might receive a billing for the next year if their application was approved before an NSSAR determined cut off, usually 01 November. Delayed submissions to avoid this may be considered but the primary sponsor should counsel the applicant about this issue. National Trustee Eckard submitted his report. Of note is the ongoing discussion regarding the proposed move to the "Museum Quarter" of Louisville for the NSSAR Headquarters, Library, and Center for Advancing Americas Heritage. The situation is in flux and no conclusions can be arrived at this time. Compatriot Moore stated that there was some discussion within the national library committee and the nation museum committee and that he would e-mail those minutes and conference call summaries to any interested individual. The entire issue will be a topic of discussion at the 2008 Spring Leadership Meeting in February in Louisville. All interested Compatriots are encouraged to attend. Registration forms and schedules have been recently posted on the NSSAR website. Also discussed was the current IRS requirement for Non Profit organization financial reports. Some chapters have been contacted but the electronic on-line form does not yet appear to be available. As the reporting cut off is

August 2008, there still appears to be time to get this done but all chapters need to do this and whoever is functioning as chapter treasurer is responsible for the submission. Past President Eckard submitted the nominating committee report. Some heated discussion ensued as to the composition of the nominating committee. The State Constitution clearly states that the immediate Past President serves as the chairman. All committee members are appointed by the State President within the guidelines of the Constitution for the composition of specific Standing Committees. President Howell stated that he had not appointed committee members to the Nominating Committee thus making it a committee of one. Compatriot Hosier moved the nominating committee report be accepted. The motion was seconded and passed on a vote of 13 for, 12 against, and 6 abstentions. During the Youth Programs report Compatriot Schnuck asked to defer his discussion of the Americanism Poster Contest. Although Compatriot Jones from the CAR was not present, several opportunities for coordinated functions revolving around the CAR Annual spring meeting were mentioned. Compatriot Kreps stated that the Knight Essay entrants were soon to be judged and thanked the Anthony Halberstadt and Daniel Guthrie Chapters for their participation. Compatriot Betzner was unaware of his appointment as Rumbaugh Orations Chair but gladly accepted it again. William Henry Harrison and Anthony Halberstadt Chapters both stated they would have entrants. Compatriot Betzner indicated the 2007 entrant did very well at Williamsburg but that she did not garner a top 3 finish. Compatriot West continues to iron out the workings of the 4-H program. As Indiana is currently the only state SAR society involved with 4-H, this program is likely to be the national prototype-type and Compatriot West is diligently getting it going. He did display a program from the annual 4-H awards event that placed the SAR recognition for good citizenship in the midst of several 25+ year continuing awards. Many kudos to John for his efforts. Our ROTC/JROTC program continues its activity according to Compatriot Howell. He did state some disappointment in that he believed there would be a state entry for the national JROTC competition this year but the entry was not forthcoming. Perhaps next year. The Golden Chapter Awards are going to be rolled up into the annual chapter reports needed for application for the Americanism Committee report compiled by Compatriot Strouth. Medals & Awards Chairman Compatriot Schnuck with confirmation by President Howell announced the composition of his committee to be Compatriots Howell, Legler, Oberlin, & himself. All submitted nominations for state level awards are being considered. During the Membership report review Compatriot Moore decried the difficulty of getting responses from our members for dues collection. Only 2 chapters are using the national database reports that make Jack's record keeping much easier. With current membership approaching 700 in the state, potentially losing 94 members (mostly from Clarence A. Cook Chapter - Jack's home chapter) is demoralizing. All chapters should make every effort to get their dues collected and submitted on time. There are 18 named chapters and the Members-at-Large category for the State Secretary to deal with. Compatriot Ed Hitchcock was "blamed" for filling over half the used storage space on the state's Revolutionary War Graves registration project. Perhaps without his GPS and digital camera, Ed wouldn't make Compatriot Harshman work so hard. Due to job changes, Compatriot Doug Arnold had to resign as Chair of the Public Service & Heroism Committee. A replacement is being sought. The Anthony Halberstadt Chapter was in low attendance at this state meeting because of a previously scheduled awards program at their own chapter meeting for a Lifesaving event recognition. President Howell apologized for the late change in dates which was part of the domino effect of changing the October & January meeting sites and sponsoring chapters. Compatriot Schnuck took note of this and promised to not do it in his term. Dates/locations/sponsors were distributed at the sign in table for the 2008-09 year. Compatriot James Arnold reported that the Indiana Society again qualified for an award at national to recognize cooperative efforts between the SAR & service groups like the VFW, American Legion, DAV, & AMVETS. Chapters which had activities in 2007 but did not report are encouraged to let Jim know ASAP. Compatriot Oberlin reported on the health of the state website. A move by the company operating the server where our website is maintained resulted in some downtime. Compatriot Oberlin also stated that for those chapters not able to maintain a webpage, he could be approached to do an annual update so that officers and points of contact for prospective members could be kept current. Discussion occurred regarding the quality of the INSSAR website to other state societies and the INSSAR ranks with the very best. When it

was discovered that we only pay less than \$100.00 per year for our site, those knowledgeable about such things praised Compatriot Oberlin for his work. Compatriot Legler presented his report regarding vendors for the Indiana Society SAR Service Medal. The clarifications to the award requirements were discussed. The vendors' bids were discussed. Compatriot John West moved that \$1,850.00 be budgeted in 2008 to acquire 300 sets as bid. The motion was seconded and in the ensuing discussion regarding funding the motion Compatriot Schnuck pointed out that 2 issues of the Hoosier Patriot had not been published. Those monies would revert to the general fund in April and could be applied to the Service Medal funding with no additional cost to the INSSAR for the initial purchase. Compatriot Legler stated that he believed that after the initial surge of requests, the annual number required would be small and thus the initial order should cover 3+ years. Compatriot Darrah asked about the availability of presentation boxes. Numerous members responded that they had presentation boxes that were not being used and would donate them. Compatriot Legler said he would seek information from the vendor as to cost & availability of the boxes. The motion was then passed to amend the 2008 Budget to include the medal funding. Compatriot Schnuck spoke about the Americanism Poster contest at this time. The theme was "Molly Pitcher". There appeared to be no entries at this time. Individual chapters were encouraged to submit if it fitted into their overall programs. President Howell then recessed the business meeting for lunch and the program speaker.

Upon reconvening the meeting at 2:15 PM, President Howell opened the floor for New Business with the discussion of proposed changes to the position of Secretary to address the large workload currently held by that office. Some discussion ensued regarding assistant secretaries and Compatriots Reen and Moore using signature stamps for application processing. Compatriot Legler questioned the need and added expense of the proposal to mail individual copies of State Meeting minutes to state and chapter officers (approx. 30 individuals) when the minutes were being posted on the website within 7 days of the meeting and could be included in the Hoosier Patriot for those members not having ready access to electronic communication thus saving postage expense. (Secretary's NOTE: The minutes of state meetings were dropped from the HP almost 2 years ago to free up space for chapter & state news of other importance). Compatriot Legler stated he would comply with whatever the House of Delegates approved in the proposed amendment. The proposal would be on the State Meeting Agenda for April. President Howell then moved to his second proposal to offer "Interim" amendments. Discussion ensued and it was felt that only non-fiscal amendments should be covered. This change was adopted by the members and the proposal will be included in the April meeting agenda. Compatriot Eckard offered a proposal following discussion with State Chancellor John Kessler (who was not in attendance at today's meeting) regarding what was felt to be problems with the current structure and fiscal operation of the Color Guard. Compatriot Eckard asserted that Compatriot Kessler believed there were problems of significant nature should there ever be an IRS Audit. Much heated discussion as to the purpose and merits of the proposal ensued. Compatriot Carmichael moved and it was seconded that the proposal not be accepted. Compatriot Eckard pointed out that by the INSSAR Constitution & By-Laws the proposal must be forwarded to the House of Delegates. Compatriot Legler offered a motion to Table the proposal as the discussion was becoming more heated and personal in nature. The proposal was tabled and will be forwarded to the House of Delegates in April. Compatriot Eckard then raised discussion about the Color Guard Financial Report. State Treasurer Peters assured Compatriot Eckard that he and Compatriot Oberlin would review the report, bank statements, etc to insure their accuracy. Compatriot Oberlin stated that he was not a Financial Manager and that although Compatriot Eckard claimed mismanagement of the funds because little interest earned was reported, Compatriot Oberlin had not worried about making money. When it became apparent that this was an attempt by Compatriot Eckard to circumvent the Motion to Table the Color Guard proposal the discussion was halted by President Howell. Compatriot Carmichael made a motion for a Vote of Confidence in Compatriot Oberlin's management and financial handling of the Color Guard. The motion was seconded and passed with one "Nay" vote. President Howell expressed the sentiments of many regarding the personal sacrifices regarding time and money to participate in the Color Guard. Compatriot Carmichael extended an invitation on behalf of the

Continental Chapter to attend the next Annual Congress of the House of Delegates of the INSSAR at Muncie on Saturday, 19 April 2008. Compatriot Rev. Carpenter offered the Benediction. The recessional was led by Vice-President Schnuck. The meeting was adjourned by President Howell.

Respectfully submitted,

T. Rex Legler II, Recording Secretary
Indiana Society, Sons of the American Revolution