



NMSSAR

NEW MEXICO SOCIETY OF THE
SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

JIM P THORNTON, PRESIDENT

First Quarter 2008

Gene Tomlinson, Editor

President's Column

Jim P. Thornton

As we start a new year, it is good to think about some of the things that our Society needs to accomplish.

1. Establish better communications between all of our members.
2. Revise our Constitution and Bylaws.
3. Increase our membership.
4. Establish new chapters in New Mexico.
5. Work with Arizona in planning the 2012 NSSAR Congress.
6. Recognize our members for the work they do.

I am sure that there are many more items that should be added to this list. Your thoughts and suggestions are needed. But most of all I need your help in completing these key issues.

I will be asking members to serve on committees to address these issues. Please call, write, email or contact me any other way to get my attention on any matter relating to SAR activities.

I want to thank our Past State President, Rev. Perkins Patton for his service to the NMSSAR and for his guidance as we begin to review and revise our State's SAR Constitution and By-Laws. His experience and expertise has been most helpful.

The Secretary's Corner:

Ray Alexander

2007 has been a very good year for the New Mexico Society. We leave the year with a total of 105 members of which 73 have renewed. Of these, 15 members are new to the Society this year. Two others are in the hopper and an additional two applicants are getting signatures. We hope the 32 who haven't paid their dues yet will still renew. The ballots for 2008 State Officers Election were sent out and the new Officers were installed in Santa Fe on February 13th. If you are interested in holding a state office next year, please let your chapter president or me know. (It has been difficult filling all the offices.)

We are working to start a new chapter in the four corners area. Plans are in place to make this happen this year. Some members have been talking about starting a Color Guard with period uniforms. If you are interested, let me know.

Notices for the last 2007 statewide meeting held in conjunction with the President Generals visit were sent by E-Mail. If you have E-Mail and didn't get that notice send an E-Mail to me at anniealex@earthlink.net and I'll add yours to our list. E-mail saves us an enormous amount of postage.

Any time you need more information about the Society or have questions about your membership, or have a prospective member, please contact me.

Past-President's Report

Rev. Perkins Patton

In my two years as State President, we have begun the process of fulfilling PG Nathan White's dream of increasing the number of local chapters. I still have hopes that we be able to create a Four Corners Chapter. We have verbal assurance from the Arizona and Colorado Societies that are in support of our efforts.

A couple of years after approaching the Arizona Society about the 2012 National Congress and a year and a half after New Mexico Society voted to support Arizona's bid to host that Congress, we have finally been invited to join with their Planning Committee. In November of 2007, Jim Thornton and I went to Arizona to meet with the Committee and Jim Thornton was named Vice-Chair of the Committee. We are in support of Arizona's bid to host the National Congress in the year when both states celebrate the 100th anniversary of statehood, because frankly New Mexico simply does not have the resources to play host to such a major event.

As your Trustee, I was unable to attend the 2007 National Congress in Williamsburg, VA (however Capt. Walt Baker, the Alternate Trustee adequately represented us there). At the September Leadership Conference in Louisville (which I was able to attend), we heard of a change in plans for the Center for Advancing America's Heritage. As you have read in the SAR magazine, we have been offered, at some saving, an existing building in the museum district of Louisville. Now I have received notice that a second alternative site has surfaced. We will be making a final decision on these proposals at the Spring Leadership Conference the end of February.

It has been an honor and a pleasure to have served you for two years as your President. I look forward to serving you in other capacities in the future.

Treasurer's Report

John Farris

The year 2007 began with a corrected balance of \$9,498.32. We will begin 2008 with 9,776.89. Receipts and expenditures for 2007 show that we are maintaining a budget of equal income to expenses. Some of the expenses have been picked up by our members which, by their generosity keeps our treasury in balance. With new initiatives planned for 2008 it is expected that expenses will increase so we need to look to new members and some addition of funds to maintain a balanced budget.

We did not include in our dues for 2008 the additional \$5.00 that we have agreed to collect each year to support the 2012 Congress in Phoenix. We are co sponsors for the Congress and need to provide financial support as well as time and talent.

Please, provide your \$5.00 or more to me or to your Chapter Treasurer for this undertaking. A little from all will result in a couple of thousand from NMSSAR by 2012.

NMSSAR 100th Anniversary, December 2008

As to the near future, Rev. Perkins Patton, Past President notes:
"On the subject of anniversaries, December 2008 marks the 100th Anniversary of the New Mexico Society. It is my hope that we will be able to schedule some special events commemorating our history."

This is an opportunity for the NMSSAR to have a rather important Statewide meeting and to have good representation for all areas of the state.

Interested: Let Jim Thornton or Gene Tomlinson know about your ideas and what support you might be able to give – time, talent, expertise. We await your input!!

NSSAR Leadership Meeting Results

Trustees approved Phoenix location for the 2012 National Congress. Arizona and New Mexico will be the sponsoring Societies.

Also the Trustees approved the purchase of the Fulton Conway Building. Build out of the new building was deferred until all needed funds were available.

The sale of the existing SAR Headquarter building was deferred until the Fulton Conway Building was complete.

Santa Fe Chapter Winter/Spring 2008 Meeting Schedule

Hotel St. Francis at 12:00 noon

January 9th - Wednesday Luncheon Meeting
Discussion of NMSSAR planned activities for 2008 - Complete

February 13th - Wednesday Luncheon Meeting
Ken Scoggins discussed the Woodson Bible used by Rev Woodson for Gen. George Washington. (see photograph on page 5)

NMSSAR Board of Managers Meeting

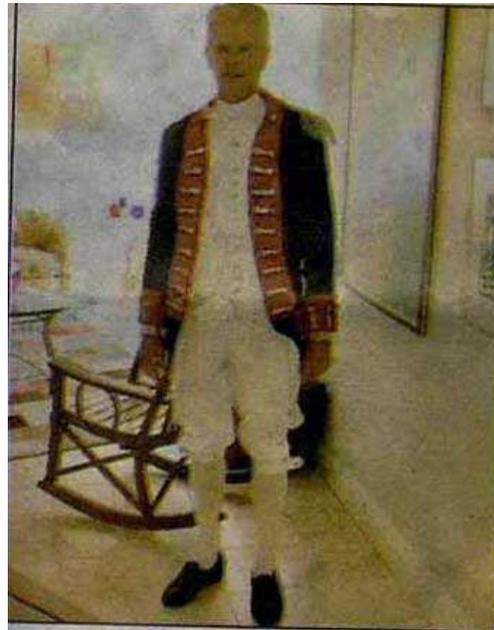
Installation of the 2008 President and Officers of NMSSAR took place followed by the NMSSAR Board of Managers Meeting. Complete

March 12th - Wednesday Luncheon Meeting.
Charles Martinez will discuss Spanish History in New Mexico during the American Revolution.

April 9th - Wednesday Luncheon Meeting
Jimmie Fennell will discuss the Morgan Rifles and their action in the Revolution

May 14th - Wednesday Luncheon Meeting
Bob Mayhew will discuss U.S. Intelligence Agency

Las Cruces Chapter Winter/Spring 2008 Meeting Schedule



COURTESY PHOTO
President of the Las Cruces Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution, George Biles, is dressed in a Pennsylvania Militia uniform.

At the Las Cruces Chapter Annual Meeting on February 9th, 2008, George Biles gave a brief talk about the role of cockades as a uniform accoutrement during the Revolutionary War, and was pictured in the Las Cruces Sun News on February 14th.

The former Mayor of Las Cruces was honored with the award of a Bronze Good Citizenship Medal for his 10 years service as Mayor.

Las Cruces Chapter will host the NMSSAR Board of Managers Meeting following their May 17th luncheon meeting.

Albuquerque Chapter Winter/Spring 2008 Meeting Schedule

Meeting March 12th notices to be sent to Members

Editorial

This is the first News Letter of the NMSSAR in quite some time, if ever. It is the beginning of the communication to all NMSSAR members and prospective members in New Mexico.

Officers of the 2008 NMSSAR will endeavor to keep you up to date on activities with the State and at the National level as it pertains to NMSSAR members. We encourage all members to read the SAR Magazine and to use the www.sar.org website for late breaking news about the SAR. For instance the building, the plan and architectural model of the proposed new National Office (referred to in Rev. Perkins Patton's report) is available on the website for your review.

It is the intent of this newsletter to keep you informed and to ask for your support of time and effort to make the New Mexico Society everything that it can be. The level of activity and involvement of the SAR in New Mexico will be up to all of us as we move forward toward supporting Arizona at the 2012 National Congress in Phoenix. Please, review the activities going on in the ASSAR by looking at their state website and at their newsletters on their website. It will give you some idea of what is possible here in New Mexico.

It is your Officers hope that you have been waiting for something or someone to ask you to be active, come to meetings, get involved in community activities befitting the SAR. We are a patriotic organization that needs to show the colors, discuss the founding of this country with our children and make all citizens aware of the continual price of the freedom we enjoy. Freedom, as we know it and practice it did not come easy and it is not easy to maintain and to improve upon. We, among many, must stand tall and be heard and seen so that others can remember and appreciate what we have and what our ancestors gave us.

Gene Tomlinson, Editor

How to jump-start the NMSSAR

The three, hope to be four, Chapters of the SAR in New Mexico need to become active. Monthly meetings, at least most months of the year, need to take place in-order to encourage member participation and community service.

We in Santa Fe are active and growing and we have a model that appears to work. It is a place to start and improvement is always welcomed.

We have meetings once a month from January to May (the tourists have the town in the summer). We then meet from September to December. Our luncheon meetings are usually at the same location, the ST. FRANCIS HOTEL, and last about one hour. One of the members has a topic that he prepares or brings a speaker (which can extend our meeting past the one hour). We have lunch and the topic is usually covered in about 15 or 20 minutes (while the Hotel prepares the lunch orders). This seems to be acceptable and we can cover any business during the lunch period.

Notice of the meetings is sent out early in the year and after Labor Day. E-mails asking for the member's intention to attend are sent about five days before the meeting with a Yes or No response requested. Phone calls are made to those without e-mail. The number attending is passed on to the Hotel for planning purposes.

We have been doing this process for the last several years and found it to be quite successful.

It works!! Try It and See. Gene Tomlinson

Keep up with the latest information

Check out the SAR Web Site at www.sar.org. The center column of the home page includes the latest news from our headquarters. Look to Members Services and the State websites (by state flag) for state activities and newsletters.

On January 12 Past President Jim Thornton and President Gene Tomlinson of the Santa Fe Chapter attended the Eagle Scout Banquet at the Lodge of Santa Fe. A total of 14 certificates were presented along with applications for the essay contest resulting in potential scholarships for winning essays.

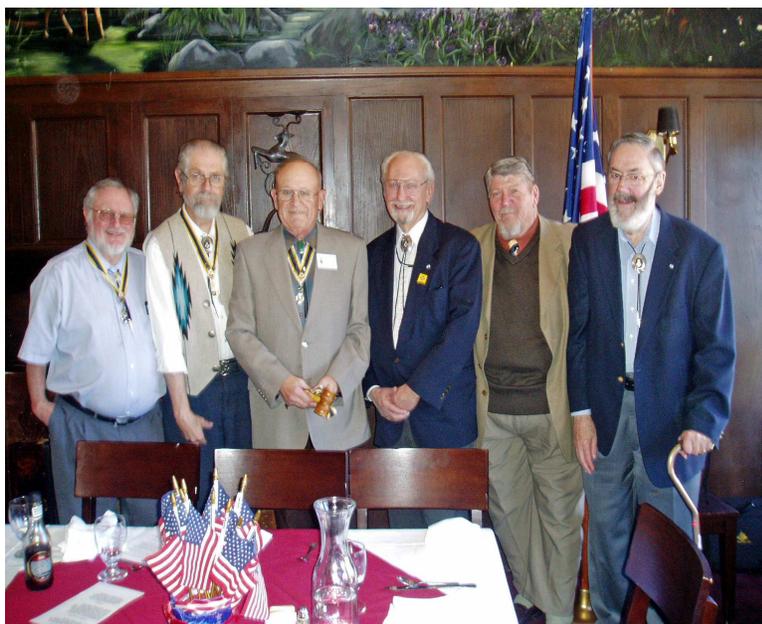


Past President Jim P. Thornton with six of the 14 Eagle Scouts that received certificates in Santa Fe on January 12 at the Eagle Scout Awards and recognition Banquet.



Ken Scoggins with Rev. Woodson's Bible used with Gen. George Washington in Virginia. Presentation in Santa Fe, Feb. 13, 2008.

2008 NMSSAR Officers Installation February 13th in Santa Fe



From left to right: Ray Alexander (secretary), Perkins Patton (past president), Jim Thornton (president), Gene Tomlinson (first vice-president), Teddy Adams (historian) and John Farris (treasurer)

Contact information for you to communicate with your NMSSAR Officers

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Gene Tomlinson (Vice-President)
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James Hesse (Second Vice-President \$
Genealogist and Registrar) not shown in photo
JHesse4@comcast.net 505-275-9410

Ray Alexander (Secretary)
annialex@earthlink.net 505-296-0446

John Farris (Treasurer)
JohnAFarris@comcast.net 505-797-2279

Perkins Patton (Past President) 505-373-1963
perkinspatton@zianet.com

Teddy Adams (Historian) teddya1@comcast.net

NMSSAR Board of Managers Meeting Schedule

- May 17 - Las Cruces/Las Cruces Chapter
(Armed Forces Day Celebration)
- Sept 13 - Albuquerque/Albuquerque Chapter
- Oct./Nov.- President General Visit
- Mar '09 - Santa Fe/Santa Fe Chapter
Officer Installation

NMSSAR Website Operational

The NMSSAR website is up and operating for your review and comment. Go to the SAR website (www.sar.org) and to Membership/ State Organizations and click on our state flag . (One of our "50" is no longer missing!!!)

We wish to thank William Baker, Capt. Walter Baker's son, for his help in getting this task completed.

Communicating with NMSSAR Members

Between our website and this newsletter we are endeavoring to communicate with all members and prospective members, full-filling one of our President's first goals for 2008.

The New Mexico Society SAR Newsletter is published and distributed quarterly to all members and prospective members of the NMSSAR.

Contact Gene Tomlinson at SARGMT@aol.com with questions, corrections, and/or suggestions.

You will receive your copy by e-mail if you have your e-mail on file with the NMSSAR State Secretary or by snail mail if no e-mail is listed.

If you did not receive the newsletter by e-mail and would like to, please, send us your e-mail address.