

Minutes of the September 12, 2023 Monthly Meeting Mount Vernon Chapter SAR

Meeting Date: September 12, 2023

Meeting Location: The meeting was held in person at Vintage Pizzeria located at 5510 Chamblee Dunwoody Road, Dunwoody, GA. A total of 36 individuals were present at the meeting, including 21 members and a combination of 15 guests/spouses, including our speaker, Karin Guzy. Other guests recorded were Mac Cohen, Matt Cohen, Tom Loftis and Lyman and Becky Smith (membership in process). Members present were Rick Anderson, Kevin Baker (Chandler), John Bivens (Connie), Wheeler Bryan (Anne), Tony Crowe, Jack Dyer, John Galt (Peggy), Shep Hammack (Montez), Larry Guzy (Karin), Tom Hewett, Sunny Lee, Michael Long, Richard McCrary (Catherine), Ham McDonald, Warren McPhillips, Tom Pye (Leslie), Chuck Rann, Gene Ray, Dave Tharp, John Wassel (Beth), and David Wellons (Jane).

6:00-7:00 Social hour

Meeting called to order:

This meeting of the Mount Vernon Chapter Georgia Society Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) was called to order by Chapter President David Wellons at 7:02 p.m.

Invocation: The invocation was given by Chaplin Gene Ray.

Pledge of Allegiance and Pledge to the SAR was led by Sergeant at Arms, Hamilton McDonald

Guest Speaker: Chapter Vice President John Galt introduced our speaker, Karin Guzy whose topic was "Founding Gardeners – Gardening, Agriculture, and Botany". After careers as a journalist and in the advertising agency business, Karin retired and has pursued her plant addiction. Karin is a Master Flower Show Judge, accredited by the National Garden Club. She is the chairman of The Cobb Land Trust Inc., which oversees the operation of the 11.5 acre McFarlane Nature Park in East Cobb. Karin's talk brought to light the fact that many of our Founding Fathers were passionate about gardening and agriculture in general. In fact, the subject often served as a welcomed distraction during heated and frustrating debates!

Speaker Appreciation: Chapter Vice President John Galt presented Karin with a certificate of appreciation for his presentation.

President's comments:

- The BOM has approved sharing the cost of planting a "Liberty Tree" aka a Trident Maple tree sapling in Sandy Springs Veterans Park, aka "Triangle Park" in conjunction with the Sandy Springs DAR Chapter. It will also include a permanent plaque identifying our chapter as a participant. The ceremony will be on or about Veteran's Day (Nov 11). Total cost to our chapter will not exceed \$500.00.
- Tom Chrisman is working to determine which police officer will be selected for our 2023 Heroism Award (Community service opportunity). One candidate has been identified. Others under consideration.

- Bylaws status – we had announced a Chapter vote on the revised bylaws to be held at this meeting. Due to input from a member, we agreed to modify wording in a couple of places, which is under review. Since the bylaws require a 45-day advance notice to the membership for this vote, we will be rescheduling for a future date. There is no major urgency for these revisions, as they mainly were editing and layout changes and updating wording to better reflect our maturing chapter.
- The board authorized the expenditure of approximately \$250 for the purchase of a new sound system, with wireless speakers and microphones for use at chapter meetings. We expect to have the new system in place for the October meeting.
- Flag Certificate Reminders. This effort remains an important objective for our chapter. It is so easy!

CHAPTER BUSINESS:

Treasurer's Report:

The Chapter Treasurer Bill Floyd was absent therefore David Wellons gave the Treasurer's Report. A positive balance was reported as of May 31, 2023.

Registrar's Report: Registrar Tom Hewett reported that there is one application outstanding for membership (Lyman Smith). It now sits at National. Two new applications are in various stages of process (Matt Cohen and Tom Loftis----both present).

Chapter Announcements:

IMPORTANT! Dues renewal for 2024 – Deadline for dues payment is Nov 30, 2023. This will allow us to have time to file all the reports with the State. Total dues amount covering Chapter, State and National is \$95.00 for a regular member. The web address for the renewals was listed in the program, and provides the actual dues for other types of members (life, dual, etc.) Members are encouraged to also donate to the Chapter's Fellows Fund.

Nomination Committee: President Wellons has appointed Shep Hammack, Tom Hewett and John Galt to a nominating committee for 2024 officers. They will present the slate at our November 14 meeting which will be voted on by the membership at our December 12 meeting. All members are encouraged to consider serving as an officer and if you are interested, please contact Shep, Tom, or John.

August and September Birthdays: John Bivens III, Steve Colwell, John Dyer, Chip Floyd III, Tom Hughes, Chuck Olson, Rusty Redding, Thomas Robbins, John Robitscher, David Tharp, David Wellons.

Activity Updates:

Next meeting date: The next Mt. Vernon Chapter meeting will be Tuesday, October 10, 2023 at 7:00 pm (fellowship time starts at 6:00 pm) at Vintage Pizzeria. Emil Decker will be our speaker.

Next Board of Managers (BOM) Meeting: The next BOM meeting is Friday December 8, 2023 at Vintage Pizzeria at noon (meal at 11:30). Any member is welcome to attend and observe.

Recessional: The Recessional was led by Sergeant at Arms Hamilton McDonald

Benediction: The Benediction was given by Chaplin Gene Ray

Adjournment: The Monthly Meeting was adjourned at 7:49 pm by President David Wellons

Respectfully Submitted,
Warren McPhillips, Recording Secretary
September 18, 2023