

Minutes of the October 10, 2023 Monthly Meeting Mount Vernon Chapter SAR

Meeting Date: October 10, 2023

Meeting Location: The meeting was held in person at Vintage Pizzeria located at 5510 Chamblee Dunwoody Road, Dunwoody, GA. A total of 40 individuals were present at the meeting, including 25 members and a combination of 15 guests/spouses, including our speaker, Emil Decker. Other guests recorded were Matt Cohen, Marc Cohen, Tom Loftis, and Finley Baker (CAR). Members present were, Kevin Baker (Chandler), John Bivens (Connie), Tom Chrisman, Tony Crowe, Jack Dyer, Bill Floyd, Ted Fricke (Beth), John Galt (Peggy), Russ Glover (Marie), Larry Guzy, Shep Hammack, Tom Hewett, Tom Hughes, Sunny Lee, Richard McCrary (Catherine), Ham McDonald, Warren McPhillips, Charles Olson, Randy Pollard, Tom Pye, Chuck Rann (Patsy), Gene Ray, Lyman Smith (Becky), and David Wellons (Jane), Larry White (Nance).

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 7:00 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, Emil Decker whose topic was "Marquis de Lafayette". Emil is currently the President of the Robert Forsyth Chapter of the SAR, editor of the Chapter's "The Marshall" Newsletter, editor of the Georgia SAR State "Hornets Nest" Newsletter, and a member of the GSSAR Color Guard. He has been the Editor of multiple newsletters, he does public speaking, and he participates at Revolutionary War events.

Emil's talk about Marquis de Lafayette was both educational and very entertaining. He was truly an American hero and very worthy of all of the accolades bestowed upon him. He lived an exciting life and made countless contributions in his 77 years.....particularly in America!

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

CHAPTER BUSINESS:

Treasurer's Report:

The Chapter Treasurer Bill Floyd reported we continue to have positive balance identical to the previous month as no deposits or disbursements occurred. He received checks for dues and donation to the Fellows fund at the meeting.

Registrar's Report: Registrar Tom Hewett confirmed Lyman Smith's membership approval and advised that Matt Cohen's (present) application would be sent to State this week. Tom Loftis' (present) application is still being worked on.

President's comments:

- First – President David Wellons welcomed our newest member, Lyman Smith (wife Becky). His application was approved by National after our September meeting but the paperwork and certificate has not yet arrived. Therefore, Lyman will be inducted at our next meeting, Nov 14, 2023.
- We held a flag certificate presentation ceremony Friday September 29 at Semper Fi Bar and Grille in Woodstock. Eight members were present, including Bill Floyd and Shep Hammack in uniform. See our award-winning website for photos and more information. Semper Fi was founded by two retired US Marines and is an extremely patriotic restaurant open to the public. I continue to encourage everyone to look for opportunities to present the flag certificates. Chuck Olson has a few opportunities associated with Sandy Springs.
- Tom Chrisman is working to confirm the police officer that will be selected for our 2023 Heroism Award (Community service opportunity). Tom reported that a candidate has been identified and the plan is to invite him to a meeting and make the presentation of certificate in Jan.
- Our new sound system is in use tonight. I'd like to acknowledge Chuck Rann's efforts, diligence, and investigation into the best solution for us. And we are enjoying that tonight. Huzzah Chuck!
- Reminder that our annual banquet is Feb 3 2024 at Olde Towne Athletic Club on Johnson Ferry Road in Marietta. More details to follow. We look forward to everyone attending.
- Wreaths across America.org/GA0057. We are making a big effort to contribute wreaths to this annual effort. Chuck Rann and Bill Floyd are handling the arrangements. Cost is \$17 for one, \$34 for two, and ordering 2 gets one additional wreath for free. Please consider donating to this cause on line using the web code, or by mailing a check to Bill Floyd.
- Tom Chrisman – Joint donation with local DAR. President Wellons requested an update. Tom reports that our donation to the Sandy Springs Veterans Park for a tree planting has been made and the tree has a prominent place in the park. Tom passed around pictures of results and it was indeed impressive.

Chapter Announcements:

IMPORTANT! Dues renewal for 2024 –Details covered in the program. Note deadline is Nov 30 to give us time to file all the reports with the state. We had originally offered to take a check at the Dec Chapter meeting, but due to our filing requirements have decided to make Nov 30 the last day to renew your membership. Members are encouraged to also donate to the Chapter’s Fellows Fund.

Nomination Committee: Our nominating committee (Shep Hammack, Bill Floyd, John Galt) will present a proposed slate of 2024 officers at our next meeting on November 14. The Chapter will vote on it at our December 12 meeting. We encourage all members to consider serving as an officer and if you are interested, please contact Shep, Tom, or John to discuss and be considered.

October Birthdays: Phillip Catalano, Denver Dunn, John Elwood, Tom Hewett, Lucas Nelson, Chris Payne, Bob Pile, Tom Robbins, Lyman Smith.

Activity Updates:

Next meeting date: The next Mt. Vernon Chapter meeting will be Tuesday, Nov 14, 2023 at 7:00 pm (fellowship time starts at 6:00 pm) at Vintage Pizzeria. Ham McDonald 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 8:00 pm by President David Wellons

Respectfully Submitted,
Warren McPhillips, Recording Secretary
October 12, 2023