

## Minutes of the November 14, 2023 Monthly Meeting Mount Vernon Chapter SAR

**Meeting Date:** November 14, 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 23 members and a combination of 13 guests/spouses. Among the guests were Matt Cohen, Mac Trotter, Tom Loftis, and Finley Baker (CAR). Members present were, Kevin Baker (Chandler), Wheeler Bryan (Anne), Tom Chrisman, Tony Crowe, Bill Floyd (Carey), John Galt, Larry Guzy, Shep Hammack (Montez), Tom Hewett, Tom Hughes, Sunny Lee, Richard McCrary (Katherine), Ham McDonald (Judy), Warren McPhillips, Chuck Olson, Bob Pile, Tom Pye, Chuck Rann, Gene Ray, Lyman Smith (Becky), Dave Tharp, John Wassell (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 7:00 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

**Honorarium Award:** Cynthia Waskowsky, representing the Martha Steward Bulloch DAR presented a check to President Wellons for our color guard duties for their meeting on Monday, Nov 13.

**Guest Speaker:** Chapter Vice President John Galt introduced our speaker, member Chuck Olson whose topic was "Why do Georgia courts do things in certain Ways, Because the British told us to". Chuck is the retired General Counsel of the Prosecution Attorneys' Council of Georgia where he trained and advised Georgia's prosecutors on ethics. He is also a published legal historian. He is a retired Army officer who served for 24 years and is active in Scouting.

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

**New Member Induction Ceremony:** President David Wellons inducted new member Lyman Smith. Lyman's wife Becky was present.

**2024 Officer Election Update:** Shep Hammack reported the proposed slate of officers for 2024. Voting will take place at the Dec 12 meeting. No other nominations were made during the meeting. The slate of officer nominations is:

**President—John Galt; Vice President—Tom Hewett; Recording Secretary—Kevin Baker; Corresponding Secretary—Chuck Rann; Treasurer—Bill Floyd; Registrar—Warren McPhillips; Genealogist—Tom Chrisman; Chancellor—Tom Pye; Sargeant at Arms—Sunny Lee; Chaplain—Gene Ray; Historian—Shep Hammack.**

## **CHAPTER BUSINESS:**

**Treasurer's Report:** The Chapter Treasurer Bill Floyd reported that as of Oct 31, 2023 we continue to have positive balance. The most significant expenses.....exclusive of dues to State and National..... for the month were the tree donation to Sandy Springs (\$) and the audio system (\$).

**Registrar's Report:** Registrar Tom Hewett advised that Matt Cohen's (present) application has passed through the Georgia registrar and on its way to National. The National list of membership has been "cleaned up". Pending names are now gone. New applications in the State are growing. Two Juniors are being reinstated. Tom is working on Tom Loftis' application with only a few minor clarifications to resolve.

**Wreathes Across America:** Chuck Rann reported that we received four checks with each checking purchasing two wreathes. Three wreathes will go to Marietta and three to Canton.

## **President's Remarks:**

- Flag Certificate: Sandy Springs Fire Department Station #2 on November 7, 2023. To Fire Chief Keith Sanders. Officials present included Sandy Springs Mayor Rusty Paul, and John Paulson, Mayor pro-tem and councilman of District 1, and Melissa Mular from District 3. Four Mount Vernon members were present – Vice President (and photographer) John Galt, Shep Hammack (in uniform), Chuck Olson, and David Wellons. This is our 3<sup>rd</sup> Flag Certificate in 2023, we have 2 more scheduled with Sandy Springs, and the potential for 1 or 2 more fire stations. I continue to encourage everyone to look for opportunities to present the flag certificates.
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- The Chapter also participated Nov 10 in the Sandy Springs Veteran's program that included an indoor program, dedication of outside park, and a Marine Corp birthday party. President Wellons showed several photographs of the event.....even the shot that was included on TV!
- Dr. Tom Hewett, Mount Vernon Registrar was honored yesterday by the Martha Stewart Bullock DAR chapter by presentation of a certificate and pin for his military service during the Vietnam War. This award – labeled "A lasting memento of the Nation's thanks" is awarded to any branch member who was active during the years of the Vietnam War, regardless of location of service. Congratulations, Tom!
- Tom Chrisman gave an update on the dedication of our tree in the Sandy Springs' Veterans Park. Our tree is in prominent spot within the park. Tom showed several impressive pictures and drawings of the site. Once the plaque is in place there will be an additional presentation conducted and notice will be given.
- Kevin Baker advised that Mt Vernon Chapter was represented in the recent Flags Across Roswell event.

## **Chapter Announcements:**

**IMPORTANT! Dues renewal for 2024** –Deadline this month. See our Chapter Messages section on our website for the 2024 Dues renewal form and information. The 2024 dues amount is \$95. The deadline is November 30<sup>th</sup>. Late registrations will incur a reinstatement process and fee. Members are encouraged to also donate to the Chapter's Fellows Fund.

**Vote on Bylaws:** Voting will be held at the Dec. 12, 2023 Chapter meeting.

**November Birthdays:** Kevin Baker, James Brackey, Wheeler Brian, Tom Chrisman, Ross Glover, Shep Hammack, Don Hart, Ernest Moncrief, Bill Murray, Tom Pye, Alan Redding, and Walker Robitscher.

**Activity Updates:**

**Next meeting date:** The next Mt. Vernon Chapter meeting will be Tuesday, December 12, 2023 at 7:00 pm (fellowship time starts at 6:00 pm) at Vintage Pizzeria. Speaker Bill Kabel will speak and his topic will be "A Revolutionary Christmas"

**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.

**Chapter Awards:** Shep Hammack presented to Ham McDonald two streamers that were awarded to the Chapter. One was a President General's Education streamer and the other one is a Revolutionary War Grave Marking certificate with Gold Star.

**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 8:07pm by President David Wellons

Respectfully Submitted,  
Warren McPhillips, Recording Secretary  
November 16, 2023