

MINNESOTA SOCIETY S.A.R. 131st ANNUAL MEETING

11 January 2020 The Jax Café

11:00 a.m. Minneapolis, MN

In attendance: Allison, Bodeau, Bursch, Croonquist, Foster, J., Galles, George, Hagen, Harris, Tim, Harris Tom, Hawley, Howey, Huttner, Johnson, Jones, Kalos M., Kalos T., Kelly, McRoberts, R., Moberg, Neese, Sassaman, J., Shaffer, P., Shaffer, T., Smith, Rick, Sullivan, Swisher, Thompson, Walters, W.L., Wesman and Whiting. (31 members).

The Society was called to order by President Dennis Croonquist who led the Pledge to the US flag and read the Pledge to the SAR. Chaplain Swisher gave the Invocation. The Minnesota Society was then recessed and the Saint Paul and Minneapolis Chapters conducted their business.

With the quorum established business ensued, and the minutes of the Annual Meeting of 12 January 2019 were accepted as summarized in The SAR Salute Winter 2019 Issue. Secretary-Treasurer Jones reported on membership. We started 2019 with 238 members (plus 6 dual members). In 2019 there were 26 new members, 2 deaths, and 2 resignations. This brings the year-end total to 260 (plus the 6 Dual Members). There are 21 unpaid members as of his date and the annual report will be filed within 7-10 days, with the unpaid dropped if still remaining unpaid. Jones covered the age of our members and the seniority in registration date as well. Certificates and rosettes were presented to new members Thomas and Peter Shaffer, William Lamar Walters, and Richard Howey. Rosettes were presented to Michael and Tristan Kalos. Other new member certificates were or will be mailed.

Comp. Jones displayed a certificate and medal for the Lafayette Volunteer Medal that has been awarded to Ethan Read by the NSSAR. Comp Read was not in attendance. He will be contacted and it will either be mailed to him now or presented at the February Meeting per his choice.

Comp. Jones presented the Annual Financial Report, which is attached hereto and made a part of these minutes. It showed net assets of \$45,713.32 as of 31 December 2019. He then presented the report of the MNSAR Endowment Trust, which is also attached. Donations to Principal during 2019 were \$4,523.00. The Principal as of 31 December 2019 totaled \$48,342.33. The Trustees proposed that the 2019 interest of \$788.56 be used to pay the following donation items: MN Genealogical Society \$50.00 and the balance of \$738.56 to the MNSAR for the Veteran's Medal project.

Comp. Tom Harris reported for the Audit Committee, report attached, indicating all was in order. Motion was passed approving the financial reports, proposed expenditure of interest, and the audit report.

Comp. Jones showed a two-volume set of books done by a man from New Ulm, who had not been a member. They were a gift from our MNSAR Librarian, Steve Vescelus, for the benefit of the MNSAR Endowment Trust Fund. It was decided to donate the books to the MN Genealogical Society, and a collection was taken for our Endowment Fund which produced \$270.00 from those in attendance.

Comp Rick Smith reported as chair for the Eagle Scout Program. The program continues strongly in place.

Comp. Hagen reported on the ROTC Medal program. Letters have already been mailed to the 12 JROTC units and the 7 ROTC units in Minnesota.

Comp Sullivan, Vice-Commander of the MNSAR Color Guard, presented the report on the MNSAR Color Guard. A hat cockade of society colors was created and produced so as to give the color guard specific identity connection to the SAR. He spoke of the group's activities in schools and parades, etc.

COL McRoberts reported on the Veteran's Medal Project. A large number were presented at the February 2019 meeting and those eligible continue to present documentation. More will be presented at the February 2020 meeting.

Comp. Thomas Harris reported for the Budget Committee, with the report attached. It was approved by motion.

Comp. McRoberts presented the Nominating Committee report, which is attached. Comp. Jones indicated he wished to step down from his Trustee position which ends in 2022 and nominated McRoberts to fill that term. That would place Jones in the Past Presidents column instead of being in the officer listing. With these changes, upon motion the slate was elected unanimously. The Nominating Committee has not resolved the matter of the office of Secretary-Treasurer of the Minnesota Society. Comp. Jones had given his resignation one year ago to be effective on this day, 11 Jan 2020. In light of that situation, Comp Jones has indicated that he will accept appointment for seven weeks ending 29 February 2020 as the Interim Secretary-Treasurer. The matter must be resolved for the good of the Society.

Vice President General Moberg spoke on the George Washington Fellow program at NSSAR, citing a banner and brochures with details.

The officers of the Minnesota Society, the Minneapolis Chapter, and the Saint Paul Chapter were installed by Comp. Jones.

Luncheon had been served during the business, with each ordering from the menu and handling his own check. The date of the next meeting, our Washington Day Celebration, is Saturday, 15 February 2020, at Jax Café. With no further business appearing, President Croonquist declared the annual meetings of the Minnesota Society, Minneapolis Chapter, and Saint Paul Chapter adjourned at 1:20p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John Hallberg Jones,

Interim Secretary-Treasurer

Minnesota Society, Sons of the American Revolution 2020 Membership Report

Membership statistics for the Society for year 2020 followed the trend for recent years with many more new members than losses. Membership on 01 January 2020 was 257 and on 31 December was 279. Registrations were recorded for 23 new members with 8 pending as of 31 December. In addition, two reinstatements were recorded, but there were no transfers in. Losses included 4 deaths, 1 transfer out, and 12 subject to being dropped due to non-payment of fees.

The median age of members was 60 years, 3 months (Figure 1), with five members age 90 years or greater: Richard Brink, LTC Allen Shepersky, Bernard Barton, Robert Dunlop, and Hon. David Bouschor.

The median length of membership was 8 years, 2 months (Figure 2), with three members with 50 years or more of membership: Phil Dixon, John Hallberg Jones, and Lyle Ehmke. The number of members with fewer than 10 years of membership reflects the recent trend of increasing applications.

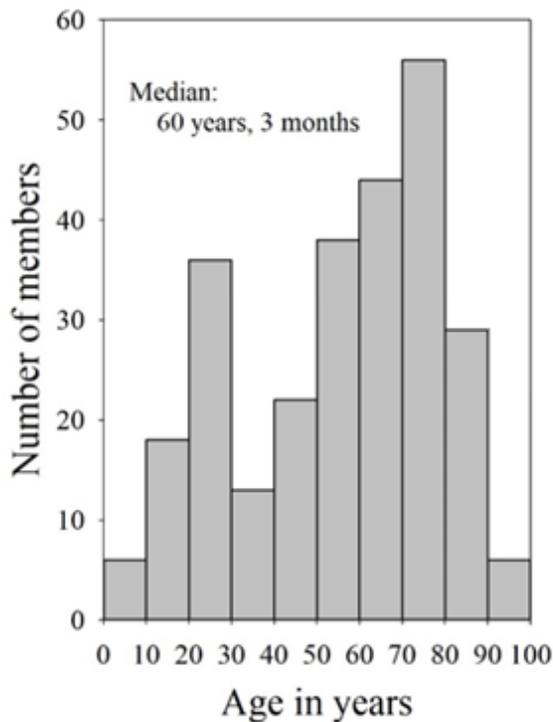


Figure 1. Member age.

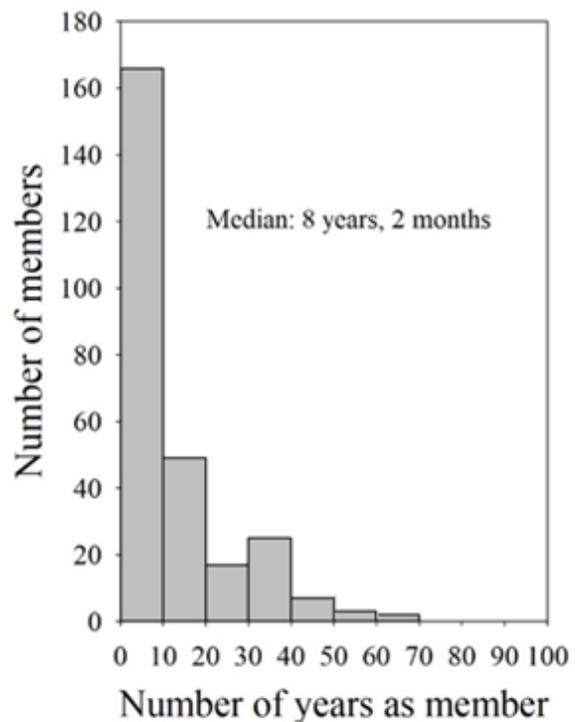


Figure 2. Length of membership.

The distribution of ages at membership was quite broad with an increasing number joining at less than 20 years old, but also a few joining age more than 80 years (Figure 3).

Finally, once again, the Minnesota Society led the National Society in the percentage of Life Members with 27.92% (Figure 4)

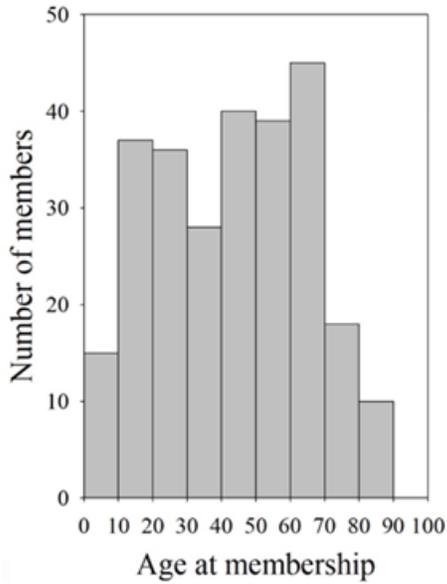


Figure 3. Age at membership.

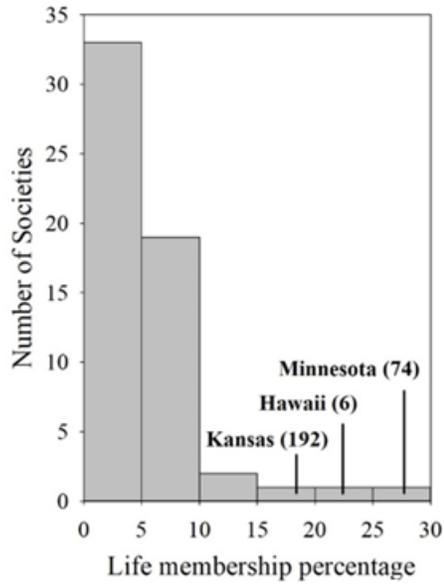


Figure 4. Life membership percentage by State Society

MINNESOTA SOCIETY S.A.R.

AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORT

We, the undersigned members of the Audit Committee of the Minnesota Society S.A.R., have examined the books and records of the Society and find that they are correct and fairly represent the financial status of the Chapter for the year 2020.

Dated this 10th day of January 2021.

1. Timothy Harris

2. Thomas Harris

Sons of the American Revolution Minnesota Chapter ROTC Awards Annual Report 2020

Each year, the Sons of the American Revolution Minnesota Chapter (MN SAR) awards silver medals and certificates to ROTC (college) cadets and bronze medals and certificates to JROTC (high school) cadets chosen by their respective units. However, as with many annual programs and events in 2020, the MN SAR ROTC program was quite different due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Usually, MN SAR compatriot volunteers present the certificates and medals in person at annual awards ceremonies scheduled by the ROTC and JROTC units. None of these ceremonies occurred in 2020.

In 2020, the ROTC and JROTC units that chose to present SAR awards did so virtually. These awards were all mailed to the various units. In 2020, all seven ROTC unit chose to present the MN SAR ROTC silver medals and certificates to one of their cadets. However, only nine of the twelve JROTC units chose to present MN SAR ROTC bronze medals and certificates to their cadets.

All of the costs for purchasing the medals and certificates from the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, having the medals engraved, and mailing the medals and certificates to the respective ROTC and JROTC units was paid by the Ladd Trust. MN SAR incurred no costs for this program. Unlike past years though, no revenues accrued to the society, because there was no mileage to expense for in person presentations due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

SAR Eagle Contest 2020 report

Richard Smith, MNSAR Eagle Chair

2020 Winners:

- Jerome Hilegmann
- Earl Foster
- Blake Madison

The MNSAR Eagle Contest Committee judged the winners last year. These compatriots included Richard Howley, Thomas Shaffer, and Craig Whiting.

For the 2021 contest, marketing focus was social media presence. This began with an article on 2021 contest on our web site. The article was shared on Facebook. To follow up, I posted the article to every council Twitter feed in Minnesota. Then I contacted each council and asked them particularly to post our contest information on their internal social media feeds. Northern Star Council also added our contest to the Eagle Scholarship on their web site.

The results were disappointing. There were only 56 visits to our web page article, and approximately a dozen to other contest-related pages on the site.

As of the deadline on 15 January, we received exactly one contest application: from Jerome Hilgemann, our first-place winner last year.

I still think social media is the right way to reach our audience, but we need to find more effective ways to do this.

MN NSSAR Color Guard Report for January 16, 2021

Compatriots,

Due to the pandemic, our Color Guard has suspended all event-related activity until such a time that it is considered safe to do so. In 2020, we had to cancel the traditional 4th of July Pancake Breakfast event, turn away requests to post colors for the DAR, and sideline our education program in schools.

The good news is that we added a few new members to our ranks, which I find very promising! We still have two uniforms gifted to our society that are available if anyone is interested in joining!

One reason we are interested in growing our Color Guard Squad is that on July 4th 2026, our nation will be celebrating it's 250th year as a nation! We can thank Compatriot Craig Whiting for calling attention to this important date! I know it seems like five years is a long way off, but if we start planning now, we will be in a better position to participate in this once-in-a-lifetime event! We will need to coordinate with the DAR, CAR and perhaps other civic and military organizations in creating a task force for a major memorial for Minnesota. If any of you would like to assist, please contact me personally. You do not have to have a uniform to help us out!

-Steven J. Hyde – Color Guard Commander

Bylaws Revision

Be it resolved that the articles of incorporation and the bylaws of the Minnesota Society of the Sons of the American Revolution be amended as follows. The language indicated by strike through is to be deleted and language underscored is to be added.

Article IV. Officers.

The officers of this society are elected by the membership and include a President, a Vice President, up to six Honorary Vice Presidents, a Recording Secretary, a Corresponding Secretary, a Treasurer, a Registrar, a Chancellor, a Chaplain, a Genealogist, a Surgeon, an Historian, a Librarian, an Assistant Registrar, and a Sergeant-at-arms.

Any two offices, other than President and Recording Secretary or Vice President and Recording Secretary, may be held by the same person. No person shall hold the office of President for more than two consecutive terms. All officers shall hold their offices for the term one year or until their successors are elected and qualified. In the event of a vacancy occurring in any office except that of President, the vacancy may be filled by the Board of Managers for the unexpired term and until the election of officers at next annual meeting.

Section 8. The Recording Secretary and the Corresponding Secretary.

(a). The Recording Secretary shall take the minutes and keep the records of all meetings of the Society, the Board of Managers, and the Executive Committee and shall have custody of all records of the Society not placed in the charge of other officers.

(b). Under the direction of the President or the acting president ~~the Corresponding Secretary shall give notice of the time and place of all meetings of the Society, the Board of Managers, and the Executive Committee, and shall keep the minutes and records of all meetings.~~ He shall purchase or authorize the purchase of all supplies and shall approve all bills for payment. In the event of the inability of the Treasurer to sign cheques on behalf of the society, the Corresponding Secretary may do so in his individual name.

Executive Committee.

Section 20. There shall be an Executive Committee of the Board of Managers composed of the President, the Vice President, the Recording Secretary, the Treasurer, the Registrar, and the Chancellor. The Executive Committee shall be subject to the call of the President at any time and shall carry on the policies and duties of the Board of Managers, ~~including passing upon membership applications,~~ between meetings of the Board. A quorum of the Executive Committee shall be ~~two~~ three members, provided that all members have been convoked. The Executive Committee may meet by teleconference and take action by unanimous written action, which shall become effective when approved by the last member to approve it.

In Section 1. Applications for Membership, Section 7 President, and Section 18. Treasurer where the word Secretary appears, the word Corresponding to be added before it.

MINNESOTA SOCIETY S.A.R. NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT FOR 16 JANUARY 2021

Proposed and nominated for 2021 Officers:

President:	Christopher Willard Moberg
Vice President:	Steven James Hyde
Corresponding Secretary:	COL Ronald E. McRoberts, P.P.
Recording Secretary:	Duane L.C.M. Galles, PP
Treasurer:	Richard Eugene Smith
Genealogist/Registrar:	John Charles Sassaman, P.P.
Chancellor:	Brendan Robert Tupa, J.D.
Historian/Newsletter Editor:	Timothy Charles Harris, P.P.
Librarian:	Stephen John Vescelus
Surgeon:	George Floyd Smith, M.D.
Chaplain:	Michael Scott Swisher, P.P.
Sergeant-at-Arms:	Thomas Christopher Harris

Past Presidents are automatically members of the Board of Managers. Those not named above are:

Geoffrey Robert Bodeau, M.D.	Hon. David Sinclair Bouschor
Dennis Garvin Croonquist	William Leslie DeCoursey
James Fredrick Foster	Duane L. C. M. Galles, Ph.D.
John Hallberg Jones	COL Ronald Edward McRoberts
John Charles Sassaman	Larry Wray Sisk
Hon. Paul Kent Theisen	Buford Allen Young

Board of Managers: (up to 20 members in addition to the above)

Robert Wayne Ginger Hooker Allison	Charles Edward Boyles
Tracy Ashley Crocker	David Adriance Foster
Jay Thomas W. Franklin	James Everett Hagen
Marvin Lane Jansma	Hon. William Raymond Johnson
Larry Allan Lundblad, Ph.D.	John David McCallum
Robert Arthur Minish	Christopher Willard Moberg
Thomas Truxtun Morrison	Randall Roger Nelson
Christopher John Pizinger	Aaron Hale Printup
LTC Allen Dean Shepersky	Rehn Douglas Smith
Kevin Everett Sullivan	Stephen Paul Thompson

S.A.R. Endowment Trust Fund: (three-year terms)

Trustee ending January 2022:	COL Ronald Edward McRoberts, P.P.
Trustee ending January 2023:	Duane L. C. M. Galles, P.P.
Trustee ending January 2024:	Michael Scott Swisher, P.P.

Nominated for election at the NSSAR National Congress in Renton, WA, in July 2021

National Trustee for Minnesota:	Duane L. C. M. Galles, Ph.D.
Alternate National Trustee for MN:	Christopher Willard Moberg

Respectfully submitted,

COL Ronald E. McRoberts, P.P.

Timothy C. Harris, P.P.

Thomas C. Harris