

The source for this Las Cruces Chapter History comes from chapter minutes maintained by the then Chapter Secretary: Colonel John A. Smith, USA-Retired

1990

A computer printout dated 21 April 1990 showed that the following had paid their 1990 dues: Rembert C. Alley, CAPT Walter F. Baker, COL James R. Calhoun, LCDR Russell L. Camp, Rev. Charles G. de Vries, Dr. David W. Francis, Victor L. Gallivan Jr., Charles L. Ganong, Lee W. Hemck Jr., Marshall S. Hester. Dr. Gregory E. Johnson (State and National only), William D. Leigon, Mike D. Merrill, Ralph G. Merrill III, Steve E. Merrill, CW4 Ted D. Merrill, Joseph S. Miller, COL Donald R. Perkins, Frank S. Perkins, William C. Riley, Eric R. A. Seifert, Thomas B. Sheldon Jr., George N. Sells, David J. G. Seifert, and Steven W. Wamel (State and National only) (total of 25).

In a letter of 17 January 1990 to the State Society, CAPT Baker reported that the following ROTC awards had been made in 1989 to the indicated cadets:

New Mexico State University Army ROTC: Larry L. Trujillo;
New Mexico State University Air Force ROTC: Juan Ruiz;
New Mexico Military Institute Army ROTC: Joseph A. Ostrowski and Charles A. Butler
Mayfield High School Air Force Junior ROTC: Rowan A. Russell
Gadsden High School Navy Junior ROTC: Albert Raymond.

The Chapter held its regular luncheon meeting at Good Samaritan Village on 20 January 1990, with Compatriots Alley, Baker, Camp, Francis, Ganong, Herrick, Miller, and Sheldon present. The slate of officers proposed by the Nominating Committee was unanimously elected. The President reported that he, Russ Camp, and Joe Miller were a committee to revise the by-laws. Other business was routine.

The annual meeting for installation of officers was held at the Las Cruces Hilton on 10 February 1990. The dinner meeting was attended by the following Compatriots and wives: Mr. and Mrs. Alley, CAPT and Mrs. Baker, LCDR and Mrs. Camp, COL and Mrs. Calhoun, Dr and Mrs. Francis, Mr. and Mrs. Ganong, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Merrill, Mr. and Mrs. Ted Merrill, Mr. and Mrs. Miller, Mr. and Mrs. Sells, and Mr. and Mrs. Sheldon. representatives were Mr. and Mrs. Nusom and Mrs. Goldsmith. Guests were: Dr. and Mrs. Law, Mr. Robert Francis, Mr. and Mrs. Price, Dr. and Mrs. Carter, and Mrs. Joseph Kramer. Mr. Ganong gave a review of the history of the Las Cruces Chapter, concentrating on the formative period. Mr. Sells, Regional Vice President, spoke of his activities at National Trustees' meetings and as escort to the President General. COL Calhoun presented to Mrs. Kramer her husband's membership certificate, her husband having died before the certificate arrived. COL Calhoun then spoke about the National Society and its small headquarters staff. After remarks by the outgoing President, Mr. Alley, COL Calhoun installed the new officers. The incoming President, CAPT Baker, made appropriate remarks and presented Mr. Alley with a Past Presidents pin.

The new officers were reported to the State and National Societies by a letter of 13 February 1990, as follows: CAPT Walter F. Baker, President; Dr. David W. Francis, Vice President; Secretary, Mr. Joseph S. Miller, Treasurer, CW4 Ted D. Merrill; and Chaplain

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Charles G. de Vries (LCDR Camp to serve with Father de Vries was on temporary assignment to St. Kitts).

An 8 March 1990 card from National acknowledged participation by LCDR Camp in the Centennial Bookplate Program. He had previously contributed in 1988.

The 17 March 1990 luncheon meeting was held at Good Samaritan Village and was attended by Compatriots Alley, Baker, Camp, Francis, Hester, Ted Merrill, and Miller. The main business of the meeting was discussion of the Presidents plans for the year, to include ROTC awards; selection of committee chairmen; participation in Memorial Day, Flag Day, and Fourth of July events; and the Eagle Scout program. It was noted that the Chapter had three life members: Baker, Camp, and T. Merrill.

In the 1989 files was a document titled General Duties and Responsibilities of All Officers and Committee Chairmen of the Las Cruces Chapter of the S. A. R. (excerpted from the Constitution and By-Laws of the Las Cruces Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution). However, no copy of the entire Constitution and By-Laws appear to be available.

The Constitution and By-Laws Committee (Compatriots Ganong, Camp, and Baker present) met on 16 April 1990.

The 21 April 1990 luncheon meeting was held at the Good Samaritan Village. Present were Compatriots Alley, Baker, Camp, Francis, Leigon, Ted Merrill, and Miller. Discussions involved treatment of inactive members (to be kept track of for a year); balance in the checking account of \$218.08; procedures for billing and payment of dues (to be handled directly by the Chapter); and problems with life memberships. It was decided to check on the cost of new flagstuffs for parading and to purchase them if feasible. The President reported that the following had been appointed to State committees: Membership: Alley and Camp; Public Relations: Ganong; and ROTC: Baker.

The Chapter held its May meeting at the White Sands Missile Range Officers' Club on 19 May 1990. Members and wives present were: Mr. and Mrs. Alley, CAPT Baker, LCDR and Mrs. Camp, Dr. and Mrs. Francis, Mr. and Mrs. Ganong, and Mrs. and Mrs. Miller. Guests were Dr. and Mrs. McCahon and Mr. and Mrs. Paul Cantrell. Dr. McCahon gave an interesting talk on the Bataan Death March which he had survived. The President reported that all ROTC awards had been made; that research was being done into the paperwork for the Eagle Scout program; that a proposed constitution had been prepared but that the by-laws were not yet ready; and that all preparations for Memorial Day and Flag Day were in hand. Charles Ganong noted that he was working on the Chapter history. Russ Camp reported that work was progressing on three applications: Paul Cantrell, Nelson Holden, and Philip Wiesner. The President also reported on State and National meetings to be held in the near future, emphasizing the 100th Congress on 16-20 June 1990. Compatriots Alley and Camp placed flags on the graves of nine veterans in the Old Woodmen of the World (Odd Fellows) Cemetery on 29 May 1990.

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The Chapter's 16 June 1990 luncheon meeting was held at the Good Samaritan Village jointly with the DAR to celebrate Flag Day. SAR members and wives present were: Mr. and Mrs. Alley, LCDR and Mrs. Camp, Dr. and Mrs. Francis, Mr. and Mrs. Ganong, Mr. and Mrs. Leigon, and Mr. and Mrs. Miller. The DAR was represented by 16 people, including Mrs. Leigon and guests Mr. and Mrs. Lester Heizman. Mrs. Blanche Goldsmith introduced the members and guests and Dr. Francis introduced the SAR members and wives. The group then adjourned to the Good Samaritan auditorium for a showing of a tape on the SAR's first 100 years.

The Chapter applied for a booth at the City of Las Cruces' Fourth of July celebration, but it is unknown whether the Chapter actually participated.

An undated letter from State asked for a list of medals and awards (except ROTC) given by the Chapter to date. The Secretary replied on 9 July 1990 listing the three recipients of the Law Enforcement Award (R. J. Axtell, Cooney Sarracino, and James A. Nelson).

The Chapter began its fall activities with a luncheon meeting at the Good Samaritan Village on 15 September 1990. Members present were: Baker, de Vries, Francis, Ganong, Leigon, Ted Merrill, and Miller. Guests were State President and Mrs. Jolly. CAPT Baker reported that the By-Laws Committee had the proposed Constitution prepared: but that the By-Laws were still being worked on. Compatriot Jolly reported on the 100th SAR Congress and on the various programs of the State Society. He noted that the State Society was working on a State life membership.

A barbeque was held at the home of CAPT and Mrs. Baker on 20 October 1990. Those present were CAPT and Mrs. Baker, LCDR Camp, Rev, and Mrs. de Vries, Dr. Francis, Mr. and Mrs. Ganong, Mr. Miller, and Mr. Sheldon. President Baker reported on the State Board of Managers' meeting which he attended in Albuquerque. CAPT Baker then reviewed the activities scheduled for Veterans' Day.

The last Chapter meeting of 1990 was held at Good Samaritan Village at noon on 17 November 1990. Those present were Compatriots Baker, Francis, Ganong, Hester, Steve Merrill, Ted Merrill, and Miller. Guests were: Mr. Nelson M. Holden, Jr.; Mr. Philip Wiesner, and Jacob Kuit and Dulcinea Candelaria from Zia Middle School is Mesilla Park, New Mexico. Jacob and Dulcinea read papers they had written for a Zia Middle School class on the subject 'What Veterans' Day Means to Me.' The subject of raising the Chapter dues to \$10 was discussed, but was eventually tabled until the next meeting. The President appointed Charles Ganong as chairman of the nominating committee, with Rembert Alley and Marshall Hester as members. It was noted that the Veterans' Day activities had gone well. CAPT Baker and LCDR Camp attended the State meeting on 15 November 1990, a most impressive ceremony. Discussion followed on the presentation of a Law Enforcement Award at the Washington's Birthday meeting.

1991

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On 4 January 1991, National approved the applications of Nelson Miles Holden, Jr., and Edwin Philip Wiesner.

The Chapter held its first meeting of 1991 at the Good Samaritan Village on 26 January 1991. Compatriots present at the luncheon were: Alley, Baker, Camp, de Vries, Francis, Ganong, Hester, Holden, Ralph Merrill, Steven Merrill, Ted Merrill, Miller, and Wiesner. CAPT Baker noted that he had sent his ROTC report to State and that the Eagle Scout program was on schedule. The proposal to increase Chapter dues to \$10 was taken from the table and passed unanimously after the Treasurer noted that the balance in the checking account was very low. The officers proposed by the Nominating Committee were elected, as follows: President, Dr. Francis; Vice President, Ted Merrill; Treasurer, Ralph Merrill; and Chaplain, Rev. de Vries. CAPT Baker noted that he had a name from the Border Patrol for the Law Enforcement Award. After a question concerning State lifetime membership from Ted Merrill, CAPT Baker reported that this was under consideration by the State Society. The new officers were reported to National and State in a letter of 28 January 1991.

A roster dated 11 February 1991 showed the following as Chapter members: Alley, Baker, Calhoun, Camp, de Vries, Francis, Gallivan, Ganong, Herrick, Hester, Holden, Leigon, Mike Merrill, Ralph Merrill, Steve Merrill, Ted Merrill, Miller, Donald Perkins, Frank Perkins, Riley, David J. G. Seifert, Eric R A Seifert, Sells, Sheldon, and Wiesner.

The annual George Washington's Birthday dinner was held at the Las Cruces Hilton on 23 February 1991. A total of 33 people were present, including members and guests. CAPT Baker reported on his tenure as President, particularly lauding the Eagle Scout and ROTC programs. CAPT Baker then presented the following medals: The Eagle Scout Award to Brian Thrash, the Law Enforcement Medal to Kevin Thatcher of the U. S. Border Patrol for his efforts in drug enforcement and apprehension, and a Bronze Good Citizenship Medal to Compatriot Russell Camp. National Trustee George Sells then presented his certificate of membership to E. Philip Wiesner and Meritorious Service Medals to the four Past Presidents of the Chapter, Thomas Sheldon, Russell L. Camp, Charles Ganong, and Rembert C. Alley, and retiring President Walter F. Baker. Compatriot Sells then swore in the new officers. CAPT Baker thanked the officers and committee members for their efforts during the past year and turned the gavel over to Dr. Francis, who presented CAPT Baker with a Past President pin.

The Chapter next met at a luncheon at Good Samaritan Village on 16 March 1991, with Compatriots Alley, Baker, Francis, Ganong, Leigon, Ralph Merrill, Steve Merrill, Ted Merrill, Sheldon and Wiesner present. The President presented a preliminary calendar of events and proposed committee assignments for the Membership/Genealogy, Finance, Program, Publicity, By-Laws, Historical, American History, Patriotic Affairs, Washington's Birthday, Calling, and Nominating Committees. In view of the limited resources of the Chapter, members present donated \$10 for a total of \$100. Continuation of the ROTC and Eagle Scout programs was approved. President Francis and Compatriot Alley represented the Chapter at the Naturalization Ceremony on 19 April 1991.

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The April meeting was a luncheon at the Good Samaritan Village on 20 April 1991, With Compatriots Alley, Baker, Camp, Francis, Hester, Holden, Ralph Merrill, Sheldon, and Wiesner present. The speaker was Ms. Phoebe Stages, head of the Las Cruces Family History Center Library, who discussed the resources of the Library and its connection with the Mormon Family History Center in Salt Lake City. Much of the meeting was devoted to a discussion of methods to reduce expenses, since the Treasurer estimated a balance of only \$40 at the end of the year. President Francis reported on a meeting of the El Paso Chapter and compared their activities with those of the Las Cruces Chapter.

On 18 May 1991, the Chapter met for lunch at the Good Samaritan Village, with Compatriots Alley, Camp, de Vries, Holden, and Miller present, with Mr. Robert Diven as a guest. Compatriot Camp gave a report on prospective members, Compatriot de Vries reported that work on Chapter by-laws was continuing, and Compatriot Camp said that he had made the ROTC presentations at the New Mexico Military Institute on 10 May 1991. Plans were discussed for Memorial Day and Flag Day and the Chapter voted not to participate in the Fourth of July activities at Young Park this year.

A 23 May 1991 letter from the Chapter Secretary to the State President noted several discrepancies in the pamphlet "An Introduction to the New Mexico Society of the Sons of the American Revolution." A 27 July 1991 letter from the State Society acknowledged the letter and indicated corrections would be made in a future issue.

Compatriots Francis, Holden, Camp, and de Vries participated in the Memorial Day ceremony at Hillcrest Cemetery on 27 May 1991.

The Flag Day luncheon was sponsored by the Dona Ana Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution and was held at Las Cruces Country Club on 14 June 1991. SAR members and wives present were: Mr. and Mrs. Alley, LCDR and Mrs. Camp, CAPT and Mrs. Baker, and Dr. and Mrs. Francis. Mrs. Nancy Gallivan presented a very interesting program on the making of the Flag. Prior to that meeting, Compatriots Alley, Camp, de Vries, Francis, Holden, and Wiesner had participated in the Flag Day ceremony at City Hall.

On 17 July 1991, National Headquarters approved membership for James Paul Kemp and Nicholas Marshall Camp Seifert. Prior to that time, National Headquarters had approved membership for Lynn Laverne Nusom, but the approval card is not present in the files.

Meetings resumed on 21 September 1991 with a luncheon at the Western Sizzler Steak House with Compatriots Alley, Baker, Camp, de Vries, Francis, Kemp, Mike Merrill, Ted Merrill, Miller, and Nusom present. The guest speaker, Dr. Jerome Brown, spoke on "The American Revolution: A British Perspective." The talk was well received and was followed by a discussion on current events in Europe. LCDR Camp reported on the status of the numerous SAR prospects. Rev. de Vries indicated he was revising the by-laws and would be sending a draft to committee members for their comments. The President said the Board of Managers had thanked LCDR Camp for revisions he had

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suggested in a letter of 23 May 1991 in the NM-SAR pamphlet. CAPT Baker moved that the Chapter present certificates to new citizens at the Naturalization ceremonies, but the motion died for lack of a second, since the Chapter has representation at the ceremonies. Other business was routine.

The 15 October 1991 Naturalization ceremonies were attended by Compatriots Alley, Francis, and Kemp.

The October meeting was held at noon at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Francis on 19 October 1991. Those present were: Mr. and Mrs. Alley, CAPT and Mrs. Baker, Dr. and Mrs. Francis, Mr. and Mrs. Leigon, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Merrill, Mr. Ted Merrill, Mr. and Mrs. Miller, Mr. and Mrs. Nusom, and Mr. Tom Sheldon. Guests were Ms. Phoebe Stages and Dr. Jerome Brown. The President noted that he and Rem Alley would place flags on veterans' graves on Veterans' Day and that four members (Alley, Francis, Holden, and Kemp) had attended the 15 October 1991 Naturalization ceremony. The President passed out to committee members copies of proposed by-laws prepared by Rev. de Vries. The Secretary reported that Albuquerque would take over awarding of ROTC medals to New Mexico Military Institute cadets. The New Mexico Society is still working on a state life membership program, but it was thought that the group is too small for an actuarially sound program.

The last meeting of 1991 was held at the Good Samaritan Village at noon on 16 November 1991, with Compatriots Camp, Francis, Kemp, Leigon, Miller, and Nusom present. The question of awarding a President's medal was discussed, but it was decided the subject needed more study. LCDR Camp reported for the Membership Committee, indicating several new prospects. The Chapter approved discontinuing presentation of a Law Enforcement Award. The following appointments were made: Nominating Committee: Rem Alley and Charles Ganong (Co-Chairmen), Walt Baker, and Tom Sheldon; Washington's Birthday, Rem Alley (Chairman), Bill Riley, and Phil Wiesner.

1992

Dr. Francis spoke to the Alamogordo Genealogical Society on 9 January 1992 on the Sons of the American Revolution.

The first 1992 Chapter meeting was held at the Good Samaritan Village on 18 January 1992. Members present were: Alley, Baker, Camp, de Vries, Francis, Hester, Holden, Kemp, Ralph Merrill, Miller, and Nusom. Guests present were: Paul Cantrell, Richard Smith, and Dr. Brad Blake. Dr. Blake gave an interesting talk on "Anthropology, Museums, and Education." The Treasurer reported that Compatriot Wiesner had returned his dues notice, saying that they dues were too high. Father de Vries noted that the proposed by-laws had been passed out to committee members, but had not yet been discussed. CAPT Baker reported that he was working on a set of procedures for the ROTC awards; there was also a discussion on whether the Eagle Scout awards should be pursued. The Nominating Committee proposed the following slate of officers: President, Charles de Vries; Vice President, Nelson Holden; Secretary, Joseph Miller; Treas-

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surer, Lynn Nusom; and Chaplain, Russell Camp. Ballots were cast by those present, to be supplemented by a mailing to those absent. It was agreed that the Law Enforcement Award would be reinstated.

On 31 January 1992, National Headquarters approved the membership of Richard Noll Smith, Sr.

The Washington's Birthday Dinner meeting was held at Eddie's on 15 February 1992. There were 43 persons attending, 15 members and 28 wives and guests. Guests included Honorary Regent Blanche Goldsmith, Mrs. Rose Green and her family, and Cheryl Thornburg of the Las Cruces Bulletin. Compatriots present were: Alley, Baker, Camp, de Vries, Francis, Herrick, Mike Merrill, Ralph Merrill, Steve Merrill, Ted Merrill, Miller, David Seifert, Sheldon, Kemp, and Nusom. The Chapter Secretary, Joseph Miller, gave a talk on George Washington as a private citizen. The President then gave the following report "The Chapter membership is growing and there are now 29 members. The financial condition is improved and our activities continue with representation at numerous public functions. During the past year there have been speakers at four meetings. Two members attended the April 1991 meeting of the El Paso Chapter. The President attended the State Society's Veterans' Day Dinner and, with Walter Baker, the State George Washington's Birthday Dinner. Photographing and cataloging the veterans' graves at the Odd Fellows Cemetery was completed. Clarification of the responsibilities for awards and other items has been completed with the help of State Vice President Murray Bacon. A manual of procedures is about completed and Charles de Vries and his committee have essentially completed the preparation of Chapter By-Laws. All in all it has been a good year. The President thanked the Chapter for its support." The Law Enforcement Award was then presented to Mrs. Rose Reed Green of the Dona Ana County Juvenile Detention Center. The Secretary reported that the slate of officers proposed by the Nominating Committee had been elected. The first Chapter President, Compatriot Sheldon, installed the officers and passed the gavel to the incoming President, who, in turn, presented a Past President's pin to Compatriot Francis.

On 19 March 1992, National Headquarters approved the members of Paul Bryan Cantrell

A regular meeting was held on 21 March 1992 at the Good Samaritan Village, with Compatriots Alley, Baker, de Vries, Francis, Ganong, Herrick, Holden, Kemp, Mike Merrill, Ralph Merrill, Ted Merrill, Miller, and Nusom attending. President de Vries reported that the proposed by-laws had been completed and that copies would be mailed to all Chapter members for comments. CAPT Baker reported on the ROTC program and Dave Francis on the Eagle Scout program; Dr. Francis volunteered to be a member of the State Eagle Scout Committee. Clarification was made of the role of State and National in these two programs. The Audit Committee reported that the committee had reviewed the record and found them to be accurate.

A 2 April 1992 roster showed the following members: Alley, Baker, Calhoun, Camp, Cantrell, de Vries, Francis, Gallivan, Ganong, Herrick, Hester, Holden, Kemp, Leigon,

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Mike Merrill, Ralph Merrill, Steve Merrill, Ted Merrill, Miller, Nusom, Riley, David Seifert, Eric Seifert, Nicholas Seifert, Sells, Sheldon, Smith. The following were listed as inactive in a roster of 19 April 1992: Johnson, Kramer (deceased), Donald Perkins, Frank Perkins, Wamel, Wiesner.

The 18 April 1992 meeting was held at the Good Samaritan Village with Compatriots Alley, Baker, Francis, Ganong, Hester, Holden, Kemp, and Smith present. Guests were Mr. Robert Lloyd and COL John Smith. COL Smith gave a presentation on the early history of U.S. intelligence organizations and answered a number of questions. Copies of the proposed by-laws, calendar, and committee assignments were passed out. CAPT Baker noted that the first ROTC award had been made and Dave Francis reported he was making good progress on the Eagle Scout program. Charles Ganong said that the Historical Committee was updating the chapter history and coordinating its work with the State Society.

Good Samaritan Village was the location of the 16 May 1992 meeting. Compatriots present were: Alley, Baker, Camp, Cantrell, de Vries, Francis, Holden, and Kemp. Dr. Bobby Rankin, Head of Animal and Range Science at the New Mexico State University, was a guest and gave a lecture, with slides on the history of Paraguay and the work he had done there. The main topic of the meeting was the consideration of the proposed by-laws and constitution. The draft was amended in several places; it is not clear whether the document as a whole was adopted after the amendments. Other business was routine.

Rem Alley and Dave Francis placed flags on veterans' graves at the Odd Fellows Cemetery on Memorial Day. Compatriots Francis and Holden participated in the Memorial Day program at Hillcrest Memorial Cemetery in Las Cruces.

The Chapter participated in the flag-raising ceremony at the Las Cruces City Hall on 14 June 1992. Attendees were Compatriots Baker, Kemp, de Vries, Cantrell and Camp.

In a letter of 17 June 1992 to the State Society, CAPT Baker reported on the following ROTC awards: New Mexico State University Army ROTC, Cadet Dale Woodhouse; New Mexico State University Air Force ROTC, Cadet Michael D. Reilly; Mayfield High School Air Force Junior ROTC, Cadet Quinton Hare; Gadsden High School Navy Junior ROTC, Cadet Mark Saenz. The joint Flag Day dinner with the DAR was held on 20 June 1992 at the Good Samaritan Village. A total of 27 people attended, including Compatriots Alley, Baker, Camp, de Vries, Francis, Herrick, Miller, and Nusom. Dr. Monroe Billington, Professor of History at the New Mexico State University, gave an interesting talk on the "Buffalo Soldiers," African-American troops that served in the West from 1866 to the end of the century. A potluck supper was held at the clubhouse at the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Holden on 18 July 1992. This was a social meeting, and no business was conducted.

After the summer recess, meetings resumed with a luncheon at the Good Samaritan Village on 12 September 1992, with Compatriots Alley, Camp, Cantrell, Francis, Herrick,

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Holden, Kemp, and Miller present. Mr. Willis Parsons, a member of the Southern New Mexico Genealogy Society and a volunteer librarian at the local Mormon Church Family History Library, talked on the aids that are available for tracing your family back to the Revolutionary War. Mr. Holden reported on a meeting of the Board of Governors held on 3 September 1992, at which the Board appointed J. Paul Kemp as a Second Vice President to assist during the absence of President de Vries in St. Kitts until February. The Chapter approved giving a Law Enforcement Award for the year.

A letter of 18 September 1992 from the Chapter Secretary to the State President protested a proposal discussed in the El Paso Times to permit noncitizens to vote. A letter of 23 September 1992 from the Chapter Secretary to the National Society endorsed the candidacy of Compatriot Sells for the position of National Historian.

The October meeting was held at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Francis on 24 October 1992. Members and wives present were: Mr. and Mrs. Alley, CAPT Baker, Mr. and Mrs. Cantrell, Dr. and Mrs. Francis, Mr. and Mrs. Herrick, Mr. Holden, Mr. and Mrs. Kemp, Mr. and Mrs. Miller, BS Mr. Sheldon. Guests were COL John Smith and Mr. Murray Bacon, Mr. Bacon being the State President. Mr. Bacon was accompanied by his sister, Mrs. Jean Louis. After routine business, Mr. Bacon brought the Chapter up to date on State activities; among other topics he discussed possible oration and essay contests.

On 11 November 1992, J. Paul Kemp and Nelson Holden attended the Veterans Day ceremony at Mesilla.

On 13 November 1992, J. Paul Kemp and LCDR Russell Camp attended a Naturalization Ceremony at the Harold J. Runnels Federal Building in Las Cruces.

The last regular meeting of the calendar year was held on 21 November 1992 at the Good Samaritan Village. Members present were: Alley, Baker, Camp, Cantrell, Francis, Hester, Kemp, and Miller, Guests were John Smith; Norman Kepler; and Pete Hampton, the Las Cruces Chief of Police. Chief Hampton talked on the effect of the new border crossing (at Santa Teresa, New Mexico) on law enforcement. Chief Hampton also discussed crime rates in Las Cruces. The Nominating Committee submitted the following slate of officers for 1993: President, Charles de Vries; 1st Vice President, Nelson Holden; 2nd Vice President, J. Paul Kemp; Secretary, Paul Cantrell; Treasurer, Lynn Nussom; and Chaplain, John Smith. The nominations were unanimously accepted. Dave Francis submitted an Eagle Scout report, noting that there would be three candidates for the award this year (John Eric Sletten, Christopher K. Wood, and Charles B. Wood). The Board of Governors met on 9 December 1992 to select a recipient for the Law Enforcement Award. The Board selected Officer Eugene Alvarez of the New Mexico State Police.

1993

National Headquarters approved the membership of Robert Malcolm Lloyd on 6 January 1993. The first Chapter meeting of the new calendar year was held at the Good Samaritan Village on 16 January 1993. Compatriots present were: Baker, Camp, Fran-

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cis, Holden, Kemp, Leigon, Miller, and Nusom. LCDR Camp reported a change in application requirements, which may require additional information in addition to that shown on SAR and OAR Approved Application papers. CAPT Baker noted that Compatriot Sells was interested in an award for displays of the American Flag; Wallace Chevrolet had been selected for the award because of the large flag that they display daily. Dr. Francis reported on the Eagle Scout program and that he had given out paperwork to nine Scouts this year. The Secretary reported that all ballots received had been marked in favor of the slate. Mr. Holden noted that John Smith could not serve as Chaplain, since his membership application had not yet been approved. Mr. Kemp reported on nominees for the Law Enforcement Award and noted that Officer Alvarez had been selected.

The George Washington's Birthday dinner was held on 20 February 1993 at Eddie's Bar and Gnu, Las Cruces. There were 34 members, wives, and guests presents. Guests included Mrs. Blanche Goldsmith, Honorary Regent, and Barbara Kemp, Marjorie Day, and Guylynn Nusom of the . Other guests included: Senior Patrolman and Mrs. Eugene Alvarez; Dr. Jeffrey Brown, Associate Dean of Arts and Sciences and Professor of History at New Mexico State University; Eagle Scout Christopher Karl Wood and his parents, Dr. and Mrs. Karl Wood; Mike and Tammy Armstrong of Wallace Motors; Cheryl Thornberg of the Las Cruces Bulletin; and Mr. Charles Beer, whose application was in process. After the meal, Dr. Brown spoke on George Washington: The Man and His Monument. CAPT Baker, State President, presented the SAR Americanism Award to Mike Armstrong of Wallace Motors. Dr. Francis presented the Chapter Eagle Scout Award to Chris Wood of Troop 177; arid CAPT Baker presented the State Eagle Scout Award to Chris. Mr. Kemp presented the Law Enforcement Award to Senior Patrolman Alvarez. Russ Camp was recognized for his many years of service as Chairman of the Membership Committee and Genealogist Joe Miller was recognized, in absentia, for his long and faithful service as Secretary. An Auditing Committee of Dave Francis and Paul Cantrell was appointed, Past President Russ Camp proceeded to install the officers for 1993: Charles de Vries, President; Nelson Holden, 1st Vice President; J. Paul Kemp, 2nd Vice President; Paul Cantrell, Secretary; Lynn Nusom, Treasurer; and Robert Lloyd, Chaplain. President de Vries then spoke on the subject Why is There an SAR?, stressing that the Chapter should promote patriotism.

The Chapter's March 1993 meeting was held at Good Samaritan Village at noon on 20 March 1993, with the following Compatriots in attendance: Alley, Cantrell, de Vries, Francis, Holden, Kemp, Lloyd, and Nusom. Copies of the calendar for 1993-4 were distributed. A motion that reservations made and not cancelled must be paid for and that members must pay for their guests was approved. Another motion that when new programs or awards are suggested that the sponsor must provide an outline of the purpose and expenses be submitted to the Board of Directors for their consideration was approved. Other business was routine.

A report from the Membership Chairman, LCDR Camp, of 7 April 1993, reported 3 active and 12 other prospects. On 17 April 1993, the Chapter met at luncheon at the Good Samaritan Village, with Compatriots Alley, Camp, Cantrell, Francis, Hester, Kemp, and

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Miller present. Guests were Charles Beer and Norman Keplar. David Francis mentioned the upcoming birthday of Compatriot Hester, who will be 90 years young. A bank balance of \$203.73 was reported. It was noted that an ROTC award would be presented by LCDR Camp at Mayfield High School that evening. Dr. Francis reported that 13 or 14 certificates had been presented in the Eagle Scout program this year (David R. Ayers, Jonathan C. James, Gregory M. Ohman, William C. Fry, Mitch White, Robert Hughes, Jason Shoberg, and Jared P. Tomlinson were among the Scouts). Compatriots Alley, Camp, Francis, and Miller gave talks about their patriot ancestors.

A roster of the Las Cruces Chapter, dated 21 April 1993, showed the following members: Alley, Baker, Calhoun, Camp, Cantrell, de Vries, Francis, Gallivan, Ganong, Herrick, Hester, Holden, Kemp, Leigon, Lloyd, Mike Merrill, Steve Merrill, Ted Merrill, Miller, Nusom, Riley, David Seifert, Eric Seifert, Nicholas Seifert, Sells, Sheldon, and Richard Smith.

On 4 May 1993, National Headquarters approved the membership application of Charles Leon Baker.

The State Society had their quarterly luncheon on 22 May 1993 at Eddie's Bar and Grill in Las Cruces. A large attendance included Compatriots Alley, Baker, Camp, Cantrell, Kemp, and Miller, and their wives. The Las Cruces Chapter did not conduct business. The guest speaker was COL Richard R. Walker, USA, Director, Army Material Test and Evaluation Directorate, U. S. Army White Sands Missile Range. Compatriot Joseph S. Miller was presented with the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal.

Compatriots Charles G. de Vries and David W. Francis represented the Chapter at Memorial Day ceremonies at Hillcrest Memorial Gardens, Las Cruces, on 31 May 1993.

A letter of 10 June 1993 to State from CAPT Baker indicated that the following cadets had received ROTC medals and certificates: Mayfield High School Air Force Junior ROTC: Cadet/Sgt Michael T. Moses; New Mexico State University Army ROTC: Cadet Tracie D. Johnson-Wagner; Gadsden High School Navy Junior ROTC: Cadet Ensign Miguel Antonio Betancourt; New Mexico State University Air Force ROTC: Cadet Eugenio J. Beltran.

The Chapter participated at the 14 June 1993 Flag Day ceremony at City Hall.

A joint meeting of Las Cruces Chapter and the Dona Ana Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution was hosted by the at Picacho Hills Country Club on 17 June 1992 to celebrate Flag Day. The Las Cruces Chapter did not conduct business.

The Chapter met for a picnic at the home of Compatriot and Mrs. Nelson Holden on 17 July 1993 for a social occasion. The Chapter did not conduct business.

On 29 July 1993, National Headquarters approved the membership application of Charles William Beer, and on 30 August 1993 that of John A. Smith.

The source for this Las Cruces Chapter History comes from chapter minutes maintained by the then Chapter Secretary: Colonel John A. Smith, USA-Retired

The fall season for the Chapter began with a meeting at the Good Samaritan Village on 18 September 1993. Compatriots in attendance were: Alley, Baker, Camp, Cantrell, de Vries, Francis, Herrick, Hester, Holden, Kemp, Lloyd, and Miller. Guests were Darren Hansen and the speaker, Dr. Evan Davies. Dr. Francis discussed the rules and regulations of SAR membership and CAPT Baker reported that the Las Cruces Chapter had been assigned a quota of three new members for the year. Mr. Kemp reported on the 14 June Flag Day ceremony and that three Chapter members had attended the last Naturalization ceremony CAPT Baker reported on the formation of the George Washington National Foundation Fund. Dr. Davies, the Archivist of the Episcopal Diocese of the Rio Grande, then spoke about our ancestors and the law dating back to the early 1700s in England.

The 16 October 1993 meeting was a luncheon at Good Samaritan Village, with Compatriots Alley, Beer, Camp, de Vries, Francis, Hester, Leigon, Miller, and Smith present. Guests were Ms. Karel Lee from St. Luke's Health Care Center in Las Cruces. Ms. Lee told about what St. Luke's did in providing health services to the homeless and indigent. Dr. Francis reported that the new national listing of members did not include patriots upon whom supplemental memberships were based; that the photocopies of applications of past members were not \$1.00 a page; and that the new lineage book would be available in Branigan Library. The President, Dr. de Vries, suggested that members begin to work on supplemental applications with visits to the Family History Library, Las Cruces and the El Paso Public Library.

The last meeting of the calendar year was held at the Good Samaritan Village on 20 November 1993. Members present were: Alley, Baker, Beer, Camp, Cantrell, de Vries, Francis, Herrick, Hester, Lloyd, Miller, and Smith. Guests were Mr. Tim Blevins, Joseph and Maria Reyes-Dorador, Mrs. Alley, Mrs. Francis, and Mr. Norman Kepler. Mr. Blevins of the New Mexico State University spoke on the "Durango Project," which involves the microfilming of the records of the Catholic Diocese of Mexico. The Diocese included territory as far north as Colorado and will eventually be a source of considerable genealogical material on New Mexico and surrounding areas, since, for example, all marriages at that time required the submission of detailed information to the Bishop of Durango. Mr. Blevins' presentation, accompanied by colorful slides, was very well-received. Mr. Alley reported that flags had been placed at the Old Odd Fellows' Cemetery on Veterans' Day. President de Vries noted that Dr. Francis had received two Supplementary Certificates for Stephan Francis and Elijah Burbank.

A letter from the National Eagle Scout Scholarship Chairman, mailed 6 December 1993, clarified the procedures for a Scout Council which covers the territory of more than one state or Chapter territory.

On 9 December 1993 the Nominating Committee, consisting of Compatriots Alley, Baker, and Francis, met and proposed the following slate for the 1994-5 year: President, Nelson Holden; 1st Vice President, Paul Kemp; 2nd Vice President, Paul Cantrell; Secretary, John Smith; Treasurer, Charles Beer; and Chaplain, Charles de Vries.

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1994

The January 1994 meeting of the Las Cruces Chapter was held at the Good Samaritan Village on 15 January 1994. Members present were: Alley, Beer, Camp, Cantrell, de Vries, Francis, Herrick, Hester, Kemp, and John Smith. President de Vries stated that he had received a videotape dealing with presenting the flag. Dr. Francis reported that he hoped that problems with obtaining names of Eagle Scouts from Yucca Council of the Boy Scouts had been solved. The slate of officers proposed by the Nominating Committee was approved. Mr. Kemp noted that no candidates had been proposed for the Law Enforcement Award, so that there would be no award for 1993.

On 8 February 1994, National Headquarters approved the membership of Norman Woodward Kepler.

The George Washington's Birthday dinner was held at the Picacho Hills Country Club on the evening of 19 February 1994. Members and spouses present were: Mr. and Mrs. Alley, Mr. Beer, Mr. and Mrs. Camp, Mr. and Mrs. Francis, Mr. and Mrs. Herrick, Mr. and Mrs. Kemp, Mr. and Mrs. Kepler, Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd, Mr. and Mrs. Miller, and Mr. John Smith. Guests were: Judge Garrett Burks, a retired District Judge; Mr. and Mrs. Robert Francis; and Ms. Blanche Goldsmith, Honorary Regent of the DAR. Judge Burks spoke on the theme Our Christian Heritage and the American Creed. An Audit Committee of Mr. Kemp and Mr. Cantrell was appointed. LCDR Camp then installed the officers elected at the January meeting: President, Nelson Holden (with Dr. Francis acting as proxy); 1st Vice President, J Paul Kemp; Secretary, John Smith; and Treasurer, Charles Beer. The 2d Vice President, Paul Cantrell, and Chaplain, Charles de Vries, were unavoidably absent.

A 3 March 1994 roster showed the following members: Alley, Charles Baker, Walter Baker, Beer, Calhoun, Camp, Cantrell, de Vries, Francis, Gallivan, Ganong, Herrick, Hester, Holden, Kemp, Kepler, Leigon, Lloyd, Mike Merrill, Steve Merrill, Ted Merrill, Miller, Nusom, Riley, David Seifert, Eric Seifert, Sells, Sheldon, John Smith, and Richard Smith. The roster showed the following as inactive: Gregory E. Johnson, Donald R. Perkins, Frank S. Perkins III, Steven W. Wamel, and E. Philip Wiesner.

The 19 March 1994 meeting was held at the Good Samaritan Village at noon. Members present were: Alley, Baker, Beer, Cantrell, de Vries, Francis, Hester, Holden, Kepler, Miller, and John Smith. Dr. Francis presented a written report on the Eagle Scout program, indicating that Eagle Scout certificates had been mailed to 4 local recipients, 1 had been awarded previously, and 12 had been forwarded to Mr. Richard Smith for presentation in the Alamogordo area. CAPT Baker reported that he had the necessary medals and certificates for presentation to ROTC cadets at the two units at the New Mexico State University and the junior units at Santa Teresa, Gadsden, Mayfield, and Ocate high schools. CAPT Baker noted that the Chapter had not been submitting appropriate material to the State Historian; the Secretary was directed to provide this material to the Historian in an expeditious manner (NOTE: This was done immediately after

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review of the March 1994 minutes by the President.) Mr. Alley asked about the status of a Chapter history, but it was determined this had to be researched. The 1994-5 calendar and committee assignments were distributed. Committees included Membership/Genealogy, Finance, Program, Publicity, Historical, American History (including ROTC), Patriotic Affairs, Washington's Birthday, and Nominating.

The following members attended the 16 April 1994 luncheon at Good Samaritan Village: Alley, Camp, Cantrell, de Vries, Francis, Kemp, and Kepler. Also attending was MSGT James H. Wheatley (USAF, Ret) of Alamogordo. It was reported that Compatriots Alley, Baker, Camp, Holden, and Kemp had attended the Naturalization ceremonies held on 31 March 1994. Dr. Francis indicated that all Eagle Scout certificates prior to 1 January 1994 had been distributed, with Mr. Richard Smith presenting those in the Alamogordo area. Copies of 1993 minutes and the 1993 Eagle Scout report had been sent to State. A new roster still had a few gaps in it to fill before publication. The President reported that State had informed him that the Chapter had not paid its National dues. It was noted that Charles Ganong, the Merrills, and Richard Smith had not paid their Chapter dues; Mr. Smith requested to be put on the inactive list because of ill health. A query was made about the status of the Chapter history; LCDR Camp was to follow up. After the business meeting, the Chapter adjourned to the Good Samaritan conference room, where a video entitled "Some Call Her Old Glory" was shown.

The 21 May 1994 meeting at Good Samaritan Village was sparsely attended, with only Compatriots Beer, de Vries, Kemp, and Smith present. MSGT Wheatley and Mr. Herbert Adams were guests. It was reported that the award to the New Mexico State University Air Force ROTC unit had been made by Compatriot Lloyd. The Secretary reported that the transfer of Clyde M. Leavitt from Mississippi to the Las Cruces Chapter had been approved. Other business was routine.

American flags were placed on graves of eight former servicemen in the Old Odd Fellows Cemetery on 28 May 1994 and removed on 31 May 1994 by Dr. Francis.

The annual Flag Day ceremony was held at City Hall on 14 June 1994. Attendees included Beer, Camp, Francis, Holden, Kemp, Kepler, and Smith.

National Headquarters approved the application of Robert William Francis on 17 June 1994.

The Flag Day joint meeting with the Dons Ana Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution was held at 1:00 PM on 18 June 1994 in the main dining room of the Good Samaritan Village. Compatriots present were: Beer, de Vries, Francis, Hester, Kemp, Kepler, Miller, and Smith. Wives present were: Mrs. de Vries, Mrs. Frances, Mrs. Kemp (a member), Mrs. Kepler, Mrs. Miller, and Mrs. Smith. members present were: Mrs. Elizabeth Wallace, Regent; Ms. Betty Lawrence; Ms. Mildred Milligan; and Ms. Frederica Olhausen. Other guests were Mr. and Mrs. Robert K. Hudnall, Mr. Hudnall being a member of an SAR Chapter in New York City. The guest speaker was Dr. James I. Matray, Professor of History at the New Mexico State University, who spoke to

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the group on the situation on Korea, touching on the past of both North and South Korea and concentrating on political and economic affairs in North Korea. The speaker answered a number of questions from the audience. No business was conducted:

A Naturalization ceremony was held on 22 June 1994: the Chapter was represented but the names are not available.

The Naturalization ceremony held on 25 August 1994 was attended by Compatriots Camp, Francis, and Kemp.

Good Samaritan Village was the location of the 17 September 1994 luncheon. Members present were: Alley, Baker, Beer, Camp, de Vries, Frances, Herrick, Hester, Kemp, and Smith. Guests were the speaker, State Representative J. Paul Taylor, Mr. Max Bennett, and Mr. Joseph Reyes-Dorador. The Chapter history was again a topic of discussion; it appears that State has no record of submission of a history. LCDR Camp had been in contact with Mr. Ganong, who apparently had some data. Mr. Alley noted that the Chapter had two members at the last Naturalization ceremony. Dr. Francis has received approval of two supplemental applications and one more is pending. Dr. Francis also reported that 20 Eagle Scout certificates had been awarded and that he had a list from El Paso with 14 more names. The Secretary summarized a letter from the National Society, which changed the procedure for submission of admission fees and first-year National dues. The Treasurer noted that four members had not paid their 1994 dues, the four being Mr. Charles Ganong and Messrs. Mike, Steve, and Ted Merrill. The four will be listed on the next roster as suspended for non-payment of dues. Dr. de Vries then introduced Mr. Taylor, who presented a detailed picture of the history of the Mesilla/Las Cruces area, going back to the Manso Indians.

On 15 October 1994, the Chapter met for lunch in the Creative Arts Room of the Good Samaritan Village. Compatriots present were: Alley, Beer, Camp, Cantrell, de Vries, Francis, Hemck, Hester, Kepler, Miller, and Smith. Guests present were Dr. Charles Townley, Dean of Libraries, New Mexico State University; and MSGT James Wheatley. Wives present were Mesdames Alley, Herrick, Kemp, Miller, and Wheatley. The Acting President announced that the scheduled speaker, Ms. Nancy Neeley, Director of Social Services at the Las Cruces Nursing Center, had the flu and that Dr. Townley, on very short notice, had consented to speak. Dr. Francis summarized his yearly Eagle Scout report, noting that 31 certificates had been awarded in 1994, the highest total on record. Eagle Scout procedures now seem to be firmly in place. LCDR Camp reported that no reply had been received from Mr. Charles Ganong concerning the Chapter history. The Secretary reported that letters had been sent to seven law enforcement agencies in the area requesting nominations for the Law Enforcement Award. It was suggested that the Southern New Mexico Penitentiary be added to the list. The Nominating Committee submitted the following slate of officers: J. Paul Kemp, President; Paul B. Cantrell, 1st Vice President; Norman Kepler, 2nd Vice President; John A. Smith, Secretary; Charles W. Beer, Treasurer; and Charles G. de Vries, Chaplain. The Chapter then adjourned to the Good Samaritan conference room, where Dr. Townley discussed and showed slides of the new library at New Mexico State University, the renovation of the old library, and

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the resources available through the library system. Dr. Townley noted that the new building and renovations cost \$11.1 million, the per square foot cost being the lowest of any recent new library built in the United States. The new building has 9 miles of shelving.

The Chapter was represented at Naturalization ceremonies on 20 October 1994 by LCDR Camp and possibly two other Compatriots.

The last Chapter meeting of the calendar year was held at the Good Samaritan Village on 19 November 1994. Members present were: Alley, Beer, Camp, Cantrell, de Vries, David Francis, Robert Francis; Hester, Holden, Kepler, Miller, and Smith. The Secretary reported that a nomination for the Law Enforcement Award had been received from the U.S. Border Patrol. The President noted that a committee would meet early in January to select a nominee. After other routine business, the Chapter adjourned to the Family History Center at the Mormon Stake on Venus Drive in Las Cruces. Mr. Kenneth Workman, the Stake Family History Consultant, briefed the Chapter on the resources available at the Center and demonstrated the use of the computer and its various files.

1995

The Chapter began the 1995 year with a meeting at the Good Samaritan Village on 21 January 1995. Members present were: Alley, Beer, Camp, Cantrell, de Vries, Francis, Kemp, Kepler, and Smith. Guests were Mr. Adam Cantrell and Mr. Arthur Block. Dr. Francis reported that they had attended an Eagle Scout Court of Honor and had presented certificates. No applications for the National award had been received. The nomination of Agent Hector Juarez of the U.S. Border Patrol for the Law Enforcement Award was approved. The nominations for officers for 1995 were closed and the slate prepared by the Nominating Committee was accepted. The selection of the Picacho Hills Country Club for the George Washington's Birthday Dinner was approved. Dr. Francis presented the results of research into the SAR computer program and discussion he had had with the State officers.

The Chapter's George Washington's Birthday Dinner was held at 6:30 PM on 18 February 1995 at the Picacho Hills Country Club in Las Cruces. Those present were: President and Mrs. Holden, 1st Vice President and Mrs. J. Paul Kemp, 2nd Vice President and Mrs. Paul B. Cantrell, Secretary and Mrs. John A. Smith, Treasurer Charles W. Beer, Chaplain and Mrs. Charles G. de Vries, Mr. and Mrs. Rembert C. Alley, Dr. and Mrs. David W. Francis, Mr. and Mrs. Robert W. Francis, Mr. and Mrs. Lee W. Herrick Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Norman Kepler, and Mr. and Mrs. Joseph S. Miller. Guests present were Mr. Steve Kemp; Dr. and Mrs. Gerald W. Thomas, the guest speaker; Border Patrol Agent and Mrs. Hector Juarez; MSGT and Mrs. James H. Wheatley; and Mrs. Elizabeth Wallace, Regent of Dona Chapter of Daughters of the American Revolution. A representative of the Las Cruces Sun-News took pictures. After introduction of guests, Canon Dr. de Vries, the Program Chairman, introduced the guest speaker, Dr. Thomas, former president of the New Mexico State University. Dr. Thomas spoke on the topic "A Grateful Nation Remembers," recapitulating military activity in the Atlantic and Pacific

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areas during World War II, as well as support for the war effort on the home front The President then presented the Chapter's Law Enforcement award to Agent Hector Juarez of the Las Cruces Border Patrol Station. Agent Juarez spoke briefly on the duties and responsibilities of Border Patrol Agents, emphasizing that they operate in all phases of law enforcement. The President then thanked various members for their service during the year and appointed an Auditing Committee consisting of Paul Cantrell and Norman Kepler. Compatriot Alley then installed the officers: J. Paul Kemp, President; Paul B. Cantrell, 1st Vice-President Norman Kepler, 2nd Vice President; John A. Smith, Secretary Charles W. Beer, Treasurer; and Canon Dr. Charles G. de Vries, Chaplain.

1996

The regular January meeting of Las Cruces Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution was held in the Kiva Room of the Main Dining Room of Good Samaritan Village at 12:00 noon on Saturday, 20 January 1996. Members and wives present were: President and Mrs. J. Paul Kemp, Vice President Paul Cantrell, Treasurer Charles Beer, Secretary and Mrs. John Smith, Past President and Mrs. David Francis, Past President and Mrs. Nelson Holden, Past President and Mrs. Rembert Alley, Past President and Mrs. Russ Camp, Past President CAPT and Mrs. Walt Baker, Mr. and Mrs. Lee Herrick, and Mr. Joe Miller. Guests present were Mr. Kirby Colwell, a prospective member, and Mr. Mark Delgado, the guest speaker.

In his final remarks as President, Mr. Kemp thanked all members for the support during his term of office, specifically mentioning Compatriots Francis, Holden, de Vries, and Smith. CAPT Baker, Past State President and National Trustee, then installed the officers for the 1996-1997 SAR year, as follows:

President Paul B. Cantrell
First Vice President Norman Kepler (represented by Mr. Robert Francis)
Second Vice President Charles W. Beer
Treasurer Dr. David W. Francis
Secretary John A. Smith
Chaplain Canon Dr. Charles G. de Vries (in absentia)

Mr. Cantrell, in his initial address to the Chapter, asked for the continued support of the Chapter members, and emphasized the importance of the Society in preserving freedom in the United States. On behalf of Compatriot Nelson M. Holden, Jr., who was unavoidably absent, Mr. Smith then presented to the Chapter a United States flag which hung over the head table for the city of Washington - Washington Bicentennial dinner on 22 February 1932. The flag had been given to Mr. Holden by former Congressman Charles I. Stengle, his grandfather, who was the Chair of the dinner. Mr. Holden expressed a wish that the Chapter have this flag 64 years after it was first displayed in honor of George Washington's Birthday.

The Secretary then introduced the guest speaker, Mr. Mark Delgado, Administrator of the Las Cruces Nursing Center. Mr. Delgado briefly reviewed the status of nursing

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homes in New Mexico, stating that the great majority gave excellent care. He noted that care was expensive, ranging from about \$2,400.00 a month to about \$5,000.00. Health care insurance is also expensive, ranging from about \$100.00 to \$150.00 a month. In selecting a nursing home, Mr. Delgado emphasized the importance of visiting one or more homes, while checking on the following items among others: The staff, the cleanliness, the absence of odors, whether the residents are smiling and talking, the range of activities offered, the use of newsletters, the accessibility of the administrator and other staff, reviewing the state survey which must be posted, the presence of a resident's council, and interviewing family members of residents. Mr. Delgado mentioned the current discussions about Medicare and Medicaid. Mr. Delgado presented each family present with a brochure containing a number of items relevant to long-term health care. He also recommended a book by Mary Rudd titled Life Planning in New Mexico.

Eagle Scouts. Dave Francis reported that Christopher Morris of Las Cruces had won the State Eagle Scout award, which would be presented in Albuquerque in February. (NOTE: The President suggested subsequently that Christopher and his parents be invited to the George Washington's Birthday dinner.)

ROTC. The Secretary noted that letters would go out to New Mexico State University and the four high schools in our area sponsoring ROTC units requesting their nominations for cadets to receive the SAR ROTC award. There was a discussion concerning whether the Chapter should add other schools to our program; the Secretary was asking to review past minutes to determine what action had been taken on this subject. (NOTE: Mrs. Baker indicated to the Secretary that this may be the last year that Santa Theresa will have an ROTC unit.)

As verified by Joe Miller, all ballots for the election of officers indicated approval of the slate of officers recommended by the Nominating Committee; there were no other nominations. The President declared that the following had been elected to office for the 1996-1997 Chapter year: President, Paul Cantrell; First Vice President, Norman Kepler; Second Vice President, Charles Beer; Treasurer, David Francis; Secretary, John Smith; and Chaplain, Canon Dr. Charles de Vries.

The President reported that the Executive Committee had reviewed the three applications for the 1995 Law Enforcement award submitted by the U.S. Border Patrol, the Las Cruces Police Department, and the Dona Ana County Sheriffs Department, and had recommended Deputy Sheriff Ernest DiMatteo for the award. It was moved by Joe Miller and seconded by Russ Camp that the Executive Committee's recommendation be approved. The motion was approved unanimously.

The Secretary reported that he and Nelson Holden had arranged for the George Washington's Birthday Dinner to be held at the Picacho Hills Country Club on Saturday, 24 February 1996, with the social hour beginning at 6:30 PM and dinner at 7:00 PM. Cost of the dinner will be \$19.00 per person, including gratuity and tax. It was moved by Russ Camp that members attending be assessed for the cost of the guests; the motion died

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for lack of a second. It was moved by Nelson Holden and seconded by Walt Baker that the cost of the guests be paid from the treasury. The motion was approved.

The Las Cruces Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution, held its annual George Washington's Birthday Dinner on 24 February 1996 at the Picacho Hills Country Club, Las Cruces, New Mexico. A social hour began at 6:30 PM and dinner was served at 7:00 PM. During the social hour, music was provided by Mr. and Mrs. Larry Cline. Members and their wives present were: President and Mrs. J. Paul Kemp; President-Elect and Mrs. Paul B. Cantrell; CAPT and Mrs. Walter F. Baker; LCDR and Mrs. Russell L. Camp; Dr. and Mrs. David W. Francis; Mr. and Mrs. Robert W. Francis; Treasurer Charles W. Beer; and Secretary John A. Smith. Guests present were: Dr. Lowell B. Catlett, the Guest Speaker, and Mrs. Catlett; Deputy Sheriff and Mrs. Ernest DiMatteo; Mr. and Mrs. Ted Morris and sons Christopher and Gregory; Mrs. Anita Worthington, Regent of the Dons Ana Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution; prospective member Mr. Kirby Colwell and spouse, Dr. Gail Gatewood-Colwell; prospective member Mr. Robert K. Hudnall and spouse; and President Kemp's daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Larry Cline.

After introduction of guests by President Kemp, Mr. Colwell gave the invocation, LCDR Camp led the Pledge of Allegiance, and Mr. Cantrell led the SAR pledge. Dr. Francis then introduced Mr. Christopher Morris, and presented to him the Chapter's Eagle Scout of the Year award. Mr. Morris had previously been honored at Albuquerque by the New Mexico State Society as the State Eagle Scout of the Year. He has been extremely active in Scouting, has a large number of merit badges, and has performed a significant number of Scout projects.

President Kemp then presented to Deputy Sheriff Ernest DiMatteo of the Dons Ana County Sheriffs Department the Chapter's annual Law Enforcement Commendation Medal and Certificate. Deputy DiMatteo showed exceptional bravery in the capture of several violent criminals after a high-speed auto chase and after having been seriously wounded by the criminals. Deputy DiMatteo made a few brief remarks and thanked the Chapter for the award. After dinner was served, President Kemp introduced the Guest Speaker, Dr. Lowell B. Catlett, a Professor of Economics at the New Mexico State University. Dr. Catlett gave an inspiring address centered on the legacies of President Thomas Jefferson. Among those legacies were making farming an honorable profession; the establishment of religious freedom in the United States; the establishment of public education as a right; the Louisiana Purchase, which opened ownership of land regardless of economic status; and, of course, the Declaration of Independence.

The Las Cruces Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution held its regular meeting on 16 March 1996 in the Kiva Room of the Main Dining Room of Good Samaritan Village at 12:00 noon. Members present were: Norman Kepler, Acting President; David Francis, Treasurer; John Smith, Secretary; Rem Alley, Walter Baker, Charles Beer, and Nelson Holden. Guests present were Mr. Ted Morris, Sr.; and Mr. Morris Finkner.

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Acting President Kepler pronounced the Invocation, and led the Pledge of Allegiance and the SAR Pledge. The guests were introduced, Mr. Finkner subsequently being awarded the Flag Certificate. It was noted that Mr. Morris is the grandfather of Christopher Morris, our Eagle Scout award winner.

The Secretary read the minutes of the January and February 1996 meetings. Nelson Holden moved the adoption of both minutes and Charles Beer seconded. The minutes were approved as read. The Treasurer reported a balance in the checking account of \$831.77. When State and National dues of \$738.00 are paid, the balance will be \$93.77. The Treasurer also noted that the books had not been audited for some years and recommended that this be done on a yearly basis. Necessary changes in the bank records have been made.

Due to the nature of the meeting, there was no guest speaker. COMMITTEE REPORTS Eagle Scout. Dave Francis reported that all Eagle Scout certificates and scholarship applications had been distributed. He reported that he and Mrs. Francis had attended the presentation of the State Eagle Scout trophy to Christopher Morris in Albuquerque at the State Society George Washington's Birthday Dinner. Dave also noted that all orders for Eagle Scout material must now be ordered through the State Chairman. ROTC Awards. The Secretary reported that three responses had been received from ROTC units and that necessary materials for all six units had been ordered from the State Society. Walt Baker noted that we should keep Dale Gafford, the State ROTC Chairman, informed of our ROTC activities. He also noted that Hatch High School had started a new Army Junior ROTC unit and that we should consider including that unit in our awards next year. Patriotic Affairs. J. Paul Kemp and Nelson Holden attended the 29 February 1996 Naturalization Ceremony. NEW BUSINESS Walt Baker, as Chairman of the Flag Committee, presented a Flag Certificate to Mr. Finkner in recognition of his activities in support of the American Flag. The Secretary distributed copies of the 1996-7 calendar and committee assignments. Several adjustments were made in the committee assignments, with the Secretary pointing out that an Audit Committee had been appointed. The Secretary also distributed updated copies of the Chapter roster, noting that Mr. Nusom should be listed as an active member, not inactive. There followed an extensive discussion of the status of possible transfers, applications in process, inactives, and two types of prospects, with several members volunteering to follow up on a number of prospects. During this discussion, it was suggested that post-cards be used to notify people of meetings, thus reducing mailing costs. It was also suggested that the meeting notices should advise people to notify the Secretary if they need transportation to our meetings~

The Secretary reported that he had written for information on starting a Children of the American Revolution (CAR) chapter to the National Society of CAR, but had not yet received a reply. Walt Baker cautioned that if we and the start such a chapter, we must be prepared to have an active program, not just a program in name only.

Walt Baker urged the Chapter to ensure representatives from the Las Cruces Chapter are present when the State Society meets, particularly when the President General is

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present. The same is true when the State Board of Managers meets. Walt Baker remarked on the absence of a President's Ribbon when he installed the officers at the February meeting. He then moved that the Chapter provide a President's Ribbon for the current officer, and a President's Ribbon and Past President's Pin for Past Presidents. John Smith seconded and the motion was approved.

The Las Cruces Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution, held its regular meeting at 12:00 noon on Saturday, 20 April 1996, in the Kiva Room of the Main Dining Room of the Good Samaritan Village. Members present were: Norman Kepler, Acting President; Charles Beer, 2nd Vice President; Robert Francis, Acting Treasurer; John Smith, Secretary; Rem Alley; CAPT Walter Baker, Lee Herrick; Nelson Holden; and J. Paul Kemp. Guests present were: Mrs. Lee Herrick; CAPT Baker's son William; Charles S. Miles, President of the Dona Ana Historical Society; and Dr. Louis R. Sadler, Professor of History at the New Mexico State University, our guest speaker.

After lunch had been completed, Compatriot Smith introduced Dr. Sadler, who spoke to the Chapter about the background and events of the Mexican Border campaign. It was obvious prior to World War I that the United States needed a better intelligence capability. In connection with the border campaign, 14 intercept stations were established along the Mexican-American border, stretching from the eastern part of Texas to California. The objective of these stations was to intercept communications not only of the Mexicans, but also of German agents who were trying to foment trouble between Mexico and the United States. One of these stations was established on the grounds of the then New Mexico Agricultural and Mechanical University (now New Mexico State University). The last of these stations was not dismantled until 1927. The lessons learned during this Mexican operation were used by General Pershing during World War I. After Dr. Sadler's presentation, there was discussion about whether Pancho Villa actually led the raid on Columbus, New Mexico; Dr. Sadler presented evidence that confirmed Villa's role.

OLD BUSINESS Patriotic Affairs. Compatriot Kepler reported that he had presented a trophy at the annual Southern New Mexico Invitational Military Competition held at New Mexico State University on 6 April 1996. The Secretary reported that our ROTC certificates and medals had been received from the State Society. Eagle Scouts. Compatriot David Francis, in his written report, noted that State Eagle Scout Chairman Jim Thompson had received permission from the National Chairman to pursue the awarding of Eagle certificates to the Texas Eagle Scouts of the Yucca Council. The Las Cruces Chapter will not be involved in the procedure, which will concern only Thompson and the Texas State Chairman. Presidents Report. Compatriot J. Paul Kemp submitted his annual report.

NEW BUSINESS Membership. Compatriot Francis noted that Compatriot David Francis had obtained copies of the Membership and Membership Retention Guidelines published by the National Society. He also reported that a record copy of Kirby Colwell's mother's application had been requested, but not yet received. Compatriot Alley reported that he had been in contact with former Compatriot Ted Merrill and that Ted had

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provided information on his three sons, all former members of the Chapter. The Secretary suggested that it would be appropriate to furnish the Albuquerque Chapter addresses of the two sons living in Albuquerque. Patriotic. CAPT Baker reminded the members of Memorial Day on 27 May and Flag Day on 14 June. Miscellaneous. Activation of a Chapter in Santa Fe was reported and it was suggested that copies of our minutes be sent to that Chapter, as well as our regular transmission of our minutes to the State Historian and the editor of the Compatriot.

The Las Cruces Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution met at 12:00 noon, 18 May 1996, in the Kiva Room of the Main Dining Room, Good Samaritan Village. Members present were: Mr. Paul Cantrell, President; Mr. Charles Beer, 2d Vice President; Mr. David Francis, Treasurer; COL John Smith, Secretary; Canon Dr. Charles G. de Vries, Chaplain; CAPT Walter F. Baker; Mr. Lee Herrick; Mr. J. Paul Kemp; and Mr. Joseph Miller. Spouses present were: Mrs. de Vries, Mrs. Herrick, Mrs. Miller, and Mrs. Smith. Guests present were: MSGT and Mrs. James Wheatley; MSGT Wheatley is a prospective member.

Canon Dr. de Vries then spoke to the Chapter about his and Mrs. de Vries most recent trip to St. Kitts and Nevis. In addition to their personal experiences, he summarized the history of St. Kitts, to include the massacre of the indigenous population, the division between the French and British, the British control of the island and the importation of slaves, and finally, in 1983, the independence of the island from the British. He also discussed the economy of the island, based on production of sugar cane, and the relatively high cost of all products, much of which must be imported from outside. He also talked briefly about the role of the church on the island.

COMMITTEE REPORTS AND OLD BUSINESS: The President noted that the Chapter had received a letter from Compatriot Thomas J. Bond asking for the Chapters continued support for his selection as National Secretary, in light of another candidate's appearance. CAPT Baker will be attending the National Congress in San Antonio and will support Compatriot Bond there. ROTC. The Secretary reported that either he or CAPT Baker had presented five of the ROTC Awards; the sixth will be hand-carried to Gadsden High School on 20 May 1996. CAPT Baker noted that the Army ROTC unit at Hatch was an element of the unit at Truth or Consequences and that we should consider bringing both of these units under our wing Eagle Scouts. Compatriot Francis reported that there had not been any activity since the last meeting. Membership. Compatriot Francis reported on the status of the applications of Kirby Colwell, Ed Emerick, and Jim Wheatley. The Secretary reported that there had been a query from National concerning the status of Compatriot de Vries; a letter has been written to the State Secretary with what is hoped is adequate information. We need to obtain a reinstatement form from Compatriot Gallivan; this has been requested from the State Secretary. The Secretary also noted that Compatriot Frank Perkins was omitted from the State Directory; this needs to be resolved. The third Merrill son has been added to our inactive list; information concerning the two Merrills living in Albuquerque has been provided to the State Secretary. Patriotic. CAPT Baker noted that Memorial Day ceremonies would be held on 27 May 1996, the first being conducted by the Navy at 8:00 AM at the Picacho bridge

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over the Rio Grande, the second being conducted at 9:00 AM by the various patriotic organizations at Hillcrest Memorial Gardens with BG Jerry Laws from White Sands Missile Range as the speaker. Compatriot Francis reported that he would be taking care of placement of flags in the Odd Fellows Cemetery. Discussion then ensued about the Flag Day ceremony annually held by the Chapter at 8:00 on 14 June 1996 in front of City Hall. Compatriot Kemp volunteered to organize the ceremony. He also volunteered to assist in obtaining a speaker for the joint SAR-Flag Day luncheon, which will be sponsored this year by the SAR. The Secretary will inform the OAR in writing about the time and place of the meeting. Compatriot Francis will handle reservations, since the Secretary will be out of state. Miscellaneous. The Secretary reported that he had not obtained guidance from the National Society about the difference in the SAR pledge between the State and National versions and that he had again written to National. He had also written again to the C.A.R. National Headquarters for information concerning C.A.R. He has material ready to send to the State Historian covering the 1995-6 Chapter year, but has been unable to discover who the new State Historian is since the death of Compatriot Bouton. **NEW BUSINESS** The Treasurer reported that he was in the process of installing a budget program for the Chapter to more appropriately handle the expenses of the Chapter. The Secretary reported that he had compiled a photo album of available photography, but that he needed photos from the Washington's Birthday dinners in 1987, 1988, 1989, 1991, and 1994. It was the consensus that no photos had been taken during the 1994 dinner.

The Las Cruces Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution held its regular meeting on 15 June 1996 in the Kiva Room of the Good Samaritan Village. The members of the Dona Ana Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution joined us in celebration of Flag Day, as it was our turn to serve as hosts. Compatriots present were: Paul Cantrell, President, and Mrs. Cantrell; Charles Beer, 2nd Vice President; D. W. Francis, Treasurer, and Mrs. Francis; The Reverend Canon Doctor Charles de Vries, Chaplain, and Mrs. de Vries; Russell Camp and Mrs. Camp; Rembert Alley and Mrs. Alley; Lee Herrick and Mrs. Herrick, Nelson Holden and Mrs. Holden; J. Paul Kemp and Mrs. Kemp, and prospective member James Wheatley and Mrs. Wheatley. Members of the DAR who joined us were Regent Anita Worthington and Dr. Worthington, Dorothy Sprinkle and Mr. Sprinkle, Millie Milligan, Betty Dolan, Vickie Pratt and guest Brenda Beattie, Marjorie Day, Lynn Moseley, Caroline Darr, and Georgianna McDougale. Our guest speaker was Dr. Gary Cunningham, Director of the Agricultural Experiment Station, New Mexico State University. President Cantrell introduced Regent Anita Worthington, who, in turn, introduced the members of the DAR and thanked the SAR for their invitation to lunch and the Flag Day program. Each member of the SAR introduced himself and his wife. Formal business was suspended, except for a report on Flag Day at City Hall by J. Paul Kemp, and an announcement that various applications had cleared Albuquerque and were on their way to Louisville. J. Paul Kemp introduced Dr. Gary Cunningham, Director of the Agricultural Experiment Station, who spoke on the Agricultural Experiment Station in the context of the College of Agriculture. The agricultural work at the University is divided into two separate units: the New Mexico Department of Agriculture, which is concerned with regulatory work, and the New Mexico College of Agriculture and Home Economics. This unit has the academic, research, and

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extension units under it. The Experiment Station is concerned with production of agricultural crops, maintaining production and the environment, and new developments in agriculture. There are nine research stations located in three major river valleys, along with the main station at Las Cruces. Each area is unique, with a diversity of climate, soil, crops, etc. Research is conducted which is appropriate for each specific area. Currently they are adding an extension worker to each area station.

The Las Cruces Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution met at 12:00 noon, Saturday, 21 September 1996, in the Kiva Room of the Main Dining Room of the Good Samaritan Village. Members present were: Paul Cantrell, President; Norman Kepler, 1st Vice President; Charles Beer, 2d Vice President; David Francis, Treasurer; Canon Dr. Charles de Vries, Chaplain; John A. Smith, Secretary; Rem Alley, Russ Camp, Ed Emerick, Lee Herrick, Nelson Holden, Bill Leigon, Joe Miller, and Jim Wheatley. Guests present were: Charles Ganong, an inactive member; Bill Wheeler, Charles Cutler, Lloyd Bates, and Mrs. Emerick. After lunch, President Cantrell opened the meeting. The President presented membership certificates, rosettes, and copies of the State and Chapter histories to new members Lewis E. Emerick, Jr., and James H. Wheatley, and extended warm greetings on behalf of the Chapter. The Treasurer reported that he had received an invoice from the Secretary in the amount of \$285.26 for copying, postage, engraving, purchase of Past President's ribbons and pins, and miscellaneous but also reported that the Secretary had waived payment of the invoice. Dave Francis then talked to the Chapter about the procedures for preparing and submitting applications for membership in the SAR. He used a handout (copy in the files) as the basis for his discussion. He noted especially that using SAR approved applications dated before about 1955 as the basis for the application in 1996 will result in rejection of the application unless complete documentation is furnished to supplement the old application. Dave also discussed various reference materials that can be used as sources for documentation.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Patriotic. Mention was made of the practice of putting flags on the graves at the Odd Fellows Cemetery on Veteran's Day. Dave Francis assured the Chapter that he would take care of this matter.

ROTC. The Secretary reported that the annual report of our ROTC awards had been submitted to the State ROTC Chairman, Compatriot Gafford.

Eagle Scouts. Dave Francis reported that he had received the names of 8 new Eagle Scouts, making a total of 16 for the 1996 year. Also received were names of six new Eagle Scouts for the 1997 year. Appropriate certificates and other materials will be presented to the Scouts as soon as possible. Jim Wheatley has agreed to represent the Chapter in presentations to Scouts in the Alamogordo area. In a change of procedure, all requests for Scout materials must now be forwarded through State, rather than directly to National. Arrangements have been made for the New Mexico State Society to support the Eagle Scout program in the El Paso area, without any involvement accruing to the Las Cruces Chapter.

Membership In addition to new members Emerick and Wheatley, the Chapter has been informed of the acceptance of the application of Kirby P. Colwell II, who unfortunately could not be present for this meeting. Application papers have been received from Lloyd O. Bates; Dave Francis is working on applications for Bill Wheeler and Charles Cutler.

Audit. The Committee reported that it had concluded its audit of the 1995 financial records and found them in good order. The Committee emphasized its recommendation that, except for the meal

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expenses, receipts or invoices be required before any bills are paid. NEW BUSINESS Changes in By-Laws and Financial Procedures. Dave Francis presented a recommendation from the Finance and Audit Committees to amend the Chapter by-laws, as follows: Delete the sentences in Article One, Treasurer, which reads: "He shall make all such disbursements of Chapter funds, his signature and that of the President being sufficient authority for such disbursements; provided, however, that he shall secure from the Board of Managers prior authority for all such disbursements, save only minor and incidental current operating expenses," and substitute the following: "Protocol for handling purchases and expenses incurred by members of the Chapter for which reimbursement is requested: 1. A voucher must be obtained from the Treasurer indicating what expense is being incurred and an estimate of the amount being spent. 2. Before reimbursement is made, a detailed receipt must be submitted with the voucher to the Treasurer. 3. Minor and current operating expenses not to exceed \$10.00 may be reimbursed without a voucher, but must be accompanied by a receipt. 4. The only exception to the above is for payment of meals, which is normally a wash procedure. 5. No reimbursement will be made unless the above protocol is followed. 6. New programs must be presented to the Chapter and approved by the members at a regular meeting before any expense is incurred.' It was moved by Dave Francis and seconded by Nelson Holden that the above change in the By-Laws be approved. The motion was approved. It was also recommended by the Finance and Audit Committees that the advertising in the SAR Magazine be discontinued, that engraving of trophies and medals be discontinued, that certificates be typewritten rather than calligraphic, that certificates be presented in the blue SAR folders rather than expensive frames, that a budget procedure be established over the next several years, and that the Chapter Secretary submit his expense receipts more frequently and expeditiously. El Paso Chapter The Treasurer reported that, in conversation with members of the El Paso Chapter, it was mentioned that it would be desirable to have one or more joint meetings with the El Paso Chapter. This suggestion was tabled for further discussion. October Program Nelson Holden agreed to present a program on his and Mrs. Holden's recent trip to the British Isles at the October meeting. Essay Program. The President announced that he had received from National correspondence on a new essay program. This matter was tabled for further research and discussion.

The Las Cruces Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution met at noon on 26 October 1996 in the Kiva Room of the Main Dining Room of Good Samaritan Village. Members and guests present were: Mr. Paul Cantrell, President; Mr. and Mrs. Norman Kepler, 1st Vice President; Mr. and Mrs. David Francis, Treasurer; Canon Dr. and Mrs. Charles G. de Vries, Chaplain; Mr. John Smith, Secretary; Mr. and Mrs. Rembert Alley; Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd O. Bates; LCDR Russell Camp; Mr. Kirby Colwell; Mr. and Mrs. Lee Herrick; Mr. and Mrs. Nelson Holden; Mr. Joe Miller; and MSGT and Mrs. Jim Wheatley. Mr. Paul Snyder, a prospective member, was the guest of Dave Francis. After lunch, the meeting was called to order by President Cantrell. MSGT Wheatley led the Pledge of Allegiance, John Smith led the SAR Pledge, and Canon Dr. de Vries gave the invocation. President Cantrell presented his SAR certificate and a copy of the State History to Kirby Colwell, and State and Chapter Histories to Lloyd O. Bates, our newest member. Mr. Bates' certificate will be presented at a later date, along with that of MSGT Wheat-

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ley. Mr. Francis then introduced Mr. Paul Snyder and indicated that Mr. Snyder's papers were filled out but lacked some documentation. President Cantrell remarked on the presence of the wives and asked the members to introduce their spouses. The President indicated that he had received a box of Christmas Cards from National Headquarters, which were for sale for \$20.00 a box. The Program Chairman, Canon Dr. de Vries, introduced our guest speakers, our own Nelson and Jo Holden, who spoke on their recent visit to the British Isles. Some of the highlights of their presentation involved the Edinburgh Tattoo, the area of Cumbria, the fortuitous finding of some genealogical data through a chance encounter with the local Church Warden, and the differences between the Irish Free State and Northern Ireland. Their discussion was supplemented by a number of post cards and photos, graphically portraying the areas in which they traveled. The Secretary then read the minutes of the September meeting. It was moved by Compatriot Alley that the minutes be accepted as read, seconded by Canon Dr. de Vries, and approved. The Treasurer reported a balance of \$234.77 in the Chapter bank account. Income items included a \$30.00 refund from the George Washington Fund and \$10.00 in dues. The only expenditure was a \$29.00 payment to State for ROTC bronze medals. It was moved by Canon Dr. de Vries that the Treasurer's report be accepted as given, seconded by Compatriot Alley, and approved. **COMMITTEE REPORTS** Eagle Scouts. Dave Francis reported that 16 certificates had been presented to new Eagle Scouts for the 1995-1996 year. Seven Eagle Scouts have passed their Board of Review for the new year beginning 1 July 1996. All but one has received his certificate and scholarship material. The new Eagle Scout certificates have been enlarged and embellished. They are now material. The new Eagle Scout certificates have been enlarged and embellished. They are now too large to fit in the SAR blue folders. The folders must be purchased, so this is an expense which can be eliminated. **Membership.** Dave Francis reported that the membership of Mr. Lloyd O. Bates has been approved by National. As mentioned above, the application of Mr. Paul Snyder requires additional documentation. No news has been received on Bill Wheeler's application. **ROTC.** The Secretary reported that an invitation had been received from the Mayfield High School Junior ROTC Unit to attend their annual Veteran's Day Assembly, to be held at the school beginning at 8:45 on Monday morning, 11 November 1996. The Secretary also reported that a letter had been received from the Commander of the Army ROTC Drill Team at NMSU requesting funds to assist them in participating in various drill team activities away from the campus. After discussion, John Smith moved that \$50.00 be made available to the unit, Canon Dr. de Vries seconded, and the motion was approved with the stipulation that it be made clear that this was a one-time gift. **OLD BUSINESS** The Secretary distributed copies of the change to the by-laws adopted at the September meeting, copies of the biographical sketches received to date, and copies of the biographical form to those not having received them. **NEW BUSINESS** There was no new business.

The Las Cruces Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution met at noon, 16 November 1996, in the Kiva Room of the Main Dining Room of Good Samaritan Village. Members present were: Paul Cantrell, President; Norman Kepler, 1st Vice President; Charles Beer, 2nd Vice Present; David Francis. Treasurer; John Smith, Secretary: and Compatriots Walter Baker, Kirby Colwell, J. Paul Kemp, and James Wheatley. Guests

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in attendance were William Wheeler, a prospective member, and Ms. Gina Ruiz, our guest speaker from La Casa. The President then presented Jim Wheatley with his certificate of membership, and also presented a Past President's ribbon and pin to J. Paul Kemp. Our guest speaker, Ms. Gina Ruiz, spoke on the various programs of La Casa, a shelter for abused spouses. In the emergency shelter program, battered persons can remain in a secure environment for anywhere from 1 day to 3 months. During this time they are counseled about their possible courses of action. A non-resident counseling program covers Las Cruces, Sunland Park, and Anthony, and would cover all of Dona Ana County if personnel were available. La Casa has specific programs for children and men, and an outreach and education program. Ms. Ruiz emphasized the role that the desire for power and control plays in abuse cases. Most of the services are free, with La Casa depending on grants and contributions. The staff totals about 25 people, with staff being added as funding is available. Ms. Ruiz answered a number of questions asked by those present.

COMMITTEE REPORTS Eagle Scouts. Compatriot Francis reported that the last certificate had been presented and that no more names would be available from El Paso until after the first of the year. He also spoke about the agreement between the New Mexico State Society and the Scout leaders in El Paso, he reiterated that the Las Cruces Chapter would not be involved, but would continue to administer the current program.

Membership Compatriot Francis reported that the Chapter had gained four new members during the year and that the papers of Bill Wheeler had been submitted to the State Society. He also suggested that the Membership Committee meet to review the list of prospects currently contained in the Chapter roster.

Patriotic Compatriot Kepler reported that he and Compatriot Holden had attended the Veterans Day assembly at Mayfield High School, and indicated his hope that more members would attend in future years. Compatriot Francis reported that the flags had been placed on the graves at the Odd Fellows Cemetery for Veterans Day. He also noted that the cemetery was in much better condition than in previous years.

ROTC: After considerable discussion, Compatriot Wheatley moved, Compatriot Colwell seconded, and it was approved that the Army Junior ROTC unit at TorC be contacted to inform them of our ROTC award program and to determine if that unit and the subunit at Hatch were interested in being added to our program.

OLD BUSINESS The President reported that he still had boxes of SAR Christmas cards for sale. Several additional boxes were sold.

NEW BUSINESS The President reminded the Nominating Committee that it was time to draw up a slate of nominees for the 1997-1998 Chapter year, so that an election could be held at the January 1997 meeting. The slate should be in the hands of the Secretary in sufficient time that a ballot could be included in the meeting notice for the January meeting. A discussion was held concerning the location of the George Washington Birthday dinner. The consensus of the group was the Picacho Hills Country Club, the Las Cruces Hilton, and the Meson de Mesilla should be contacted for prices and availability.

1997

The Las Cruces Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution held its monthly meeting at 12:00 noon on 18 January 1997 in the Kiva Room of the Main Dining Room of

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Good Samaritan Village. Members present were: Charles Beer, James Wheatley, Rembert Alley, David Francis, Kirby Colwell, J. Paul Kemp, and John A. Smith. Compatriot Kepler joined the group during the meeting. In the absence of the President, Paul Cantrell, due to illness, 2d Vice President Charles Beer presided. Rosettes were presented to new member Kirby Colwell and several other members. New Business Election of Officers. As validated by Compatriot Colwell, all ballots received by the Secretary voted for the slate of officers for the Chapter year of 1997-1998 presented by the Nominating Committee, as follows: Charles Beer, president; James Wheatley, 1st Vice President; Kirby Colwell, 2d Vice President; David Francis, Treasurer; Charles de Vries, Chaplain; and John Smith, Secretary. Compatriot Smith moved, Compatriot Alley seconded, that the slate be accepted by acclamation. Meeting Place for 1997-1998 Year. After discussion, Compatriot Kemp moved, David Francis seconded, and it was approved that the Chapter continue to hold its regular monthly meetings at the Good Samaritan Village. The Secretary will provide a schedule of meetings to Good Samaritan. It was also suggested that when we anticipate a large crowd that the meetings be set for 1:00 PM and arrangements be made with Good Samaritan to meet in the main dining room. George Washington's Birthday Dinner. The Secretary, on behalf of the George Washington's Birthday Dinner Committee, presented facts considering three locations: Meson de MESSILLA, the Las Cruces Hilton, and Picacho Hills Country Club. After discussion, it was moved by Compatriot Francis, seconded by Compatriot Kemp, and approved that the meeting be held at the Picacho Hills Country Club. A social hour will begin at 6:00 PM and dinner. Guests will include the guest speaker and wife, the DAR Regent, and the Law Enforcement Award winner and guest. Calendar The group reviewed a proposed 1997-1998 calendar; no comments were received. Committee Assignments. The group then reviewed the list of committee assignments and a number of changes were accepted. Law Enforcement Award The Secretary presented the two nominations for the Law Enforcement Award for 1997. Of the eight law enforcement agencies solicited, two nominations were received: the NMSU Police Department and the Las Cruces Station of the US Border Patrol. After discussion, it was moved by Compatriot Kemp, seconded by Compatriot Wheatley, and approved that the award be presented to Border Patrol Agent Ramiro Garcia. It was suggested that the eligible list be expanded to include Judges, government attorneys, and other non-uniformed law enforcement agencies. Guest Speakers To assist the Program Chairman, recommendations for guest speakers were solicited. Suggestions included a speaker from the Boy Scouts of America, the El Paso SAR Chapter, staff and faculty from NMSU, a representative from the Jardin de Ninos, the new NMSU football coach, and the new Chairman of the Dona Ana County Commissioners. Committee Reports Eagle Scouts. Two additional Eagle Scout certificates were dispatched, making a total of 14 for the year. One additional certificate remains to be sent. The State Eagle Scout Committee Chairman will be conducting a survey to attempt to determine why there is such a poor response from Eagle Scouts to Scholarship opportunities. Membership. Compatriot Francis reported that Compatriot Camp had moved to Lubbock, Texas. A number of requests for information have been received and additional people have been added to the roster as prospective members. ROTC. The Secretary reported that no answer had been received from the Junior ROTC unit at the high school in Truth or Consequences. Old Business The Secretary

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discussed the Knight Essay Contest, discussion of which had been tabled at a previous meeting.

The Las Cruces Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution held its annual George Washington's Birthday Dinner at the Picacho Hills Country Club on 22 February 1997. A social hour began at 6:00 PM and dinner was served at 7:00 PM. Those members and spouses attending were: President and Mrs. Paul Cantrell; 1st Vice President and Mrs. Norman Kepler; 2nd Vice President Charles Beer; Past President and Treasurer and Mrs. David W. Francis; Past President and Chaplain, the Reverend Canon Dr. and Mrs. Charles de Vries; Secretary John A. Smith; Past President and Mrs. Rem Alley; Compatriot and Mrs. Lloyd O. Bates; Compatriot and Mrs. Robert W. Francis; Past President and Mrs. J. Paul Kemp; Compatriot and Mrs. James H. Wheatley; and Compatriot and Mrs. William C. Wheeler. Prior to dinner, President Cantrell called the meeting to order. President Cantrell then introduced a number of guests: Mrs. Anita Worthington, Regent of the Dona Ana Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution; Mrs. Blanche Goldsmith, Past Regent of the Dona Ana Chapter; Mr. and Mrs. James Harris, Mrs. Harris being our guest speaker; Border Patrol Agent and Mrs. Ramiro Garcia, Agent Garcia being the recipient of our annual Law Enforcement Award; Mr. and Mrs. Wadford, Scout Executive from El Paso; Mr. and Mrs. Cline, daughter and son-in-law of Past President and Mrs. Kemp and who were gracious enough to provide the music during the social hour; Mr. and Mrs. Art Block, Mr. Block being a prospective member; Miss Elizabeth Wheeler, daughter of Compatriot and Mrs. Wheeler; and Mr. and Mrs. Gomolak, son and daughter-in-law of Mrs. Wheatley. A total of 37 were thus in attendance. After dinner, Canon Dr. de Vries introduced our guest speaker, Mrs. Linda Harris, a prominent local historian and author. Using colorful slides, she discussed a number of New Mexico homes, arranged chronologically and traversing all the way from the Acoma Pueblo to modern homes in the Santa Fe area. Other homes were located at the Zuni Pueblo, Lincoln County, Taos, Las Cruces, Raton, Springer, and Hillsboro among others. Mrs. Harris analyzed the styles of the homes and in many cases gave some history. Some 88 homes in about 40 communities will be covered in Mrs. Harris' new book, to be published shortly. President Cantrell then presented certificates of membership and rosettes to new members: Lloyd O. Bates and William C. Wheeler. President Cantrell then introduced the winner of our annual Law Enforcement Award, Border Patrol Agent/Canine Office Ramiro Garcia, and presented him with a certificate and a medal with ribbon. Agent Garcia made brief remarks concerning the tasks of the Border Patrol, mentioned his work with the Explorer Scouts, and talked about his canine companion. Agent Garcia had brought along framed pictures of the dog, which were the subject of much interest after the meeting. Escorted by Past President J. Paul Kemp, the officers to be installed were presented to the Installing Officer, Past President Rembert C. Alley.

The new officers are:

President	Charles W. Beer
1st Vice President:	James H. Wheatley
2nd Vice President	Kirby P. Colwell (represented in absentia by R. W. Francis)
Chaplain	Canon Dr. Charles G. de Vries
Treasurer	David . Francis

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Secretary

John A. Smith

After the installation, newly-installed President Beer presented a Past President's ribbon and pin to outgoing President Cantrell. President Cantrell spoke about the achievements of the Chapter during the past year, emphasizing that the Chapter had gained five members during the year, plus one reinstatement. President Beer spoke briefly about his expectations for the Chapter during the Chapter 1997-1998 year.

The Las Cruces Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution met in the Kiva Room of the Main Dining Room of the Good Samaritan Village at 12:00 noon on 15 March 1997. Members present were: Charles Beer, President; James Wheatley, 1st Vice President; David Francis, Treasurer; John A. Smith, Secretary; Walter Baker, Paul Cantrell, Lee Herrick, Nelson Holden, J. Paul Kemp, Norman Kepler, Joseph Miller, and William Wheeler. Guests present were Mrs. Herrick; Mrs. Wheatley; Mr. and Mrs. Ralph A. Tabor of Alamogordo, Mr. Tabor being a prospective member; and Ms. Cindi Gawron, our guest speaker. After luncheon, Past President Cantrell gave the invocation, President Beer led the Pledge of Allegiance, and Compatriot Wheeler led the SAR Pledge. John Smith introduced the guest speaker, Ms. Cindi Gawron of Rio Grande Travel Agency. Cindi discussed some of the possibilities and pitfalls for travel for seniors. She discussed cruises in detail and mentioned some of the problems with bus travel. She noted that Amtrak travel to the East was somewhat dubious, but that Amtrak travel along the West Coast was impressive. OLD BUSINESS The Secretary reported that a letter had been received from the Regent of the Dona Ana Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, thanking the chapter for inviting the DAR to the George Washington's Birthday dinner. A letter had been sent to State and National concerning the recipient of the Law Enforcement Award and another letter listing the new officers. Compatriot Wheatley reported that an article had appeared in the Alamogordo paper concerning his installation as 1st Vice President of the Chapter and that the article had resulted in several inquiries concerning SAR. COMMITTEE REPORTS Membership. Compatriot Francis reported that the names of Paul Curry, James Libben, and Gordon Cory had been added to our list of prospective members. Paperwork had also been sent to Arthur Block. Compatriot Baker reported that he had discussed the applications of William Kramer and John Gemoets with the staff at National and would submit their papers in the near future. Compatriot Baker also reported that he was working on application of the sons of Mrs. Lee and the sons of Mrs. Bollschweiler. ROTC Compatriot Baker made the presentation of the Bronze ROTC Medal to Cadet/CPO Betty Godinez at Santa Teresa High School on 27 February 1997. Letters were sent to the other five ROTC units requesting their nominations. The ceremony for the Mayfield High School will be held at the White Sands Community Center on 5 April; Compatriot Baker volunteered to make that presentation to Stephanie J. Johnson (King). The NMSU Army ceremony will be held on 22 April 1997 at the University's Horseshoe Field; Compatriot Wheeler volunteered to make that presentation to Cadet Marvin R. Linson. Patriotic Norman Kepler raised the question as to whether the Chapter should participate in some way with the Bataan Death March re-creation or other Bataan Death March ceremony. The Chapter was asked to ponder this matter. Eagle Scouts. Compatriot Francis reported that he had been able to resolve some technical problems with the El Paso Scout Lead-

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er, Gene Wadford, at the George Washington's Birthday dinner. He also discussed the problem of response to scholarship notices on the part of Eagle Scouts, and read a letter from the State Scout Chairman, Jim Thompson, concerning this matter. Flag. Compatriot Baker reported that Valley View Elementary School had been selected to receive the Chapter's recognition certificate for its interest in displaying the flag. He also raised the question of the Chapter instituting a Fourth of July flag destruction program. NEW BUSINESS Compatriot Baker spoke of the desirability of making more use of Compatriots Calhoun and Sells, particularly during installations. There was some discussion of joint meetings with the Albuquerque Chapter and the State Society. He also mentioned the desirability of the Chapter becoming more involved in various patriotic activities.

The Las Cruces Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution met at noon, 19 April 1997, in the Kiva Room of the Good Samaritan Village. Members present were: Charles Beer, president; James Wheatley, 1st Vice president; David Francis, Treasurer; John Smith, Secretary; Rem Alley, Nelson Holden, J. Paul Kemp, and Norman Kepler. Guests included: Evan Davies, our guest speaker Ted Morris, a prospective member; and Art Block, another prospective member. John Smith introduced Evan Davies, the regional director of the American Red Cross. The local chapter was formed on 29 May 1916, with the charter having been signed by then president Woodrow Wilson. The chapter is the oldest organization in Las Cruces. Evan discussed briefly the national Red Cross organization, the International Red Cross committee, and the history of the local chapter. The local chapter has a budget of \$130,000 and a staff of 2 1/2 persons. The Red Cross divides its activities into three areas: Must, should, and may. Must concentrates on disaster relief and support of the military (the original purpose of Red Cross). The chapter processes 5 to 10 actions per day connected with the military. The should category includes first aid, CPR and water safety. The may category consists of such activities as child care, blood pressure tests, and a book service. Mr. Davies passed out several pamphlets concerning Red Cross activities and responded to several questions. COMMITTEE REPORTS Membership Dave Francis reported that applications for John Gemoets and William Kramer had been forwarded to National. Dave also reported on a number of telephone calls he had made to prospective members, allowing the deletion of some names from our list of prospects. ROTC: John Smith reported that he had still not heard from two schools - Ocate and Gadsden. Other presentations have gone as scheduled. Patriotic John Smith reported that Norman Kepler had given him a file on the Bataan Death March and recommended that it be filed to be considered at the appropriate time next year. Eagle Scout Dave Francis reported that he had received a new list of Eagles from El Paso. There are 5 new Eagles of the current year, making a total of 20 Eagles for the year 1996-7. There was no other old business. President Beer then presented to Dave Francis his certificate of a supplemental ancestor, Walter Russell. This is Dave's seventh supplemental. Compatriot Camp had sent the Chapter some information about burial places of several Revolutionary soldiers. One copy was forwarded to National, attention the Graves Committee.

The Las Cruces Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution held its regular meeting at noon on 17 May 1997 in the Kiva Room of the Main Dining Room at Good Samaritan Village. Members present were: Charles Beer, President; Jim Wheatley, 1st Vice

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President; David Francis, Treasurer; John Smith, Secretary; Canon Dr. de Vries, Chaplain; J. Paul Kemp, and Norman Kepler. Mrs. Wheatley was a guest. Old Business There was no old business. Committee Reports Membership David Francis reported on the status of applications and a number of individuals who have expressed interest in the SAR. ROTC The Secretary reported that no response had been received from Gadsden High School to our request for an ROTC award nominee. Eagle Scouts Dave Francis reported that the names of 4 new Eagles had been received, making a total of 24 for the year 1996-7. Certificates and packets have been prepared for the four new Eagle Scouts. Patriotic Dave Francis noted that the flags had been placed on graves at the Odd Fellows Cemetery on Memorial Day. It was moved by Canon de Vries and seconded by J. Paul Kemp that our annual Flag Day ceremony at City Hall be held at 8:00 AM on Friday, 13th June. The motion was approved unanimously. The Secretary was instructed to inform Compatriot Holden of this date and request him to arrange the ceremony. (NOTE: The Secretary failed to notify Compatriot Holden and the ceremony did not take place.) New Business Canon de Vries reported that he would be attending the Memorial Day dinner held by the State Society in Albuquerque. David Francis suggested that we amend our by-laws to reflect that our fiscal year run from 1 April to 31 March to coincide with the national fiscal year. The item was tabled until the September meeting. John Smith presented a slide show with photographs from various areas of Southeast Asia, particularly Laos.

The annual joint Flag Day luncheon with the Daughters of the American Revolution, hosted by the DAR this year, was held at the Best Western motel at noon, 14 June 1997. Representatives of Las Cruces Chapter, SAR, were: President Charles Beer, 2nd Vice President Kirby Colwell, Treasurer and Mrs. Francis, Secretary John Smith, Chaplain Canon Dr. Charles and Mrs. de Vries, Mr. and Mrs. Russ Camp, Mr. and Mrs. Lee Herrick, and Mr. and Mrs. J. Paul Kemp and their granddaughter. No formal business was conducted by either Chapter. The meeting was opened by Mrs. Marcia Ersland, Regent of Dona Ana Chapter, DAR. Grace was said by Ms. Mildred Milligan. After lunch, Mrs. Ersland extended greetings to the SAR and introduced the SAR representatives. Ms. Vicki Pratt then presented a slide show giving some aspects of the history of the flag, and its proper use.

The Las Cruces Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution met at noon, 20 September 1997, in the Kiva Room of the Good Samaritan Village. Members present were Charles Beer, President, 1st Vice President James Wheatley; John Smith, Secretary; Robert Francis, Acting Treasurer; Rem Alley, Lloyd Bates, Lee Herrick, J. Paul Kemp, Norman Kepler, and Bill Wheeler. Guests were Bob Lloyd, an inactive member; Patrick McDougale, a prospective member; and Mesdames Wheatley and Herrick. After lunch, the meeting was called to order by President Beer. President Beer then introduced the guests. President Beer reported on his attendance in September to the SAR Managers' meeting in Albuquerque. Due to the death of the State President, Mr. Dale Gafford, Mr. Harry Ussery of the Santa Fe Chapter has been installed as President. Mr. Ussery hopes to increase membership and to open Chapters in Roswell, Carlsbad, and Farmington. The President General was to visit the Chapters in Santa Fe and Albuquerque on 12 and 13 October. Dues to the NSSAR have been increased by \$3 to \$20. Compa-

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triot Walter F. Baker is now Vice-President General for the Rocky Mountain District. President Beer emphasized the desirability of working more closely with the State Society and chapters. The Secretary read the minutes of the May and June 1997 meetings. The Secretary reported a note from NSSAR acknowledging receipt of the history of Las Cruces Chapter forwarded to the National Historian some months ago. On behalf of the Chairman of the Membership Committee, Dave Francis, John Smith reported on the status of prospective members, with the list growing steadily. Several people were deleted from the list of prospects since their interest in SAR was no longer active. Robert Francis, for David Francis, reported that 25 Eagle Scout certificates were presented for the year 1 July 1996 through 30 June 1997. The El Paso Scout Office indicates that a new list, containing a substantial number of names, will be forthcoming shortly. Norman Kepler, Chairman of the Patriotic Committee, reported on discussions he has had with participants in the Bataan Death March and recommended that the Chapter consider getting involving in this patriotic activity. A letter from the Ohio Society was received, requesting endorsement of Bert E. Sells for the Office of Treasurer General for the 1998-1999 term.

The Las Cruces Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution met at 12:00 noon on 18 October 1997 in the Kiva Room of the Main Dining Room at Good Samaritan Village. Members present were: Charles Beer, President; David Francis, Treasurer; John Smith, Secretary; Lee Herrick, Nelson Holden, J. Paul Kemp, and Norman Kepler. Guests were Mrs. Herrick and Mr. Gene Wadford, Director of the Yucca Council of the Boy Scouts of America, our guest speaker. President Beer introduced Mrs. Herrick. Dave Francis introduced our guest speaker, Mr. Gene Wadford, Director of the Yucca Council of the Boy Scouts of America. Mr. Wadford noted that the Yucca Council is supported by a number of churches and civic clubs, to include the SAR. The Council has about 10,000 Scouts and 3,000 volunteers. Still, only about 10 percent of the children in the Council area are involved in Scouting. The Boy Scouts receive no governmental funds. About 38,000 Scouts become Eagles nationwide per year, with somewhere between 70 and 100 coming from the Yucca Council and 18 to 30 from Las Cruces. There are currently 135 Merit Badges. Cub Scouts include those from first grade to age 11; with regular Scouts from 11 to 17. Explorer Scouts have an age cutoff of 13 and include both girls and boys. The Girl Scouts as an organization have the same aims as the Boy Scouts. Mr. Wadford acknowledged that there are several thorny problems, such as status of homosexuals, atheists, and adult leaders. The Secretary read the minutes of the September meeting. They were amended to include a reference to the Bataan Death March remembrance. Old Business The question of changing the Chapter's fiscal year was discussed and it was the consensus that no change should be made. The President read a letter to the National Society supporting the election of Compatriot Bert E. Sells of the Ohio Society to the position of Treasurer General. Committee Reports Membership. Dave Francis provided a list of potential members, with comments on the current status of their level of interest. He also provided a copy of a letter that he had sent to Compatriot Wheatley in Alamogordo, asking him to research several potential members there. ROTC Nothing significant to report. Patriotic Norman Kepler asked if it would be possible for the Chapter to make awards to the participants in the Bataan Death March remembrance. Eagle Scouts Dave Francis reported that 25 Eagle Scout certificates

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had been presented to date for the year 1 July 1996 to 30 June 1997, but no scholarship applications had been received. New Business Dave Francis reported that he had been invited to a meeting by Northwest Bank concerning the TV miniseries, Liberty - The American Revolution, to be shown from 23 to 25 November 1997. The committee has plans to publicize widely the miniseries. No further action is required by the Chapter. There was discussion as to whether the Chapter should sponsor a Law Enforcement Award in 1998 in view of the slim response to our letters in 1997. It was the consensus that the award should be continued, but could be broadened to include judges and other law enforcement personnel.

The Las Cruces Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution met at noon on 18 November 1997 in the Kiva Room of the Main Dining Room of Good Samaritan Village. Members present were: Charles Beer, President; David Francis, Treasurer; John Smith, Secretary; Canon Dr. Charles de Vries, Chaplain; Lloyd Bates, Russell Camp, Lee Herrick, Nelson Holden, and J. Paul Kemp. Visitors were Professor Frank Thayer, Assistant Professor of Journalism at the New Mexico State University, our guest speaker; and Mesdames Bates, Camp, de Vries, and Herrick. Compatriot Kemp then introduced the guest speaker, Professor Frank Thayer, who spoke on the subject of propaganda, its impact on youth, and examples of that influence, such as Murphy Brown and Ellen de Generis. He gave examples from World War II and characterized propaganda activities in Washington as routine. He noted that repetition was the key to successful propaganda, citing Russ Limbaugh as an example. Because of the power of the movies and television, we now have values set by Hollywood. He noted that values exist only when the media supports them. During a question and answer period, he discussed Vietnam, the Field of Dreams, China, North Korea, and Pearl Harbor. Mrs. Camp added her experience as a radio operator at Pearl Harbor, which differed from the news put out at that time. Under Old Business, the chapter was reminded of the 6-hour TV miniseries entitled "Liberty - The American Revolution" - to be shown on NPR 23-25 November. The Membership Chairman, Dave Francis, reported considerable activity. Lynn Nusom desires to become inactive because of his inability to attend meetings. Applications have been received or in process from Edward Campana, Gary Campbell, and Patrick McDougale. A supplemental application has been received from John Campbell. An application from Robert L. Lee was hand-carried to the State Society. Dr. Darrell Morgan, Dean of Engineering at NMSU, is a new prospective member. Dave Francis reported that the flags had been placed on the graves in the Odd Fellows Cemetery, as is customary for Veterans Day. J. Paul Kemp noted that he had attended the ceremonies at City Hall. Dave Francis made two Eagle Scout reports. One summarized the 34 Eagle Scout certificates and scholarship packets presented during the 1996-1997 Eagle Scout year. Of interest is the wide distribution of the home towns: Alamogordo, Bayard, Deming, Dona Ana, Holloman AFB, Las Cruces, Mesilla Park, Organ, Santa Teresa, Silver City, and Tyrone. In his second report, Dave reported that the names of 17 Eagles have been received during the current year. In this connection, Dave pointed out that other chapters do not use the blue folders for the Eagle Scout certificates. It was moved by J. Paul Kemp and seconded by Dave Francis that the use of the folders be discontinued; the motion was approved. Canon de Vries moved acceptance of the purchase of a quantity of "SAR WHATS", seconded by John Smith; the motion was approved. The

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president reminded the members of the Nominating Committee that the Secretary needed the list of nominees no later than 1 January 1998, so that ballots could be mailed out prior to the January meeting. It was moved by J. Paul Kemp and seconded by Canon de Vries that the George Washington's Birthday dinner committee investigate holding the banquet at the Picacho Hills Country Club again. The motion was approved.

1998

The Las Cruces Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution met at noon on 17 January 1998 in the Kiva Room of the Main Dining Room at the Good Samaritan Village. Members present were Charles Beer, President; David Francis, Treasurer; John Smith, Secretary; and Compatriots Herrick, Holden, Kemp, and Kepler. Mrs. Herrick was also in attendance. President Beer called the meeting to order, Compatriot Holden gave the Invocation, President Beer led the Pledge of Alliance, and Compatriot Francis led the SAR Pledge. There was no old business. Committee Reports Membership. Past President Charles Ganong has been reinstated as an active member, while Lynn Nussom is reverting to inactive status. Three applications, Gary Campbell, Robert L. Lee, and Patrick McDougle, are pending. A packet of membership material has been sent to Gurney Lofland, the District Chairman for the Sunshine Boy Scout District. ROTC The first ROTC award of the year was presented at Santa Teresa High School by Compatriot Baker to Cadet/Seaman Recruit Jesus Villasana. Material has been ordered from the State Society for the remaining schools for this year. Patriotic No report. Eagle Scouts. No new list of Eagle Scouts has been received in the last several months. There were no applications for the Scholarship from Eagles in Southern New Mexico for the last year. New Business The Secretary reported the receipt of 13 ballots, all voting for the slate as proposed by the Nominating Committee, and as validated by Compatriot Holden. Compatriot Smith moved, and Compatriot Holden seconded, that the officers be elected for the 1998-1999 Chapter year by acclamation. The motion was approved for the following officers:

President	Charles W. Beer
1st Vice President	James H. Wheatley
2nd Vice President	Lloyd O. Bates
Treasurer	Robert W. Francis
Secretary	John A. Smith
Chaplain	Canon Dr. Charles G. de Vries

With respect to the Law Enforcement Award, the Chief of the Las Cruces Police Department nominated Officers Sammie Hubbard and Carlos Wooten. The Dona Ana County Sheriff nominated Deputy Robert Gonzales. After the material was read and discussed, Compatriot Kemp, seconded by Compatriot Francis, recommended the award be presented to Deputy Gonzales. The motion failed. Compatriot Holden moved, and Compatriot Smith seconded, that the award be made to all three officers. The motion passed, with one "no" vote. The Secretary reported on the arrangements for the George Washington Birthday Dinner to be held at the Picacho Hills Country Club on

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Saturday, 21 February 1998. A social hour will begin at 6:00 PM, followed by dinner promptly at 7:00 PM. It was the sense of the members present that the 1998-1999 calendar presented by the Secretary should be used, subject to several modifications. Compatriot Kemp moved, Compatriot Holden seconded, and it was approved that our regular meetings during the Chapter year should continue to be held at Good Samaritan Village. The Secretary distributed a list of current committee assignments and it was agreed that the list would be studied and reviewed at the March 1998 meeting. Compatriot Francis asked that he be relieved as Chairman of the Membership Committee and Chairman of the Eagle Scout Committee. The Secretary reported that he would update the Chapter history after the installation of new officers in February and would attempt to supplement the biographic sketches contained at the end of the history.

The Las Cruces Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution held its annual George Washington's Birthday dinner at the Picacho Hills Country Club in Las Cruces on 21 February 1998. The following compatriots were present: Captain Walter F. Baker, Vice-President General; Charles Beer, President; James Wheatley, 1st Vice President; John Smith, Secretary; and Lloyd Bates, Russell Camp, Robert Francis, Lee Herrick, and J. Paul Kemp. Wives accompanied all except President Beer. Other guests were: Judge Grace Duran, our guest speaker, and her husband Udell Vigil, Sheriff Jan Cary, Dona Ana County Sheriff, and Mrs. Cary, Deputy Chief Randy Lonsway, Las Cruces Police Department, and Miss Cheree Doyle, Officer Sammie Hubbard, Las Cruces Police Department, and his fiance, Miss Maria Martinez, Officer Carlos Wooten, Las Cruces Police Department, and Mrs. Wooten, Deputy Robert Gonzales, Dona Ana County Sheriffs Department, and Mrs. Gonzales, Mr. Mark Gormley, Senior District Executive, Sunshine District of the Boy Scouts of America, Mrs. Marcia Erslund, Regent, Dona Ana Chapter, DAR, Mrs. Dollie Gummeringer (DAR) and her husband, Joe, Mrs. Freddie Olhausen (DAR), and Mr. and Mrs. Gomolak, relatives of the Wheatley's. A social hour began at 6:00 PM. President Beer brought the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. President Beer introduced the guests of the Chapter. Dinner followed. The Secretary introduced the guest speaker, Judge Grace Duran. Judge Duran discussed the structure of the legal system within New Mexico, down from the State Supreme Court through the Appeals Court, to the District Courts. She then concentrated on the 3rd District Court, of which she is a member. Her Division 6 main function is domestic affairs. She discussed its elements: Child support, domestic violence commissioners, mediators, and parent education. Some needs, which are under consideration or have been or are being augmented, are a family court, a parenting plan; a kids corner, where exchange of children from one parent to another, could take place; and a drug court. Judge Duran also mentioned that when the population of Las Cruces and Dona Ana County reaches 200,000 the city and county courts will be replaced by a metropolitan court. Judge Duran was given a resounding round of applause at the conclusion of her presentation. President Beer then presented the SAR Law Enforcement Awards to Officers Wooten and Hubbard of the Las Cruces Police Department, and Deputy Gonzales of the Dona Ana County Sheriff's Department, presenting the circumstances which merited the awards. At this point, J. Paul Kemp escorted the new officers to the head table; Capt Baker then installed the new officers. Charles Beer, President; James Wheatley, 1st Vice President; Lloyd Bates, 2nd Vice President; David Francis (represented by Robert Francis), Treasurer;

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John Smith, Secretary; and Canon Dr. Charles de Vries (represented by J. Paul Kemp). 1st Vice President Wheatley presented Past Presidents ribbons and pins to Past President CAPT Baker and to President Beer. President Beer thanked the group in attendance and all those who have helped the Chapter to a successful year, particularly in the support of Eagle Scouts, law enforcement personnel, and ROTC and Junior ROTC programs.

The Las Cruces Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution held its regular meeting at 12:00 noon, 21 March 1998, in the Kiva Room of the main dining room of Good Samaritan Village. Members present were: Charles Beer, President; Jim Wheatley, 1st Vice President; John Smith, Secretary; Charles G. de Vries, Chaplain; Nelson Holden, J. Paul Kemp, and Bill Wheeler. The application papers of a guest, Patrick McDougale, are in Louisville. The report of the Acting Treasurer was approved as read, and showed a fund balance of \$1,289.71. Included was a gift of \$1,000 from Past President David Francis presented to the Chapter shortly before his death. Old Business The Secretary reported that Compatriots Beer, de Vries, Robert Francis, Herrick, Kemp, Smith, and Wheeler attended the memorial service held at St. James' Episcopal Church on 28 February 1998 for David Francis. Canon Dr. de Vries was the con-celebrant and Robert Francis gave a eulogy to his father. It was the sense of the group that the Chapter should hold its 1999 George Washington's Birthday Dinner somewhere other than the Picacho Hills Country Club. The Club's performance was considered only adequate; the podium failed, the head table was dark, and several of the entrees were below standard. The Secretary noted that the date of the May meeting was incorrectly listed as 18 May 1998; the date should have been 16 May 1998. Committee Reports Membership. The Secretary reported that 1998-1999 dues had been forwarded to the State Society, except for John Gemoets, William Kramer, and Nicholas Seifert. Three applications are still pending at the National Society. It was noted that Compatriot Russell Camp is celebrating his 90th birthday; the Secretary was directed to write a letter of congratulations. Patriotic. The Secretary reported that he had the cemetery flags. Compatriot de Vries volunteered to place the flags this year. Eagle Scouts. No report. ROTC. Jim Wheatley volunteered to attend the Mayfield AFJRROTC dinner at the White Sands Missile Range on 16 May 1998; and Bill Wheeler volunteered to attend the Army review at New Mexico State University on 28 April 1998. New Business Compatriot Smith moved that Compatriot Holden be elected Treasurer for the year 1998-1999 by acclamation, filling the vacancy created by the death of David Francis. Compatriot de Vries seconded, and the motion was approved unanimously. Compatriot Smith escorted Compatriot Holden and President Beer duly installed him. A number of modifications were made in the committee assignments for the 1998-1999 year; a copy of the new assignment list will be forwarded to all members. The group discussed guest speakers, and listed some topics which would be of interest to the Chapter, such as computers, the RSVP program, the NMSU Foundation, the MMC Foundation, and video creation (Jeanie Gleason). A note from the Regent of Dona Ana Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution thanked our chapter for the invitation to attend our February meeting.

The Las Cruces Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution held its monthly meeting at noon on 18 April 1998 in the Kiva Room of the main dining room of the Good Sa-

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maritan Village. Members present were Compatriots: Beer, Wheatley, Holden, Smith, Herrick, Miller, and Kemp. Guests recognized by President Beer were Mesdames Wheatley, Holden, Herrick, Miller, and Kemp. Our guest speaker was Dr. Jeanne Gleason, Professor of Communications in the Department of Agriculture at the New Mexico State University. Dr. Gleason was introduced by Compatriot J. Paul Kemp. Dr. Gleason showed a short video which summarized the program she directs at the University. Her staff is a mixture of full-time professionals and students. Using high-tech electronic means, she and her staff prepare videos covering not only subjects relative to New Mexico, such as the desert and the bosques, but nutritional and environmental subjects of worldwide interest. Research has been conducted in Honduras, Guatemala, Australia, China, England, Mexico, San Salvador, and Jordan. Using no tax dollars, videos are distributed to extension services, schools, wildlife organizations, and libraries. Dr. Gleason presented a number of videos to Mrs. Wheatley for further presentation to the Alamo School system. Old Business It was noted that Compatriots Holden and Herrick attended the funeral service for Past President Charles Ganong. At the request of Compatriot Holden, Compatriot Kemp was appointed Chairman of the GW Birthday Dinner Committee, assisted by Compatriot Holden and President Beer. Committee Reports Membership. Compatriot Holden reported that three applications were still at National (Lee, Campbell, McDougale). A fourth application (Campana) had been returned for additional documentation. According to Chapter files, Compatriots Gemoets and Wheeler have been declared inactive by State. Patriotic. No report. Eagle Scouts. No report. ROTC. Five detachments had responded; certificates were prepared and arrangements made for presentations of certificates and medals. Gadsden and TorC had not yet replied. New Business Compatriot Holden noted that attendance at our regular and special meetings had been dropping recently, with only seven members at this meeting and nine at the George Washington's Birthday dinner. It was suggested that alternative meeting times, or other possibilities to increase attendance, be discussed at the May meeting, with Friday evening supper or Saturday morning breakfast as possible suggestions.

The Las Cruces Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution met at noon on 16 May 1998 in the Kiva Room of the Main Dining Room of the Good Samaritan Village. Compatriots present were: Bates, Beer, Cantrell, de Vries, Herrick, Kemp, Smith, and Wheatley. Mrs. Herrick was a guest. Compatriot Smith presented a discussion of stamp collecting and the educational value thereof. There was no old business. Committee reports, i.e. Membership, Patriotic, Eagle Scouts, and ROTC, were routine. A discussion then took place about the meeting time and place. It was suggested that weekends were not a suitable time, particularly for the younger members. Also mentioned was changing meetings to the evening. There was no consensus, however. It was also suggested that a letter be sent to the membership at large in order to get additional views on this matter.

The Las Cruces Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution held its annual Flag Day meeting jointly with the Dona Ana Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution at noon on 20 June 1998 in the Crafts Room of the Good Samaritan Village. SAR members present and their guests were: CAPT Walter F. Baker, Mrs. Baker, their son

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William, and Mrs. Virginia Francis, widow of our late Past President, David W. Francis, Lloyd O. Bates, Mrs. Bates, and their granddaughter Lauren (also DAR), Charles W. Beer, Robert W. Francis, and his brother David Lee W. Herrick, and his wife Ruth Nelson M. Holden, Mrs. Holden, and their daughter and son-in-law Jane (also DAR), and Mike Madrid, J. Paul Kemp, his wife Barbara (also DAR), and guest Ruth Kelly (also DAR), Norman Kepler, John A. Smith, and his wife Geraldine, MSGT James H. Wheatley, and his wife. DAR members present and their guests, in addition to those listed above were: Elizabeth Wallace, Marjorie Day, Mildred Milligan, Blanche Goldsmith, Anita Worthington and husband Bob, Dorothy Sprinkle and husband Caroline Darr. Blanche Goldsmith, Past Regent of the Dona Ana Chapter, introduced the DAR members and their guests. Following, President Beer introduced the SAR members and their guests. Our guest speaker was Dr. Evan Davies, who spoke on the church and civil records in England which he researched while on a sabbatical. He discussed the types of records held at various church levels - parish, archdeaconry, and diocese. Some of the records were divided into categories, such as Jewish, Anabaptists, and Catholic; these categories could not be members of the Established Church. He noted that none of these records are on file in the Records office in London - only civil records are there. CAPT Baker then presented to Virginia Francis the SAR Liberty Medal which had been awarded shortly before David's death. Mrs. Francis acknowledged the award. CAPT Baker added a few words concerning membership and read a "Toast to the Flag."

The Las Cruces Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution met at noon on 18 September 1998 in the Kiva Room of the Main Dining Room at Good Samaritan Village. Members and guests present were: President Beer, First Vice President and Mrs. Wheatley, Second Vice President and Mrs. Bates and granddaughter, Treasurer Holden, Secretary Smith, Chaplain and Mrs. de Vries, and Compatriots Herrick and Mrs. Herrick, Kemp and Mrs. Kemp, Kepler, Lee, McDougle, and Wheeler. Our guest speaker, Dr. Jamie Lara Bronstein was accompanied by her husband. The President greeted the visitors present. The Secretary then introduced the guest speaker, Dr. Jamie Lara Bronstein, Assistant Professor of History, the New Mexico State University. Dr. Bronstein spoke on the topic Manpower Resources in the Revolutionary War. Her outstanding presentation gave the Chapter new insights into the diversity of the forces fighting on the Revolutionary side, to include homeless, Europeans, Blacks, Indians, and Women. Dr. Bronstein had obviously spent considerable time in preparing her paper and was given a solid round of applause at the end of her presentation. The Secretary suggested that it would be of interest to the National Headquarters. Old Business The Secretary reported that the membership certificates for Compatriots Campbell, Lee, and McDougle had finally been received and sent on to the recipients. Lapel buttons were presented to Compatriots Lee and McDougle. The Secretary reported that he had sent a letter of congratulations to Compatriot and Mrs. Rem Alley, on the occasion of their 90th birthdays and 72d wedding anniversary. The Secretary later received a call from Rem thanking the Chapter for the letter. Committee Reports Membership Compatriot Holden also reported the death of Mr. Edward Campana of Alamogordo, who was in the final stages of applying to the SAR. ROTC The Secretary recapitulated the 1997-1998 ROTC year and noted that nothing had been heard from Truth or Consequences for 2 years now. Eagle Scouts. Compatriot de Vries reported that he was still trying to rees-

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tablish contact with the proper Scout officials to coordinate our Scout programs. Patriotic Compatriot de Vries reported that, assisted by Compatriot Cantrell, he had placed flags for Memorial Day at the Odd Fellows' cemetery. Material passed on by the late David Francis had been of great assistance in locating the proper graves. New Business The President reported receipt of a message on the Knight Essay contest for 1998-1999. It was moved by Compatriot Smith, seconded by Compatriot Holden, and unanimously approved that this subject be tabled for the year. It was mentioned by the Treasurer that if we raised the noon meal fee to \$6.00, this would not only pay part of the fees for non-paying guests, but would also make handling change easier. It was moved by Compatriot de Vries, seconded by Compatriot Kemp, and unanimously approved that this change in the meal fee be made. The Secretary asked for a show of hands on how many members would be interested in receiving a copy of our complete up-to-date roster, and promised to have them available at the next meeting.

The Las Cruces Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution met at noon, Saturday, 17 October 1998, in the Kiva Room of the Main Dining Room at Good Samaritan Village. Members present were: Charles Beer, President; James Wheatley, 1st Vice President; Charles de Vries, Chaplain; John Smith, Secretary; and members Kemp and Herrick. Guests were: Mrs. Herrick, Mrs. Wheatley, and the guest speaker, Frank Geisel from the Farm and Ranch Heritage Museum located on East University Avenue in Las Cruces. Compatriot de Vries then introduced Mr. Geisel, who discussed the history, current status, and plans for the future, with emphasis on the educational aspects. He discussed the milking of cows and the feeding of the milk to calves by visiting children. Old Business The Secretary showed a copy of a new SAR publication, Headquarters Dispatch, which had an article concerning a project to discuss sources of Revolutionary War manpower. The Secretary wrote to Dr. Bronstein, asking if she would still like to submit her paper. The Secretary passed out copies of an updated roster of members inactive members, and prospective members. Committee Reports Membership. A supplemental application has been forwarded by Compatriot John Campbell. Mr. Bledsoe in Alamogordo asked to be deleted from our mailing list due to his bad health. ROTC. The Secretary asked for permission to purchase ROTC medals for the 1998-1999 school year. There was no objection. Eagle Scout No report. Patriotic The Secretary reported receipt of an invitation to the Chapter to attend the Veterans' Day Assembly on 10 November 1998 at Mayfield High School. New Business The Secretary announced that our November speaker will be Dr. Arthur Karshmer from New Mexico State university, who will discuss the Y2K problem. In checking with State Society, the Secretary was informed that the cost of a life membership in SAR had been changed to a flat fee of \$500.00. There is no longer a sliding scale.

The Las Cruces Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution met in the main dining room of Good Samaritan Village at 1:00 PM on Saturday, 21 November 1998. Members present were Charles Beer, President; James H. Wheatley, First Vice President; Lloyd O. Bates, Second Vice President; Nelson M. Holden, Jr., Treasurer; the Reverend Canon Dr. Charles G. de Vries, Chaplain; John A. Smith, Secretary; and Compatriots Baker, Camp, Cantrell, Herrick, Kemp, Kepler, Lee, Morris, and Wheeler. Spouses present were: Mesdames Baker, Camp, Cantrell, Herrick, and Wheatley. Other guests were Ri-

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chard Laferriere, Compatriot Smith's son-in-law; William Baker, son of CAPT and Mrs. Baker; Mr. and Mrs. Buescher from the Dona Ana Chapter of the DAR; and the guest speaker, Dr. Arthur I. Karshmer. Five residents of the Good Samaritan Village joined us for the speaker's presentation. Compatriot Smith then introduced the guest speaker, Dr. Arthur I. Karshmer, Head of the Department of Computer Science at the New Mexico State University, who spoke on the Y2K (Year 2000) and associated problems. After describing the problems created by the use of two-digit dates, he discussed the ramifications due to the international economic system and the massive work needed to ensure that all of the U.S. government systems will work. He also pointed out some future areas of concern: we will someday be running out of numbers for telephone exchanges and Social Security files. Dr. Karshmer concluded with some advice to those with home computers on how to prepare. Back up all of your files, particularly your data files, as close to 31 December 1999 as possible, and then don't use your computer for several days. Doctor Karshmer was accorded a hearty round of applause after his presentation. Compatriot Kemp reported on his research concerning places for the February 1999 George Washington's Birthday. He recommended that we go to the Double Eagle and so moved, Compatriot Baker seconded, and the motion was carried. The Membership Chairman, Compatriot Holden, had no activity to report. Compatriot Smith indicated that he had stopped at the ROTC Office at the Hot Springs High School in Truth or Consequences, but the instructors were at a conference. Compatriots Wheeler and de Vries stated that they were working with the State Society with respect to the Scout program. Compatriot Kepler had nothing to report in the patriotic area. The Secretary reported that, beginning with the January meeting, the price charged by the Good Samaritan Village for our lunch will be increased to \$6.25. With the supplement previously adopted, the total price will be \$6.50. It was agreed that the January meeting will be for administrative purposes, with no guest speaker. Items to be considered are the election of officers and the selection of law enforcement medalists. The Nominating Committee was reminded that the Secretary needs the proposed slate in early January to go with the January meeting notices. President Beer reminded the group that this would be his last meeting, as he is moving to California to care for his daughter.

1999

The Las Cruces Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution met at noon on 16 January 1999 in the Creative Arts Room of the Good Samaritan Village. Members present were First Vice-President Jim Wheatley; Second Vice-President Lloyd Bates; Treasurer, Nelson Holden; Secretary, John A. Smith; and members Herrick, Kemp, and Wheeler. Guests were Mrs. Wheatley and Mrs. Herrick. In Old Business, Compatriot Kemp reported that the George Washington's Birthday Dinner at the Double Eagle Restaurant in Mesilla is on schedule. Committee Reports: Membership. Compatriot Holden indicated he had one application for processing. ROTC Compatriot Smith reported that the annual letters concerning our awards program had gone out to the ROTC and JRROT units in our area. Compatriot Smith will again try to contact the TorC unit in the near future. Compatriot Wheatley indicated his desire to attend the Mayfield awards ceremony. Eagle Scouts. There was no report. Patriotic The Committee Chairman, Compatriot Kepler, has been in the hospital and a nursing facility since 3 December

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1998, but is about to be released to his home. There was, therefore, no report. New Business Election of officers. Compatriot Holden validated that all 13 ballots on hand had voted for the slate as recommended by the Nominating Committee. Compatriot Smith moved that the slate be adopted by acclamation; Compatriot Wheeler seconded, and the motion was approved unanimously. The slate consists of:

President	James H. Wheatley
1st Vice President	Lloyd O. Bates
2nd Vice President	Robert F. Lee
Treasurer	William C. Wheeler
Chaplain	The Rev. Canon Dr. Charles G. de Vries
Secretary	John A. Smith

Review of committee assignments. The following changes were made in committee assignments:

Finance Bill Wheeler replaces Nelson Holden as Chairman

Program J. Paul Kemp replaces Charles de Vries as Chairman

Chapter History Delete Charles Beer

Patriotic Affairs Add Paul Cantrell

Washington's Birthday Replace Charles Beer with J. Paul Kemp

The 1999-2000 Chapter calendar was adopted as presented. The members reviewed the two nominations for the Law Enforcement Award. The Las Cruces Police Department submitted the names of four detectives involved in the Carly Martinez killing. The Southern New Mexico Correctional Facility nominated Lieutenant Donna Simonetti, who until 31 December 1998, was commander of the Facility Tactical Team. After considerable discussion, the members selected Lt. Simonetti, and instructed the Secretary to inform the Las Cruces Police Department that we were holding Chief Bunnell's recommendation for consideration next year after the legal cases involving the suspects had been completed. Compatriot Holden moved these actions, Compatriot Wheeler seconded, and the motion was passed unanimously. The Secretary reported that he had ordered two Certificates of Appreciation from National. One was for presentation to President Charles Beer, since the Chapter had not recognized his services as President at the November meeting prior to his move to California. It was moved by Compatriot Wheatley and seconded by Compatriot Holden that the other certificate be presented to Compatriot Smith for his services as Secretary. The motion was approved. It was noted that no nominations had been obtained for the top officers of the State Society. The Secretary was directed to write to the State Society endorsing the candidacy of Compatriot de Vries for third vice-president, as moved by Compatriot Holden, seconded by Compatriot Wheeler and approved unanimously. The Secretary reported receipt from National of new guidelines for the JRROTC program. The new program establishes complicated procedures for awards and also establishes an essay program which requires considerable paperwork by both the schools and the SAR chapter. After discussion, it was moved by Compatriot Wheeler, seconded by Compatriot Kemp, and approved, that the Secretary be directed to inform the State Society that Las Cruces Chapter would not implement the proposed program, but would continue to function as we have successfully done over a number of years. The Secretary reported that Dr.

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Bronstein indicated she did not desire to duplicate the work on sources of Revolutionary War manpower resources, as indicated in the first issue of the "Headquarters Dispatch." A letter of thanks was sent to Dr. Karshmer for his excellent presentation at our November meeting on the Y2K problem. The Secretary reported that orders had been placed for ROTC and Law Enforcement medals and certificates. The Secretary indicated he had sent an updated roster of our currently active members to the SAR magazine, since he had indications that at least one of our members who has recently moved was not receiving the magazine.

The Las Cruces Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution held its annual George Washington's Birthday dinner at the Double Eagle Restaurant in Mesilla, New Mexico, with a social hour beginning at 6:00 PM, followed by dinner at 7:00. Prior to dinner, Acting President Wheatley called the meeting to order, Capt Baker gave the Invocation, Acting President Wheatley led the Pledge of Allegiance, and Past President Cantrell led the SAR Pledge. Acting President Wheatley then introduced our guests: Mrs. Patsy Duran, Director of the Memorial Medical Center Foundation, Lt. Donna Simonetti, recipient of our Law Enforcement Award and her husband Joe, Mrs. Elena Cruz, Director of Human Resources at the Southern New Mexico Correctional Facility and her husband Carlos, Mr. and Mrs. Gomolak, relatives of the Wheatley's, and their children Travis (a Navy JROTC cadet), Andrea, Heather, and Katie; and the following faithful wives: Elsa Baker, Iva Bates, Idella Cantrell, Barbara Kemp, Geraldine Smith, and Doris Wheatley. Members present were Compatriots Baker, Bates, Cantrell, Kemp, Smith, and Wheatley. The Secretary then introduced the guest speaker, Mrs. Patsy Duran, who discussed the past, present, and future of the Memorial Medical Center. The genesis of the present hospital came from a small hospital founded by Dr. McBride. As this facility was outgrown, a new hospital was built at the corner of Alameda and Lohman. After 20 years, this facility, in turn, was outgrown and the present building on South Telshor was constructed. This raised the number of beds to 286. This "new" facility is now 25 years old. Originally the building included only four floors, but two more were added in 1980-1982. Until recently the name of the facility was Memorial General Hospital. Other buildings have been constructed, to include a cancer center, several pre-natal care buildings, an out-patient surgery wing, a family practice teaching center, and a non-emergency prompt care unit. About 65% of surgery is now conducted at the out-patient wing. Recently, the hospital became a 501c(3) nonprofit entity, replacing the former city and county ownership. The hospital has major plans for the next few years, requiring \$42 million. Construction has already started on a new facility on North Main Street, called the Healthplex, which will focus initially on out-patient surgery and imaging. A new addition to the hospital proper will include new emergency facilities and will allow provision of 100 private rooms. The Memorial Medical Center Foundation was originally founded to assist in preventing the sale of the hospital. Today its contribution to the hospital helps fund many of the hospital's programs.

Acting President Wheatley then presented our 1998 Law Enforcement Award to Lt. Donna Simonetti of the Southern New Mexico Correctional Facility. Compatriot Cantrell then escorted the new officers present to the head table, namely President-Elect Wheatley, First Vice-President-Elect Bates, and Secretary-Elect Smith. Those Compa-

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triotis elected to fill the offices of 2nd Vice President, Treasurer, and Chaplain were unable to attend. CAPT Baker then installed the officers present in due form, and reminded the members of their duty to support the elected officers. President Wheatley in a brief address, asked the members to seek out new members so that the organization can remain viable. He also spoke of the honor of being elected President of the Chapter.

The Las Cruces Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution met at noon, 20 March 1999, in the Kiva Room of the Main Dining Room of Good Samaritan Village. Members present were: President Wheatley, 1st Vice President Bates, 2nd Vice President Lee, Treasurer Wheeler, and Secretary Smith, as well as Compatriots Baker, Cantrell, Herrick, Holden, Kemp. Guests were Mrs. Wheatley and Mrs. Herrick, and our guest speaker Miss Eva Madrid. Our guest speaker, Miss Eva Madrid, is a sophomore in the School of Agriculture and Home Economics at the New Mexico State University. She serves as an Ambassador from her school to other schools at the University, as well as to community activities. She discussed her activities for 4H and FFA while in school at Hatch, culminating in her presidency of the state FFA. Compatriot Holden, the outgoing Treasurer, reminded the Audit Committee that it should audit the last year's accounts. Committee Reports: Membership. Compatriot Holden reported that the supplemental submitted by Compatriot John Campbell had been sent to State. ROTC Compatriot Smith reported that Compatriot Baker would present our award at Santa Teresa High School on 31 March 1999, and that Smith would represent the Chapter at the combined Army-Air Force ROTC review on 13 April 1999. Compatriot Wheatley will attend the dining in of the Mayfield Junior ROTC on 15 May 1999. Eagle Scouts. After Compatriot Baker indicated he would be willing to take over the Eagle Scout function, it was moved by Compatriot Wheeler and seconded by Compatriot Smith, and approved, that Compatriot Baker be made Chairman of the Eagle Scout Committee. Patriotic Memorial Day will be held on 31 May 1999, with the Navy ceremony at the Picacho Road Bridge over the Rio Grande at 0800, followed by a ceremony at Hillcrest Cemetery at 0900. Flag Day should be planned for 0800, Monday, 14 June 1999 at City Hall. New Business: A discussion then ensued concerning steps to increase attendance at our regular and special meetings. Compatriot Baker summarized the discussion by suggesting that we alternate breakfast and lunch meetings, that the September meeting be a cookout or potluck, and that the George Washington's Birthday Dinner be changed to a lunch meeting, with reduced cost. Compatriot Smith moved, Compatriot Kemp seconded, and the motion was approved, that we adopt the suggestions above. The Secretary reported that a new sliding scale for life membership had replaced the fixed fee of \$500. The Secretary was directed to write a letter of condolence to Compatriot George Sells on the death of his brother Bert, another active Compatriot.

The Las Cruces Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution met at 0800 on 17 April 1999 in the Kiva Room of the Main Dining Room of the Good Samaritan Village. Members present were: President Wheatley, Secretary Smith; Chaplain de Vries, and Compatriots Baker, Cantrell, Herrick, Holden, Kemp, and Kepler. Guests were Dr. Steven Pasternack, our guest speaker, and Mesdames Wheatley, Herrick, and Kepler. Compatriot Smith then introduced Dr. Steven Pasternack, the Chairman of the Journalism Department at the New Mexico State University. Dr. Pasternack discussed the past,

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current, and future of the nation of Rwanda, which he had visited shortly before our meeting. This was his second visit to Rwanda. He talked about the ethnic problems between the Hutus and the Tutsis, resulting in 1,000,000 dead out of a total population of 8,000,000. A young population, only 20 percent are high school graduates, and the literacy rate is at about 60 percent. One of the major difficulties is in proceeding to take legal action against the people who committed genocide. About 130,000 are in prison, and the legal system is slow to reduce this number. The nation is experimenting with a system called 'Gacaca,' in which legal action is decentralized for those accused of relatively minor crimes. Dr. Pasternack passed around some disconcerting photographs showing some of the results of the genocide.

There was no Old Business. Committee Reports: Membership. Compatriot Holden reported that the supplemental application for John Campbell had been submitted to State. Compatriot Smith reported that the State had listed Compatriot William Kramer as deceased. Compatriot Baker said he would check with Compatriot Kramer's mother to verify this. Compatriot Smith also reported that Prospect Tabor from Alamogordo had moved to Wisconsin. ROTC Compatriot Smith reported that Compatriot Baker had made an ROTC presentation at Santa Teresa High School to Cadet/Seaman Apprentice Krystal Saenz on 31 March 1999. Compatriot Smith was to make the presentation to Cadet Terrina Harford of the Army ROTC unit at NMSU, but Cadet Harford was not present. Compatriot Baker will make the presentation to the AF ROTC unit at NMSU on 1 May 1999 and Compatriot Wheatley to Cadet Tanya Morris at Mayfield High School's award ceremony on 15 May 1999. No word has been received from Ocate, Gadsden, and Hot Springs High Schools. Compatriot Cantrell indicated he would attend the ROTC ceremony at the Pan American Center on 24 April 1999. Eagle Scouts. Compatriot Baker volunteered to take the duties of chairman of the Eagle Scout committee. Patriotic Compatriot Kepler summarized coming activities, to include placement of flags on Memorial Day. New Business: Compatriot Baker reported on the formation of the United Veterans Council of Dona Ana County. One of the significant aims of the Mesilla Valley Veterans is to be able to furnish burial details for deceased veterans in case the government is unable to do so. The Council is also interested in recognition in the year 2000 of the 50th anniversary of the outbreak of the Korean Conflict. The Secretary has forms to fill out for members who desire to participate in these activities. Compatriot Wheatley appointed a committee of Compatriots Baker, Bates, and Smith to serve as a Veterans' Affairs Committee. This Committee will be in addition to the Patriotic Affairs committee. Compatriot Baker emphasized the possibilities of increasing our Chapter membership in the long run by bringing eligible children into the CAR initially and eventually transferring them to the SAR.

The Las Cruces Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution met in the Kiva Room of the Main Dining Room of Good Samaritan Village at noon, Saturday, 15 May 1999. Officers present were: President Wheatley, Treasurer Wheeler, Secretary Smith, and Chaplain de Vries. Other members present were: Baker, Herrick, Kemp, and Kepler. Guests were Mrs. Wheatley and Mrs. Herrick, and our speaker, Supervisory Scientist Kris M. Havstad. The guests were introduced. Compatriot Kemp introduced our guest speaker, Ms M. Havstad, Supervisory Scientist at the Jornada Experimental Range

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some 20 miles northeast of Las Cruces. Mr. Havstad discussed the purpose and physical characteristics of the Jornada Range, and its relationship to the Department of Agriculture, the National Science Foundation, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Air Force, and New Mexico State University. The actual headquarters of the Range is at the University. Adjacent to the Range is the Chihuahuan Desert Rangeland Research Center. The Range proper totals over 100,000 acres. Personnel number 45. Using visual aids, Mr. Havstad showed the dramatic change in the character of the vegetation on the Range over the 70 years, with much less useful terrain now. There was no old business.

Committee Reports: Membership: The Secretary reported that the death of Compatriot Kramer had been greatly exaggerated and that State had been notified. ROTC: The Secretary reported that, with the exception of Gadsden, arrangements had been made for ROTC awards to the other five units. No response was received from Hot Springs High School in Truth or Consequences. [NOTE: The award to Gadsden was subsequently delivered.] Eagle Scouts: Compatriot Baker reported that he had been in touch with personnel in Albuquerque to start getting the program back on track. Patriotic: Reference was made to the dedication of the new Veterans' Park on Roadrunner Parkway on 28 May. On Memorial Day, 30 May, the Navy ceremony will be held at 0800 adjacent to the Picacho Avenue bridge over the Rio Grande, followed by the ceremony at 0900 at Hillcrest Cemetery, with BG Jerry Laws as the guest speaker. The parade of lights will be held on 3 July. The Chapter will sponsor the annual Flag Day ceremony on the steps of City Hall at 0800, Monday, 14 June. [NOTE: The Flag Day ceremony went as arranged. The American and New Mexican flags were raised by Boy Scouts Shane Enoch and Ryan Hams of Troop 64, assisted by Compatriots Kemp and Wheeler. Councilor Jose V. Fietze brought greetings from the City of Las Cruces and made brief remarks on the SAR. CAPT Baker then gave a stimulating presentation on the history of the flag, with numerous facts not generally known. The ceremony was closed with thanks to all who participated. There was a total of approximately 15 people.] New Business: The Secretary gave a brief summary of the new publication "Headquarters Dispatch" and reported on the restructuring of the National Headquarters. CAPT Baker expanded on this aspect.

As guests of the Dona Ana Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, the Las Cruces Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution met at the Double Eagle in Mesilla, New Mexico, at noon, Saturday, 19 June 1999. SAR members and guests were: Vice President Lloyd Bates, Mrs. Bates, and granddaughter Lauren; Chaplain Charles G. de Vries; Treasurer Bill Wheeler; Secretary and Mrs. John Smith; Past President and Mrs. Nelson Holden; Past President and Mrs. J. Paul Kemp; Mr. and Mrs. Lee Herrick; and Mr. Norman Kepler. Total attendance was approximately 40. The Regent, Mrs. Georgianna McDougle, called the meeting to order, followed by various DAR ceremonies. Past Regent Mrs. Marcia Erslund gave a presentation on the Congressional Medal of Honor. After lunch, Mr. Dave Smith, a history teacher at Mayfield High School, gave an excellent presentation on the importance of history, the relative closeness in time of historic events and personnel in U.S. history, and some of the techniques that he uses in teaching. Mr. Smith received a hearty round of applause at the conclusion of his presentation. The SAR Chapter conducted no business at this meeting.

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The Las Cruces Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution met at the home of Compatriot and Mrs. Paul Cantrell at 5:30 PM on Saturday, 18 September 1999, for a potluck supper. In addition to the Cantrells, members and spouses present were: Compatriot and Mrs. Jim Wheatley, Compatriot and Mrs. Lloyd Bates, Compatriot and Mrs. Nelson Holden, Compatriot and Mrs. Lee Herrick, and Compatriot John Smith. The arrangements made by the Cantrells were superb, and all of the potluck dishes were delicious. This was strictly a social evening, and no Chapter business was transacted.

The Las Cruces Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution met in the Kiva Room of the Main Dining Room at the Good Samaritan Village at noon on 16 October 1999. Members present were President Jim Wheatley, 1st Vice President Lloyd Bates, Treasurer Bill Wheeler, Secretary John Smith; Past Presidents Paul Cantrell, Nelson Holden, and J. Paul Kemp; and Compatriot Lee Herrick. Mrs. Wheatley and Mrs. Hemck were also present. The guest speaker failed to appear. In his absence, Compatriot Kemp gave a brief resume of his career. He was raised on a large farm, attended the University of Tennessee, worked with the Tennessee Valley Authority as a senior inspector, and served many years with the Extension Service of the Department of Agriculture, from which he retired. Committee Reports: Membership. Compatriot Baker has submitted several applications for membership. ROTC Nothing to report. Eagle Scouts. Compatriot de Vries has turned over to the Secretary a large amount of material, much of which appears to involve our Eagle Scout program. Patriotic Veterans' Day ceremonies will include the Navy ceremony at the bridge over the Rio Grande on Picacho, followed by an 11:00 AM ceremony at Post 10 of the American Legion. Compatriots Smith and Cantrell will place the flags in the Odd Fellows' cemetery. Mayfield High School will hold their annual tribute to veterans on 10 November. New Business: The Secretary reported the death of Past President Russ Camp; there were no local ceremonies. Mary Libbin, wife of prospect Jim Libbin, died of cancer. He also reported that Compatriot and Mrs. de Vries had returned to St Kitts for about 3 months to fill a clergy position for that period. It was moved by Compatriot Wheeler and seconded by Compatriot Kemp that a donation of \$50.00 be given to the Mayfield High School band to help defray costs of the band's appearance in the Rose Bowl parade in Pasadena, California. The motion was approved. After a discussion concerning attendance at meetings, it was moved by Compatriot Holden, seconded by Compatriot Wheeler, and approved, that the Secretary be directed to poll the membership as to reducing the number of meetings to four per year, to wit, February for installation of officers and presentation of awards, June for our joint meeting with the DAR, September as a regular meeting, and November for election of officers.

The Las Cruces Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution met at 0800, 20 November 1999, in the main dining room of the Good Samaritan Village. Members present were President James Wheatley, First Vice President Lloyd Bates, Secretary John Smith, and members Paul Cantrell, J. Paul Kemp, Norman Kepler, Joe Miller, and Ted Morris. Guests were Mrs. Wheatley, Mrs. Kepler, and Mr. Steve Brown, our guest speaker. The President then introduced the guests. Compatriot Smith introduced the guest speaker, Mr. Steve Brown, Executive Vice President of the Bank of the Rio Grande, who discussed the current trend of mergers of banks in the United States. He

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mentioned that the 10th largest banks have 75 percent of the assets. He then spoke about the advantages and disadvantages of large and small banks. He emphasized that the smaller, "community" banks can provide most of the services that the larger banks do because of the advent of electronic banking, but can also provide much better personal service. Mr. Brown then passed out "care" packages to the attendees. The Secretary presented a report on the survey conducted to determine if the Chapter should go to a four-times-a-year meeting schedule. He noted that the vote was almost unanimous, and presented remarks made by several members. He then moved, Compatriot Cantrell seconded, and the members present approved the change in the schedule. The new schedule will be as follows: In February, we will hold the annual George Washington's Birthday meal, but at noon rather than evening; this meeting will include the installation of officers and award of any Law Enforcement medals. In June, we will meet jointly with the DAR. A regular business meeting will be held in September, with the November meeting being held on the second Saturday of the month, at which time officers for the next year will be elected. It was informally agreed that the February 2000 luncheon would be held at Eddie's Bar and Grill. There were no significant committee reports, nor was there any new business. The Recessional was led by Compatriot Bates, the Benediction was given by Compatriot Cantrell, and the President declared the meeting closed.

1990's Presidents

	<u>President</u>	<u>National #</u>	<u>State #</u>
1990	CAPT Walter F. Baker, USN-Retired	133792	756
1991	Dr. David W. Francis	132827	746
1992	Rev. Dr. Canon Charles G. de Vries	106855	704
1993	Rev. Dr. Canon Charles G. de Vries	106855	704
1994	Mr. Nelson M. Holden, Jr.	136112	772
1995	Mr. J. Paul Kemp	137326	792
1996	Mr. Paul B. Cantrell	138611	807
1997	Mr. Charles W. Beer	141187	821
1998	Mr. Charles W. Beer	141187	821
1999	MSGT James H. Wheatley, USAF Retired	147024	872