

Arkansas Society of the Sons of the American Revolution
President's Message
22 May 2020

Hello Compatriots,

The past four months have been tumultuous at best. COVID-19 Pandemic, economic chaos, unemployment, and social distancing, all phrases the US has not experienced in many years. These issues have, in fact, had an impact on the Arkansas Society of the Sons of the American Revolution operations and National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. Both organizations have had to develop alternative measures to conduct limited business including email, Zoom teleconferencing, and telephone conferences. You will be happy to know that the Arkansas Society has not had any COVID-19 deaths. The NSSSAR has been partially operational during the COVID-19 restricted operations based on National and Kentucky restrictions. Merchandising has been basically closed but has recently been reopened.

Out of an abundance of caution and concern for the health and well-being of our compatriots, we chose to cancel the 2020 Annual Convention, the Board of Governors meeting and the Patriot Fund Board of Trustees meeting.

In lieu of these in person meetings, the Board of Governors and Board of Trustees conducted it first Zoom video teleconference (VTC) on April 5, 2020. It was an outstanding event with 9 of the 11 Chapter presidents attending either on the phone or on-line. The National Trustee, State VP, Treasurer, State Chaplain and Webmaster also participated. The teleconference was scheduled for about one hour but lasted just over 3 hours. There was that much business to conduct. During the VTC, the participants discussed:

- a. The Patriot Fund financial status, investment company and investment strategy. We also elected Patriot Fund Chairman and Trustees. Chairman Richard O'Connell was reelected to that position.
- b. Reviewed the State Mission and Vision Statements and the 4 Focus Initiatives for this presidential term.
- c. Reviewed the Constitution and Bylaws development process and established a voting protocol for getting these two foundational documents approved by the membership. Final Chapter/membership voting was to be achieved by May 11, 2020. The vote has been tabulated. 7 of 11 chapters cast 162 votes approving the new Constitution and Bylaws. This effective 11 May 2020 represents 59% of the active membership.
- d. We reviewed the 2020 Dues and Fees structure and approved the new schedule included below. This is a major adjustment in business operations. The BOG believes this new fee schedule will result in business being conducted using Society resources rather than unreimbursed personal resources. Second the Board of Governors approved an Arkansas Society

Life Membership program. Both the fee schedule and the life membership application process will be published on the website.

- e. The Secretary's membership report showed that membership is increasing, albeit slowly. An issue is that the membership is not actively participating in the business operations of the Society. We need more volunteers. If you are interested, see the website for openings or contact your chapter president to get his endorsement.
- f. The treasurer's report was reviewed and approved.
- g. Chapter Competition rules and procedures were reviewed. Compatriot Charles McLemore is running this program.
- h. The Eagle Scout program was reviewed and report approved. Also, the Eagle scout award was increased from \$500 to \$1,000. Compatriot Allen Bush is the Chairman of that Committee.
- i. Future Zoom VTCs are June 27, Oct 3 and Dec 19. The Oct 3 will be the mid-year conference.

As mentioned above, the ARSSAR membership approved the new constitution and bylaws. This was a major strategic undertaking by the rewrite committee chaired by Compatriot Richard O'Connell. Also, the membership approved the dues/fees and life membership schedule, which was a strong financial change in society business. Both efforts illustrate what can be done if members get involved. Thanks to all those who contributed.

Calendar of Events:

Date:	Event:
June 27	BOG VTC
July 9-15	National Congress, Richmond, VA. Determination to be made whether live or virtual.
August 28-29	South Central District Conference, Richardson, TX.
October 3	Mid-year convention (Strategic planning conference) Hot Springs Village, AR
December 19	BOG VTC
March 2021	Annual Conference, Location TBD.

Best Regards
David Dorrrough
President, ARSSAR

Dues/Fees Schedule. Effective 4/5/2020. All applications submitted after this date should include the appropriate fees and dues.

ARSSAR FEE SCHEDULEA1:G16	APPROVED BY BOG 4/5/2020	% of NSSAR	NSSAR FEE SCHEDULE
FULL MEMBER DUES	\$ 21.00	60%	\$ 35.00
APPLICATION FEES	\$ 12.00	15%	\$ 80.00
SUPPLEMENTAL APP	\$ 12.00	20%	\$ 60.00
NEW MEMBER REG APP 18 - 25	\$ 6.00	20%	\$ 30.00
NEW MEMBER FAMILY PLAN	\$ 6.00	20%	\$ 30.00
JR MEMBER APP < 18 ESTABLISHED LINE FEE	\$ 6.00	20%	\$ 30.00
JR MEMBER APP < 18 ESTABLISHED NEW LINE FEE	\$ 12.00	15%	\$ 80.00
JR MEMBER APP < 18 ESTABLISHED LINE DUES	\$ 5.00		\$ 5.00
JR MEMBER APP < 18 NEW LINE DUES	\$ 5.00		\$ 5.00
MEMORIAL FEE	\$ 12.00	15%	\$ 80.00
MEMORIAL DUES (ONE TIME)	\$ 5.00		\$ 35.00
YOUTH REGULAR DUES	\$ 5.00		\$ 35.00
YOUTH JUNIOR DUES	\$ 5.00		\$ 5.00
REINSTATEMENT DUES	\$ 21.00	60%	\$ 35.00
TRANSFER FROM ANOTHER SOCIETY BEFORE 1 SEP	\$ 21.00		
LIFE MEMBERSHIP IS BASED ON 60% OF THE NSSAR MEMBERSHIP FEE. ARSSAR LIFE MEMBERS MUST BE NSSAR LIFE MEMBERS. <u>THE EXAMPLE HERE IS 60% OF THE 40 YEAR OLD APPLICANT.</u>	\$ 474.00	60%	\$ 790.00