



Summary, March 17, 2018 Membership Meeting of the San Diego Chapter of the SAR

The San Diego Chapter of the SAR hosted the March Membership Meeting and Breakfast at the Broken Yolk Cafe at 11630 Carmel Mountain Rd, San Diego. The meeting was called to order by President Barry Key at 9:00am. The invocation was offered through the singing by the members of "God Bless America." The Colors were then presented by the Color Guard. Color Guard Commander Skip Cox, Ray Raser, Philip Hinshaw, Jim Mattern and Bob Hayden made up the Color Guard. The members were led in the Pledge of Allegiance by 1st Vice President Bill Peters and the Pledge to the SAR by Past President Fred Hall.

Following the Pledge, the Color Guard posted the Colors.

President Key introduced guests Jesus Benayas who is the president of the House of Spain in Balboa Park who will be the guest speaker for today's program.

President Key made two announcements: There will be a judging of the winner of the Sergeant Moses Adams Middle School Brochure Contest today by the general membership present at the breakfast meeting. Also, President Key reminded members that Battle of San Diego Bay Celebration sponsored by the U.S. Navy and Casa de España will take place on April 14th. Reservations are necessary to be admitted to the base.

The Rev Dr Stan DeLong offered the Benediction and the members served themselves breakfast cafeteria style. Breakfast consisted of scrambled eggs, bacon, biscuits and gravy, and fruit. Drinks consisted of Coffee, orange juice and water served by the staff waiters. During the breakfast break members were asked to judge the middle school posters set up and displayed in the serving room and pick an overall winner. President Key will tally up the vote and pick the final winner.

Induction:

New member Compatriot Peter Fagen was inducted into the Chapter. Compatriot Fagen was escorted to the podium by two members of the Color Guard and presented with an SAR Pin and a San Diego Chapter Pin by President Key. Compatriot Fagen then gave a brief speech about his ancestor. Pictures were taken with Compatriot Fagen and his family and congratulations offered by President Key and the general membership.

Program:

Mr. Jesus Benayas president of Casa de España gave a very enlightening talk on Spain's relationship to the discovery and exploration of the Americas and in particular to the relationship of Spain to the founding of the United States and the assistance given to the fledgling nation during the Revolutionary War. Among the very interesting topics discussed was the symbol of the American dollar that Americans commonly and mistakenly, as it turns out, believe generated from the initials U. S. when in fact the symbol sprang from the first letter in the word Spain, and the two parallel vertical lines that we commonly associate with the letter U cut off at the bottom actually represent the pillars of Hercules at



the gates of Gibraltar. Mr. Benayas discussed the Official Seal of the City of San Diego and its connection to Spain and Vasco Nunez de Balboa the name sake of San Diego's Balboa Park. He discussed Juan Rodriquez Cabrillo's voyage of discovery for Spain, his discovery and laying claim to San Diego and California for Spain. He compared Spain's voyages of discovery to American's space voyages in terms of their significance for future generations. He also discussed the part Spain played in the Revolutionary War from soldado's (Spanish soldiers) monetary contributions to the war to the project of tying up and denying the British access to the Mississippi river valley to actual battles the Spanish engaged the British in and won on the North American continent, to Spain eventually and openly taking sides in the War for Independence by the Americans and declaring war on Great Britain.

The Rev Dr Stan DeLong gave the Benediction and the Color Guard retrieved the Colors. Compatriot Del Ritchart led the assembly in the SAR Recessional. The Colors were retired by the Color Guard and President Key adjourned the meeting at 10:45am.

Regards,

Robert M Hayden
Secretary San Diego Chapter SAR