2024 Roger Sherman Branch Annual Report

RSB President <President@rogershermanctssar.org> Wed, Apr 10, 2024

Compatriots,

Attached please find the Roger Sherman Branch 2024 Annual Report, as well as the other items requested by the CTSSAR:

- Branch 2024 Annual Meeting Minutes
- 2023 990-N
- Dec 2023 bank statement showing $3,184.51 on 12/31/2023
- Branch Bylaws

Included in the Annual Report are the following items requested by the CTSSAR:

- Listing of Branch officers with term start and end dates
- Listing of medals and awards presented by the Roger Sherman Branch in the reporting period
- Listing of upcoming events in which the Branch expects to participate.

Additionally:

- The Branch bank account has two signatories; William Carter and Roger Smith.
- The Branch has both a U.S. and SAR flag, with stands, approximately 6.5 feet tall.

Please advise if any clarifications or additional information is required.

Regards,

Robert Clark

Branch President

MINUTES OF
ANNUAL MEETING
SAR - ROGER SHERMAN BRNCH
MARCH 23, 2024

On March 23, 2024, the annual meeting of the Roger Sherman branch of the SAR was convened at the meeting house of the Stephen Mather Homestead, 19 Stephen Mather Road, Darien CT. The meeting was convened at 12 noon.

The gathering of patriot souls in convivial attendance, including the number of DAR members also present were: SAR members, Robert Clark, Edd Eckert, Peter Snyder, Dean Gaugler, Donn Smith, Pete Kenyon, Steve Orban, Philip Hood, Harding Dies, Kurt Potter, and Hen Bonner; from the Norwalk Village Green Chapter of the DAR - Madeleine Eckert and Patricia Rubino; and from the Good Wife's River DAR Chapter - Regent Karen Pollet, Sara Zagrodzky, Catherine Alter, Georgia von Schmidt, pending member and Darien Town Historian, Marian Castell, and Chaplain carol Wilder Tamme.

On this rainy and blustery day, lively fellowships prevailed and set the immediate tone for the meeting.

At 12:15 the meeting was formally commenced, and the Pledge of Allegiance, SAR Pledge and Opening Prayer robustly and solemnly had.

At 12:20, Robert Clark, President welcomed the gathering and briefly set forth the meeting's agenda. Whereupon each person of the gathering stood and introduced him or her self to the others.

At 12:30 Robert Clark gave an update on the doings of the Branch, the upshot of the report being that the Branch is vital and convivial and is

now recovered from the disruptions of the COVID virus.

At 12:45 the lunch bell was rung and soon with sandwiches in tow all were set once again for the presentation, by Heather, one of the docents of the Stephen Mather Homestead. As an aside, Donn Smith, a member of the Branch, was instrumental in arranging the use of the Mather location, which apart from being comfortable and elegant, is steeped in Revolutionary strife, having once been a renowned Patriot bastion targeted by multiple Tory raids from the time of its first construction in 1778. This topic may have elicited a gruff response from some of the members, whose patriotism would natural be stirred at such reminiscences.

Heather's presentation also shone a light on Women's History Month in giving due recognition to the last of the Mather family to live at the Mather Homestead, Bertha, one of Connecticut's very first women architects and a woman leader worthy of recognition.

With many anecdotes and historical vignettes, Heather's presentation, by style and substance, was a source of great entertainment and interest to all.

At 1:20, to a round of applause Heather concluded her presentation on the Mather Homestead.

At1:21, Madeleine Eckert, and her husband Edd running slide projector, delivered a presentation on the unified effort of colonial women to make the colonies independent of British goods, both others and tea. Excerpts from newspapers, including the Virginia Gazette, demonstrated examples of political writing by women contributors, including a form of political poetry by colonial women as one such poem, "Adieu to My Tea Table." In addition to the boycott of tea, colonial ladies boycotted silk and china and other finery, taking up

spinning and weaving on the homefront. In addition, Madeleine provided "Edenton Tea Cakes," cookie-like cakes in the shape of a teapot, of an authentic colonial recipe, whose added sensory dimension created a “you are there” vividness enhancing the presentation’s delivery of its topics. The Edenton Tea Cakes were first served at the Edenton Tea Party, where the ladies in attendance articulated the terms of their tea boycott in the declaration they signed, marking one of the most significant political demonstrations by women for Liberty's cause in America. The presentation left the audience happily enlightened as to the less sung yet vastly profound doings of colonial ladies toward Liberty's realization by the boycott of tea (and boycott of political subjection). Much engaged conversation among the audience followed as the delightful presentation was thoroughly in keeping with Women's History Month and the mission of the SAR.

At 1:35, administrative business was conducted. Robert Clark, the Branch President, reported on the state of the Branch in terms of membership, morale, the disruptions by way of the COVID virus, and on other points, in sum, concluding that the Branch is in very good condition on all points, including membership, morale, and otherwise, both present and future.

The Branch Treasurer, Bill Carter, reported on the Branch bank account balance, and that the IRS form 990 had been duly filed.

After further discussion of old and new business, the nomination and election of officers was then undertaken. Nominated and elected were: Robert Clark, President, Edd Eckert, Vice-President and Chaplain, Bill Carter, Treasurer, and Peter Snyder, Secretary. The terms are for 2 years.

The closing prayer was then had, followed by the SAR recessional. The meeting then adjourned.

After convivial fellowship for a time, the gathering dispersed.

Some members took a tour of the Stephen Mather Homestead.

Respectfully submitted, this 10th day of April, 2024

Peter G. Snyder
Secretary of the Roger Sherman CT SAR branch

The Roger Sherman Branch, Connecticut Society, Sons of the American Revolution
Draft -BY-LAWS - Revised 9/26/97

ARTICLE I. DUES

Section 1. The dues of the chapter shall be established by the Board of Managers. Dues shall be payable to the Treasurer on the first day of January for that year.

Section 2. Members joining this Branch during the months of October, November and December shall not be liable for the current year dues.

Section 3. Any member in arrears of Branch dues may be dropped from membership in this Branch upon majority vote of the Board of Managers. Reinstatement will be made on a case-by-case basis by the Board of Managers upon recommendation of the Registrar/Historian.

ARTICLE II. APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. Application for membership in the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution and in the CTSSAR shall be made on forms provided by the National Society accompanied by the proper admission fee and dues of the National and CTSSAR. The Branch Registrar will assist in the preparation and handling of these forms. Upon approval of the application and assignment of national and state membership numbers by the National Society, the applicant shall be accepted as a member of this Branch by payment of the approved Branch dues and a majority vote of the Branch.

Section 2. Application for membership in this Branch by current members in good standing of other State Societies of the Sons of the American Revolution shall be made to the Branch Registrar who shall be provided with the national and state membership numbers of the prospective member. After verification of the current status of the prospective member and the receipt of the approved Branch dues, the Branch Registrar shall recommend acceptance of the applicant as a member of this Branch to the Branch who may approve membership by majority vote.

ARTICLE III. DUTIES OF THE PRESIDENT

The President shall be the Chief Executive Officer of this Branch and shall preside at all meetings of the Branch and the Board of Managers. He shall be empowered to make committee appointments as deemed necessary, including but not limited to 1) up to three at-large members of the Board of Managers, and 2) two members to serve as Branch auditors.

The President is, ex officio, a member of the Board of Managers of the CTSSAR under its constitution. If unable to attend a meeting of said Board, the President may provide a written proxy to a member of this Branch to represent the Branch at such meeting.

ARTICLE IV. DUTIES OF THE VICE PRESIDENT (S)

At the request of, or in the absence or disability of the President, the Vice President shall perform all duties of the President, and when so acting shall have all the powers of the President. The Vice President shall perform such other duties as from time to time may be assigned him by the President or by the Board of Managers, or by any committee authorized to do so.

ARITICLE V. DUTIES OF THE SECRETARY

The Secretary shall conduct the general correspondence of this Branch. He shall notify members of their election and other such matters as the chapter may direct. The Secretary shall record and maintain the official minutes of all general business, annual and special meetings of this Branch and all meetings of the Board of Managers. Said official minutes shall include the reports of the Treasurer, other officers and committee reports presented at the meetings as well as the names of members present at each meeting. The Secretary shall keep all general correspondence of this Branch.

The Secretary shall, pursuant to the constitution of the CTSSAR, provide the Secretary of the CTSSAR at least one month prior to the annual meeting of the CTSSAR a certified list of the names and addresses of all members of this Branch. The Secretary shall send the Secretary of the CTSSAR a true copy of the minutes of each annual meeting of the Branch.

The Secretary is, ex officio, a member of the Board of Managers of the CTSSAR. If unable to attend a meeting of said Board, the Secretary may provide a written proxy to a member of this Branch to represent the Branch at such meeting.

All records of the Secretary shall be open to the inspection of the President and Board of Managers upon request.

ARTICLE VI DUTIES OF THE TREASURER

The Treasurer shall receive and have charge of all funds and other assets of this Branch. He shall deposit funds in the name of this Branch and shall pay out for the benefit of this Branch only, in such amounts as this Branch or the Board of Managers may direct. He shall keep a true record of all receipts and disbursements, make these records available to the Audit Committee for an audit before each annual meeting and at each annual meeting make a full report to this chapter.

The Treasurer shall prepare and recommend a budget for this Branch for the forthcoming fiscal year and submit same to the Board of Managers on or before the first day of February each year.

In December of each year, the Treasurer shall send each member a bill for Branch dues for the forthcoming year. The Treasurer shall report to the Board of Managers the names of all members who are in arrears for Branch dues.

All records and accounts of the Treasurer shall be open to the inspection of the President, the Board of Managers and the Branch Auditiors upon request.

ARTICLE VII DUTIES OF THE BRANCH REGISTRAR

The Branch Registrar/Historian processes applications for membership in the NSSAR and from members of other Branches or State Societies desiring to join this Branch. Acceptable applications and appropriate fees shall be forwarded to the Registrar of the CTSSAR for final approval as appropriate. Unacceptable or incomplete applications and fees shall be returned wil explanation.

The Branch Registrar/Historian shall assist the CTSSAR Registrar in the maintenance of copies of applications and cross-reference index of relevant data and in the maintenance of files of Revolutionary War markers, graves and gravestones.

The Branch Registrar/Historian shall have custody of all genealogical books and papers of which this Branch is possessed.

The Branch Registrar/Historian shall make a report in writing at each annual meeting.

All records of the Branch Registrar/Historian shall be open to the inspection of the President and the Board of Managers upon request.

ARTICLE VIII DUTIES OF THE BRANCH CHAPLAIN

The Branch Chaplain shall perform devotional and religious duties as appropriate to the course of business or patriotic exercises and other observances of this Branch.

ARTICLE IX DUTIES OF THE BRANCH AUDITORS

The two Branch Auditors are appointed by the President with the approval of the Board of Managers for a term of one year or until their successors are appointed. The Auditors shall audit the records and accounts of the Branch Treasurer for the fiscal year following the date of their appointment. The results of said audit shall be reported in writing at the annual meeting of the Branch. Said audit report shall be filed with the official minutes of the annual meeting.

ARTICLE X DUTIES OF THE BOARD OF MANAGERS

The Board of Managers shall manage, control and conduct affairs of this Branch.

The Board of Managers shall act as a nominating committee, to make nominations for all elected officers of this Branch at the annual meeting.

The Board of Managers shall have the power to suspend or expel any member of this Branch for sufficient cause by a vote of two-thirds of the members of the Board provided that at least two weeks' notice of such proposed action shall have been given to such member by notice mailed to him at his last known address. A member so suspended or expelled shall have the right to appeal such action by the Board of Managers at a regular meeting of this Branch.

The Board of Managers shall be responsible for the prudent conduct of the financial affairs of this Branch. The Board of Managers shall review and act on the budget prepared by the Branch Treasurer for the forthcoming year. Such review and action shall include examination of the cost of annual Branch dues including any recommendations for changes in section 1 of these bylaws. Said review and action shall be completed in sufficient time for presentation to the members of this Branch at the annual meeting. The Board of Managers shall authorize the opening of bank accounts for the Branch and establish those authorized to sign on behalf of the Branch checks and other financial instruments and the number of signatures required for transactions.

ARTICLE XI RESIGNATIONS

Any officer or member of the Board of Managers, other than the Secretary, may resign at any time by giving written notice to the President or the Secretary. Any such resignation shall take effect at the time specified therein and, unless required by the terms thereof, the acceptance of such resignation shall not be necessary to make it effective. The Secretary may resign at any time by giving written notice to the President. Any such resignation shall take effect at the time specified therein, and , unless required by the terms thereof, the acceptance of such resignation shall not be necessary to make it effective.

ARTICLE XII ROBERTS RULES OF ORDER

Roberts Rules of Order shall govern the conduct of all meetings of this Branch and Board of Managers.

ARTICLE XIII FISCAL YEAR

The fiscal year of this Branch shall begin on the first day of January and end on the last day of December of each year.

ARTICLE XIV DISSOLUTION

Should the Branch dissolve, for whatever reason, all assets, real and personal, will revert upon majority vote of the Board of Managers, to other chapters or branches of the CTSSAR. If that action is not taken, then all assets, real and personal, will revert to the CTSSAR.

ARTICLE XV AMENDMENTS

These bylaws may be amended by written resolution presented to and approved by at least two-thirds of the Board of Managers present at any meeting of said Board called for such purpose and provided that said written resolutions are subsequently approved by at least two-thirds of the members present at any regular business, annual or special meeting of this Branch called for such purpose. Whenever these bylaws are to be amended, notice thereof, describing said changes, shall be included in the call for such meeting of the Board of Managers and this Branch. Such meeting calls shall be mailed at least fifteen days before said Board of Managers or Branch meetings.

Form **990-N**

Electronic Notice (e-Postcard)

Department of the Treasury
Internal Revenue Service

for Tax-Exempt Organization not Required to File Form 990 or 990-EZ

OMB No. 1545-2085

2023

Open to Public Inspection

A For the **2023** Calendar year, or tax year beginning **2023-01-01** and ending **2023-12-31**

B Check if available
- ☐ **Terminated for Business**
- ☑ **Gross receipts are normally $50,000 or less**

C Name of Organization: **NATIONAL SOCIETY OF THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION**
5 Riverfield Drive, Westport,
CT, US, 06880

D Employee Identification Number **06-1471612**

E Website:

F Name of Principal Officer: **William Carter**
5 Riverfield Drive, Westport,
CT, US, 06880

Information Copy
Do not send to IRS

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The organization is not required to provide information requested on a form that is subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act unless the form displays a valid OMB control number. Books or records relating to a form or its instructions must be retained as long as their contents may become material in the administration of any Internal Revenue law. The rules governing the confidentiality of the Form 990-N is covered in code section 6104.

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