



NSSAR Southern District ZOOM Meeting December 19, 2020

The NSSAR Southern District (SD) Officers and State Societies Presidents and Vice Presidents met via Zoom Meeting on December 19, 2020. Special thanks to Diane Seales for her assistance with scheduling this meeting.

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 am CST.

Those present were: VPG Bobby Joe Seales, Secretary Michael P. Schenk, Treasurer Tony L. Vets, AL President David Jones, MS 1st VP Ben Block Jones, TN President Mark Norris, LA President Chris Achee. Absent: LA VP Bo Vets, AL VP William Kirkland, Color Guard Commander John Clines, TN VP Steven Gaines and MS President Bryant Boswell.

VPG Seales brought greetings and gave his report. And addressed some key points regarding the Southern District Meeting and each of the District's State Meetings. Per his agenda:

1. According to the Southern District Constitution **“There shall be an Annual Meeting of the District prior to the Annual Congress of the National Society.”** It has been a custom in the past that this Annual Southern District Meeting be held in conjunction with the Annual Society Meeting of the State the Southern District VPG is from – in my case it would be Alabama. Because of the pandemic with reduced travel and possible restrictions on the number attending large gatherings, Southern District Secretary Michael Schenk (he will be the upcoming Southern District VPG from Mississippi) and I have a suggestion to propose to you for comments and possible approval.
2. Our suggestion is that at each of the Southern District state conventions this year a short Southern District Meeting be held in conjunction with their state convention. By doing so, this will eliminate undue pressure for those hesitant to travel to other state conventions. Will Mississippi, Tennessee and Louisiana Societies be willing to allot 15-20 minutes for a Southern District meeting. **Each state agreed to allow the time.**
3. At this time, unless things change, Michael and I plan to physically attend all four state conventions (if held) and/or otherwise attend virtually. I plan to present my District awards and certificates at each of the Southern District state conventions this year. I've discussed with David Jones, Alabama's State President, and because the Annual Southern District Meeting will be held in conjunction with the date of the Alabama Society Meeting, he has allowed me approximately 25-30 minutes to conduct the Annual Southern District Meeting for business and the presentation of local awards from the District VPG.

Southern District/NSSAR Event Schedule:

1. February 20, 2021 – President D. Jones: Alabama Society Convention will be at The American Village in Montevallo, Alabama and also held virtually by ZOOM – unless plans must be changed because of the pandemic and/or state restrictions. Registration will be \$35 for in-person attendees which includes lunch following the business meeting.
2. March 6, 2021 – National Trustee ZOOM teleconference (No Spring Leadership Conference in Louisville, KY).
3. March 13, 2021 – Special Congress in Washington DC and/or nearby (depending on the pandemic and/or the location restrictions with a limited number of attendees). [Primarily to address changes to the Bylaws that will allow Congresses to be held in the event of a pandemic and etc. such as the one we are in now].
4. March 12-13, 2021 2nd VP B. Jones: Mississippi Society Convention in Ridgeland, MS – Presently still on schedule as a one day event with business meeting, luncheon with awards presentation, grave marking, installation of officers and a banquet that evening. (All of this will depend on the outcome from the ExComm meeting 1/9/2021).
5. March 19-20, 2021 President Norris: Tennessee Society Convention in Franklin, TN – Still on scheduled but may go virtual due to Covid-19.
6. April 16-17, 2021 President Achee: Louisiana Society Convention at the Higgins Hotel in New Orleans, LA – Still on schedule.

In lieu of the pandemic, a number of events are still being scheduled while others have been cancelled.

The next Southern District meeting is scheduled for February 20, 2021 in conjunction with ALSAR/Southern District Convention at the American Village in Montevallo, Alabama.

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 m CST.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael P. Schenk
Southern District Secretary