

NATIONAL SOCIETY COLONIAL DAMES XVII CENTURY
NEVADA STATE SOCIETY

44th State Conference
March 26, 2026

The forty-fourth State Conference of the Nevada State Society Colonial Dames XVII Century was held at the Red Hawk Golf and Resort in Sparks, Nevada on Thursday, March 26, 2026. The Conference was called to order at 11:19 a.m. Pacific Time. State President Terry Rubenstein presided over the meeting and the Recording Secretary; Sherry Cravens was present to record the proceedings.

The **Invocation** was given by State Chaplain, Katie Henzel.

The rituals were observed as follows: **The Presentation of the Colors** was led by the Sons of the American Revolution, Battle Born Patriots Chapter, under the direction of Roger Linscott, Color Guard Commander. **The Pledge of Allegiance** to the Flag of the United States of America was led by State Flag Custodian Katie Henzel. A video presentation accompanied the singing of the National Anthem. **The Salute to the Flag of the National Society Colonial Dames XVII Century** was led by Honorary State President Jean Akers. The **American's Creed** was recited under the leadership of Honorary State President Diane Hicks, and **The Objects of the Society** were read by Honorary President General and Honorary State President Jan Lockard.

Opening remarks were brought by State President Terry Rubenstein.

Diane Hicks, Northern State Conference Chairman extended the formal welcome to conference followed by a response to her greetings by Marsha Strand, State Second Vice President.

State President Rubenstein introduced the honored guest speaker President General Rebecca Smythe Eisenman who brought greetings.

President Rubenstein recognized Honorary President General Jan Stevens Lockard.

President Rubenstein acknowledged NSCDXVIIC **Honorary State Presidents** in order of their terms:

- Jan Lockard - 1993-1995 & Honorary President General 2011-2013
- Joan Dimmitt - 2003-2005
- Margaret "Joanne" Byerly - 2009-2011
- Patricia Dell'aira – 2011-2013
- Rebecca Eisenman – 2013-2015 & President General 2025-2027
- Martha Gordon – 2015-2017
- Mona Crandell Hook – 2017-2019
- Diane Hicks – 2019-2021
- Marsha Strand – 2021-2023
- Jean Akers – 2023-2025

President Rubenstein recognized members representing the Nevada State Society CDXVIIC through their service as **National Chairs**:

- Jan Lockard – National Bylaws Chairman
- Dr. Linda Miller – Marking & Preservation of Historic Sites Chairman
- Sherry Cravens – National Membership Chairman
- Susan Gormley – National Pocahontas Scholarship Chairman
- Terry Rubenstein – National Insignia Chairman

Nevada State Society CDXVIIC current **State Officers** were introduced by President Rubenstein:

- Terry Rubenstein – State President
- Mona Crandell Hook – 1st Vice President
- Marsha Strand – 2nd Vice President
- Katie Henzel – Chaplain
- Sherry Cravens – Recording Secretary
- Kathleen Lowe – Corresponding Secretary
- Susan Gormley – Organizing Secretary
- Connie Price – Treasurer
- Margaret Prior – Registrar (excused)
- Jan Lockard – Historian
- Bethney Seifert – Librarian
- Martha Gordon – Parliamentarian by appointment (excused)
- Sharal Linscott - Parliamentarian Pro Tem

Chapter Presidents were introduced by President Rubenstein:

- Kathleen Lowe – Samoset Chapter – organized 1970
- Jennifer Protain – Thomas Holcomb Chapter – organized 1981
- Marsha Strand – Judith Jefferson Farrar Chapter – organized 2007

Conference Committee Chairman Diane Hicks introduced the members of the committee: Sharal Linscott, Marsha Strand, Susan Gormley, and Connie Price. Nevada Chapter Presidents were also recognized for their help and support: Kathleen Lowe, Jennifer Protain and Marsha Strand.

Conference Pages were introduced by the State Page Chairman and the President General's Personal Page Kathleen Lowe: Montyne Connolly, Holly Lynne Schmidt, and Lesli Casal.

Bethney Seifert introduced her special guest: Becky Osbourn and Holly Lynne Schmidt.

Prospective Member Lesli Casal was introduced by President Rubenstein.

Announcements were made by Marsha Strand regarding voice tickets and the invitation to the National Tea to be held on April 9, 2026. Attendees were encouraged to scan the QR code during the event to sign in, view the program virtually, and sign the virtual guest book. Photos will be posted live and will remain accessible for ninety days.

State Chaplain Katie Henzel gave the blessing over the meal and President Rubenstein recessed for lunch.

No Memorial Service was conducted, as there was no member deaths reported for the year 2025.

President Rubenstein recognized members in attendance who have been in service for 20 years or longer. Certificates were present to those in attendance:

Rebecca Eisenman – 21 years

Jillian Mueller – 40 years

Jan Lockard – 44 years

Certificates for their longevity of service were also provided for the following members to be distributed at their chapter meetings:

Elizabeth Smythe – 20 years

Abra Eisenman – 21 years

Martha Gordon – 21 years

Carolyn Lowman – 22 years

Patricia Dell'aira – 23 years

Deborah Stricker – 23 years

Robyn Manzini – 23 years

Jan Thompson – 24 years

Margaret Prior – 26 years

Nancy Blackford – 27 years

Ann Potts – 32 years

Joan Dimmitt – 33 years

Beverly Clifton – 33 years

Gail McMorran – 40 years

Martha Sisler – 46 years

Susan Ratcliffe – 50 years

Guest speaker President General Rebecca Smythe Eisenman, National Society Colonial Dames XVII Century, was introduced by State President Rubenstein. Following the President General's presentation, gifts were presented by Susan Gormley, Kathleen Lowe, and Connie Price, including a check from the Samoset Chapter in the amount of \$500 for the President General's Project.

The 44th Nevada State Conference was reconvened by President Rubenstein.

Barbara Youngman, Chairman of the **Credentials** Committee reported the following were attended without duplication:

National Officer	1
National Committee Chairmen	1
State Officers	7
State Chapter Presidents	0
State Committee Chairmen	0
State Honorary Presidents	5
Chapter Delegates	9
Total Voting Strength	23
Chapter Alternates	0
Members	11
Total Registration	34

Credential Chair Barbara Youngman moved the adoption of the Credentials Report as presented. Adopted.

A quorum was declared by President Rubenstein and the business continued.

The **Conference Rules** were read by Corresponding Secretary Kathleen Lowe. A motion was made by Kathleen Lowe to adopt the Conference Rules as presented. No second necessary as it came from committee. Two-thirds vote approved the Rules as presented. Adopted.

Program Committee Chairman Susan Gormley presented the report of the committee and moved that the program be adopted as amended. President Rubenstein noted for the record that, due to room size, the Colors were presented but not officially posted by the Battle Born Patriots Chapter SAR changing the order of the opening ritual. The program was adopted as amended.

Janelle Martin and Jacque Orr were appointed to serve as members of the Minutes Correction and Approval Team for the 44th State Conference. President Rubenstein also announced that the minutes, along with the budget, state officers' reports, and committee chair reports, will be available on the new state website.

Sherry Cravens, State Recording Secretary, reported that the **Minutes** of the 43rd State Conference were reviewed, corrected and approved by committee and members of the Executive Board. Without objection, the Minutes were filed as presented.

President Rubenstein announced the **Tellers**: Kathleen Lowe, Jennifer Protain, and Marsha Strand. Karen Dodrill was appointed official **Timekeeper**.

The reports of the State Officers were presented in order of protocol.

Treasurer Connie Price presented the current financial position:

Balance as of November 2026: \$10,482.40

Total Receipts: \$8,061.50 (included dues)

Total: \$18,543.90

Disbursements: \$5,079.90 (included dues)

Balance as of March 26, 2026: \$13,464.00

Co-Chairman of the Financial Review Committee, Melissa Balice presented the Audit Report. Mrs. Balice moved its adoption. Adopted.

The reports of the State Chairmen of Nationally Recognized Committees reported and/or filed.

The reports of the Chapter Presidents were presented in the order of their organizing dates.

Samoset Chapter- Kathleen Lowe reported

Thomas Holcomb Chapter- Jennifer Protain reported

Judith Jefferson Farrar Chapter- Marsha Strand reported

Unfinished Business:

President Rubenstein reported that there was no unfinished business.

New Business:

Copies of the 2026-2027 budget were distributed in the Conference Packet. Sherry Cravens, on behalf of the Executive Board, moved for the adoption of the 2026-2027 budget. Adopted.

Recording Secretary Sherry Cravens continued with motions adopted by the Executive Board:

1. Ratified appointment of Martha Gordon as Parliamentarian.

Page **5** of **8**

Nevada State Society CDXVIIC

Minutes of 44th State Conference

March 26, 2026

2. Ratified the appointment of Sharl Linscott as Parliamentarian to serve for the 2026 State Conference.
3. Ratified the Nevada State President's Projects with modification.
4. Ratified appointment of Melissa Balice and Sherry Cravens as auditors.
5. Approved a State Conference Planning Committee.
6. Approved contract with Manzanita Marketing for website development with Hostinger secured as the hosting provider.
7. Approved moving the State Facebook page from a public to a private group.
8. Approved the State Conference registration fee.
9. Approved State Conference meal fee.
10. Approved the 2026-2027 Budget.
11. Approved the 2026 State Conference Program.
12. Approved all Honorariums for State Conference.
13. Approved purchase of President General's gift and donation.
14. Ratified the appointment of Janelle Martin and Jacque Orr as the Minutes Approval Team of the 2026 State Conference.
15. Approved the appointment of Kathleen Lowe, Marsha Strand and Jennifer Protain as tellers for the 2026 State Conference.
16. Approved Karen Dodrill as timekeeper for the 2026 State Conference
17. Approve plaque expenses for special project and two possible locations.
18. Approved National Tea catering contract.
19. Approved the cost of a full-page ad in the National Conference Program.
20. Approved Conference Rules for the 2026 State Conference.

The next order of business was the election of a Nominating Committee who will select a slate of Officers who will serve the Nevada State Society from 2027-2029.

Recording Secretary, Sherry Cravens read Article VI (6), Section 3 of the Bylaws regarding instructions for the election of the committee.

The following members were voted to serve as the **Nominating Committee**:

1. Janelle Martin – 17 votes- will serve as Chairman
2. Jacque Orr- 13 votes
3. Connie Price-13 votes
4. Melissa Balice-12 votes
5. Sherry Cravens- 12 votes

Alternates:

Jennifer Protain-11 votes
Susan Gormley- 10 votes

Marsha Strand moved that the ballots be destroyed. The motion was seconded. Approved.

The names of the automatic Nevada Delegates to National Conference were announced: President General Rebecca Eisenman; Honorary President General Jan Lockard; National Committee Chairman Susan Gormley; National Committee Chairman Sherry Cravens; National Committee Chairman Dr. Linda Miller; State President Terry Rubenstein; and State First Vice President Mona Crandell Hook.

Recording Secretary, Sherry Cravens read Article XII of the Nevada State Bylaws concerning National Conference Representation.

President Rubenstein affirmed that Article XII permits the election of alternate delegates. However, because the State President and State First Vice President are expected to attend the National Conference, the election of alternates was not necessary. The Chair further noted that the credentials submission deadline occurred prior to the State Conference; therefore, any alternates elected at this time would not be eligible to be seated at the National Conference.

Corresponding Secretary Kathleen Lowe presented and moved adoption of the **Courtesy Resolutions** as presented. Adopted.

Hearing no further new business, President Rubenstein proceeded to **Awards and Recognition**. She noted that this recognition honors members who have gone above and beyond in their service and contributions. Awards were then presented.

Southern Nevada Conference Chairman, Susan Gormley extended an invitation to attend the 45th Nevada State Conference to be held in Southern Nevada, February 26th and 27th, 2027.

Announcements were made by First Vice President Mona Crandell Hook:

- The NSCDXVIIC National Conference will be held April 9–11 at the Georgetown Marriott in Washington, D.C.
- Nevada will host the National Tea on Thursday, April 9, from 3:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. (EST). Attendees may scan the QR code to access the event live; photographs will remain available for 90 days following the event.
- Summer workshops will be held in Las Vegas, Nevada, at the Family Search Center during the month of July, beginning the second week.
- A project concerning the placement of a bronze marker at the Veterans Memorial Park, Thunderbird Family Sports Complex on North Durango, is underway; additional information will be provided as it becomes available.
- Photographs will be taken in the lobby following adjournment.

The Pages of the State Conference conducted the drawing for Voices.

Page **7** of **8**

Nevada State Society CDXVIIC
Minutes of 44th State Conference
March 26, 2026

The **Benediction** was given by State Chaplain Katie Henzel.

President Rubenstein instructed the Flag Page, Lesli Casal to retire the Colors.

State President Terry Rubenstein declared the 44th State Conference adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

Sherry Cravens

State Recording Secretary 2025-2027

Nevada State Society, NSCDXVIIC