



A MONTHLY PUBLICATION BY THE
SACRAMENTO CHAPTER OF THE SONS OF
THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

November 2009

Volume 41, Issue 10

The Courier



Calling All Compatriots



Program for November's Meeting

Inside this issue:

- This month's program
- President's Corner
- Remember our Veterans
- Revolutionary War
Month by Month
November 1779
- Revolutionary War
Month by Month
(continued)
- Photos from the Awards
Banquet held on Oct. 17th
- More photos
- More photos
- More photos
- More photos
- Minutes of the
October 17th Meeting
- Wreaths Across America

1 Born in Turlock, CA, **John Bristow**
2 grew up in the Sacramento area, and
3 graduated from El Camino High School.
4 After graduating at the top of his class
5 from the Police Academy, John accepted a
6 position with the California State Senate,
7 where he worked for over 30 years. For
8 the last 22 years of his working life, John
9 served as Sergeant at Arms for the
10 Senate.

11 In retirement, John enjoys activities with
12 his family. He and his wife, Diane, have
two daughters. A 20 year old attends
American River College, and the 15 year
old attends El Camino High School, where
she is active on the girls basketball team.
The title of John's presentation is "Life as a
California State Senate Sergeant at
Arms".



Happy Thanksgiving



November 20th, 7:00 PM at
The Buggy Whip Restaurant

2737 Fulton Avenue,
between El Camino and
Marconi, Sacramento,

Menu Selections

- Sirloin Steak \$24.00
- Salmon \$24.00
- Vegetarian Plate \$24.00

Includes beverage, dessert, tax, and tip.



If the telephone committee has not taken your menu selection(s) by November 18th, please call Don Littlefield at (916) 985 -6544 for reservations. Payments must be **guaranteed for each reservation made.** Wives, guests and visiting compatriots are always welcome.

Come socialize with us at 6:15PM. The meeting will start promptly at 7:00 PM.

President's Corner - by Jeff Goodwin

Sacramento Chapter Officers for 2009	
Jeff Goodwin	President
Don Littlefield	Executive Vice-President
	Treasurer
	Web Master
Jim Warrick	Vice President, Programs
Jim Faulkinbury	Secretary
	Color Guard Coordinator
Tom Chilton	Registrar
	News Letter Editor
Vacant	Chaplain
Don Spradling	Photographer
	Guardian of the Flags
Committee Chairmen	
David Beach	Eagle Scout Program
Ted Robinson	ROTC Program
Vacant	Knight Essay Contest
David Sloan	Valley Forge Program
Ernie Garcia	Law Enforcement Program
Vacant	Flag Certificate Program

It's over!! If you missed our first annual awards dinner, you missed a great opportunity to have a good meal and say thank you to members of our military, law enforcement, and fire fighting community. Sheriff John McGinnis told me and others at our table that it means a lot to him and to his deputies that we, the members of the Sons of the American Revolution, take the time and make the effort to recognize the heroic deeds of our public servants. They put their lives on the line daily for us, and most of us in the community do not notice them or thank them until tragedy happens.

This reminds me of a story I read lately. Society is mainly made up of a herd of sheep. The sheep go through the day worrying about the things sheep worry about, such as what they are doing at that moment, or food, or sleep, or school or work. Normally they do not even think about the wolves until they see or hear about one.

Society is also made up of wolves. Wolves prey on the sheep without compassion or mercy because that is what wolves do. Wolves see sheep as easy pickings because they don't have claws or fangs or anything else to worry the wolves.

Finally, there is an animal that the sheep don't really trust because they look like the wolves, they have teeth like the wolves, and they don't act like the sheep. They are sheepdogs. Sheepdogs have inherited an instinct to protect the sheep. If a sheep is in trouble, the sheepdog runs toward the trouble in order to protect the sheep, not away from the trouble. In fact, the sheepdog will engage the wolf in mortal combat merely because that is his or her duty. But once the wolf is caught, driven off or killed, the sheep return to their daily routine.

Our military, law enforcement, and fire fighters are our sheepdogs, and we should make it a point next year and every year thereafter to honor them and thank them for taking care of us, so that we can take better care of our families and keep the wolves of society away from our doors.

Secretary Jim Faulkinbury has done an excellent job in writing up the minutes of the meeting and I commend his minutes to your reading. Your board made up of Tom Chilton and Marilyn, Jim Faulkinbury and Karen, Jim Warrick and his mother Lola, and your Vice President and Treasurer, Don Littlefield and his wife Mary Ann, freshly back from visiting Poland, have performed above and beyond the call of duty. You should also note that none of them are still in their twenties, at least not in body. The dinner would not have gone off as well as it did without their hard work.

I know that I could not have performed without the aid of my First Lady and bride, Mary Ann. Thank you all.

May your November be notorious and Happy Thanksgiving!

Jeff Goodwin, President

(Jeff can be reached at jeffriesgoodwin@gmail.com)

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Editors Note: The statements and opinions expressed herein are solely those of the author(s) and do not necessarily state or reflect those of the Editor or of the California or National Societies, Sons of the American Revolution.

HONORING ALL WHO SERVED

VETERANS DAY 2009



NOVEMBER 11, 2009



The American Revolution – Month By Month - November, 1779

by Andrew J. Stough III, Edited by Harold Rogers

In October, General Prevost had commanded two forces. Those defending Savannah, and the unit holding Port Royal. With the Royal Navy busy elsewhere, and the two British garrisons miles apart, General Lincoln and his staff felt the time was ripe for an attack on Savannah. Their reasoning was that if Admiral d'Estaing could be persuaded to support the Americans, it would require no more than 10 days to defeat Prevost. If Savannah was regained, d'Estaing could bring his naval and ground forces to assist Washington in an assault on New York City. It was 4 years and 7 months since that day in 1775 at Lexington and Concord when the first shot had been fired in what would become the American War for Independence. The nation was war weary, especially so since the loss of the siege at Savannah. Jones' victory, and the expedition against the Indians, were the only bright spots in what had become a dreary year even for the Tories, who if anyone, had a reason to rejoice at the fortunes of war. Winter approached, and Washington had badly needed a victory at one or both places to encourage both the army and civilian population to look forward to a better year in 1780.

On the books, Clinton had a victory at Savannah in as much as Prevost had not lost the siege, still there was no clear cut victory. General Lincoln had not been driven away, he simply had picked up and gone home. In the North, Clinton was suffering from the constant drain on his resources. What resources he had were divided, and neither New York nor Newport had the assured capability of successfully resisting a possible attack by Washington. Additionally, both were too far apart to support the other. Washington desperately wanted to retake New York. He even considered attempting the assault without naval support. Clinton must have read Washington's mind, or had intelligence through Tories, that Washington planned a move against him. By withdrawing all naval and ground forces from Newport, Rhode Island, to New York, he bolstered his troop strength in New York City to a point where he could reasonably expect to be capable of withstanding such an assault.

After the long siege at Savannah, General Lincoln returned his army to Charleston, leaving Savannah and Port Royal safely in Prevost's hands. The northward movement of Admiral Byron's West Indies fleet caused d'Estaing to withdraw from the Georgia coast, splitting his fleet. He sent some ships to the West Indies while he set sail for France with the remainder. The defeat of Lincoln, and the dual liability of d'Estaing's departure and the arrival of Admiral Byron in the area, dashed any hope that an offensive against New York could succeed. Reluctantly, Washington gave up plans for an offensive in the North, and proceeded to move toward winter camp at Morristown.

The winter of 1778-79 had been unusually mild and gave no hint as to what was to come. The winter of 1779-1780 would abound with problems for the northern army. Not only would the winter be unusually severe (New York harbor froze over), but quarters were not available to protect the men from the cold. Nor was there adequate food, clothing, or even blankets on hand, nor was there the hard cash to purchase these items locally. The result was poor morale, frost bite, sickness and death, and some mutinous actions.

Disposition of the Patriot Armies for the winter was made by Washington in the North and Lincoln in the South. The main army under Washington went to Morristown. A lesser force was assigned to Danbury, Connecticut, for the winter. They were to protect the area from seaborne ground forces as had previously been used at New Haven and other coastal towns. A third force remained to protect West Point and the river passage, while Lincoln remained in Charleston with his army.

Let us now return to Holland where Jones was still trying to repair the *Serapis* despite the refusal of Dutch ship carpenters to work due to the cold and stormy weather off the North Sea during the early part of November.

Having previously spoken of Captain Conyngham and his capture and incarceration as a pirate, he again enters our story. Jones had been holding Captain Pearson of the *Serapis* as an exchange for Captain Conyngham, however this became a moot subject as sometime in October, Conyngham had "Dug his way out" of Mill Prison in England. He arrived in Holland in November. Jones, jubilant at his escape, put him aboard the *Alliance* to serve temporarily during Landais' absence in Paris, or until another command could be found for him.

The American Revolution – Month By Month - November, 1779

by Andrew J. Stough III, Edited by Harold Rogers

Britain constantly pressured the Netherlands to return the *Serapis* and the *Countess* to England, and to force Jones to sea. In response, the Netherlands pressured Jones to leave Texel. To avoid any British claim to any of the ships, the French government placed all ships in Jones' Squadron except the *Alliance* under French responsibility and its flag. Left without a ship, Jones transferred to the *Alliance*, along with his personal belongings, and some equipment from the *Serapis*. Jones left the *Serapis* reluctantly as it was the fastest and most responsive ship that he had sailed in. It was of a new design, and fresh from the builder who had installed what at that time was a newly discovered, anti-barnacle bottom, created by sheathing her from the water line down with copper.

Jones transferred his crew, along with himself, creating a double crew on the *Alliance*. Landais had been as sloppy in his ship's administration as he had been insolent to the Commodore. He left the *Alliance* a "Pig Pen" under ship's officers who were no more responsible than Landais. The crew had grown accustomed to the filth, although many were sick from the unsanitary conditions. Jones immediately set about to bring about the spit and polish routine that was typical of ships under his command. It didn't make the holdover officers happy to have a new Captain, nor were they pleased with his methods. Jones found the *Alliance's* officers a drunken and surly lot, who resisted taking orders from Jones or the officers brought over from the *Serapis*. The problems with the crew, while remaining in port, was a bad omen for the *Alliance's* coming voyage.

On the 12th day of November, Jones was instructed by the French Ambassador NOT to sail until further notice. Later the same day the Netherlands' government ordered him to sail as soon as he had favorable weather. On the 17th of November, the Netherlands government voted to force Jones to put to sea. Finding the weather unfavorable and a British Squadron patrolling offshore, Jones bade his time. The people of Holland might consider Jones a hero and welcome to a haven at Texel, but their government found him a liability. Holland's position as a neutral was profitable. The Dutch government was, at that time, unwilling to offend Britain for fear of losing their neutral status. To show their cooperation with Britain, the government decided on a show of force to push Jones out to sea*. The *Alliance* was then surrounded by a Dutch squadron in an attempt to coerce him into leaving Texel. Jones refused to leave until conditions were at least reasonable for a successful escape.

The *Serapis*, the *Countess*, and the *Vengeance*, all now under the French flag, took their orders directly from the French ambassador. Jones, unhappy with the way things had gone so far, was even more disturbed when the *Vengeance* was selected, in the company of two French Cutters, to transport 191 of his prisoners to England. Jones had intended an exchange of English prisoners captured on September 23rd for American seamen. He was even more deeply disturbed when he learned that the exchange had been made for French prisoners instead of Americans.

November neared a close, but not before Congress' decision to stop printing paper money was implemented. On November 29, the presses finally stopped after a last printing of 10 million more Continental dollars. The total dollars printed since the first printing order had been given in 1775, had now reached 242 million.

* Britain appears not to have minded the other ships remaining under a French flag in a neutral port. The only purpose of harassing the Netherlands government appears to have been "to get Jones."

References: Encyclopedia Britannica; Ward's "The War of the American Revolution"; Morison's "John Paul Jones"; Schlesinger's "The Almanac of American History."

Not for sale or republication. The American Revolution, Month by Month series was written by Compatriot Andrew J. Stough, III, and is published solely for the benefit of the members of the Gold Country Chapter, California Society, Sons of the American Revolution. Permission to republish this series has been granted to the Sacramento Chapter, SAR. The original text has been slightly edited by Compatriot Thomas Chilton.

Photos from the Awards banquet held on October 17, 2009



President Jeff Goodwin opens the meeting.



President Jeff Goodwin presents Engineer Matt Cole, Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District, with the Fire Safety Medal and Certificate as Ernie Garcia looks on.



President Jeff Goodwin presents Major John Tade with the Silver Good Citizenship Medal and Certificate.



L-R: President Jeff Goodwin, Officers Joshua Frey and David Smart, and Chief Rick Braziel, all of the Sacramento City Police Department..



President Jeff Goodwin presents Deputy Duke Lewis with the SAR Law Enforcement Commendation Medal and Certificate as Sacramento County Sheriff John McGinness looks on.



The Color Guard members are: Keith Bigbee (Gold Country Chapter), Jim Faulkinbury, Tom Chilton (behind the flag), and Ernie Garcia.

Photos from the Awards banquet held on October 17, 2009

photos by Don Spradling.



L-R: Sheriff John McGinness, Don Littlefield, and President Jeff Goodwin.



L-R: Ernie Garcia, Chuck Jameson, and Helen Garcia.



Sheriff John McGinness and his wife, Peggy.



President Jeff Goodwin and First Lady, Mary Ann Goodwin with their daughter, Sarah



Bag piper Chuck Jameson.



Ted Robinson and Maj. John Tade, California National Guard, and recipient of the SAR Silver Good Citizenship Medal

More photos from the Awards banquet held on October 17, 2009

photos by Don Spradling.



David Hillsman



Ted Robinson served as Masters of Ceremonies for the Award Ceremony



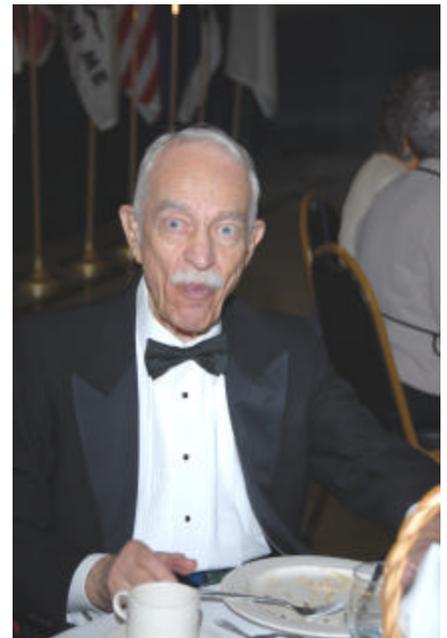
Rev. Donald MacRae, Laird of Kintail



Engineer Matt Cole, Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District, and recipient the SAR Fire Safety Medal and Certificate.



Keith Bigbee, CASSAR VP North and a member of the Gold Country Chapter



Bill Emmons

More photos from the Awards banquet held on October 17, 2009

photos by Don Spradling.



Jim Warrick and his mother, Lola. Lola Warrick is a member of the General John Sutter DAR Chapter.



Doug Cross and his friends, Judy and John Treherne.



John Chiles and his sister, Carol Wellman. Carol is from Sammamish, Washington.



Wayne and Yoncie Griswold. Wayne is the CASSAR Executive VP, and President of the Gold Country Chapter.



Kathy Watson gave a presentation on the upcoming Wreaths Across American ceremony at the National Cemetery in Dixon. She is a member of the Anne Loucks Chapter DAR.



David Sloan and his wife, Elizabeth.

More photos from the Awards banquet held on October 17, 2009

photos by Don Spradling.



Our men in kilts. L-R: Vince Gantt, Chuck Jameson, Rev. Donald MacRae, President Jeff Goodwin, and Bill Emmons.



Christopher Watson and his wife, Adrian. Chris is a previous winner of the Valley Forge Teachers Contest, and spoke about what the program meant to him.



Engineer Matt Cole with his wife, Amber. Matt is the recipient the SAR Fire Safety Medal and Certificate.



We had all of our flags (28) on display for the event.



Officer David Smart from the Sacramento Police Department, with his uncle Sheriff's Deputy Sgt. Todd Lewis, retired.



Officer Joshua Frey from the Sacramento Police Department, with his wife, Genevieve.

Minutes of the meeting held on October 17, 2009.

The special Community Awards Dinner Meeting was held at the Dante Club in Sacramento on Saturday, October 17, 2009. The meeting was called to order at 7:00PM by President Jeff Goodwin, who called the Color Guard to come forward and Present the Colors. The Sacramento Color Guard was augmented by CASSAR VP North, Keith Bigbee, and by Chuck Jameson, who played the bagpipes during the flag ceremony. Bob Wilson led the membership in the Pledge of Allegiance and Don Littlefield led the Pledge to the SAR. The Color Guard then Posted the Colors.

Next, President Goodwin introduced the guests attending this first annual Community Awards Dinner. They included from the California Society, SAR, Wayne Griswold, Exec Vice President with his wife, Yoncie, Keith Bigbee, VP North, Marston Watson, Past State President and Past VP General NSSAR with his wife, Kathleen, Jim Faulkinbury, CASSAR Secretary, and Tom Chilton, CASSAR Registrar. From the DAR, those introduced included Kathleen Watson, Past President of the NSSAR Ladies Auxillary and member of the Anne Loucks Chapter DAR, from the Sacramento Chapter DAR, Medora Allen, Marilyn Chilton, Sarah Goodwin, Jennifer (Littlefield) Martinez, and Lynne Robinson, and from the Gen. John Sutter Chapter, Peg Wilson, and Lola Warrick.

Tonight's awardees and their families were then recognized. They were: from the Sacramento Metro Fire District, Engineer Matt Cole with his wife, Amber, from the Sacramento Police Department, Officer Joshua Frey with his wife, Genevieve, and Officer David Smart, from the Sacramento County Sheriff's Department, Deputy Duke Lewis with his wife, Clarissa, and from the California National Guard, Maj. John Tade. Other distinguished guests introduced included Sacramento Police Chief Rick Braziel, Sacramento County Sheriff John McGinness with his wife, Peggy, members of Deputy Duke Lewis' family including his parents, Dan and Sherri Lewis, and uncles, retired Sheriff's Deputy Sgt Todd Lewis, and Deputy Chief Jamie Lewis. Following the introduction of the awardees, their families and their department heads, special guests Rev. Donald MacRae, Chuck Jameson, who is our bagpiper for the meeting, and Chris Watson, a previous Valley Forge Program awardee were introduced.

Kathleen Watson, who is also coordinating the 2009 "Wreaths Across America" program, then gave a brief talk about the program and provided donation forms for ordering wreaths for the December ceremony. Next, Chris Watson gave a brief description of how the Freedoms Foundation Valley Forge Program has helped him as a teacher of American history. After Chris' presentation, Rev. Donald MacRae gave the invocation and the assembly partook of their dinner meal.

Following dinner, the Awards Ceremony began. Compatriot Lt. Cmdr. Ted Robinson asked Maj. John Tade of the California National Guard to come forward, and then he read the recommendation for the SAR Silver Good Citizenship Medal, which had been submitted by the Commandant of the California National Guard. Compatriot Robinson then asked Engineer Matt Cole of the Sacramento Metro Fire District to come forward, and he read the citation for the SAR Fire Safety Commendation Medal and Certificate from Battalion Chief Brian Rice of the Metro Fire District. Next, Sacramento Police Chief Rick Braziel was asked to come forward to recognize and read the citations for the two members of his Department who were receiving the SAR Law Enforcement Commendation Medals and Certificates, Officers Joshua Frey and David Smart. Finally, Sacramento Co. Sheriff John McGinness came forward to recognize and read the citation for Deputy Duke Lewis of his department, who also received the SAR Law Enforcement Commendation Medal and Certificate. All of the awardees were presented with their medals and certificates by President Goodwin, with the assistance of Compatriots Robinson and Faulkinbury.

Following the awards ceremony, the silent auction and raffle was closed and the winners announced. A special thanks was made for the donors of the silent auction items including Doug Cross, Seward Andrews, Jeff Goodwin Esq., Mary Ann Goodwin, Donna Spradling, Yoncie and Wayne Griswold, Tom & Marilyn Chilton, Ted Robinson, Janet Stroman Esq., Donald MacRae, Jim Faulkinbury, Rep. Dan Lungren, and business donors Gekkeikan Sake, Visconti's Ristorante, and Kikkoman.

The meeting was closed with Rev. Donald MacRae giving a benediction after which the Color Guard accompanied by bagpiper Chuck Jameson retired the Colors, and Don Littlefield led the SAR Recessional. The attendees sang God Bless America, after which the meeting was adjourned.



Respectfully submitted, Jim Faulkinbury, Secretary

Wreaths Across America.org™



This year the Sacramento Chapter's Color Guard will again participate in the wreath laying ceremony to be held at the Sacramento Valley VA National Cemetery in Dixon, CA, on Saturday, December 12, 2009. The ceremony starts promptly at 12:00 noon, Eastern Standard Time, (9:00 AM Pacific Standard Time). We invite you to join us in this 2009 wreath laying ceremony. It only takes about an hour, and is well worth your time. Do wear warm clothing if you plan to attend. For more information, visit <http://www.wreaths-across-america.org/index.html>.



If you would like to sponsor a wreath or wreaths, visit the web site above, and click on Sponsor a Wreath.

Artist's rendering of the Sacramento Valley National Cemetery at its completion. →

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