

# The Courier



*November 2011*



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



**AWARDS BANQUET  
SALUTES LOCAL HEROES**

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Sons of the American Revolution*  
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## **Cover Photo**

*by Don Spradling*

Pictured Left to Right:

Officer Labin Wilson (*W. Sacramento Police Department*)

Engineer Tony Fink (*Sacramento Metro Fire Department*)

Deputy Kyle Hoertsch (*Sacramento Sheriff Department*)



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## **The Courier**

is now available in full color online at: <http://sarsac.org>

## The Courier

*Is the official newsletter of the Sacramento Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution.  
Unless explicitly stated, the opinions expressed herein are the opinions of the authors and*

# President's Message



*Don Littlefield*

*“Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. . . .”*

*Ronald Reagan*

**O**n Saturday, October 15th, we participated in Family History Day at the California State Archives. I was joined by Tom Chilton and Vince Gantt at the SAR table. It was a good event for the SAR and we collected the names of about a dozen men who stopped by the table to inquire about our organization and our process for becoming members.

We hosted our Annual Awards Banquet on October 22nd. This event honored the West Sacramento Police, Sacramento Sheriff and Fire department personnel who distinguished themselves during the past year. Our Event Chair, husband and wife team, Russ and Christie Kaiser, not only coordinated a lovely event, but they also introduced over a dozen Sacramento Yacht Club guests to the SAR.

The real heroes of that night were Engineer Anthony Fink, who received the SAR Fire Safety Medal, and Officer Labin Wilson, who was awarded the SAR Law Enforcement Medal and Certificate. We thank them for their service to our community. At the same time, we would also thank the men and women of these organizations for their work in giving us the quality of life we enjoy in the Sacramento region.

Jeff Goodwin and I have recently returned from the California Society Sons of the American Revolution Fall Board of Managers meeting in San Diego. We enjoyed the Community Awards Recognition event and also an SAR Commemoration held at the Serra Museum. This museum, which is located on the Presidio in San

Diego, was the venue where California's own NSSAR President General, Larry Magerkurth, and Maria Angeles Olson, Honorary Consul of Spain for San Diego spoke about the role of Spain in settling America and lending support to the colonies during the American Revolution.

Every day, in every way, we should be grateful and give thanks for everything with which we are blessed: our family, our home, our children, our friends, and most of all our cherished freedom. In President Ronald Reagan's words:

*Freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction. We didn't pass it to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected, and handed on for them to do the same, or one day we will spend our sunset years telling our children and our children's children what it was once like in the United States to be free.*

November is here already and we look forward to Thanksgiving and to all the blessings that being Americans bring to our lives. Let us continue to strive to make this country stronger, to resist and defend it against those who would destroy our rich heritage and let us work to sustain this vast and beautiful country for our children and for future generations of Americans. It is our obligation as citizen caretakers of America to be teachers of American patriotism, courage, sacrifice, and tragedy that our ancestors endured and triumphed over to create a nation of free men.

Happy Thanksgiving to all of you.

—Don Littlefield

# November Meeting Program

## Guest Speaker



*Officer Randy Van Dusen*

In November 2010, Officer Van Dusen began training K9 Bodie. K9 Bodie is an eighty pound German Shepherd Dog that was imported from Germany for police work.

Officer Randy Van Dusen joined the Sacramento Police Department in 1998. He worked as a patrol officer in the north, central and east areas of Sacramento for over three years. In January of 2002 Officer Van Dusen was selected to join the central sector Problem Oriented Policing (POP) team. During his assignment to the POP team, Officer Van Dusen and his partner, concentrated their efforts on narcotics enforcement, probation and parole compliance, and warrant arrests in the mid-town Sacramento area. Officer Van Dusen is a firearms range master and assists in teaching emergency vehicle operations to police academy recruits.

1. In January of 2004, Officer Van Dusen was selected as a new member of the canine unit. Officer Van Dusen was teamed with K9 Buck, a ninety pound German Shepherd Dog imported from the Netherlands. K9 Buck retired in 2011 after seven years of dedicated police service.

In November 2010, Officer Van Dusen began training K9 Bodie. K9 Bodie is an eighty pound German Shepherd Dog that was imported from Germany for police work. After two months of training

that included obedience, agility, search and suspect apprehension, Bodie was certified as a police canine. Bodie is certified for narcotics detection as well as article searching and tracking. Bodie will replace K9 Buck as one of the police department's canines that assist the SWAT team during warrant services and high risk entries and searches. Not only is Bodie a hard working police canine, but he is an extremely friendly dog that loves kids

**Officer Randy Van Dusen replaces the formerly scheduled guest speaker, FBI Special Agent Herbert Brown.**

**Agent Brown and his men have been ordered out of town.**

If the telephone committee has not taken your menu selection(s) by November 16th, 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.

### November 18th, 7:00 PM

#### ***Buggy Whip Restaurant***

*2737 Fulton Avenue*

*Sacramento, California*

*(Between El Camino and Marconi Aves.)*

#### Menu Selections

Sirloin Steak . . . . . \$24.00

Salmon . . . . . \$24.00

Vegetable Plate . . . . . \$24.00

*(Includes beverage, dessert, tax, and tip)*

## What's In A Name? . . .

*Tea Parties - Then & Now* by Peter Darnall

*This article is the third in a series celebrating the colorful history behind the Tea Party name.*

The television news coverage these days seems obsessed with the actions of undisciplined groups taking over metropolitan areas for one obscure reason or another. One program caught my attention recently. The footage showed the actions of an unruly mob destroying public property in downtown Oakland. The announcer was attempting to justify this deviltry by linking it to the destruction of tea which occurred in the Boston Tea Party.

He assured the viewing audience that these actions were following an American tradition. He noted that these brave demonstrators in Oakland did not have to disguise themselves as Indians . . . He probably went on, but I'd found the remote and changed the Chanel.

Many years ago, a group of men, some armed with tomahawks and disguised as Indians, boarded ships in Boston Harbor and threw the cargo of tea overboard. They were upset at the

British practice of taxing the American colonies and finally decided to take matters into their own hands by destroying the British tea. Today, we know this act of civil disobedience as "The Boston Tea Party."

This description was essentially the story of an historic event in American history. It's essentially true, but the bold actions of our fore-

fathers in their struggle for freedom are glossed over in the simplified version we were given by our teachers.

This activity, which we know as the Boston Tea Party, was known for many years by a different description: "the Destruction of the Tea." Any men who had participated in that raid on the Sunday afternoon of December 16, 1773 were regarded as criminals by the British authorities. Had the Revolutionary War turned out differently, these men would most certainly have been hanged as traitors. All were aware of the fate that would likely await them and they chose to risk it all.

The events which led up to the original Tea Party have much in common with the events that led to the formation of the today's Tea Party. In the seventeenth century, a company, which was deemed to be too large to fail, had fallen onto hard times. A British government bailout of the institution using funds to be extorted from the American colonists was enacted. Public concern in the colonies over the abusive practices of an unresponsive government was widespread. Underground groups, such as the Sons of Liberty, turned the smoldering resentment into action.

Does this scenario sound familiar? It should . . . it's the same story—only the names have changed.

**This activity, which we know as the Boston Tea Party, was known for many years by a different description: "the Destruction of the Tea."**

# Awards Banquet Minutes & Pictures



**Jim Faulkinbury**  
**Secretary**

Photography by  
*Don Spradling*

The Community Awards Dinner Meeting was held at the Sacramento Yacht Club.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by President Don Littlefield. Russ Kaiser announced the honored guests for the evening's awards. The Invocation followed, led by Doug Cross. President Littlefield called the Chapter Color Guard to come forward perform the presentation of the colors. Joseph Mohamed led the membership in the Pledge of Allegiance and Robert Rectenwald led the Pledge to the SAR. The Color Guard then performed the flag ceremony.

Next, President Littlefield introduced the guests attending the Community Awards Dinner. The Guest List detail follows:

*Sacramento Metro Fire Department: Asst. Chief Chris Holbrook with the department awardee, Engineer Anthony Fink with his wife Audrey.*

*Sacramento County Sheriff Department: Lt. David Coffman with the department awardee, Deputy Kyle Hoertsch with his wife Brenda.*

*West Sacramento Police Department: Lt. Tod Stockman with the department awardee, Officer Labin Wilson.*

*Guest speaker: Regional Administrator of Region IX FEMA, Nancy Ward.*

*The Sacramento Yacht Club: Rear Commodore Jan Lucas with her husband Paul Carras. Port Captain Chuck Lenert*



*President Don Littlefield presents Liberty Bell and Certificate of Appreciation to Guest Speaker Nancy L. Ward*

*with his wife Shirley. Lt. Col. Mike Shields. Past commodore, Compatriot Russ Kaiser with his wife Christie.*

*From the SAR, CASSAR Executive VP,*



*DAR Past Regent Helen Borgens with husband Ed, Jr.*



*Left to Right: Vince Gantt, Jim Faulkinbury, Tom Chilton, Russ Kaiser*

*Keith Bigbee, with his wife Cyndy. CASSAR VP North and Past Chapter President, Jim Faulkinbury with his wife Karen. CASSAR Chancellor and Past Chapter President, Jeff Goodwin with his wife Mary Ann. Past Chapter President and CASSAR Registrar, Tom Chilton with his wife Marilyn. President of the Delta Chapter, Jeff Sylvan with his wife Ursula. Sacramento Chapter VP of Programs, Vince Gantt with his wife Jeni.*

*From the DAR: Representing the Sacramento Chapter, Past Regent Helen Borgens with her husband Ed Jr. Representing the Sierra-Amador Chapter, Marilyn Chilton. Representing the Gold Trail Chapter, Lee Lawson*

*(Banquet continued on page 7)*

(Banquet continued from page 6)

and Ann Taylor. Representing the Gold Trail Chapter. Sarah Molina.

Mary Ann Littlefield was recognized for the support she has provided to Don during his term of Presidency.

A brief welcome to all was given followed by a moment of silence for our recently departed Chapter members Woody Robertshaw and Cliff Robertson. Also included were Roy Tougaw, brother of Compatriot Harlan Tougaw, and Past Commodore of the Sacramento Yacht Club, June Melton.

Following this observation, President Littlefield called for the dinner to be served.

While dessert was being served, President Littlefield thanked those who made this a successful event: Ernie Garcia who coordinated the awards nominations. Russ Kaiser, who with his wife Christie, served as the committee chair for planning this event. Color Guard Commander Jim Faulkinbury. Bagpipe player Chuck Jamison, Gloria Howe Nycum and Kerry M. Shaw of **Howe It's Done** catering.

Following our meal, President Littlefield asked Russ Kaiser to introduce guest speaker Nancy Ward.

Nancy gave a talk about the role of FEMA and the importance of local community support from organizations such as law and fire safety agencies, faith based organizations, and organizations like the SAR in assisting those who have suffered natural or man-made disasters. Following her talk, President Littlefield presented Nancy with a Certificate of Appreciation and the Liberty Bell.

Following the speaker, the award presentations began. Representing the Metro Fire District was Engineer Anthony Fink who was presented with the SAR Emergency



President of Delta Chapter  
Jeff Sylvan and wife Ursula



Metro. Fire Dept.  
Assistant Chief  
Chris Holbrook

ceiving the SAR Law Enforcement Commendation Medal and representing the West Sacramento Police Department was Officer Labin Wilson. Also receiving the SAR Law Enforcement Commendation Medal and representing the Sacramento County Sheriff's Department was Deputy Kyle Hoertsch.



Sacto. Sheriff Dept  
Lt. David Coffman

President Littlefield then gave some closing remarks followed by a fund raiser with the help of Mary Ann Littlefield and Marilyn Chilton. Those donating gifts were Greg Potnick, Rodney Pierini, Mike & Lynn Wolf, Don & Mary Ann Littlefield, Joe & Shirley Mohamed, and Bob & Sarah Rectenwald.

Jeff Goodwin then recited the SAR Recessional and the Color Guard retired the colors. This ceremony was followed by Doug Cross who gave the Benediction. President Littlefield led the singing of "God Bless America". The meeting was then adjourned.



CASSAR Executive VP  
Keith Bigbee & wife Cindy

Respectfully submitted,  
Jim Faulkinbury  
Secretary



Pictured Left to Right:  
Hal Lawson, Fred Fletcher,  
Brian Young, Tom Chilton,  
and Jeff Sylvan

# New Members

*Editor's Note: Due to space limitations in previous issues, Ron Carello's biography had been held in reserve.*

*Here is his story now . . . with apologies for the delay.*

## Ron Carello

Ron was born in Sacramento, California, on 22 July 1966. Ronald is married to Sheri Lynn Holbrook, and they have two boys, Tyler and Daniel.

Ron spent his elementary school years in Sacramento attending St. Peter's Catholic School where he excelled academically. When moving on to high school he decided to attend public school so he could attend the Air Force JROTC program that was starting at Hiram Johnson High School. While in the AFJROTC program he was promoted from Cadet Airman in his first year all the way up to Cadet Lt. Colonel assigned as Special Assistance to the Commander. At the age of 17 he was in command of over 300 cadets. During his tenure in the AFJROTC he was active in the Color Guard and the Rifle Drill Team. The Rifle Drill team was undefeated during Ron's years of participation.

A prophetic event took place on 16 May 1983 when Ron (as a Cadet 1<sup>st</sup> Lt.) was awarded the Sons of the American Revolution medal and ribbon for leadership, soldierly bearing, and excellence from the Sacramento Chapter.

Following high school Ron decided on a United States Army career. Unfortunately fate would not allow it. While on training maneuvers Ron sustained severe injuries that prevented further enlisted service. A few years later, after obtaining a Administration of Justice Degree from Sacramento City College, and after recuperating from his injuries, Ron attempted a military career

again. This time it brought him to the Army ROTC program at Sacramento State University. Fate again stepped in and the same injuries prevented continued service. Notwithstanding his injuries Ron would do it all over again. He has the utmost respect and admiration for everyone that has served, and is serving, in the multiple branches of military in the United States. But for their service our country would not be what it is today.

As circumstance led Ron away from the military, it pushed him to attend Lincoln Law School of Sacramento where he met Sheri, his then future wife. Upon graduation from law school, his wife already having passed the California State Bar exam on the first attempt, Ron took the exam himself. He successfully passed the exam on the first attempt and has now been employed as an attorney for the last 15 years in Elk Grove, California.

Ron is a member of the International Karting Federation, World Karting Federation, and the United State Parachute Association. His interests include coaching his boys Little League baseball teams, conducting family history / genealogy research, driving race karts, being the crew chief on his sons' race karts, and being a former skydiver (with ambitions to return to the sport).

Ron's application to join the Sons of the American Revolution was approved on 21 April 2011. His patriot ancestor was George Miller, who served as a Private in South Carolina militia.

## Richard Dean Tolman

Richard Dean Tolman was born in Sacramento, and spent his childhood in the Carmichael area. He graduated from El Camino High School,

and attended American River College and Sacramento City College. Rich is married to Jane Alace Roach, and they have three adult children, Natalie, Theresa, and Joshua Andrew.

Rich served in the United States Navy from 1968 – 1972. Rich is a retired sub-contractor for the Department of Defense, where he worked for the United States Air Force for 25 years. Rich likes to fish, shoot, and lounge during his spare time.

Rich's application to join the Sons of the American Revolution was



*Richard Dean Tolman*

approved on July 1, 2011. His patriot ancestor, Reuben Tolman, was a Private, serving in Capt. John Ames' Company, Col. Eliphalet Carey's Massachusetts Regiment. He was also in Capt. Luke Bicknell's Company, Col. Enoch Putnam's Regiment, where he served three months and eighteen days.

## Christopher Stephenson

### Junior Member

Christopher James Stephenson was born in Sacramento, Sacramento County, CA, and spent his early years in Waco, TX. He

*(Members continued on page 9)*



*(Members continued from page 8)*

lives in Woodland, CA, where he is a student at Pioneer High School.

Christopher’s application to join the Sons of the American Revolution as a Junior Member was approved on August 26, 2011. His patriot ancestor, Patrick Anderson, was a Captain in the Pennsylvania Musketry Battalion, Chester County, PA



*Christopher James Stephenson*

woodworking, bicycling, and family research.

Craig’s application to join the Sons of the American Revolution was approved on August 26, 2011. His patriot ancestor, Patrick Anderson, was a Captain in the Pennsylvania Musketry Battalion, Chester County, PA.



*Dennis Craig Anderson*

**Wesley Craig Anderson**

Wesley Craig Anderson was born in Vallejo, Solano County, CA, spent his childhood in Vallejo, and graduated from Vallejo High School. He served in the US Navy aboard the USS Enterprise CVN 65.

Wesley’s application to join the Sons of the American Revolution was approved on August 26, 2011. His patriot ancestor, Patrick Anderson, was a Captain in the Pennsylvania Musketry Battalion, Chester County, PA.

**Dennis Craig Anderson**

Dennis Craig Anderson was born in Red Bluff, Tehama County, CA, and spent his childhood on a ranch in Gerber Township in Tehama County. He graduated from Red Bluff Union High School, and Solano Community College. Craig is married to Sandra Kaye Miller. They have two adult children, Wesley Craig Anderson, and Wanda Yvonne Anderson.

Craig served with the US Navy from 1961 through 1964 aboard the USS Magoffin APA-199 based in San Diego.

Craig is retired from Chevron Corp where he was a Marketing Terminal Manager in various assignments in northern CA. His hobbies include



*New Members Group Photo — Pictured Left to Right: Richard Dean Tolman, Dennis Craig Anderson, and Christopher James Stephenson*

(Tea Party Continued from page 5)

For years, the British East India Company had enjoyed a monopoly on the marketing of Indian tea in England and its colonies. By late 1772 the company was in serious financial difficulty. Increasing competition and poor management had resulted in a glut of unsaleable tea filling company warehouses. The British Parliament response was to remove the tax on tea destined for British home consumption. The American colonies had developed an appreciation for tea and, in the British view, the colonies would be the ideal area to dump the excess tea at deceptively low prices.

The British Tea Act became law on May 10, 1773. Now, the East India Company would be allowed to sell tea directly in the colonies through designated merchants rather than relying upon middlemen. With the government tax on tea removed, the Company's tea appeared to be cheaper than the illegal smuggled Dutch tea, which was readily available in the colonies. The Townshend Revenue Act, which included a tax on tea, had largely been rescinded, but the residual tax of five pence per pound remained. In the Boston area, however, The Townshend Act remained in full force.

In the fall of 1773, seven ships sailed from England for the American colonies laden with East India Company tea. Word of these ships with their controversial cargo quickly spread throughout the American colonies. The Sons of Liberty planned to confront the vessels upon arrival in America and convince the captains to return

to England without discharging the tea.

Four of the vessels, the *Dartmouth*, the *Eleanor*, the *Beaver*, and the *William* were bound for Boston. These ships carried a cargo of slightly more than 100,000 pounds of tea. At that time, the Boston area was the largest market for legally imported British tea. The *William* would founder off Cape Cod, but the other three ships would sail into history as the target of the revolutionaries in the Boston Tea Party incident.

The cost of the legally imported British tea under the new regulations would be cheaper than the smuggled product, even when the residual tax of five pence per pound was taken into consideration. The concern among the revolutionaries in the colonies was, therefore, not the cost of the tea, but the authority, if any, of the British Parliament to levy any tax on American colonists. Even though the Townshend Act had largely been repealed, the residual tax on tea remained to document British authority to tax in the colonies. Thus, the British tea could not be allowed to land upon American soil.

Organized protests by the Sons of Liberty in New York, Philadelphia, and Charleston had successfully prevented the unloading of tea, forcing the ships to return to England. In Massachusetts, however, Thomas Hutchinson, the Royal Governor, vowed to resist the demands and to see that the tea was discharged on schedule. The resistance movement escalated into the Destruction of the Tea,

which later became known as the Boston Tea Party.

The day after the raid, John Adams wrote in his journal: "This destruction of the tea is so bold, so daring, so intrepid and so inflexible, and it must have so important consequences and so lasting that I can't but consider it an epoch in history."

But the respect for private property is deeply embedded in the American psyche. Benjamin Franklin, who was in London at the time, stated that the destroyed tea must be repaid in full. Robert Murray, a New York merchant, went to Lord North with three other merchants and offered to pay for the losses.

The Revolutionary War put an end to the quandary. The Americans won and . The brave men who were willing to risk their lives by boarding the ships in Boston are heroes. The raid on ths ships was executed with virtually no property damage, other than the targeted tea. After the tea was thrown overboard, all participants and onlookers left the scene. The evening that followed, according to records, was an unusually quiet one.

Let's not have any more prattle comparing addlebrained miscreants vandalizing public property to our ancestors who risked the hangman's noose to participate in one of the truly significant events in American history.

Simply press the off button on your TV remote. It'll work every time!

—Peter Darnall

# In Memoriam

*Sadness has filled the Stevenson family household*

*Mark's father had lived with Hepatitis since he contracted the disease from a blood transfusion in 1983 and he finally succumbed to the illness on Oct 8th. He was buried at the Sacramento Valley National Veterans Cemetery in Dixon with full military honors on Oct 26th.*

*After 55 years of marriage, Mark's mother struggled with her loss and she grew weaker every day without dad. The emotions of the day proved to be too much for her. She had a heart attach the evening of the service and passed away exactly 24hours after Dad's service ended.*

*She truly died of a broken heart. She will be interned with Dad, where they will be forever together.*

# Schedule of Future Meetings

Friday, November 18 - 7:00 PM

Randy Van Dusen  
Sacramento Police Dept  
K9 Unit  
Buggy Whip Restaurant

Friday, December 16 - 7:00 PM

The Auburnaires  
Buggy Whip Restaurant

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