

The Courier



October 2011

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

SAR Color Guard at Memorial



More Pictures inside . . .

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Cover Photo

by Peter Darnall



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Community Awards Banquet

will be held on

Saturday, October 22nd

at the

Sacramento Yacht Club

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.

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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 not necessarily those of the society.

President's Message



Donald B. Littlefield

On Saturday, October 22, we will recognize several individuals for their exceptional performance during the past year. We will also celebrate all members of the Sacramento area Sheriff's Department, Police Department, Metro Fire District and the California Highway Patrol, who go to work every day to make the Greater Sacramento area a safe place for us to live, to work, and to play.

We are privileged to have Nancy Ward, Regional Administrator, Region IX, FEMA as our Keynote Speaker. Nancy's responsibilities extend from Arizona, California, Nevada, and Hawaii, to American Samoa, Guam, Northern Marianas, Marshall Islands and Micronesia. Region IX serves a culturally diverse population in excess of 36 million people and covers 386,000 square miles with a breadth of more than 8,000 miles. The Region's most common challenges are hurricanes, typhoons and other storms that can cause flooding, flash-flooding, and landslides throughout the region. The Region also experiences earthquakes and wildfires.

Act Now!

This is the Sacramento Chapter's signature event of the year. We have too many empty seats still un-taken for the Banquet. Please RSVP with your meal selections, and your check for \$36 per person by Sunday, October 16. We must give Howe It's Done Catering our final dinner count on Monday, October 17, 2011. Show your support for the Sacramento Chapter and these everyday heroes and enjoy an evening with Nancy Ward, Sheriff Scott Jones, ranking officers from Metro Fire and Sacramento Police Department.

The Sacramento Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution, stands proud to be the single sponsor of this special event. Pick up your telephone and call me now at 916-985-6544 or send me an RSVP by email at dblittlefield@comcast.net with your reservations. Don't miss the opportunity to enjoy this wonderful night with SAR friends and family.

Mary Ann and I look forward to seeing you there and enjoying this wonderful event!

—*Don Littlefield*

Awards Banquet Details on Pages 4 and 10

Awards Banquet



Nancy L. Ward

Keynote Speaker

Nancy L. Ward was appointed Regional Administrator of Region IX for the Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) in October 2006.

Ms. Ward had been the Administrator of FEMA's Response and Recovery Division in Region IX since 2000. In her new position, she is responsible for coordinating FEMA mitigation, preparedness and disaster response and recovery activities in Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada, American

Samoa, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Republic of the Marshall Islands and the Federated States of Micronesia.

Ms. Ward was appointed FEMA's senior transition official for the presidential transition and served as Acting Administrator for FEMA from January 21, 2009 to May 16, 2009. She returned to her position as the Regional Administrator of the FEMA Region IX office when Craig Fugate was confirmed by the U.S. Senate to be the Administrator of FEMA.

She worked two details at FEMA headquarters as the Deputy Director of the Recovery Directorate during FEMA's response and recovery operations for the 2004 and 2005 hurricane seasons. She also served in various senior management positions in more than 20 disasters, most recently during the March and April 2006 severe storms, flooding, landslides and mudslides in California, and the earthquake in Hawaii. Ms. Ward has received awards for special accomplishments at FEMA.

Before joining FEMA, Ms. Ward was Chief of the Disaster Assistance Branch and Deputy State Coordinating Officer for the California Office of Emergency Services.

She administered the state's Natural Disaster Assistance Act program assistance provisions, which provide disaster assistance funding to local governments for state-level emergencies and disasters. She provided guidance and technical support to other state and local agencies in the planning, development and implementation of program policies and procedures for disaster recovery activities. She also was a Program Administrator for another California state agency.

More Program Information on Page 10

What's In A Name? . . .

Tea Parties - Then & Now by Peter Darnall

Sunday, December 16, 1773

The largest crowd ever gathered in Boston had assembled at Old South Meeting House in the afternoon. Contemporary estimates placed the number of people who responded to the Sons of Liberty call for a public assembly in the thousands. A hush fell over the group as a messenger made his way to the front of the assembly and handed a message to Samuel Adams. Adams read the message aloud and then proclaimed, "This meeting can do no more to save the country."

At the back of the hall, a few men dressed as Indians waved tomahawks and made loud war whoops. Their calls were answered from the gallery. Adams tried to quiet the crowd, but it was no use.

The assembled group quickly broke up and spilled out of the

standing guard to prevent the unloading of the tea. This tactic had been successful in New York, Philadelphia, and Charleston where the ships were forced to return to England without offloading their cargo of tea. The Royal Governor of Massachusetts, Thomas Hutchinson, resolved to resist the demands of protestors and had requested two British naval vessels to be stationed outside Boston Harbor with orders to prevent the vessels from sailing without discharging the tea.

The note delivered by the messenger to Sam Adams at the meeting on Sunday afternoon was the governor's formal rejection of the colonists' ultimatum. The chain of events which followed Sam Adams' words that afternoon would go down in history. Today we refer to the incident as the Boston Tea Party and the audacity of the colonists who boarded the ships is the stuff of legends.

Contemporary reports of the incident describe a group of men, some disguised as Indians with tomahawks, boarding the three ships moored at Griffin's Wharf. The men opened the sealed casks of tea, which were stowed as cargo aboard the ships, and dumped the contents overboard—no small task since each cask weighed almost four hundred pounds!

(Continued on Page 8)

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

"This Meeting can do no more to save the country."

—Samuel Adams

meeting hall. They were headed for Griffin's Wharf. Three ships, the *Dartmouth*, the *Eleanor*, and the *Beaver*, laden with casks of tea, were moored at the dock. A small guard of colonists was

September Meeting & Minutes



Jim Faulkinbury
Secretary

Photography by
Don Spradling

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 P.M. by President Don Littlefield. Doug Cross gave the Invocation. He was followed by Bob Rectenwald who led the membership in the Pledge of Allegiance and John Vawter who led the Pledge to the SAR.

President Littlefield recognized Tom Chilton and Jim Faulkinbury. He also recognized Jeff Sylvan as the president of the Delta Chapter. DAR members recognized included Marilyn Chilton of the Sacramento Chapter, Lee Lawson and Ann Taylor of the Sierra-Amador Chapter, and Sarah Rectenwald of the Gold Trail Chapter. He also recognized our guest speaker, Katherine Hope Borges, who is past Regent of the Turlock Chapter. Guests introduced were Craig Anderson with his daughter, Wanda Stephenson, and his grandson, Chris

Stephenson. He also introduced Richard Tolman. (Craig, Chris, and Richard will be inducted into the chapter this evening.) Prospective members, Gale Nelson and Jim Nester were introduced. Judd Strong who attended with his wife Jo was also introduced as a prospective member.

Under concerns for members, President Littlefield mentioned health issues regarding Medora Allen and Jeff Goodwin. He gave a brief memorial for our late member, Woody Robertshaw. This remembrance was followed by second memorial for our late member, Cliff Robertson, which was conducted by Registrar Tom Chilton.

Under announcements, Don listed the upcoming Color Guard presentation of the Colors for a Blue Star Memorial event at the McClellan Veterans Clinic on September 24th, the annual Family History Days at the California State Archives on October 15th, and the Chapter's Annual Awards Banquet at the Sacramento Yacht Club on October 22nd. He also announced that he

(Text Continued on page 7)



Guest Speaker Katherine Hope Borges receives Certificate and Liberty Bell from President Don Littlefield



Jeff & Ursula Sylvan



Hal & Lee Lawson



Doug & Wilma Cross

(Minutes Continued from page 6)

and his wife, Mary Ann, had just celebrated their 43rd wedding anniversary.

Color Guard Commander, Jim Faulkinbury, was asked to describe the evening's honored flags, which were; the Proctor's Battalion and the French Alliance flags. President Littlefield then asked Tom Chilton, Craig Anderson, Chris Stephenson, and Richard Tolman to come forward where Tom assisted with the Chapter Induction of Craig, Chris, and Richard. The traditional handshake from the membership followed the ceremony.



Don Spradling & Ernie Garcia



Ron Proffer, Jim Faulkinbury, Patti Proffer

Following the dinner, Tom Chilton introduced our speaker, Katherine Hope Borges. Katherine is the do-founder and director of the International Society of Genetic Genealogy (ISOGG). Katherine talked about the various tests now available for assisting in genealogical research including y-DNA, mitochondrial DNA and the new autosomal testing. She provided examples of how these tests can confirm or disprove descents from earlier generations. The autosomal tests now allow people to find possible cousins that are not directly in the male line (y-DNA) or female line (mitochondrial DNA). Following the presentation, Katherine was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation and Liberty Bell.

The meeting ended with a fund raiser conducted by



Vince & Jennifer Gantt

Mary Ann Littlefield and Marilyn Chilton. Those donating gifts were Katherine Hope Borges, Tom & Marilyn Chilton, Doug & Wilma Cross, Jim & Karen Faulkinbury, Vince & Jeni Gantt, Ernie & Helen Garcia, Hal & Lee Lawson, Don & Mary Ann Littlefield, Bob & Sarah Rectenwald, Don & Donna Spradling, Jeff Sylvan, George & Ann Taylor, and Mike & Lynn Wolf.

Don thanked Mary Ann and Marilyn for their assistance. He also thanked Don Spradling for taking pictures, and then asked for a motion to adjourn. Richard Tolman recited the Recessional followed by the Benediction by Doug Cross. The members then sang *God Bless America*.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 PM..

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Faulkinbury,
Secretary

(Tea Party Continued from p. 5)

The raid lasted about three hours and destroyed more than three hundred and forty casks of tea belonging to the British East India Company. Although the entire episode was watched by a large group of onlookers, the details of the activity are sketchy and the identities of the participants are largely unknown. The Destruction of Tea, as it was termed in Parliament, was a criminal activity and any person(s) associated with it would have been dealt with harshly. Many years would pass before those with knowledge of the incident would feel free to speak openly.

The raid on the ships was not a spontaneous act of vengeance carried out by an undisciplined mob. Property damage, although substantial, was confined to the tea which was stowed as cargo aboard the ships. Although the tea was owned by the East India Company, the three ships in the Boston Harbor were American. The “Indians” requested permission from the captains to board the ships and respected the request to not damage the vessels. There are reported instances of members of the crews assisting the raiders in jettisoning the tea. Disci-

The raid on the ships was not a spontaneous act of vengeance . . .

pline was the order of the day; in one recorded incident, a colonist named Charles Conner was spotted stuffing tea into his pockets. He was stripped of his clothing and beaten by members of the raiding party. After the entire cargo of the three ships was thrown overboard, the raiders and the onlookers left the scene. The night that followed was a quiet one.

Many suspect that Sam Adams was a leader of the group that boarded the ships. Were his closing words at the meeting a signal for the raid to begin? No one knows the answer with certainty to this day.

While Samuel Adams’ actual participation in the Boston Tea Party raid can be questioned, his leadership role in local government and his clandestine activities with the Sons of Liberty had made him a folk hero in the thirteen colonies. The British authorities regarded him as “the most dangerous man in Massachusetts.”

Another name closely associated with Sam Adams was John Hancock. Hancock was a wealthy Boston merchant and ship owner who had been drawn to the resistance movement by Sam Adams. In reality, John Hancock was a smuggler who had made a fortune bringing contraband goods, including duty-free Dutch tea, to the American colonies. The close relationship between Hancock’s money and Adams’ political acumen was well known in the Boston area. The locals had a saying: “Sam Adams writes the letters [to newspapers] and John Hancock pays the postage.”

John Hancock stood to gain a great deal from a raid against the East India Tea Company. He had financed the activities of the Sons of Liberty in Massachusetts almost single-handedly and had played a similar role in the Tea Party incident. Nonetheless, like Sam Adams, no historic record links him directly to the boarding of the ships.

On the night of April 18, 1775, British troops descended on the Boston area with intent to put an end to the rebellious activity. They carried orders authorizing the arrest of both Samuel Adams and John Hancock. The Sons of Liberty were fore-

warned and Paul Revere rode through the night alerting the rebels. Both Adams and Hancock were able to escape the British troops—but that’s another story . . .

The Boston Tea Party was a pivotal event for the American Colonies in the struggle against British tyranny. The concern in the colonies was not over the amount of tax money the Colonists were asked to pay—The Tea Act of 1773 effectively reduced the price of British tea below the going rate of smuggled tea. The issue was the fact the Americans were being taxed by the British Parliament without any representation and the fear that such taxation could, at the whim of the British, eventually destroy the American Colonies. The civil disobedience and the property destruction of the Boston Tea Party were undertaken only as a last resort. The British retaliation to the Boston area for the raid was swift and severe. The Coercive Acts (British terminology) or The Intolerable Acts, as they were known in the colonies, resulted in the creation of the First Continental Congress in 1774. The Revolutionary War would follow.

The modern Tea Party is a populist movement that has acquired more than just the name of the original Tea Party. Today’s Tea Party, like its colonial namesake, represents a group of Americans that have come together united by a common determination to resist the encroachment of government influence in their lives.

Will the modern Tea Party earn a significant place in American History? In the words of Mark Twain: “History doesn’t repeat itself, but it does rhyme.”

—Peter Darnall

Blue Star Memorial Dedication



Col. Grace Edinboro, Ford Osborn, Tom Chilton, Ernie Garcia, Russ Kaiser, Jim Faulkinbury

A Special Event

The Blue Star Memorial Program honors service men and women. This program began with the planting of eight thousand dogwood trees by the New Jersey Council of Garden Clubs in 1944, intended as a living memorial to veterans of World War II. In 1945, the National Council of State Garden Clubs adopted the program.

September 24, 2011

A Blue Star Dedication Ceremony honoring veterans past, present, and future, was held on the site of McClellan Air Force Base.

The Sacramento SAR Color Guard was joined by Col. Grace Edinboro of the National Guard for the dedication ceremony.

The event would be the final dedication for the sponsoring group, The North Highlands Garden Club.

“This ceremony was our last. It was special for many reasons. . . Fifty-seven years of service ended here today.”

—Floradell Ogle

North Highlands Garden Club



Ford Osborn



Col. Grace Edinboro



Ernie Garcia

The SAR Community Awards Banquet, sponsored by the Sacramento Chapter will be held on Saturday, October 22 at the Sacramento Yacht Club, 365 South River Road, West Sacramento Ca 95691. Our keynote speaker will be Nancy Ward, Regional Administrator, Region IX, Federal Emergency Management Administration

The evening will begin at 6:00 pm with a no host bar and 7:00 pm for the sit down dinner and awards. The price per meal for this event is \$36.00 paid in advance to the SAR Sacramento Chapter. Meal selections for this meeting are

?? Grilled Marinated Flank Steak with Carmalized Onions in a Cabernet Reduction

?? Stuffed Chicken Breast with Spinach Gruyere Cheese

?? Herb Crusted Salmon with Champagne Buerre Blanc

All Entrée's Served with Mashed Potatoes Concannon, Farm Fresh Seasonal Vegetables, Baby Green Salad, Freshly Baked Rolls and Butter, Desert and Coffee.

If you have not already sent in your RSVP for the Annual SAR Community Awards Banquet, please call me immediately at 916-985-6544 and let me know the number of reservations and your meal selections. Then mail us a check for \$36.00 per person to SAR Sacramento Chapter, PO Box 6664, Folsom, CA 95763-6664.

First Responders to be honored at Awards Banquet



Sacramento Metro Fire Fighter Tony Fink

Each year, employees are nominated by their peers using the following criteria: possesses leadership skills, is active within the community, goes above and beyond to assist others, possesses a positive attitude, has an ability to work well with others, is trustworthy, and possesses an outstanding work ethic. Of those nominated, one is selected to represent line personnel and one for support staff.

This year's Employee of the Year representing Line Personnel is Engineer Tony Fink.



West Sacramento Police Officer Labin Wilson's strong people and communication skills have led to his excellent ability to cultivate informants and gather intelligence which has aided both the West Sacramento Police Department and outside agencies in successful investigations. In addition to his abilities to cultivate informants, Officer Wilson has developed a rare ability to successfully interview gang members. Due to gang members resistance to law enforcement and the cultures norm to not talk to the police, successfully interviewing them is extremely uncommon. His successful interview of suspects has resulted in several confessions and the gathering of critical gang intelligence to assist in other investigations.



Deputy Kyle Hoertsch is a 39-year-old, 15-year department veteran who was recently involved in the following incident:

On February 24, 2010, at approximately 10:45 p.m., Sacramento County Sheriff's K9 deputy Kyle Hoerstch was patrolling the area near Marconi Avenue and Walnut Avenue when he spotted a motorcycle and its rider who had been involved in a pursuit earlier that day with California Highway Patrol officers. Deputy Hoertsch attempted to stop the motorcycle, but the rider failed to yield and led Hoerstch on a high speed pursuit east bound on Marconi Avenue. At the intersection of Marconi Avenue and Fair Oaks Boulevard, the rider ran the red light and violently collided with a vehicle.

Deputy Hoertsch watched as the motorcycle came to rest on top of the rider and caught fire. The fire quickly engulfed the motorcycle and rider underneath it.

Deputy Hoerstch ran to the trapped rider and with no regard for his personal safety attempted to pull the rider from the flames. Deputy Hoerstch quickly realized the rider's jacket sleeve was entangled on the motorcycle's handlebars preventing his attempt to free the rider. Deputy Hoerstch also became engulfed by the blaze as the flames continued to grow. However, Deputy Hoerstch was unwilling to let the rider perish in the fire; so, he drew his utility knife and cut the rider's entangled sleeve freeing him from the wreckage. The rider was transported to a local hospital and while he did not survive his injuries, deputy Hoerstch exhibited bravery above and beyond the call of duty in an effort to preserve the life of the motorcycle rider.

Deputy Hoerstch has been recommended for a departmental commendation award as a result of his brave actions.

Officer Randy Van Dusen is a thirteen year veteran of the Sacramento Police Department. Officer Van Dusen is being nominated for his quick action and unwavering commitment to go above and beyond duty to save the life of a citizen on April 30, 2011.

On a Saturday at approximately 9:30 AM, Officer Van Dusen parked his patrol car on the levee of the American River to watch part of a half marathon running even on the bike trail. As Officer Van Dusen prepared to leave, a runner collapsed in front of him. Officer Van Dusen thought the runner may have tripped or stumbled, so he walked to the runner to check on him.

Officer Van Dusen immediately called for Code 3 Fire/Medical assistance, and began chest compressions. Within minutes, other runners arrived, some of them medically trained, followed shortly after by the victim's wife Felicia. Officer Van Dusen continued chest compressions as other persons checked for a pulse. There was none. Officer Van Dusen refused to quit and continued. Several minutes later, and prior to medical aid arriving, the victim's heart began to beat. .

Fire/Medical personnel stated that without question, Officer Van Dusen's actions and commitment saved Mr. Jeffery's life. Later that day, he went to the hospital to check on them. Ralph was in ICU and his wife was worried because in addition to her husband's condition, they were from out of town and their belongings were still in a motel room past the checkout time.

Officer Van Dusen went to the mote, explained the situation to the manager, and obtained the Jeffery's belongings, which he delivered to Felicia at the hospital. Officer Van Dusen continued to check on Ralph, who recovered well. As Felicia stated, "Randy put a personal face to a group of people I rarely thought about and most times avoided."

Schedule of Future Meetings

Saturday, October 22 - 6:00 PM
Community Awards Banquet
Sacramento Yacht Club
Friday, November 18 - 7:00 PM
Herbert Brown - FBI
(Special Agent In Charge)
2012 Officer Nominations
Buggy Whip Restaurant
Friday, December 16 - 7:00 PM
The Auburnaires
Buggy Whip Restaurant



Calling All Compatriots
Hear Ye! Hear Ye!
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