



# The Courier



September 2019

Sacramento Chapter Sons of the American Revolution

Volume 51, Edition 6

## Presidents Corner

Hi All, I hope this finds you all well. September was a pretty good month. On the 10<sup>th</sup>, Jim Faulkinbury and I were invited to the Nevada County Genealogy Society to give a presentation about how the SAR uses Genealogy in researching the lineage of perspective members. He named different programs that are used and that the SAR is in the fore front of using DNA research. Of course, you have to understand that I was just there to introduce Jim (after all, he's the brains of this team), he did a great job, not only talking research, but also promoting the SAR and the DAR.



We were also invited to the Freedom Foundation Valley Forge American Heritage Festival on the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>. The Festival was held at the Johnston-Springview Park in Rocklin. The SAR was there in force, unfortunately I couldn't be there as I had eye surgery on the 13<sup>th</sup> and I wasn't allowed to drive on the 14<sup>th</sup>. On Friday there was, reportedly, 1500 students were in attendance. From what I understand there was a lot of activity at our booth as we had the color guard there in uniform, plus we had artifacts for the Revolution. On Saturday there was a lot of activity as well and the attraction was, again, the artifacts and photo ops with the uniformed color guard. There was also a lot of promotion for the SAR. Good job Guys.

As most of you know, we will be having a new Challenge Coin soon. The design has already been decided on. This coin promotes our Chapter and will be a good way to attract perspective

### Cattlemens Meal Selections:

Ribeye Steak \$30.  
Sirloin Steak \$25.  
Grilled Salmon \$25.  
Teriyaki Chicken \$25.  
Pesto Spinach/Cheese Ravioli \$25. (Vegan)

Next Meeting

Friday, October 18, 2019, 7:00PM

**Cattlemens Restaurant**

12409 Folsom Blvd, Rancho Cordova

**Make a reservation and meal choice when a member of the telephone committee calls. Or, contact Chair Phil Noble at email [phil7476@aol.com](mailto:phil7476@aol.com) by noon on Thursday before the meeting.**

**Payment accepted at the door. We accept cash or personal checks. We do not accept credit cards.**

Wives, guests, and visiting compatriots are always welcome.

Come and socialize at 6:00PM. The meeting will start promptly at 7:00PM

We are a 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable organization, EIN # 68-0004288

Photos courtesy of Don Spradling

members. It will help in getting conversations started about the SAR and what we are about. A good way to explain that we have a myriad of children programs, support the JROTC, have an Eagle Scout Program, support other worth wild projects, heavily based in American History, and most importantly, we are a nonpolitical organization. It is my hope that all will purchase these coins, possibly a group of coins, so that you can hand them out. I have committed to a group of 4 myself and most likely will be purchasing more.

I look forward to seeing you all at our next meeting on October 18<sup>th</sup>.

## MEMBERSHIP DUES NOTICES

2020 Membership dues notices are in the mail. **Regular member dues are \$70 (\$35 Nat'l - \$20 State - \$15 Chapter) and Junior Member Dues are \$5.** We appreciate your early attention to these. We have a reporting deadline that we have to meet with the National Society so your prompt remittance is important. **Please note that I forgot to change the due date on the cover letters and dues notices from 2018 to 2019. Dues are expected to be in by November 15<sup>th</sup> 2019.**



Please Note: For those members who wish USPS delivery of our Chapter Newsletter, we formerly charged members \$10 per year. The actual cost to print and mail these is \$2.50 per copy or \$25 for 10 issues so we have had to raise the price to meet our costs. Remember, the Courier is available at our web site at no cost.

Life Members SAR dues are prepaid through their life membership program, but we would appreciate hearing from you; please return your dues notices to us and note any changes in the contact information we have for you.

Through the generous support of our members we have been able to continue to offer quality programs in our communities, and we thank all of you. We are looking forward to a great 2020 with Sacramento Chapter Compatriot Don Littlefield installed as President of the California Society.

## October Guest Speaker

Our speaker for our October meeting will be Jim Faulkinbury. Jim is currently the Genealogist General of the National society. Jim and Karen Faulkinbury along with Dual Member Gerry and Charlotte Miller visited Scotland and England this year on PG Warren Alter's SAR trip. Jim will share his experiences and impressions with us.



## Welcome New Members

We welcomed two new members into the Sacramento Chapter during our September meeting:

### Gary Howard Morgan NSSAR #211843

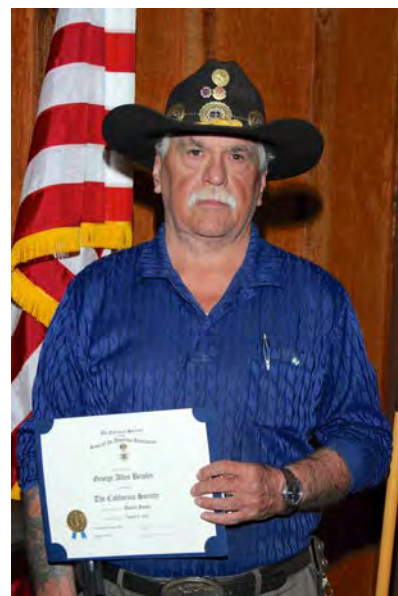
Gary Morgan was born in Massachusetts, and he's lived in California most of his life. He currently resides in Plumas Lake with his wife Brandi. He enjoys Vintage Volkswagens, traveling, National Parks, mid century modern design ,and he's a diehard Red Sox fan. A few years ago while at family reunion in Montana he came across a printed interview where his great grandfather said he was from "Revolutionary Stock." This piqued the interest of his brother and him, which led them applying for membership in the SAR.

Gary's application was approved on June 14<sup>th</sup> 2019 and his patriot ancestor is James Largent, a private and Corporal at different times in the 4<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, and 12<sup>th</sup> Virginia Regiments of the Continental Army. He served under Capt William Vause and Col James Wood Jr.



### George Allen Brinlee NSSAR #212475

George Brinlee was born on September, 17, 1951 in Berkley, CA. He was in the security field for about 30 years in California and Nevada. He was also a machinist production worker for 4 years. George's father was Aubry Boone Brinlee, a veteran of WWII, serving in the Philippines under General Douglas MacArthur. His application to join the SAR was approved on August 8<sup>th</sup>, 2019, His patriot ancestor was Daniel Boone.



## Sacramento Chapter Membership

The Sacramento Chapter has added a total of 15 members to our membership roster: 8 new members, 5 reinstatements, and 2 transfer-in. During the same period we lost two members: 1 deceased, and 1 transferred out. **Current total membership in the Sacramento Chapter is 187.**



## Color Guard Events

### Gold Trail Chapter DAR

The Sacramento Chapter Color Guard under the Command of David Beach posted colors at the September meeting of the Gold Trail Chapter DAR at Woodcreek Golf Course in Roseville on Tuesday September 17<sup>th</sup>. Color Guardsmen appearing with David, were Carl Ahlberg, Phil Noble, and Craig Anderson. The Gold Tail Chapter awarded the Color Guard a Certificate of Appreciation.



### Former Flying Tiger Airlines Flight Attendants

The Sacramento Chapter Color Guard was honored to present the colors at a reunion of former Flying Tiger Airlines flight attendants at the Vietnam Memorial on Wed. September 25<sup>th</sup> in Capitol Park. During the Vietnam War these women crewed on aircraft deploying troops to Vietnam and returning them home at the end of their tours. Unfortunately, some of them never made the return trip home, and their ceremony was to honor the soldiers who gave their lives in Vietnam. Special Thanks to Phil Noble, Don Littlefield, Doug Drake, and CG Commander David Beach for helping these ladies honor our soldiers.



## September Guest Speakers

The California Society's, Valley Forge Teacher Recognition Program, annually sponsors two teachers to attend Freedom Foundations Valley Forge Summer Graduate Teacher workshop at Valley Forge, PA. This year, our chapter was fortunate to have two teachers selected from the Sacramento area schools to attend this workshop, "Revolution and Rebellion, 1756 – 1794" on July 5th-10<sup>th</sup>. We were honored to have these fine teachers share their thoughts on this program with our membership.

### Melissa Wolking

Melissa Wolking has been married for 31 years to her husband, Lynn, and is the mother of two children, Courtney, 26 and Zachary, 24. She has been teaching in the Folsom Cordova Unified School District since 2004. While she has taught second, fourth, and fifth grade, the latter is by far her favorite. She loves the fifth grade social studies curriculum and all things related to the American Revolution. Sharing the events related to our country's beginning is the highlight of her instructional year. She has welcomed the Sons and Daughters of the American Revolution into her classroom for six years and is looking forward to a seventh. Recently she discovered that her fifth great grandfathers on her mother's side both fought as Patriots in the Revolutionary War. The next step for Melissa is to seek membership in the Daughters of the American Revolution. How exciting! It was her honor to represent the local chapter as she attended the Valley Forge Freedom's Foundation program last July. She was very grateful for the opportunity.



### Scott Steffens

Scott Steffens is a history teacher at St. Patrick's Academy in Sacramento. His passion and insatiable curiosity of history began when he was ten year old when he first stumbled upon his father's book on the ancient Roman city of Pompeii. Since then his interests have expanded into US history from the Revolution to the Second World War, medieval history, biblical archaeology, early Christian history, and late antiquity. He is also a self-proclaimed history buff and can be found re-enacting famous battles of the American civil war at various events around northern California. He is married to his lovely wife Ashley. In his spare time he enjoys hobbies such as playing soccer, gardening, cooking, and painting.



## September Meeting Minutes

President Gunter called the meeting to order at 7:00PM

President Gunter gave the invocation; George Brinlee led the Pledge of Allegiance, and President Gunter led the pledge to the SAR.

SAR Officers and Past Presidents were recognized: Tom Chilton Sacramento Chapter SAR (2000, 2001, 2002, 2004, 2012) Past Registrar of the California State Society, and Craig Anderson, CASSAR VP-North, Chapter Secretary and past President Sacramento Chapter (2015 -2016).

DAR Members were introduced: Marilyn Chilton from the Sacramento Chapter, and Ann Taylor, Regent of the Sierra Amador Chapter.

Ladies Auxiliary members were introduced: Marilyn Chilton and Donna Spradling.

President Gunter introduced our meeting guests:

Melissa Wolking, Recipient Valley Forge Foundation Recognition Program and her husband Lynn

Scott Steffens, Recipient Valley Forge Foundation Recognition Program

New members: Gary Morgan and wife Brandalen and George Brinlee.

Jim Hollabaugh, member of the Silicon Valley Chapter SAR.

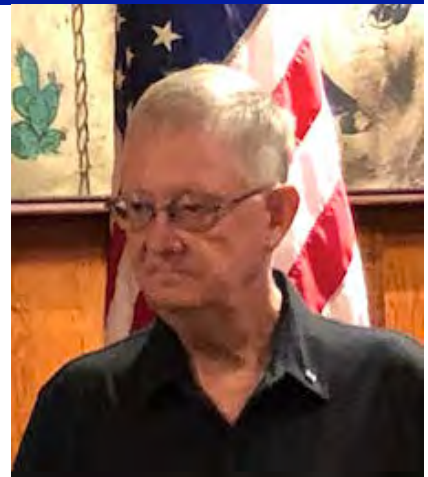
Prospective members, Doug Wood and Dave Rietz and wife Elain

President Gunter asked Michael Hull to come forward and present the historical flags: The Taunton Flag and the Cowpens Flag.

President Gunter then called forward new members, Gary Morgan and George Brinlee and inducted them into the Sacramento Chapter. He then invited all members to come forward and welcome our new members.

President Gunter then invited Marilyn Chilton to come forward and talk about the contributions of the Ladies Auxiliary to the SAR.

Following dinner, President Gunter called Craig Anderson forward to introduce the guest speakers: Melissa Wolking and Scott Steffens. Melissa and Scott gave an excellent overview of their experiences and impressions at Freedoms Foundation Valley Forge workshops in July and discussed how this experience enhanced their approach to teaching.





## September Meeting Minutes (Cont.)

President Gunter thanked Melissa and Scott for an excellent presentation and awarded them SAR Certificates of Appreciation and Liberty Bell for their support of the Sacramento Chapter.

President Gunter discussed some recent Sacramento Chapter events: Valley Forge American Heritage/Nevada County Genealogical Society meeting, and the American Heritage Festival – Rocklin, CA: Attended by compatiots Rudy Rodriguez, Don Littlefield, Ernie Garcia, Jim Faulkinbury, David Beach, Phil Noble, Kevin Alec, Mike Smith, Scott Brooks and Craig Anderson.

President Gunter discussed the proposed Sacramento Chapter Challenge coins and asked for feedback and opinions from the membership.

President Gunter announced that the guest speaker for November would be Jim Faulkinbury who would discuss his recent trip to Scotland.

President Gunter concluded chapter business and a motion was made and seconded to adjourn.

Craig Anderson led the Recessional, President Gunter gave the benediction, and Tom Chilton led the singing of “God Bless America”

President Gunter adjourned the meeting at 9:00PM

Respectfully Submitted,  
Mark Mozdy

## Upcoming Chapter Community Events

### November 11<sup>th</sup>, 2019

**Sacramento Veterans Day Parade** will be held on Monday November 11<sup>th</sup>. Details will follow in the next issue of the courier.

### December 14, 2019 9:00 AM

National **Wreaths Across America** Day is dedicated to remembering the sacrifices veterans have made in wars since the American Revolution.

**This is a call to arms for our Color Guard**; Our Color Guard plays an important part of the opening ceremonies at Sacramento Valley National Cemetery, Dixon, CA. More details regarding the participation of our Color Guard will be provided in subsequent issues of the Courier. **Mark your calendars**. If you are not a member of the Color Guard, we encourage you to attend the Wreaths Across America event in Dixon, or at other participating cemeteries in our area.



## American Heritage Festival

The Sacramento Chapter of Freedoms Foundation Valley Forge put on an American Heritage Festival at Johnston-Springview Park in Rocklin on September 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>. Members of the Sacramento Chapter SAR manned a booth both days and displayed colonial period artifacts and weapons along with membership and youth program information. A member of the Orange County Chapter SAR, Daniel Shippey, also attended on Saturday; he portrayed the historical character of George Washington. **Special thanks to Sacramento SAR members, Rudy Rodriguez, Don Littlefield, Ernie Garcia, Jim Faulkinbury, David Beach, Phil Noble, Kevin Alec, Mike Smith, Scott Brooks and Craig Anderson** for helping make this celebration of our American Heritage a success. **We especially thank Larry Brasher and Freedoms Foundation Valley Forge for inviting us to participate in this great event.**

It was reported that about 1500 students from local schools, including home school students, attended the event on Saturday. Our booth drew a lot of public attention with our artifacts displays and photo ops with our members in period uniforms.





# American Heritage Festival



(Left) General Washington, Benjamin Franklin, and John Adams in front of Washington's Headquarters Tent.

More photos of this event can be accessed at the SAR site on SmugMug:

<https://sar.smugmug.com>

Password is **Patriot**



John Adams and George Washington



John Adams and Benjamin Franklin reading the Declaration of Independence.

## Honoring Our Patriot Ancestors

### John Hart

SAR Patriot #: P-176442

Author: David Tibbs Irvine

The date of Signer John Hart's birth is unknown, but baptismal records indicate he was baptized March 4, 1714 in Maidenhead, Hunterdon County, New Jersey; the date corrected to conform to our modern Gregorian calendar adopted in 1751, replacing the Julian. One reference suggests John Hart likely was born 8 months earlier, in 1713. Another reference thinks 5 Nov 1711 more likely without explanation. John was one of five children born to Edward and Martha (Furman) Hart, both of English ancestry.

John Hart learned to read, write, and do arithmetic, but had little formal education. His spelling tended to be phonetic in this era prior to Noah Webster's 1828 first American English dictionary. He was well regarded for his common sense, was reasonably well read as shown by his understanding of the law, and handled his business matters with competence. While engaged in agricultural pursuits in 1739 he bought a plantation of 193 acres in Hopewell, NJ. By 1770 further land acquisitions totaling over 660 acres made him the largest landowner in Hopewell.

In 1740 John Hart married Deborah Scudder. The couple had five sons, seven daughters, and one unnamed daughter who died at birth. One reference notes that it is widely believed by those in Hereditary Societies that among the Signers of the Declaration of Independence, descendants of John Hart outnumber any other such Signer!

John Hart's 29 years of public service began in 1750 with his election to the Hunterdon County NJ Board of Chosen Freeholders, thereafter serving in a variety of offices and capacities. In June 1776 he was elected as one of five New Jersey delegates to the Second Continental Congress with authorization to vote for independence. His fellow delegates and future Signers were Abraham Clark, Francis Hopkinson, Richard Stockton, and John Witherspoon. John Hart was the thirteenth delegate to sign the Declaration of Independence.

In December 1776 as Washington's army retreated across New Jersey, the British and Hessians ravaged the Hopewell area including Hart's home and property. Hart returned home after the American victories at Trenton and Princeton. In June 1778 Hart invited the American army of 12,000 men to camp on his farm, which they did, departing on June 24 to fight the British 4 days later in the Battle of Monmouth, achieving a strategic victory in the last major battle in the northern colonies.

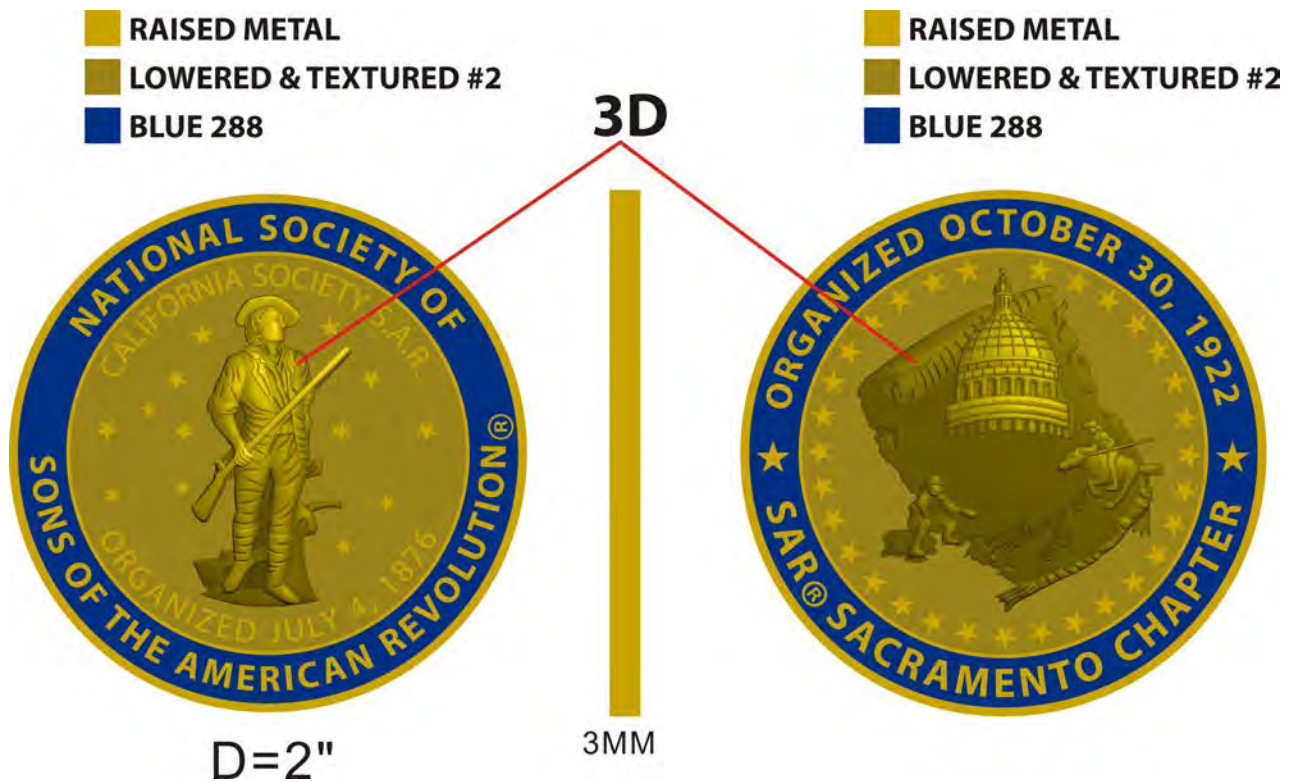
While surrounded by his surviving family, John Hart died at home on May 11, 1779 of a long painful illness caused by kidney stones. His wife Deborah had died earlier, in October 1776. Both are buried on land the Presbyterian Harts had donated in 1747 to the local Baptists for a church site. The site became known as the Hopewell Old School Baptist Meeting House Cemetery. A fine obelisk was erected and bronze plaques affixed to their gravestone, in recognition of John Hart's long public service.

**John Hart is the Patriot Ancestor of Sacramento Chapter compatriot, Mark Mozdy.**



## Sacramento Chapter Challenge Coin

We are always on the lookout for ways to raise money for our chapter treasury. In July we began the process of looking at designing and having made a Sacramento Chapter Challenge Coin that we could use as a fundraiser. We initially sourced the project through 3 suppliers and settled on a company called the Pin Center; they had the best price and had experience making challenge coins for the National and State Societies. We polled the executive board and other members with design options and came to a consensus with a design of a 2” coin. We reviewed all of the designs with the 20 members who attended the August meeting. We finalized the design and pricing and received a final quote. We reviewed the design with the 25 members attending the September Meeting. On Sep 25<sup>th</sup> we held a video conference call to do a final review of design, quantity, and member pricing proposal. We invited all members of the Sacramento Chapter Executive Board and all living past presidents. We established that we had a quorum of elected officers, and then voted unanimously (3 voting members) to approve the purchase of 300, 2” Challenge Coins, in Antique Gold finish. The member pricing structure will be \$25.00 each. The coin is illustrated below:





## COMING SAR EVENTS

**Next Dinner Meeting  
October 18, 2019 7:00PM**

**Cattlemen’s Restaurant, 12409 Folsom Blvd., Rancho Cordova**

## FALL CASSAR Board of Managers Meeting

The fall 2019 CASSAR BOM Meeting will be held in Irvine, CA. on November 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>. The registration form can be accessed on line at the following link:

<https://www.californiasar.org/events/144bom/>

## 2020 CASSAR Spring Meeting



The Sacramento Chapter will be hosting the 2020 CASSAR Spring Meeting on April 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>. The meeting will be held at the Murieta Inn and Spa, 7337 Murieta Dr, Rancho Murieta, CA 95683

Volunteers are still needed to help plan and facilitate this meeting, so please join us! Contact Don Littlefield, Will Gunter or Craig Anderson if you can help.

A PUBLICATION BY THE  
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SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

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