



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

September 2009

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The Courier



Calling All Compatriots



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Program for September's Meeting

One of the great untold stories of the American Revolution is the exciting tale of the American intelligence network. Though much was never recorded and even more information has been lost, what we do know suggests a complex system using hundreds of men and women dedicated to the Revolution. During the darkest days of the war, General Washington grew to rely more on his **spies** than on his soldiers.

Mary Swier is pleased to share a small piece of this fascinating story with us at our September meeting. She has spent most of her life working in the field of education and American history. She retired after 30 years in the public school system in Bozeman, Montana. While on sabbatical, she completed a project for Yellowstone National Park, finding, interviewing, and writing about the "boys" of the Civilian Conservation Corps who served in the Park. She began a second teaching career five years ago at Ripon High School where she continues to teach American history, both college prep, and advanced placement.



[Editor's note. I recently attended a meeting of the Delta Chapter SAR, and was fortunate to hear Mrs. Swier speak. She is an excellent speaker, and presents a subject of interest to all of us. I hope you will attend this meeting. Tom]



September 18th, 7:00 PM, at
The Buggy Whip Restaurant

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

Menu Selections

- Salisbury Steak \$24.00
 - Baked 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 September 16th, please call Tom Chilton at (916) 933-6576 for reservations. Payments must be guaranteed for each reservation made. Wives, guests and visiting compatriots are always welcome.

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

President's Corner - by Jeff Goodwin

Sacramento Chapter Officers for 2009

Jeff Goodwin

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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

Telephone Committee

Jeff Goodwin - Chairman

Seward Andrews

Tom Chilton

Jim Warrick

Jim Faulkinbury

Don Littlefield

Ernie Garcia

Doug Cross

Patrick Harris

Welcome back to the usual calendar of Chapter events. Be sure to attend our September dinner meeting at the Buggy Whip to hear an excellent speaker, and to learn about what we are doing for the rest of the year.

By the time you read this message, you should have received an invitation in the mail to attend our Awards Dinner on October 17, 2009. If you have not, please contact an officer to make sure we have your current address.

Even if you cannot attend the Awards Dinner, please consider making a donation. If you do not have an item or service to donate to the silent auction, please consider a cash donation. We would like to raise enough money (\$2000 minimum) to be able to send one or more teachers to the Freedom Foundation's Valley Forge teacher's program, or the Colonial Williamsburg Teacher's Institute in Williamsburg, VA, and we cannot do it without your help.

We also would like help in decorating the dinner tables for the event. If you have artistic abilities, we would like your help with the table centerpieces and room decorations. We will have all of the Chapter's Revolutionary War period flags on display, but that is not enough. We need everyone's input to make the evening a success.

Members of the regional SAR chapters, and the Regents and members of the local DAR chapters have been invited to attend this event. We would like to make this a regional Awards Dinner in the years to come, not just a Sacramento Chapter function. So please talk it up, plan to attend, bring guests, bring children, bring neighbors, bring potential members, and bring anyone else that you think would enjoy a good meal and an evening with likeminded patriots. I am hoping that we will have three hundred attendees, but so far we are nowhere near that number. Like George Washington at Valley Forge, I am praying to the Almighty for assistance in a worthy cause.

May your September be stupendous.

Jeff Goodwin

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

Sacramento Chapter Sons of the American Revolution Tax ID #68-0004288

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.



Report from the ROTC Chairman

You will be pleased to know that the SAR ROTC Awards Program went along without a hitch this spring. We gave awards to 15 high schools and 3 colleges. We had representatives at all but three of these presentations. One, UC Davis, because they always arrange things at the last minute, and then fail to notify us. SAR Patriots who participated in the program and presented the awards included Archer Frey, Jeff Gammon, Tom Chilton, Bob Wilson, Doug Cross, Jim Faulkinbury, and myself.

This is a very important and rewarding event where SAR is very visible. It is also heartwarming to see so many young people, of all ethnic backgrounds, who are avid members of this program. It is reassuring that our country is in good hands. We have received many thank you phone calls and some letters from the ROTC Commanding Officers, and even some from the kids receiving our awards. I think it is one of the most important things SAR does.

Ted Robinson, ROTC SAR Chairman



Editor's note. Ted still has a few copies of his book, Water in my Veins, available for sale. If you enjoy hearing Ted tell of his adventures during WW II, you must read this book. I have read it, (cover to cover) and highly recommend it to all of you.

Tom

Nathan Hale

During the Battle of Long Island, which led to British victory and the capture of New York City, Nathan Hale volunteered on September 8, 1776, to go behind enemy lines and report on British troop movements. During his mission, New York City fell to British forces on September 15, and Washington was forced to retreat to the island's northern tip in Harlem Heights. On September 21, a quarter of the lower portion of Manhattan burned in the Great New York Fire of 1776 [See page 12]. The fire was later widely thought to have been started by American saboteurs to keep the city from falling into British hands, though Washington and Congress had already rejected this idea.

An account of Nathan Hale's capture was written by Consider Tiffany, a Connecticut shopkeeper and Loyalist, and obtained by the Library of Congress. In Tiffany's account, Major Robert Rogers of the Queen's Rangers saw Hale in a tavern and recognized him despite his disguise. After luring Hale into betraying himself by pretending to be a patriot himself, Rogers and his Rangers apprehended Hale near Flushing Bay, in Queens, New York.

British General William Howe had established his headquarters in the Beekman House in a rural part of Manhattan, on a rise between 50th and 51st Streets between First and Second Avenue. Hale reportedly was questioned by Howe, and physical evidence was found on him. Rogers provided information about the case. According to tradition, Hale spent the night in a greenhouse at the mansion. He requested a Bible; his request was denied. Sometime later, he requested a clergyman. Again, the request was denied.

According to the standards of the time, spies were hanged as illegal combatants. On the morning of September 22, 1776, Hale was marched along Post Road to the Park of Artillery, which was next to a public house called the Dove Tavern (at modern day 66th Street and Third Avenue), and hanged. He was 21 years old.

By all accounts, Hale comported himself eloquently before the hanging. He is best remembered for saying:

“I only regret that I have but one life to give my country.”



Nathan Hale
1755-1776

The American Revolution – Month By Month - August 1779

by Andrew J. Stough III, Edited by Harold Rogers

The month of August begins with a holdover, the Penobscot Expedition, which began on a disputed date in the latter half of July. The Massachusetts fleet was commanded by Dudley Saltonstall, a former privateer, who had been given orders to dislodge the 700 man British force from the fort under construction at Castine. Arriving at the site, Saltonstall (for a reason not known) did not immediately attack. The ground force commanders, Generals Solomon Lovell and Peleg Wadsworth, put 200 of the two or three thousand ground troops ashore. One wonders why such a small number of the available force was used and were not properly supported by the artillery commanded by Paul Revere.

Nothing significant occurred until August 14, when British reinforcements consisting of seven ships with 204 guns and 1,530 ground troops arrived from Halifax, Nova Scotia. The American forces then withdrew up-river some thirty or forty miles to the settlement of Kenduskeag (present day Bangor), where they ran their ships ashore and burned them. The survivors then walked back to Boston, where Saltonstall was dismissed for his actions at Castine and Bangor, and Revere was court-martialed for disobeying the orders of a superior officer. He was acquitted. Is this our Paul Revere of the Midnight Ride? Yes! Revere had risen from a midnight messenger to a Lt. Col. of Artillery. The Penobscot Expedition was the largest naval force formed and deployed for combat during the entire Revolutionary War. It was also the greatest naval defeat of the Revolution!

While the Penobscot Expedition was finding its place in history as a disaster, the Sullivan and Brodhead expeditions were burning the western frontier. The Sullivan expedition began with Sullivan in Easton, Pennsylvania (near present day Allentown), while Brigadier James Clinton was at Canajoharie; the two forces joining at Tioga in late August. They then moved north with the purpose of capturing hostages and destroying the settlements of the Six Nations (the Iroquois League) in New York's Genesee Valley.

On the way to Tioga, Clinton destroyed an empty Indian village of 30 to 40 substantial homes, a meeting house, and chapel, along with extensive gardens and fields of corn. He then destroyed the significant Indian town of Onaquaga on the Susquehanna River, burning a substantial number of houses, a church, and fields of corn, vegetables, and vast fruit orchards. Leaving a small body of men to guard the town, the combined force proceeded up the Chemung River, by their noisy march negating the objective of securing prisoners.

On August 29th, there was a sharp, but short fight at Newtown (near Elmira, NY) between Sullivan and the Tory forces of Col. John Butler and Joseph Brant and his Indians. Unable to stand against a 1400 man American force, Butler and Brant left the field to Sullivan. Shortly after the battle, Sullivan destroyed a substantial town of English style houses, large orchards, and crops, including 150 acres of fine corn. The only defeat of the expedition occurred on September 13, when a small party of Morgan's rifles was ambushed. Twenty-two men were killed outright, and the Lieutenant and his Sergeant were captured and taken to Beard's town, where they were tortured and eventually beheaded. As a final act, Sullivan put the torch to the old town of Genesee, along with its large orchards and gardens.

The expedition retraced its steps, burning anything overlooked on the march north. On September 30th the expedition was at Wyoming, and by October 15th had returned to its origin, Easton, Pennsylvania. Brodhead's 600 man expedition occurred about the same time, operating in the Alleghany River Valley with results similar to those of Sullivan. The commanders of both expeditions received commendations from Congress and the Commander-in-Chief for their actions.

The Indians, their towns and crops destroyed, were forced in humiliation to retreat to Niagara to be housed and fed by the British for the winter. With the return of warmer weather, the Indians, seething with a desire for revenge, accelerated their raiding, which continued with unabated fury during, and after the end of the Revolutionary War.

While all of this was going on, Major Henry Lee Jr. (Light Horse Harry) convinced Washington that he could push the British from their last remaining major outpost in New Jersey, Powles or Paulus Hook (the origin of Jersey City, NJ). McLane and his horsemen had been



Henry "Light Horse Harry" Lee
1756 - 1818

The American Revolution – Month By Month - August 1779

by Andrew J. Stough III, Edited by Harold Rogers
(continued from page 4)

scouting the entire area prior to the capture of Stony Point, and was now called on to brief Lee on the fort's defenses, and then lead the way into the fort where he and his men acted heroically.

As at Stony Point, there was a swamp to cross and an abatis to infiltrate. The garrison, alerted by sounds of splashing water, opened fire, but it was too late. The Americans, as at Stony Point, made the bayonet the weapon of the day, capturing the fort without a shot being fired. The only Briton not killed or captured was a small force of Hessians in a blockhouse who refused to surrender. Time and probable casualties did not allow for an attack on the Blockhouse.

There had been no intention of holding the fort, only the capture of the garrison, spiking of the cannon, and blowing-up the powder magazine. Retreat from the Hook had to be immediate, and was perilous due to the arrival of reinforcements from New York City. Boats pre-positioned to take them back to the main force had been withdrawn and it became necessary to split the force and return by several different routes to Washington's Command. The affair of Paulus Hook on August 19th was the last encounter between Washington and Clinton in 1779. Schlessinger notes that on " August 14, 1779 - Congress approves a peace plan that contains the stipulation of independence, specifically defined minimum boundaries, complete evacuation of the American territories and free navigation on the Mississippi River." I find no reference to this in any other document available to me, but it is interesting that Congress is plugging away, and still confident that the new nation will overcome British rule and gain true independence.

Captain John Paul Jones U.S. Navy, with a courtesy rank of Commodore, set sail on August 14th on a voyage around the British Isles in his flagship *Bonhomme Richard*, accompanied by frigates *Alliance* and *Las Pallas* and four lesser vessels, *La Vengeance*, *Le Cerf*, *Monsieur*, and *Granville*, the latter two being privateers who departed the task force shortly after leaving port.

The officers of the *Richard* were American, French, and Irish, and were intensely loyal to the Commodore. The crew which had been formed and reformed before sailing was a mixed lot of eleven nationalities including Americans. On board were 137 French Marines, who were to perform nobly. Morison notes "Jones now had a hard core of professional seamen who wanted to fight and recognized their Captain as the great seaman and leader that he was." A crew far different from any on his preceding cruises.

On August 18th, the privateer *Monsieur* took a prize off Lands End and left the fleet with the prize. On August 9th and 20th, a large ship was chased but escaped, on August 21st, the cargo ship *Mayflower* was captured and sent to Lorient with a prize crew. On August 23rd, the becalmed Brig *Fortune* was captured by two boats from *Richard* and sent to Nantes under a prize crew. Still becalmed and in fog off Ireland, a boat was put out to keep *Richard* from grounding on a reef. The crew chosen were all dissident Irishmen who shortly cut the towing hawser, deserted, and set off for shore. Chase was given, but it was fruitless.

On August 24th, Captain Landais came aboard the flagship, and in front of *Richard's* officers addressed Jones "in the most gross and insulting terms" because Jones had denied him permission to chase a vessel close in to shore where there was danger from rocks. Landais announced that from now on he would chase when and where he pleased and act on his own. Landais then departed and was not seen again until late August.

The Irish deserters alarmed the countryside with stories of Jones' plan to burn and pillage. Newspapers spread the stories far and wide. To calm fears of the populace, two of His Majesty's Ships were put to sea to find and defeat Jones. Use of newspaper accounts of Jones' location resulted in the search being made in the wrong direction. Nothing of importance occurred until August 30th, when the cargo ship *Union* was captured and sent as a prize.

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

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.

The American Revolution – Month By Month - September, 1779

by Andrew J. Stough III, Edited by Harold Rogers

September 1779 was a busy month. Congress was struggling with inflation of the currency. Boonesborough, Kentucky, came under siege by Indians, while the Sullivan and Broadhead expeditions approached an end. On September 30, the Sullivan Expedition returned to Wyoming. The war in Georgia flared up with an attack on Savannah by land and Naval forces. Spanish Governor Galvez of Louisiana captured three British forts, and finally, last but not least, was the sea battle between Britain's *Serapis* and the *Bonhomme Richard*.

By the end of summer, 1779, hyper-inflation stalked the land. The Continental dollar had depreciated to the point that it no longer had value, giving rise to the expression "Worthless as a Continental." Congress had issued \$200 million in Continental paper money with little or nothing to back it up. The amount alone was so staggering that it was difficult for the common man to even imagine so much money. On September 3, to remedy the situation and to return it to the realm of believability, Congress stopped printing money and did what governments have done before and since: devalued the dollar so that the debt was reduced to a more believable \$5 million. Not only was Congress' debt of staggering proportions, but currency issued by the individual states was generally as inflated as the Continental dollar. To offset the need to create more currency, Congress now asked (it could not require) the states to take on more of the burden of supporting the war with hard goods rather than money.

Kentucky had been fought over by the Cherokee and Iroquois as long as anyone could remember, and was known to the Indians as the "Dark and bloody ground" due to the continuing wars between the two tribes over possession of the land. This apt description continued during the Revolution as Britain and its Indian allies attacked white settlements. Daniel Boone, who served as a wagoneer and blacksmith in Braddock's Expedition, went on to found the settlement of Boonesborough. Settlers in Kentucky were forced to fend for themselves as they received little or no support from Virginia before or during the Revolutionary War.

Encroachment of Europeans into Indian lands beyond the mountains and the entire length of the Atlantic Coast resulted in Indian attacks on settlers who tried to occupy the land. Boonesborough had previously been attacked in 1777 and 1778. On September 7, 1779, the Shawnee, a loose ally of the Cherokee, laid siege to Boonesborough. Unable to capture the town in ten days they gave up, departing on September 17th. While noting the Indian attack on Boonesborough, we must also remember that the Sullivan and Broadhead expeditions were punishing Indians in the lands further north.

After Stono Ferry, the war in Georgia reached a stalemate with Britain holding Port Royal and Savannah while the coastal area in between was secured by the presence of the Royal Navy. Governor Rutledge of South Carolina and General Moultrie felt that if the French fleet in the West Indies could engage the Britons off the coast, it would be possible for land forces to engage either Port Royal or Savannah without interference or reinforcement from the other garrison.

Comte or Count d'Estaing was contacted in the West Indies, and agreed to support the Patriots. The French fleet defeated and captured a supply convoy and its armed escorts (also bound for Savannah) while enroute. d'Estaing arrived at the mouth of the Savannah River on September 8th, where he was joined by several armed American ships. British ships were on the river, safe from the French whose ships were too large to cross a bar to engage the local fleet before reinforcements could arrive from New York City.

September 12, d'Estaing landed 3,500 men south of the city. On September 15th, they were joined by Pulaski's Legion. General Lincoln's army arrived on the 16th. d'Estaing demanded that Prevost surrender, however, the General knew that reinforcements were coming and asked for a 24 hour delay. While waiting for reinforcements, he continued to strengthen his defenses. Prevost was joined during this time by 800 men, who had evaded General Lincoln's Army as it moved south.

With the arrival of reinforcements, Prevost informed d'Estaing that he would defend the city. An attack was launched, but Prevost had completed his defenses and the attack failed. A British officer later recalled that if d'Estaing had attacked immediately, the city would have fallen. By waiting, he allowed the available cannon to be increased from 23 to more than 100. With the works completed, Savannah was impregnable to attack by the forces available. The Americans and French dug in, but it would be October 3, before the Patriots and their allies would be ready to attack again.

Spanish Governor Galvez of Louisiana captured Manchac on September 6th, Baton Rouge on the 21st, and later, Natchez, further up the Mississippi followed. By his action, further navigation on the river was denied to Britain. See the SAR Magazine for fall 1996 for a better description of these events.

By September 30th, Sullivan was at Wyoming on the way to termination at Easton.

Jones continued his cruise around the British Isles. On the first day of September Landais, in the *Alliance*, appeared with a prize ship (*Betsy*). Summoned again to the flagship, he was again most disrespectful to the Commodore. Time wore on with additional prizes captured and sent off with prize crews, but no action occurred with a capital ship.

The American Revolution – Month By Month - September 1779

by Andrew J. Stough III, Edited by Harold Rogers

On September 16th, a boat approached the flagship explaining that Sir John Anstruther, who lived nearby, had a small brass cannon to protect his home from the terrible Paul Jones, but no powder. Realizing that the men thought it was a British ship, Jones kept the pilot on board, but sent the rest off with a cask of gunpowder for Sir John. Late that afternoon panic broke out ashore when it was recognized that the pirate Jones was in the area.

In the days to follow, Jones was alone with the exception of the cutter *Vengeance*. During this time, some ships were captured, but it would be September 23rd that made Jones famous. On the 23rd, Captain Landais deigned to rejoin the squadron as did frigate *Pallas*. Jones now had four ships under his command, and the Grand Day had arrived. A convoy of 41 ships appeared toward sundown, protected by the *Serapis* with 50 guns (officially 44), and the 20 gun *Countess of Scarborough*.

The *Serapis* and *Countess*, falling back to defend their convoy, signaled the other ships to stay close to shore, but make full sail ahead toward port. Jones came within hailing distance without a shot being fired. *Serapis* demanded that the intruder identify himself or be fired upon. Jones held off long enough to come within firing range to get in the first broadside. The two fired simultaneously, but on the first or second firing, two of Jones 18 pounders blew-up, destroying the entire 18 pound battery and the deck above.

The two ships began to maneuver to gain a bow or stern position to rake the other. Jones, realizing that he could not match tactics, acted to bring the ships together to lash and board *Serapis*. The maneuver failed as the boarders were repulsed, and Jones pulled away. *Serapis* then attempted to cross Richard's bow, but Jones rammed his ship into *Serapis* stern. At this point, Captain Pearson of *Serapis* called out "Has your ship struck", and Jones replied, "**I have not yet begun to fight.**"

More maneuvering without success for either ship ended when the two ships collided from opposite directions. The fluke of *Serapis*' anchor brought them together. Grappling hooks then bound them as one. Like two heavyweight boxers, the two ships slugged it out, muzzle to muzzle. Pearson, realizing that he could not effectively bring his guns to bear, ordered the ropes on the grappling hooks cut. As fast as *Serapis*' seamen approached the hawsers, they were shot down by Richard's marines in the fighting tops.

At 8:30, the moon, almost at full, gave light to the battle, which continued for two more hours. Both ships' sails caught fire and the battle stopped for damage control on both ships. Finally, Jones had only three 9 pounders which could fire, while *Serapis*' continues to blast Richard with her 18 pounders. Jones had but one advantage, the accuracy of the French marines on deck, while his seamen went into the fighting tops dropping grenades on *Serapis*, and firing anything that would shoot. *Serapis* seamen were either killed or driven below deck, where they had to fight fires as well as man the guns, which they continued to fire into Richard's stout hull. Lashed together, *Serapis* could not dismast Richard from which her seamen kept up a steady hail of shot and combustibles. The spars overlapped, and Richard's seamen moved out on the spars driving *Serapis*' top-men below deck. They were then able to drop their grenades directly down onto *Serapis*' deck and into the hatches.

During this time *Vengeance* stood off, while *Pallas* engaged the *Countess*. Landais in Alliance circled the two ships, firing only at Richard with the hope that Richard would sink and he could take *Serapis* as his prize and receive all of the glory. Landais further jeopardized Richard by holing her below the waterline with one broadside. Around 10 PM, Landais drew away and maintained a safe distance from the fight.

Later several seamen decided that Richard was about to sink, and called for Quarter! Some sources say that Jones shot and killed the man who called for Quarter. Morison says Jones threw a pistol at him and knocked him out. Pearson responded with an allowance of Quarter, but Jones refused. Pearson then called for a boarding party to take Richard, but the attempt failed. The bloody battle continued another thirty minutes until 10:30 PM, when Pearson, after losing his mainmast, struck his colors and the battle was over.

The *Countess of Scarborough* had surrendered to the French ship *Pallas* before the fall of *Serapis*. *Pallas*, like the *Richard* had suffered several broadsides from Captain Landais in Alliance, who seemed not to know whose side he was on. Meanwhile the convoy sailed on to safety. Jones transferred to the *Serapis* as the *Richard*, barely holding together, was cut loose to be towed. Twenty four hours later at 10 PM, September 24, the *Bonhomme Richard* was ordered abandoned and sank to a watery grave shortly after 11 AM on the 25th day of September.

By this time the chase was on to capture Jones and his squadron, but the British were unable to determine where he had gone. Jones brought his battered squadron to port at Texel in the Netherlands, where he was reluctantly accepted. Prizes brought to port at Bergen were released to British authorities by Denmark. Britain claimed that Jones, claiming to represent a few rebellious colonies, was a pirate and should be hung as such. Jones kept a close rein on Captain Pearson, whom he wished to exchange for Captain Coyngham of the U.S. Navy, who was being held in Britain as a pirate.

Landais travelled to Paris, where he was suspended by Franklin. He later protested his dismissal with the assistance of diplomat Arthur Lee in Paris. Thus ends September 1779.

CASSAR Presents Proclamation at San Francisco Presidio

By Karl Jacobs

Compatriots, Gentlemen, Friends:

What a glorious day to be in my hometown, San Francisco. A beautiful blue sky, low 70's, just enough wind to keep the flags waving, an audience of over 100, two TV stations, PBS and a local channel, covering the activities - who could ask for anything more?

Saturday, June 27th, 2009, marked the Celebration of San Francisco's 233rd birthday and the arrival of the first soldiers and settlers to found the San Francisco Presidio and Mission Dolores - held on Pershing Square, Presidio of San Francisco.

The California Society SAR's Vice President Western District-elect, Karl Jacobs, read the proclamation written by the CASSAR, and presented the proclamation to the Executive Director of the Presidio Trust, the Los Californianos Society, and to the CASSAR Historian, Jim Blauer. The proclamation will be framed and proudly displayed in the Presidio Museum by The Presidio Trust.

A goodly number of Color Guardsmen, under the direction of Commander Compatriot Jim Faulkinbury, flanked Karl as he presented the proclamation.

Representing the Redwood Empire, Thomas Jefferson, Harbor, Sacramento, South Coast, and Gold Country Chapters of the SAR, uniformed members of the CASSAR certainly made an impression on the many City and State representatives present.

Our thanks and appreciation are hereby extended to Mr. Lance Beeson of the Los Californianos, Mr. Craig Middleton, Executive Director of The Presidio Trust, the Soldados organization, The Amigos de Anza, The National Park Service Mounted Police, and The Castle Rock Arabians Mounted Units for making up the procession.

This event now completes the CASSAR recognition of the many Patriots who served the cause of the American



Karl Jacobs - CASSAR Past-President and NSSAR Western District Vice-President.

Revolution while in the Presidios and Missions in what is now the State of California. We have previously recognized the Patriots of the Presidios of Monterey, San Diego, and Santa Barbara in the State of California.

Our thanks and appreciation are hereby extended to CASSAR President Louis V. Carlson, Compatriots Leroy Martinez, Ernie Garcia, and our Color Guardsmen, Photographer and CASSAR Executive VP Wayne Griswold (among others) - who put this all together to make this a most successful event. A job well done!

The City of San Francisco, along with our National Society and California Societies, may be certainly proud of this event.

Respectfully submitted,



L-R: Dale Ross, Terry Briggs, Barry Hopkins, Keith Bigbee, Jim Faulkinbury, Leroy Martinez, and Steve Renouf.



L-R: Jim Faulkinbury, Wayne Griswold, Steve Renouf, Leroy Martinez, Keith Bigbee, Barry Hopkins, not identified, Larry Martinez, Dale Ross, and Terry Briggs.

Karl W. Jacobs

A Patriot's Perspective

Real Men Do Cry

By Michael G. Lucas

Life is just not fair for men. Society has put some unreasonable restrictions upon us. We're taught, for example, that real men don't eat quiche and they don't cry. Well, I have a confession. I love quiche and am easily moved to tears when hearing about patriotism, faith, and sacrifice. But I've always felt compelled to hide it with a fake runny nose.

I was recently pleased to read that America's ultimate leader, George Washington, was actually capable of shedding tears. (By the way, I'm still looking for proof that quiche was a favorite at Mount Vernon; I'm still researching this). We usually think of Washington as this stoic character, lacking any emotions other than occasional anger, and never willing to show any vulnerability. He was always aware that the office he held was much bigger than him. He carried an air of dignity and distance which hid much of his humanity. Washington always tried to convey an image that he was in total control of his emotions. Even at the Battle of Monmouth, his furious rage towards General Charles Lee was a controlled anger and he was immediately able to take control of the battlefield. His ability to control his emotions during the attempts to remove him as commander-in-chief was masterful. Even upon his deathbed we're told that his emotions were in check. But the following are two examples of George Washington's inability to control his emotions.



Michael Lucas
Gold Country Chapter

Upon his resignation as Commander-in-Chief, George Washington was honored at numerous dinners and receptions. In New York City, Washington said good-bye to some of his generals and officers. In bidding them farewell, his hands trembled, his eyes filled with tears, and his voice was so thick with emotion that it was barely audible. After finishing, he began to cry. His guests were so moved that they also cried and nobody was able to speak. Undoubtedly, at that moment, his appreciation of the sacrifices and loyalty of his compatriots touched him very deeply. They all were overcome with emotion at the realization that they had accomplished a miracle against overwhelming odds. The audience knew that this miracle could not have happened without General Washington. He had sacrificed much and risked everything.

After his resignation in New York City, Washington went on to Annapolis in order to resign to the Continental Congress. He read a speech praising the officers and soldiers of the Continental Army. He then commended "our dear country to the protection of Almighty God." As he said this, his voice broke and tears streamed down his face. It took him a full minute to regain his composure. He had spoken often of his reliance upon Providence. Perhaps now he was brought to tears when he recalled the mighty deeds of his God, and he now realized that hereafter Providence was directing the affairs of this new nation.

I now feel vindicated that if George Washington can shed tears, it's permissible for me to do the same. It's encouraging to me to know that some things are so wonderful and sacred that tears can be the only response. The hearts of strong men and leaders are not made of stone. They bleed, weep, and show their feelings like all mortal men. So just to warn you, if moved by an inspiring speaker at a future Gold Country SAR chapter meeting, don't be surprised to see tears well up in my eyes; but now I won't feel obliged to hide them. Now if I can only get Lou LaBonte's to add quiche to their breakfast menu. *[Gold County Chapter meets the third Saturday of each month (except April, September, and December) at the Lou LaBonte's Restaurant in Auburn.]*

About the Author: Michael Lucas is a retired electronics engineer and accountant, and is the editor and webmaster for the Gold Country Chapter SAR. Because of the influence of the SAR, he developed a love of American history and enjoys sharing it. He has graciously given his permission to reprint his articles in the Sacramento Chapter's Courier.

Photos from the June 20, 2009 Meeting

photos by Don Spradling.



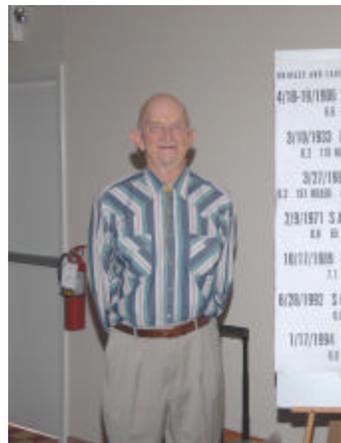
President Jeff Goodwin presents the SAR Liberty Bell and Certificate of Appreciation to Larry Stitt.



Cynthia and Glen Fine



Steve Eckles



Larry Stitt



Jim and Rose Jolly



President Jeff Goodwin

Minutes of the meeting held on June 20, 2009.

President Jeff Goodwin called the meeting to order at 12:21 PM. David Warren gave the Invocation followed by Jim Warrick who led the membership in the Pledge of Allegiance, and President Goodwin who led the Pledge to the SAR.

Jim Faulkinbury and Tom Chilton were recognized as a Past-Presidents. Executive VP Don Littlefield was asked to introduce the DAR members present and guests. DAR members included Marilyn Chilton, Cynthia Fine, and Rose Jolly of the Sacramento Chapter, and Ann Young of the John Olden Chapter. Guests introduced were our speaker this afternoon, Larry Stitt, with his friend Barbara Kutcher, Kyle Young, winner of the 2009 Chapter's 2009 Knight Essay Contest, with his parents, Ric and Linda, brother Aaron, and grandmother, Ann Young. Other guests were Douglas Pomeroy, son of Compatriot Eltweed Pomeroy, and prospective members Gale Nelson and John Vawter. VP of Programs, Jim Warrick, was asked to say a few words about our speaker who would be giving his presentation following lunch.

Following the introductions, Color Guard Commander Jim Faulkinbury came forward and described the flags for this afternoon, the Fort Moultrie and the French Alliance. Don Littlefield then gave a Treasurer's Report, stating that the Chapter treasury now has a balance of \$9884.83.

Next, Kyle Young was asked to come forward with compatriot David Warren, who introduced him as the Chapter winner for the Knight Essay Contest. Kyle read his essay for the members present, and was then presented with the Chapter award as the 2009 contest winner. He received the SAR Knight Essay Medallion, a SAR Certificate of Award, and a check for \$250. It was also announced that he was a member of the Gold Country Chapter SAR.

President Goodwin then asked if there was any new business or announcements, and made an announcement about the upcoming Elks Club 4th of July Parade in Carmichael. He requested that the membership join in the celebration, which includes the parade followed by a picnic at the Elks Club after the parade. He then talked about getting more membership interest in our activities, and that the October meeting would be an Awards Dinner at the Dante Club, which would also be used as a fund-raiser to help the Chapter raise funds to send a history teacher to either the Valley Forge Institute or to a Colonial Williamsburg program. The estimated cost for sending a teacher to either of these programs would be about \$2,500. Ideas for raising funds were discussed including donations, a raffle, or a silent auction. Involvement by the membership was requested to make this a successful event.

Under concerns for our members, it was mentioned that Medora Allen was experiencing food poisoning and was unable to attend this meeting, and that Richard Violet had suffered a heart attack and was unable to attend while he was recovering. Tom Chilton announced that Vince Gantt's membership certificate has been received, but due to the death of his mother-in-law, whose funeral was today, Vince is unable to attend today's meeting, and will be formally inducted into the Sacramento Chapter at the September meeting.

After lunch, our speaker, Larry Stitt, came forward and gave a presentation on the actions taken by the California Dept. of Transportation (Caltrans) to retrofit California bridges for earthquake safety. He told the audience that there are over 12,000 bridges in California under Caltrans' jurisdiction, and that about 2200 have now been retrofitted for improved safety. He told of the different methods used to improve them, and that the modeling capabilities have been greatly improved through computer technology and the availability of a "shaker table" at UC Berkeley to simulate earthquakes. He noted that Caltrans understands that damage to the bridges can't be avoided in earthquake situations, but their goal is to stop the bridges from collapsing. Following Larry's presentation, President Goodwin presented him with a Certificate of Appreciation and the SAR Liberty Bell.

Mary Ann Goodwin and Mary Ann Littlefield then conducted the raffle. Those bringing gifts were Tom & Marilyn Chilton, Doug Cross, Jeff & Mary Ann Goodwin, Don & Mary Ann Littlefield, and Don and Donna Spradling.

President Goodwin thanked both Mary Anns for conducting the raffle, and Don Spradling for taking the photographs and caring for our flags.

A motion to adjourn was made. Don Spradling led the Recessional, and David Warren gave the Benediction, followed by the singing of God Bless America. It was announced that our next regular meeting would be held on September 18, 2009, and once again, the 4th of July picnic at the Elks Club was announced as an upcoming event.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:53 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Jim Faulkinbury, Secretary



Great Fire of New York -1776

On September 21, 1776, British forces under General William Howe occupied New York City. In the early hours of September 21, fire broke out in the city, most likely in the Fighting Cocks Tavern on Whitehall Street. Strong winds quickly spread the flames among tightly packed homes and businesses. Residents poured into the streets, clutching what possessions they could, and found refuge only on the grassy town commons. The fire raged into the daylight hours and eventually consumed between 400 and 500 buildings — about one-quarter of the city. Among the buildings destroyed was Trinity Church. However St. Paul's Chapel was to survive. British naval personnel fought the fire with some success. Afterwards, the British interrogated more than 200 suspects, but none were convicted and all were released.

Nathan Hale was arrested in Queens for spying that same day. [See page 3.] Unsubstantiated rumors have since attempted to link him to the fires, but there is nothing indicating he was arrested for anything other than espionage.

Major General James Robertson confiscated surviving uninhabited homes of known Patriots and assigned them to British officers. Non-Church of England churches were converted into prisons or infirmaries for the sick. Some of the common soldiers were billeted with civilian families. There was a great influx of Loyalist refugees into the city resulting in further overcrowding. The fire convinced the British to put the city under martial law rather than returning it to civilian authorities. With resources being diverted to the occupying military force and favored Loyalist collaborators, many residents were unable to adequately recover from the devastation, and forced to live in squalor.



Artist's interpretation of the fire.

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**Editor-Tom Chilton
916-933-6576
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**Jim L. W. Faulkinbury
4305 Elizabeth Avenue
Sacramento, CA 95821-4140
TO THE POSTMASTER
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

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