



# The Courier



September 2022

## Presidents Corner



Hello Compatriots. I am hoping you are staying cool and healthy during these "dog days of summer".

Last Saturday, August 20<sup>th</sup>, we held our annual "planning" meeting held at Cattleman's. It was a great turnout of 18 people including attending via "zoom" type virtual meeting. Roughly 20% of the membership total.

The meeting was attended by one brand new member and two prospective members who are waiting for their final paperwork to clear. Many things were discussed but the most important was filling the Secretary position. Thank you Larry Brasher for stepping up! That action caused another vacancy, VP Programs. Our latest member, Russ Rheams who's hand was still warm from all the handshakes after just being sworn in, stepped up and took the position! Hazzah!

SAR, and specifically the Sacramento Chapter has been extremely active in the past regarding Youth programs, supporting both education and law enforcement. This "support" is in the way of poster and essay contests, Teacher recognition and School Guard presentations, annual Law Enforcement/first responder awards and dinner. All of which requires some work easily shared between helpful members. I am providing a list of positions within our Chapter. Some are filled but most are not. If you are in any interested, please contact me about wishing to help out. Even if the lead is filled, they would really appreciate your help. This is also an opportunity to learn the jobs a bit.

### **Guardian of the Flags**

Take responsibility for the American and SAR Flags and bring them to our meetings;

### **Medals and Awards Chairman**

Has possession of the Chapter's medals and certificates. Print certificates and provide medals as directed by the president.

**Americanism Poster Contest Chairman** Contacts participating schools, provides materials and judges poster submissions:

### **Knight Essay Contest Chairman**

### **SAR Representative at Sacramento County National History Day**

### **Calling Committee Chairman**

### **American History Teacher Award**

### **Chapter Photographer**

### **Meeting Cashier**

### **School Guard Coordinator**

**Eagle Scout Program Chairman**  
**Flag Chairman**  
**Veterans Recognition Chairman**  
**Knight Essay Program Chairman**  
**Law Enforcement Program Chairman**  
**Valley Forge Teacher Recognition Program**  
**Webmaster**  
**Color Guard Commander**

Another project is our "mentor" program. This is where we "pair" new members with "seasoned" members. The mentors will help familiarize the new members as to who we are and what we do. The mentor will occasionally reach out to the new member and sit with them at the meetings/dinners to make them feel welcome and address questions that might come up. Please let me know if you can be a mentor or if you are a newer member, would you like one?

Our next meeting is September 14<sup>th</sup> at the Spaghetti Factory. We will have a great program and talk a bit about how to increase participation. Please bring your ideas!



President Russ Kaiser installs Sacramento Chapter's new VP Meetings, Russ Rheams (left) and Secretary Larry Brasher. (right)

## Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order by Russ Kaiser, President at 10:00 AM. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Craig Anderson and the Pledge to the SAR was led by Don Littlefield.

Members introduced themselves around the table and online. See attached. President Kaiser inducted Russell S. Rheams, Jr., as a member of the SAR Sacramento Chapter.

Introductory comments by President Russ Kaiser about the State of the Chapter, the impacts of the pandemic, and the challenges facing us as we look toward our immediate needs, our Fall meetings and our 2023 Plan. The Sacramento Chapter has 193 members, 18 present here today. The Color Guard is the public face of the SAR yet we have difficulty mustering more than 3 participants for Color Guard events.

The immediate and urgent need within the Chapter is for a Chapter Secretary. We discussed many ways to parcel out the duties of the Secretary to different individuals, each of whom were willing to help but not own the position. Larry Brasher agreed to be Chapter Secretary and Russ Rheams VP Programs. Larry Brasher will receive assistance from Bill Heavey (annual dues mailing), Jim Warrick (office assistance), Scott Brooks (Roster maintenance), and Jim Faulkinbury (reconciliation). Larry Brasher and Russ Rheams were then nominated, 2<sup>nd</sup>-ed, and elected to these respective positions. Brian Alexander agreed to be appointed as Chapter Genealogist under the tutelage of Registrar Jim Faulkinbury.

A discussion ensued about recruiting and involving new members into the Chapter. Sacramento needs to engage new members through a mentor program, providing them reserved seating with along with other members, and providing them with information about the SAR and our programs via the new member Information Guide.

Craig Anderson introduced the topic of raising Chapter Annual Dues. Several years ago the Chapter reviewed our annual dues which at the time were \$10 and that this amount was insufficient to support our core program expenses for running our Youth Programs, Public Service and Veterans recognition and well as SAR Volunteer Appreciation. These core programs cost about \$6,100 fully funded. Annual Dues and Donations retained by the Chapter total \$5,250. That leaves a shortfall of \$850 not counting other operating expenses the Chapter. The \$5 Annual Dues increase will close that gap and make us nearly self-sustaining. A motion was made by Don Littlefield to raise our annual Chapter dues by \$5. The motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Del Hanson. Following discussion, the motion was voted on and adopted. To be clear, 2023 Annual Dues will now be \$35 National Society, \$20 California Society, and \$25 Chapter, thus a total of \$80 per Annual Member will be collected.

The last item discussed was the frequency, day of week, time of day, focus, and cost of Chapter meetings. Some member favor dinner meetings with wives, some favor breakfast or luncheon meetings, and still others favor more business meetings with no meals or meals optional. President Kaiser will consider the feedback and determine a course of action as Fall meetings begin in September.

Don Littlefield led the group in the SAR Recessional. The meeting adjourned at 12:00 PM.

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## **George S. and Stella M. Knight Essay Contest**

The National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution invites all high school students (9th through 12th grades) interested in the American Revolution to participate in the

George S and Stella M Knight essay contest. The contest is open to all U.S. citizens and Legal Resident students attending home schools public parochial or private high schools in that same grade range the National Association of secondary school principals have placed this program on the 2017-18 and NSSAP list of approved contest programs and activities for students.

Those students wishing to participate in this contest must submit their entry to the Sacramento Chapter no later than December 31, 2022. The essay application can be found at the following link: <https://www.sar.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/01/George-S.-Stella-M.-Knight-Essay-Application-Form.pdf>

The contest rules are found on the SAR National Web Site: <https://www.sar.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/George-S.-Stella-M.-Knight-Essay-Contest-Rules-Updated-2022.pdf>

Winners at the various levels (Chapter, State, and National) compete are awarded cash prizes.

Our 2022 National winners were 1<sup>st</sup> Place Jiayang Jin; 2<sup>nd</sup> Place Benjamin W. Caldwell; 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Austin Q. Sarker-Young; 4<sup>th</sup> Place Mathew Breier; and 5<sup>th</sup> Place James Schultz. You can read their essays by clicking on the buttons below.

**1st Place - Political Partisanship in the Fledgling Republic**

**2nd Place - Charles Carroll of Carrollton: Citizen, Signer, and Statesman**

**3rd Place - Abigail Smith: A Decisive Early Influence on John Adams**

**4th Place - Joseph Warren: A True Patriot Lost**

**5th Place - Nathanael Greene and the Legacy of the "Fighting Quaker"**

**Students wishing to apply for this program may contact Sacramento Knight Essay Contest Chairman, Craig Anderson at [craigandersonsar@gmail.com](mailto:craigandersonsar@gmail.com).**

**Welcome New Members**

Congratulations! Welcome to the California Society, Sons of the American Revolution. We are honored that you have elected to join our society of descendants of those patriots and heroes who gave us our freedoms. The California Society conducts many patriotic, historical, and educational programs in our communities, and we rely heavily on our member volunteers to keep them strong and vibrant.



If you haven't yet been, you will shortly be contacted by a representative of your chapter; We urge you to meet your fellow compatriots, join them in their chapter programs, and become an active member of your chapter and state society. We are looking forward to meeting and working with you in the future.

<u>NSSAR</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Date</u>
223411	<u>Russell S.Rheams Jr.</u>	<u>8/12/2022</u>

## Upcoming Chapter Meeting Information



### **SACRAMENTO CHAPTER SAR SEPTEMBER MEETING**

**WEDNESDAY Sept 14, 2022**  
**OLD SPAGHETTI FACTORY, 1625 WATT AVE.**

**6:00 – 7:00 CHECK-IN AND SOCIAL HOUR**  
**MEETING BEGINS PROMPTLY AT 7:00PM**

Our September, 2022 Sacramento Chapter meeting will be held at 6:00 PM on **Wednesday Sept 14th** at the Old Spaghetti Factory, 1625 Watt Ave., Sacramento (near Arden). The Old Spaghetti Factory is offering us a great meeting facility, convenient parking, and competitive pricing.

Dinners include crisp salad, hot fresh baked bread, entrée, and spumoni ice cream for dessert. Entree choices are: Baked Lasagna, Fettuccine Alfredo, or Sicilian Meatballs.

Reservations can be made by contacting our newsletter editor, Wesley Anderson email phone (510) 312-0917 or Craig Anderson email or phone (916) 257-7892.

Meal prices remain at \$30 per person, cash or check payable at the door. For those who wish to reserve and pay by credit card, **Click on the Button below to make your reservation online. Transaction fees apply**

[Click to Make your Reservation Online](#)

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## OUR SEPTEMBER GUEST SPEAKER



William Reed lives with his wife of 42 years in Loomis, California. He was raised in Ridgefield, Connecticut, where he developed a fascination with history as a boy while playing in cemeteries throughout the communities where he lived in the Eastern part of the United States. Intrigued by head stones and monuments as well as stories related by his uncle, who was a Tuskegee Airmen, William developed a desire to learn more about the heroes and patriots that helped form our nation. In the process, he also learned more about American history and the contribution of black Americans. This interest helped him realize that the knowledge of

history must be studied and shared to help all better understand this great nation in which we live.

He served in the US Navy from 1964 to 1974 as an air intelligence officer including three years in Viet Nam and four years at the National Intelligence Center in Washington D. C.

William received a BA in psychology from University of Maryland, and PHD from Fairfield University. He worked as a Social and Industrial Organization Psychologist for E. I. Dupont. He retired in 1990 but has not remained idle.

Raising an adult son, who was diagnosed with autism as a child 40 years ago, has given William and his wife an appreciation for the importance of domestic workers. Since his diagnosis William has devoted himself to learning about autism and has served as a mentor to countless parents of autistic children.

In 2005 he began to serve as a volunteer in the United Domestic Workers of California and is currently serving as its Secretary-Treasurer. He also represents UDW on the Executive Board of the Sacramento Central Labor Council and advocates for caregivers and social justice.

William also works part time as a volunteer for Placer County In Home Support Services.

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**147<sup>th</sup> Fall Board of Managers Meeting**  
*of the*  
***California Society,***  
***Sons of the American Revolution***

**November 3 – 5, 2022**  
*Hosted by the Redwood Empire Chapter*

**DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel**  
One Double Tree Drive Rohnert Park, California 94928

[Meeting Reservation Form click here](#)



## **America 250 SAR**

### **The Battle of the Capes**

In the spring of 1781, General George Washington and his French ally Lt General Comte de Rochambeau had to decide whether to strike a decisive blow to the British in New York or march south to Yorktown, where Lord Cornwallis' troops were garrisoned. Receiving word that the French fleet would be available for a siege south of New Jersey, Washington and Rochambeau moved their force of almost 8,000 men south to Virginia and surprised the British.

On August 25th, several British ships under the command of Admiral Sir Samuel Hood arrived in Chesapeake Bay. They searched for French ships and, finding none, sailed off to New York to join Admiral Thomas Graves' larger fleet. Graves took command of the combined force and sailed for the Chesapeake on August 31,

Meanwhile, Admiral de Grasse arrived at the mouth of Chesapeake Bay on August 28 with a fleet of 24 ships carrying 1,700 guns and 3,000 soldiers. The land forces were put ashore several days later and joined with the army of the Marquis de Lafayette.

On September 5, the British arrived and found that the French fleet in possession of Chesapeake Bay. Admiral de Grasse realized that conducting naval operations within the bay's confines would be difficult, sailed into the Atlantic waters off the Virginia coast, unchallenged by the British Fleet. In the Atlantic the two fleets engaged in a two-hour battle that ended in a tactical draw; The British sustained serious damage to six ships, one of which was later purposely destroyed, and suffered about 300 casualties. The French saw four ships significantly damaged and sustained more than 200 casualties. Meanwhile, while the two fleets sparred offshore, a smaller French Fleet under Admiral de Barras arrived from Newport carrying Rochambeau's supplies and cannon and sailed uncontested into Chesapeake Bay.

While the Battle of the Capes was a tactical draw, strategically, Admiral de Grasse succeeded in sealing off the mouth of Chesapeake Bay and prevented the British garrison from being reinforced or from evacuating Yorktown.

On September 10, Graves broke contact with the French and headed his battered fleet back to New York for repairs, leaving the French in total control of the Chesapeake sealing Cornwallis's fate. Cornwallis surrendered Yorktown on October 19<sup>th</sup> 1781.

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## Color Guard Calendar



**Color Guard Commander David Beach**

The Color Guard is scheduled to post the colors for the Blind Golfers Golf Tournament at Haggin Oaks Golf Club on October 25, 2022, at 9:00 a.m. Please contact David Beach if you are able to attend.

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### CHAPTER OFFICERS

**President**  
Russell Kaiser

### COMING SAR EVENTS

**Chapter**



[boat361@aol.com](mailto:boat361@aol.com)

**Executive VP**

Craig Anderson

[craigandersonsar@gmail.com](mailto:craigandersonsar@gmail.com)

**VP Meetings**

Russell S. Rheams Jr

[russrheams1@gmail.com](mailto:russrheams1@gmail.com)

**Secretary**

Larry Brasher

[larryfbrasher@gmail.com](mailto:larryfbrasher@gmail.com)

**Registrar**

Jim Faulkinbury

[jfaulkin@surewest.net](mailto:jfaulkin@surewest.net)

**Treasurer**

Don Littlefield

[dblittlefield@comcast.net](mailto:dblittlefield@comcast.net)

**Chapter Meeting Wednesday,  
September 14th, 2022 6PM  
Old Spaghetti Factory  
1625 Watt Ave  
Sacramento**

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**State Society**

**147th, BOM Meeting  
November 3rd -5th ,2022  
Rohnert Park Ca**

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**National Society**

**Leadership Conference  
Louisville, KY  
Sept 29th- Oct. 1st**

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**The Sacramento Courier is the official newsletter of the Sacramento Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution. Unless explicitly stated, the opinions expressed herein are the opinion of the authors, and not necessarily those of the Sacramento Chapter SAR.**

**Editor Wes Anderson**

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