



MUSKETS & BROADSWORD

Orange County Chapter Sons of the American Revolution

October 2013

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MEETING INFORMATION

When: October 12, 2013
Where: Sizzler Restaurant
1401 N. Harbor Blvd.
Fullerton, CA
Time: Social Begins at 11:00am
Meeting: Called to Order at 11:30am
Website: www.orangecountysar.org

OCTOBER SPEAKER—WOUNDED WARRIOR CAPTAIN CHARLIE PLUMB

Captain Charlie Plumb has lived what he believes to be the American Dream. As a farm kid from Kansas, he fantasized about airplanes although he felt certain he would never have the opportunity to pilot one. It would be the United States Navy who afforded Plumb the opportunity to live out that dream.

After graduating from the Naval Academy, Plumb completed Navy Flight Training and reported to Miramar Naval Air Station in San Diego where he flew the first adversarial flights in the development of what would be called The Navy Fighter Weapon School, currently known as "TOP GUN". The next year, Plumb's squadron the Aardvarks launched on the Aircraft Carrier USS Kitty Hawk with Fighter Squadron 114 to fly the Navy's hottest airplane, the F-4 Phantom Jet. Code names Plumber, Charlie Plumb flew 74 successful combat missions over North Viet Nam and made over 100 carrier landings. On his 75th mission, just five days before the end of his tour, Plumb was shot down over Hanoi, taken prisoner, tortured, and spent the next 2,103 days as a Prisoner Of War.

Following his repatriation, Plumb continued his Navy flying career in Reserve Squadrons where he flew A-4 Sky Hawks, A-7 Corsairs, and FA-18 Hornets. His last two commands as a Naval Reservist were on the Aircraft Carrier Coral Sea and at a Fighter Air Wing in California. He retired from the United States Navy after 28 years of service.

To this day, Captain Plumb continues to fly left-seat at every opportunity. He has personally owned 8 airplanes, the most treasured being a WWII PT-19 Open Cockpit Antique. He currently owns a Rutan-designed experimental single engine Long-Eze.

The military aircraft he has flown are; T-34 Mentor, T-2 Buckeye, F-9 Cougar, F-11 Tiger, F-4 Phantom, A-4 Sky Hawk, A-7 Corsair, FA-18 Hornet and an F-16 Falcon.

Aircraft Carrier assignments included; USS Constellation, USS Lexington, USS Oriskany, USS Kitty Hawk, USS Coral Sea, and the USS Abraham Lincoln.

Medals & Decorations include; The Silver Star, 2 Purple Hearts, the Bronze Star, Legion of Merit, POW Medal, Air Medals, Combat Action, Unit Citation, Republic of Viet Nam Campaign, and Service Medal.



Captain Charlie
Plumb

Since his return home, more than 4,500 audiences in nearly every industry have been spellbound as Captain Charlie Plumb draws parallels between his P.O.W. experience and the challenges of everyday life. He has shared his message to an even wider public through appearances on Good Morning America, Nightline, Larry King Live, and The News Hour with Jim Lehrer.

One of the most sought-after achievement speakers of his time, Charlie Plumb's presentations are as he is, sincere, straightforward, humorous, and tailored to motivate each specific audience he encounters. His insights on how to cope with the difficulties as well as the opportunities in life have a positive impact on those who hear his message, those who read his books, and those who come to know him as a friend.

Captain Charlie Plumb will speak to our chapter on "Keeping Faith in Your Country in Trying Times".



Mark your calendars for this annual event and display of patriotism.

For those of you who were able to attend the Massing last year, the Sons of Liberty Chapter who sponsor this event, wish to thank you for your participation.

For those who are unaware of this event, the focus of this event has always been the great young people who participate in the ROTC and JROTC programs throughout Southern California. The goal is to allow the cadets the opportunity to demonstrate their proficiency as a Color Guard unit.

There is also the tradition of participation by active duty military and patriotic organizations, whose members add dignity and color to the ceremonies.

For more information you can go to <http://www.sons-of-liberty-sar.org/massing.php>. This is the

official website for the Massing which commemorates the birth of George Washington and salutes the men & women who serve and have served in our armed forces.

It is as patriotic an event as you will find here on the West Coast. So mark your calendars to attend this event at Forest Lawn in the Hollywood Hills, 6300 Forest Lawn Drive. We will gather there on February 16 and the program is scheduled to start at 2:30pm that Sunday afternoon.

Hope to see you there.

FALL BOARD OF MANAGERS MEETING

The 138th Fall Board of Managers meeting will be on November 1-2. It is hosted by the Harbor Chapter and will be at the Hacienda Hotel at LAX, 525 North Sepulveda Blvd., El Segundo, CA.

For room reservations call 1-800-421-5900. The room rate is \$89.00 plus tax per night, single or double occupancy. These rates will be good until October 15th. Overnight parking is \$8.00 per day. When making your reservation please mention that you are with the Sons of the American Revolution.

Registration Reservations should include your name, the name of a guest (if you have one), your chapter and your address, Title if you have one, telephone and email. Your check should be made out to the "Harbor Chapter".

If you go to the state website, www.californiasar.org and click on "Coming Events" the form for registration, for the Friday night dinner and for the Ladies Tour of the Flight Path Learning Center and Museum at LAX can be found. This is a free tour. There will be a sign up sheet for the Ladies Tour, in the Hospitality Room. It will be on Friday Nov. 1st from 1:30pm-3pm.

If you do not want to attend the entire meeting, you may come for one day or the other, or just come for the meals. Registration covers all meals, but you can purchase them individually as you will see from the Registration form.

CASSAR COLOR GUARD PRESENTS COLORS

On September 28, 2013, the CASSAR Color Guard led by Commander Jim Fosdyck and assisted by James Gill (Harbor Chapter), Phil Hinshaw (San Diego Chapter), and Spencer Knock (Silicon Valley Chapter) presented the Colors at the USS Bennington's 25th Reunion and 50th Anniversary of the USS Bennington being home ported in Long Beach, California. The reunion was held aboard the majestic Queen Mary moored in Long Beach.

USS *Bennington* (Gunboat No. 4/PG-43) was a



Sept 28, 2013 CASSAR Color Guard with James Gill (Harbor Chapter, Jim Fosdyck (OC Chapter/State Commander), Phil Hinshaw (San Diego Chapter and Spencer Knock (Silicon Valley Chapter).

member of the *Yorktown* class of steel-hulled, twin-screw gunboats in the United States Navy in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. She was the first U.S. Navy ship named in honor of the town of Bennington, Vermont, site of the Battle of Bennington in the American Revolutionary War.

USS *Bennington* (CV/CVA/CVS-20) was one of 24 *Essex*-class aircraft carriers built during World War II for the United States Navy. The ship was the second US Navy ship to bear the name for the Revolutionary War Battle of Bennington. *Bennington* was commissioned in August 1944, and served in several of the later campaigns in the Pacific Theater of Operations, earning three battle stars.

Let Freedom Ring – National Bell Ringing Ceremony

A NSSAR National Color Guard Event

On July 4th 1776 our Nation was born in a single day when delegates to the Continental Congress from all thirteen colonies assembled at Independence Hall, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and voted to adopt the Declaration of Independence. Afterwards, at 2 o'clock in the afternoon, the Liberty Bell was rung announcing the signing of the Declaration of Independence, that our people would ***“assume among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the Laws of Nature and of Nature's God entitle them”*** and founded upon the proposition that ***“all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain un-***

alienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness.” Since then, every generation of Americans has celebrated the 4th of July as our Nation's birth.

On the Centennial Anniversary of our Nation's birth the Sons of the American Revolution was conceived when on the 29th day of June in 1876 an article was placed in a local San Francisco newspaper calling for “the descendants of the revolutionary fathers” to meet. This group of men, all of them descendants of the men who served in the Revolutionary War, met and on July 4th 1876 formed the Sons of the Revolutionary Sires. The society which they formed later became the Sons of the American Revolution on 22 March 1890.

On the 26th day of June in 1963 both houses of the United States Congress adopted Resolution Number 25 commemorating July 4th as a Day of National Celebration in recognition of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. The words of Resolution Number 25 are;

Whereas the tolling of the Liberty Bell at Independence Hall, Philadelphia, Pa., at 2 o'clock in the afternoon of the 4th day of July, 1776, proclaimed the signing of the Declaration of Independence; and Whereas the adoption of this historic document marked the birth of our country as a free and independent nation; and Whereas it is fitting that the anniversary of this great event should be appropriately observed in each year at the same moment throughout the United States; Now, therefore, be it Resolved, that the

Congress hereby

- (1) declares that the anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence should be observed each year by the ringing of bells throughout the United States at the hour of 2 o'clock, eastern daylight time, in the afternoon of the 4th day of July, or at such other time on that day as may be determined by local authority, and***
- (2) call upon civic and other community leaders to take appropriate steps to encourage public participation in such observance.”***

For 50 years now Resolution Number 25 has been observed as the “Let Freedom Ring – National Bell Ringing Ceremony” and the Sons of the American Revolution have been participating in Let Freedom Ring in various locations across America for many



Left to Right: Members of the Los Angeles Fife & Drum Corp; OCCSAR Lee's Legion; David Siler, Kelly and Daniel Shippey, OCCSAR President Daniel McKelvie, James Blauer, Kent Gregory, & Larry Wood.

years. This year, 2013, marks the 50th anniversary of Let Freedom Ring and to date the event has grown to over 10,000 participants and with each passing year more communities join in the observance. Let Freedom Ring is celebrated in cities, towns, and hamlets all across America Let Freedom Ring is also observed at American Memorials and Overseas Military Cemeteries, as far away as France, and by American Merchant Marines at sea and at port.

The above photo was taken at the City of Cerritos, California, 40th Annual Let Freedom Ring Celebration on July 4th 2013. This is the second consecutive year the Orange County Chapter, California Society, SAR; (OCCSAR) Lee's Legion Color Guard has presented colors at the City of Cerritos - Let Freedom Ring Celebration. OCCSAR Vice President, Daniel Shippey, with his Lady, Kelly, appeared in character as General George and Martha Washington. General Washington read the Let Freedom Ring Proclamation and rang the bell with the Mayor, City Council Members, and other dignitaries.

Since July 4th stands as a day of prominence for America and for our Society, members of the Orange County Chapter thought it fitting that a proposal be drafted and submitted to the NSSAR National Color Guard Committee to adopt Let Freedom Ring as a NSSAR National Color Guard Event in honor of our Nation's birth.

A proposal was drafted and co-sponsored by California Society Color Guard Commander, James Fosdyck, and Pennsylvania Society Color Guard Commander, Donald Tressler. Compatriot Karl Jacobs, from the Harbor Chapter, presented the proposal to the NSSAR Color Guard Committee at the

Fall Leadership meeting in Louisville, Kentucky. Upon his return from Louisville, Compatriot Jacobs stated, *"I returned yesterday evening and wanted to let you both know that the National Color Guard Committee, National Society Sons of the American Revolution has unanimously approved the Let Freedom Ring - National Bell Ringing Ceremony" resolution as a National Color Guard Event - and participation by Compatriots throughout our Nation is highly recommended and may be counted as attendance at a National Color Guard Event for qualifications to the NSSAR Color Guard Medals..."*

Larry R. Wood

CAESAR RODNEY

Caesar Rodney was born on October 7, 1728 on his family's farm, Byfield, on St. Jones Neck in East Dover Hundred, Kent County, Delaware. His parents were Caesar and Elizabeth (Crawford) Rodney and his Grandfather was William Rodney who came to America in 1680s. William had been Speaker of the Colonial Assembly of Delaware Counties in 1704. With an 800 acre working farm his family was considered wealthy by standards of the day. With the purchase of adjacent property, the Rodney's became members of the local gentry.

In 1745 having already reached the age of 16, Caesar's father passed away. Nicholas Ridgely was made his guardian by the Delaware Orphan's Court. Like his father Nicholas Ridgely had dabbled in politics which helped young Caesar to move into that arena. In 1755 he was elected Sheriff of Kent County and served three terms from October 1, 1755 to October 2, 1758. From 1758-1759 he served as Justice of the Peace from New Castle.

Politics in Delaware in the 1700s was broken up into two factions. You had the "Court Party" and the "Country Party". The Court Party tended to consist of Anglican and had a strong foothold in Kent and Sussex Counties. They worked well with the proprietary Government and were in favor of reconciliation with the British government.

The Country Party which was in the minority, was largely Scots from Ulster, and was centered in New castle County.. They quickly advocated for independence from Britain. Though members of the Anglican, Kent County Gentry, Caesar and his brother Thomas were constantly aligning themselves with the Country Party. They were in a definite minority in Kent County. Rodney worked with Thomas McKean from New Castle, working in opposition to George Read.

During the French & Indian War (1756-1763) he received a commission as Captain of the Dover Hundred Company in Col. John Vining's regiment of the



Caesar Rodney
October 7, 1728-
June 26, 1784
Age 55

Delaware Militia. While a Captain he continued to serve in the Delaware assembly from 1761-1765, was a delegate to the Stamp Act Congress of 1765 along with friend Thomas McKean, then returned in October 1765 to the Assembly. Here he continued to serve until October 20, 1774.

He served as a delegate to the first Continental Congress from August 2, 1774 to March 16, 1775. He returned to the 2nd Continental Congress in 1775 serving another 7 months before returning to the Delaware's Assembly as its speaker. He was back with the second Continental Congress from October 1775 – November 7, 1776.

During this time Rodney also served as Speaker of the Delaware Assembly. On June 15, 1775, Rodney presided over the debate for separation from Great Britain with his friend Thomas McKean leading the debate on the floor. The assembly voted to sever all ties with the British Parliament and the king.

Due to his military experience from the French and Indian War Rodney was made a Brigadier General of Delaware's militia. With Delaware's move from self government to independence, the situation deteriorated for the loyalists in Kent and Sussex Counties.

There were those who continued to speak out on maintaining their ties with Britain, yet Rodney and the Militia were constantly being called to suppress the insurrections. Loyalists were arrested and jailed, but some did escape to the swamps or British ships.

In late June while attending to loyalist activity in Sussex County, he received a message from Thomas McKean that he and George Read were deadlocked on the vote for independence. In order to break the deadlock Rodney rode 70 miles through a thunderstorm on the night of July 1, 1776 and arrived in Philadelphia on July 2nd, just as the voting was beginning. Breaking the tie between McKean and Read, Rodney voted for the Declaration on Independence. This made 11 states in favor of the separation from Great Britain. The document was approved on July 4th and on August 2 Rodney with the rest of the members signed the document.

The 70 mile ride made by Caesar Rodney is depicted on the 1999 Delaware Coin.



Due to his efforts to declare our independence there was a problem back home in Delaware when he was not elected to a seat in the State Constitutional Convention.

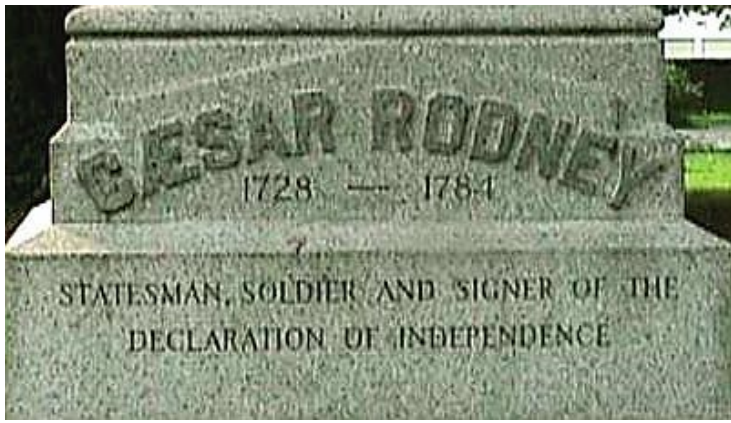
Since he was not serving in any office in early 1777 when he learned that his friend John Haslet had died at the Battle of Princeton, Rodney proceeded to join General Washington briefly, but was returned to Delaware by the General as a Major-General of the Delaware Militia. In this position he protected the state from any British military encroachments and was able to control the continued Loyalist activities, particularly in Sussex County.

In September of 1777 the Battle of Brandywine took place. Besides the defeat by the British at the battle things in Delaware were made more troublesome as the President of the State John McKinly had been captured and taken prisoner. With McKinly out of the picture and George Read in bad health and exhausted, Caesar Rodney was elected President of Delaware from March 31, 1778 to November 6, 1781.

Rodney worked hard to locate supplies and help the war effort. The Delaware Continentals had done their unit proud in several battles including the Battle of Long Island and the Battle of Monmouth. In 1780 they were resoundingly defeated at the Battle of Camden where the Delaware Regiment was nearly destroyed and those who survived had to join the Maryland regiment for the remainder of the war.



Caesar Rodney statue in Caesar Rodney Square in Wilmington, Delaware



With his health deteriorating and having served through the Battle of Yorktown, Rodney resigned from office on November 6, 1781.

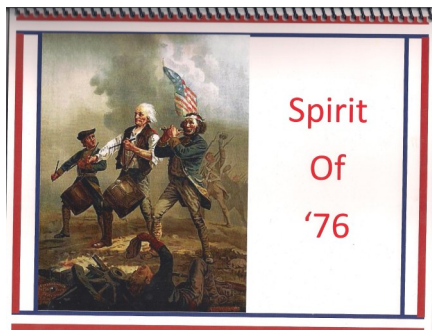
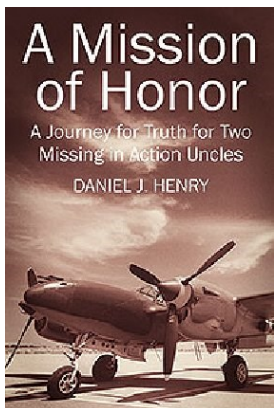
With the passage of the Articles of Confederation Rodney was again elected to represent Delaware in Congress in 1782-83, but his ill health prevented him from attending. He was subsequently elected to the 1783/84 session of the Legislative Council. As a final gesture of respect, the Council selected him as their speaker and met at his home due to his declining health. He passed away before the session ended.

Rodney's poor health was due to a cancerous condition of his face. He wore a green scarf to cover it up. Though he had been advised to seek treatment in Great Britain, his stand on independence prevented him from traveling to do so.

He passed away at his plantation on June 26, 1784 at the age of 55. He was buried in the cemetery at Christ's Church in Dover, Delaware.

AUTHOR, AUTHOR

For those of you who missed out on our last meeting, Dan Henry and Jim Blauer will be at the October meeting with book and calendar for sale. Dan's book, "A Mission of Honor" and Jim's Calendar on the American Revolution were highlighted in the September issue of our newsletter. If you are not able to locate your copy, you can go to our website at www.orangecountysar.org and check the articles out in our newsletter archive section.



COLOR GUARD KUDOS

Congrats to our State Color Guard and Lee's Legion members. A really nice photo and article on their participation in the State meeting of the California Mayflower Society was recently published. Very nice indeed.

GOING GREEN

Just a quick reminder for those of you who have empty ink cartridges, they can be used by our editor to get credit at Staples to help defray the cost of printing newsletters for those who do not have email. Thanks go out to Compatriot Terry Goodridge for sending 12 empty cartridges to your editor for redeeming at Staples.

For those who do not need the folders in which they receive a certificate, if you do not need the folder please bring it to the meeting to turn over to Compatriot Jim Fosdyck or you can mail them to the editor and he will get them to Compatriot Fosdyck.

Finally in this section, if you have coupons you get in your weekly newspaper, send them to your editor so that he can pass them on to our military families at Fort Buchanan in Puerto Rico. This helps our military men and women to save money when buying necessities for them and their families. Remember that most GIs make about \$1700 per month. Some less, some a little more. Coupons can be redeemed on the base for up to three months past the expiration date.

So far this year we have sent over \$5,000 worth of coupons to Fort Buchanan. With only a few months left, can we hit \$10,000 worth of coupons before the end of the year? Let's give it a shot.

EAGLE SCOUT CERTIFICATES

A big thank you to President McKelvie for getting the signed certificates to Eagle Scout Chairman Jim Blauer. By June we had done over 500 certificates this year and had to order more from National. Of the 200 Chairman Blauer received from President McKelvie at our September meeting, 135 were done last month (covering the July through September Eagles) and sent on to the Scout offices to get to each of the Eagles.

Chairman Blauer was informed that the scouts are finishing up their Eagle projects and other requirements as these requirements are going to change in 2014. So there is a rush to get their Eagle this year. With this last batch we passed 11,000 Certificates our chapter has issued to Eagles since 1989.

Photo Album

September 2013



In honor of the Star- Spangle Banner's anniversary, the Lee's Legion Color Guard, at left, presented and posted the Colors at our September meeting.

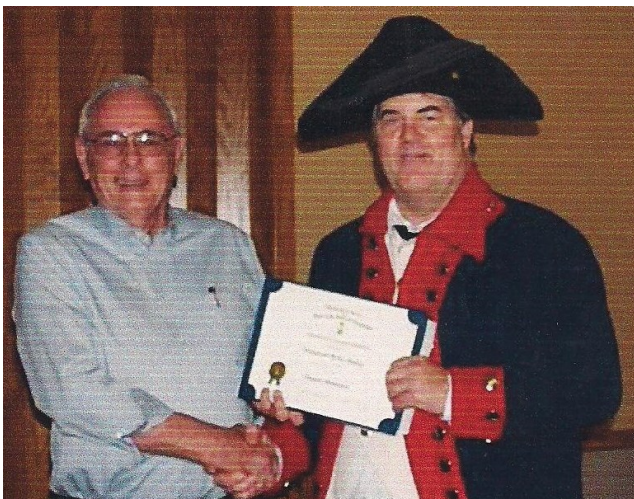
Jim Blauer, at right, led in the singing of our National Anthem.



Joe Boyer, left and Bill Gaumer, right receive their membership certificates from President McKelvie. Compatriot Boyer was pinned by Compatriot Fosdyck and Compatriot Gaumer was pinned by Registrar Kent Gregory.



Hammond Salley receives his supplemental Certificate.



David Frankenbach, below, receives his membership certificate from President Dan McKelvie following his induction and he was pinned with the society rosette by Kent Gregory.

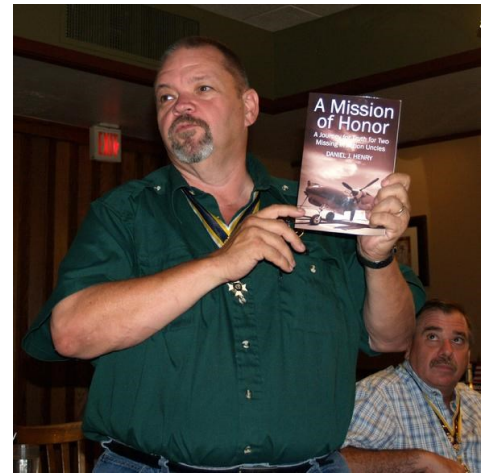


Photo Album



President Dan McKelvie and wife Karen, left, present our Flag Certificate to James Lawrence, the assistant manager of Allen Edmonds. Jim & Un Hui Yi Fosdyck, right, were also present for the presentation at South Coast Plaza.

At right, Dan Henry shows off a copy of his new book.



Members of the California Society at Congress wearing their Mission shirts are back row; Jim Fosdyck, and Kent Gregory. Front Row; Stephen Renouf, John Dodd and Lou Carlson.



Lou & Karen Carlson at the National Congress in July. Lou was elected Chaplain General of the National Society at this meeting.

Past State President Keith Bigbee (3rd from left) and President General Stephen Lieschman (Center front row) join the California Color Guard for a photo at Congress this Summer..



Newly elected Chancellor General John Dodd swears in the new President General Joe Dooley at Congress this Summer.



Photo Album

Airplanes flown by our speaker

Charlie Plumb



T-34 Mentor



T-2 Buckeye



F-4 Phantom



A-4
Skyhawk



A-7 Corsair



FA-18 Hornet



F-16 Falcon