



Muskets & Broadsword

Orange County Chapter Sons of the American Revolution
December 2005

Editor Jim Blauer

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

JOHN L. DODD
17621 Irvine Blvd. Suite 200
Tustin, CA 92780
(714) 731-5572
JDodd@Appellate-Law.com

VICE-PRESIDENT

HUGH L. RICHARDS, JR.
19725 S. Nancy Circle.
Cerritos, CA 90703-7532
(562) 860-7252
H-KRichards@worldnet.att.net

CORRESP. SECRETARY

JAMES L. WALLACE
435 S. Shields Dr.
Anaheim, CA 92804-2021
(714) 995-7490
jamesanaheim@cs.com

TREASURER

DANIEL J. HENRY
15336 Manzanares Road
La Mirada, CA 90638-3949
(562) 947-1021
H31GAINF@aol.com

REGISTRAR

JAMES L. QUINNELLY
319 W. Alberta St.
Anaheim, CA 92805-2610
(714) 535-1043
jlquinnelly@earthlink.net

CHAPLAIN

LOUIS V. CARLSON, JR.
190 S. Shasta St.
Orange, CA 92869-3835
(714) 997-4113
kekoalou@aol.com

MEETING INFORMATION

WHEN: December 10, 2005

Where: The Sizzler
1401 North Harbor Blvd.
Fullerton, CA

Time: Set up and Social begins at 11:00AM

Meeting: Called to order at 11:30AM

Website: www.orangecountysar.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This is not only the last newsletter of 2005, it is my last President's Message. It has been a pleasure to serve as your Chapter President the last two years, and I thank you for all the assistance and support you have given me with our various programs and initiatives.

For our last meeting of the year, we are foregoing a formal program in lieu of our election of officers and Gift Exchange. Skipping the speaker will make sure the speaker is not rushed and we have more time for the Gift Exchange. Remember to bring a wrapped gift of \$10.00 or less to bring and exchange. Even if you can't attend regularly, please make a special effort to join us for the party!

The Orange County Chapter acquitted itself well at the State Meeting, as reported orally at the last chapter meeting. We won awards for Most Medals and Awards, thanks to the tireless Jim Blauer, as well as most Life Members. Colonel Quinnelly received yet another Oak Leaf Cluster for his Liberty Medal, well deserved for all the good work he has done shepherding new members into the society. Finally Rex Shannon was awarded the State Medal for Distinguished Service, which is the highest medal that may be awarded by the State Society President during his term of office.

The Presidio Dedication Ceremony was a smashing success. The location in Old Town was perfect, and it was good to catch up with other Compatriots from around the state and make new friends sharing common goals. Please think about joining us for the April Meeting(21 & 22, 2006), in Santa Clara, very near to the San Jose Airport, which is served by discounter Southwest. As State "Sommelier," I plan to do some scouting

at local wineries and hope you can join me.

Discussing not only the chapter contest but also the ever present problem of membership, our chapter has decided to make a special push with the Youth Registration Program. More details are available on the national Website, but, essentially, any SAR-eligible young man under the age of 18 can be registered as a Youth Registrant by submitting the application as if he were of age. Then, when he turns 18, he simply starts paying dues and becomes an active member. Additionally, he has until the age of 29 to activate his membership. I will do this for my son and am encouraging everyone of you who has an eligible son, grandson, nephew, cousin, etc., to fill out the paperwork in the next couple months and submit it. The fee is nominal. Why not give the gift of your family's heritage this Christmas.

On another year-end note, please remember the Orange County Chapter of the S.A.R. is an approved charity for tax purposes, so feel free to put the S.A.R. on your list of recipients of charitable donations, whether that be of cash or a vehicle donated through an intermediary, such as Cars4 Causes. There are other businesses out there providing this service also. Additionally, please consider a year-end donation to the Center For Advancing America's Heritage, on which there will be an article in the next issue of this newsletter. Consult your own tax advisor for details.

Finally, I can't resist this last opportunity to plug the Poster Contest. We have several schools so far which are going to participate, and the more the merrier. This year's theme is "Winter at Valley Forge". I encourage you

to contact at least one school in your area to enlist the participation of the 4th or 5th grade U. S. History classes. It looks as if we will have several schools participating this year, and we hope to have some good entries. The deadline to submit an entry to our chapter is March 1, 2006. Details and entry forms are available on the (newly-updated) N.S.S.A..R. website:

<http://www.sar.org/youth/Americanism.html>.

I can supply you with a sample letter have written to a school. Although the deadline seems a long way off, it is important to begin to contact the schools now so the teachers can work this project into their curriculum.

As one of my pet projects over the next year, I am developing a resource list for elementary school teachers, which can be integrated with the poster contest. The National office has developed an American History Curriculum, which is available on CD for free to distribute. Additionally, after I recruited our friend Dana Parker to appear at my son's school in the guise of James Madison, I learned many teachers do not have any idea there is a whole community of historical reenactors out there who are only too happy to visit their school, often for free or at least a nominal cost. Therefore, I plan on putting together a list of reenactors in our area and the historical figures they portray and distribute that to various schools, along with the American History CD and information on the poster Contest. This integrated approach will raise the profile of our chapter and the S.A.R. in general, as well as helping stem the tide of revisionist history "education" of our youth.

Thanks again for two great years, and I look forward to seeing you at the meeting.

John Dodd

GRAB BAG CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

Instead of our usual raffle at our December 10th meeting, we will have some fun using a format that is common practice at the Lion's Clubs and other organizations. We did it last year for those of you who attended the meeting. Everybody attending the meeting is asked to bring a wrapped Christmas gift valued at no more than \$10. Every participant gets a number passed out at random. The person holding #1 unwraps a choice from the packages. Person #2 follows suit. If Person #2 likes the gift Person #1 selected better, Person #2 can then swap with person #1. Person #3 unwraps a gift, and if he/she likes the gift of either person #1 or #2 better he/she may then make a swap for his preference. The game goes on until all persons have unwrapped a gift, with each one having the right to swap with someone else for a better gift. How many times may a particular gift change hands? Three times maximum. Our Recording Secretary will keep track. The game moves faster than you would expect, with some individuals not exchanging gifts. The advantage of this system is that the people who draw toward the end will get a shot at the earlier gifts that have not been transferred three times.

POSTER CONTEST

As noted by President Dodd, it is that time to contact your local elementary 4th and 5th Grade U.S. History Teachers and advise them on the Poster Contest. It would not hurt to mention that last years winner was from the Orange County Chapter.

An update on Ryan Canete can be seen in the Photo Album in this newsletter. Ryan, his family and Compatriot Hugh Richards and his wife Karen have been busy. Ryan received

recognition with a proclamation from the City of Cerritos, presented by Mayor John Crawley. Ryan also received an equivalent honor from the local school board, presented by Board President, Celia Spitzer. Compatriot Richards was there to inform those in attendance about the SAR and the Poster Contest.

STATE MEETING

Your editor was unable to attend the State Meeting this month and wishes to thank those members of our chapter who were able to make it to represent us. They include: Jim & Sue Shadwick, Larry & Barbara Magerkurth, John Dodd, Rex Shannon, Dan & Annette Henry and Lou Carlson.

I wish to thank Compatriot Shadwick for recording the meeting for the notes. As State Historian it is my job to do the minutes, so Compatriot Shadwick filled in for me at this meeting and I appreciate his work on my behalf.

Thanks also go out to those who took photos for both our newsletter and our chapter records.

EAGLE SCOUT

Your Eagle Scout Chairman has been busy. He did close to 40 Certificates in October and has done another 40 this last week. Our total has passed the 6350 mark and continues to climb as more and more young men attain this highest rank in Boy Scouts.

We have also received a couple inquiries concerning the Eagle Scout Scholarship Contest. It is hoped we will have at least one entrant by the deadline to be announced at our chapter meeting in December.

NOMINATIONS/ELECTION

At our November meeting Nominating

Committee Chairman Rex Shannon presented the slate of officers the Committee came up with for 2006. They are;

President--Hugh L. Richards, Jr.
Vice-President--Daniel J. Henry
Recording Secretary--James F. Blauer
Corresponding Secretary--James L. Wallace
Treasurer--Arthur A. Koehler
Registrar--James L. Quinnelly
Chaplain--Louis V. Carlson, Jr.

These officers plus the immediate Past President, John Dodd, who is also the Chancellor and James Blauer who is also the Historian/Archivist, will compose the Chapter Executive Board, under the Chapter By-Laws.

There are also some offices and committee chairmanships which are appointive, not elected. Some of these are Parliamentarian, Sergeant-at-Arms, Newsletter Editor, Medals and Awards Chairman, Eagle Scout Chairman, Information Technology Chairman (Webmaster), Activity Contest Chairman, Knight Essay Chairman, Oration Chairman, Valley Forge Project Chairman, Parade Chairman, JROTC/ROTC Chairman, and Poster Contest Chairman.

Chapter members who would like to chair or participate in these functions should contact the President-Elect.

MEMBERS OUT AND ABOUT

Besides those members and their wives who went to San Diego for the State Meeting, others have been busy.

Arthur Koehler, our webmaster, gave tours of Independence Hall at Knott's Berry Farm on November 2 and November 18th. The latter was a school tour.

Meanwhile on November 20 Compatriot Jim Blauer made the local Daily Pilot Newspaper

(Newport Beach/Costa Mesa). He was quoted in an article about the local Mayflower Colony Luncheon held on November 19th. There was also a picture with Jim and several ladies and a couple children from the colony dressed in Pilgrim Attire. This was Jim's third Newspaper appearance this year. The first was in the Laguna News where he was pictured from his participation in the Patriot's Day Parade in Laguna Beach in March. Then in April he and Walter Davis were pictured in an article on the Veteran's fight for the blimp hangar at the old Tustin Base. This appeared in the Orange County Register.

Congratulations go out to Walter Davis for his Award from the UVO(United Veteran's Organization). Their Man/Veteran of the Year. Way to go Walter. We miss you at our meeting, but understand your absence.

Compatriot Bill Campbell attended an assembly with retired Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Richard Meyers, honoring Shauna Fleming at Orange Lutheran High School for her "A Million Thanks" effort to show appreciation to our men and women in the military. Compatriot Campbell joined veterans at the Orange County Walk of Honor at the Civic Center for ceremonies honoring our bravest.

THOUGHTS & PRAYERS

Our thoughts and prayers go out to Walter Davis and his wife Helen. Helen is in a care facility. And to Dan Henry and his wife Annette. Annette is recovering from an illness.

If you know of a compatriot or a family member who is not well, let our Chaplain Lou Carlson know so that a note may be sent by him on behalf of the chapter. If you inform the editor we can place it in the newsletter as well.

PARADE

The Patriot's Day Parade application has arrived and your Parade Chairman is looking for volunteers to join him in this annual walk down the streets of Laguna Beach. Last year your chairman was featured in the subsequent article that appeared in the Laguna News about the parade and its participants and why they liked doing this parade. We took first place in the Antique Auto Division and second place in the Color Guard Division.

It will be held on March 4, 2006 and begins at 11am. We gather in the parking lot across from Laguna Beach High School. If you are interested in joining us this year contact Chairman Jim Blauer(jblauer@pacbell.net or 949-548-6871), so he can get you all the details, map and parking passes.

BENJAMIN TALLMADGE

Benjamin Tallmadge, America's first "Spy-master", was born in Brookhaven, Long Island, New York on February 25, 1754. He was the son of Rev. Benjamin Tallmadge and Susannah Smith. Young Ben had a penchant for learning and at an early age his father included him in classes with several other boys the Reverend was preparing for college. He was 12 when President Dagget of Yale visited his father. President Dagget examined young Benjamin and admitted him as qualified to enter college. The Reverend Tallmadge deemed him too young and kept him at home until 1769 when young Ben became a member of Yale College. He graduated in 1773 and was asked by President Dagget to speak on the occasion. He went on to be superintendent of a high school in Weathersfield, Connecticut.

With the outbreak of the war. Hearing of Lexington, Concord and Bunker Hill, Benjamin

rode to Boston where he met up with friend, Captain Chester also of Weathersfield, who first approached Benjamin to join the military. He was not ready to do so just yet. While at Cambridge with his military friends explaining the situation with the British, he began to think seriously about putting on a uniform.

Though he was planning to study law, he received an offer in 1776 to join his friend Captain Chester in the fight for Independence. Benjamin was commissioned a lieutenant on June 20, 1776 which was signed by Governor John Trumbull.

He went to New York where he commanded a regiment of dragoons(fast-moving horseback-riding soldiers). They would scout out the British forces ahead of the advancing army. He worked directly under General Charles Scott and recruited patriots who were able to easily move behind enemy lines and back.

He developed a cryptological system for messages used by his spies. His system included a series of coded words, letters and invisible ink.

With his superior, General Scott going home on leave, Lt. Tallmadge now reported directly to General Washington. The General saw the qualities of honor, leadership and drive that he expected from all his men in Lt. Tallmadge. On April 7, 1777 he was promoted to Major in the Second Regiment Light Dragoons.

The British were camped in New York City in 1778. Here Major Tallmadge had his Culper Net of spies. They would gather military intelligence and transfer the information through "dead drop communications". This involved leaving coded messages hidden in secret places for another American spy to retrieve. This ring was very successful in getting messages to General Washington and

they even prevented a British plan to attack the French in Rhode Island in 1780.

Upon returning to his regiment near Northcastle on September 23, he was informed of a Prisoner that had been brought in that day by the name of John Anderson. John Paulding, David Williams and Isaac Van Vert had been on the road from Tarrington to Kingsbridge when they met up with John Anderson who was enroute to New York. They took him aside and examined him and found hidden in his boot sundry papers. They detained him as a prisoner even with offers of "pecuniary satisfaction" were they to let him continue on his way. He was delivered to Lt. Col. John Jameson of the 2nd Regiment Light Dragoons, the commander of the post.

Major Tallmadge and Lt. Col. Jameson disagreed on the manner in which the Lt. Col. had dispatched the prisoner to Benedict Arnold, but was soon returned that same day. It was decided the prisoner would be sent to Salem and Major Tallmadge would accompany him on this journey.

On the evening of the 24th Anderson who became conversational with Lt. Tallmadge asked for pen and paper. In writing a letter to General Washington, Mr. Anderson revealed that he was in fact "Major John Andre, Adjutant General to the British Army"!!!

The letters that Jameson had written to Benedict Arnold and General Washington had passed Washington who was enroute to Hartford and continued on to West Point and received by Arnold. Upon reading the letter from Lt. Col. Jameson, Arnold, who had been having breakfast with two of Washington's aides, made his way down to his private boat which took him to the British War sloop Vulture waiting in Tappan Bay below Kings Ferry.

This was the same vessel that had brought Major Andre to West Point.

This unsuccessful attempt to surrender West Point to the British made known British spies in New York City, who were rounded up and imprisoned.

When he was not busy with his spy rings, Major Tallmadge was busy leading his light dragoons on raids of British Forts. A Tory garrison was captured at Lloyd's Neck on Long Island where there were some 500 loyalists. Then there was Fort George, captured with a large quantity of military provisions. General Washington wrote a personal congratulatory letter to Tallmadge. He also received recognition from Congress.

He served throughout the war at most of the major battles including; White Plains, Brandywine, Germantown, Monmouth and at Yorktown. He also was there when Washington gave his farewell speech in New York.

It was at this point with the British gone and his hometown free, he went to pay his respects to his father and friends in Brookhaven. The town in celebration of their freedom from the bondage of the British set a day aside where they roasted a whole ox and asked Lt. Colonel Tallmadge to act as Master of Ceremonies. He was also given the honor of carving the ox to distribute to the multitude who came to celebrate and feast.

During the Fall and Winter of 1783 he met and fell in love. On March 18, 1784 he wed Miss Mary Floyd, the eldest daughter of the Honorable William Floyd of Mastic, Conn. He became a partner in a general store in his hometown in Connecticut and also had some land speculation dealings. He was elected to Congress in 1800. He died March 7, 1835 in Litchfield, Connecticut at the age of 81.***

Photo Album

December 2005



At our November meeting Dan Henry set the decor for his talk about the Marine Corp, its Birth and rebirth. Following his talk Vice-President Hugh Richards presented Dan with a couple of Pamphlets on George Washington and the Constitution.



Below left Rex Shannon presents Certificates for Most Awards and Medals and Most Life Memberships, the chapter received at the State Meeting in San Diego, to Activity Chairman and Archivist, Jim Blauer.

Below, Rex Shannon presents Jim Quinnelly with his Certificate and Bronze Cluster for his Liberty Medal.



Photo Album

December 2005-2



The Ryan Canete Story continues. Ryan was presented with a proclamation from the City of Cerritos. Hugh Richards spoke to those in attendance about the SAR and the Poster Contest. Above, Hugh, Ryan's mom, Ryan, Mayor John Crawley, and Ryan's dad.

At left, Ryan with present teacher, Pat King, and last years teacher, Loretta Shak



Belowleft, Ryan receives a proclamation from the School Board. Board President, Celia Spitzer, read the proclamation then presented it to Ryan with Hugh looking on.

Below, a group photo with Ryan's family, the School Board and Hugh & Karen Ruchards.

