



REC'D MAR 27 2008

Muskets & Broadsword

Orange County Chapter Sons of the American Revolution
April 2008

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MEETING INFORMATION

When: April 12, 2008

Where: The Sizzler Restaurant
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

Listen my children and you shall hear
Of the midnight ride of Paul Revere
On the 18th of April, in seventy-five
Hardly a man is now alive
Who remembers that famous day and year

Yes, Longfellow's poem left out Dawes and Prescott, and historians debate other inaccuracies but our speaker this month will set us all straight on what it meant to be a minuteman and the events of the "Shot heard 'round the World". Please be sure to attend this month's meeting when Dana Parker will come to us as a minuteman to enlighten us. This would be a great meeting for young people, so feel free to bring children, grandchildren and any other interested folks to enjoy this entertaining presentation.

The current HBO presentation of the multi part John Adams series has reminded us all of the personal sacrifices endured by our patriot ancestors. Although the producers did take some poetic license with various elements, to me, its attention to detail makes me believe I knew what it was like in Boston during those years. The dialogue, much of it taken from actual correspondence, captures the spirit of the times. If you haven't seen it yet, I hope you will be able to catch an episode or two.

Also remember we have our renewed bio-sketch project. Who's next? Please e-mail me your submission, or bring it to the meeting.

Marine Project Update

We are still waiting for the next shipment of the special gloves which have

been backordered. However, since our Marines will be returning theoretically in late May, we may forego that if the gloves don't arrive soon. We have heard a couple times from Lt. Patridge, who informs us all is well and reasonably quiet over there. He sent some new photos, some of which have been posted on the chapter website.

This month we sent several boxes containing coffee, snacks, shampoo, magazines, and similar items. Lt. Patridge also informs us they could always use ground coffee, the "real stuff", not decaf as they don't get a heck of a lot of sleep. Also Starbucks is "like gold" over there. The recently discovered that, after being out patrolling away from the base for two weeks, another company had pirated their treasure! They tracked them down and retrieved it, though. Anyway, as you do your shopping, if you could pick up an extra foil pack of coffee, Starbucks preferred, but not necessary, it would help. As always, other little creature comforts are appreciated.

DANA PARKER TO SPEAK

Dana Parker is a railroad dispatcher, which is like an air traffic controller, but closer to the ground. When he is not at work or at home, you may find him taking on the persona of various revolutionary men.

He has been a member of Morgan's Rifle Company for about 10 years. They participate in rendezvous, treks, Marching Through History, parades, Massing of the Colors and other public events.

He becomes James Madison when making presentations at Independence Hall at Knott's Berry Farm, does a Minuteman presentation and acts as a tour guide.

He gives living history presentations to schools,

like History Day in L.A. and other various public events.

He has written articles on historic topics for the Orange County Register as well as other publications.

He has given talks as James Madison or a Minuteman before civic and hereditary groups like the SAR and DAR chapters here in Southern California.

He will be a Minuteman for our April meeting. So, start thinking of any questions you might want to ask a minuteman and bring them to the meeting. If he doesn't answer your question(s) during his talk you can ask him at the end of his presentation.

PATRIOT'S DAY PARADE

On March 1st Compatriots Kent Gregory, John Dodd, Lou & Karen Carlson and Jim Blauer marched in the parade. They were joined by Fifes and Drummer, Andrew Endsley, Kurt Owens and Matthew Noell. These gentlemen had joined us last July fourth and once again were a hit each time they went into "Yankee Doodle". We were also joined by our perennial car man Dave Manning and his 1931 Model A Deluxe Coupe. Because of Dave's Car we got 3rd Place in the Antique Auto Division. We hope to present the Trophy to Dave and wife Becky (She actually owns the car) at an upcoming meeting.

Lou Carlson headed the procession with his bunting draped car. He was followed by John Dodd who carried the banner. The Fife and Drum were next. They were followed by Jim Blauer carrying the American Flag and behind him were Karen Carlson and Kent Gregory carrying the Lee's Legion and SAR Flags, respectively. Then Dave and his 1931 Model A brought up the rear. This is one of the best turnouts for a parade by our chapter in years. Let's see if we can do the same for July 4th in Huntington Beach.

ANNUAL STATE MEETING

On April 18 & 19 the California Society Sons of the American Revolution will be holding the 133rd Annual Spring Meeting in Concord California. It is being hosted by the Thomas Jefferson Chapter at the Concord Hilton Hotel, 1970 Diamond Blvd., Concord. For room reservations you can call 1-800-826-2644. A special room rate of \$99.00 plus tax per night, single or double is available through April 3rd. Parking is free. You should be able to go to the state website;

www.californiasar.org and print out a copy of the reservation/registration form for this meeting.

The Registration fee is \$130. This includes all meetings, Saturday Luncheon and Banquet and includes tax and gratuity. For those who are not sure and want to remain unregistered they can purchase the luncheon for \$35 and the banquet for \$65.

The lunch will be a Cobb salad or a club sandwich. The banquet you have a choice of Chicken Saltimboca, Pork or for an extra \$12 Prime Rib.

All registration forms and payments should go to Stephen Renouf, 16123 Paseo Del Campo, San Lorenzo, CA 94580. If you need to contact Steve he can be reached at (510) 276-8946 or e-mail him at Usina@aol.com.

Here you will meet other SARs from around the state and see the workings of the state society first hand. Hope to see you there.

NATIONAL CONGRESS SACRAMENTO, CA

This year's National Congress is being held in Sacramento. It will be from July 5-9. This doesn't mean you have to skip the July 4th celebrations at home. You can fly up on the 5th and be there for

the start with the evening reception at the Railroad Museum.

On the 6th is a lot of committee meetings until the afternoon when the Color Guard will assemble around 2pm and lead a procession to a nearby cathedral for the memorial service.

On the 7th the opening session of Congress begins. The ladies will have their meetings while the men are in theirs. At noon is the Youth Presentation luncheon and that is followed by the afternoon session. The evening will have Recognition night for those who are to receive the Minuteman Award for service to the National Society. This is a very special honor as no more than six men are chosen to receive this award each year.

On the 8th (Tues) will see the next session of the Congress. There will be various luncheons, workshops and meetings. In the afternoon they will have the balloting for next year's National officers. There will be a banquet that evening as well.

On the 9th (Wed.) they will have the final session of Congress. Here the elections will be finished and in the evening will be the President General's Banquet.

Among one of the rooms you will find National has brought the SAR Merchandise to California so that we can see the items and make purchases of SAR items we would not normally get to see.

This is just some of what is planned to show off our State Society to the rest of the SARs across the country.

Your editor attended the one in San Diego in 1999 and had a great time. The meetings were informative and being a part of the Color Guard was amazing.

POSTER CONTEST

At our March meeting we had five posters that were brought in for judging. There were fifteen entries from Whittmann Elementary School. So, Karen & Hugh Richards selected the ones they

thought were the best and brought those five to the meeting for judging. Members voted. First place went to Lancelot Chu. 2nd place went to Sneha Krish. Third place went to Skylar Lee. Honorable mentions went to Sarah A. Garcia and Sydney Tien.

Photos were not available for this issue, but should have some for the next issue of this newsletter.

Lancelot Chu's poster will go to the State Meeting in April to be judged at that level. The winner at State will have his or her poster taken to National for judging at that level.

PAUL REVERE'S RIDE

LISTEN MY CHILDREN, and you shall hear
Of the midnight ride of Paul Revere,
On the eighteenth of April in seventy-five;
Hardly a man is now alive
Who remembers that famous day and year.

He said to his friend, "If the British march
by land or by sea from the town tonight,
Hang a lantern aloft of the belfrey arch
Of the North Church tower as a single light,--
One if by land, and two, if by sea;
And I on the opposite shore will be,
Ready to ride and spread the alarm
Through every Middlesex village and farm
For the country folk to be up and to arm."

Then he said, "Good night!" and with muffled oar
Silently rowed to the Charlestown shore,
Just as the Moon rose over the bay,
Where swinging wide at her moorings lay
The Somerset, British man-of-war:
A phantom ship, with each mast and spar
Across the moon like a prison bar,
And a huge black hulk that was magnified

By its own reflection within the tide.

Meanwhile his friend, through alley and street,
Wanders and watches with eager ears,
Till in the silence around him he hears
The muster of men at the barrack door,
The sound of arms, and the tramp of feet,
And the measured tread of the grenadiers,
Marching down to their boats on the shore.

Then he climbed the tower of the Old North Church,
By the wooden stairs, with stealthy tread
To the belfrey chamber overhead,
And startled the pigeons from their perch
On the somber rafters that 'round him made
Masses and moving shapes and shade,--
By the trembling ladder, steep and tall,
To the highest window in the wall,
Where he paused to listen and look down
A moment on the roofs of the town,
And the moonlight flowing over all.

Beneath, in the churchyard, lay the dead,
In their night-encampment on the hill,
Wrapped in silence so deep and still
That he could hear, like a sentinel's tread,
The watchful night wind as it went
Creeping along from tent to tent,
And seeming to whisper, "All is well",
A moment only he feels the spell
Of the place and the hour, and the secret dread
Of the lonely belfrey and the dead;
For suddenly all his thoughts are bent
On a shadowy something far away,
Where the river widens to meet the bay.--
A line of black that bends and floats
On the rising tide like a bridge of boats.

Meanwhile impatient to mount and ride,
Booted and spurred with a heavy stride
On the opposite shore walked Paul Revere.
Now he patted his horses side,
Now gazed at the landscape far and near,
The, impetuous, stamped the earth,
And turned and tightened his saddle-girth;
But mostly he watched with eager search
The belfrey tower of the Old North Church.
As it rose above the graves upon the hill
Lonely and spectral and somber and still,
And lo! as he looks, on the belfrey's height
A glimmer, and then a gleam of light!
He springs to the saddle, the bridle he turns,
But lingers and gazes, till full in his sight
A second lamp in the belfrey burns!

A hurry of hoofs in a village street,
A shape in the moonlight, a bulk in the dark,
And beneath, from the pebbles, in passing, a spark
Struck out by a steed flying fearless and fleet;
That was all! And yet through the gloom and the
light
The fate of a nation was riding that night;
And the spark struck out by that steed in his flight
Kindled the land into flame with its heat.

He has left the village and mounted the steep,
And beneath him, tranquil and broad and deep,
Is the Mystic , meeting the ocean tides;
And under the alders that skirt its edge,
Now soft on the sand, now loud on the ledge,
Is hear the tramp of his steed as he rides.

It is twelve by the village clock
When he crossed the bridge into Medford town.
He heard the crowing of the cock,

And the barking of the farmer's dog,
And felt the damp of the river fog,
That rises after the sun goes down.

It was one by the village clock
when he galloped in to Lexington.
He saw the gilded weathercock
Swim in the moonlight as he passed,
And the meeting-house windows, blank and bare,
Gaze at him with a spectral glare,
As if they already stood aghast
At the bloody work they would look upon.

It was tow by the village clock
When he came to the bridge in Concord town.
He heard the bleating of the flock,
And the twitter of birds among the trees,
And felt the breath of the morning breeze
Blowing over the meadows brown.
And one was safe and asleep in his bed
Who at the bridge would be the first to fall,
Who that day would be lying dead,
Pierced by a British musket-ball.

You know the rest, in the books you have read,
How the British regulars fired and fled,--
How the farmers gave them ball for ball,
From behind each fence and barnyard wall,
Chasing the redcoats down the lane,
Then crossing the fields to emerge again
Under the trees at the turn of the road,
And only pausing to fire and load.
So, through the night rode Paul Revere;
And so through the night went the cry of alarm
To every Middlesex village and farm,--
A cry of defiance, and not of fear,
A voice in the darkness a knock on the door,
And a word that shall echo forevermore!

For, borne on the night-wind of the Past,
Through all our history, to the last,
In the hour of darkness and peril and need,
The people will waken to listen and hear
The hurrying hoofbeats of that steed,
And the midnight ride of Paul Revere.

This poem was originally published in this newsletter in April 2000. Your editor realized that we have many new members since then and decided it was time to revisit this poem by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow.

APRIL DATES

- 1-1789-House of Reps. holds first meeting. 30 of 59 Reps. present.
- 2-1776-Patriots destroy entrenchments of Tories on Bedloe Island.
- 3-1776-Harvard College conferred the honorary degree of Doctor of Law on Geo. Washington.
- 4-1776-Gen. Washington left Boston for New York.
- 5-1792- President Washington executes first veto.
- 6-1777- The Marquis de Lafayette's French volunteers arrived in America.
- 7-1776-Captain John Barry's ship LEXINGTON defeated HMS EDWARD to complete immobility.
- 8-1776-Boston gave Dr. Joseph Warren a grand funeral, almost ten months after his death at Bunker Hill.
- 9-1776-Continental Congress sends \$200,000 to New York to the Continental Line.
- 10-1776-Paul Revere commissioned a major in a new militia raised to defend Boston.
- 11-1770-The Provincial Congress is forced to flee and abandon Philadelphia.
- 12-1770- Parliament repeals Townshend Acts with help from Prime Minister North.
- 13-1743- Thomas Jefferson born in Shadwell, Virginia.
- 1776-George Washington arrives in NYC.
- 14-1775-Philadelphia Quakers under Benjamin Franklin, organize first society for abolition of slavery.
- 15-1783-Congress ratified the Preliminary Peace Treaty.
- 16-1776-USS Warren & USS Providence were launched increasing the size of the US Navy.
- 17-1790-Ben Franklin dies in Philadelphia at age 84.
- 18-1775-Paul Revere, William Dawes and Samuel Prescott ride to warn of the Red Coats coming to destroy ammunition at Concord.
- 19-1775-Red Coats arrive at Lexington where first shot of the Revolution is fired.
- 20-1775-Siege of Boston begins.
- 21-1776-General Henry Clinton wrote home of natural wonders of Cape Fear, N. Carolina.
- 22-1774-British ship LONDON is given a New York Tea Party by impatient crowd before Sons of Liberty can arrive.
- 23-1789-Pres. & Mrs. Washington move into first Presidential Mansion at Franklin and Cherry Sts. in New York City.
- 24-1778-After a one hour battle John Paul Jones captured British Ship Drake off Northern Ireland.
- 25-1781-General Nathaniel Greene defeated at Hobkirk's Hill.
- 26-1783-7,000 Tories sailed from New York to Nova Scotia.
- 27-1777-Benedict Arnold defeated British at Ridgefield, Connecticut.
- 28-1758-James Monroe, 5th President, born
1788-Maryland ratifies Constitution.
- 29-1776-American Peace Commissioners' led by Ben Franklin, entered Montreal and were entertained by General Benedict Arnold.
- 30-1789-George Washington takes Oath of Office as 1st President under the Constitution in NYC. ***

Photo Album

April 2008



Lou Carlson with his car to the left and Dave Manning and his award winning Model A. Took Third Place this year in the Antique Auto Division.



Above our small Fife and Drum Corps of Matthew Noell, Andrew Endsley and Kurt Owens.

Below our line up, except that Lou's car led to buffer John from the exhaust from the military vehicle in front of our entry.



Above, John Dodd, Karen Carlson, Jim Blauer, Lou Carlson, Kent Gregory, Andrew Endsley, Matthew Noell and Kurt Owens.



Right, the third place trophy for the Antique Auto Division.

We hope to present it to Dave & Becky Manning at an upcoming meeting.



Photo Album

April 2008-2



Kent Gregory and Jim Blauer carry the Colors for the Chapter's Lee's Legion at the Massing of the Colors. Jim Blauer sang the National Anthem for the 11th straight year. Below our adopted platoon in Iraq; The United States Marine Corps 3rd AA Battallion, Charlie Company, 2nd Platoon Unit 40575. God Bless them!!!



Lou Carlson gave a prayer for our fallen soldiers at left.

At right Lou is joined by Anne Lampman who represented the DAR and brought greetings from the State and National Societies.

