

# Muskets & Broadsword

Orange County Chapter Sons of the American Revolution  
January 2008

Editor Jim Blauer

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## MEETING INFORMATION

When: January 12, 2008

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

Time: Set up and Social begins at 11:00 am.

Meeting: Called to Order at 11:30 am.

Website: [www.orangecountysar.org](http://www.orangecountysar.org)

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Well the time has come for me to bid adieu as your Chapter President. It has been a challenge and also a pleasure to be your president this last year. There are a few things I wish I would have accomplished & also a few things I feel very good about that I was able to do for our chapter. I must extend my deepest thanks to our past presidents Hugh, John, Rex, Jim Blauer & Jim Shadwick and Rev Carlson & many others for their encouragement, advice, prodding, critiquing & more as they were all a huge help. That's what our chapter is all about. We have pledged to remember our ancestor's service in birthing our nation, preserving our independence, the Constitution & so much more. It takes lots of effort to keep our chapter operating & doing all the things we do. When I think of all the work all of our members do not only for our chapter but at the state level as well. We have a dedicated group of men & it has been my pleasure to be a part of this chapter. Thanks for allowing me the opportunity. As John returns for another round as Chapter President we all know he is well qualified to say the least. Let's continue to support John & also Dave Siler as Vice President throughout this coming year in all they lead us to in bettering our chapter & its goals & mission.

I am very proud of our board as they unanimously voted to adopt the 40 man platoon that Karen & John Dodd's son Mark commands in the Al Anbar Province in Iraq during the rest of their deployment there by providing material & items of comfort & supportive mail & the money to help make it all happen to help their specific platoon. This is a great way to show our support & hopefully boost their morale. Our chapter members can do this & I know we will. A number of our members served in the military & several served during & directly in past wars. We know how much they need our support & encouragement. If you don't already have an avenue to directly give something back to these courageous marines, well folks this is your opportunity. PLEASE be a part of it. See John's explanation later in the newsletter explaining our chapter's objective for this project.

My final list of January tidbits to remember are as follows: Jan 9, 1776, Thomas Paine's pamphlet Common Sense appears in today's session of the Continental Congress. On Jan 23rd of the same year Washington writes in a letter to Joseph Reed, "I have often thought how much happier I should have been if, instead of accepting of a command under such circumstances, I had taken my musket upon my shoulder, and entered the ranks" Jan 6, 1777 Washington moves into winter quarters at Morristown, N.J. On Jan 17, 1781 the battle of Cowpens is waged in South Carolina, here the British are badly mauled with over 1000 killed & captured. This gives the demoralized Americans a huge boost to their spirits. On Jan 24th patriot commanders Henry Lee & Francis Marion make a surprise raid on Georgetown, South Carolina and seize the entire 200 man British garrison without firing a shot. They were soon paroled & I might make a final plug as my sponsoring patriot ancestor Levi Harrell served under Gen. Marion AKA The Swamp Fox. Later in Jan 1882 the French launch related supportive operations against the British in the West Indies.

Thank you again for your support & kind words of encouragement this last year.

*Dan Henry*

#### JANUARY SPEAKER

Our speaker for January is Maj. Gen. William J. Mall Jr. USAF Ret. He gave 32 years of service to our country starting in 1954 through 1986. He was as a pilot & served throughout the Cold War, in Vietnam & in the invasion & rescue operations in Grenada in the early 1980s. Among his assignments he was with SAC, TAC, MAC, and Special Search & Rescue. He was the first Commander of the 23rd Air Force Combat Rescue & Special Operations unit. He has amassed an array of service & personal

decorations & is keenly knowledgeable regarding: SAC (Strategic Air Command), the B-47 Bomber, combat rescue operations, Airlift & the C5 aircraft among others.

He was born in 1933 in Pittsburgh, PA where he graduated from North Catholic High School. In 1954 he graduated from the University of Pittsburgh with a bachelor's degree in business administration. He went on to get his masters at George Washington University in Washington D.C. In 1966 he completed the Air Command and Staff College at Maxwell Air Force Base in Alabama. In 1980 he attended the Senior Managers in Government program at Harvard.

His military career began in 1954 with a commission as a second lieutenant from the reserve officers training corps program at the University of Pittsburgh. Following his graduation from pilot training at Greenville Air Force Base in Mississippi in September 1955, his first assignment was to the 310th Strategic bombardment Wing at Schilling Air Force base in Kansas. Here he flew aerial tankers and strategic bombers. He then attended the Air Command and Staff College from August 1965 to October 1966.

Following his graduation General Mall was assigned to the 436th Military Airlift Wing at Dover Air Force base in Delaware. Here he was a C-141 pilot and later served as the chief of the wing air command post. From December 1970 to January 1972 he was stationed at Bien Hoa and Phan Rang air bases in Vietnam. He was also stationed at Korat Royal Thai Air Force Base in Thailand. During this tour of duty, General Mall flew over 900 combat hours in three types of aircraft. He returned to the United States in 1972 where he became the operations staff officer assigned to the Organization of the Joint Chiefs of Staff in Washington, D.C. He returned in January 1974, to the Military Airlift Command as assistant deputy commander for operations and



Major General  
William J. Mall, Jr.

later deputy commander for operations for the 63rd Military Airlift Wing at Norton Air Force base in California. From November 1977-May 1978 he was at Scott Air Force base as Inspector General of the Military Airlift Command. He then returned to Dover Air Force base as commander of the 436th Military Airlift Wing, the only all-C-5A wing in the Military Airlift Command. In March 1979 he returned to Scott Air Force Base as deputy chief of staff for personnel, headquarters Military Airlift Command and took command of the Aerospace Rescue and Recovery Service there in August 1981. In March 1983 he became the first commander of the Military Airlift Command's 23rd Air Force. In September 1985 he became director of personnel plans, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, Personnel, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Washington D.C. He was responsible for all aspects of personnel planning and policy to assure the Air Force of the quantity and quality of trained, motivated people necessary to meet its mission in either peace or war.

With over 7,000 flying hours the General has received many decorations and awards, which include: the Distinguished Service Medal, Legion of Merit with oak leaf cluster, the Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal with oak leaf cluster, Air Medal with Oak leaf cluster, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal with two oak leaf clusters, Air Force Outstanding Unit Award

Ribbon with two oak leaf clusters, Combat Readiness Medal, National Defense Service Medal with service star, Vietnam Service Medal with four service stars, Humanitarian Service Medal and the Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with palm.

Over the last 3 years or so we have had at one time or another speakers representing the Army, Navy & Marine Corps & now not only an Air Force Veteran but a two star Major General to boot. I'm looking forward to his presentation to us

### **ORANGE COUNTY CHAPTER ADOPTS MARINE PLATOON**

Your Orange County chapter has adopted 2nd Platoon of "C" Company of the 3rd Amphibious Assault Vehicle Battallion presently stationed at a forward operating base, or "FOB", in "AO Denver" in Al Anbar province in Iraq. This platoon is commanded by 1st Lt. Mark Patridge, Karen Dodd's son. Mark is also S.A.R. eligible, as soon as Karen has time to complete her documentation, through Lt. Jonathan Stickney of the 1st Company of Concord, New Hampshire militia. This is Mark's second tour in Iraq. Many of you met him at last year's BBQ the afternoon before he left for his first tour. There are two platoons, each with about 40 Marines, at this FOB, which is far removed from the comforts of home. Conditions are primitive; showers are few and far between; and the PX truck rarely visits. They sleep on boards in tents, and the temperature is below freezing at night. John and Karen emailed Mark to find out what "his Marines" want or need to make their lives a bit easier. Mark consulted with his "gunnies" and emailed back with a list, which follows this article. Not only do they need some of the basic snacks and personal comfort items which commonly are sent out in care packages, but they also need basic equipment and tools. John then

put an email request for assistance, and the Compatriots answered by "adopting" the platoon.

Our program will have five prongs. First, individual compatriots will write individual Marines with some regularity letting them know we care and appreciate their efforts. Second, we will collect items for care packages at the monthly lunch meetings. Third, compatriots will donate funds to the OCCSAR for use in purchasing supplies and paying for postage. Fourth, the chapter will donate \$25.00 per month of chapter funds for paying for postage, or to use in purchasing supplies. Fifth, the chapter will work with Operation Archangel, which is operated by volunteer Robert Esquinas in Irvine to fund additional care packages to our adopted Marines. Because the S.A.R. is an official 501(c)(3) historical, educational, and patriotic non-profit corporation, monetary contributions and donations of items should be tax-deductible. "Consult your own tax advisor," as they say.

As for the letter writing, we have obtained some names from Lt. Patridge and will secure the entire roster from him as soon as his time permits. Those of you who wish to correspond with a Marine can contact John, who will give you a name or two. For those of you compatriots who do not have time to attend our monthly lunch meetings regularly, this is a great way to participate in a chapter activity and lift the spirits of our servicemen. For the care packages, compatriots will bring items to the monthly lunch meeting, which John and Karen then will box up and send to Mark for disbursement to his Marines. Also, feel free to drop things off at John's office in Tustin between meetings if you are in the area. Email John for his office address. Therefore, our Chapter will send at least one set of boxes every month. Of course, those of you who have "adopted" a particular Marine are free

to send him a "care package" directly if you wish. Following this article is an edited version of the list Mark sent to indicate the types of things they need. Additional information is available on the Marine Parents website:

<http://www.carepackageproject.com/carepkg-project-needs-list.asp>. There are some unique conditions in Iraq which we should all keep in mind when assembling care packages. First, remember the packages are spot-inspected, so it is important to observe some guidelines when assembling care packages. Please no pork products. Beef jerky, and beef "Slim Jim" sausages are fine. Prepackaged or canned foods saying "USDA Beef" are great. No alcohol and, as much as the individual Marines might appreciate it, no magazines which can be considered pornography. Also, toothpaste in the small plastic containers holds up better than tube paste. See the Marine Parents site for more tips. Lots of these things are available at Costco, BigLots and other discount stores. Also, for those of you who travel on business, keep those coffee packages, shampoo and lotion from the hotel and bring it to the meeting.

As for the monetary donations, we will receive those at the meetings and whenever else you can send them in. If you itemize deductions, make the check out to Orange County Chapter, S. A.R., and note "Marines" or similar reference in the memo section to earmark it for this project. If you don't itemize, you can make the check out to either the chapter or John, who will use the funds for reimbursement for postage and to purchase gear or more specialized items which our Marines need over and above the personal items generally included in the care packages. For example, one of the primary requests was that each Marine have a "multi-tool" or "Leatherman" type tool. These are quite costly. Although the Leatherman company "does not donate to the military"

according to an email back from them, the Buck Knives company will sell us their multi-tool at wholesale cost if we have them shipped directly to the Marines in the field. Also, we learned our Marines need shotgun slings and ammo pouches, as well as special, fire-retardant T-shirts and gloves. They need this clothing because they are in AAV's and need the protection from being burned alive, if they are ambushed or hit an IED so they are protected from severe burns for at least a few seconds. An AAV holds 20 Marines, and there was one incident in which all 20 perished in a flash fire. Unfortunately, our adopted platoon does not have the correct protective clothing. We are working with Quantico Arms in Oceanside for special pricing for these items, which list for over \$20 each. Once we meet these needs, we will work with our Marines -- and their replacements when they come home hopefully in May -- to identify other special needs which we can fill.

Finally, we will also be working with Operation Archangel in Irvine, which has sent over 26,000 pounds of care packages to Marines in the field. Operation Archangel will send care packages to our identified Marines and only asks for reimbursement of \$8.95 for postage per box plus whatever else we can spare to reimburse him for the contents. They have sent 9 boxes in December and promise another at least 9 in January. These boxes contain a magazine, socks, coffee, snacks and similar items. He also found some "clone" multi-tools on sale at WalMart for \$5.00 each, so put one of those in each box also! We will supply them the names of our Marines, and he will continue to send them appreciation boxes as long as we can cover the postage plus a little more.

At our December meeting Compatriots generously contributed \$240, a great start! We

used this money to reimburse Operation Archangel \$125.00 and then purchased 5 Buck X-Tract multi-tools. Please keep it coming! Also, spread the word to your friends, co-workers and neighbors. We would be pleased to accept their donations for this worthy project too!

In the boxes the Chapter sent after the December meeting, we sent socks, magazines and a Leatherman generously donated by Art Koehler. John & Karen and their parents Dick and Jane Dodd sent some multi-tools, hair clippers, blankets, hot sauce, a coffee maker, snacks, personal hygiene items, and lots more, 6 boxes in all. Please peruse the list below and just throw a little something extra in your shopping cart this month and bring it to the January meeting.

The needed items consist of: Leathermen tools, knives, multi-tools, Baby wipes, white athletic socks, deodorant, cigarettes, Gum, DVD's (also may be sent direct from Amazon), coffee maker, warm fuzzy blankets, Magazines: Maxim, Stuff, FHM, In touch, People, Newsweek, Time, Pop Science, Car and Driver, etc (remember these guys are 18-22 years old generally), Small mini speakers for dvd players or cd/ipods, travel pillows, Spices, sauces like Tapatio, bbq sauce, any sort of hot sauce, horse shoes kit, Rubix cubes, Towels, body wash, lufa's, toothpaste (not tube type), tooth brushes, g shock watches, air freshener/candles/incense (interesting smells over there), powers strips and 220-110 step downs, olive drab green undershirts/short or long sleeve, foot powder, boxer brief underwear(they are more comfortable than pt shorts), Q-tips, hand lotion, Beef slim jims & jerky, Military nomex or flame retardant gloves(flight gloves), memory stick duo's 2 gig for Portable Play Station game machines. power bars, and paperback books.

As a follow-up since this article originally was

written, we have heard from the Marines after they have received the first couple shipments. They do not require any more food or hygiene items at this time. We, and others acting on our invitation to participate, sent plenty. If you already purchased some, please bring them to the meeting anyway, and we will send them in a subsequent mailing. They are very appreciative and thank you all very much.

#### PARADE

We are currently gearing up for the Laguna Beach Patriot's Day Parade. It will be held on Saturday March 1, 2008. Anyone wishing to attend and either ride or walk are welcome to join us. If you plan to attend contact Jim Blauer and let him know so that he can get you the line up and time information you will need for this event. As always you do not need to be in uniform. Red, white & Blue are the colors of the day. The walk is all down hill so it is not difficult. Hope to see you there.

#### COMPATRIOTS--GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN

We have recently received word from David Benedict that they have arrived in their new home of Arkansas. He sends his Christmas and New Year's Blessing to his fellow compatriots here in the OCCSAR. As was mentioned last month Dave will be joining a chapter there. We wish him and his family all the best in their new home.

It is with sadness that I report that on December 3rd, past chapter president Leslie Ellis Stahler, Jr. passed away. Congestive Heart failure was the cause. Les served for 5 years as President of our chapter and a good 15 years as Secretary. He also served as Treasurer for several years.

At our December meeting the charter was draped in remembrance of our fallen Compatriot. Jim Blauer, who knew Les and had stayed in contact with him gave some information about Les.

Sadly, we will drape our Charter again in January as we have just learned in the last month

that Compatriot Dan Whitley has passed away. Dan had been a member for only a couple of years and attended several of our meetings before he, his two sons and grandson received their Membership Certificates and rosettes at the same meeting about a year and a half ago.

#### MASSING OF THE COLORS

The Annual George Washington Commemorative Massing of the Colors and Salute to Our Armed Forces will take place on Sunday February 17, 2008 at Forest Lawn Memorial Park, 63000 Forest Lawn Drive, Burbank, CA at the Hall of Liberty. Assembly is at 2pm and the ceremonies will begin at 3pm. Should there be rain they have reserved the auditorium for that contingency. Each Participant will receive a commemorative certificate as a remembrance of their participation in this memorable event.

Our very own Jim Blauer has already agreed to perform the National Anthem. This will be Jim's twelfth straight year of singing the Star-Spangled Banner at this event.

Time Warner will be there to tape the ceremonies of this event for television broadcast.

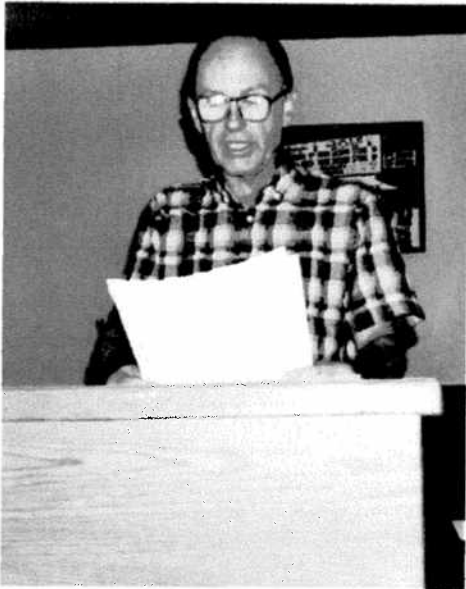
#### UPCOMING EVENTS

It is time to mark your calendars for the coming meetings in 2008. As noted on page 15 of the Fall issue of the *California Compatriot*, we have the Annual Membership Meeting on April 18 & 19, 2008. It will be held at the Hilton Concord Hotel in Concord. It is being hosted by the Thomas Jefferson Chapter.

A special room rate of \$99 has been obtained for both single or double. This price is good if you reserve your room(s) before April 3rd. Your registration fee is \$130. This covers all meetings, Saturday Luncheon and Saturday Banquet. It also includes Tips and gratuity\*\*\*.

# Photo Album

January 2008



John Walkowiak reads the incorporation charter granted to the SAR by Congress in 1906.



Above, President Dan Henry inducts our newest member, Charles Lee Clifton.

At left, President Henry Welcomes and Congratulates Compatriot Clifton on his membership in the SAR and our chapter.

Registrar Jim Quinnelly, below, pins the society rosette on Compatriot Clifton and congratulates him on becoming a member of our society and chapter.

