



# Muskets & Broadsword

Orange County Chapter Sons of the American Revolution  
May 2008

Editor Jim Blauer

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## MEETING INFORMATION

When: May 10, 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](http://www.orangecountysar.org)

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Our speaker this month is Colleen Fitzpatrick, who will speak to us on DNA Genealogy. From personal experience, I can attest to the value of these projects. A little over a year ago, I signed up and sent away for the "kit", swabbed my check and eventually learned of two distant Dodd "cousins" in England. I have corresponded with them extensively via e-mail and actually stopped over there on the way back from a trip last year and spent a fine day in Stratford-on Avon with my extended genetic family. We are now working on "connecting the dots" and finding out who the immigrant was, but in the meantime, have established a fine friendship. I encourage you to take the plunge and see where your genes lead.

Our April State Meeting was a great success. Thanks to the efforts of Jim Blauer and Arthur Koehler, our O.C. Chapter received awards for most Certificates & Medals presented and Best Website. We had a very pleasant weekend of patriotism and camaraderie, and got the business of the state society done. Please see Jim Blauer's article for details.

Please remember Congress in July. The schedule is posted on our chapter website. Even if you can not register and attend as a voting delegate, please consider coming up and volunteering to keep things moving along. You don't need to pay the registration fee to volunteer, and any assistance you can provide will be appreciated.

Also, don't forget the chapter BBQ and pot luck social on Saturday July 26. This will be the fourth annual event. which in the past has been attended by representatives of up to six Southern California Chapters. It is a fine relaxing afternoon, with great food(if I don't say so myself) and we hope you can all

attend. Details will be in next month's newsletter.

Also please remember our renewed "Bio-Sketch" Project. Who's next? Please e-mail me your submission, or bring it to the meeting.

#### MARINE PROJECT UPDATE

Our Marines will be returning, theoretically, in late May, and we will seek out their replacements to discover what they need and do whatever we can to make their lives a little easier.

*John L. Dodd*

#### COLLEEN FITZPATRICK TO SPEAK

Colleen Fitzpatrick, Ph.D. is the author of two best selling books in genealogy. *Forensic Genealogy* has been widely recognized for its innovative forensic science approach to genealogical research. She has been featured on NPR's *Talk of the Nation* with the Neil Conan radio program (July 2005) and her work in analyzing old photos and was featured in the *Wall Street Journal* (October 2007). Colleen has written cover articles for *Games Magazine* (November 2007), *Family Chronicle* (October 2005), *Internet Genealogy* (June 2006, July 2007), and *Family Tree Magazine* (April 2006).

Colleen also writes a regular column for *Ancestry Magazine*. Colleen's second book *DNA and Genealogy* was co-authored with Andrew Yeiser. *DNA and Genealogy* was commissioned by Family Tree DNA for its Second Conference on Genetic Genealogy in November 2005, and has been called by readers as "the ideal handbook for anyone starting out in genealogy using the DNA tools available" and "the book to get for someone starting or running a surname project".

Colleen is presently consulting with the U.S. Armed Forces DNA Identification Laboratory in identifying the remains of unknown servicemen.

During her career as an expert in the optical sciences, Colleen has many years of experience working for NASA and the National Science Foundation. But in Forensic Genealogy and DNA & Genealogy, Colleen shows that you don't have to be a rocket scientist to get the most from your genealogical materials.

#### ANNUAL STATE MEETING

On April 18th & 19th members from around the state and across the country attended the Annual State Meeting in Concord, California.

Besides the annual reports from the officers, there was the election of new officers for the coming year.

Our new State Officers for 2008-2009 are; President-Stephen Renouf, Executive Vice-President Lou Carlson, Vice-President North-Wayne Griswold, Vice-President South-John Dodd, Secretary-Jim Shadwick, Treasurer-Michael Howard, Chaplain Phil Dodson, Chancellor Richard Hawley, Registrar-Ted Rudisill, Genealogist-Stan Henderson, Surgeon-Ernest Latham, Historian-Jim Blauer, and Trustee of the Investment Funds-Travis Spears. Vice-President Membership is a two year term and Bill Welch continues in that position.

On both Friday and Saturday the meetings were held for both the men and the Ladies Auxiliary. Here reports were given and business was discussed and when necessary items were voted on. Business was finished up early on Saturday so a second session was not necessary.

At the Awards Luncheon on Saturday the winners we announced and presented their respective prizes.

The Knight Essay Contest was won by Gold Country's entrant Kile Bigbee. The JROTC winner was Cody Zoschak. Eagle Scout Winner was Robert Lane. Winners in the Poster Contest were 1st Place-Devora Yatsina the Gold Country entry, 2nd

Place-Lancelot Chu from Orange County and 3rd Place was-Vanessa Braun also of Gold Country.

Following the luncheon a memorial service was held for those compatriots who had passed away. Those from our chapter who passed away this last year were Al Bayse, Paul Siler, Les Stahler and Daniel Whitley.

With down time in the hospitality room the evening was capped of by the banquet.

Following dinner we heard Craig McDonald speak to us about his patriot Ancestor Rev. James Caldwell. He was known as the "Pistol Packin' Preacher" and was wanted dead or alive by the British.

Wayne Griswold and Jim Falkinbury were awarded the Patriot Medal, the highest Award the state can give to a member for service on the State and/or Chapter level. Sandra Jacobs was presented the Daughters of Liberty medal. The Distinguished Service Medal was awarded to Stan Henderson.

In the Activity Contest, the Best Large Chapter went to Gold Country and the Best Medium chapter was Riverside. Orange County took the awards for Most Medals & Certificates and Best Website Categories.

Don Moran, State Color Guard Commander presented the Color Guard Awards. Chuck Bragg and Jim Blauer received the Silver Baron Von Steuben Color Guard Medal and Certificate. The Gold was awarded to Jim Falkinbury. In the chapter competition it was Redlands for the Small Chapter, Riverside for the medium size chapter and a tie with Sons of Liberty and Sacramento for the Large Chapter.

The Robert Burt Boy Scout Volunteerism Award went to Richard W. Fowler and Karl L. Dacker.

The officers for both the men and Ladies Auxiliary were installed by Genealogist General

Chuck Bragg.

The ladies held their fund raising raffle prior to the closing of the banquet.

A good time was had by all.

#### M. KENT GREGORY BIO-SKETCH

I was born in the small town of Fairfield, Illinois, within 10 miles of my Patriot Ancestor, William Simpson's grave site. Growing up I developed a love for music and learned to play several instruments. After finishing high school in Centralia, Illinois, I earned a Bachelor of Music Education degree from Millikin University in Decatur, Illinois.

I moved to California in 1978 to complete my Masters degree at USC, where I met my lovely wife Lisa, a violinist. For 12 years I taught in Public schools in Culver City, where I directed band, orchestra and choir classes. During those years our family grew with two children, a daughter and a son, and I completed a Doctor of Education degree from Pepperdine University. We moved to Los Alamitos in 1994. Since then I have taught in the Garden Grove School District, teaching junior high and elementary bands and orchestras.

My evenings have also included teaching classes at Chapman University, Pepperdine University, Cerritos College, and Santa Ana College. For two years I was a consultant to the California Department of Education, working on the *Framework for the visual and Performing Arts*. For the last 15 years I have served on the Board of the California Music Educators Association, Southern Section.

My son enjoyed the Boy Scout Program, so I have been Scoutmaster, Asst. Scoutmaster, merit badge counselor and I am currently an Eagle Scout Advisor. Our favorite trip was the 65 mile back-

packing trip to Northern New Mexico.

Genealogy has been a hobby since my first child was born. I have always been proud to have an ancestor who served in the Virginia Militia in the Revolutionary War, and I am now proud to be a member of the Orange County Chapter Sons of the American Revolution.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### JROTC AWARDS

During the month of May we will be having many of the JROTC presentations to the cadets at the schools we support. If you know of a school or would like to be a presenter at one of the school award ceremonies, contact Awards Chairman, Dan Henry at [h3rdmdregt@aol.com](mailto:h3rdmdregt@aol.com). He will coordinate getting the medal & certificate and information on the school's award ceremony to you.

### MEMORIAL DAY SERVICES

This year Memorial Day will be on May 26th. We will once again be at the Old Santa Ana Cemetery by the Civil War Monument. It starts at 10am so be there early. It is off of Santa Clara behind Fairhaven Memorial Park.

Like last year some of you may be attending cemeteries elsewhere. That is fine, but please report your activity to Activity Contest Chairman Jim Blauer ([jblauer@pacbell.net](mailto:jblauer@pacbell.net)), so it can be noted on our report to the State Society.

### MAYFLOWER PICNIC

On June 28th the Orange County Colony of Mayflower Descendants is holding their annual Barbecue in Irvine Park and they are extending an invitation to SAR, DAR and CAR to come and join the fun. This is a pot luck, so bring your favorite dish. They will start serving around 12 noon, but it is suggested that you get there early to get a good parking space. After 10am they start to fill up. There

will be games for both kids and adults. So, come on out and join the fun.

### JULY 4TH PARADE

Once again we are planning for the Huntington Beach July 4th Parade. We have a history being in this parade since 1988. We will have our 1931 Model A Deluxe Coupe in case someone wants a ride instead of walking. Let your Parade Chairman Jim Blauer know if you wish to participate so he can get the information about our line up position and location.

### NATIONAL CONGRESS

Some members may be leaving early for the Congress, but since there are no major activities until the evening of the 5th when they have the reception by the California Society, you can be in the parade on the 4th and fly up to Sacramento on the 5th. Check the California Society site at [www.californiasar.org](http://www.californiasar.org) or the National Society site at [www.sar.org](http://www.sar.org) to obtain details on the Congress and to get a Registration form.

From the last count there were only thirty people registered and California has plenty of delegate spaces to fill. It is a great way to see how the National Society works at Congress and to meet and get to know your fellow compatriots from around the country. It is not too often that California is the Host Society for the National Congress. The last time was in San Diego in 1999.

It would also make for a nice vacation to see the area and its history.

Think it over and hope to see you there.

### OCCSAR ANNUAL BARBECUE

On July 26th your Orange County Chapter will be hosting our annual barbecue at the home of John & Karen Dodd. This is a Pot luck so bring your favorite dish. If there is something you specially want to drink, bring it along. The chapter supplies

the meats and buns as well as the condiments for this special gathering of SARs from the southland. We usually have five or more chapters there from the southland and once in a while we get fellow compatriots from the North who come down for the occasion. Things should be getting underway by 11am and with Master Chef John Dodd at the Barbecue and Karen Dodd running the kitchen we should be able to start eating by noon. So, get out your favorite recipe(s) and bring that special dessert, dips, salads, deviled eggs and the like and join us for an afternoon of camaraderie.

### FORT TICONDEROGA

Though the French had Fort St. Frederic at Crown Point, they were concerned about the British threat to the South. They decided to build a larger fort on the mouth of the stream near Lake George. The Marquis de Lotbiniere was placed in charge of the construction of this larger fort that began in October 1755. It was named Fort Carillon in honor of a French officer of Spanish descent, Pierre De Carrion, who had established a trading post on the site in the mid 17th Century.

Construction was slow due to graft and corruption. By January 1757 it was still incomplete though they were able to mount 36 canons. The French were not going to wait around to be attacked and under the command of the Marquis de Montcalm proceeded with a force of 8,000 across the portage and down Lake St. George to take Fort William Henry in April 1757.

The British, stung by this defeat, were determined to launch a massive attack on the French. In July 1758, James Amhercrombie with a Force of 15,000 men sail up Lake George. Though he had a much smaller force, Montcalm decided to face the attack, but do so outside the fort, just to the west on a hill

known as "Heights of Carillon".

Creating a breastwork of earth and logs that were strewn about with brush and sharpened stakes, the French waited for the British. Things did not go well for the British as General Lord Howe was killed after landing at the Northern end of Lake George. Abercrombie decided to mount a series of frontal attacks without the back up of the artillery. It began at 9am and by the time it ended around 8pm 1900 British soldiers lie dead.

In July 1759 the British send a force of 9,000 up to attack Quebec City. Montcalm is forced to take most of his troops back to defend Quebec, leaving a small force of 2300 at Fort Carillon and St. Frederic. Brigadier Chevalier Broulmaque is now in charge. He retreats to St. Frederic knowing he can not hold Carillon. The British under General Jeffrey Amherst take Fort Carillon. They named it Fort Ticonderoga which comes from the Iroquois word *tekontaro:ken*, meaning "it is at the junction of two waterways".

Though the French had blown up the magazine, the fort was serviceable and General Amherst set out to restore it while building a more massive fort north at Crown Point. Though occupied by the British for the rest of the Seven Years(French & Indian) War during the peaceful time following, it deteriorated as English colonists settled the area.

With the American Revolution having begun one month before in Lexington & Concord, Ethan Allen



Fort Ticonderoga as seen from Lake Champlain



Ethan Allen demanding that the Fort be surrendered

and his Green Mountain Boys along with Benedict Arnold make a pre-dawn raid on May 10, 1755, surprising the token force left by the British and taking the fort. The Americans then proceeded to build another fort across the narrow lake, calling it Fort Independence.

In October 1776, under the command of Carelton, the British forces were fresh from the defeat by Arnold at Valcour, turned back to Canada upon viewing the Forts of Ticonderoga and Independence.

By 1777 the British were moving South from Canada forcing the Americans back to Fort Ticonderoga. The British fortified Mount Defiance with canon, which over looked the fort. Seeing the bombardment that would come, Arthur St Clair ordered the evacuation of the Fort on July 5, 1777. The next day General Bourgoyne's troops moved in. The Americans withdrew to the Vermont side of the lake and Fort Independence. Shortly after which they abandoned this fort and moved to Saratoga. This would set up the defeat of Burgoyne at Saratoga.

Following Burgoyne's defeat at Saratoga, Fort Ticonderoga became increasingly irrelevant. The British abandoned the fort and Crown Point in 1780. Local farmers stripped the fort of building materials while mother nature's freezing and thawing caused the stone walls to buckle.



A view of the restored Fort Ticonderoga, now an early American Military History Museum

In 1783 George Washington along with New York Governor Clinton visited the fort. Following the Revolution, the State of New York granted the fort and the surrounding garrison grounds to Columbia and Union Colleges. By 1791 it had become the earliest of tourist attractions here in the United States. Even Presidents Thomas Jefferson and James Madison took a trip through the Lake George region.

In 1909 under private ownership the fort was restored. It is maintained as a tourist attraction from May 10th to late October each year. They hold annual reenactments from the French & Indian War.

As it is well maintained by its owners the Federal Government has never tried to make it a part of the National Park system. It was declared a National Historic Landmark in 1960.



Sites of Fort Ticonderoga



# Photo Album

May 2008



Dana Parker speaks to us as a Minuteman. He receives a Certificate of Appreciation from President John Dodd. Dan Henry & Arthur Koehler receive their Military Service Certificates & Medals (Center) Below Jon Vreeland receives the Fireman's Award, having recently retired from the Orange Co. Fire Department. Lou Carlson, Kent Gregory and John Dodd receive their participation Certificates



from the Massing of the Colors held in February. Lou gave a prayer for the fallen soldiers, Kent was a part of the Color Guard and John was our photographer for the day.

