



Muskets & Broadsword

Orange County Chapter Sons of the American Revolution

October 2008

Editor Jim Blauer

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT

JOHN L. DODD
10072 Highcliff Drive
Santa Ana, CA 92707
(714)602-2132
JohnLDodd@earthlink.net

VICE-PRESIDENT

DAVID R. SILER
3315 Deaver Drive
Corona, CA 92882
(951)808-8572
dsiler3315@hotmail.com

CORRESP. SECRETARY

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

RECORDING SECRETARY

JAMES F. BLAUER
418 Pirate Road
Newport Beach, CA 92663-5829
(949) 548-6871

TREASURER

ARTHUR A. KOEHLER
17422 Ireland Lane
Hunt. Bch, CA 924647-5621
(714) 847-0754

Treasurer@orangecountysar.org

REGISTRAR

M. KENT GREGORY
3822 Denwood Ave.
Los Alamitos, CA 90720
(562) 493-6409
drkentgregory@earthlink.net

CHAPLAIN

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

loucarlson@sbcglobal.com

MEETING INFORMATION

When: October 11, 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

Our speaker this month is Col. Williamson, USMC(Ret), a Pearl Harbor survivor and former fighter pilot. Please see his biographical information below and be sure to join us for a memorable and interesting presentation.

Very shortly, you will receive your annual dues notice. Please return it promptly as the collection and processing of dues is always a tedious and time-consuming undertaking for your dedicated chapter secretary. Also, our deadline is just the first of three. We process the dues and send them off to the State Secretary, who then processes them and sends them off to National with a ream of required paperwork. The earlier you return the dues envelope, the smoother the process goes. Also please consider becoming a Life Member and see Rex Shannon's piece elsewhere in this newsletter on that score.

The state and National portions of the dues are set by the State and National organizations. Our chapter dues of \$15.00 are among the lowest, if not the lowest of the California SAR Chapters. Some chapter dues are as high as \$50.00 per year. Your board agonized over the level of dues this year, but determined we could keep them at \$15.00 for another year, but that will be reexamined next year. Your dues pays for the website fees, newsletter printing and postage, speaker fees, the meat at the Summer Barbecue and medals and awards among other things. Each JROTC medal with certificate costs approximately \$20.00. When we present medals to chapter members for Military or Law Enforcement Service, Good Citizenship, etc., there is no cost to the recipient. This is a gift from the chapter for a job well done. On that note, if you have served in the military, as a firefighter, or in Law Enforcement, but have not received a medal recognizing that service, please let me know.

However, \$15.00 per member nowhere near covers these expenses. The shortfall is made up from the "Ben Franklin raffle every month. Therefore, please remember to bring a raffle item and buy tickets, as this is the only thing staving off a dues increase. Also, remember the SAR is recognized as a 501(c)(3) charity. We have included a line on the dues bill for an additional tax-deductible contribution. An additional \$20, or even \$100 if you can spare it, would go a long way to defraying chapter expenses and assist with purchasing more medals, awards and cash prizes for enterprises such as the Poster Contest and Knight Essay Contest.

Also, if you are still receiving this newsletter by "snail mail", please remember we are posting it on our website every month and consider switching over to e-mail notification of that posting, which will save us printing and postage costs. We still have a couple of technological issues with the color photos because of scanner software issues, but otherwise the web version is the exact same thing. Your "I.T. Department" is working on the color issue. However, sometimes we can even supply more photos with the web version.

Center For Advancing America's Heritage

The completion of the Center for Advancing America's Heritage is now within reach. You can see all the details on the NSSAR website. In these days of relativism, globalism, and all the other "isms" which get my blood pressure up, it is increasingly important to keep the memory of the sacrifices of our Patriot Ancestors alive. More than that, folks seem to forget *why* America came to be and *why* this country is exceptional in 5,000 years of human civilization. The Center will stand as a monument to American Exceptionalism and remind our citizens *why* the principles for which our Patriot

Ancestors pledged "their lives, their fortunes and their sacred honor" continue to have power today.

Many of you have already donated and pledged funds to the center. Others have not. Some can do more. Still others have done more than their share. I am making a personal plea to each of you to consider a contribution or pledge, either an initial one or "supplemental". In many instances the amount is not crucial. The Foundation Board has engaged professional fund raisers who will be pursuing grants from foundations, corporations and outside sources. One of the first questions a foundation representative will ask is "What percentage of your members have donated?" As far as California goes, the percentage is, embarrassingly, pretty small. Even a contribution of \$100, or even \$50.00, is important in this calculus.

We have attached a pledge form to this newsletter. Please consider a generous multi-year pledge, if you are able. The NSSAR website lists the various levels of giving and recognition awarded those various levels, so I will not detail that here. However, it is not as difficult as it may seem. A \$1,000 pledge made over 5 years is only \$3.85 per week, slightly over \$15 a month. Even if you can not commit to that, a check for even \$25.00 now is important in the overall effort. Given the sacrifices of our Patriot Ancestors, this is the least we can do.

Calling Possible Color Guardsmen!

You may not know it, but your Orange County Chapter is the official home of the "Lee's Legion" Color Guard. Because of various members moving away or other circumstances, we are down to two active Color Guardsmen, Jim Blauer and Kent Gregory, who obtained his uniform last year. The Color Guard is always a big hit in parades and has special duties at State and National functions. Please see the color guard photos on the photo page of our website and consider getting a uniform. There is, as

is almost always the case with the SAR, a special color guard medal for participation. Please e-mail Jim Blauer for details and costs on obtaining a uniform.

Also, if you are a former Lee's Legion participant with a currently-unused uniform, please consider donating it back to the chapter for purchase by a new participant, or selling it to the new participant directly. If you have a uniform you no longer need, please let me know whether you would like to donate it or sell it and provide your size details. We will then publicize it in the newsletter.

John L. Dodd

Col. Leon M. Williamson, USMCR(Ret.)

Col. Williamson is a Pearl Harbor Survivor with over 7 years of active duty and 11 years of reserve duty as a fighter pilot and a dive bomber pilot. During World War II he flew missions in the Pacific Theater and was involved in the military campaigns of Pearl Harbor, Midway, and Guadalcanal. He also was a Pilot in the Korean War. For his bravery and skill he has been awarded the Navy Cross, the Distinguished Flying Cross, 4 air medals, the Asiatic Pacific Theater Ribbon with three stars, the American Defense ribbon, and the American Victory Ribbon. Col. Williamson comes to us through the Freedom Committee of Orange County and is a resident of Fullerton. It is a great honor to have Colonel Williamson accept our invitation to speak to us about his War experiences.

AN IDEA WORTH CONSIDERING

It is that time of year when we renew our annual Membership with the SAR. The dues amount has not changed. It is still \$58, covering Chapter, State and national dues. There is another option that is worth considering.....Life Membership. Thirty-seven of our 70 chapter members have

become Life Members. Once completely paid, Life members are insulated from dues increases. The State Society invests the funds to pay for all three levels of membership, National, State and Chapter. If you are age 18-54, you would pay \$1,000 or \$250 in four annual installments. If you are age 55-74, you would pay \$750 or \$250 in three annual installments. Those age 75 and over would pay \$500 or \$250 in two annual installments.

Dues notices will go out in October, and if you choose the Life Membership option, you may send your first check for \$250 at that time. An Idea worth considering.

FALL BOARD OF MANAGERS MEETING

The 133rd Fall Board of Managers meeting will take place on November 7 & 8, 2008 at the Sheraton Gateway Hotel, 600 Airport Blvd, Burlingame, California. For room reservations call 1-650-340-8500. The rooms are \$105 plus tax per night, single or double and is available at this price through October 1, 2008. There are a limited number of discounted rooms, so reserve early. Hotel parking is \$10.00 per day. There is a free shuttle to/from SFO (San Francisco Airport) that runs every 20 minutes.

Registration for the meeting is \$130 per person till October 1st. It will be \$140 after October 1st. Registration includes all meetings, Saturday Luncheon and Saturday Banquet. Cost includes tax and gratuity. There is an option San Francisco Tour for \$25.00. If you would rather not register, but wish to attend the Luncheon and Banquet, the luncheon will be \$35.00 and the banquet is \$65.00.

For the luncheon you have a choice of Chicken, Pasta or vegetarian. For the banquet you have a choice of Chicken, fish or vegetarian.

Check the back of your California Compatriot on page 18 for a copy of the registration form. For information about the tour check page 15.

Mail your completed form and payment to Stephen R. Renouf, 16123 Paseo Del Campo, San Lorenzo, CA 94580. Phone is 1-510-276-8946 or you may e-mail him at Usina@aol.com. Make your checks payable to Thomas Jefferson Chapter, SAR.

This is a chance to get to meet other SARs from around the state and to hear what they have been doing in their communities. Hope to see you there.

GET WELL WISHES

It was good to see Compatriots Jim Quinnely and Jim Shadwick up and about and able to attend our meeting in September. We hope and pray they continue to recover from their health setbacks.

We also send our prayers and wishes for a speedy recovery to Compatriot Walter Davis who spent a couple days in the hospital having surgery.

DANIEL MORGAN

Daniel Morgan was born July 6, 1736 the fifth of seven children of Welsh parents, James Morgan, an iron forger, and his wife. Since he rarely spoke about his early life, his history is a bit vague. Many believe he was born in Hunterdon County, New Jersey, but it is possible that he was born in Bucks County, Pennsylvania which is right across the river from Hunterdon and is where his father worked as an ironmaster.

It is believed that his early years were rough ones, which would explain his silence about them. At about the age of 16 he left home after a major argument with his father. He went to Carlisle, Pennsylvania where he held several odd jobs. He then headed south along the Great Wagon Road till he arrived in Charles Town, Virginia at the end of the Shenandoah Valley.

Though uneducated and uncouth, Daniel Morgan was a big strong man not afraid of hard work. He also enjoyed gambling and drinking. His work in Virginia began by clearing land. He then worked in

a sawmill as the superintendent. He then went on to become a wagoner which he liked for the high pay. A wagoner was one who drove a wagon load of supplies across the mountains to the settlers. Within the first year he had made enough money to buy his own team.

At the age of 19 the French & Indian War broke out and Daniel was hired as a civilian by General Braddock for the expedition to Fort Duquesne in 1755. In 1756 while taking supplies to Fort Chiswell, *The Old Wagoner*, as he was nicknamed, upset a British Lieutenant who struck him with the flat of his sword. Morgan knocked the lieutenant out with one punch. Morgan was court-martialed and given 500 lashes. Morgan would always maintain that the drummer had miscounted and he had received only 499 lashes. A considerable sum of lashes that might have killed any other man.

In 1758 Morgan joined a local company of Rangers serving the British Army. Though it was recommended that he be given the rank of Captain only an Ensign position was available at the time. He accepted. When he and two escorts were returning to Fort Edwards with a dispatch for the commanding officer at Winchester, Virginia, they were attacked by Indians at Hanging Rock. The escorts were killed and Morgan was seriously wounded by a bullet that had passed through the back of his neck, knocking out all the teeth on his left jaw and exited through his cheek. He managed to stay in his saddle and ride away

After his service to the British he returned to wagoning. He also returned to his rough and brawling ways, but saved his money, so that in 1759 he bought a two-story house in Winchester. He named it *Soldier's Rest*. In 1762 he set up house with Abigail Curry. She was about 10 years his junior. It wasn't until 1773 that they would finally

marry. She was a good influence on him as she had a positive effect on his manners and his morals. They would have 2 daughters Nancy would marry Presley Neville and Betsy who married James Heard, both Revolutionary War Veterans. Later in life he would have an illegitimate son named Willoughby, who grew up in South Carolina.

In 1763-64 he served during Pontiac's Conspiracy as a lieutenant. He then returned to his farming at which he became quite successful and by 1774 owned 255 acres. He also had acquired 10 slaves to assist in working his land. He eventually became a captain in the militia. It was in 1774 that he fought for 5 months in Lord Dunmore's War against the Shawnee Indians. It was during this service that he led his company deep into the hostile Ohio country.

With the outbreak of the war at Lexington and Concord in 1775, the Continental Congress authorized the raising of ten rifle companies from Pennsylvania, Maryland and Virginia in June. Virginia was asked to raise two companies and Daniel Morgan was given the rank of Captain by the House of Burgesses and chosen to lead one of the companies on June 22, 1775. Having recruited 95 men in ten days for his company and they set out on July 15 from Winchester and headed to Boston where he and his company arrived on August 6th. This outstanding group of snipers were known as "Morgan's Sharpshooters".

Later that year when Congress authorized the

Daniel Morgan



invasion of Canada, it was decided that three rifle companies would accompany Col. Benedict Arnold on the expedition. Col. Arnold convinced George Washington to send an eastern offensive against Quebec to support Montgomery's invasion. Washington agreed to send three rifle companies from among the forces at Boston, if they volunteered. Well, all the companies at Boston Volunteered, so a lottery was held to see who would go. Morgan and his men were one of the three companies to win this honor. Col. Arnold selected Captain Morgan to lead all three companies as a unit.

They set out from Fort Western on September 25, as Morgan's men led the advanced party. When they began Col. Arnold had about 1000 men. When they arrived at the Isle of Orleans on November 9th they had but 600 men. On November 13, Arnold crossed the river. Morgan sent out scouts who reported that there were no sentries. Morgan favored an immediate attack and Col. Arnold agreed. But a carelessly lit campfire got the attention of a British Patrol boat and the Americans were found out.

On the morning of December 31 Montgomery launched the disastrous assault, the Battle of Quebec. The patriots attacked in two thrusts. Arnold led the attack of the lower city from the North. Unfortunately he took a bullet in the leg early on and Morgan took over the command and successfully entered the city past the first barricade. General Montgomery fell and the attack faltered. General Carlton took his British forces and circled around behind Morgan and cut him off from the other forces and surrounding the Americans. They were forced to surrender. Morgan surrendered his sword to a French Priest, refusing to give it to the troops. He was one of 372 captured and remained a prisoner until January 1777.

Upon his return to General Washington and the American forces in early 1777, Morgan learned to his surprise that he had been promoted to Colonel from his actions at Quebec. He was ordered to raise and command a new regiment, the 11th Virginia of the Continental Line. By April he had recruited 400 men. His test was simple. To be recruited a rifleman would be asked to shoot at the head of an officer or possibly the King of England on a Broadside that was 100 yards away. If they hit the picture on the first shot they were in. If not, they were refused.

By June 13, 1777 Morgan was in command of 500 men of the Light Infantry Corp. General Washington assigned him to harass General Howe's rear Guard. This he did attacking during the retreat across New Jersey.

On September 19 Morgan's Regiment with the added support of Henry Dearborn's 300 New Hampshire infantry came upon General Simon Fraser's advanced force at Freeman's Farm. All the British officers died in the first exchange and the British retreated.

On October 7 General Burgoyne's offensive resulted in the Battle of Bemis Heights. Morgan commanded the left or Western Flank. General Fraser and his British troops tried to out flank Morgan, but Morgan's sharpshooters trapped Fraser's troops between them and Dearborn's regiment. Morgan ordered Fraser to be shot and Timothy Murphy did the job. With Fraser down the British fell back to Burgoyne's main force.

Burgoyne had 8000 troops at the end of Summer, but by this time as he retreated to Saratoga, he was down to 5000 men. By October 17, Horatio Gates and his forces had surrounded Burgoyne and his troops resulting in the British surrender and what historians have called the turning point of the War.

He rejoined Washington's main army after



Surrender of General Burgoyne.

Col. Morgan is shown in white, right of center. This was painted by John Trumbull.

Saratoga and though not in any major battles in 1778 he and his men continued to hit the British columns and supply lines in New Jersey. With the retreat of British forces from the Battle of Monmouth, Morgan's troops pursued and captured many prisoners and supplies. On September 14 he was made a colonel of the 7th Virginia Regiment.

Having been passed over for promotion to Brigadier General on more than one occasion, and suffering some physical ailments from the Quebec expedition, he was allowed to resign on June 30, 1779 and returned home to Winchester.

A year later he was asked by General Gates to return to duty, but refused feeling he would not be as useful under so many officers. With Gates' defeat at the Battle of Camden He decided he had to return and met with Gates at Hillsborough, North Carolina where on October 2 was given command of the light infantry corp. On October 13, 1780 he received his promotion to Brigadier General.

Morgan was instrumental in the victory over Tarleton at Cowpens. He retired after this battle and built a new home called "Saratoga". He amassed over 250,00 acres and in 1790 received a God Medal from Congress for his victory at Cowpens. He fought the protesters in the Whiskey Rebellion in 1797. He was elected and served one term in the House of Representatives(1797-1799).

He was at his daughter's home in Winchester celebrating his 66th birthday on July 6, 1802 when he passed away. ***

Photo Album

October 2008



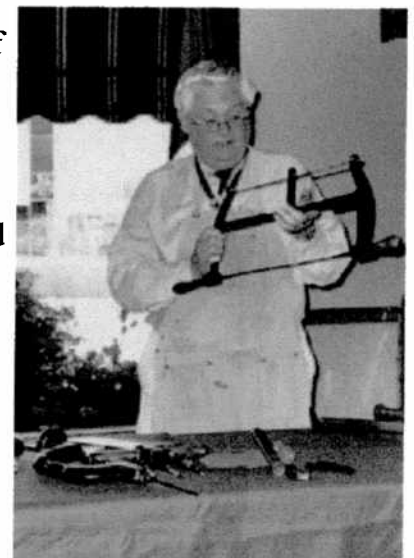
Above are prizes for the Ben Franklin drawing.



Tools from the 1600s to the 1800s are displayed by Larry Magerkurth.



Larry spoke on his collection of tools from the colonial period that our ancestors would have used. He explained the various tools, what they were called and how they would have been used.



At left-JohnDodd inducts new member Jim Fosdyck to the chapter and presents him with his rosette and Membership Certificate.



At right Richard Adams receives his Military Service Medal and Certificate from President John Dodd. Richard served many years in the Army and the Reserves before he was able to retire.