

MUSKETS & BROADSWORD

Orange County Chapter Sons of the American Revolution

November 2009

Editor-James F. Blauer

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MEETING INFORMATION

When: December 12, 2009
Where: Sizzler Restaurant
1401 North Harbor Blvd.
Fullerton, CA
Time: Social Begins at 11:00am
Meeting: Called to Order at 11:30am
Website: www.orangecountysar.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Greetings and holiday salutations to all Compatriots across the miles! I hope everyone had a wonderful Thanksgiving with family and friends. What a year this has been. Thanks to all of you who have participated in the many chapter activities throughout the year. With your support, we have remained one of the best mid-sized chapters in the state, and could very well come in first in that category once again. The Lee's Legion Color Guard led the way with many parades and other events. Jim Fosdyck, Kent Gregory, and Color Guard Commander Jim Blauer have marched in uniform and performed valiantly and persistently, most of the time under a scorching sun, month after month, all year long. They have participated in many different events representing our chapter and the state here in California, in Atlanta, Georgia, and in Hawaii. On behalf of the chapter, thank you all for a job well done.

To all the rest of our officers and chairmen, my hat goes off to you for your voluntary participation over the past year. You are what makes the chapter function and we thank you for your time, talent, and treasure.

The Mission Inn was a great venue to hold the 134th CASSAR Board of Managers Meeting in November. State President Rev. Louis V. Carlson, Jr. awarded the Patriot Medal at the Banquet to our fellow Orange County Chapter member Lt. Col. James L. Quinnelly, USA (Ret.). The Colonel had 18 years of elected office with the chapter, from 1991 to early 2008, and served as Registrar and as Chaplain during that time. Colonel, we thank you for your service, not only to the Orange County Chapter, but to your country----We salute you.

I sincerely hope everyone will bring their family and attend our final meeting of the year on December 12th. Instead of our usual speaker, we will have our annual gift exchange, so please plan on bringing a nice and inexpensive gift to be raffled.

At 8 a.m. on the morning of our meeting, December 12th, the "2009 Wreaths Across America Program" will be honoring veterans at cemeteries across the country for each of the seven services for their sacrifice, from the Revolutionary War to Iraq/Afghanistan. Wreaths will be placed at the graves of veterans across the country. Please see President General Edward F. Butler's "Proclamation" that is included in this month's Muskets and Broadswords.

Our chapter has had a very good year, and as President, I was very proud and honored to be a part of it. Before I leave you with one of my favorite poems by Alfred, Lord Tennyson, I want to thank you for giving me the privilege of holding the office. I wish you all God's blessing and a very Merry Christmas and for all of us, a very prosperous and Happy New Year!

David R. Siler

Ring Out, Wild Bells
 Ring out, wild bells, to the wild sky,
 The flying cloud, the frosty light;
 The year is dying in the night;
 Ring out, wild bells, and let him die.
 Ring out the old, ring in the new,
 Ring, happy bells, across the snow;
 The year is going, let him go;
 Ring out the false, ring in the true.
 Ring out the grief that saps the mind,
 For those that here we see no more,
 Ring out the feud of rich and poor,
 Ring in redress to all mankind.
 Ring out a slowly dying cause,
 And ancient forms of party strife;
 Ring in the nobler modes of life,
 With sweeter manners, purer laws.
 Ring out the want, the care of sin,
 The faithless coldness of the times;
 Ring out, ring out my mournful rhymes,
 But ring the fuller minstrel in.
 Ring out false pride in place and blood,
 The civic slander and the spite;
 Ring in the love of truth of love and right,
 Ring in the common love of good.
 Ring out old shapes of foul disease,
 Ring out the narrowing lust of gold;
 Ring out the thousand wars of old,
 Ring in the thousand years of peace.
 Ring in the valiant man and free,
 The larger heart, the kindlier hand;
 Ring out the darkness of the land,
 Ring in the Christ that is to be.

Alfred, Lord Tennyson

NOMINATIONS & ELECTION OF 2010 OFFICERS

The Nominating Committee chaired by Compatriot John Dodd and assisted by Rex Shannon and Dan Henry, have come up with the following slate for 2010. They are President-Jim Fosdyck, Vice-President-David Siler, Corresponding Secretary-Jim Wallace, Recording Secretary Jim Blauer, Treasurer-Arthur Koehler, Registrar-Kent Gregory, and Chaplain Richard Adams.

If you are interested in one of these positions you may be nominated from the floor at the December

meeting when the elections will take place. Installation will take place at our January Meeting.

PRESIDENTIAL APPOINTMENTS

If you are wanting to get involved, but do not want to be an officer, there are several positions that are appointed by the President at the January Meeting. If you see one you are interested in contact Chairman Dodd and let him know as the Nominating Committee makes recommendations to the President on filling these appointed positions.

These positions include; Historian/Archivist, Chancellor, Parliamentarian, Sergeant-at-Arms, Newsletter Editor, Medals & Awards Chairman, Eagle Scout Chairman, Information Technology Chairman, Activity Contest Chairman, Valley Forge Project Chairman, Parade Chairman, JROTC/ROTC Chairman, Publicity Chairman and Veterans Chairman/Liaison.

The President reserves the right to appoint a chairman to any other committee or position that may become available at any time during his tenure of office.

So, for those of you who would like to become a bit more involved in the activities of your chapter, here is your opportunity to get involved and make a contribution to your chapter and the society.

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS GIFT EXCHANGE

In order to avoid the confusion arising in the previous years regarding the conduct of the Annual Christmas Gift Exchange, your President has decreed that this year, we will follow the ancient rules first established by the Order of the Little Sisters of Saint Zsa Zsa, the Patron saint of cheap, but delightful gifts. These unworldly, but wise nuns first set down these rules in the year 1327 AD at their secluded convent near Zsotywachtz, a small, but charming village inn rural Hungary, noted for its production of inexpensive but potent varietal red table wines and overly pungent cheeses. For centuries, the rules were passed down by word of mouth, for the nuns had taken a vow of illiteracy. However, in the 16th century, a new abbess decreed that the pen was mightier than the tongue, and a vow of silence was instituted in lieu of the earlier restriction. At that time it became necessary to commit the rules to parchment.

Around 1653, an unauthorized copy was smuggled out of the convent in a wheel of cheese by a

disgruntled defrocked nun and eventually reached Western Europe and then the New World. Over the centuries, the archaic rules have changed little except for the recognition that males (previously forbidden to enter the convent) may now be participants in the gift exchange, and for currency conversions. The rules are as follows:

1. Each person wishing to participate will bring one gender-neutral \$10 gift (wrapped) to be placed on the Gift Table. A drawing ticket will be issued to each gift bringer. A couple may elect to bring one or two gifts, receiving one ticket for each gift.

2. The drawing will proceed as follows;

a. The first ticket will be drawn from the Ben Franklin box. The holder of the matching ticket stub will select and unwrap a gift from the gift table.

b. A second ticket will be drawn. The holder of the matching ticket stub may elect either to "steal" the gift unwrapped by the first person, or to select and unwrap a new gift.

c. If the second person "steals" the gift from the first person, the first person will then select and unwrap a new gift.

d. A third ticket will then be drawn. The holder of the matching ticket stub may elect either to "steal" either of the gifts already unwrapped or to select and unwrap another gift.

e. The drawing and gift selections and "thefts" will continue in this manner until everyone has a gift.

f. For each person from whom a gift is "stolen" they will immediately elect either to "steal any one of the other gifts already opened (subject to rules "g" & "h") or to select and open a new gift.

g. If the holder of the matching stub of the last ticket to be drawn "steals" a gift rather than take the last remaining gift, the person from whom the gift was "stolen" shall receive the last remaining wrapped gift, and the drawing will be complete.

h. No person may "steal" back a gift which was previously "stolen" from him/her.

i. No individual gift may be "stolen" more than three times.

j. Ostentatious vocal displays of wonderment and delight are encouraged at the time of the opening of a gift. Complainers will be ostracized by their fellow Compatriots and their guests.

k. The President shall act as referee, and any issues arising will be resolved by his wisdom, with no further appeal.

STATE MEETING

On November 12-14, Compatriots and family members from all over the state met at the Mission Inn in Riverside for the 134th Fall Board of Managers Meeting.

Following our check in on the afternoon of the 12th we were able to take advantage of the hospitality suite, where we met up with friends from around the state and got reacquainted. That evening a group of us went over to Art's Bar & Grill where we had dinner.

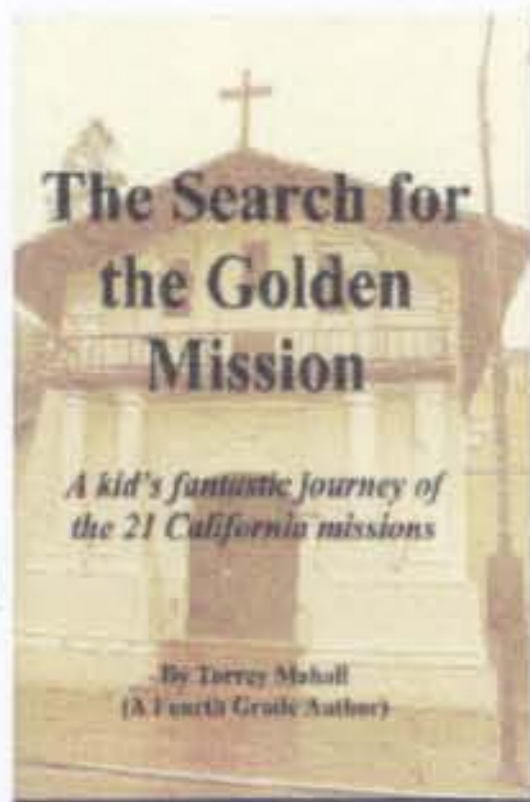
On Friday Morning the meeting got underway. Reports were given by officers and chapters. That afternoon we headed over to the Spaghetti Factory where we held the Community Service Awards Luncheon. Police, Fire and Heroism awards were presented to local officers in these departments. The Law Enforcement Commendation Medal was presented to retired detective Vic Poisson of the Riverside Police Department. The Fire Safety Commendation Medal was presented to Fire Fighter Steve Loner and Paramedic Fire Fighter Matt Stibal of the Riverside Fire Department. The Heroism Medal was presented by President General Ed Butler to Mr. John McDonald of Los Angeles. He had pulled a child out of a burning car on the freeway.

Friday evening was either dinner on your own or if you were invited to the President General's Dinner you walked across the street from the hotel to Mario's Restaurant. State President Lou Carlson gave a toast to President General Ed Butler prior to the dinner being served.

Saturday morning we continued with the second session of our meeting finishing up reports and going over the budget before lunch. The Valley Forge Luncheon was held in the Spanish Art Gallery at the hotel. Here one of the participants in the Valley Forge seminar, Shirley Judy, gave a power point presentation on her trip and the lectures and



Entrance to the Mission Inn in Riverside.



Torrey Mahall was a fourth grader when she wrote her book on the California Missions, but did so in a mystery format to keep it from being boring.

tours she took. She was presented with the Good Citizenship pin and certificate.

Also recognized was a fifth grade student Torrey Mahall from Woodcrest Elementary School in Riverside. In the fourth grade she with her family made trips all over the state to eventually visit all the California Missions. The result was a book entitled, "The Search for the Golden Mission" in which she gives us a tour of the missions but with a mystery story as a background to keep it interesting. President Lou Carlson presented Torrey with the Good Citizenship pin and Certificate. Following the luncheon anyone who wished to purchase a copy of the book for \$10.00 could do so. She autographed each one.

Saturday evening the banquet was held. Here we were treated to a group of colonial dancers and an unexpected visit by General George Washington. The hi-light for your chapter came when our own Jim Quinnelly was presented the Patriot Medal by President Lou Carlson. This is the highest award the state can present a member for his service to either the chapter, state or both. Those there from the Orange County Chapter to support Jim were Lou & Karen Carlson, Larry & Barbara Magerkurth, John & Karen Dodd, David, Lynette and Karen Siler, Jim & Un Hui Yi Fosdyck, Jim Wallace, Jim Blauer and Kent & Lisa Gregory. A very good turnout from your chapter.

Your Color Guard was also present. Jim Fosdyck, Kent Gregory and Jim Blauer were there in their Lee's Legion uniforms for the opening of the meetings, the luncheons and banquet.

The meeting next April is planned for Sacramento. More details will be forthcoming as the time nears for that meeting.

EAGLE SCOUTS

We received the latest installment of names of recent Eagles in Early November. This batch covers the period from Early June to Mid November.

Chairman Jim Blauer has finished and mailed these 214 new Certificates of Recognition. This will bring our overall total to over 8,650 Eagle Certificates issued to date.

We have not as yet received any applications for the Eagle Scout Scholarship Contest, though there have been some inquiries. They have until the first week of December to get their applications in so that a winner can be selected by our December meeting

DUES DUE

Yes it is that time when we need to send in our annual dues to Secretary Jim Wallace. Because National raised the fee at Congress this last year it is now \$63.00 to cover, National(\$30), State(\$18) and chapter(\$15) dues. Those who have a Life Membership do not need to send any dues in, but that does not preclude one from making a donation to the chapter. Should you wish to make a donation you may even designate it for a specific purpose. This could include, Medals & Certificates, Eagle Scout Certificates and Medals, Newsletter costs, financial awards to Essay or Poster winners in our contests or to the general fund to name a few.

If you feel you might want to convert from an annual member to a Life Member there are three levels depending on ones age. If you are between 18-54 it is \$1000, which can be done in four annual installments of \$250. If you are 55-74 it is \$750 or three installments of \$250. If you are 75 or older it is \$500 or two installments of \$250. At present the Orange County chapter has one of the largest numbers of Life Members. Over 30. That is almost half of our membership. It is something to think about for your future with the SAR.

PROCLAMATION

December 12, 2009

The National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution takes great pride in sharing this day with our Partners in Patriotism, the veterans in each of the seven services whom we are honoring at this event. Today marks an important remembrance of these American Heroes who served their country in the military and , in many instances, gave their lives on the battlefield to preserve democracy and freedom. While our words will long be forgotten, the heroic deeds of the service men and women who have served or who will serve our nation will long be remembered.

We descendants of the patriots of the War of

Independence, represented by our membership in the Sons of the American Revolution, share a common bond with those men and women who are interred in this cemetery. It is fitting to remember them, as well as the colonial men and women who dared to declare themselves independent from their British ruler to establish the United States of America.

We Americans who are here today are the beneficiaries of that legacy, regardless of our own heritage and ethnic origins. It would be fitting of us to remember a loved one or perhaps an ancestor who made the sacrifice that brought honor and peace to our nation.

The National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution is honored to be represented at the national cemeteries and monuments across the nation as participants in the patriotic memorial to our fallen heroes. We are proud to be a part of all Americans who have come here today to remember these dedicated men and women.

God Bless America,

Ed Butler

Hon. Edward F. Butler, Esq.

President General(2009-2010)

JAMES OTIS

James Otis was born on February 5, 1725 in Barnstable, Massachusetts to James and Mary (Allyne) Otis. He was the oldest of thirteen children, of which several had died in infancy. He was fifth generation of descent from John Otis who had settled in Hingham, Massachusetts in 1635.

James received his early education under the tutelage of the Reverend Jonathan Russell of Barnstable, who prepared young James for college. James went to Harvard and graduated in 1743. For the next two years he studied literature, then in 1745 moved on to study law in the office of one of the most distinguished lawyers in the country at that time, Jeremiah Gridley. James began his own practice in Plymouth in 1748. With not much business in the Plymouth area, he moved to Boston in 1750. His business boomed in Boston. His reputation for eloquence in oratory became well known and in conjunction with his learning and integrity was held in high esteem. His reputation was so well known that he was called to as far away as Halifax to act as Counsel for three men charged with piracy. He was able to obtain an acquittal for these men and as a result was paid the



James Otis

Engraving from an
Alonzo Chappel Portrait

largest fee that had ever been paid to a Massachusetts lawyer.

He continued his literature studies and in 1760 published "Rudiments of Latin Prosody". This became one of the text books used at Harvard. He did one on Greek Prosody, but remained in manuscript form and was lost before it could be published.

In 1755 he married Ruth Cunningham who was the daughter of a Boston merchant. They had three children. James their only son died at age 18. Their elder daughter, Elizabeth, married Captain Brown of the British army and ended her days in England. The younger daughter, Mary, married Benjamin Lincoln son of Gem Lincoln. Though happily married James Otis' wife did not support him in his political career. She was a staunch loyalist to her death in 1789.

James Otis, Jr. began his political career in 1761. This followed the death of Judge Sewall in 1760 and the appointment of Thomas Hutchinson by Governor Bernard to replace him. James Sr had hoped for this position. This angered both father and son.

The same year Judge Sewall died George III ascended to the throne of England. It was decided that the Navigation Acts needed to be enforced, which had been evaded by colonial shipmasters and merchants for years. One of the Boston Revenue officers requested a Writ of Assistance from the superior court so that they could enter homes or shops to search for smuggled goods. This without specifying the specific homes to be searched or the goods they were looking for. This was all very legal having been authorized under statutes approved under both Charles II and William the III. At this

time James Otis, Jr. held the crown office of advocate-general from which he received a very nice salary and promotion possibilities to higher office. When a revenue officer requested that he defend them and their actions under the navigation acts, James Otis resigned his office and became counsel for the merchants of Boston in their protest against these searches.

When the case went to court it was tried at the Old State House and Chief Justice Hutchinson presided. Jeremiah Gridley the man who taught Otis the law, gave a powerful speech on behalf of the crown. Otis' reply took five hours of oratory, becoming known as one of the greatest speeches of that time. He went past the legal issue and spoke on the Constitutional relationship between England and her colonies. Part of that was did the colonists have to yield to laws that they had no say in making. It was because of this argument and the negative response it received that John Adams who was at these proceedings declared that on that day "the child of Independence was born."

Hutchinson sought the advice from the law officers of the Crown in London before rendering his decision. They instructed him to grant the writs, which added to the spirit that Otis' speech had aroused. In May of 1761 Otis was elected to the legislature. One of his first acts was to oppose the reimbursement of expenses incurred by Governor Bernard on a naval expedition to the northeast. Mr. Otis was taken to task on this stand, which he replied to in his "The Rights of the Colonies Asserted and Proved" in 1764. Here he espoused that where public money was concerned that it rested in the colonial legislature to decide as much as it did in the House of Commons in England. He argued that without colonial representation in Parliament, they could not be "taxed without their consent."

With the Parliament passing the Stamp Act in 1765, Otis called in June for the colonies to meet and decide what should be done about this act. The Stamp Act Congress met in New York in October. He was not only a member of this Congress, but was placed on the committee to draft an address to parliament on the subject.

Though elected to be Speaker of the assembly in 1767, Governor Bernard vetoed that election. Upon hearing of the Charles Townshend's revenue acts, he prepared a circular, the Otis-Adams Circular

Letter of 1768, to be sent to all the colonies to put on a united resistance against these acts. When Governor Bernard demanded the circular be recalled, Otis informed the governor that the House stood on a vote of 92 to 17 in favor of the circular. The king was considerably offended by Otis' circular and informed Governor Bernard that if the assembly did not rescind this circular they were to be dismissed. In the assembly there was debate at which time Otis replied, "We are asked to rescind, are we! Let Great Britain rescind her measures, or the colonies are lost to her forever."

Having gotten in to a disagreement with revenue officers in the Summer of 1769, he satirized them in the Boston Gazette. A couple evenings later while relaxing at the British coffee house, he was assaulted by John Robinson who was a commissioner of customs. Mr. Robinson was supported by army and navy officers. Otis was severely beaten and received a sword cut to the head from which he would never fully recover. Though he won his suit against Robinson in the sum of 2000 Pounds, he refused the money after a public apology was issued by the commissioner. For all intents and purposes his public career was pretty much at an end. Though reelected to the legislature in 1771 and seen at public meetings he was not able to participate. By 1775, considered harmlessly insane, he was living at the home of his sister, Nancy Warren, in Watertown.

On June 17 having heard of a battle, he snuck out, borrowed a musket and joined the minutemen enroute to fight at Bunker Hill. He fought in this battle and by midnight had returned home.

The remaining years were spent in Andover. In 1778 he did argue a case in Boston, but the exertion was too much and shortly he returned to Andover. On May 23, 1783, he was visiting a friend, Isaac Osgood, and while standing in the doorway during a thunder storm, Otis was struck by lightning and killed.

Merry
Christmas

Photo Album

December 2009

State Meeting



At left, Lou Carlson speaks at the Community Awards Luncheon on Friday.

At right, President General Ed Butler makes a wreath presentation at the Medal of Honor section of the Riverside National Cemetery. In the back are Color Guardsmen Jim Fosdyck, Jim Blauer, Kent Gregory and National Color Guard Commander Joe Dooley.



Above in the Hospitality suite are Un Yi & Jim Fosdyck, unknown member, Dave Siler and Lou Carlson. Below Lou Carlson presents Torrey Mahall a Good Citizenship Pin and Certificate for her book she wrote on the Missions of California while in fourth grade,



Above, Jim Blauer(center) served in the Color Guard at the Valley Forge Luncheon on Saturday. Below Chapter members, The President General and Paul Hayes gather to congratulate Jim Quinnelly(seated second from left) on receiving the Patriot Medal from President Lou Carlson. Congratulations Jim!!! A very well deserved honor for your years of service.



Photo Album

December 09-2
State Meeting
Orange County Chapter Couples



Lou & Karen Carlson



Kent & Lisa Gregory

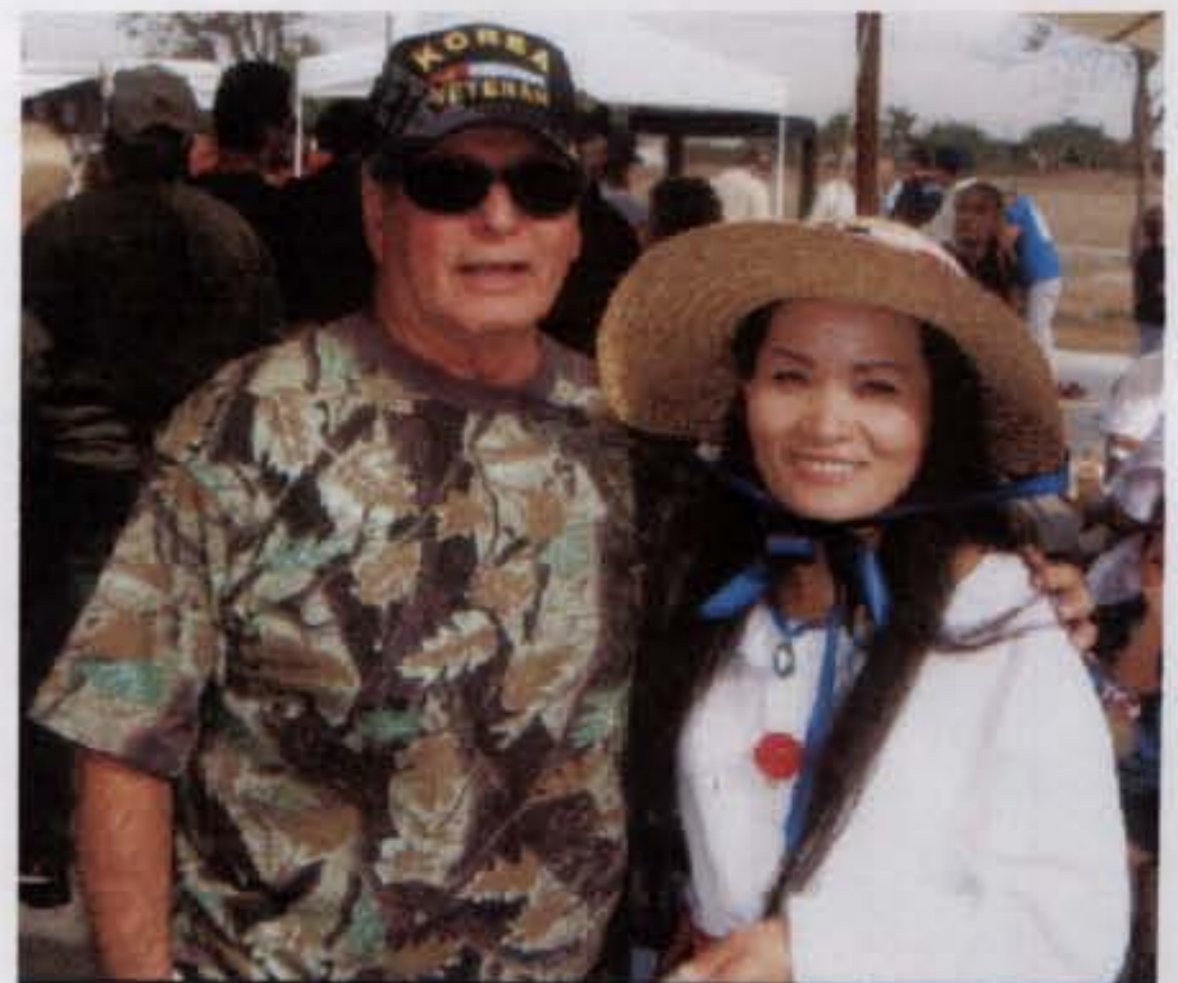


Jim & Un Yi Fosdyck



Larry & Barbara Magerkurth


Jim & Un Yi Fosdyck met with our soldiers at the Los Alamitos Base on Veteran's Day last month.





**THE 28th ANNUAL GEORGE WASHINGTON MASSING
OF THE COLORS AND SALUTE TO OUR ARMED FORCES**

Sponsored by:
**The Sons of Liberty Chapter
Sons of the American Revolution**



**Held at: Forest Lawn Memorial Park
6300 Forest Lawn Drive, Los Angeles
Sunday, 3:00 p.m. - February 21st, 2010**

**This is the 28th Annual Massing of the Colors and is the largest celebration of George Washington's birth held in California. The ceremonies include:
An U.S. Air Force "Fly by"- Pass-in-review of 50-plus color guards - artillery salute - 21-gun musket salute - wreath laying ceremony - addresses by dignitaries - music by the Mountain Fifes and Drums.**

Participation is open to all Military, Veterans, Lineage Societies, Patriotic and Reenactment Organizations

**If you wish to participate please contact:
our event coordinator Melvin M. Harrell
1.909.855.4428 - melvin@patriot1776.com**

