

MUSKETS & BROADSWORD

Orange County Chapter Sons of the American Revolution

November 2009

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MEETING INFORMATION

When: November 7, 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 salutations throughout the land and a Happy Thanksgiving to one and all! Well, here we are, heading into the holiday season full speed ahead. One of the many things on the plate right now are the chapter nominations, which are due by October 31st. From that pool of nominees, the nominating committee will then present a slate of officers at the November meeting and elections will then be held at the December meeting. The best of luck to all those who are running for an office in 2010. The State 135th Board of Managers Annual Meeting at the historic Mission Inn in Riverside is coming up quickly and I want to encourage those of you who have not yet reserved your spot at a luncheon or the Saturday evening Banquet to do so. This will be our last chance for a state meeting in Southern California for a year and a half. Let's all show our State President Lou Carlson that we really are the best mid-size chapter in the entire state of California!

The Color Guard was busy as usual in October. They started out the month mustering in at the "Marching Through History Exposition" in Chino. After being drawn into a skirmish with some redcoats, both Jims were slain on the field of battle. Rumor has it, their muskets wouldn't fire. (I am finding that very hard to believe). Color Guard Commander Jim Blauer then resurrected from the battlefield and carried the SAR colors in the Parade of Troops, marching with everyone from Roman to Vietnam Soldiers. They then went on and again carried the colors in the Korean Festival Parade in Garden Grove. We salute you all and we thank you for representing your SAR Chapter and your country so faithfully throughout the year.

Our speaker this month will be Sons of Liberty Chapter President Doug Bradley, who will talk to us about issues involving military veterans.

David R. Siler

When President George Washington submitted his Thanksgiving Proclamation to the Massachusetts *Centinel* for publication on October 14, 1789, the new "DAY OF PUBLICK THANKSGIVING and PRAYER" was to fall on the 26th of November of that year. Since ours falls on the 26th this year, I thought it fitting to leave you with an excerpt from the Thanksgiving Proclamation.

"NOW THEREFORE, I do recommend and assign THURSDAY, the TWENTY-SIXTH DAY of NOVEMBER next, to be devoted by the people of these States to the service of that great and glorious Being who is the beneficent author of all the good that was, that is, or that will be; that we may all unite in rendering unto Him our sincere and humble thanks for His kind care and protection of the people of their positions of His providence in the course and conclusion of the late war; for the great degree of tranquility, union, and plenty which we have since enjoyed; for the peaceable and rationale manner for which we have been enable to establish

Constitutions of government for our safety and happiness, and particularly the national one now lately instituted; for the civil and religious liberty with which we are blessed, and the means we have of acquiring and diffusing useful knowledge; and, in general, for all the great and various favours which He has been pleased to confer upon us. And also, that we may then unite in most humbly offering our prayers and supplications to the great Lord and Ruler of Nations and beseech Him to pardon our national and other transgressions; to enable us all, whether in publick or private stations, to perform our several and relative duties properly and punctually; to render our National Government a blessing to all the people by constantly being a government of wise, just, and constitutional laws, discreetly and faithfully executed and obeyed; to protect and guide all sovereigns and nations, especially such as have shewn kindness unto us; and to bless them with good governments, peace, and concord; to promote the knowledge and practice of true religion and virtue, and the increase of science among them and us; and, generally to grant unto all mankind such a degree of temporal prosperity as he alone knows to be best.

GIVEN under my hand, at the city of New-York, the third day of October, in the year of our Lord, one thousand seven hundred and eighty-nine."

G. Washington

SPEAKER DOUG BRADLEY

Mr. Bradley started his professional career in Human Resources with the JCPenney Company. While with JCPenney he took a military leave of absence and served with Headquarters - 6th Army. After twenty two years with JCPenney he accepted a position with the Isuzu Companies as Director of Employee Financial Programs for the North American operation. He was with Isuzu for thirteen years.

After leaving Isuzu in 2001 he dedicated his career to managing non-profit organizations which supported US Military Veterans. He is currently the Executive Director, AMVETS Service Foundation. The Foundation is a fifty million dollar corporation which provides grants for veteran related projects primarily for veteran hospitals and medical centers. In addition the Foundation also provides VA hospitals and medical centers with "Certified" Service Officers who assist all veterans with filing



A member of Washington's Guards shows young recruits how the rifle works.

VA hospital treatment and filing veteran claims. This year the Foundation will assist California veterans in receiving more than \$264 million dollars in benefits. Mr. Bradley and his organization also work closely with returning active duty military personnel (OIF, OEF, GWT) throughout California and Nevada. He also serves as the Vice Chairman for Orange Counties Veteran Advisory Council. This is a Supervisor Appointment. Please join us on November 7th as we hear Doug Bradley speak on issues related to returning veterans here in Orange County. In many ways, the issues we face today are not much different that what families faced after the Revolutionary War

MARCHING THROUGH HISTORY EXPOSITION

The Marching Through History Exposition has been an annual event for over 10 years. When it first appeared back in the 1990s, Compatriots Jim & Sue Shadwick & Jim Blauer attended the first one held at the Irvine Park. Though there was a promise of battles, none were seen. What was seen at that time was a lot of military hardware. Planes, helicopters, tanks and jeeps were there. They let you sit in the drivers seat and opened up to see the inner workings of these vehicles.

Several years ago our Compatriot Larry Magerkurth took his colonial era woodworking tools to the exposition and with Barbara as his helper put on a display of how our ancestors would have worked in wood. His efforts so impressed the organizers of the event that they on the spot created the Educational Award for which he received a First Place streamer. That streamer was placed on our Lee's Legion Flag at the subsequent Massing of the Colors.

This year Jim & Un Hui Fosdyck and Jim Blauer attended the Exposition on Sunday October 4th and participated in the Color Guard and battle against the redcoats. The redcoats had defeated the colonials on Saturday, but with our Jim's there we were able to

President David Siler presents Karen Richards and Un Hui Fosdyck with the Oak Leaf Cluster to their Martha Washington Medal.



defeat the redcoats.

The Revolutionary War participants that were represented there included; our colonial troop, the Redcoats and Morgan's Rangers. Each group had its own camp. At the Colonials encampment there was a tent set up to register young recruits for the cause. They signed a book and filled out an enlistment paper that was signed by the enlisting officer and then presented to General Washington for his signature.

At the camp young recruits were educated in the use of both rifle and hand guns used by the colonial soldiers.

One could go from camp to camp and speak with members of the Roman Legions, Knights of the Middle Ages, Civil War(Blue & Gray) soldiers, Rough Riders, WWI, WWII and Vietnam Soldiers and see the kinds of equipment they used.

This is the type of educational experience you can not get in the schools. Something you might want to consider as a day outing with the family next year. Bring a picnic lunch and you can watch the various battle reenactments they have during this two day event.

OCTOBER MEETING

At our October 10th meeting our color guard was present. Jim Blauer, Kent Gregory and Jim Fosdyck presented the colors for the chapter meeting. Following the meeting they would be heading for Garden Grove to participate in the Korean Festival Parade.

Those of you who were unable to attend the meeting, missed a wonderful talk by Mayflower Society's Governor General Judy Swan on the *Women of the Mayflower*. Made even more relevant by the story of Sybil Luddington, a Mayflower descendant, who assisted in the Patriot Cause. When word came that the British were approaching, she was sent to ride the countryside all night long and inform the men who fought under her father to gather at their farm as they would encounter the British near there. Everyone

was able to get to the farm before daylight and were successful in holding off the British.

President Siler made several presentations. Our Speaker was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation. Karen Richards and Un Hui Fosdyck were presented the Oak Leaf Cluster to their Martha Washington Medals for the work they have done for the chapter. Karen has been instrumental in her work with the Poster Contest at Whittmann Elementary School. Un Hui videoed the State Meeting we held in April and takes photos at our meetings and other events as well as helping out with the Ben Franklin Raffle. Thank you ladies!!!

Arthur Koehler was presented the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal for his work in giving tours to school children at Independence Hall at Knott's Berry Farm. He has given over 100 tours to young people. Good work Arthur!!!

President Siler announced that Jon Vreeland was taking over as the new Flag Certificate Chairman. President Siler thanked Compatriot Jim Fosdyck who took this position on at the beginning of his term and got our program off the ground.

KOREAN FESTIVAL PARADE

This was the 26th Annual Korean Festival Parade held in Garden Grove. Thanks to Jim & Un Hui Fosdyck it was our first time in this parade and a successful appearance at that.

We were placed at the beginning of the parade. As we passed the reviewing stand our unit was announced as the "Official Color Guard of the Korean Festival Parade".

While Jim B., Kent and Jim F., were out in front, Un Hui was back a ways with her Korean Dance troupe that marched in the parade. She had her own drum that she kept time with as they marched in the parade.

Following the parade there was food and entertainment. There were also a flock of awards handed out for the various bands and participants. Your Orange County Chapter, Lee's Legion Color Guard took First Place in the Color Guard(Over 21) Division!!! We received a very nice trophy.

After the Awards Ceremonies, the Korean dancers with our own Un Hui Fosdyck performed on stage. Their dress(of which there were several changes) were bright and colorful and added to their graceful movements on stage.

We were joined by the Jim & Joann Wallace and

Suki Adams and her daughter as we traipsed through the various booths to find our dinner for the evening.

Hopefully we can get more members out should we do this again next year.

NOMINATIONS FOR 2010

If you have been wanting to take an more active role in your chapter and its doings, you may want to consider holding office. Past President John Dodd is the Chairman of the Nominating Committee and is in the process of putting a slate together for electing to serve in 2010.

The elected offices include; President, Vice-President, Corresponding Secretary, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, Registrar and Chaplain.

If one of these elected offices does not appeal to you maybe one of the appointed positions does. The appointed offices or committee chairs are: Historian/ Archivist, Chancellor, Parliamentarian, Sergeant-at-Arms, Newsletter Editor, Medals & Awards Chairman, Eagle Scout Chairman, Information Technology Chairman, Activity Contest Chairman, Essay Contest Chairman, Valley Forge Project Chairman, Parade Chairman, JROTC/ROTC Awards Chairman, Color Guard Commander, Publicity Chairman, Nominating Committee Chairman, and Flag Certificate Award Chairman.

These are filled by Presidential appointment when the President is installed at the January meeting. If you are interested in any of these positions you should contact John Dodd at johnldodd@earthlink.net for consideration.

Nominations for elective office will be announced at the November 7th meeting. The election will occur at our December meeting following any nominations from the floor. Installation of our officers for 2010 will take place at our January meeting.

The President will make his appointment after installation at the January meeting. The Nominating Committee will make a list of recommendations to the President for the appointive offices.

DUES ARE DUE

For those members who are annual members, it is that time of year when you will be hearing from Corresponding Secretary Jim Wallace with your dues notice. You will notice that the National dues has gone up to \$30, a five dollar increase over last

year. Please take care of this as soon as possible as Jim has to have all dues monies ready to send to State and National by December 1st.

For those annual members who are concerned over the dues increase, there is a way to avoid future increases in dues. That would be a Life Membership. The State Society has a three tiered program for those considering getting a Life membership for themselves or giving one to a family member.

Members 18-54 would pay \$1,000 which can be done in four installments of \$250. Those age 55 to 74 would pay \$750 or three installments of \$250. Those age 75 and above would pay \$500 or two installments of \$250.

Your Orange County chapter has one of the highest percentages of Life Members in the state.. Because they do not have to pay dues, State President Lou Carlson noted that these members could make a donation to the chapter if they would be so inclined. Donations can be designated for general purposes or for specific programs like the Essay or Poster Contest, the Eagle Scout Program, or newsletter to name a few. Something to think about. If you are interested contact Secretary Jim Wallace about our Life Membership program.

AMAZON.COM

Those of you who use this website to make purchases will find that there will soon be an arrangement with the SAR. Members will be able to purchase from Amazon.com with a link that will be placed on the National website under Member Services tab. Purchases made by members will generate funds for the Society.

BOARD OF MANAGERS MEETING

The Fall Board of Managers meeting will take place in Riverside at the Historic Mission Inn on November 13th & 14th.

Those wishing to may make reservations with the Mission Inn for their stay. Check out the Summer issue of the California Compatriot which can be found at the state website: www.californiasar.org. You will find all the necessary information for both hotel accommodations and Registration for the meeting and meals. If you are just interested in coming for the meals, they can be paid for separately. Contact Charlie Gentis of the Riverside Chapter for registration and meals payment. He is at gentis061@sbcglobal.net or you can phone him at

1(951)371-5895.

COMPATRIOTS AT JOINT LUNCHEON

On Saturday October 3, President David Siler, Vice-President Jim Fosdyck and wife Un Hui, Recording Secretary Jim Blauer and past Chapter Registrar Jim Quinnelly attended the joint meeting of the California Society of Colonial Wars, the California Society of the War of 1812, the Southern California Branch Sons & Daughters of the Pilgrims, Sons of Liberty Chapter, SAR and First Families of Maryland at the Los Angeles Athletic Club in LA.

THANKSGIVING IN AMERICA

The first Thanksgiving days were actually harvest festivals. These were events held to give thanks for the bountiful crops harvested in the fall. Which is why even today it is held at this time of year.

This celebration has been going on for thousands of years in many countries the world over. Our own probably came from the harvest-home celebrations in England.

One of the first Thanksgivings in America was entirely religious in nature without any feasting. It was held on December 4, 1619. Thirty-nine English settlers arrived at Berkeley Plantation on the James River near what is now Charles City, Virginia. It was required by the group's charter that the day of arrival be observed annually as a day of Thanksgiving to God.

The first Thanksgiving in New England is probably the most famous. Following the fruitful harvest of 1621, Governor William Bradford ordered four men to go a fowling so that they might celebrate this special occasion. They had planned a three day feast and went so far as to invite their Indian friends of the Wampanoag Tribe and Chief Massasoit. Little did they expect that they would have to feed 90 guests on top of their own. Upon arrival the chief sent his men out hunting and they returned with 5 deer for the feast. There were games of skill and strength in which the colonists and Indians participated in. This custom of giving thanks after the harvest spread to other New England Colonies.

During the American Revolution there were several times when a day of thanksgiving was proclaimed by Congress(See Proclamations that follow).

In 1789 President George Washington issued a Proclamation naming November 26th as a National Day of Thanksgiving. That same year the Protestant Episcopal Church announced the first Thursday in November would be an annual day of celebration in giving thanks.

From Washington in 1789 up through the presidency of James Madison there was a Presidential Proclamation for giving thanks. From 1816 through 1861 there were no proclamations by our Presidents. There was no National Holiday. Some States had observances, but others did not. It was in 1830 that the State of New York established an official Thanksgiving Day. This was followed by other Northern states. Virginia was the first Southern State to make such a proclamation in 1855.

Mrs. Sarah Josepha Hale, editor of Godey's Lady's Book, tried for many years to get a national Thanksgiving Day. In 1861 Jefferson Davis issued a proclamation for the Confederate States of America as a Day of Fasting and Humiliation. In 1862 Davis issued another one for Victory in battle and there was also one by President Lincoln for the same reason. In 1863 Lincoln issued two proclamations. One following the victory at Gettysburg setting aside August 6th as a day of Thanksgiving. Then on October 3rd he issued the first in an unbroken line of Presidential Proclamations for Thanksgiving. His proclamation set aside the fourth Thursday in November as "a day of thanksgiving for the Praise of our beneficent Father". Since that proclamation every president in every year since has issued a Thanksgiving Proclamation. For the first 75 years the President proclaimed the last Thursday in November shall be celebrated as Thanksgiving Day.

In 1939 President Franklin D. Roosevelt set it one week earlier. He wanted to help business by lengthening the shopping period before Christmas.

Congress ruled in 1941 that the fourth Thursday in November would be observed as Thanksgiving Day and would be a legal Federal Holiday.

IN CONGRESS November 1, 1777

FORASMUCH as it is the indispensable Duty of all Men to adore the superintending Providence of Almighty God; to acknowledge with Gratitude their Obligation to him for Benefits received, and to implore such farther Blessings as they stand in Need of: And it having pleased him in his abundant Mercy, not only to continue to us the innumerable

Bounties of his common Providence; but also to smile upon us in the Prosecution of a just and necessary War, for the Defense and Establishment of our unalienable Rights and Liberties; particularly in that he hath been pleased, in so great a Measure, to prosper the Means used for the Support of our Troops, and to crown our Arms with most signal success:

It is therefore recommended to the legislative or executive Powers of these UNITED STATES to set apart THURSDAY, the eighteenth Day of December next, for SOLEMN THANKSGIVING and PRAISE: That at one Time and with one Voice, the good People may express the grateful Feelings of their Hearts, and consecrate themselves to the Service of their Divine Benefactor; and that, together with their sincere Acknowledgments and Offerings, they may join the penitent Confession of their manifold Sins, whereby they had forfeited every Favor; and their humble and earnest Supplication that it may please GOD through the Merits of JESUS CHRIST, mercifully to forgive and blot them out of Remembrance; That it may please him graciously to afford his Blessing on the Governments of these States respectively, and prosper the public Council of the whole: To inspire our Commanders, both by Land and Sea, and all under them, with that Wisdom and Fortitude which may render them fit Instruments, under the Providence of Almighty GOD, to secure for these United States, the greatest of all human Blessings, INDEPENDENCE and PEACE: That it may please him, to prosper the Trade and Manufactures of the People, and the Labor of the Husbandman, that our Land may yield its Increase: To take Schools and Seminaries of Education, so necessary for cultivating the Principles of true Liberty, Virtue and Piety, under his nurturing Hand; and to prosper the Means of Religion, for the promotion and enlargement of that Kingdom, which consisteth "in Righteousness, Peace and Joy in the Holy Ghost."

And it is further recommended, That servile Labor, and such Recreation, as, though at other Times innocent, may be unbecoming the Purpose of this Appointment, be omitted on so solemn an Occasion.

1778 By the United States in Congress assembled A PROCLAMATION.

It having pleased Almighty God, through the course of the present year, to bestow great and

manifold mercies on the people of these United States; and it being the indispensable duty of all men gratefully to acknowledge their obligations to Him for benefits received:

Resolved, That it be, and hereby is recommended to the legislative or executive authority of each of the said states, to appoint Wednesday, the 30th day of December next, to be observed as a day of public thanksgiving and praise, that all the people may, with united hearts, on that day, express a just sense of his unmerited favors; particularly in that it hath pleased him, by his overruling providence, to support us in a just and necessary war, for the defense of our rights and liberties, by affording us seasonable supplies for our armies, by disposing the heart of a powerful monarch to enter into alliance with us, and aid our cause; by defeating the councils and evil designs of our enemies, and giving us victory over their troops; and, by the continuance of that union among these states, which, by his blessing, will be their future strength and glory.

And it is further recommended, that, together with devout thanksgiving, may be joined a penitent confession of our sins, and humble supplication for pardon, through the merits of our Savior; so that, under the smiles of Heaven, our public councils may be directed, our arms by land and sea prospered, our liberty and independence secured, our schools and seminaries of learning flourish, our trade be revived, our husbandry and manufactures increased, and the hearts of all impressed with undissembled piety, with benevolence and zeal for the public good.

And it is also recommended, that recreations unsuitable to the purpose of such a solemnity may be omitted on that day.

Done in Congress, this 17th day of November, 1778, and in the third year of the independence of the United States of America.

1779 By the United States in Congress assembled A PROCLAMATION.

Whereas it becomes us humbly to approach the throne of Almighty God, with gratitude and praise for the wonders which his goodness has wrought in conducting our forefathers to this western world; for his protection to them and to their posterity amid difficulties and dangers; for raising us, their children, from deep distress to be numbered among the nations of the earth; and for arming the hands of just and mighty princes in our deliverance; and especially for that he hath been pleased to grant us

the enjoyment of health, and so to order the revolving seasons, that the earth hath produced her increase in abundance, blessing the labors of the husbandmen, and spreading plenty through the land; that he hath prospered our arms and those of our ally; been a shield to our troops in the hour of danger, pointed their swords to victory and led them in triumph over the bulwarks of the foe; that he hath gone with those who went out into the wilderness against the savage tribes; that he hath stayed the hand of the spoiler, and turned back his meditated destruction; that he hath prospered our commerce, and given success to those who sought the enemy on the face of the deep; and above all, that he hath diffused the glorious light of the gospel, whereby, through the merits of our gracious Redeemer, we may become the heirs of his eternal glory: therefore,

Resolved, That it be recommended to the several states, to appoint Thursday, the 9th of December next, to be a day of public and solemn thanksgiving to Almighty God for his mercies, and of prayer for the continuance of his favor and protection to these United States; to beseech him that he would be graciously pleased to influence our public councils, and bless them with wisdom from on high, with unanimity, firmness, and success; that he would go forth with our hosts and crown our arms with victory; that he would grant to his church the plentiful effusions of divine grace, and pour out his holy spirit on all ministers of the gospel; that he would bless and prosper the means of education, and spread the light of Christian knowledge through the remotest corners of the earth; that he would smile upon the labors of his people and cause the earth to bring forth her fruits in abundance; that we may with gratitude and gladness enjoy them; that he would take into his holy protection our illustrious ally, give him victory over his enemies, and render him signally great, as the father of his people and the protector of the rights of mankind; that he would graciously be pleased to turn the hearts of our enemies, and to dispense the blessings of peace to contending nations; that he would in mercy look down upon us, pardon our sins and receive us into his favor, and finally, that he would establish the independence of these United States upon the basis of religion and virtue, and support and protect them in the enjoyment of peace, liberty and safety. as long as the sun and moon shall endure, until time

shall be no more. Done in Congress, ∥ the 20th day of October, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-nine, and in the 4th year of the independence of the United States of America.

Samuel Huntington, President.

Attest,

Charles Thomson, Secretary.

1780 By the United States in Congress assembled A PROCLAMATION.

Whereas it hath pleased Almighty God, the Father of all mercies, amidst the vicissitudes and calamities of war, to bestow blessings on the people of these states, which call for their devout and thankful acknowledgments, more especially in the late remarkable interposition of his watchful providence, in rescuing the person of our Commander in Chief and the army from imminent dangers, at the moment when treason was ripened for execution; in prospering the labors of the husbandmen, and causing the earth to yield its increase in plentiful harvests; and, above all, in continuing to us the enjoyment of the gospel of peace;

It is therefore recommended to the several states to set apart Thursday, the seventh day of December next, to be observed as a day of public thanksgiving and prayer; that all the people may assemble on that day to celebrate the praises of our Divine Benefactor; to confess our unworthiness of the least of his favors, and to offer our fervent supplications to the God of all grace; that it may please him to pardon our heinous transgressions and incline our hearts for the future to keep all his laws that it may please him still to afford us the blessing of health; to comfort and relieve our brethren who are any wise afflicted or distressed; to smile upon our husbandry and trade and establish the work of our hands; to direct our public councils, and lead our forces, by land and sea, to victory; to take our illustrious ally under his special protection, and favor our joint councils and exertions for the establishment of speedy and permanent peace; to cherish all schools and seminaries of education, build up his churches in their most holy faith and to cause the knowledge of Christianity to spread over all the earth.

Done in Congress, the last day of October, 1780, and in the fifth year of the independence of the United States of America.

1781 By the United States in Congress assembled A PROCLAMATION.

Whereas, it hath pleased Almighty God, the

supreme Disposer of all Events father of mercies, remarkably to assist and support the United States of America in their important struggle for liberty, against the long continued efforts of a powerful nation: it is the duty of all ranks to observe and thankfully acknowledge the interpositions of his Providence in their behalf. Through the whole of the contest, from its first rise to this time, the influence of divine Providence may be clearly perceived in many signal instances, of which we mention but a few.

In revealing the councils of our enemies, when the discoveries were seasonable and important, and the means seemingly inadequate or fortuitous; in preserving and even improving the union of the several states, on the breach of which our enemies placed their greatest dependence; in increasing the number, and adding to the zeal and attachment of the friends of Liberty; in granting remarkable deliverances, and blessing us with the most signal success, when affairs seemed to have the most discouraging appearance; in raising up for us a powerful and generous ally, in one of the first of the European powers; in confounding the councils of our enemies, and suffering them to pursue such measures as have most directly contributed to frustrate their own desires and expectations; above all, in making their extreme cruelty of their officers and soldiers to the inhabitants of these states, when in their power, and their savage devastation of property, the very means of cementing our union, and adding vigor to every effort in opposition to them.

And as we cannot help leading the good people of these states to a retrospect on the events which have taken place since the beginning of the war, so we beg recommend in a particular manner that they may observe and acknowledge to their observation, the goodness of God in the year now drawing to a conclusion: in which a mutiny in the American Army was not only happily appeased but became in its issue a pleasing and undeniable proof of the unalterable attachment of the people in general to the cause of liberty since great and real grievances only made them tumultuously seek redress while they abhorred the thoughts of going over to the enemy, in which the Confederation of the United States has been completed by the accession of all without exception in which there have been so many instances of prowess and success in our armies; particularly in the southern states, where,

notwithstanding the difficulties with which they had to struggle, they have recovered the whole country which the enemy had overrun, leaving them only a post or two upon or near the sea: in which we have been so powerfully and effectually assisted by our allies, while in all the conjunct operations the most perfect union and harmony has subsisted in the allied army: in which there has been so plentiful a harvest, and so great abundance of the fruits of the earth of every kind, as not only enables us easily to supply the wants of the army, but gives comfort and happiness to the whole people: and in which, after the success of our allies by sea, a General of the first Rank, with his whole army, has been captured by the allied forces under the direction of our illustrious Commander in Chief.

It is therefore recommended to the several states to set apart the 13th day of December next, to be religiously observed as a Day of Thanksgiving and Prayer; that all the people may assemble on that day, with grateful hearts, to celebrate the praises of our gracious Benefactor; to confess our manifold sins; to offer up our most fervent supplications to the God of all grace, that it may please Him to pardon our offenses, and incline our hearts for the future to keep all his laws; to comfort and relieve all our brethren who are in distress or captivity; to prosper our husbandmen, and give success to all engaged in lawful commerce; to impart wisdom and integrity to our counselors, judgment and fortitude to our officers and soldiers; to protect and prosper our illustrious ally, and favor our united exertions for the speedy establishment of a safe, honorable and lasting peace; to bless all seminaries of learning; and cause the knowledge of God to cover the earth, as the waters cover the seas.

1782 By the United States in Congress assembled A PROCLAMATION.

It being the indispensable duty of all nations, not only to offer up their supplications to Almighty God, the giver of all good, for his gracious assistance in the a time of public distress, but also in a solemn and public manner to give him praise for his goodness in general, and especially for great and signal interpositions of his Providence in their behalf; therefore, the United States in Congress assembled, taking into their consideration the many instances of divine goodness to these states, in the course of the important conflict in which they have been so long engaged; and the present happy and

promising state of public affairs; and the events of the war in the course of the last year now drawing to a close, particularly the harmony of the public councils, which is so necessary to the success of the public cause; the perfect union and good understanding which has hitherto subsisted between them and their allies, notwithstanding the artful and unwearied attempts of the common enemy to sow dissension between them divide them; the success of the arms of the United States and those of their allies, and the acknowledgment of their independence by another European power, whose friendship and commerce must be of great and lasting advantage to these states; and the success of their arms and those of their allies in different parts do hereby recommend it to the inhabitants of these states in general, to observe, and recommend it to the executives of request the several states to interpose their authority in appointing and requiring commanding the observation of the last Thursday, in the 28 day of November next, as a day of solemn thanksgiving to God for all his mercies: and they do further recommend to all ranks, to testify their gratitude to God for his goodness, by a cheerful obedience to his laws, and by promoting, each in his station, and by his influence, the practice of true and undefiled religion, which is the great foundation of public prosperity and national happiness. Given, &c.

1783 By the United States in Congress assembled A PROCLAMATION.

Whereas it hath pleased the Supreme Ruler of all human events, to dispose the hearts of the late belligerent powers to put a period to the effusion of human blood, by proclaiming a cessation of all hostilities by sea and land, and these United States are not only happily rescued from the dangers distresses and calamities which they have so long and so magnanimously sustained to which they have been so long exposed, but their freedom, sovereignty and independence ultimately acknowledged by the king of Great Britain. And whereas in the progress of a contest on which the most essential rights of human nature depended, the interposition of Divine Providence in our favor hath been most abundantly and most graciously manifested, and the citizens of these United States have every possible reason for praise and gratitude to the God of their salvation. Impressed, therefore, with an exalted sense of the magnitude of the

blessings by which we are surrounded, and of our entire dependence on that Almighty Being, from whose goodness and bounty they are derived, the United States in Congress assembled do recommend it to the several States, to set apart the second Thursday in December next, as a day of public thanksgiving, that all the people may then assemble to celebrate with one voice grateful hearts and united voices, the praises of their Supreme and all bountiful Benefactor, for his numberless favors and mercies. That he hath been pleased to conduct us in safety through all the perils and vicissitudes of the war; that he hath given us unanimity and resolution to adhere to our just rights; that he hath raised up a powerful ally to assist us in supporting them, and hath so far crowned our united efforts with success, that in the course of the present year, hostilities have ceased, and we are left in the undisputed possession of our liberties and independence, and of the fruits of our own land, and in the free participation of the treasures of the sea; that he hath prospered the labor of our husbandmen with plentiful harvests; and above all, that he hath been pleased to continue to us the light of the blessed gospel, and secured to us in the fullest extent the rights of conscience in faith and worship. And while our hearts overflow with gratitude, and our lips set forth the praises of our great Creator, that we also offer up fervent supplications, that it may please him to pardon all our offenses, to give wisdom and unanimity to our public councils, to cement all our citizens in the bonds of affection, and to inspire them with an earnest regard for the national honor and interest, to enable them to improve the days of prosperity by every good work, and to be lovers of peace and tranquillity; that he may be pleased to bless us in our husbandry, our commerce and navigation; to smile upon our seminaries and means of education, to cause pure religion and virtue to flourish, to give peace to all nations, and to fill the world with his glory.

Done by the United States in Congress assembled, witness his Excellency Elias Boudinot, our President, this 18th day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and eighty-three, and of the sovereignty and independence of the United States of America the eighth.

1784 By the United States in Congress assembled A PROCLAMATION.

Whereas it hath pleased the Supreme Ruler of the universe, of his infinite goodness and mercy, so to calm the minds and do away the resentments of the powers lately engaged in a most bloody and destructive war, and to dispose their hearts towards amity and friendship, that a general pacification hath taken place, and particularly a Definitive Treaty of peace between the said United States of America and his Britannic Majesty, was signed at Paris, on the 3d day of September, in the year of our Lord 1783; the instruments of the final ratifications of which were exchanged at Passy, on the 12th day of May, in the year of our Lord 1784, whereby a finishing hand was put to the great work of peace, and the freedom, sovereignty and independence of these states, fully and completely established: And whereas in pursuit of the great work of freedom and independence, and the progress of the contest in which the United States of America have been engaged, and on the success of which the dearest and most essential rights of human nature depended, the benign interposition of Divine Providence hath, on many occasions, been most miraculously and abundantly manifested; and the citizens of the United States have the greatest reason to return their most hearty and sincere praises and thanksgiving to the God of their deliverance; whose name be praised: Deeply impressed therefore with the sense of the mercies manifested to these United States, and of the blessings which it hath pleased God, to shower down on us, of our future dependence, at all times, on his power and mercy as the only source from which so great benefits can be derived; we, the United States of America, in the Committee of the States assembled, do earnestly recommend to the supreme executives of the several states, to set apart Tuesday, the 19th day of October next, as a day of public prayer and thanksgiving, that all the people of the United States may then assemble in their respective churches and congregations, to celebrate with grateful hearts, and joyful and united voices, the mercies and praises of their all-bountiful Creator, most holy, and most righteous! for his innumerable favors and mercies vouchsafed unto them; more especially that he hath been graciously pleased so to conduct us through the perils and dangers of the war, as finally to establish the United States in freedom and independency, and to give them a name and place among the princes and nations of the earth; that he hath raised up great

captains and men of war from amongst us, to lead our armies, and in our greatest difficulties and distresses hath given us unanimity to adhere to and assert our just rights and privileges; and that he hath been most graciously pleased also, to raise up a most powerful prince and magnanimous people, as allies, to assist us in effectually supporting and maintaining them; that he hath been pleased to prosper the labor of our husbandmen; that there is no famine or want seen throughout our land: And above all, that he hath been pleased to continue to us the light of gospel truths, and secured to us, in the fullest manner, the rights of conscience in faith and worship.

And while our hearts overflow with gratitude, and our lips pronounce the praises of our great and merciful Creator, that we may also offer up our joint and fervent supplications, that it may please him of his infinite goodness and mercy, to pardon all our sins and offenses; to inspire with wisdom and a true sense of public good, all our public councils; to strengthen and cement the bonds of love and affection between all our citizens; to impress them with an earnest regard for the public good and national faith and honour, and to teach them to improve the days of peace by every good work; to pray that he will, in a more especial manner, shower down his blessings on Louis the Most Christian King our ally, to prosper his house, that his son's sons may long sit on the throne of their ancestors, a blessing to the people entrusted to his charge; to bless all mankind, and inspire the princes and nations of the earth with the love of peace, that the sound of war may be heard of no more; that he may be pleased to smile upon us, and bless our husbandry, fishery, our commerce, and especially our schools and seminaries of learning; and to raise up from among our youth, men eminent for virtue, learning and piety, to his service in church and state; to cause virtue and true religion to flourish, to give to all nations amity, peace and concord, and to fill the world with his glory.

Done by the United States, in the Committee of the States assembled, witness the honbl Samuel Hardy, chairman, this-- day of--, in the year of our Lord, &c. and in the 9th of the sovereignty and independence of the United States of America.

These proclamations can be found along with all the presidential proclamation at Pilgrim Hall

Website; pilgrimhall.org/givingThanks3c.htm.***

Photo Album

November 2009
October Meeting and Parade



Judy Swan, Governor General of the General Society of Mayflower Descendants spoke to us on the *Women of the Mayflower*.

At right President David Siler presents Judy with a Certificate of Appreciation for coming to speak to our chapter.



President David Siler presented Karen Richards and Un Hui Fosdyck with the Bronze Cluster to their Martha Washington Medals for their support and work for the chapter.



Arthur Koehler is presented the Bronze Good Citizenship Medal & Certificate for his work in giving tours to school children at Independence Hall at Knott's Berry Farm.



In the Korean Festival Parade you found Un Hui Fosdyck with her dance troop at left. At right the chapter Color Guard poses with the dance troop. Kent, Gregory, Jim Blauer and Jim Fosdyck.



Photo Album

November 09-2

Joint Meeting/Marching Through History



Jim Fosdyck, Dave Siler, Jim Quinnelly and Jim Blauer attended a joint meeting hosted by the CA Colonial Wars Society on October 3rd.

At right Un Hui Fosdyck helps George Washington (Scott Campbell) get his wig on properly.



Above we see the Redcoats and the Continental Line preparing their troops for battle. This time the Continental troops were victorious.

Below left, Un Hui Fosdyck checks out this knight in shining armor.

Below right, the Continentals march in the passing in review.



Photo Album

November 09-3
The Battle



The Continentals at left line up on one end of the field. Jim Blauer & Jim Fosdyck are on the far left.

The Redcoats take to the other side of the field and prepare to do battle.



Morgan's Rangers prepare to fall in behind the Continentals.



The Battle ensues. the first volleys are fire and that is when both Jim's find their rifles are not firing. The second volley comes and both Jims go down(at right. With the help of Morgan's Rangers the Continentals go on to win the day and route the Redcoats.