



# MUSKETS & BROADSWORD

Orange County Chapter Sons of the American Revolution  
March 2011

Editor-James F. Blauer

## OFFICERS

**PRESIDENT**  
M. KENT GREGORY  
3822 Denwood Ave.  
Los Alamitos, CA 90720  
(562) 493-6409  
[drkentgregory@earthlink.net](mailto:drkentgregory@earthlink.net)

**VICE-PRESIDENT**  
LARRY WOOD  
4343 Palo Verde Ave.  
Lakewood, CA 90713-2948  
[LwoodSAR@gmail.com](mailto:LwoodSAR@gmail.com)

**COORESP. SECRETARY**  
JAMES L. WALLACE  
435 S. Shields Drive  
Anaheim, CA 92804-2021  
(714) 995-7490  
[jamesanaheim@cs.com](mailto:jamesanaheim@cs.com)

**RECORDING SECRETARY**  
JAMES F. BLAUER  
418 Pirate Road  
Newport Beach, CA 92663  
(949) 548-6871  
[jblauer@pacbell.net](mailto:jblauer@pacbell.net)

**TREASURER**  
ARTHUR A. KOEHLER  
17422 Ireland Lane  
Hunt. Bch, CA 92647-5621  
(714) 847-0574  
[treasurer@orangecountysar.org](mailto:treasurer@orangecountysar.org)

**REGISTRAR**  
M. KENT GREGORY  
3822 Denwood Ave.  
Los Alamitos, CA 90720  
(562) 493-6409  
[drkentgregory@earthlink.net](mailto:drkentgregory@earthlink.net)

**CHAPLAIN**  
RICHARD E. ADAMS  
2304 E. Chestnut Ave.  
Orange, CA 92867-4421  
(714) 997-2481  
[yangbon@hotmail.co](mailto:yangbon@hotmail.co)

## MEETING INFORMATION

**When:** March 12, 2011  
**Where:** Sizzler Restaurant  
1401 North Harbor Blvd.  
Fullerton, CA  
**Time:** Social Begins at 11:00am  
**Website:** [www.orangecountysar.org](http://www.orangecountysar.org)

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

February has traditionally been a month when Americans honor George Washington and his contributions to the founding of our country by celebrating his birthday. But in modern society, many don't understand the reasons for the high esteem held for Washington by earlier generations. His face has become an icon more familiar to children as an image often used in television commercials, or as the portrait on the dollar bill.

That makes the objectives of the *Sons of the American Revolution* even more urgent than ever before! The SAR seeks to perpetuate a reverence for the principles of the government founded by our forefathers, including understanding the history of its formation, and the creation of the institutions of American freedom. Toward that goal, many of our Orange County Chapter members attended and participated in the Massing of the Colors in Burbank on February 20th. We also annually sponsor several contests for children to learn about early American history, and demonstrate their patriotism.

Our March 12 meeting will be engaging! The speaker is a veteran from World War II: Fred Whitaker. Mr. Whitaker fought in Europe with the 87th Infantry Division, part of General George S. Patton's famed 3rd Army. He holds nine American and three Allied decorations.

Several high school students will be with us at our meeting. We will be presenting awards to the local winners of the Knight Essay competition. All three winners this year were from Arnold O. Beckman High School, where their teams are the "Patriots!" Their Advanced Placement U.S. History teacher has also agreed to attend. We are also excited to welcome our JROTC Competition winner, Cadet Akash Patel, and the Troy High School JROTC Color Guard to present the Colors at the meeting. I hope you all attend!

Don't forget to make a reservation to attend the CASSAR Spring Meeting on April 8th & 9th at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Irvine!

*M. Kent Gregory*

## SPEAKER FRED WHITAKER

Fred Whitaker is a tenth generation American whose ancestor John Maynard arrived in the Plymouth Colony in 1637. Subsequently, two Maynards fought at the Concord Bridge on April 19, 1775.

Both a Maynard and a Whitaker were killed at Gettysburg in July 1863. Fred's Great-grandfather Lewis R. Whitaker answered President Lincoln's call for 75,000 volunteers in 1862 by recruiting, training and organizing a company of men in Franklin, Massachusetts and marched to war.

Sidney Whitaker, his father, served in France with the 26th Yankee Division in World War I.

Fred fought in Europe with the 87th Infantry Division, part of General George S. Patton's famed 3rd Army. He holds nine American and three allied decorations. His WW II unit in Europe was Hq Co-1st Bn, 347th Inf Regt. 87th Inf Div. His military occupation specialty (MOS) was rifleman (745) rank, Corporal. His assignments included flushing Germans out of a town, being part of an attacking force in the Ardennes (Battle of the Bulge), crossing the Rhine under fire at night in small assault boats and countless fire and movement operations which represented the bulk of Infantry operations.

His American Medals in the order of precedence: Distinguished Unit Citation for extraordinary heroism for the crossing of the Rhine River March 1945, Bronze Star for Valor, and Purple Heart wounded December 25, 1944 by a German fighter aircraft.

He enlisted at age 17, had basic training at 18, experienced combat at 19 and honorably discharged at 20 following 2 1/2 years service during World War II. He walked, ran, hit the ground, fired an M 1 rifle in between and crossed Europe from Le Havre, France to Sudetenland in Czechoslovakia in 7 months. Rode back in a truck in 3 days.

Mr. Whitaker will be our Wounded Warrior we honor at our meeting in March.

## WOUNDED WARRIOR

### Robert Lucas VIII

Robert S. Lucas VIII was born in Los Angeles in 1945. Bob grew up in the San Joaquin Valley and attended CL McClane High School in Fresno. He graduated from high school in June of 1965 and enlisted in the USMC in October of 1965.

Bob reported to San Diego Depot for Boot Camp. Upon completion of Boot Camp Bob reported to Camp Pendleton for Advanced Infantry Training. In AIT Bob was assigned to company F, 5th Marine Rgt., 1st Marine Division designated as Fleet Marine Force and better known as "The Big Red One". As a Marine rifleman he qualified as a marksman on an M-16.

In April of 1966 he deployed to Vietnam. His first assignment was in Chu Lai province. He was assigned to a Fire Team and engaged in Search and destroy missions. The missions often resulted in enemy engagement and there was a high turnover

As the result of one action, the marine carrying the M-79 was lost and PFC Robert Lucas became responsible for that 400mm grenade gun. He would later take on the duties of the M-60.

Bob was given several "Hill" assignments in Vietnam. He protected bases at "Hills" 53,54,76 and 35 where he was wounded. Bob received shrapnel wounds from incoming Viet Cong mortar fire. The shrapnel was removed and his wounds treated at the base. The corpsman released him after treatment and Bob returned to duty.

After 13 months and 17 days "in country" , Lance Corporal Robert S. Lucas VIII was flown from Da Nang to Okinawa and after a physical sent via Continental Airlines back to Travis AFB.

Bob, like many veterans, is extremely humble about his service. It was not easy getting him to



Robert Lucas, VIII receives his Wounded Warrior Coin and Certificate from Dan Henry and Kent Gregory.

agree to be recognized. He feels that there are many others more deserving than himself for recognition. The prodding of the City of Huntington Beach was the main influence in getting him to accept our tribute. Huntington Beach considers Bob one of, if not the best, employee in Beach Operations. He is viewed as a selfless contributor to the well being of the city. His dedication to the city was exemplified when Huntington Beach faced budget reductions. Bob's job was eliminated and he continued performing his normal duties without pay. He acted in a volunteer capacity. Fortunately for the City of Huntington Beach, he is back on the payroll.

Bob Lucas is an example of the finest our country has to offer. Dedication to duty and others first. He has the characteristics and is no less than a true American patriot.

Robert Lucas' first ancestor to the New World was Edward Lucas. He "accompanied" William Penn to colonize "The City of Brotherly Love" as a Quaker colony. Edward wasn't simply a colonist but a personal friend of William Penn.

Edward had a son named William Lucas ( I asked myself if he named him after William Penn.) William was a Captain in 2nd Virginia and fought with General George Washington at "Braddocks Defeat".

William had a son named Robert. Robert attained the rank of Brigadier General and fought in the War of 1812. Later Robert became governor of the State of Ohio. Following his service as governor of Ohio he became governor of the Territory of Iowa. At our February meeting Bob received our Wounded

Warrior Coin and Certificate

#### FOUR OF A KIND

In January our own Dan Henry was installed as the new Commander of Generals Sedwick-Granger Camp 17 of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War. That same month our own David Siler was named Commander of the Color Guard for the State Society of Colonial Wars.

They now join Lee's Legion Commander for the Orange County Chapter, Jim Blauer and State Color Guard Commander for CASSAR Jim Fosdyck. That gives our chapter 4 commanders!!!

#### FEBRUARY EVENTS

On February 19, Jim and un Hui Fosdyck attended the Mojave Chapter DAR meeting/ Luncheon.

On February 20, your Color Guard and chapter members turned out for the 29th Annual Massing of the Colors in Salute to George Washington and the men & women of our armed forces. Our Lee's Legion was represented by Commander Jim Blauer, State Commander Jim Fosdyck, David Siler, Kent Gregory and Larry Wood. Un Hui Fosdyck, Dan Henry and Lou & Karen Carlson were also in attendance. Commander Blauer sang the National Anthem as he has done for many years and Rev. Carlson gave a prayer for all our military men & women who have sacrificed for our country. The procession was led by an officer (Rev. War) on horseback. He was followed by George Washington (Steve Clugston). Then came the Color Guard units led by our own Lee's Legion who were followed by other colonial units and finally the JROTC/ROTC Units.

They also had a flag folding ceremony which has been a staple of the ceremonies for several years. There was both Musket and canon firing.

Greeting were brought from various hereditary groups which included the Hollywood DAR

Chapter(Sarah Kaiman,Regent), celebrating their 100th anniversary as a chapter. NSSAR(Stephen Renouf), Lt. General Allen Bauman, USAVR and we even had a few words by George Washington.

With the greetings concluded the wreath was placed at the base of Washington's statue as Gary Allen Dickey played Amazing Grace on the Bagpipes.

With the wreath set in place the units led by Lee's Legion proceed up to the wreath presented Colors/Arms and march off, concluding the ceremonies.

Kudos must be given to Sons of Liberty President Gary Bohannon. In January after he was installed as President of the Sons of Liberty chapter he was handed this project with nothing having been done. With only a month to get things organized, he did an amazing job pulling this altogether.

#### PATRIOT'S DAY PARADE

On March 5th your Lee's Legion and Ladies Auxiliary will be out for the Annual Laguna Beach Patriot's Day Parade. We will have 2 cars. The 1931 Model A Deluxe Coupe driven by Dave Manning and Lou Carlson will have his car as well. Get there early and you can help us decorate the cars. The parade will begin at 11am. We are #21 in the line up of 100, so we are very near the front this year.

If you are in the mood for a nice downhill walk with a lovely view of the ocean on the way, you are welcome to join us. Whether in colonial dress or in red, white and blue, the more, the merrier.

We will need a volunteer to stick around and attend the awards ceremony after the parade. The last several years we have won trophies for our color guard and have had to have a member go down to Laguna to pick it up. If we have someone at the awards ceremony, there will not be a need for

the extra trip down to Laguna to get the trophy.

It should be a fun day(as long as it does not rain) and hope we will see many of you there. If you need directions contact Parade Chairman Jim Blauer for specifics.

#### LEE'S LEGION

We report regularly on our Lee's Legion Color Guard activities, but what do we know about the real Lee's Legion that was formed by Henry"Light Horse Harry" Lee. Here is a bit of history of that well known group of Patriots.

"Lee's Legion, or more formally the 2d Partisan Corps, and led by Lieut. Col. Henry Lee (1756-1818), is one of the best known and familiar units in the Continental army's history, or from the Revolutionary War period generally. Yet most of what we know about the Legion and its members usually originates with Lee's own *Memoirs* (in its various versions or editions.) Although we are most fortunate to be able to avail ourselves of Lee's work, nonetheless, historians and students after reading it cannot help coming away from the experience feeling that there is still much that is left vague and incomplete; and as much or more they would like to know of both the corps and its members in order to achieve a more full bodied and well rounded out picture.

General Washington's original reason for forming Legions or Partisan Corps, that is, special elite units which incorporated both cavalry and infantry formations, was for carrying out reconnaissance and raids against the enemy. At the same time, they were seen as encouraging initiative and acts of boldness which in turn bolstered the Continental army's morale; while fostering an offensive spirit in a conflict where pitched major engagements were normally avoided and where, due to both logistical constraints and lack of training, it was generally ill advised for large bodies of American forces to be on the attack.



Colonel Richard Henry  
"Light Horse Harry" Lee.  
(1756-1818)

Henry Lee's Light Dragoons was initially formed at Williamsburg, Virginia on June 8, 1776 as the 5th Troop of Light Horse of the Virginia State Troops. Later in early summer of that same year it was entered into the Continental Army; and by late November was assigned to the Main Army and incorporated into the 1st Continental Light Dragoons, under Col. Theodoric Bland. Lee's troops received the special notice and approbation of Washington in late January 1778 when they thwarted a surprise attack by numerically superior British forces at the Spread Eagle Tavern, in Philadelphia.

On 7 April 1778, the contingent was separated from the 1st Continental Light Dragoons; and Lee was promoted to Major and authorized by Congress, at General Washington's request, to augment his unit from one to two troops with a mind to forming a Legion or independent corps.

In May, this was further increased to three troops and a quartermaster added; though one of these acted as a dismounted formation. The including of foot soldiers with the cavalry was seen as measure necessary to insure the flexibility and survivability of the unit. Then in July, Captain Allan McLane's Delaware infantry company was assigned as a fourth troop; so that by the end of August the corps had 200 men; with soldiers from not only Virginia and Delaware, but Maryland, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Connecticut as well. It achieved particular notoriety, including an acknowledgment

of thanks by Congress, for its participation in a daring and mostly successful night raid on the British outpost of Paulus Hook, New Jersey in August 1779.

On 14 February 1780, Lee was granted authorization to form a formal Legionary Corps; and many of the best soldiers from other units either volunteered or were specially invited to join its ranks. When the issue of the utility of Legionary and Partisan corps to the army was raised by Congress, Washington in a letter of 11 October 1780 addressed to the President and in response to them stated: "In general I dislike independent corps, I think a partisan corps with an army useful in many respects. Its name and destination stimulate to enterprise; and the two officers I have mentioned have the best claims to public attention. Colonel [Charles] Armand is an officer of great merit, which, added to his being a foreigner, to his rank in life, and to the sacrifices of property he has made, renders it a point of delicacy as well as justice to continue to him the means of serving honorably. Major Lee has rendered such distinguished services, possesses so many talents for commanding a corps of this nature, and deserves so much credit for the perfection in which he has kept his corps, as well as for the handsome exploits he has performed, that it would be a loss to the service, and a discouragement to merit, to reduce him, and I do not see how he can be introduced into one of the regiments in a manner satisfactory to himself, and which will enable him to be equally useful, without giving too much disgust to the whole line of cavalry."

By 1 November 1780 Lee's force was increased in size to three mounted and three dismounted; and at about which same time it was detached from the Main Army and sent to reinforce the Southern Army badly mauled at the battle of Camden, 16 August 1780.

On 1 January 1781, the Legion was redesignated the 2d Partisan Corps, and when it joined General Greene by early January numbered some 100 cavalry and 180 foot which were organized into three troops of horse under Captains Joseph Eggleston, Ferdinand O'Neal, and James Armstrong, and 3 companies of infantry led by Captains Patrick Carnes, Michael Rudolph and George Handy. Among its marks of distinction, the "Legion" was one of the best clothed and equipped units in the Continental Army; this due in no small part to Lee's dogged and persistent determination to make it so. At least his mounted legionnaires wore green jackets because on several occasions they were mistaken for men of both Simcoe's Queen's Rangers and Tarleton's British Legion (and or else members of those two units were mistook for Lee's men); while Lee himself, in his *Memoirs*, speaks of his cavalry wearing "green coatees and leather breeches." Yet this is about as much information as we have to go on and apparently applies only to the cavalry; otherwise supply records intimate that at least some of the unit were attired in blue coats with red trim and white linen. For headgear, leather caps were most frequently used by Continental cavalymen; however some are known to have worn visored black or brown leather helmets; with felt hats making an occasional appearance. While in the south serving under Greene the Legion occasionally took in recruits from local Carolinians; some of whom became notable in its service. Also, in May of 1781, some 25 North Carolina Continentals under Maj. Pinkertham Eaton were added to the ranks of the Legion Infantry; in part, apparently, to offer them temporary training; as well as to strengthen the Legion's numbers.

By early 1782, Lee removed himself from command and returned north. Then in June, Greene

divided the Legion by combining its cavalry with detachments from the 3rd and 4th Continental Light Dragoons, under Col. George Baylor; and then by assigning the infantry of the Legion to Lieut. Col. John Laurens' Light Infantry battalion. The reaction on the part of the Legion was one of dismay and indignation, and all resigned in protest. Greene, however, was able to somewhat appease and console them; those who would not stay were granted furlough to return north. The unit finally and formally disbanded at Winchester, Virginia on 15 November 1783."

This article was taken verbatim, with minor editing, from the website [www.americanrevolution.org/pdf](http://www.americanrevolution.org/pdf). The information was obtained from Alexander Garden's "*Anecdotes*" (1822 & 1828 eds.). It was annotated and edited by William Thomas Sherman.

#### ANNUAL STATE MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Our Orange County Chapter members are encouraged to participate in the Spring Meeting of the California Society, SAR. Our chapter is hosting this meeting since our own John Dodd will be installed as the new CASSAR President. The meeting begins on Friday morning, April 8 and concludes with a gala banquet on Saturday evening, April 9. Meetings and events will be held at the Crown Plaza Hotel near John Wayne Airport.

Registration for the meetings costs \$125.00 (before March 8) and includes the Friday Public Service Luncheon, the Saturday Youth Awards Luncheon, and the Saturday evening Gala Banquet. The rooms are only \$79 per night, for those who do not want to try and commute between home and the hotel. Details and Registration Form can be found at [www.californiasar.org](http://www.californiasar.org). There are lots of things we need to do and your help will be greatly appreciated. Questions can be sent to Kent Gregory at [drkentgregory@earthlink.net](mailto:drkentgregory@earthlink.net). \*\*\*

# Photo Album

March 2011



Daniel Slosberg was our guest speaker in February. He told us in words and song the story of Dr. William Beanes and the writing of the Star-Spangles Banner by Francis Scott Key. Following his entertaining presentation he was presented with our Certificate of Appreciation by Compatriot David Siler.



Above, Brochure Contest winners; Angela Vo, Amanda Pham and Melanie Garcia.



James Spencer Evans receives his SAR Eagle medal as chapter winner in the Scholarship Contest.



At left, Robert Ryan Buckel is presented his Membership Certificate by President Gregory and rosette from Jim Wallace.

At right, Jim Wallace receives the Meritorious Service Medal & Certificate for his work as chapter Secretary.



# Photo Album

March 2011-2



Lee's Legion arrives at the base of Washington's Statue(left) and gets into formation line at right. Larry Wood, Jim Blauer, Ron Barker, David Siler, Jim Fosdyck and Kent Gregory present colors.



At left Jim Blauer continues the tradition of singing the National Anthem at this event. He has been doing this for close to 15 years.

At right Rev. Lou Carlson gives a prayer for all those who have perished during the wars our country has been a part of.



Below, an expanded Lee's Legion. Kent Gregory, Jim Blauer Ron Barker, David Siler, Jim Fosdyck, National Commander Joe Dooley, Larry Wood, Rev. Phil Dodson and Vice-President Western Region Steve Renouf.



At right the Statue of George Washington looms over the area where the color guards line up for the Massing of the Colors.

Happy Birthday General Washington.

