



MUSKETS & BROADSWORD

Orange County Chapter Sons of the American Revolution

February 2013

Editor Jim Blauer

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MEETING INFORMATION

When: February 9, 2013
Where: Sizzler Restaurant
1401 N. Harbor Blvd.
Fullerton, CA
Time: Social Begins at 11:00am
Meeting: Called to Order at 11:30am
Website: www.orangecountysar.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Enjoy yourself!

I want to begin by thanking Larry Wood for his extraordinary dedication, hard work and leadership as our President throughout 2012. He is a hard act to follow but a good example. Larry followed in the tradition of strong leadership exhibited by each of the Presidents since I joined the Orange County chapter - Jim Fosdyck and Kent Gregory. I hope to live up to the high standard each of them set in their own way.

Each of us joined the SAR for his own reasons and, whatever those reasons, I want to encourage you to be certain to **enjoy** all of the time you spend engaged with the SAR our Chapter, other compatriots and contributing to our activities:

Enjoy our speakers – let them know they are appreciated and take time to get to know them. Our speakers give of themselves freely (we do not compensate them) please make a special effort to reach out to them both before and after their speech let them know we are actively interested in their message.

Enjoy the social time at each meeting – our fellow compatriots are each individually interesting people with diverse backgrounds – take time to find out what is special in each of them.

Contribute when and how you can, and enjoy doing so -- we have a diverse number of activities with a need to rotate responsibilities periodically. Getting involved can be rewarding and there are opportunities to get involved and to enjoy the activity when you are engaged.

I have enjoyed being a member of the Chapter's Color Guard. Almost all of these events are open to participation by compatriots who are NOT Color Guard members. While some of these events are serious and others are simply fun, each is rewarding and time well spent.

Our February Meeting is billed as "A Celebration!" – this meeting will be a little different from the norm – special. I hope that each of you enjoy every aspect of it!

WOUNDED WARRIORS

This month we will be honoring several Wounded warriors. We hope you will be able to come out and help us honor these Heroes who made the sacrifice to serve and protect our way of life.

JIM DAVIDSON

Jim Davidson was called to service in December of 1965. After prequalifying for Warrant Officer Pilot Training School, Jim entered service in New York and soon was sent to Fort Polk, Louisiana for Basic Training. Upon completion of Basic Training Jim went on to Fort Wolters, Texas for Basic Helicopter Training. After successfully completing Basic Helicopter School. Jim was assigned to Fort Rucker, Alabama for advanced training where he was instrument rated and taught basic tactics for UH1 Hueys. On December 6, 1966 Jim was awarded his wings as a Warrant Officer 1.

Jim Davidson was assigned a Tour of Duty to Vietnam and arrived in January of 1967. He was assigned to 1st Air Cavalry, 229th Aviation Battalion, C Company as a Hughey Troop Ship Commander. A "Slick". His assignment was to insert and extract troops in the Central Highlands and Coastal areas of An Kea and the Bong Son region. During the tour, Jim racked up 1000 hours of combat flying.

Upon completion of his tour, Jim rotated back to Fort Rucker, Texas where he assumed duties as an Instrument Training Instructor from 1968-1969. While an Instructor, Jim requested an AH1G Cobra Transition at Fort Stewart in Savannah Georgia. The request was granted and he began training for a Cobra Rating. While in training Jim received a direct commission to 1st Lieutenant. Before completion of training, 1st Lieutenant Davidson was requested along with 7 specially selected pilots to join Lt. Colonel James Booth for assignments with the 1st Squadron, 9th Cavalry, as a part of the 1st Air Cavalry. They were selected because of their skills and experience for special assignment in Cambodia and Laos. As a Cobra commander Jim was back in Southeast Asia. Jim continued combat duty in a Cobra but also saw duty as a Loach pilot as part of Hunter/Killer teams. Loach pilots would fly their aircraft into suspected hot areas to draw fire so that the hovering gunship could take out the hostile fire activity in the zone. The Loach pilot was basically bait.

While serving his second tour in Vietnam in 1969, Jim Davidson was assigned to Quan Loi Base as a helicopter pilot. The base was subject to hostile fire at times but at the time of Jim Davidson's injury there was a more aggressive attack on the base which resulted in a mortar attack and intense hand to hand combat with enemy troops. During this firefight Jim was struck by shrapnel in his leg by incoming mortar fire. After tense and violent fighting, the American troops successfully pushed the hostile forces back. Jim was treated for his leg wound at the base after

which he continued his assignment as a combat helicopter pilot.

In 1970, the recently appointed Captain Davidson was on Loach duty as a part of an operation in Cambodia when his aircraft came under hostile fire. His helicopter was incapacitated by ground fire and went down in enemy territory. Jim and his two crew members were now under attack on the ground. Although unhurt, the three were avoiding the enemy for 4 hours while two gunships fired at the hostile forces.

After 4 hours of evasive action, a "Hot Extraction" was made by a Huey after 4 attempts under the protection of the gunships. Jim returned to duty with a new helicopter the following day. His helicopter was recovered and 52 bullet holes were counted in the aircraft's fuselage. Loach pilots had a history of 60-70% casualty rate. Jim is proud of his record of no casualties under his supervision.

After two tours in Vietnam, Jim had logged 2100 hours of combat hours and participated in 6 of the 17 Campaigns in Vietnam.

In July of 1970 Jim rotated back to the States and began training in Armor School. Upon completion of school, Jim was assigned to Europe where he served as an Executive Officer, a Commanding Officer and an Operations Officer for Cavalry Troops for 3 years.

Jim completed his military career in Alaska in 1973 after packing a lifetime of experience into 8 years of Army life.

During Jim's career in the Army, he was recognized with the following citations: Vietnam Service Ribbon, Vietnam Campaign Ribbon, National Defense Medal, Air Medal with a V (Valor), Air Medal with 57 Oak Leaf Clusters (57 Air Medals), 2 Bronze Stars, Silver Star, 3 Distinguished Flying Crosses, and the Purple Heart.

ARCHIE SANCHEZ

Archie Sanchez was born in Cedar Hill, New Mexico, and grew up in Winslow, Arizona, graduating from Winslow High School in 1965. In September of that year, he joined the National Guard and completed his Basic Training at Fort Ord in California. The following year in 1966, Archie enlisted in the United States Army and attended Airborne Training at Fort Benning, Georgia. He then proceeded on to Eglin, Florida where he graduated from Army Ranger Training. When his training was completed, he was sent to Germany where he was stationed until being deployed to Vietnam in October of 1968. While in Vietnam, Archie spent 18 months serving with the 196th Army Rangers.

It was during one of his many missions that he was shot in his right side hip by an AK-47 while also taking shrapnel from a nearby explosion. Archie spent the last 2 years of his service stationed in Huachuca, Arizona, and was Honorably Discharged from the Army in June of 1972.

After returning to civilian life, he went to work for the Bechtel Corporation from 1973 to 1982, and built small scale models for nuclear power plant projects. During this time, he attended Theta Technical School, where after completing 800 hours, received his certification for Mechanical Drafting in 1977. Also during his years at Bechtel, he was certified for Model Making through the Bechtel Employee Development Program. After leaving Bechtel in 1982, he was offered employment with the Veterans Affairs Hospital in Long Beach where he started off working as a carpenter, then moving on to work as a pipe fitter, then as an electrician, and finally on to the job he now holds as an Occupational Health and Safety Officer. During his years at the VA, he attended various courses and training programs, and through NFPA and OSHA, became certified as an Asbestos Abatement Contractor Supervisor. He also took classes for a certification course in 1994 at the University of Southern California.

Today, Archie is in charge of all ongoing construction at the VA Hospital in Long Beach to insure that everyone is operating safely and cautiously, and by the way, which also includes being the Safety Manager when TV series and feature movies are being filmed on the premises. Archie has recently been awarded for his 30 years of employment with the VA.

For his service in the Vietnam War, Archie was awarded the Combat Infantry Badge, the Army National Defense Medal, the Good Conduct Medal, the Army Paratrooper Wings, the Bronze Star, and the Silver Star. For being wounded twice he received 2 Purple Hearts.

31ST ANNUAL MASSING OF THE COLORS **A celebration of the life of George Washington and the men and women of our Armed Forces**

The 31st Annual Massing of the Colors will be on Sunday February 17th at Forest Lawn Memorial Park in Burbank (Hollywood Hills). This is the largest celebration of its kind in the Western United States. Sponsored by the Sons of Liberty Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution, this upcoming event will be held at 2:30 PM.

Previous Massings of the Colors have been a great

success. Over 600 people and fifty color guards participate each year, including over ten of our brother SAR Chapters. Many greater Los Angeles area high school and college color guards take part in this celebration.

It will begin with the procession of Color Guards from the base of Washington's Statue up to the Wall of Liberty where the Color Guards will form up. Greetings will be brought by members of the Community as well as various Hereditary Societies.

It is best that you arrive by 2pm so as to save your seats and get photos of all the uniformed Color Guards.

Your Lee's Legion Color Guard will be there and we hope you will be able to join them for the display of Patriotism.

COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDS

This year your Orange County Chapter has decided to honor some of our community service personnel. Usually this is done at the State Meetings when our chapter hosts them. Since we have not hosted one in a while the Board decided we could do this at our regular meetings.

Below you will find the bios of the recipients we will honor at our February 9th meeting. We hope you will attend to help us thank these heroes for their service to the communities here in Orange County.

Karim Slate

Karim Slate was born in Tillamook, Oregon. He was raised in Coquille Oregon and attended mainly Coquille schools. At the age of fifteen, his family moved to Alaska. His father worked primarily as a lumberjack and coal miner in order to provide for Karim, his mother, three brothers and sister. His father served on a Crash Boat, better known as Air/Sea Rescue during WW2 in the South Pacific. Karim's father lost five brothers during WW2. Karim attended 2 high schools as a youth and ended up graduating from Tri-Valley High School in 1970 in Alaska. While attending high school, Karim had aspirations as an Army helicopter pilot and prequalified for Warrant Officer Training School. Post graduation in 1970, Karim entered the U.S. Army and fulfilled military service by March of 1973 and returned to Alaska to begin civilian life once again.

Karim's first job out of the military was with the Evergreen Corporation as a Fire Pilot in Alaska. At 22 years old Karim had put his Army skills to work

as a pilot but as most young men, questioned his choices and went to work as a lumberjack as did his father after one year of flying. He worked in the north as a lumberjack for 4 years before Karim found that his training and desire for flying overwhelmed his present course and secured a job with the oil companies in the Gulf of Mexico as a contract pilot. During the following 13 years, Karim found himself working in Maui Hawaii, Washington state, Alaska again, and Cairo, Egypt.

In 1994 Karim contracted with Evergreen once again and was assigned to the middle east as U.N. patrol for the Iraq/Kuwait border as well the Saudi Arabia and Iran borders. His duties not only included observation and transportation but also as a medevac resource. Evergreen reassigned Karim in 1995 to the Bosnia/ Serbia area of Europe to transport key military and political personnel into the troubled region. War caused serious damage and casualties in the area and as a U.N. designated resource, Karim was instrumental in providing ingress and egress for the U.N. personnel assigned to the recovery of the affected countries.

Upon completion of the U.N. contract in Europe, Karim returned to California as a Fire Pilot. In 2000, Karim was accepted into The Orange County Fire Authorities Air Operations Division as a Fire Pilot. As an OCFA Fire Pilot, Karim flies approximately 275 missions per year. His missions include a multitude of challenges and will include medical rescue and transportation, animal rescue, personnel insertion and support, and of course fire suppression often performed in extreme conditions.

As a senior in Tri Valley High School in Alaska, Karim tested and prequalified for Warrant Officer Flight Training in 1970. As a new U.S. Army recruit after graduation, Karim was sent to Fort Polk Louisiana for basic training. His next stop after 12 weeks of basic training was Fort Wolters, Texas for primary flight training. Out of 219 pilot candidates, Karim was included in the 76 that passed and moved on to Fort Rucker Alabama for advanced training including instrument and tactical skills. Having earned his wings and now a Warrant Officer 1, Karim was assigned to Cobra Gunship Transition at Fort Hunter-Stewart.

Karim's stateside training complete, he was deployed to Vietnam and assigned to the 1st Air Cavalry, 3rd Brigade, 229th Battalion, B company as a troop ship better known as a "Slick" to fellow soldiers. "Slick" was a term of respect and the label was

one of admiration by his Comrades in Arms. A Slick's job description was primarily to insert and extract soldiers into operational areas. The job entailed the mobile strategy of "Find, Fix, and Attack" the enemy by tactically dropping off troops into key locations and retrieving the troops at completion of the contact.

After 5 months as a "Slick" Karim was assigned to The "Nighthawk" or "FireFly System. The Nighthawk operation was designed to interrupt enemy movement and gather intelligence at night. The job was considered risky due to the illumination of the aircraft as it searched for enemy operations and was an easy target for hostile fire.

In April of 1972 the city of An Loc was invaded by 3 Divisions or 30,000 North Vietnamese Army regulars along with Heavy Armor, Anti Aircraft, and Artillery. The city was surrounded by enemy troops with no way to access the city for defense except by helicopter support. Karim returned to his "Slick" duties as he was assigned to insert ARVN(Army of the Republic of Vietnam) troops into the city to hold off the impending take over. Karim flew his troop laden Huey on 12-15 sorties a day for 2 weeks at which time the enemy was routed. The sorties after the decimation of the enemy began to decline and Karim was again assigned to Night Hawk duty until September of 1972 at which time his tour had been completed. He rotated into Fort Lewis, Washington as a Cobra Attack helicopter in the 9th Division. After 6 months at Fort Lewis, Karim's military service had wound down and had come to a close. Warrant Officer 2 Karim Slate made his transition into civilian life again in March of 1973.

Karim had 1042 flight hours in Vietnam and was recognized for his service as follows:

Vietnam Service Ribbon with 3 stars

National Defense Medal

Bronze Star

41 Air Medals

The Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry with the Bronze Star

The Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry with the Gold Palm

The Presidential Unit Citation for the Battle of An Loc

The Distinguished Flying Cross for actions during the Battle of An Loc

GERALD (GERRY) CASMAN

Gerry Casman was born in Havre, Montana to veteran parents. Gerry's mother was an Army WAC and his father was in the Black Panther Armored Division as a Tanker. Gerry grew up in Helena, Montana and attended Helena schools. He participated in school sports such as football and basketball but most notably achieved the honor of being the youngest Eagle Scout in the history of Montana at the age of 14. He graduated from Helena Senior High School in 1966 and registered as a Freshman at the University of Montana, Missoula. Gerry attended UMM for one year as he was called to military service in 1967. Gerry completed his military service in May of 1971 and returned to school at the University of Montana where he took business classes to accompany his helicopter pilot skills that he acquired while serving in Vietnam.

As a civilian, Gerry accumulated a wealth of experience flying helicopters. Gerry's first job in civilian life was as a pilot for the U.S. Geological Society which he flew under contract until its completion. He spent many years working for the Evergreen Corporation as a pilot which duties included reforestation, brush control, and firefighting. His firefighting area included the western states from the Canadian border to the Mexican border.

Gerry had been working for 10 years since his release from the Army when he was offered work in Northern California. Gerry operated as an Air Ambulance and Air Carrier in the City of San Francisco. His duties included landing atop the buildings downtown.

In 1989 Gerry rejoined the Evergreen operations which was under contract with the World Health Organization. The WHO's mission at this time was to address the River Blindness Epidemic in Africa, specifically the Ivory Coast region. There is significant reporting on this cause and because of the WHO's dedication and commitment the disease was essentially eradicated due to the efforts of all involved. Gerry's job included flying essential personnel and supplies in and out of the affected environments. It was a successful humanitarian contribution in an all too familiar climate. To all involved it was a job well done.

Gerry returned to California in 1992 after completing the mission in Africa. The next line of business for Gerry was a 2 year stint as a Fire Pilot for the

United States Forest Service. In 1994 The Orange County Fire Authority was starting an Air Attack operation and Gerry's resume qualified him as one of two new Fire Pilots for the OCFA.

Gerry has worked for the OCFA for 19 years. He has faced many challenging tasks during that period including medical evacuation, cliff and mountain rescue, animal rescue, personnel and supply insertion, and the most visible of all, fire suppression. No two missions are the same. All of the assignments require abstract and cognitive thinking under emergency operating pressure. He has an illustrious list of accomplishments including two citations:

1. 1995 during the Santiago Fire, 7 firefighters were trapped by wild land fires and being over run. The firefighters deployed their shelters for impending fire contact. Flight operations had just been suspended due to wind and visibility issues and the fire helicopters were returning to base. Upon hearing of the plight of the firefighters on the ground, Gerry along with another OCFA helicopter turned back to the incident and dropped their lifesaving load while facing 70 mph winds and poor visibility resulting in the saving of 7 firefighters from possible death or severe injury.

2. In 2008 a multi agency wild land fire resulted in the over running of two Corona Fire Department Engines and their crews. Trapped with no way out of the conflagration, Gerry responded along with another OCFA helicopter and strategically placed lifesaving drops of fire retardant and water to make a path of escape for the firefighters resulting in their retreat to safety.

During Gerry's 19 year career with the OCFA his daily duties included tasks considered impossible to the public and sworn ground personnel. He will tell you that it is just part of" the job". As we know, "the job" requires skill, dedication and courage not found in most peoples daily job description. Thanks to Gerry and his special gifts and dedication, the public and humankind has been made a healthier and safer place. Tragedy in many cases has been denied to families and communities due to Gerry's "job" and we hereby recognize Gerry as a quiet and deserving hero to all who know him and to those who should know him.

Gerald (Gerry) Casman was called to service in September of 1967. During his induction, Gerry requested a helicopter program which was offered to qualified inductees. Gerry passed the testing process and was accepted to Warrant Officer School.

He began his military duties in basic training at Fort Polk Louisiana. Basic helicopter training succeeded Fort Polk. Basic helicopter training was performed at Fort Wolters, Texas. This training was completed in 1968 at which time Gerry was given his new assignment to Fort Rucker, Alabama. At Fort Rucker he was instrument rated, introduced to tactics and went into Huey transition. He was awarded his wings in November of 1968 and rated a Warrant Officer 1.

Gerry was given a 30 day leave after training completion before being deployed to Vietnam. Flying Tigers Airline flew Gerry to Vietnam where he arrived on New Years Eve, 1968. He was assigned to the 101st Airborne, A Battery, 377th Division Artillery. His duties were mainly Loach Support. Observation, Target Search, Artillery Calibration, Visual Recon, and any duty required by the 101st Airborne. Gerry completed his tour in Vietnam on December 29, 1969 as a Warrant Officer 2.

Gerry returned to Fort Rucker as an instrument instructor. He performed those duties until his release in May of 1971.

After 4 years of Service to his country and 600 flight hours in Vietnam,

Gerald (Gerry) Casman became a civilian once again.

During his four young years in the U.S. Army, Gerald Casman was awarded the following:

National Defense Medal

Vietnam Campaign Ribbon

Army Commendation Medal

13 Air Medals

PATRIOT'S DAY PARADE

On Saturday March 2nd your Lee's Legion Color Guard and any other members and their families who wish to join us will be marching/riding in the 47th Annual Patriot's Day Parade in Laguna Beach. We sent in our registration in January and have received the information for this year. We will be Number 22 in the line up. The parade begins at 11am.

For those of you who wish to join us, please let parade Chairman Jim Blauer know so that he can get a copy of the route and position information to you. Copies will be available at the meeting on February 9th.

We will have our 1931 Model A Deluxe Coupe

with us. There is a rumble seat in the back for those who are not able to walk the distance. It is not a long parade and is mostly on a downhill slope, so it is an easy walk. For those who are not in the Color Guard, anything in the red, white and Blue motif is fine for this occasion.

THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY

February has been American History Month for as long as your editor can remember. In checking I have found we have four Presidents who were born in February.

Ronald Wilson Reagan, February 6, 1911.

William Henry Harrison February 9, 1773

Abraham Lincoln February 12, 1809

George Washington February 22, 1732

This all seems pretty much straight forward except for George Washington. Though the books list his birthday as February 22, 1732, they fail to explain that he was actually born on February 11, in 1731/32.

It all has to do with Pope Gregory XIII and Henry VIII. As you may recall from your history Henry VIII had a falling out with the Catholic Church. So, when Pope Gregory XIII had his scholars revise the Julian Calendar of 45BC, it was found that by 1582 there was the need to drop 10 days from the year to catch up correctly. Britain being a protestant nation like several other countries did not go along with this conversion. Britain stayed on the Julian Calendar until 1752. Therefore with Washington being born in 1732, he was born under the Julian Calendar(1731) on February 11th not the 22nd.

In 1752 when Britain decided to change they had to delete 11 days from the calendar. This occurred in September. Those who went to bed on the 3rd woke up on the 14th of September. This took place in all the British possessions around the World. That included the colonies!!!

It was at this time, that with the change, Washington began to think that had he been born under the Gregorian Calendar he would have been born on the 22nd of February and not the 11th. He decided that on his birthday in 1753 he would begin to celebrate it on the 22nd and so it has been ever since.

For genealogists this is also the explanation for the double dates in records from 1582 to 1752.

Those of us who trace our ancestors back to the 1600s will find reference works listing two dates like 1731/32 for those who were born between January 1 and March 25. That is because the Julian Calendar began on the 25 of March and the Gregorian on the 1st of January. If you were using the Julian Calendar you were on the year 1731. If you were on the Gregorian Calendar you were in 1732. George Washington was born on February 11, 1731(Julian) and February 22, 1732 (Gregorian).

With that explanation out of the way lets get on to other celebrations in the Month of February. We have already noted American History Month. Others include Black History Month, American Heart Month, National Embroidery Month (Quilts of Valor?) National Snack Food Month (Twinkies?) Great American Pie Month (Lemon Meringue?) For daily celebrations you can go to <http://www.holidayinsights.com/moreholidays/february.htm>.

SYBIL LUDINGTON'S RIDE

Most everyone has heard tale of the famous Midnight Ride of Paul Revere, but there be yet another rider whose story you may not have heard. This is the story of a 16 year old girl who rode out on a 40 mile ride on a cold, dark, rainy night to alarm the countryside that the British had taken Danbury, Connecticut.

It was the 26th day of April in 1777 and the Tories of Danbury, Connecticut were busy marking their homes in expectation of a coming British invasion. For they had provided intelligence to the British that the Continental Army was keeping stores of field supplies in the homes and storehouses of some of the townsfolk. Expecting a raid on their town the Tories were busy marking their homes to protect them during the raid.

About mid-day General Tryon and an army of 2000 British troops intent upon capturing and destroying the rebel stores fell upon the little town of Danbury. The list of supplies included tents, hospital cots, medical supplies, as well as shoes and clothing. Also on the list were cooking utensils and provisions such as wheat, corn, rice, sugar, flour, molasses, coffee, beef, and pork. But perhaps the real prize was the several hundred cases of wine and rum that was reported as well.

As the soldiers began searching the storehouses and private homes they did not find all of the items they were after for much had already been removed from

that place. But they did find a cash of rum and some of the soldiers must have been too thirsty to destroy their precious find, so they began drinking their spoils of war. About four o'clock in the early evening the drunken British soldiers began to set the storehouses and homes ablaze. But the Committee of Safety had already dispatched riders to muster the militia.

Col. Henry Ludington, who had been an aide to General George Washington several months earlier during the Battle of White Plains, was at his home for the evening when at about nine o'clock a Courier arrived with the news that the British had taken Danbury and set the town ablaze. Ludington was the commander of the 7th Dutchess County Militia and desperately needed to raise the militia, but there was no one to raise the alarm. Col. Ludington could not raise the alarm himself for he needed to remain to organize the militia as they mustered, and the Courier who had just arrived was exhausted from his long ride and did not know the area. It was then that Ludington's 16 year old daughter, Sybil, volunteered to raise the alarm. And so it was that a 16 year old girl set off riding through the darkness to raise the alarm. The following is a poem by Berton Braley entitled "Sybil Ludington's Ride."

Listen, my children, and you shall hear
Of a lovely feminine Paul Revere
Who rode an equally famous ride
Through a different part of the countryside,
Where Sybil Ludington's name recalls
A ride as daring as that of Paul's.

In April, Seventeen Seventy-Seven,
A smoky glow in the eastern heaven
(A fiery herald of war and slaughter)
Came to the eyes of the Colonel's daughter.

"Danbury's burning," she cried aloud.
The Colonel answered, "'Tis but a cloud,
A cloud reflecting the campfires' red,
So hush you, Sybil, and go to bed."
"I hear the sound of the cannon drumming"
"'Tis only the wind in the treetops humming!
So go to bed, as a young lass ought,
And give the matter no further thought."
Young Sybil sighed as she turned to go,
"Still, Danbury's burning--that I know."

Sound of a horseman riding hard
Clatter of hoofs in the manor yard
Feet on the steps and a knock resounding
As a fist struck wood with a mighty pound-

ing.

The doors flung open, a voice is heard,
"Danbury's burning--I rode with word;
Fully half of the town is gone
And the British--the British are coming
on.

Send a messenger, get our men!"
His message finished the horseman then
Staggered wearily to a chair
And fell exhausted in slumber there.

The Colonel muttered, "And who, my
friend,
Is the messenger I can send?
Your strength is spent and you cannot
ride
And, then, you know not the country-
side;
I cannot go for my duty's clear;
When my men come in they must find
me here;
There's devil a man on the place tonight
To warn my troopers to come--and fight.
Then, who is my messenger to be?"

Said Sybil Ludington, "You have me."
"You!" said the Colonel, and grimly
smiled,
"You!" My daughter, you're just a
child!"
"Child!" cried Sybil. "Why I'm sixteen!
My mind's alert and my senses keen,
I know where the trails and the road-
ways are
And I can gallop as fast and as far
As any masculine rider can.
You want a messenger? I'm your man!"

The Colonel's heart was aglow with
pride.
": Spoke like a soldier. Ride, girl, ride
Ride like the devil; ride like sin;
Summon my slumbering troopers in.
I know when duty is to be done
That I can depend on a Ludington!"

So over the trails to the towns and farms
Sybil delivered the call to arms.

Riding swiftly without a stop
Except to rap with a riding crop
On the soldiers' doors, with a sharp
tattoo
And a high-pitched feminine halloo.
"Up! up there, soldier. You're needed,
come!
The British are marching!" and the
drum
Of her horse's feet as she rode apace
To bring more men to the meeting
place.

Sybil grew weary and faint and drows-
ing,
Here limbs were aching, but still she
rode
Until she finished her task of rousing
Each sleeping soldier from his abode,
Showing her father, by work well
done,
That he could depend on a Ludington.

Dawn in the skies with its tints of
pearl
And the lass who rode in a soldier's
stead
Turned home, only a tired girl
Thinking of breakfast and then of bed
With never a dream that her ride
would be
A glorious legend of history;

Nor that posterity's hand would mark
Each trail she rode through the inky
dark,
Each path to figure in song and story
As a splendid, glamorous path of glory
--
To prove, as long as the ages run,
That "you can depend on a Luding-
ton."

Such is the legend of Sybil's ride
To summon the men from the country-
side
A true tale, making her title clear
As a lovely feminine Paul Revere!!

Photo Album

February 2013



At Left—Judy Swan our speaker receives a Certificate of Appreciation from President Larry Wood.

At right—State Color Guard Commander Jim Fosdyck presented the Bronze SAR Color Guard Medal to Lee's Legion Color Guardsman David R. Siler.



Center Left—Jerry Ellington is inducted by President Wood and is pinned with his rosette by Registrar Kent Gregory.

Center Right—Eagle Scout Benjamin Kunzler is inducted into the chapter by President Wood and Pinned with the Society Rosette by Kent Gregory. His dad, Rick, joined in the photo.



Eagle Scout Kunzler was the chapter winner in the Eagle Scout Scholarship Contest. Eagle Scout Chairman Jim Blauer presents Ben with the winners medal and has his father pin it on. After reading his winning essay, Benjamin received a \$100 check from the chapter. His application has been sent to State for judging at that level. Ben was also presented the SAR Eagle Scout Pin. It is presented to SARs who are Eagle Scouts.



Photo Album

February 2013-2



At Left-President Wood presents Dan Shippey with a Certificate of Appreciation. Above—Jim Blauer, Jim Fosdyck, Danny Cox, Richard Adams, Dan McKelvie, Arthur Koehler and Jon Vreeland were presented Outstanding Citizenship Certificates and pins from President Wood. Below left.—Martha Washington Oak Leaf Clusters were presented to Lisa Gregory and Karen Carlson.



Above right—Meritorious service Oak Leaf Clusters and medal were presented to Kent Gregory(OLC), John Dodd (OLC) and David Siler (Medal). Below left—Kent Gregory presents Sharon Wood and Karen Mckelvie the Martha Washington Medal. Below your officers for 2013—John Dodd (Chancellor), Dan McKelvie (Pres.), Dan Shippey (VP), Jim Blauer (Rec. Sec), Jim Klingler (Corresp. Sec.), Arthur Koehler (Treas.), Kent Gregory (Registrar) and Richard Adams (Chaplain).



Photo Album

February 2013-3



At left our new President and First Lady— Dan and Karen McKelvie.



At right Newly installed President Dan Mckelvie Presents Immediate Past President Larry Wood with his Past Presidents Pin.



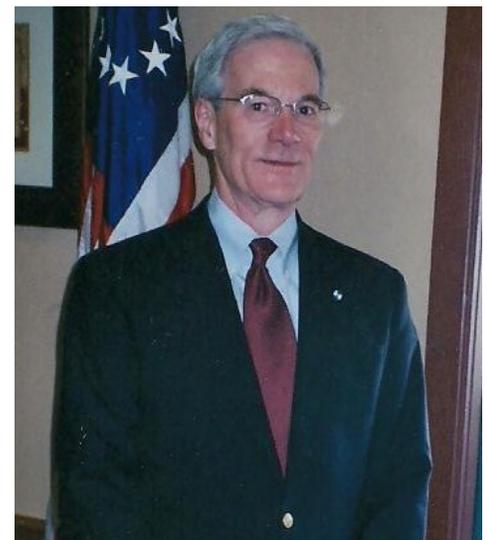
At left, President Mckelvie announces that the Quilt seen here will be raffled off in November to raise money for Quilts of Valor to help defray the costs of materials of making quilts for Wounded Warriors.



At Right President McKelvie thanks members for this honor to serve as Chapter President and promises to try and do as good a job as his predecessors.



New faces on the Board are at left-Daniel Shippey who is our new Vice-President in charge of Programs.



At right is Jim Klingler who was elected our new Corresponding Secretary.