



MUSKETS & BROADSWORD

Orange County Chapter Sons of the American Revolution

May 2013

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MEETING INFORMATION

When: May 11 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

The Orange County Chapter did well in 2012...

A significant way to measure ourselves is against the goals of the SAR as reflected in the programs they encourage – by that measure we are doing well. For 2012, under the leadership of Larry Wood and with the contributions of many other compatriots, our Chapter received a significant number of awards from the CASSAR.

Our Chapter is blessed with people willing to give of themselves. We are especially blessed with a strong Ladies Auxiliary who actively participate in the chapter's activities:

Un Hui Fosdyck is also a honorary member of the CASSAR Ladies Auxiliary Board and is well known for her photography, having her photos of SAR activities routinely published on our chapter website, SAR Magazine, SAR Color guardsman Magazine, California Compatriot and other societies (DAR, CAR, Society of Colonial Wars, etc.). She takes her job as the Official Photographer NSSAR Western District very seriously.

Karen Carlson and Lisa Gregory as officers in the CASSAR Ladies Auxiliary exemplify the Orange County Chapters contribution to leadership of SAR in California. Both, along with Sharon Wood and Karen McKelvie, are also active wearing colonial dresses at Color Guard and other functions. Each of these ladies actively support the chapter and its Color Guard in a number of ways.

As a Chapter we remain active in all the programs that SAR and CASSAR encourage their chapters to promote. It was noted in the state meeting that a key difference between Chapters in earning the annual state awards has been being active in such

youth Programs as the Brochure, Poster and Essay contests, plus the Eagle Scout (Jim Blauer, Chairman) and JROTC (Jim Fosdyck, Chairman). Also important are the Flag certificate (Jon Vreeland, Chairman), Wounded Warrior and Veteran programs (Dave Siler, Chairman) and an active Color Guard (Jim Blauer, Commander).

Here are the results from 2012:

Awards from CASSAR (State):

Best Brochure:

The Declaration of Independence by Hoa T. Bui from Fitz Intermediate School in Garden Grove, Paul Moore, Middle School Brochure Contest Chairman.

Honorable Mention Poster:

Taryn Ogasawara of Wittmann Elementary in Cerritos, Hugh Richards, Americanism Elementary School Poster Chairman ably assisted by Karen, his wife

Chapter Awards: Orange County won in 7 of 8 categories!

2012 Best Large Chapter; & Best Chapter - Publications; & Best Chapter - New Members & Supplementals; &

Best Chapter - Medals & Certificates;& Best Chapter - Chapter Activities;& Best Chapter - Community Service;& Best Chapter - CASSAR Programs;& Best Chapter - Best Publicity Category.

CASSAR Recognition of Orange County Chapter Color Guard: Streamers

CASSAR Large Chapter Best Color Guard 2012-2013;

Massing of the Colors 2013; Wreaths Across America 2012.

State Board Member recognition to Orange County Chapter and Ladies

Auxiliary Members:

Kent Gregory (State V.P. South);& Lou Carson (State Chaplain);& Jim Blauer (State Historian):&

Jim Fosdyck (CASSAR Color Guard Cmdr., Chief of Protocol, ROTC/JROTC Chairman and US Navy Sea Cadets Chairman).

Un Hui Fosdyck - Certificate of Appreciation

Also -- individual Awards to OC Chapter members -- from SAR Foundation

Lamplighter Award in recognition for outstanding support of the Center for Advancing America's Heritage – to:

Jim Klinger; & Dan McKelvie

Thanks & Congratulations to all of the Chairmen and to all of the Orange County compatriots!

Dan McKelvie

DAR INVITATION

At our April 20th meeting we had DAR Guest Shiryl Boerlin from the Whittier Chapter. She has extended an invitation to our members who would like to attend to do so. The John Greenleaf Whittier Chapter meets the third Wednesday of the month at Friendly Hills Country Club, 8500 South Villaverde Drive, Whittier. Their social time is from 11:30-12Noon. Lunch is served at 12:15 after a brief opening ceremony. The cost is \$20.00 for lunch reservation.

Their speakers through the remainder of the year that they thought may be of interest to our members will be as follows.

August: Richard Nixon Library Docent Guild: Review

of the 1300 kids who entered the Geography Contest with 300 earning perfect scores and honored April 16 at RN Library - Attendees will be challenged with some of the questions.

Oct. Peter Small portraying Teddy Roosevelt

Nov. Capt. Diana Arnold returning from a year deployment in Kuwait

Jan. Kathy Bihl - VP from Tiger Woods Education Center - presenting her program for children of deployed service men.

April. Rebakah Harding from Autry Museum on Manifest Destiny

May Joedy Adams - granddaughter of William Tyler Page who wrote the American Creed .

GOING GREEN

It is once again time for a reminder of several items we do for our chapter and Veterans. The first is Coupons to Troops. Our chapter has been given the contact information from this group and we are sending our unused coupons to Fort Buchanan in Puerto Rico. These coupons help our military personnel and their families to be able to save money on the items they buy at the base store. It would be nice if we could send them a full envelope (Manila) each month. Your editor has already sent three envelopes of about \$3500-\$5,000 worth of coupons. He has another about ready that has over \$2100 worth of coupons. This is a lot of money for our military people, some who only make about \$1700 per month. Not a lot for a family if the spouse has to stay home and take care of the kids. Every little bit counts for our men and women who are protecting us and our way of life.

Coupons can be brought to the meetings or they can be mailed or brought by our editor's home; Jim Blauer, 594 Hamilton Street #E, Costa Mesa, CA

92627-2656.

If you receive the Sunday paper or go out and buy one you should find at least one, possibly more booklets of coupons to cut out each week.

Here is a brief note from our contact Daniel Alatorre at Fort Buchanan. ***"Thanks again for the coupons. They arrived safe and sound and we have been putting them to great use through our family and others that are slowly joining our base couponing club."***

The second item is the recycling of printer cartridges. Your editor who does his printing (at Staples) of those newsletters for members who do not have email gets rewards money in the form of coupons for each cartridge he turns in. Up to 10 cartridges per month. At \$2.00 per cartridge we get a coupon for \$20.00 to help defray the cost of printing the newsletter. Usually our only cost is the postage. We all know how that has been going up over the years and is not cheap. At present that runs about \$7.00 per month. The printing for the main body of the newsletter (Black and white) runs \$8.10 for a six pager. The photo pages (color) are \$7.35 per newsletter for one page. That is over \$14.00 for 2 pages of photos and over \$21.00 for three. So, it adds up and these cartridges help us to save that money for postage and other expenses for our chapter.

You can bring your cartridges to the chapter meeting or you can send them to the address as you do the coupons.

Third and finally, our chapter as well as the state society hands out many certificates to its members for various awards or recognition for their efforts on behalf of the chapter or state. Each certificate is placed in a presentation folder. If you have received

such a certificate and do not need the presentation folder, you can donate it back to the chapter for use in future presentations. These run about a dollar each and if you give out 50 certificates a year that is \$50.00. It adds up. So, please if you do not have a need for the presentation folder, bring it to the meeting.

MAY EVENTS

We are currently trying to finalize as many of our events in May as possible.

First of all we will not be doing the Color Guard for the Orange County Government Employees Prayer Breakfast this year. It was decided that since it is held in Irvine, they wanted to get the Irvine Police Color Guard to do it.

We will have our monthly meeting on May 11th. Come one come all and join us for a fun time.

FIELD OF HONOR

On May 17-19 your Lee's Legion along with color guards from around the state will be at the Field of Honor. They will have Color Guards for all three days. They want us to do the honors on Friday when they are going to bus in school kids from all over the county.

This event was started four years ago and we have been to every one. The Newport Harbor Exchange Club will set up 1776 Flags at Castaways Park in Newport Beach. If you would like to purchase a flag you may do so for \$45 and if you wish may designate it to honor a veteran in your family or family tree. They will place a ribbon on it noting the veteran and his service and the years he served. If you like you can send a picture in and they will post it with the Flag and ribbon.

When the three day event winds down on Sunday you may pick up your flag with pole.

The money raised goes to help local veterans groups and charities.

It is a beautiful display of patriotism that should not be missed. If you go to <http://www.nhexchange.org/> you will get more information and see a short video on this event planned for this year.

MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND

The weekend following the Field of Honor will be no less busy for your chapter. On Friday May 24th at 10am Compatriot Jim Blauer will attend the Memorial Service held by his alma mater, Newport Harbor High School, for those alumni who have died in service. Jim once again has been asked to sing the National Anthem. He has done this for over 10 years now. If you wish to attend the service. it will be held in front of the high school main building, auditorium and Bell Tower. It is at the corner of Irvine Ave. and East 15th Street in Newport Beach.

On May 25th we are planning to once again be in the Strawberry Festival Parade. As of this writing we have not received word of our acceptance or line up number, but should hear from the organizers in the next week or so.

On Sunday May 26th you Lee's Legion has been asked to do the Color Guard duties at the last service of the Crystal Cathedral in Garden Grove. This is going to go World wide so we may expect to also have Color Guards from around the state included in the presentation of Colors. Stay tuned for more information about the broadcast of this event.

On Monday May 27, Memorial Day Observed, your Lee's Legion Color Guard will once again par-

ticipate in the Tri-City Memorial service at the Civil War Monument in the Old Santa Ana Cemetery off Santa Clara. It starts at 10am so those wishing to attend should be there by 9:30 to get what seating is available. You Lee's Legion has been participating in this event for over 15 years. We will present our colors along with other veteran and hereditary organizations and like wise will present a wreath along with others wishing to do so.

There will also at the same time be a service over at the Fairhaven Memorial Park which will be conducted by our own Rev. Lou Carlson. So you can filter between the two if you so wish.

Like I said it is going to be a busy weekend for your chapter and its Color Guard. Hope to see you at some of these events.

THE ORIGINS OF MEMORIAL Day

By

Stephen K. Robinson

95th Air Base Wing

Public Affairs Office

Decoration Day commemorates U. S. men and women who have died while serving in the military. First enacted to honor Union Soldiers of the American Civil War-celebrated near the day of reunification after the Civil War-it was expanded after WWI.

Following the end of the Civil War, many communities set aside a day to mark the end of the war or a memorial to those who had died. While Waterloo, NY was officially declared the birthplace of Decoration Day, by President Lyndon B. Johnson in May 1966, nearly one hundred years after its inception, it's difficult to prove conclusively the origins of the day. It is more likely that it had many separate begin-

nings; every planned or spontaneous gathering of people to honor the war dead in the 1860s tapped into the general human need to honor our dead. Each contributed honorably to the growing movement that culminated when Gen. John Logan, Grand Army of the Republic commander-in-chief, issued a proclamation that "Decoration Day" be observed nationwide. It was observed for the first time on May 30 of the same year; the date was chosen because it was not the anniversary of a battle. The tombs of the fallen Union Soldiers were decorated in remembrance.

According to Professor David Blight of the Yale university History Department, the first Memorial Day was observed by formerly enslaved black people at the Washington Race Course (today the location of Hampton Park) in Charleston, South Carolina. The race course had been used as a temporary Confederate prison camp in 1865 as well as a mass grave for union soldiers who died there. Immediately after the cessation of hostilities, formerly enslaved people exhumed the bodies from the mass grave and reinterred them properly with individual graves. They built a fence around the graveyard with an entry arch and declared it as a Union graveyard. The work was completed in only ten days. On May 1, 1865, the Charleston newspaper reported that a crowd of up to ten thousand, mainly black residents, including 2,800 children, proceeded to the location for a celebration which included sermons, singing, and a picnic on the grounds, thereby creating the first Decoration Day

Memorial Day was officially proclaimed on May 5, 1868 by General Logan in his 11th General Order, and was first observed on May 30, 1868, when

flowers were placed on the graves of Union and Confederate soldiers at Arlington National Cemetery.

Many of the states of the U. S. South refused to celebrate Decoration Day, due to the lingering hostility towards the Union Army and also because there were relatively few veterans of the Union Army who were buried in the South. A notable exception was Columbus, Mississippi., which on April 25, 1866, at its Decoration Day commemorated both the Union and Confederate casualties buried in its cemetery.

The alternative name of “Memorial Day” was first used in 1882. It did not become more common until after WWII, and was not declared the official name by Federal Law until 1967. On June 28, 1968, the United States Congress passed the Uniform Holiday Bill, which moved three holidays from their traditional dates to a specified Monday in order to create a convenient three day weekend. The change moved Memorial Day from its traditional May 30 date to the last Monday in May. The law took effect at the federal level in 1971.

Traditional observances of Memorial Day has diminished over the years. Many Americans nowadays have forgotten the meaning and traditions of Memorial Day. At many cemeteries, the graves are increasingly ignored, neglected. Most people don't remember the proper flag etiquette for the day. While there are towns and cities that still hold Memorial Day Parades, many have not held a parade in decades. Some people think the day is for honoring all dead, and not just those fallen in the service to our country.

To help re-educate and remind Americans of the true meaning of Memorial Day, the “National Moment of Remembrance” resolution was passed in December 2000 which asks that at 3pm., local time, for all Americans “To voluntarily and informally observe in their

own way a moment of remembrance and respect, pausing from whatever they are doing for a moment of silence or listening to “Taps”.

The Moment of Remembrance is a step to return the meaning back to the day: set aside one day out of the year for the nation to get together to remember, reflect and honor those who have given their all in service to their country. It is not important who first honored our veterans, but rather that we honor them today. Memorial Day is not about division, it is about reconciliation: it is about coming together to honor those who gave their all for us.

QUILTS OF VALOR

Last June we had Barbara Winkler from the Quilts of Valor come to speak to our chapter about her Organization. For those of you who are unaware the Quilts of Valor is a group of quilters who make beautiful quilts to present to Wounded Warriors.

In June 2012 it was John (J.J.) McMasters who received a quilt from them. In September we had two Wounded Warriors; Tyler Johnson and Bud Hemstreet. In October we had Harold “Hal” Tor and in December we had Walter Eugene Womack.

In 2013 we have made three presentations to Jim Davidson and Archie Sanchez in February and in March it was Larry McAndress.

Barbara Winkler was informed of our Wounded Warriors for those months and she made it a point to be at our meetings to make a quilt presentation to each Wounded Warrior.

Check out the internet for more information on this group. They are always looking for donations of fabrics to use in their quilts. Check out our website; www.orangecountysar.org to see some of the photos of our Wounded Warriors and their quilts.
