



Muskets & Broadsword

Orange County Chapter Sons of the American Revolution

December 2006

Editor Jim Blauer

OFFICERS

MEETING INFORMATION

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WHEN: December 9, 2006

Where: The Sizzler

1401 North Harbor Blvd.

Fullerton, CA

Time: Set up and Social begins at 11:00AM

Meeting: Called to order at 11:30AM

Website: www.orangecountysar.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Year's end is finally upon us, and we will hold our last meeting of the year on Saturday, December 9th, at the Sizzler restaurant, 1401 N. Harbor Boulevard, in Fullerton. The social period will begin at 11:00 a.m., and the meeting will be called to order at 11:30. Members are especially encouraged to bring their ladies this month to join in our holiday celebration.

December holds several significant anniversaries, the most notable falling on Christmas Day, when in 1776, General Washington and his army crossed the ice-choked Delaware River and defeated the Hessian troops at Trenton early the following morning. On December 16th, 1773, the "Boston Tea Party" was held in Boston Harbor. The American Army went into winter quarters at Valley Forge on December 19th, 1777. On December 4th, General Washington said farewell to his officers at Fraunces' Tavern in New York City, and on the 23rd, formally resigned his commission and retired to Mt. Vernon.

December is the month when we elect our slate of officers for the coming year. At our November meeting, our nominating committee presented its report, identifying candidates as follows: President, Dan Henry; Recording Secretary, Jim Blauer; Corresponding Secretary, Jim Wallace; Treasurer, Arthur Koehler; and Chaplain, Rev. Lou Carlson; Registrar, Col Jim Quinnelly. Any other member wishing to run for any office may still enter his name prior to the election by either contacting the committee chairman, John Dodd, at (714) 602-2132, or coming forward at the meeting. At this time, no candidate for Vice President has been named, so our Past Presidents will fill the duties of this office as necessary until it

is filled. There are also several committee positions and chairmanships which we welcome interested members to fill.

December also brings the return of our highly anticipated Christmas Gift Exchange, which is described in more detail later in this issue. Bring a \$10 gift and join in the fun!

If you haven't paid your dues, please contact Corresponding Secretary Jim Wallace at (714) 995-7490 immediately, so that you won't be dropped from active membership. Prompt payment will ensure that you won't have to go through a reinstatement process, and that you will continue to receive the *SAR Magazine*, *The California Compatriot*, and *Muskets and Broadsword* without missing any issues

The Executive Board meeting will be held immediately following the Chapter meeting, and interested members are welcome to attend. Please let me know no later than December 6th of any items you have for the Membership or Board meeting agendas.

In January, we will hold the installation of officers and Compatriot Arthur Koehler will describe his recent "Band of Brothers" tour, in which he retraced the route of the World War II unit featured in the television series of the same name.

I anticipate an enjoyable and productive meeting as I finish my term as your President, and I invite everyone to attend, support your Chapter in our election of officers, and enjoy our fellowship.

Yours in Patriotism,
Hugh Richards, President

Annual Christmas Gift Exchange

In order to avoid the confusion arising in

Annual Christmas Gift Exchange, your President has decreed that this year, we will follow the ancient rules first established by the order of the Little Sisters of Saint Zsa Zsa, the patron saint of cheap but delightful gifts. These unworldly but wise nuns first set down these rules in the year 1327 AD at their secluded convent near Zsolywachtz, a small but charming village in rural Hungary, noted for its production of inexpensive but potent varietal red table wines and overly pungent cheeses. For centuries, the rules were passed down by word of mouth, for the nuns had taken a vow of illiteracy. However, in the 16th century, a new abbess decreed that the pen was mightier than the tongue, and a vow of silence was instituted in lieu of the earlier restriction. At that time, it became necessary to commit the rules to parchment. Around 1653, an unauthorized copy was smuggled out of the convent in a wheel of cheese by a disgruntled defrocked nun and eventually reached Western Europe and then the New World. Over the centuries, the archaic rules have changed little except for the recognition that males (previously forbidden to enter the convent) may now be participants in the gift exchange, and for currency conversions.

The rules are as follows:

1. Each person wishing to participate will bring one gender-neutral \$10 gift to be placed on the gift table. A drawing ticket will be issued to each gift bringer. A couple may elect to bring one or two gifts, receiving one ticket for each gift.
2. The drawing will proceed as follows:
 - a. The first ticket will be drawn from the Ben Franklin box. The holder of the matching ticket stub will select and unwrap a gift from the gift table.

b. A second ticket will then be drawn. The

- holder of the matching ticket stub may elect either to "steal" the gift unwrapped by the first person, or to select and unwrap a new gift.
- c. If the second person "steals" the gift from the first person, the first person will then select and unwrap a new gift.
- d. A third ticket will then be drawn. The holder of the matching ticket stub may elect either to "steal" either of the gifts already unwrapped or to select and unwrap another gift.
- e. The drawings, gift selections, and "thefts" will continue in this manner until everyone has a gift.
- f. Each person from whom a gift is "stolen" will immediately elect either to "steal" any one of the gifts already opened (subject to rules "g" and "h") or to select and open a new gift.
- g. If the holder of the matching stub of the last ticket to be drawn "steals" a gift rather than to take the last remaining gift, the person from whom the gift was "stolen" will receive the last remaining wrapped gift, and the drawing will be complete.
- h. No person may "steal" back a gift which was previously "stolen" from him/her.
- i. No individual gift may be "stolen" more than three times.
- j. Ostentatious vocal displays of wonderment and delight are encouraged at the time of opening of a gift. Complainers will be ostracized by their fellows.
- k. The President shall act as referee, and any issues arising will be resolved by his wisdom, with no further appeal.

PRESIDENTIAL APPOINTMENTS

Besides the need for a Vice-President which is an elected office, there are several other offices and Committee Chairs that are appointed by the President following his

installation. If you have an interest in holding one of these appointed offices you will need to contact either Compatriot Hugh Richards or Dan Henry for possible consideration.

The appointed positions include; 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 Chairman, and Publicity Chairman.

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

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

STATE MEETING

During the first weekend of November several of your members attended the State Board of Managers Meeting in Folsom, CA. Those in attendance included, Dan Henry, Jim Blauer, Lou Carlson and wife Karen, Jim & Sue Shadwick and John & Karen Dodd.

The Chapter took Most Joint Meetings in the Activity Contest and received a Certificate from National for having our entrant place 2nd in the Americanism Poster Contest. Dan Henry accepted these Certificates on behalf of the Chapter.

Jim Blauer and Jim Shadwick participated in the Color Guard Activities wearing the chapter's Lee's Legion uniforms.

The speaker at our luncheon was a Valley Forge winner who did a power point program

on her trip back East to learn more about Valley Forge and the American Revolution to take back to her students.

If you know of a U. S. History teacher who you feel would make a good candidate for this contest, please submit their name to the chapter Board for contacting or have them go to our website or National's for information on how to apply for this contest.

ACTIVITY CONTEST

It was announced at the State meeting in November that the State Activity Contest has been revamped. The changes made concern not only the particular items for which points are earned, but also the length or period the contest covers.

In the past the contests were from April through September and October through March. Awards were presented at the State Annual Membership Meeting in April and again at the Fall Board of Managers Meeting in November. The new period will be for a full calendar year, from January 1- December 31.

The categories for which a chapter can obtain points have been modified from 16 to 14 categories. The new line up of categories include;

1- Meetings for which the chapter will receive one point for each general meeting held,
2) % of SARs in attendance at the meetings. 0-10% of a chapters membership in attendance at a meeting will receive 0 point, 11-20% receives 1 points, 21-30% will receive 2 points, 31-40% will receive 3 points, 41-50% will receive 4 points and 51-100% will receive 10 points.

3-Guests in attendance-For each non member in attendance we will receive 1 point.

4- Joint Meetings- For each Joint Meeting held with DAR or CAR chapters we will receive

3 points.

5 Publications-We will receive 1 point for each page of the newsletter published, 1 point for each newsletter transmitted by e-mail, 2 points for each newsletter sent via regular mail and 2 points for each photograph used in the newsletter. We will receive 1 point per page and 1 point per photograph in our Monthly Meeting Program. For each article on the American Revolution handed out at meetings will receive 2 points per page. Should the chapter issue an Annual Chapter Yearbook, we will receive 2 points for listing current National, State and Chapter officers, 2 points for a listing of all chapter Presidents, 2 points for listing all past CASSAR Presidents, 2 points for chapter History, 1 point per page of the chapter roster and 1 point per photograph.

6-Publicity-We will receive 5 Points if Color Guard is featured in a news article Photograph and 5 points for each chapter member interviewed in a radio or TV Spot.

7-New Members-For each new member we will receive 20 points.

8-Supplemental/Youth Registrant-For each Supplement approved or Youth Registrant obtained the chapter will receive 5 points. Youth Registrants are eligible family members who are under 18 years of age. Sons, grandson, nephews, etc.

9. Medals & Certificates-The chapter will receive 1 point for each Medal/Certificate presented to a non-SAR member.

10. Other CASSAR/Chapter Activities-5 points will be received for each activity(i.e. color guard appearance, school presentation, chapter represented at State, district or National meetings plus 1 point per participant.

11. NSSAR Congress/Leadership Meeting-10 points will be awarded for each

member and 5 points for each spouse and child in attendance at one of these meetings.

12. New Life Memberships-10 points will be received for each New Life Membership. If paid on the installment plan the points are to be awarded when the Compatriot has made his last installment.

13. CASSAR Program Participation-35 points for the submission of a chapter winner + 1 point for each application (poster) received at the chapter level. Add 25 bonus points if entries are submitted in all four programs and 1 point for each application /poster received at the chapter level. The four Programs are the Essay, Poster, Eagle Scout Scholarship, and Valley Forge Contests. Though there is an Oration Contest at National, the California Society has not participated for many years due to complications in travel and costs that the state is responsible for.

14. Web Page-1 point is received for each of the following items that appear on a chapter web site. 1) Current monthly newsletter, 2) Announcement of time and location of the next monthly meeting, 3) a calendar of future events (at least 3 months), 4) list current years chapter officers and contact information, 5) SAR Membership information, 6) Ladies Auxiliary information, 7) How to contact Webmaster, 8) Links to CASSAR and NSSAR websites, 9) Information about NSSAR/CASSAR programs (e.g. Knight Essay, Eagle Scout Scholarship, etc.), 10) Prominent notice of when the website was last updated.

At the the Annual Meeting in April Awards will be handed out for those who are #1 in each category, plus and overall award for Best Chapter in the Small (0-40 members), Medium (41-70 members) and Large (71 or more members) Chapters.

So, you can see from these categories that member participation is essential for a chapter to do well in these contests and we hope you will help in our efforts to become the BEST chapter in our division. At present we are in the Large division with over 71 members. Once the dues have all been paid and counted we will have our division designation for the January newsletter.

Reports are made on a monthly basis to the State Referee who is Phil Hinshaw of San Diego. All reports of your activities are to be sent to Chapter Activity Chairman, Jim Blauer, who can be reached at jblauer@pacbell.net, (949)548-6871 or 418 Pirate Road, Newport Beach, CA 92663-5829. Jim will fill out the Activity Report Form and send it in.

If you have any questions about possible points contact Jim and if need be he will contact referee Hinshaw for a determination on the question.

So, lets get out and attend our meetings, bring guests, get new members and supplementals processed and get the word out to the Public about the SAR, who we are and what we represent—The men and women who gave us our country by aiding the Patriot Cause of the American Revolution and their ideals. God Bless America!!!

THOSE TO REMEMBER

Our thoughts go out to Barbara Magerkurth and Helen Davis. Take care we are thinking and praying for you.

CENTER FOR ADVANCING AMERICA'S HERITAGE

We know that our Society is not just another organization. Our SAR Constitution states that our objective is "to inspire the community of

large with a more profound reverence for the principles of the government of our forefathers". What is at stake is whether our Society will in a world that is increasingly involved in a culture war, motivated by political correctness at the cost of values from our founding fathers, against those who would sooth us with talk about multiculturalism and world government. We must have the physical plant to have a meaningful future in our outreach programs and to achieve our objectives.

The SAR *Center For Advancing America's Heritage* is not just another building, but a vision becoming a reality. The *Center* will provide historical and genealogical capabilities to the general public as well as our Compatriots from its library and museum, promote understanding of the Revolutionary War period, increase the appreciation and belief in the principles of democracy and thus promote good citizenship, imbue people with patriotism, and provide quality educational programs to underserved students and occasionally misguided teachers.

The goals and objectives of the society and the *Center* are inextricably linked together.

In keeping with the historical objectives of the National Society, the new *Center for Advancing America's Heritage* will boast a beautiful Jeffersonian look, in that it will take on some of the architectural attributes of Thomas Jefferson's design for Monticello and the University of Virginia. As such, it will be a source of enduring pride for all SARs. The facility is destined to become the foremost repository for Revolutionary War documents and artifacts. It will also enable the SAR to expand its already outstanding collection of military and genealogical records, books,

manuscripts and other pertinent historical material.

The campaign to build and endow the new library is gaining momentum. The property has been acquired across the street from National Headquarters, cleared and zoned. The architectural plans are complete. A strategic plan that has been repeatedly examined and approved by our Committees, Trustees, and Delegates at Congress is in place, however, we need the help of a much larger portion of our 27,000 members to make this vision a reality, and reach our \$6 million goal.

Your Orange County Chapter Executive Board approved a Chapter donation last December, and we have many Chapter members participating , but we need more chapter members to support this project. Any amount of contribution is welcome. Donors who give \$500-\$999 receive an antique copper lapel pin. Donations of \$1,000 may be spread over five years in affordable \$200 installments. A \$1,000 donation or pledge, gains a sapphire in the lapel pin. A \$5,000 donation spread over five years puts a ruby in the lapel pin. Larger donations and pledges have other attractive recognitions. If you itemize, contributions should be tax deductible. If you have questions, please contact Compatriot Rex Shannon at (714) 669-3016, or e-mail at rexbshannon@cs.com. A pledge form for your use is attached to this copy of *Muskets and Broadsword*.



Photo Album

December 2006



Caroline Rober, a professional genealogist spoke to our chapter on doing census research. She explained how the census records you see may not have what is on the "original".



Caroline received a Certificate of Appreciation from President Hugh Richards as well as the book "Liberty & Freedom"



At left, John Dodd does a song and dance. Not really. He is actually explaining the slate the Nominating Committee has come up with for our 2007 officers. We are in need of a Vice-President.

Below, are the prizes won by members and guests in the Ben Franklin raffle.

