



Muskets & Broadsword

Orange County Chapter Sons of the American Revolution

January 2007

Editor Jim Blauer

OFFICERS

MEETING INFORMATION

PRESIDENT

HUGH L. RICHARDS, JR.
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WHEN: January 13, 2007

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

VICE-PRESIDENT

DANIEL J. HENRY
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A new year is upon us, and this is my final message as President of Orange County Chapter, as our slate of officers for 2007 is about to be installed. Our next meeting will be held on Saturday, January 13th, 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. As always, members are encouraged to bring their ladies and children to join us in the enjoyment of our program.

CORRESP. SECRETARY

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January historical events of interest include Thomas Paine's publication in 1776 of "Common Sense"; the Battle of Charleston, Massachusetts, in 1776; the 1777 Battle of Princeton, in which Washington's army routed the British and freed most of New Jersey; the Battle of Cowpens in 1781; and the ratification by Congress of the Treaty of Peace in 1784. January birthdays include Alexander Hamilton, John Hancock, and Benjamin Franklin (who, in January 1784, directed his sarcastic wit at Congress for selecting the eagle over the turkey as the national symbol). And, finally, George Washington and wealthy widow Mrs. Martha Dandridge Custis were wed in 1759.

TREASURER

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I want to take this time to thank the members of Orange County Chapter for allowing me to serve as President for the past year, as well as thanking my fellow officers who have served so well. I would also like to express my gratitude to Past Presidents John Dodd and Rex Shannon who, drawing on their own experiences, provided welcome help and advice on numerous subjects during the year. Finally, special thanks to Compatriot Jim Blauer for all the things that he does for the Chapter – some highly visible, and some not so obvious but just as important in

Our first order of business at the January meeting will be the installation of our officers for 2007. The installation will be conducted by CASSAR Executive Vice President Karl Jacobs. Incoming President Dan Henry will move up from his former office of Vice President, which will be filled by Danny Cox. Recording Secretary, Jim Blauer; Corresponding Secretary, Jim Wallace; Treasurer, Arthur Koehler; Chaplain, Rev. Lou Carlson; and Registrar Col. Jim Quinnelly will all retain their current offices. There are still some open committee positions and chairmanships, and members interested in serving the Chapter should contact the incoming President regarding these opportunities.

Our speaker for this month's meeting is Compatriot Arthur Koehler, who will describe his recent "Band of Brothers" tour in Europe, where he retraced the route of the World War II Army unit featured in the television series of the same name. It promises to be an informative and entertaining presentation.

The Executive Board meeting will be held immediately following the Chapter meeting, and interested members are welcome to attend. Please let me know immediately of any items you have for the Membership or Board meeting agendas, as we will be instituting a new printed meeting program this month, and the lead time is a little longer than prior agendas.

If you haven't paid your dues, you have been dropped from active status, and this is the last Muskets and Broadsword which you will be receiving. Please contact Corresponding Secretary Jim Wallace at (714) 995-7490 immediately to arrange for

reinstatement to active membership.

The Ben Franklin Opportunity Drawing will return this month after being replaced in December by the Christmas Gift Exchange. If you won a prize at the last meeting you attended, please bring something for this month's drawing. We also welcome anything that you just wish to contribute to the Ben Franklin, as it is an important fundraiser for the chapter.

I invite everyone to attend our meeting, welcome our new officers for the coming year, and enjoy the program and our fellowship.

Yours in Patriotism,

Hugh Richards, President

PRESIDENTIAL APPOINTMENTS

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 Compatriot 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

chapter, here is your opportunity to get involved and make a contribution to your chapter and the society.

TOYS FOR TROOPS

After our last meeting on December 9th, Compatriot Jim Blauer saw an item in the Orange County Register in the local section under Newport Beach. Here, it was announced that those wishing to donate Toys For Troops, they could drop off a new toy on the front lawn of Newport Beach City Hall between 10am-11am on December 14th. The purpose of this drive is to raise toys for those families in our military who are strapped at Christmas time with one or both parents away serving in our military and their children who may have a meager Christmas at best.

Compatriot John Dodd was good enough to broadcast this via e-mail so that if members desired they could bring a toy to our meeting for donations to this worthy cause. Thanks to Compatriots Jim Quinnelly and Hugh Richards who personally donated money, the Chapter Board voted a \$100 donation and Jim Wallace brought an item to the meeting.

With one toy and \$125 in donations compatriot Blauer donated his recent check for expenses to make it \$200. On December 14th Compatriot Blauer arrived at his Rite Aid Store shortly before 9am to select a bunch of toys for this drive. Many were on sale so he was able to get a good deal. He was able to purchase some 36 toys and games for just over \$205.

Compatriot Dave Benedict showed up at the store to lend a hand and also purchased some toys. We now had 40 toys to deliver to City Hall. Jim's boss, Al, was kind enough to let us use his van and drove Jim and the Toys to City Hall. Here they were able to get some help

from the Marines and volunteers to unload the the van and display the toys on the front lawn at City Hall.

While there Compatriot Blauer and Benedict noticed an ABC Channel 7 news camera and was guided to a reporter by one of the volunteers. When asked why our group was donating these toys, Compatriot Blauer explained to the reporter that the enlisted men and women do not make a lot of money and when one is away, and they have kids, the other may need a job to help make ends meet, which means the necessity of a baby sitter. They cost money too so part of the working parent's paycheck then goes to pay them.

It was reported in the Orange County Register the next morning on the front page that 400 toys had been donated, so that means our chapter donated 1/10 of the total collected that day. The article also contained a quote from Compatriot Blauer and noted our Society's donation by name.

Thanks go out to all those who helped to make this a successful event.

AMMH LOSE BID FOR BLIMP HANGAR

At a recent Board of Supervisors meeting, the Supervisors voted 3 to 1 to accept the plan by a recreational planning company over the Veterans of Orange County who desired to place their American Museum of Military History in the North Blimp Hangar. They had been promised the Blimp Hangar back in 2001 by the Board. As noted in the Orange County Register the company plans a military memorial, but that is not what the veteran's had envisioned. They were working for a full blown Military Museum in the entire hangar.

It was the concern of the Supervisors that

the Veterans did not have the financial backing, which is untrue as they had some \$18 million that they could get their hands on and possibly more once they had possession of the Hangar. The Board of Supervisors were informed of this by the Veterans during a meeting in the Spring of 2005.

We will keep you apprised of any further developments with the American Museum of Military History.

FLAG CERTIFICATES

Flag Certificates is just one of the awards a chapter may present to an individual, homeowner, business or public entity. Your editor has been pushing to get at least one certificate presented this year without any results. Even he has had a problem finding a deserving recipient for this award. Early this year he attempted to contact a couple of homeowners in the area where he lives. Though he finally heard back from one, they had trouble connecting and in the ensuing months your editor found a problem with the way they flew the Flag. It was being flown at night without a light of any kind. This week we had the passing of President Gerald R. Ford, Jr. All Flags at the passing of a President are to be flown at half staff for a period of 30 Days. Your editor could not find one Flag at half staff or those which are unable to be lowered to half staff should have a black ribbon or streamer hanging from the top of the staff.

When a chapter presents a Flag Certificate it counts for the State Society. National has a program where each state may receive an award for having had a certain number of chapters present at least one Flag Certificate during the given year. Though members on the State Level declare it is simple and easy to



give out Flag Certificates, your editor has found this to be a difficult task. Whether the Flag is not at half staff, not lighted at night, in the rain or excessive wind (in climate weather) or is flown in a tattered or faded condition, has made it difficult to find a worthy recipient.

If you see a Flag being flown and feel that those responsible deserve a Flag Certificate you are encouraged to contact our chapter President to see about getting a certificate for your nominee for this award.

Just because they fly the flag is not enough to deserve this award. They must observe all the rules and protocol for flying and giving proper care to the Flag. Your editor has observed those he thought as possible candidates over several months and in the end found them unworthy as they violated various rules for flying the American Flag. Your mission, should you decide to accept it, is to seek out and find a worthy recipient of this award.

EAGLE SCOUT PROGRAM

At our December 9th meeting, Eagle Scout Chairman Jim Blauer announced that he had received an application for the Eagle Scout Scholarship Contest. He briefly spoke about the entrant's subject and since there were no other applications received prior to the deadline, Eagle Scout Kevin Ray Quihuiz was declared the chapter winner for this year.

Kevin's application has been forwarded to State Eagle Scout Chairman, Earl Young, for review and judging at the state level of this competition. Results from state should be in by the end of January. Meanwhile we continue to work on our Eagle Scout Certificate program. Due to a slowdown in November we did not have any certificates that month. In December we have done 20, with just a couple days to go should a new list come in. We began 2006 with #6417 and are at present at #6873. That is 457 Certificates for 2006, This is below the projected 500+ by your Eagle Scout Chairman, but is mainly due to the slow down. Had we had our usual 40 in November (we had none) and another 20 this month, that would have been an added 60 for 517. Still 457 is a respectable number for one year.

ISRAEL PUTNAM

Israel Putnam was born on January 7, 1718 to John and Elizabeth (Porter) Putnam in Salem Village (now Danvers), Massachusetts. His earliest American Putnam ancestor was George Puttenham, who came from Aston Abbots, Bucks and was one of the first settlers of Salem Village. He was from a prosperous farming family of Salem Witch Trials fame. Ancestress Ann Putnam, Jr., then age twelve is reported as the first to be afflicted by witchcraft. Israel's birthplace, Putnam House still exists. See picture below.

In 1740 at the age of 22, Putnam moved to



Israel Putnam by
John Trumbull



Mortlake (now Pomfret) in Northeastern Connecticut where land was cheaper and easier to obtain.

He had lived there about two years when in 1742-43 an incident arose where a she wolf was killing his and other farmer's sheep. In one night this she wolf killed 70 of his sheep and goats. Though they had been able to kill most of the she wolf's offspring, they had trouble catching her. With the killing of his livestock he and five other farmers banded to continuously pursue the wolf. Fortunately it had snowed which made it easier to track. John Sharp a 17 year old was the one who discovered the den where the she wolf was hiding. Putnam and his men tried for an entire day to dislodge the wolf only to have the dogs sent in come out frightened and wounded. He was unable to get his servant to go into the hole and shoot the wolf so, Putnam undertook the task himself. Having removed his waistcoat, he proceeded to have a long rope attached around his legs, so that if need be he could be pulled out quickly. With torch in hand he crawled into the cave. He encountered the wolf at the end of the long narrow pathway into the cave. Hearing the savage sound the farmers quickly pulled him from the cave. He now prepared to enter again and with him he took his rifle. As he got back in the cave and came face to face with the she

wolf, growling and gnashing her teeth, he fired his rifle at her. He was quickly pulled out and waited for the smoke to clear before going back in. The shewolf was silent this time as he approached, He touched her nose with his torch and found that she was dead. He grabbed her by the ear and gave the signal to be pulled out dragging the corpse out to an astonished crowd.

In 1755 he joined Rogers' Rangers (Commanded by Robert Rogers) and participated in their many exploits during the French and Indian War(Seven Years War). He also served with British forces on occasion.

He was promoted to Captain in 1756 and Major in 1758. In 1759 he led an attack on Fort Tichonderoga and the following year participated in the Montreal Campaign. In 1762 during a campaign against the Spanish in the West Indies, he survived a shipwreck, leading to the capture of Havana, Cuba.

Putnam as commander of the Connecticut forces in the Spring of 1763 was dispatched to relieve Pontiac's siege of Fort Detroit. He was captured by the Caughnawaga Indians during a campaign in the state of New York. He was bound to a tree and was saved from being boiled alive thanks to the last minute intervention by a French officer.

He was a prominent member of the Sons of Liberty and became an outspoken opponent on British taxation of the colonies. He was elected to the General Assembly of Connecticut in 1766 & 1767. He was able to increase his political influence by opening up a tavern, "The General Wolfe" in Brooklyn, Connecticut. In August 1774 he was Chairman of the Committee of Correspondence for the Brooklyn Parish.

In August he was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel of the 11th Regiment of the Connecticut Militia. In April of 1775 while plowing his fields he heard of the news at Lexington and Concord. Leaving his plow mid-furrow, he proceed to Cambridge, riding 100 miles in 18 hours. He was appointed a colonel of the 3rd Connecticut Regiment of the Continental Army and subsequently was promoted to Brigadier of the Connecticut Militia.

Under the command of Colonel William Prescott on June 16, 1775 they reinforced the fortifications at Breed's Hill. The next day Putnam took a conspicuous part in the Battle of Bunker Hill. Because the troops were low on ammunition, Putnam ordered the men, "Don't shoot until you see the White's of their eyes"

He went on to occupy Prospect Hill which was an important vantage point for the siege of Boston. After the evacuation of Boston, he was in command of New York City until the arrival of his Commander-in-Chief, George Washington on April 13, 1776.

He would participate in the Battles of Long Island(Aug. 27) and Harlem Heights(Sept. 16). He was sent to Philadelphia to help fortify the city. He was stationed at Princeton from January to May 1777. He Commanded the Hudson Highlands at Peekskill until having to abandon Forts Montgomery and Clinton in October. During the Winter of 1778-79 he commanded troops stationed near Redding, Connecticut. In May he took command of the right wing of the left bank of the Hudson,

In December an attack of paralysis(stroke) terminated his service in the war. He spent the last years on his farm in Brooklyn Connecticut, where he passed away on May 29, 1790. A Statue was erected in his honor in 1888 ***

Photo Album

January 2007



At left, President Hugh Richards presents Jim Blauer and Arthur Koehler Certificates of Appreciation for their work with the chapter in 2006.



At top right Jim Blauer stands by the three shopping carts of toys selected for the Toys For Troops campaign.



Center we see Compatriot David Benedict selecting some toys to purchase for the drive.



At left and below right, Jim and Dave load up the van with toys to take to Newport Beach City Hall.



Photo Album

January 2007-2



Once they arrive, Jim, Dave and Jim's boss Al get help from the Marines and Volunteers to unload the van and place the toys on the lawn in front of City Hall



The Marines spread the toys out while Jim delivers some of his home baked fudge brownies.

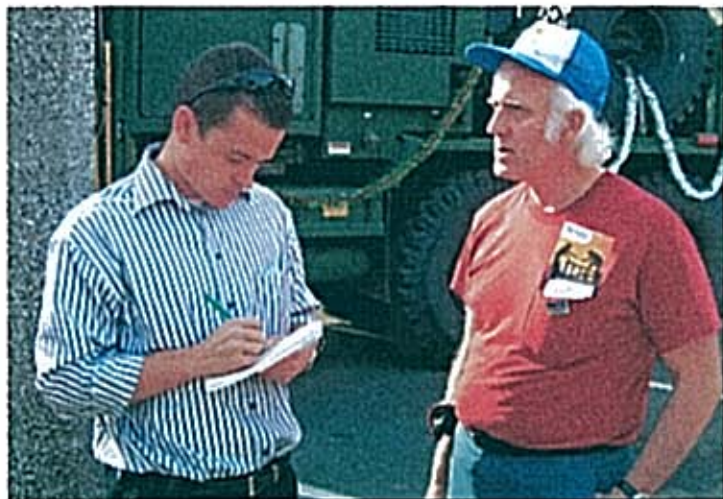
Below left Jim speaks with a Habitat for Humanity volunteer.

Below right Jim talks with Santa and a customer from Jim's store, a local veteran.



Photo Album

January 2007-3



Here, Jim talks with a reporter. He thought the reporter was with ABC TV as their camer was there, but the reporter was actually from the *Orange County Register*.

Below is a spread of all the toys that were donated as well as the vehicles to transport them back to Camp Pendleton.

