



Muskets & Broadsword

Orange County Chapter Sons of the American Revolution

October 2006

Editor Jim Blauer

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MEETING INFORMATION

WHEN: October 14, 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

Time is passing rapidly, we are already into Fall, and only three meetings remain this year. Our meeting this month, as usual, will be at the Sizzler restaurant, 1401 N. Harbor Boulevard, in Fullerton, on Saturday, October 14th. Social period begins at 11:00 a. m., and the meeting will be called to order at 11:30. Please make every effort to attend and support your Chapter.

Our speaker this month is Gordon Dillow, whom we have greatly enjoyed hearing in the past. Gordon is a columnist for the Orange County Register. Prior to the last time that he spoke to us, he had made two trips to Iraq as an embedded reporter with the Marines, and provided us with interesting and informative insights on his experiences and the situation in that country during his assignments. Having recently returned from a third trip with the Marines, this month he will give us an update on what he has observed and learned. I know that it will be well worthwhile hearing his presentation, and I am looking forward to it. Gordon's biographical information is presented later in this newsletter.

I would like to remind you that, unless you are a life member, it's time to pay your annual dues. Our Corresponding Secretary Jim Wallace will be mailing out dues notices (with stamped return envelopes) in the near future, and we would appreciate your timely response. It's important for Jim to receive your payment by November 20, in order for you to remain an active member and to ensure that you continue to receive the SAR Magazine, the California Compatriot, and Muskets and Broadsword without missing any issues. Please notify Jim of any change in your

address. He can be reached at 435 S. Shields Drive, Anaheim, CA 92804-2021, (714) 995-7490.

Our winning student in the NSSAR Americanism Poster Contest recently received his national second place prize at an assembly at his school. Orange County Chapter plans to participate again this year. It's not too early to begin contacting your local schools. Contact should begin with the principals and then with the fourth and fifth grade teachers. Be sure to stress that the teachers do not have to work the contest into their curriculum, but that the students can create the posters on their own at home. All that the teachers need to do is to announce the contest and collect the entries, so it's no additional work for them. The theme for 2007 will be "Yorktown", and the contest information is available on the NSSAR website at; <http://www.sar.org/youth/Americanism.html>.

The CASSAR Fall Managers' Meeting will be held at the Lake Natoma Inn in Folsom, on November 3rd and 4th. Any of our members who are interested are encouraged to attend. Further information (including a registration form) is available on our Chapter website at <http://www.orangecountysar.org/-index.html>, under "Calendar". While many of our officers will not be able to attend due to work or other commitments, we will be represented by Past President John Dodd, among others.

We continue to hold our Executive Board meetings immediately following the Chapter meeting, and all members are welcome to attend. If you have any items that you would

like to have included in the Membership or Board meeting agendas, please let me know no later than October 12th.

Our speaker for the November meeting will be Caroline Rober from the Latter Day Saints Family History Center in Orange. In her informative and entertaining program at a previous meeting, she provided us with an excellent program of useful information on genealogical research. Her specific topic for this meeting is still pending, as she has an extensive list from which to choose, and we are still deciding which she will present. Our December meeting will bring our annual election of officers for the coming year and the ever-popular Christmas gift exchange.

We will be conducting our monthly Ben Franklin Opportunity Drawing at the meeting. Don't forget that it is traditional to bring something for this month's drawing if you won a prize at the last meeting you attended. Even if you didn't win last time, we welcome anything that you wish to contribute for a prize. Our Ben Franklin drawing is one of our prime fund raisers for the chapter, and the more prizes we have, the better the participation and the more fun we have.

Our Chapter website is regularly updated by our Webmaster, Arthur Koehler. Visit it frequently to stay informed on our chapter events and other useful information. It is located at <http://www.orangecountysar.org>.

I again urge everyone to attend this month's meeting. I make a special effort to ensure that we have quality speakers for our programs, and it's important that we all show our appreciation by our attendance. Let's have a good turnout and make them feel welcome. Please show your support by coming to join with us in our fellowship.

Yours in Patriotism,

Hugh Richards, President

About Gordon Dillow

Gordon Dillow is a veteran newspaper reporter/columnist with extensive experience in military affairs and combat operations. He has spent 29 years in the newspaper business, working as a reporter and/or columnist for a variety of papers, including the Orange County Register, the Los Angeles Times, the Los Angeles Herald Examiner and the San Francisco Examiner. He currently is a columnist for the Register.

In 2003 Gordon was an "embedded" reporter for the Register with the 1st Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, an infantry unit that was the first large American ground force to cross into Iraq during the war. He and Orange County Register photojournalist Mark Avery were the first embedded journalists to cross into Iraq on the first night of the war. He accompanied the Marines all the way from Kuwait to Baghdad. In April-June 2004, Gordon returned for another tour in Iraq with those same Marines while they were performing occupation duty in the Sunni Triangle. He recently returned from his third trip to Iraq as an embedded reporter with Marines of Regimental Combat Teams 5 and 7 in Al Anbar Province, Iraq. Gordon's combat reporting from Iraq has won awards from the Marine Combat Correspondents Association, the West Point Society and other groups.

Gordon served as a U.S. Army sergeant in Vietnam in 1971. In 1982 he was a correspondent in Central America for the Hearst Newspapers, covering the civil war in El Salvador. In 1995 he returned to Vietnam as a correspondent for the Register, reporting on

the 20th anniversary of the end of the war. Gordon is the co-author, with retired FBI Special Agent William J. Rehder, of the true-crime book, "Where the Money Is" (W.W. Norton & Co., 2003). He is a graduate of the University of Montana journalism school. Gordon lives in Seal Beach, California.

DUES NOTICE

By now you should have received your dues notices. There was a misprint on the Life Membership dues. The ages of 18-24 should read 18-54 for \$1000. Please note this when deciding on such a move. Your chapter has the largest Life Membership of any chapter in the state with around 30 members holding Life Membership status. Please take a minute if you have not yet done so and send your dues in to Compatriot Wallace.

As we try to cut costs, you will note on the back of the dues notice a section to fill out. There it requests an e-mail address. This is very important so that we may be able to send you the newsletter via e-mail to cut out printing and postage costs. We currently e-mail about 40 members. That leaves another 30 to mail out. That runs us between \$45-\$50 per month at ten times a year is \$450-\$500 spent per year on the newsletter. The more we can cut down on this expenditure the more we will have for other items in the form of awards for the contests (Eagle, Poster, & Essay). Your help in this endeavor is greatly appreciated.

POSTER CONTEST

The National Poster Contest ends and yet it continues. Last Spring your chapter chose John Shelton's rendition of Valley Forge as the Chapter winner. His poster was sent along to the State in April for their judging. Here John

also took first place. As the state winner his poster was sent along with members attending the National Congress in July. Here John took second place at National. When the award was announced at the barbecue in July, it was noted that it was a very close contest.

Our winner John Shelton along with the other participants from Whittmann Elementary School were presented Certificates and John received the Blue ribbon as the State winner. The presentation of the red ribbon from National will be reported in a future issue of your newsletter.

Though last years contest is over, the new one has already begun. This years theme is "Yorktown". Do you have an elementary school near you? If so, you may want to get them involved in this contest. For the last three years the only school to have entries has been Whittmann. It is open to those elementary students in the 4th or 5th grade who are studying United States History.

It is not a requirement that the teacher incorporate this contest into her teaching, but offer it to the students to do on their own time. Students may be given extra credit for their work and participation in the contest.

The students or teachers may then vote on the best in the class and the school may vote on the best from the school. The school winner is then brought to the Chapter meeting in March and the chapter votes for it's winner. The Chapter winner goes on to the State Competition in April and the State winner goes on to National in July.

Information can be found at www.sar.org under the youth activities.

Let's go out and get this program into our schools and find another winner.

EAGLE SCOUTS

In September we passed the 6800 count on the number of certificates we have given out to Eagles in Orange County since 1989. We are averaging about 40 per month, so we may add another 120 before the year is out. So, by early next year we should be able to surpass the 7000 mark!!!

We have not yet received any applications for the Eagle Scout Scholarship Contest, but they have until the first week of December to get them in so a winner may be determined by the December 9th meeting.

MARQUIS DE LAFAYETTE

He was born Marie Joseph Paul Yves Roche Gilbert Du Motier at Chauvaniac, in Haute Loire, in the Auvergne region of France on September 6, 1757. The son of Michel Roche Gilbert Du Motier, Marquis de Lafayette, a colonel of grenadiers and Marie Louise, daughter of Joseph Yves Hyacinthe, Marquis de la Riviere. By age 2 he had lost his father who died in the Battle of Minden on August 1, 1759 in the Seven Years War. In 1768 he was taken to Paris by his mother and entered the College of Louis-le-Grand. In 1770 he lost both his mother and grandfather in quick succession and at 13 inherited a great fortune.

At fourteen he entered the military thanks to his job as page to Queen Marie Leczinska, who obtained for him a lieutenants commission in the Royal Musketeers, a body of soldiers charged with the defense of the king's person. Thus he continued a family tradition as many members of his line had served in the military



Château de Chauvaniac (left) in Haute-Loire, was Lafayette's birthplace and boyhood home, to which he returned at times during his life. It is now a museum open to the public.

going back to Charles VII.

At the age of 16 he married Anastasie Adrienne de Noailles on April 11, 1775, the second daughter of the Duke d'Ayen.

Commissioned a Captain of dragoons, he was stationed at Metz towards the end of 1776, where he heard from the Duke of Gloucester, brother of George III, of the Declaration of Independence by the colonies and other events going on over there. His passion for liberty and desire to help the Americans with their cause led him to consult with Baron John De Kalb who had similar feelings in this area. Baron De Kalb introduced the young Lafayette to Silas Deane an American envoy, who issued a letter of introduction on December 7, 1776 to congress. He noted Lafayette's family background and military experience and requested a Major general's commission for him.

Lafayette had to be careful as the French government(Louis XVI) frowned upon getting involved in this conflict between the colonists and the British. So, Lafayette proceeded secretly on his own and at his own expense to obtain a vessel at Bordeaux. His plans were delayed when invited to accompany the Prince de Poix to London, he could not decline for fear of suspicion as to what he might be doing. Here he learned of the victories by General Washington at Princeton and Trenton. After three weeks in London, Lafayette returned to Paris secretly, leaving people to believe he was still in England. The Marquis de Noailles, his father-in-law was at this time the ambassador to the Court of St. James and to explain Lafayette's absence with a report that he was ill.

He spent three days at De Kalb's home in Paris, then moved on to Bordeaux. Once there



he learned that the French Court had information of his movements and had issued a warrant for his arrest. He quickly moved his ship to the port of Passage on the Spanish coast. Having received letters from family and the ministry he returned to Bordeaux for a short time. He wrote a letter to the government begging permission to continue with his plans. These requests remained unanswered of which he wrote in a private letter to Maurepas that "*Silence gives consent*" and that he should continue. He returned and set sail from Passage on April 26, 1777 along with De Kalb and eleven other men. They arrived in Georgetown, South Carolina on June 14, 1777. From here he rode on horse back for more than a month to get to Philadelphia, the seat of the government.

He received a rather cold reception from Congress as they had many applications before them from foreign officers wishing to serve. Once he explained that he wanted to volunteer and serve at his own expense, Congress appointed him a Major General on July 31, 1777. Only 19 and a Major-General in the newly formed American Army.

Following his commission he joined Washington's staff the next day when the two met and a lifelong friendship began. He had



Washington and Lafayette at Valley Forge, 1777-1778.

his baptism at the Battle of Brandywine on Sept. 11, 1777, where he was wounded in the leg and out of commission for two months.

In his first independent command Lafayette led 300 men at Gloucester, New Jersey against a superior force of Hessian soldiers. For his victory over the Hessians, on December 4, 1777 he was appointed to command a division of Washington's Army (Virginia light infantry) that had until lately been under the command of General Stephen. He continued with Washington to Valley Forge where they wintered.

It was while at Valley Forge Lafayette showed his support for Washington when a group of officers and members of Congress, mainly from New England, tried to get General Washington removed. It was dubbed the Conway Cabal and did not succeed.

It was the members of this Cabal that advanced the idea of invading Canada. An idea that Washington did not support. Offered command by the board of war, Lafayette would not accept until he had consulted Washington. He received his appointment on January 23, 1778. Problems arose when he arrived in Albany. The 4,000 men promised were in

reality a small force of a few regulars in no way equipped for a winter's march. Without any help of getting more men or supplies this scheme of the Cabal was dead in its tracks.

He went on to lead troops in the battles of Barren Hill and Monmouth and in the campaign of Rhode Island.

Following the entry of France on the side of the Americans, Lafayette returned home to drum up support and had hope to be a part of a force to invade England, but that never happened.

He returned to America in April 1780 taking up his rank and position and would serve on the Court Martial Board that condemned Major John Andre to be hanged for his plot with Benedict Arnold.

In 1781 he led a small force in Virginia that evaded then stopped the British under the command of General Cornwallis. Working in conjunction with Rochambeau, De Grasse and Washington's forces they were able to bottle General Cornwallis at Yorktown.

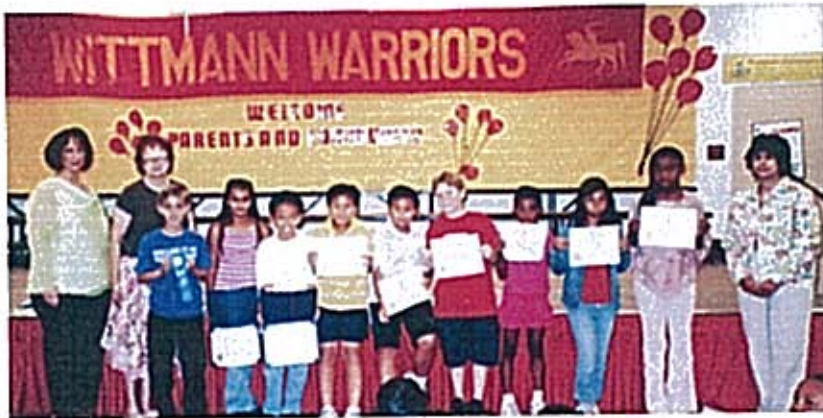
He returned to France in 1782 and helped with the negotiations on the Peace Treaty. He then returned to America in 1784 and stayed at Mount Vernon.

At home he had his ups and downs with the politics of the time. He was even imprisoned by Austria (1792-1795) until released by Napoleon and his forces.

In 1824 he made a final trip to America where he was hailed as a hero wherever he went. During his visit in 1803 he had been given land in Louisiana. This time Congress voted him \$200,000 and a township in Florida. He sold the property as he had lost his fortune during the French Revolution. He died in May 1834, his grave covered in dirt he brought back from Bunker Hill.***

Photo Album

October 2006



2006 Poster Contest winners and participants from Whittmann Elementary school are featured at an assembly. Mrs. Wollman, Principal; Mrs. Shak, Teacher(1st,2nd, & 3rd place at chapter level were from her class); John Shelton (chapter & State winner & 2nd at National); Aishwaria Shah (2nd place Chapter); Mark Ruiz(3rd place chapter); Benjamin Huang, Jeremy Huang, Timothy Creasy, Moriah Pleasant, Briana Casillas, Taylor Scott, and Mrs. Bryant, teacher(had 2 participants).



Chuck Lampman spoke to us on the Battle of the Capes. Here he receives a Certificate of Appreciation from Chapter President Hugh Richards. Compatriot Lampman has such an extensive library that he passed on us giving him a book, or finding one he did not have.



The Third Annual Orange County Chapter SAR Barbecue was held on July 29th at the home of John and Karen Dodd. At left John takes on the role of Chef, barbecuing the ribs, weiners and hamburgers.

Below left are the desserts brought by the guests.

Below right Karen Carlson helps out in the kitchen, while Larry Magerkurth, Hugh & Karen Richards converse.



Photo Album

October 2006-2



Above are the many prizes for the Ben Franklin drawing at the barbecue we hosted on July 29th. We took in about \$170 and everyone went home with a prize.

Above Hugh Richards shows off the certificate and 2nd place ribbon won by John Shelton in the Poster Contest at National in July.

At right Jim Blauer is surprised by Karl Jacobs as he receives the Liberty Medal which was awarded at Congress in July for having been the first line signer for 10 new members.



Below Rex Shannon is presented the Silver Good Citizenship Award (medal & Certificate) for his years of service to the community.



For her hard work the last three years in putting on the barbecue, Karen Dodd is presented the Martha Washington Medal and Certificate.



Photo Album

October 2006-3

Marquis de Lafayette



The picture at left of a young Marquis de Lafayette.

At right is a bust, one of several done by Jean Antoine Houdon between 1785-89. This one is currently at the Virginia State Library and Archives in Richmond.



Middle left is a portrait of Lafayette in his Major General's uniform by Charles Wilson Peale. Commissioned by Washington it hung at Mount Vernon beside one done by Peale of Washington. Both are now at Washington & Lee University in Lexington, Virginia.



At right Washington and Lafayette ride at Mount Vernon.



The portrait at left was done about 1825 by Matthew Harris Jouett after an oil on canvas by Ary Sheffer.

At right is Lafayette's grave. During his last visit to America he helped dedicate the Bunker Hill Monument and was able to return home with several barrels of American soil which upon his death was placed on his grave.

