



August 2017

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# *The California Compatriot*

*The Official Newsletter of the California Society of the Sons of the American Revolution*

## *The President's Message*

### **Compatriots!**

I am honored to have been elected as your President of the California Society, SAR for 2017-2018 and will do everything possible to fulfill the trust you have placed in me.

I want to thank two California Society Officers for making my first months in office go as smoothly as they have. The expertise and attention to detail of Secretary Craig Anderson and Treasurer Jim Klingler have been invaluable.

The California Society was well represented by 30 compatriots and members of the Ladies Auxiliary at the 127th Congress held in Knoxville.

I want to take this opportunity to thank the compatriots, especially the chapter and state Education and Youth Awards Program chairmen, who encouraged and supported the young men and women participating in the 2017 SAR Youth Award Programs. California Society competitors included Taryn Murphy who finished first in the Rumbaugh Oration Contest, Vincent T. Von Tungeln who won the Americanism Elementary School Poster Contest and Kailee Mark who won the Sgt. Moses Adams Brochure Contest. In all, the California Society brought home more than 50 certificates, ribbons and medals. The California Society was awarded the Grahame Smallwood, Jr. Award for the State Society of 500 or more members with the best news publication with more than 10 pages. This award is a credit to the members of our 26 chapters and color guard units who submitted photographs and articles to the California Compatriot Editors. We also owe a thank you to our formatter Blanca P. Soto for her excellent work. Please continue to submit photos and stories to the editors. A tip of the Tricorn to the compatriots and members of

the Ladies Auxiliary who manned the California Society table promoting the 2019 Congress to held in Costa Mesa. Due to their efforts, the CASSAR collected more than \$1600 from sales of 2019 Congress and CASSAR Medal Sets and raffle tickets for a week stay at the 2019 SAR National Congress (Orange County Hilton, Costa Mesa) and a beautiful patriotic theme quilt made by Darian Taylor.

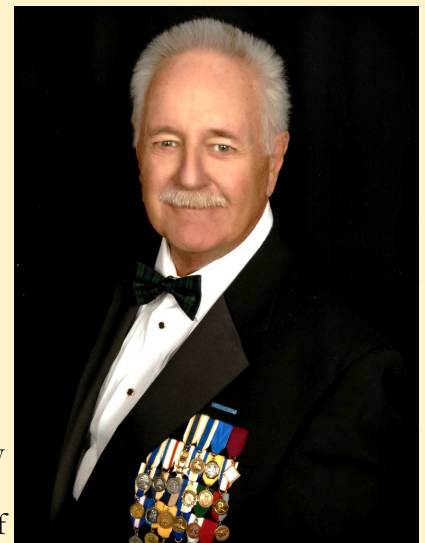
Job well-done  
California Society.

Another highlight of being president of the California Society is signing the membership certificates of new compatriots.

It has been my honor to sign the certificates of 85 new members.

In my inaugural address, I told those present I look forward to visiting each chapter. It is a pleasure to install chapter officers, assist in the induction of new members, present awards and more importantly meet the compatriots (and ladies) that are the backbone of the Sons of the American Revolution.

I began to fulfill my pledge to visit all 26 chapters in April when Un Hui and I attended a South Coast Chapter meeting where new member John Stucker was inducted into the SAR.



*126th President, CASSAR  
James C. Fosdyck*

In May we visited the Harbor Chapter where new junior member Jacob William Constable was inducted into the SAR by Executive Vice President Derek Brown. Also in May OC I was particularly honored to be part of the induction of Paul Garcia into the SAR. Paul is descended from Jose Vincente Garcia de Noriega, Captain of soldados in the Spanish Army in the Spanish Territory that is now New Mexico.

Later that month we visited a Santa Barbara Chapter meeting where I installed chapter officers Stuart Morse, Jeff Weinbender, Robert Neilhaus, Don Loper and Chapter President Frank Campo. We also had the opportunity to meet Compatriot Robert Neilhaus. It was an honor to be part of the presentation of a bronze Roger Sherman Medal to Robert.

In June we visited two chapters. At the Eagle Chapter meeting three veterans were honored; Ernie McCullough received a Quilt of Valor, Ray Raser a Help of Veteran Challenge Coin and prospective member Kent Smith a 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War Lapel Pin. I want to note the efforts of Eagle Chapter President Frank Keberman to grow the chapter membership and their participation in the Color Guard and Youth & Education Programs. We rushed from the Eagle Chapter meeting to a Kern Chapter barbeque at the home of Kern Chapter President Arnie Burr. Arnie and his wife Emily were gracious hosts for the barbeque attended by more than 30 compatriots, their wives and guests. During the barbeque we had time to make a few presentations; President Burr accepted the California Society Best Medium Chapter Plaque, Steve Corbin was awarded a Bronze Good Citizenship Medal and Compatriot Veteran Leon Thomas received a War Service Medal with Korean War Bar. There is more about Compatriot Thomas' military service in the "Honoring Our Veterans" section.

Still in June we visited the Harbor Chapter again. Later in June we attended a General George Patton, Jr. Chapter meeting where four new members were inducted into the SAR by Patton Chapter President Kenneth Lynch. Near the end of June we attended a Yosemite Chapter meeting in Fresno. It was nice to put a face to the voice of President Jim Dane. Jim and I exchanged emails and spoke over the telephone many times over the years.

After returning home from Congress we drove to Reno, Nevada to attend the 58<sup>th</sup> Annual Western Regional Meeting of the National Society of the Children of the

American Revolution. While there we met the California Senior State President Barbara McMahon. Mrs. McMahon invited the CASSAR to join the California Society, CAR for their state meeting in Sacramento next February.

At the end of July we attended the Eagle Scout Court of Honor for Davis R. Winsor at Newport Beach, CA. It was a privilege to be part of the program recognizing one of our own for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout. Davis is a member of the Orange County Chapter, SAR.

In conclusion, I want you to know it has been rewarding to see so many compatriots stepping up and taking leadership positions all around the California Society. Please remember when asked to hold an office, be a chairman or join a committee just say, "I can do that."

*James C. Fosdyck*  
CASSAR President



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Your chapter news can appear in the California Compatriot. Email your final draft prior to the deadline posted at lower right. Please identify all of the individuals appearing in your photos. Space is limited; therefore the Editor reserves the right to edit all submissions.

## CASSAR OFFICERS

2017-2018

### PRESIDENT

JAMES C. FOSDYCK  
jfosdyck@sbcglobal.net

### EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

DEREK BROWN  
dptydeke@yahoo.com

### VICE PRESIDENT, NORTH

DAVID A. GILLIARD  
dave@gbcampaigns.com

### VICE PRESIDENT, SOUTH

ROBERT TAYLOR  
tartar-taylor@att.net

### VICE PRESIDENT, MEMBERSHIP

DOUGLAS Q. BERGTHOLDT  
sueanddoug@att.net

### SECRETARY

CRAIG ANDERSON  
craig@winfirst.com

### TREASURER

JAMES KLINGLER  
klingler@sbcglobal.net

### REGISTRAR

OWEN R. STILES  
ostiles45@gmail.com

### GENEALOGIST

TERRY L. BRIGGS  
tlbaia@comcast.net

### HISTORIAN

JAMES F. BLAUER  
jblauer@pacbell.net

### CHAPLAIN

RT. REV. LOUIS V. CARLSON, JR.  
loucarlson@sbcglobal.net

### SURGEON

DR. MATTHEW BOWDISH, MD  
matthewsbowdish@gmail.com

### INVESTMENT FUND TRUSTEE (2014-2016)

STEPHEN RENOUF  
usina@aol.com

### INVESTMENT FUND TRUSTEE (2015-2017)

JOHN L. DODD, ESQ.  
usina@aol.com

### CHANCELLOR

J. JEFFRIES GOODWIN, ESQ.  
jeffriesgoodwin@gmail.com

### INVESTMENT FUND TRUSTEE (2016-2018)

RICHARD S. HAWLEY  
pistoldis@gmail.com

### PAST PRESIDENT

RONALD J. BARKER  
ron0729con@comcast.net

### NATIONAL TRUSTEE

RONALD J. BARKER  
ron0729con@comcast.net

### ALTERNATE NATIONAL TRUSTEE

JAMES C. FOSDYCK  
jfosdyck@sbcglobal.net

## NEW MEMBER APPLICATION FEES, DUES

	NSSAR Fee	\$80.00
NATIONAL, STATE, AND CHAPTER	NSSAR Dues	\$35.00
	CASSAR Fee	\$20.00
	Chapter Dues	Varies

The National Society offers a discounted application fee to additional family members applying for membership at the same time and under the same lineage as the first applicant listed above. Reduced fees apply to the 2nd, 3rd, or 4th family member and all family applications must be submitted in the same package as that of the original applicant.

	NSSAR Fee	\$30.00
THE NSSAR FAMILY	NSSAR Dues	\$35.00
DISCOUNT	CASSAR Fee	\$20.00
	Chapter Dues	Varies

## SUPPLEMENTAL APPLICATION FEES

SUPPLEMENTAL APPLICATION	NSSAR Fee	\$60.00
	CASSAR Fee	\$10.00

## JUNIOR MEMBER APPLICATION FEES, DUES

	NSSAR Fee	\$80.00
JUNIOR MEMBER APPLICATION	Nat'l Dues	\$5.00
	CASSAR Fee	n/a
	Chapter	n/a

## MEMORIAL MEMBER APPLICATION FEES, DUES

	NSSAR Fee	\$430.00
	CASSAR Fee	\$20.00

## JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP ADVANTAGES

- Junior members receive California and National member numbers that remain with them throughout their adult life.
- Junior member dues are significantly lower than regular member dues (see table next page).
- Junior members automatically become regular members after their 18th birthday simply by paying full dues, even if their membership lapsed during the intervening years.
- May join under the family plan mentioned above. Could also be eligible for the reduced fee when using an acceptable, previously approved DAR or SAR application.

## *The California Compatriot*

*is the official newsletter of the California Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. Unless explicitly stated, the opinions expressed herein are the opinions of the authors, and not necessarily those of the society.*

**Derek Brown, Co-editor**

[dptydeke@yahoo.com](mailto:dptydeke@yahoo.com)

**Ronald J. Barker, Co-editor**

[ron0729con@comcast.net](mailto:ron0729con@comcast.net)

Next Deadline: December 01, 2017  
(subject to change)

## *The Secretary's Report*

### **ANNUAL DUES, REGULAR MEMBERS**

National Society	\$35.00
California Society	\$20.00
Chapter	Varies

### **ANNUAL DUES, JUNIOR MEMBERS**

National Society	\$5.00
California Society	\$ - 0 -
Chapter	\$ - 0

### **ANNUAL DUES, DUAL MEMBERS**

Dual Members who hold their primary membership in another State Society must pay California Society State and Chapter dues. California Society dual members who hold membership in another California Chapter pay dues both to the primary and dual member's chapters.

### **ANNUAL DUES, EMERITUS MEMBERS**

Emeritus Members with 50 plus years active membership in the National Society only pay California Society and Chapter dues. Emeritus Members with 50 plus years active membership in the California Society only pay Chapter dues.

### **NATIONAL LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP: [http://www.sar.org/Membership/Costs/Life\\_Membership](http://www.sar.org/Membership/Costs/Life_Membership)**

Life Membership in the National Society is available to be purchased at a rate that depends on your age. The Life Membership program listed here covers the National dues only. Payment of the State Society's and Chapter annual dues is still required to be considered an active member of the SAR. The completed National Life Membership form must be sent to your State Society Secretary for review before it is sent to National.

### **CASSAR LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP: <http://www.californiasar.org/members-section/life/>**

The California Society Life Membership Program is open to California Society members who have a National Life Membership. The California program will pay California Society and Chapter dues for the life of the member. To apply, you must first obtain a National Life Membership at SAR.org. You need to fill out the application and submit it to the National Society. Once you are approved as a National Life Member, you will be given a National Life Membership Number.

To apply for the California Life Membership Program, you will need to supply your National Life Membership Number, and make a payment to CASSAR for the CASSAR Life in the Life Membership schedule (on the member-section).

CASSAR has added a total of 139 new members in 2017; 58 in the first quarter, 74 in the second quarter and 7 in July. Four members have been reported as passing in 2017 so far; a total of 49 members have been reinstated and a total of 12 supplemental applications have been approved.

Don't forget to notify me of roster changes such as new phone numbers, addresses, e-mail addresses and other changes. It's critical that we have current information so that we can keep our membership current on activities.

Remember that the Fall Board of Managers meeting is coming up Nov 3-4 in Irvine and the Fall Leadership meeting is scheduled for September 27-October 1 in Louisville.

Craig Anderson  
CASSAR State Secretary



## *Coming Events*

**September 29-30, 2017 - Fall Leadership Meeting,  
Louisville, KY.**

**November 3-4, 2017 - CASSAR Board of Managers  
Meeting, Irvine Wyndham Hotel, Irvine, CA.**

**February 22-24, 2018 - Spring Leadership Meeting,  
Louisville, KY.**

**April 20-21, 2018 CASSAR 143rd Annual Meeting,  
Concord, CA.**



## Welcome New Members

NSSAR#	FNAME	MNAME	LNAME	DATE	CHAPTER
201097	Michael	Anthony	Buckman	1/20/2017	Central Coast
201271	Michael	Allen	Cerny	2/03/2017	Central Coast
202071	William	Fletcher	Harris	4/14/2017	Central Coast
203074	Douglas	James	Evans	6/09/2017	Central Coast
203530	Robert	Michael	Wright	7/19/2017	Central Coast
201100	Harry	Arbuth	Davis	1/20/2017	Delta
202580	Robert	Lewis	Proctor	5/12/2017	Delta
203308	Randy	Charles	Haight	6/23/2017	Delta
201998	Bruce	Lawrence	Plummer	4/07/2017	Eagle
203666	Eddie	Lionel	Stutler	7/28/2017	Eagle
201103	Gerald	Owen	Huegel	1/20/2017	Eagle
201102	Warren	Michael	Huegel	1/20/2017	Eagle
203667	William	James	Frederick	7/28/2017	Eagle
201269	Bradley	Norton	Dodds	2/03/2017	Gen Geo Patton
200985	Charles	Hubert	Lombard	1/13/2017	Gen Geo Patton
202353	Mark	Stuart	Collins	4/28/2017	Gen Geo Patton
202077	Michael	David	Bick	4/14/2017	Gen Geo Patton
202202	Stephen/Stephyn	David	Andrews	4/21/2017	Gen Geo Patton
202360	Jerry	Lee	Hayes Jr.	4/28/2017	Gen Geo Patton
202483	Theodore	Alan	Siegel	5/04/2017	Gen Geo Patton
202578	William	Michael Gary	Galloway	5/12/2017	Gen Geo Patton
203307	Clark	Randolph	Pingree	6/23/2017	Gen Geo Patton
202200	Gavin	Thomas	Roe	4/21/2017	Gen Geo Washington
201267	Joseph	Jackson	Willett IV	2/03/2017	Gen Geo Washington
202201	Timothy	Eric	Roe Jr	4/21/2017	Gen Geo Washington
201268	William	Jeffrey	Dickson	2/03/2017	Gen Geo Washington
202478	Kyle	Robert	Jones	5/04/2017	Gen Geo Washington
202484	Leonard	Frank	Trujillo	5/04/2017	Gen Geo Washington
202582	Nicholas	Paul	Galbreath	5/12/2017	Gen Geo Washington
203850	Jeremiah	Scott	Glass	8/04/2017	Gen Geo Washington
203852	Travis	Michael	McLain	8/04/2017	Gen Geo Washington
201766	Frederick	Ayer	Fisher	3/17/2017	Gold Country
200986	Dennis	Clifton	Olivarez	1/13/2017	Gold Country
201356	Strowbridge	Toby Blaisdell	Richardson	2/10/2017	Gold Country
201357	Toby	Tyge Justus	Richardson	2/10/2017	Gold Country
203071	Michael	Lawrence	Hurst	6/09/2017	Gold Country
201904	Keenan	Gregory	Keith	3/31/2017	Harbor
202069	Kevin	Lee	Bidenkap	4/14/2017	Harbor
201767	Richard	Raymond	Rath	3/17/2017	Harbor
202585	Jacob	William	Constable	5/12/2017	Harbor
203655	Schuyler	Aaron	Smith	7/28/2017	Harbor
203201	Kevin	Howard	Allec	6/16/2017	Mother Lode
202074	Douglas	Allen	Crandall	4/14/2017	Orange County
201996	Eric	Kincaid	Olsen	4/07/2017	Orange County
201898	Hardeman	Eric	John	3/31/2017	Orange County
201897	Hardeman	James	Lawrence	3/31/2017	Orange County
201997	Nathanael	Eric Kincaid	Olsen	4/07/2017	Orange County
202076	Nathanael	Asher	Crandall	4/14/2017	Orange County
201266	Paul	Wayne	Gilbert	2/03/2017	Orange County

NSSAR#	FNAME	MNAME	LNAME	DATE	CHAPTER
202075	Seth	Issac	Crandall	4/14/2017	Orange County
202355	Paul		Garca Jr.	4/28/2017	Orange County
202866	Brett	MacKenzie	Benson	5/26/2017	Orange County
203072	Ethan	Stanford	Noell	6/09/2017	Orange County
203073	Thomas	Dawson	Noell	6/09/2017	Orange County
203501	Marc	Hugo	Estrada	6/29/2017	Orange County
203665	Joshua	Day	Geldert	7/28/2017	Orange County
203846	Christopher	Craig	Sherman	8/04/2017	Orange County
203847	Spencer	William	Torres	8/04/2017	Orange County
203851	Terry	Wayne	Hodgden	8/04/2017	Orange County
201896	Barton	Clark	Holmes	3/31/17	Redding
202479	Robert	Joseph	Celsi	5/04/2017	Redwood Empire
202480	Joseph	Devlin	Celsi	5/04/2017	Redwood Empire
202481	Benjamin	Robert	Celsi	5/04/2017	Redwood Empire
202584	Bret	Allen	Holaday	5/12/2017	Redwood Empire
203204	Raymond	Earnest	Thornell	6/16/2017	Redwood Empire
201899	Simmons	Westley	Andrew	3/31/2017	Riverside
200991	Gregory	Wayne	Crouch	1/13/2017	Riverside
201463	Gene	Wayne	Lewis	2/17/2017	Riverside
202862	Grant	Matthew	Peters	5/26/2017	Riverside
203202	Thomas	Byron	Mullen II	6/16/2017	Riverside
203203	John	Robert	Williams	6/16/2017	Riverside
200988	Joseph	Michael	Arledge	1/13/2017	Sacramento
201101	John	Gregory	Camacho	1/20/2017	Sacramento
201830	David	Boyd	Cofer, Jr.	3/24/2017	Sacramento
201270	James	William	Gunnter II	2/03/2017	Sacramento
201772	Dale	Michael	Lyon	3/17/2017	Sacramento
200987	Phillip	Harold	Noble	1/13/2017	Sacramento
200983	Kevin	John	Ward	1/13/2017	Sacramento
202863	Christopher	Donald	Johnson	5/26/2017	Sacramento
201768	Christopher	Matthew	Fernando	3/17/2017	San Diego
201099	Dustin	Keats	Pennington	1/20/2017	San Diego
200990	Harmon	Edward Gwynn	Jones	1/13/2017	San Diego
201457	Michael	Richard	Peterson	2/17/2017	San Diego
201098	Michael	James	Spaulding	1/20/2017	San Diego
201095	Ronald	Terry	Crow	1/20/2017	San Diego
202354	Robert	Keith	Alden	4/28/2017	San Diego
201096	Steven	James	Crow	1/20/2017	San Diego
202574	Steven	Andrew	Johnston	5/12/2017	San Diego
202579	David	Keith	Duffield	5/12/2017	San Diego
202858	Stacey	Van	Allen	5/26/2017	San Diego
202859	Clinton	James	Allen	5/26/2017	San Diego
202860	Ruben	James	Allen	5/26/2017	San Diego
202861	Paul	William	Allen	5/26/2017	San Diego
202865	Leonard	John	Armstrong	5/26/2017	San Diego
203076	Sheridan	Marcus	Hall	6/09/2017	San Diego
203077	Patrick	Sheridan	Hall	6/09/2017	San Diego
203853	Jeffere	Harold	Ferris	8/04/2017	San Diego
202485	Nicholas	Alan	Lobao	5/04/2017	San Francisco
202486	Gordon	Patrick	Reed	5/04/2017	San Francisco
202487	Daniel		Woodhead III	5/04/2017	San Francisco
202488	Nathanial	Denham	Bowman	5/04/2017	San Francisco
202489	Alexander	Denham	Bowman	5/4/2017	San Francisco

<b>NSSAR#</b>	<b>FNAME</b>	<b>MNAME</b>	<b>LNAME</b>	<b>DATE</b>	<b>CHAPTER</b>
202490	Dean	Andrew	Enderlin	5/04/2017	San Francisco
201458	Jordan	Tyler	Yelinek	2/17/2017	San Francisco
201901	Michael	David	Chambless	3/31/2017	Silicon Valley
200989	Murray	Lee	Eiland III	1/13/2017	Silicon Valley
201903	Christopher	Michael Airo	Chambless	3/31/2017	Silicon Valley
201900	Harold	Odell	Chambless	3/31/2017	Silicon Valley
201902	Daniel	William Alfredo	Chambless	3/31/2017	Silicon Valley
202356	David	Alan	Chesarek	4/28/2017	Silicon Valley
202357	Mason	Alexander	Chesarek	4/28/2017	Silicon Valley
202358	Thomas	Earl	Fulton	4/28/2017	Silicon Valley
202359	Robert	Willard	Scroyer	4/28/2017	Silicon Valley
203842	Tomas	Antonio	Estrada	8/04/2017	Silicon Valley
203843	Aaron	Joshua	Estrada	8/04/2017	Silicon Valley
203844	James	Mathew	Estrada	8/04/2017	Silicon Valley
202482	Timothy	John	Heckman	5/04/2017	Silicon Valley
202576	Brian		Guthrie	5/12/2017	Silicon Valley
202864	Forrest	Allen	Straight	5/26/2017	Silicon Valley
203078	Kent	Fox	Paxton	6/09/2017	Silicon Valley
203845	Nicholas	Joel	Estrada	8/04/2017	Silicon Valley
201542	Harry	Alanson	Knapp	2/28/2017	Sons of Liberty
201541	John	Vinson	Richardson, Jr.	2/28/2017	Sons of Liberty
202073	John	Gerald	Knoedler	4/14/17	Sons of Liberty
202072	Richard	Edward	Strayer	4/14/2017	Sons of Liberty
202577	Patrick	William	Ready	5/12/2017	Sons of Liberty
202581	Troy	Richard	Munday	5/12/2017	Sons of Liberty
202583	James	Ernest	Bruner	5/12/2017	Sons of Liberty
203075	Daniel	Loren	Hall	6/9/17	Sons of Liberty
203309	Robert	Field	Granadino	6/23/2017	Sons of Liberty
201543	James	Edward	Bell	2/28/2017	South Coast
201358	Mark	Christopher	Cully	2/10/2017	South Coast
201905	Michael	Louis	Roy	3/31/2017	South Coast
201771	Dylan	Buchanan	Rouda	3/17/2017	South Coast
201770	Shea	Phillips	Rouda	3/17/2017	South Coast
201769	Harley	Edwin	Rouda III	3/17/2017	South Coast
200984	John	Leroy	Stucker	1/13/2017	South Coast
203529	Frank		McGill III	7/19/2017	South Coast
203848	Paul	Webster	Sapp	8/04/2017	South Coast
203849	Richard	Alan	Martin	8/04/2017	South Coast
201544	David	Marshall	D'Arche	2/28/2017	Thomas Jefferson
201545	Michael	Andrew	Wendorf	2/28/2017	Thomas Jefferson
202575	Edward	Maurice	Rosenbaum	5/12/2017	Thomas Jefferson
203668	Richard	James	Van Dyke	7/28/2017	Thomas Jefferson
201461	Christopher	Ryan	Elledge	2/17/2017	Yosemite
201460	Matthew	Hyrum	Elledge	2/17/2017	Yosemite
201462	Nathan	Robert	Elledge	2/17/2017	Yosemite
201459	Robert	Dwight	Elledge	2/17/2017	Yosemite
201355	Paul	Edward	Lerandean	2/10/2017	Yosemite
202070	Harinder	Singh	Dhindsa	4/14/2017	Yosemite
202867	Jonathon	James	Cartwright	5/26/2017	Yosemite

## Now Available! California Society

### SAR Member Medal. \$35 per set

Contact Medals and Awards Chairman Compatriot David Grinnell by email to order. (dvytca@gmail.com). Medals Sets may also be purchased from Derek Brown, Jim Fosdyck (jfosdyck@sbcglobal.net) or David A. Gilliard dave@gbcampaigns.com

The 141st CASSAR Annual Meeting held in Sacramento there was a discussion on the ordering of new California Society Medals, as our inventory has dwindled. There was near unanimity that the current design should be retained. There was a motion to approve ordering 300 California Society Medals, which was approved.



## 2019 National SAR Congress Medal



Announcing the 2019 National SAR Congress Medal Sets are now available for purchase. The price is \$35.00 for both the full-size and Miniature Medal. The obverse image shown represents the Spanish Soldados who served in presidios of New Spain – and supported the cause of the American Revolution. The reverse of the medal shows the original logo of the Sons of Revolutionary Sires (organized July 4<sup>th</sup> 1876).

Most California SAR State Officers have a supply of these medals on-hand and can send them to you.

Our thanks to Compatriot Le Roy Martinez for letting us use the image of the Soldado from one of his paintings.

The medal may be proudly be worn by any member of the SAR.





California Society, Sons of the American Revolution  
**142<sup>nd</sup> Annual Board of Managers Meeting November 3 – 4, 2017**

Hosted by the Harbor SAR Chapter



**Wyndham Irvine Hotel**

17941 Von Karman Avenue, Irvine, CA 92614

*A special SAR Room Rate of **\$118.00 per night** (single or double) is available until October 13<sup>th</sup>. Make Hotel Reservations by calling: (949) 863-1999. Parking is \$4.00 per day, Free Shuttle from the Orange County Airport.*

**MEETING RESERVATION FORM**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse/Guest Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chapter: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Arriving: \_\_\_\_\_ Thursday, Nov 2, \_\_\_\_\_ Friday, Nov 3, \_\_\_\_\_ Saturday, Nov 4

**Registration is \$155.00 per person mailed by Oct. 12, 2017** or \$165 per person mailed after Oct. 12<sup>th</sup>. Registration Fee includes admission to all Business Meetings, Hospitality Room, Friday and Saturday Luncheon, and Saturday evening Banquet.

Number of Registrants: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$155 for a total of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Late Registrations: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$165 for a total of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

*There will be an **optional Friday Dinner** – not included on this Registration Form. The Location of the restaurant and menu selections will be available by July 1, 2017 – It will be sent to all who have previously registered for this Annual Board of Managers Meeting.*

Non-registered Friday Luncheon: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$55

Non-registered Saturday Luncheon: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$55

Non-registered Saturday Banquet: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \$75

*Checks should be made payable to **HARBOR SAR CHAPTER**, and mailed with this registration form to: **Karl Jacobs, 402 Hillcrest St., El Segundo, CA 90245-2911***

*Questions? Please contact Karl Jacobs at [karsar@earthlink.net](mailto:karsar@earthlink.net) - or call 310-322-0727*

**Please mark your meal choices:**

Fri. Luncheon: \_\_\_\_\_ Salmon with Orange Butter Sauce  
\_\_\_\_\_ Cobb Salad

Sat. Luncheon: \_\_\_\_\_ Open Face New York Steak Sandwich  
\_\_\_\_\_ Island Chicken Salad

Sat. Banquet: \_\_\_\_\_ Fresh Atlantic Salmon  
\_\_\_\_\_ Sliced New York Sirloin

<<< *vegetarian options available* >>>

## *From the Desk of the CASSAR Registrar*

Compatriots,

We have all chapters but two using the new online system with only a few glitches. I have a concern in that as long as all chapters do not participate, there may be difficulty in searching on-line for American Revolution patriots and/or compatriots which is one of the goals of the online system. Most of the Chapter Registrars are preparing a better quality application and are checking with our Genealogist or myself to review an application prior to its printing. With few exceptions, supporting documents are of a better quality also. One area that needs particular attention is using uncited documents as proofs. Remember it does not hurt to occasionally refer to the Application Preparation Manual or just ask us if the document is SAR quality.

### **Registrar Compilation as of AUGUST 9, 2017,**

Submitted:

Junior Members	19
Memorial	-
New memberships	120
Supplementals	56
Total	195

### **Breakdown by Chapter: Submitted**

Central Coast	7	Redwood Empire	10
Coachella	2	Riverside	7
Delta	8	Sacramento	8
Eagle	2	San Diego	20
General Patton	18	San Francisco	12
General Washington	12	Silicon Valley	21
Gold Country	4	Sons of Liberty	26
Harbor	4	South Coast	9
Kern	-	Thomas Jefferson	3
Monterey Bay	-	Yosemite	1
Mother Lode	2		
Orange County	29		
Redding	-		





## Order of March



### Old Santa Ana Cemetery, Santa Ana, CA

May 29, 2017



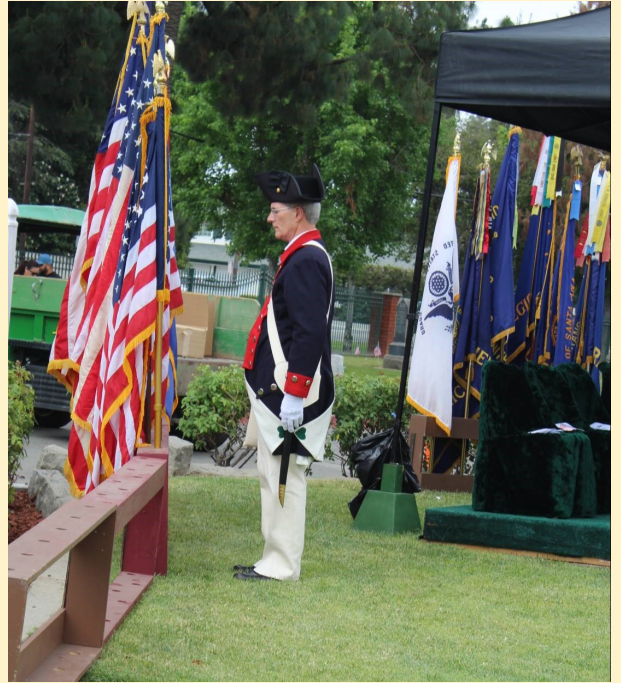
*Orange County and Harbor Chapter members*

*L to R: Jim Blauer, Jim Fosdyck, John Blake, Dan Shippey (as General Washington), Christopher Keene, Jim Klingler, Liz Ferris, Karl Jacobs, Larry Hansen, Mark Torres, John Dodd (partially obscured), Brenda Torres, John Ferris, Dan McKelvie, Karen McKelvie and Un Hui Yi*





*Orange County and Harbor Chapters Color Guardsmen place a wreath at the Civil War Monument*



*Jim Klingler posts and salutes the United States Flag*



*Jim Blauer reads General John A. Logan General Order No.11, which called for a national day of remembrance for Civil War dead.*



*Confederate Artillery fires a salute*

## Celebrate America concert is Sunday

By Linda McIntosh



*Steve Clugston, Wayne Rogers, Ray Raser, John Huegel, Jerry Sayre*

The First Presbyterian Church of Oceanside put on a "Celebrate America" concert on July 2 in Oceanside. The patriotic concert featured guest performers including the Sons of the American Revolution, the Music Men barber-shop quartet from the Palomar-Pacific chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society of America and Paul Orsi, a ragtime pianist who performs at Disneyland.

Robert Larson conducted the Americana Chorus, which was accompanied by Steve Vandlen on the organ. Gay Storm also portrayed Lady Liberty and Ginny Carson portrayed Betsy Ross as mistress of ceremonies. An ice cream social followed the concert and was enjoyed by all.



## Bennington Commemoration July 22, 2017

The San Diego Chapter SAR Color Guard participated in the annual USS *Bennington* (PG-4) Memorial Service at Fort Rosecrans National Cemetery. The photo to the left shows Color Guard members Rev. Dr. Stan DeLong, Bob Hayden, Richard Palmer and Philip Hinshaw. The photo to the right shows the wreath placed at the monument to those who perished on that date.



*Rev. Dr. Stan De Long, Skip Cox, Ernie McCullough, Philip Hinshaw*



# Eagle Chapter Meeting

June 03, 2017



*Jim Fosdick presented a 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Vietnam War Commemorative Lapel Pin to Kent Smith.*



*Un Hui presented a Quilt of Valor to WWII Air Force veteran compatriot Ernie McCullough.*

## Yosemite Chapter

June 24, 2017



*L to R – Wayne Raschdorf, Bill Lee, Jim Dane, Roy Smith, Un Hui and Jim. Jim Dane is holding a proclamation presented to the California Society, SAR by California Representative Dr. Steven Choi.*

*The Yosemite Chapter members were excited about being in the CA Compatriot.*

## Good Citizenship Award Boy Scout Tina Roy District Director

March 29, 2017

*Jim Fosdyck presented the SAR Silver Good Citizenship Medal to Tina Roy based on the recommendation of Eagle Chapter President Frank Kebelman (USMC Colonel, retired). Frank is on the left in the photo.*







# Around the California Society



## Eagle Chapter June 03, 2017



# Kern Chapter BBQ

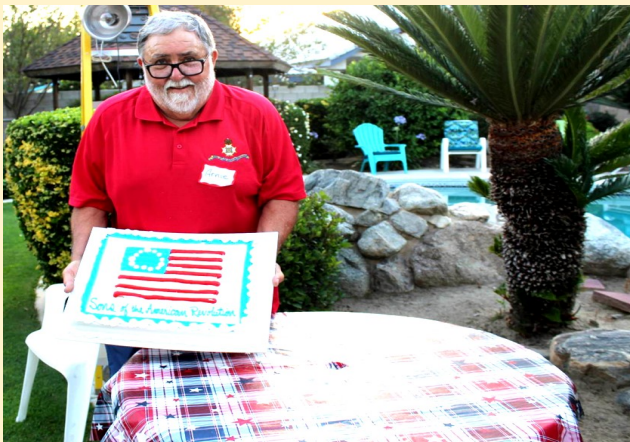
June 3, 2017



*Trenton Spears accepts a Flag Certificate with Arnie Burr & Jim Fosdyck*



*Steve Corbin is awarded a Bronze Good Citizenship Medal*



*Kern Chapter Arnie Burr*



*Jim Fosdyck presents the Best Medium Chapter Award to Arnie Burr*

## South Coast Chapter

Apr 18, 2017



*New Member John Stucker, his wife Linda Stucker, Leon Smith, Jim Fosdyck & Richard Bent*



*Jim Fosdyck presents a Certificate of Appreciation to South Coast Chapter President Richard Bent*

## NSDAR 126th Continental Congress



*Alan Brooking and Brian Stephens (CASSAR co-chairs of the CASSAR/DAR Liaison Committee) at the DAR National Congress in June 2016 in Washington DC.*

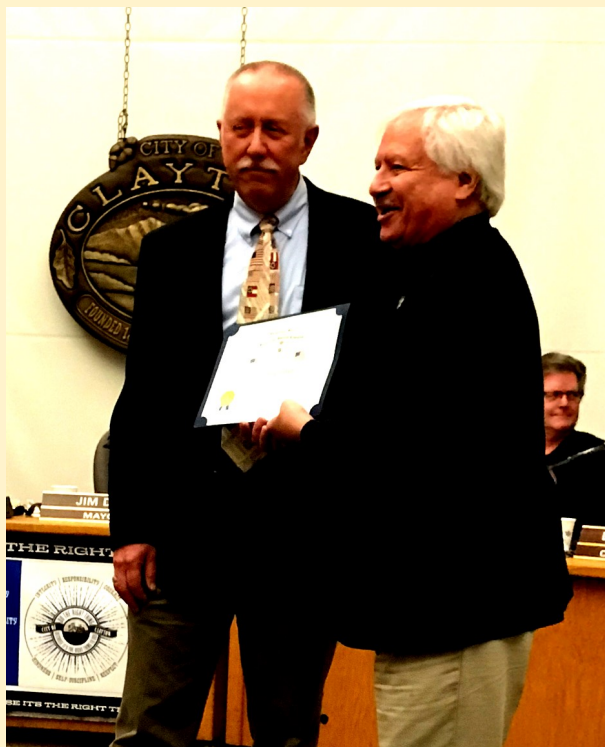
## Thomas Jefferson Chapter

In May 2017, Howard Jones, Past National Commander of the Military Order of the Stars & Bars, and Past President of the Silicon Valley Chapter (CASSAR), spoke on the life of Revolutionary War hero John Paul Jones. As a boy, John Paul went to sea as an apprentice sailor, and rose to command a ship. He was a strict disciplinarian, and killed a mutineer, forcing him to abandon his property in England and flee to America, changing his name to John Paul Jones.

He offered his services to the Continental Navy in 1775, and went on to become the hero of the *Bonhomme Richard's* battle with the *HMS Serapis*. After the war, he became a rear admiral in the Russian Navy. John Paul Jones died in Paris in 1792, and in 1905, his body was returned to the United States, where it rests at the US Naval Academy at Annapolis, Maryland.



*Derek Brown of the Thomas Jefferson Chapter presenting a flag certificate to Laura Hoffmeister (Mayor of Concord, CA)...*



*Derek Brown of the Thomas Jefferson Chapter presenting a flag certificate to Jim Diaz (Mayor of Clayton, CA)...*

## Redwood Empire Chapter Going Strong

I had the opportunity to visit the Redwood Empire Chapter for their May meeting and can report that the chapter is healthy and involved in their community. Compatriots, if you have an opportunity to visit the Redwood Empire Chapter in the future, I recommend you do so. Chapter President James Beatty runs a very entertaining meeting, with group songs and musical presentations, interesting guest speakers, “storytellers” and great food from Mary’s



*L-R: Harry “Smokey” Stover, Chapter Pres. Jim Beatty and VP North Dave Gilliard.*

with the new Registrar, Harry “Smokey” Stover, who is working hard on new applications and cleaning up some old issues. Smokey will do a great job as Registrar.

*David A. Gilliard, VP North*

Pizza Shack (a personal favorite!) The speaker at the May meeting was motorcycle enthusiast Mitch ‘Mad Dig’ Laing, a member of the Patriot Guard Riders and the Fallen Warrior Escorts. Mitch is also a member of the SAR.

Redwood Empire SAR has an active color guard that recently marched in Petaluma’s popular “Butter & Egg Days Parade” and was making plans for their Memorial Day appearance in Sonoma, where they will again honor Capt. William Smith, the only known Revolutionary War veteran buried in California. They also have plans for the July 4th Parade in Napa.

I had the opportunity to chat with Bill Nay, who heads up the chapter’s Youth Programs with a special focus on Scouts. I asked Bill to consider adding the Poster Contest to their programs and he said he was very open to the idea. I also met



*Redwood Empire Chapter Spirit of '76 Guardsmen in the Memorial Day ceremonies at the Sonoma Veterans Memorial Park in Sonoma.*

*Those pictured include Bill Van Valkenburg (chapter secretary), Bill Nay (chapter youth activities chair), Gary Felt, Ashley Nay and WWII veteran Bob Bissiri.*



*Redwood Empire Chapter meeting on June 16 - CASSAR Executive Vice-President Derek Brown is presenting the SAR Silver Good Citizenship Medal to Robert K. Leonard for his extensive community service within the City of Sonoma.*

## Santa Barbara Chapter



*Santa Barbara Chapter Officers*

*L-R: Frank Campo, Stuart Morse, Jeff Weinbender, Robert Neilhaus and Don Loper with Jim Fosdyck*



*President Campo presents Robert Neilhaus with a Bronze Roger Sherman*



# General George Patton Chapter

Four new members were inducted at the meeting on June 09, 2017



*Pres. Ken Lynch and Jerry Lee Hays, Jr.*



*Pres. Ken Lynch with Stuart Collins, III and his wife, Katharine, DAR member*



*Pres. Ken Lynch and Michael David Bick*



*Pres. Ken Lynch and Theodore Siegel*



*CASSAR Pres. Jim Fosdyck and Un Hui Yi*



## Harbor Chapter

Harbor Chapter meeting June 7, 2017 - Attendees included: Jim Fosdyck, Kevin Bidekap, Bob Albert, Jim Olds, Un Hui, Harry Belows, Harry Holgate, Brian Merrell and wife, Bob Goble, Peter Mallin, Hal Hitchborn and daughter Heidi, William Burns and grandson, Bill Voigt, Jeff Gholson, Karl Jacobs, Michael Voigt, James Gill, Jeff Oehler, Jim Bailey, Luke Merrell and sister, Buzz Taylor, Tom Bailey, Curtis Jones, Derek Brown, Janet Brown, Bruce Fitzpatrick and daughter, Chris and George Gentry. Not all were identified



*Harbor Chapter's newest (and youngest) member - Executive VP Derek Brown, Jacob and his grandfather William Burns.*



*Chapter President James Gill and Dennis Jama (portraying General Eisenhower) at the June 7 chapter meeting*

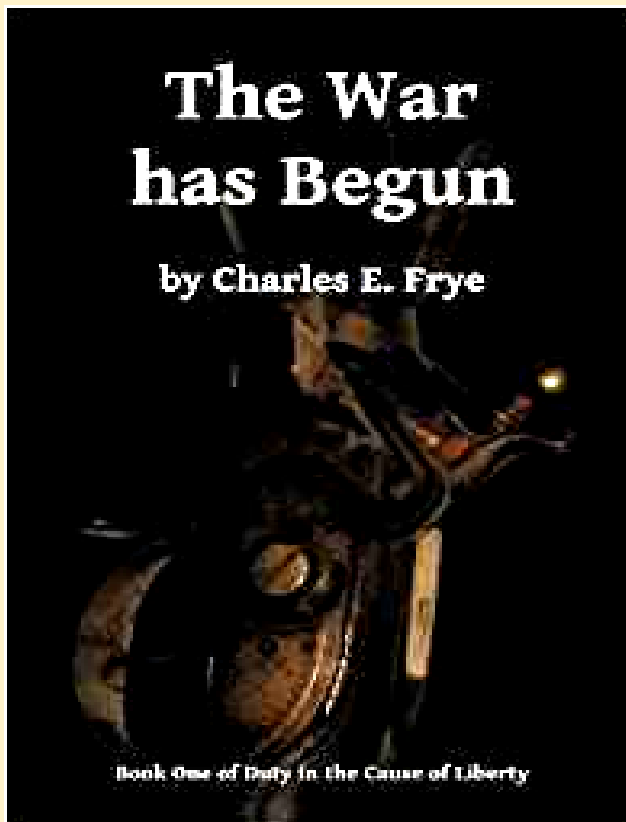


## Redlands Chapter

Charles E. Frye of the Redlands Chapter CASSAR has released a novel, "The War has Begun". Written as biographical historical fiction, the story is true, taking place during the American Revolution. Frye, a U.S. Army veteran, extensively researched each of the people who took part in the events portrayed in this book; their names are real, as were their contributions to liberty and country. The book includes several maps, including a detailed map of Wilton, NH with the names of land owners in 1775, many of whom were also patriots and are included in the novel.

*The War has Begun* is the first in a series of four books that follow Isaac Frye, a New Hampshire farmer who serves from the first day of the Continental Army's existence through being in the last unit disbanded. No other man, including George Washington, served longer as an officer. If you've ever wondered what it would have been like to stand beside the men and women who fought for American independence, here's your chance.

*The War has Begun* is available as a paperback edition in bookstores and from CreateSpace and Amazon, where a Kindle edition is also available. The author can be reached via his website: <https://dutyinthecauseofliberty.wordpress.com/>.



*Charles E. Frye*



# Orange County Chapter Meeting

June 10, 2017



*Quilts Of Valor ladies (l to r) Charmella Secrest, Karen Hughes and Un Hui Yi present a Quilt of Valor to former Green Beret and Vietnam veteran John Stryker Meyer.*

*Jim Fosdyck presents a SAR Wounded Warrior Coin to John Stryker Meyer in recognition of the Purple Heart he received during his service in Vietnam*



*President David Beall presents a Certificate of Appreciation to John Stryker Meyer - with former Green Beret and OC Chapter com-patriot Hammond Salley. John was the quest speaker at the June meeting*

## Delta Chapter



*Executive VP Derek Brown and Delta Chapter President  
John Humphrey at the Delta Chapter meeting*

### A Call to “History Buffs” for Historical Summaries

Tom Adams, and Chuck Lampman, representing our National SAR History Committee, told how the Committee has initiated a program to have authors of articles published in the *SAR Magazine* write a summary of their article. These “SAR Historical Summaries” are then published on the Internet via our website SAR.org. We know that young people entering our youth contests, like the Elementary School Poster Contest, the Middle School Brochure Contest and the High School Essay Contest search the Internet for their ideas. We want them to read our summaries that then link to the full article. That is the Top-Down approach.

But SAR History Committee Chairman, Cliff Olson (Missouri), also wants to go the other way, Bottom-Up. ... He is calling for “History Buffs” in Chapters across the Nation to write a Summary *first*. Send it to the History Committee where they will review it and they may then ask the author to consider writing a full article based upon the summary. Either way, the accepted summary will enter the pool of “SAR Historical Summaries” published on SAR.org.

The topics of the summary can be on any event, any person, or any document, from the period of History SAR covers: 1763 thru 1801. The theme for the Poster Contest varies annually. The theme for the Brochure Contest is one of the five (5) Foundational Documents of the United States: Articles of Confederation, Declaration of Independence, Constitution, Bill of Rights, and Federalist Papers. Articles could also be written in support of the Anniversary of the 250th American Revolutionary. A recently created National SAR Committee is *especially* looking for articles that pace our Nation’s 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

If this interest you, please contact Tom Adams, [tomadams1776@yahoo.com](mailto:tomadams1776@yahoo.com) and he will send you the three (3) page “SAR Historical Summary Guidelines” which included a fine example: “*The Stamp Act*.” Or contact Chuck Lampman through his daughter Tara [tara1776@comcast.net](mailto:tara1776@comcast.net) ... Greg Hill, our webmaster, also put the guidelines up on our ‘Youth Programs’ webpage: <http://www.californiasar.org/wp-content/uploads/SAR-Historical-Summary-Guidelines-r6.pdf>



## Around the National Society



### CASSAR group in Albany NY on the SAR Road to Saratoga tour

1777 Road to Saratoga (May 4-13, 2017) excursion generally followed the 1777 route of British General John Burgoyne from Québec City to his defeat at Saratoga at the hands of Patriots under the command of General Horatio Gates. The trip ended in Albany NY, the unachieved objective of Burgoyne's campaign. Along the way, we dedicated two new SAR markers/interpretive signs. Overnight stays were at Québec City (2 nights), Montréal (2 nights), Burlington (1 night), Lake George (3 nights) and Albany (1 night). A complete recap of the excursion will follow in the SAR Magazine.



*L-R: Mary Hinsbaw, Phil Hinsbaw, Mike Tomme, Warren Alter, Cilla Tomme, Nancy Alter, Sharleen Mansur, William Mansur, Lindsey Brock, Billie Brock, Denis (our tour bus driver), Janet Brown, Derek Brown, Gerry Miller, Charlotte Miller, Lou Carlson, Joy Javellana, Stephen Renouf.*



# *SAR Annual Congress, Knoxville, Tennessee*

The Tennessee Society hosted 127th Annual SAR Congress at the Holiday Inn World's Fair in Knoxville, Tennessee, from July 7-12, 2017. The California Society was represented by President James (Un Hui) Fosdyck, Vice President General Jim (Karen) Faulkinbury, Chaplain General Rev. Louis (Karen) Carlson, SAR Foundation Board Member John (Karen) Dodd, Executive Vice President Derek (Janet) Brown, Vice President South Robert (Darian) Taylor, Vice President North Dave Gilliard, Treasurer James Klingler, Invested Funds Trustee Stephen (Joy) Renouf, Invested Funds Trustee Kent (Lisa) Gregory, National Trustee Ronald (Conni) Barker, Past President Robert Ebert, Tom (Anne) Adams, Alan (Susan) Brooking, Dan (Karen) McKelvie, and Brian (Diane) Stephens.



*Seated (L-R) – Diane Stephens, Janet Brown, Susan Brooking, Lisa Gregory, Karen Carlson, Karen Dodd, Lacey Dodd, Karen Faulkinbury, Joy Javellana, Karen McKelvie, Ann Adams, Darian Taylor.*

*Standing (L-R) – Bob Ebert, Bob Taylor, Brian Stephens, Conni Barker, Kent Gregory, Derek Brown, Alan Brooking, Dave Gilliard, Lou Carlson, Joe Dooley, John Dodd, Dan McKelvie, Jim Faulkinbury, Stephen Renouf, Ron Barker, Tom Adams, Jim Klingler, Un Hui Yi, Jim Fosdyck.*

On Friday afternoon, July 7, 2017, John Dodd (member) attended the SAR Foundation Board Meeting. Jim Fosdyck attended the Flag Committee meeting, and they worked on creating a certificate to recognize those involved in retiring old US flags. Brian Stephens attended the Public Safety & Heroism Committee meeting, and the committee displayed the new SAR Life Saving Medal. The Executive Committee met and approved several recommendations to the trustees: 1. Modify the King's College London Agreement due to a foreign tax issue for the visiting scholars, 2. Dissolve the Mexico Society (currently has 0 members), 3. Reduce cash reserves from 6 months to 3 months, and 4. Use \$6,000 unused funds from the King's College London Contingency to pay an architect bill that was requested in error. On Friday evening, there was a reception at the East Tennessee History Center.

On Saturday morning, July 8, 2017, there was an optional tour to the Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, and the Museum of Appalachia. The Cumberland Gap National Historical Park is on the borders on Tennessee, Kentucky and Virginia. Beginning around 1775, the Cumberland Gap became the primary route of settlers moving into Kentucky.

On Saturday afternoon, the SAR group boarded buses and went to James White Fort for the host society reception. We had barbecue pork for dinner, and viewed the fort. James White came to Tennessee from Iredell County, North Carolina in 1783, and was granted land from his service in the Revolutionary War.

He was a land speculator, and grew his 1,000 acres to 125,000 acres by 1800. In 1785, he came to the future site of Knoxville and built a two-story log house. He had a wooden stockade to keep out the wild animals. He had good relations with the local Cherokee Indians. In 1791, William Blount, Governor of the Territory South of the River Ohio, asked James White to use some of his land for the founding of the territorial capital – Knoxville – which was named after Secretary of War Henry Knox. In 1793, James White left his land in the bustling city and moved upriver to another plantation, where he died in 1821. In 1796, Tennessee became the 16th state, and Knoxville was the state capital. We saw the main cabin, kitchen, smoke house, weaving house, guest house and blacksmith shop, all contained in the stockade.

On Sunday morning, July 9, 2017, Jim Fosdyck and Bob Taylor attended the Color Guard Committee Breakfast, which honored Color Guard Commander David Hoover for his eight years as adjutant, vice commander and commander of the National color guard. Derek Brown attended the Eagle Scout Committee, where they discussed the amount of money on hand, and increasing the values of awards to be sure to be disbursing about 4% of the endowment. They are revising the Eagle Scout brochure, which will be available for download from the SAR website. They approved all six proposals for the Robert Burt Award – including one for the Redwood Empire Chapter, and they decided that the award would be given directly to the recipient or mailed to reduce the chance of it being lost. A presentation will be made to the Executive Committee to present the awards as a scholarship, and if they are not taken within five years, they would be distributed as a cash award. Dan McKelvie attended the Oration Contest Committee, where they discussed increasing the number of judges, and giving the judges training. Tom Adams and David Gilliard attended the Americanism Committee, chaired by Ron Barker, and the committee selected the winner for the SAR Poster Contest. The winner of the SAR Brochure Contest had been chosen prior to Congress. Tom Adams made a proposal to contact SAR HQ and explore the option of changing national awards from generic ribbons to neck ribbon medallions with name plates as they do in California. Derek Brown attended the Knight Essay Contest Committee, where they discussed the new individualized application (no longer using generic application), which is working better. The contest rules have been updated on the website. They decided to discontinue paying \$185 to use the National Society of High School Principals site, due to the lack of results.

The final meeting of the Board of Trustees for 2016-17 was held on Sunday morning. The minutes of the Spring Trustees Meeting were approved. Secretary General Guzy presented the four recommendations to the trustees that were adopted by the Executive Committee. Joe Dooley made a motion to modify the King's College Agreement, which passed. There was a motion to dissolve the Mexico Society, which passed. There was a motion to reduce the cash reserves from six months to three months, which passed with 6 “no” votes. There was a motion to use \$6,000 from the King's College London Contingency to pay the architect bill for work that was ordered in error, which passed with 6 “no” votes. Treasurer General Warren Alter stated that the operating budget was under budget. PG Nathan White gave a report on the headquarters construction. The Digitization of old editions of the *SAR Magazine* from 1905 to current should be finished by the end of July, and should be available online by August. Under new business, Genealogist General John Sinks made a motion to require the SAR application to have a field for the residence of the patriot ancestor starting January 1, 2018. PG Joe Dooley made a motion to defer the issue to Congress, which passed. Genealogist General John Sinks made a motion to defer the requirement for the SAR application changes already approved from August 1, 2017 to January 1, 2018, which passed with 3 “no” votes. President General Mike Tomme adjourned the final meeting of the trustees for 2016-17.

The Education Committee did not meet at Congress, but the chairmen notified committee members (including Jim Klingler) that they were continuing to accept nominations for participants in PG Mike Tomme's initiative for Education Outreach. The initiative includes SAR members who visit schools and other organizations to educate students and others about American History.

Jim Klingler submitted a nomination on behalf of the Orange County Chapter and the CASSAR for Dan Shippey, who portrays General George Washington, and operates an educational outreach organization, Breed's Hill Institute. The nomination was accepted and recognized by PG Tomme.

On Sunday afternoon, the SAR held a memorial service at the First Baptist Church in Knoxville to honor the SAR compatriots who passed away in the previous year. After the memorial service, the First Lady's Tea was held at the church. John Dodd attended the Bylaws & Legal Advisory Committee meeting. Stephen Renouf chaired the Medals & Awards Committee, where they approved the General Officer's Pin, and recommended allowing the option to purchase sterling silver Patriot Medals.

Derek Brown attended the Germany Society Meeting. They currently have 12 members of the Germany Society who live in Germany. They discussed the Germany Society newsletter having articles regarding German ancestors who fought in support of the American Revolution, and posting the newsletters on the society website. On Sunday evening, the California Society had dinner at Tupelo Honey Café at the Market Square Farmer's Market. The SAR Rumbaugh Orations Contest Finals were held. The winner was the contestant from the California Society – Taryn Murphy.

On Monday morning, July 10, 2017, President General Mike Tomme opened the 127th Annual Congress of the Sons of the American Revolution. After opening ceremonies, Tennessee State Senator Mark S. Norris brought greetings to the SAR. He said that Tennessee was putting patriotism back in the state schools. The state requires the national anthem to be recited each morning, and also requires cursive writing to be taught. Knox County Mayor Tim Burchett brought greetings from the county government, and presented a proclamation making July 10, 2017 “SAR Day.” Mayor Burchett grew up with patriotism, and he is a sponsor of the Wreaths Across America program. Vice Mayor Duane Grieve brought greetings on behalf of Mayor Madeline Rogero and city council of Knoxville. He spoke about James White, the founder of Knoxville. The city of Knoxville grew up around James White's Fort.

Representatives from other patriotic and historical societies also brought greetings to the SAR Congress. We heard from President General Anne Dillon of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), State Regent Charlotte Reynolds of the Tennessee DAR, Senior National President Joanne Zumbrun of the Children of the American Revolution (CAR), and Youth National President Erin Moore of the CAR (who quoted President Ronald Reagan – freedom is never more than one generation away from extinction). We also heard from State President Leslie Meyers of the Tennessee CAR, President Karen Powell of the National SAR Ladies Auxiliary, Commander Charles Smith of the American Legion, President General Thomas Jacks of the General Society of the War 1812, General Vice President David Rutherford of the Sons of the Revolution (who represented General President Bush), and Grand Viscount General Lindsey Brock of the Order of the Founders of North America. We heard from Lee Philson of the National Society of Mayflower Descendants. She said they were working with FamilyTreeDNA to use autosomal DNA to find more people with Mayflower ancestry. In 2020, the society will be celebrating the 400th Anniversary of the Landing of the Mayflower at Plymouth, Massachusetts. Mrs. George Cole, the Commander in Chief of George Washington's Army at Valley Forge, said the group was formed to collect names of those that served at Valley Forge, and especially those who died at Valley Forge. She noted that SAR President General Calvin Chunn (from California) was second Commander in Chief of George Washington's Army at Valley Forge. We also heard from Martha Cummings of the Huguenot Society of the Founders of Manakin in Colony of Virginia, and from Ronnie Lail of the Overmountain Victory Trail Association (OVTA). The OVTA is not a lineage society, but one formed to keep alive the story of the overmountain men who fought at King's Mountain.

After a break, the Congress honored DAR Cyndy Sweeney and CAR Joanne Zumbrun for their donations to SAR Youth Awards Council. Lanny Patten made a \$100,000 challenge grant matching \$1 for every \$3 in donations for the SolidLight Museum Project. Bruce Buehler of the Alabama Society donated authentic American Revolution Era powder horns for the SAR Museum. *Presidente* Lou Carlson of the Mexico Society donated the remaining balance in the Mexico Society account of \$1,796 to the SolidLight Museum Project in response to the Lanny Patten challenge grant. President Sam Powell of the SAR Foundation donated \$50,000 towards the Lanny Patten challenge grant.

The SAR Congress adopted the rules for the Congress. SAR Executive Director Don Shaw reported that 8,000 youth were served in HQ building in the previous year. He said he was working on restructuring the headquarters staff to improve efficiency. The SAR hosted a National Archives traveling show, which generated traffic to our headquarters in Louisville. The past presidents general gave their comments, followed by the general officer reports, the vice presidents general reports, and then Congress recessed for lunch.

The Youth Awards luncheon was held at the Knoxville Convention Center across the street from the Holiday Inn. Following lunch, the Dr. Tom and Betty Lawrence American History Teacher Award was announced – the winner was Sharon Goepford of Florida, who won \$1,400. Chairman of the SAR Poster Contest Ron Barker announced that they had a record 20 posters submitted to the contest. The winner (\$200 cash prize) was Vincent Von Tungein, the contestant from the Redlands Chapter of the California Society.

Alabama came in second place, and Texas came in third place. Ron Barker announced that the SAR Brochure Contest had a record 14 brochures submitted to the contest. The winner (\$300 cash prize) was Kailee Mark, from the Riverside Chapter of the California Society, who had a poster on the Declaration of Independence. Ohio came in second place, and Georgia came in third place. Darrin Schmidt, the chairman of the CAR Committee, presented a check for \$1,000 for National CAR President Erin Moore's national project – *Browsing History* – will raise funds for the creation of *James Monroe Online* (JMO), which will make the government documents of President James Monroe available online. Many of the documents are inaccessible, so *James Monroe Online* is posting manuscript images and searchable transcriptions online for scholars and laymen to have access.

The CAR project will also help to transcribe the documents. James M. Lindley, the chairman of the SAR Knight Essay Contest, introduced winner Cameron Chyla (WI), and he read his winning essay on the “Uncle of the Revolution,” John Dickinson, and the ideology of the American Revolution. He said John Dickinson was worried about Pennsylvania losing Quaker values when the colony transitioned from the Proprietorship under the Penn family to Royal control. Co-Chairman John Franklin of the SAR Rumbaugh Oration Contest announced the winner of the oration contest was Taryn Murphy, sponsored by the California Society. Her oration was “Why our Right to Privacy Insures National Security,” and she delivered her oration at the luncheon. Ed Chairman Ed Rigel of the King Eagle Scout Award announced that the winner was Joseph Jaeger of Illinois, who read his essay. Chairman David Jessel of the Outstanding JROTC Cadet Award announced the winner was Air Force Cadet Major Conner Goodrich, who read his essay on how JROTC made him a better citizen.

On Monday afternoon, Budget Chairman David Boring presented the 2018 Budget. He announced the SAR currently had \$586,000 in debt on the credit line. At the end of 2016, the SAR Alexander Hamilton Fund had \$43k in unrealized gains, and in 2017 through May 2017, the Alexander Hamilton Fund had \$156k in unrealized gains, and the SAR Building and Education Outreach Fund had \$56k in unrealized gains. He stated that these unrealized gains could be realized to pay down the outstanding debt. SARACAR Chairman Joe Dooley reported that the topic of the 2018 conference will be Spain in the American Revolution, on June 8-10, 2018 in Baltimore, Maryland. Secretary General Larry Guzy reported on items from the Executive Committee. The ExCom recommended no changes to the 2018 SAR dues, which was adopted unanimously by Congress.

Chairman Peter Davenport of the Bylaws and Resolutions Committee presented the recommendations of the committee. The first proposal by the California Society was to amend Article III of the SAR Constitution to change the requirement that patriots be loyal to the US at all times to loyal at last known service. This brings the Constitution into compliance with the policy of the SAR. The committee recommended approval, and the motion was approved unanimously. The second proposal by the Indiana Society was to amend Article IV of the SAR Constitution to change the term of office for general officers from one to two years. The committee recommended rejecting the proposal. The Congress voted by a substantial majority to reject the motion.

The third proposal by the Indiana Society was to amend Bylaw 19 restricting campaigning for general office for one year after election to office. The committee recommended rejection of the proposal. Since the previous proposal failed, the Congress voted to reject the motion. The fourth proposal by the Bylaws Committee was to amend Bylaw 4 to delete a paragraph duplication which is also found in Bylaw 20 §1(a)(iii). It was recommended by the committee, and Congress approved the motion unanimously. The fifth proposal w by the Indiana Society as to amend Bylaw 5 to create the position of Alternate Vice President General. The committee recommended the proposal be rejected, and Congress voted to refer the proposal back to the bylaws committee.

The sixth proposal was to amend Bylaw 14 to incorporate professional standards for the chaplain general. Congress voted to refer the proposal back to the chaplains committee. The seventh proposal by the Kansas Society was to amend Bylaw 16 to permit two trustees and one alternate trustee from each state/foreign society. The committee recommended the proposal be rejected, and Congress rejected the proposal. The eighth proposal was to amend Bylaw 18 to allow the delegates of Congress to approve the ExCom Appointees so Congress does not need to be interrupted by calling a trustees meeting. The ninth proposal was to amend Bylaw 18 cleaning up the language to allow the delegates of Congress to approve the ExCom Appointees. The two proposals made by the Bylaws Committee were moved to be adopted together. The committee recommended both proposals be accepted, and Congress voted to approve the motion with a strong majority.



On Monday evening, the current Minutemen marched into the room, and the 2017 Minuteman candidates were inducted: Paul Callanan (MI), Lance Carter (WV), Finlay Coles (WV), John Franklin, Jr. (OH), C. Bruce Pickette (AL), and James Taylor (TX). Following the Minuteman Ceremony, there was a brief recess, and then the Awards Night continued. The following California Compatriots received the Liberty Medal for being the first line sponsor of ten new members: Kenneth Lynch, and Richard McMullen. The following compatriots received the oak leaf cluster for multiple awards of the Liberty Medal: Steven Barnes (2), Terry Briggs, James Claxton, Jim Faulkinbury, Alan Fitch, Jr., Charles Gentis, Kent Gregory, Don Gurley (2), Richard McMullen, Raymond Raser (3), Edward Sebree, Owen Stiles (2), James Young, and Ronald Zell. The California Society was presented with the following awards: Admiral William R. Furlong Memorial Award (one star) for SAR Flag Certificate presentations, the Edwin B. Graham Award for participation in the oration contest, a Certificate of Appreciation for participating in the SAR brochure contest, the Grahame T. Smallwood, Jr. Award (\$250 cash prize) for the best large newsletter (Jim Fosdyck and Kent Gregory editors), a Certificate of Appreciation for participating in the SAR poster contest, the Officer Attendance Award (for state president and national trustee attending preceding leadership meetings and congress), a Certificate of Appreciation for participating in the SAR ROTC/JROTC contest, and a Certificate of Appreciation for participating in the SAR Eagle Scout contest. Streamers were presented to the Orange County Chapter for the President General's Education Outreach "New Program" Initiative; and to the California Society for the President General's Youth Awards Initiative, Outstanding JROTC cadet participant, Americanism poster participant, NSSAR Officer Award, and Eagle Scout Participant. The streamer for the Patriot Biographies Award was presented to the Monterey Bay Chapter (streamer and star), and to the Riverside Chapter (star).

California Compatriots received Certificates of Appreciation for chairing national committees in 2016-17: Stephen Renouf (Premium Member Medals and Medals & Awards), John Dodd (Governance & Organization, and Youth Exchange Program), Jim Faulkinbury (Genealogy), Rev. Lou Carlson (Chaplains), Ron Barker (Americanism), John Shempt (Burt Boy Scout Volunteer Award), and James Fosdyck (Americanism Youth Medal, and Dr. Joseph Warren Medal). Stephen Renouf was presented with the Winston C. Williams SAR Magazine Award for the compatriot who provided the most usable magazine material. Dan McKelvie was presented with the Harold L. Putnam Award for the oration contest state chairman of the winning state, and a certificate as a member of the SAR Center for Advancing America's Heritage. Karen McKelvie received a certificate as a George Washington Fellow. Paul M. Wilke of the Ohio Society was named the Color Guardsman of the Year.

On Tuesday morning, July 11, 2017, the SAR districts held their breakfast meetings. Tom Adams, Ron Barker, John Dodd, and Bob Taylor attended the Intermountain/Western/Pacific/Rocky Mountain District Breakfast. Mark Anthony and John Thornhill campaigned for Historian General at the district breakfasts. Western District Vice President General Jim Faulkinbury presented the Meritorious Service Medal to Stephen Renouf for his service to the Western District.

After breakfast, the SAR Congress reconvened. The first item of business was the approval of 126th SAR Congress (Boston 2016) Minutes. Chairman Peter Davenport of the Bylaws and Resolutions Committee then finished up the voting on the bylaws amendments. The tenth proposal by the Bylaws Committee was to amend Bylaw 22, Section 2, regarding the fee for family applications. The proposal was recommended by the Bylaws Committee, and the motion was unanimously approved. The eleventh proposal was to amend Bylaw 22, Section 6, to apply annual dues submitted with new applications approved after October 31 to the following year.

The proposal was recommended by the Bylaws Committee. There was a motion to amend the original motion to change the cutoff date to September 1, and the motion was approved by a vote of 171-81. There was another motion to amend the original motion to add language that the SAR staff would be prohibited from holding on to applications until after the cutoff to assist the applicant in having his dues applied to the following year. State Societies would have to hold the applications themselves if they want the applications delayed until after the cutoff date, causing longer delays in application review and approval since the applications will not be able to be processed during the "hold." The amendment to the motion passed. The original motion as amended was then approved by a vote of 244-14. The twelfth proposal was to amend Bylaw 22, Section 6, to change the cutoff date of annual dues submitted with new applications being applied to the following year to September 1, and prohibit SAR staff from holding applications was withdrawn by the Indiana Society since it was now a moot point.

There was no unfinished business. Under new business, there was a motion to recommend to the trustees to use the unrealized gains from Alexander Hamilton Fund to reduce the debt on the line of credit, and it was passed by Congress. There was a resolution to support the campaign to purchase Princeton Battlefield land, donate it to the state of New Jersey to preserve it, and encourage SAR members to donate to the campaign. There was a motion to refer to resolution to the Historic Sites Committee, which was approved by a vote of 143-121. There was a motion for Congress to override the vote of the trustees to permit applicants to submit a court order or modified birth certificate showing a change of gender to male, but the president general ruled it out of order.

The Nominating Committee report was presented by Lindsey Brock: Larry Guzy for president general, Warren Alter for secretary general, John Manning for treasurer general, Davis Wright for chancellor general, John Sinks for genealogist general, Mark Anthony for historian general, Bruce Pickette for registrar general, Doug Collins for Librarian General, John Barlow for surgeon general, no recommendation for chaplain general, Joe Dooley for SAR Foundation Board, and Lou Carlson for SAR Foundation Board. There were two nominations from the floor – John Thornhill for historian general, and John Wakefield for chaplain general. The credentials committee reported that there were 331 delegates to the SAR Congress, and the credentialing period was then closed. There were 347 people registered for SAR Congress. There was a motion to elect all unopposed candidates by acclamation, and the motion passed.

Congress was recessed for committee meetings in the afternoon. John Dodd, Stephen Renouf, Ron Barker, Jim Klingler, and Dan McKelvie attended the Budget/Finance/Investment Joint Committee, where they discussed the proposed budget, which assumes the addition of one genealogist and funds for technology upgrades and IT support. They also discussed using \$300,000 in unrealized gains by July 31, 2017, to pay down debt on the line of credit. David Billings announced that he will be stepping down as chairman of the Investment Committee, and Wayne Snodgrass will become chairman. Derek Brown, Jim Fosdyck, Ron Barker, and Kent Gregory attended the Council of State Presidents Business Meeting, and the council discussed youth protection, and updated their by-laws. The Council elected four members (and four alternates) to the National Nominating Committee – Paul Callanan (MI), Kevin Carr (NM), Dennis Nelson (KS), and David Johnson (TN). Balloting was held in the afternoon to elect a historian general. Tom Adams attended the 250th Anniversary Committee, which is planning for the Nation's upcoming 250th Anniversary, and generating articles for *SAR Magazine* on milestone events leading up to the Anniversary. Compatriots are encouraged to contact Tom Adams if they have an idea for an article. Stephen Renouf and John Dodd attended the Premium Membership Medals Committee meeting, and the committee voted to apply all future donations raised by the committee for the SolidLight Museum Project, and to have them applied to the Lanny Patten \$100k challenge grant. John Dodd, Stephen Renouf, Jim Klingler, and Kent Gregory attended the meeting of the King's College London Committee, which discussed changes to the KCL-SAR agreement. The original agreement provided that the SAR should donate \$38,000 to KCL annually in support of the Georgian Papers Program. The modified agreement provides that we shall donate \$22,000 to the American institution with which the SAR Visiting Professor is associated. The modified agreement also provides that the SAR shall donate £8,500 to King's College London (just under \$11,500) for administrative fees. Our combined donation, as modified, would be reduced to about \$33,500. The reason for this proposed change has to do with visa requirements and income tax laws in Britain that potentially made things very difficult for the 2017 SAR Visiting Professor. Also, the committee discussed and recommended to the Trustees that the SAR exercise its option to extend the agreement for an additional two years.

On Tuesday evening, the President General Banquet was held in the Convention Center. The national color guard performed the changing of the guard ceremony, with Color Guard Commander Paul Hoover turning over command to Mark Anthony. President General Tomme announced that John Thornhill was elected as historian general. The speaker for the banquet was author Jon Meacham, a native of Chattanooga, Tennessee. He was a professor at Vanderbilt University, and the editor-in-chief of *Newsweek*. Jon Meacham spoke on the meaning of the American Revolution. He said it did not merely last from 1775 to 1783 – it begun at the French and Indian War, and concluded with General Andrew Jackson defeating the British in the Battle of New Orleans in 1814, in an Agincourt-like battle. Jon Meacham wrote a biography of President Andrew Jackson.

Upon leaving the presidency, Andrew Jackson famously stated, "I only have two regrets: I didn't shoot Henry Clay and I didn't hang John C. Calhoun." He said Andrew Jackson was the most famous American since George Washington – he was the second father of the country.

The idea behind the American Revolution was a continental republic, which was a radically new idea. The Americans were trying not to be European – Americans did not believe in negotiation. After the Peace of Paris, the Americans lived in fear that the British, Spanish or French might come back. The revolution did not truly end until the Victory at New Orleans and the Treaty of Ghent. The War of 1812 ratified the American experiment. Jon Meacham stated that the line “All men are created equal . . .” from the Declaration of Independence is perhaps the greatest sentence ever written in human history. The American Revolution caused the greatest shift in the world from vertical power (kings, princes and popes) to horizontal power (everyone equal). This was the most important shift in the last thousand years – since the conversion of Roman Emperor Constantine to Christianity. The Great Cause of America was the cause of mankind. The Founding Fathers were originally fighting for the preservation of their rights under the English Constitution. They believed that they were being excluded from the compact, and were fighting to restore their rights as Englishmen. They blamed royal ministers and Parliament, but not the king. When King George III turned on them, then they finally declared independence from England. Jon Meacham stated that our current immigration problems result from people trying to get in, not out, so we must be doing something right. Unlike the totalitarian regimes that have to build walls to keep their people from leaving. He said no one is perfect, and our system likewise is not perfect. However, we should not condemn our past, but use it to reflect on past errors and make improvements. He said we should actually be reflecting on what are we getting wrong at present that posterity will later condemn us for. Jon Meacham reflected that he is a native of Tennessee, and if it was not for Tennessee, Texas would belong to Spain. He noted that President Andrew Jackson appointed Abraham Lincoln as a postmaster in 1833. He said the American experiment began during the American Revolution, was ratified at New Orleans in 1814, and was put to its greatest test at Fort Sumter in 1861. President General Mike Tomme presented the SAR Certificate of Appreciation to Jon Meacham for his informative talk, and presented him with a model of the Liberty Bell.

President General Tomme installed Martha Barnhart as president of the National Ladies Auxiliary. President General Tomme presented the Daughters of Liberty Medal to outgoing National Ladies Auxiliary President Karen Powell, the SAR Appreciation Medal to Keitha Callanan and Theresa Coursey. He presented the Lydia Darragh Medal to his wife, Cilla Tomme. President General Tomme presented the Meritorious Service Medal to Genealogist General John Sinks, Registrar General Russell DeVenney, Historian General Jack Manning, Librarian General Bruce Pickette, Surgeon General Dr. Larry Leslie, Chaplain General Rev. Louis Carlson, VPG Wayne Mallar, VPG Warren Fritensky, VPG Mark Brennan, VPG Lawrence Fehrenbaker, VPG Gerald Brent, VPG Thomas Paine, VPG William Vette, VPG David Kentsmith, VPG Leslie McGee, VPG Walter Seaton, VPG Regan Grandy, VPG Jim Faulkinbury, VPG John Berg, VPG Patrick Mesnard, Secretary General Larry Guzy, Treasurer General Warren Alter, ExCom Member Lindsey Brock, ExCom Member PG Tom Lawrence, ExCom Member Paul Callanan, ExCom Member Doug Collins, ExCom Member Mike Elston, ExCom Member Davis Wright, ExCom Member Randy Moody, and ExCom Member Steve Baldwin. President General Tomme presented the National Medal of Distinguished Service to Paul Callanan and Roger Coursey. The California Society had its annual picture taken by Penny Rogo Bailes following the President General Banquet.

On Wednesday morning, July 12, 2017, the SAR Congress reconvened. It was announced that there were 111 first time attendees. The nominations for the offices of vice president general were presented, including Kent Gregory (Western District). There was a motion to elect the nominated vice presidents general, which passed unanimously. The nominations for national trustees/alternate trustees were presented, including Ron Barker/Jim Fosdyck (California Society), Stephen Renouf/Charles Alcaraz (Spain Society), Elwyn Spray/Elbridge Smith (Hawaii Society), and Charles Smith/Brian Worcester (Nevada Society). There was a motion to elect the nominated trustees/alternate trustees, which passed unanimously. John Dodd made a motion (seconded by Stephen Renouf) to destroy the ballots from the historian general election, which was approved unanimously. Larry Guzy’s nominations for the Executive Committee were presented: Paul Callanan (MI), Rick Hollis (DC), James Lindley (WA), Michael Schenk (MS), and Mike Tomme (GA), and a motion to approve them passed unanimously.

President General Mike Tomme declared the election of the general officers for 2017-18. There was a motion to have the general officers, vice presidents general, living past presidents general, Mike Tomme, and Executive Committee members elected as trustees, and the motion passed with one “no” vote. Chancellor General Davis Wright installed the 2017-18 national trustees.

President General Mike Tomme presented the last of his awards. He presented the Gold Roger Sherman Medal to David Boring, Bruce Buehler, Larry Fehrenbaker, James Jones, Jr., Steve Perkins, William Popham, Sam Powell, Bill Stone, Tim Ward, and Raymond West. President General-Elect Larry Guzy announced Greg Lucas would be the Inspector General, and Ray West would be the Assistant Inspector General.

Congress was suspended, and a Trustee Meeting was convened. There was a motion to authorize the president general, treasurer general, secretary general, and executive director to sign bank documents, which passed unanimously. There was a motion to approve the annual renewal of the \$1.5 million line of credit with Fifth Third Bank, which passed unanimously. There was a motion to accept Lanny Patten's challenge grant of \$100k directed to SolidLight if \$300k raised, and to have the matching funds credited to the donors, which passed unanimously. There was a motion of the Joint Budget/Finance/Investment Committees (recommended by the SAR Congress) to have \$226k in unrealized gains in the Alexander Hamilton Fund be realized to reduce the debt in the line of credit by July 31, 2017, which passed unanimously. Ron Barker presented a motion from the California Society to allow other documents (besides a birth certificate or court order) to establish that an applicant is male. Some members have reasons for not submitting a birth certificate, and prominent people have their applications prepared without a birth certificate, which has been disallowed after the vote of the 2017 Spring Trustees Meeting. The motion passed. There was a motion to add a line for the residence of the patriot on the SAR application form, and requiring it for all applications submitted after January 1, 2018, and the motion failed. It was announced that Kent Gregory would be recording secretary, and John Berg would be parliamentarian for 2017-18. The trustees meeting was adjourned.

We immediately boarded the buses for the Oak Ridge Museum Tour. We were given Subway sandwiches for lunch on the bus. After we arrived at the museum, we were shown several video presentations. We learned about the Calutron (CALifornia University cycloTRON), which was used to separate Uranium-235 (U-235) from Uranium ore. U-235 is the only naturally occurring nuclear fission fuel. There were 1,152 Calutrons operating at Oak Ridge during World War II. They borrowed 14,700 tons of silver from the US Treasury for use in the Calutrons. The Calutrons produced the U-235 fuel for the atomic bomb dropped on Hiroshima. After the war most of the Calutrons were removed, and the silver returned to the US Treasury, and the remaining Calutrons were used to produce isotopes of radioactive material for medical, industrial and research uses. Following the video presentations, we had free time to explore the energy museum. We then returned to the hotel.

On Wednesday evening, the Installation Banquet was held at the Convention Center. The newly elected Vice Presidents General processed, including Kent Gregory of the Western District. After opening ceremonies, President General Mike Tomme gave his farewell address. He noted that his Youth Awards Initiative to raise funds for youth awards raised \$49,000. President General Mike Tomme added another \$12,000. He awarded streamers to the states that participated, including California, which raised \$2,500. PG Tomme discussed his SAR Trip to Quebec, which followed the route of British General John Burgoyne's attack on New York. There was a marker placed at the site of Fort Anne, New York, and the group visited the Saratoga Battlefield, where General Burgoyne surrendered his army short of his goal of taking Albany, New York. PG Tomme presented the Sam Adams Congress Medals. The Gold Sam Adams Medal went to Paul Callanan for planning the congress. The Sam Adams Medals were presented to Rick Hollis, David Johnston, and Lee Johnson. PG Tomme presented the Daughters of Liberty Medal to First Lady Cilla Tomme.

Chancellor General Davis Wright swore in new general officers, and the new Vice Presidents General. CG Wright then installed Larry Guzy as the 114th president general of the Sons of the American Revolution. The George Washington Seal Ring Honor Guard then brought in the ring, and President Larry Guzy took the ring oath. PG Bill Gist placed the president general neck ribbon around the neck of Larry Guzy. PG Guzy noted that PG Gist had signed his membership certificate in 1995. PG Tomme then presented the gavel to PG Guzy. Current PG Guzy presented the former president general insignia to Past PG Tomme. PG Guzy then presented the SAR Gold Good Citizenship Medal to J. Michael Tomme, and a certificate honoring Mike Tomme as the 113th president general of the Sons of the American Revolution. PG Guzy then gave his inaugural address stating that membership would be the focus of his administration. PG Guzy then adjourned the 127th Annual SAR Congress. PG Guzy held a reception in the Holiday Inn for the remainder of the evening.

On Thursday morning, July 13, 2017, Kent Gregory served as recording secretary for the Executive Committee. President General Larry Guzy's appointments were approved for the committees that are under Bylaw requirements. They include the Budget Committee, Ethics Committee, Finance Committee, Handbook Committee, Independent Audit Committee, Investment Committee, Museum Board, Strategic Planning Committee, and Genealogy Committee. PG Guzy then described some of his priorities for the year ahead. An update was given on the new website progress and the need to change to a different vendor for website development. New Medals & Awards Committee Chairman Troy Foxwell presented the report of the Medals & Awards Committee, and the SAR General Officers Pin was approved, and a handbook change to allow the option of purchasing sterling silver SAR Patriot Medals was approved. John Dodd (member) and Kent Gregory attended the SAR Foundation meeting, which elected Joe Dooley as President, and Mike Elston as Vice President. PG Guzy is not appointing replacements to chair the Capital Campaign. He wants to form a Fundraising Committee and look into hiring a professional fundraising coordinator. He thinks the Foundation may not be necessary. So he will ask the Government and Organization Committee to consider if the SAR should continue to have the Foundation as a veil of financial protection.

The California Society had a table at Congress with literature promoting the 2019 SAR Congress in Costa Mesa, California. California Compatriots took turns working at the table promoting our Congress, selling 2019 Congress Medals and CASSAR Medals, and selling raffle tickets. The California Society raised \$1,625 in donations at the Knoxville Congress through the sale of 2019 Congress Medals, CASSAR Medals, and raffle tickets.



*Dan McKelvie pins a George Washington Fellows Fund lapel pin on Karen McKelvie.*



*Sam Powell and Lanny Patten present a SAR 1776 Signer Level Certificate to Daniel Raymond McKelvie.*

*By Stephen Renouf, CASSAR Invested Funds Trustee, with information from Tom Adams, Ron Barker, Derek Brown, Jim Faulkinbury, James Fosdyck, Dave Gilliard, Kent Gregory, Jim Klingler, Dan McKelvie, Brian Stephens, Robert Taylor, and Un Hui Yi.*

## California Society Ladies Auxiliary at Congress



*Standing left to right: Un Hui Yi, Karen McKelvie, Janet Brown, Susan Brooking, Conni Barker, Cilla Tomme, Anne Adams, Karen Faulkinbury. Seated left to right: Karen Dodd, Darian Taylor, Lisa Gregory, Diane Stephens, Karen Carlson and unknown*

## Youth Awards Luncheon



*1<sup>st</sup> Place Poster Contest - David Gilliard, Jim Fosdyck and Ron Barker*



*1<sup>st</sup> Place Brochure Contest - Tom Adams, Jim Fosdyck and Ron Barker*

*Taryn Ma*



## *Honoring Our Veterans*

### *The United States of America 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War Commemoration Commemorative Partner Program*



The California Society, SAR joined in a 3 year program (2016 - 2018) with The United States of America 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War Commemoration Commemorative Partner Program to conduct events and activities that will recognize Vietnam Veterans and their families' service, valor, and sacrifice. Our primary emphasis is objective one.

1. To thank and honor veterans of the Vietnam War, including personnel who were held as prisoners of war or listed as missing in action, for their service and sacrifice on behalf of the United States and to thank and honor the families of these veterans.
2. To highlight the service of the Armed Forces during the Vietnam War and the contributions of Federal agencies and governmental and non-governmental organizations that served with, or in support of, the Armed Forces.
3. To pay tribute to the contributions made on the home front by the people of the United States during the Vietnam War.

Living United States veterans who served on active duty in the United States Armed Forces at any time during the period of November 1, 1955 to May 15, 1975, regardless of location, are eligible to receive a lapel pin.

## Decorated combat veteran learns of letter about him published in 1951

By Steven Mayer  
Apr 29, 2017

The letter appeared in *The Californian* on Dec. 17, 1951, but Bakersfield resident Leon Thomas, the subject of it, would not learn of its existence for 65 years.

“We are publishing this letter just as received from a soldier in Korea,” the preface reads. “It has not been edited nor changed. It tells an eloquent story of heroism, of men doing their duty.”

Written by Assistant Platoon Sgt. Wiley Jones, of the U.S. Army’s 8th Cavalry Regiment, Company C, the letter tells the story of “Charlie Company,” on recon patrol in a river canyon near the village of Agok, North Korea. “Me and the boys in the platoon have decided to write to you to give you some news we think the folks around Bakersfield will be interested in,” Jones wrote. Surely they were. Surely many still are.



“On November 10, 1951, the third platoon of Charlie Company of the Eighth Cavalry regiment were on patrol.”

As the platoon made its way upriver, someone spotted enemy soldiers in the cliffs above them.

“We had walked into an ambush,” Jones recalled.

Earl Leon “Doc” Thomas, the platoon’s medic, was the last man in the column, maybe 30 feet behind Jones.

*Leon Thomas, now 85, served as an Army medic with the U.S. Army’s 8th Cavalry Regiment During the Korean War.  
Henry A. Barrios/ The Californian*

“We all hit the dirt or rocks,” Jones continued. “Some of the men were across the river and some went into the river at the crossing.”

Thomas, who had turned 20 in Korea the previous June, had begun his career in combat unarmed. As a wartime medic, the idea was that he would be a noncombatant, there simply to aid the wounded, not engage the enemy.

“I didn’t want to carry a gun,” Thomas, now 85, told *The Californian*. “I didn’t want to shoot anybody.”

But the reality of combat — being fired upon in the heat of battle — forced him to change his position. Not only did Thomas begin carrying the Army’s standard-issue .45-caliber sidearm, he also carried a long-barrel Western-style Colt .45 revolver he had bought from a fellow grunt. It was not pearl-handled.

According to Jones’ letter, a squad of Chinese soldiers — the sergeant used a racial epithet throughout to refer to enemy soldiers — was advancing from behind.

“Doc was about 10 or 15 yards behind me,” Jones recalled. “He was armed with a .45 pistol. He raised up and opened up with his .45 and three of them dropped.”

### Poverty Hill

Born in 1931 in tiny Wayne, Okla., Thomas was the son of a sharecropper who eked out a living working somebody else’s 20 acres of dirt.

“We lived in a little sharecropper place called Poverty Hill,” he remembered.

Little Leon was only 3 when the horses pulling a wagon his father was loading with corn were spooked. The elder Thomas was run over by the wagon. He died not long afterward.

“My mother was alone at the height of the Depression with two kids to feed,” Leon Thomas recalled years later. She sold the farm implements and the livestock to bury her husband. Eventually, Leon’s mom would marry another sharecropper. They lived a simple life, hauling water from Flash Creek, nearly a mile from Poverty Hill. They raised their own hogs and chickens.



"We would hang the hams in the cellar to cure and we would render the fat to make our lard to cook with," Thomas wrote in a memoir. "Mom would use the same cast-iron kettle to cook up what was left of the hog, add some lye and make our soap. She used the same kettle to wash our clothes in."

The boys, now numbering five, hunted squirrels, rabbits and opossums. They sold the hides and dined on the meat. "We were itinerant farmworkers," Thomas said. They picked cotton, tree fruit and worked any number of other crops. Working "sun to sun" was the norm. Getting ahead was not. Despite the poverty and itinerant life, Thomas would find success following the family's arrival in Arvin and the Bakersfield area. He competed as an amateur boxer throughout much of his youth. He graduated from Bakersfield High School in 1950, and then enlisted the following January. After his military service, he did sheet-metal work before starting one of Bakersfield's first trash-hauling franchises. He would later own the Jumbo Burger on Golden State Highway and the A&W restaurant on Niles Street. Thomas has been married to his wife, the former Mary Imogene Cherry, for 65 years this August. They have four children. His service to the nation has continued through his work with the Military Order of the Purple Heart, the Kern Veterans Memorial Foundation and other organizations that support and honor military veterans and those who never came home.

"Any effort to support veterans and Leon is always there," said David Jackson, a decorated Vietnam combat veteran who also serves the Order of the Purple Heart.

"To this day, people in the order still seek Leon out for advice. In the order, I've heard it said of Leon, 'He knows what right looks like.'"

But Thomas never knew of the letter sent with such appreciation from his buddies in Charlie Company until last year. Students in BHS teacher Ken Hooper's archiving class discovered the letter and Hooper gave a copy to Thomas.

"He was shocked," Hooper recalled. "He asked if I could find the man who wrote the letter." Hooper didn't have the heart to tell Thomas that Wiley Jones had died just days before in Texas, and was likely being buried the day the two men spoke.

## Bronze Star and Purple Heart

When a grenade landed at Thomas' feet, he dove behind a large rock, but nevertheless suffered several nonlethal wounds. "When the call for medic came he went to the wounded, paying no attention to the ... machine gun up on the cliff chattering away at him ..." Jones wrote 65 years ago. Indeed, despite his wounds, Thomas made his way across the river to tend to the wounds of the platoon's radioman. "I was wounded, dazed," he remembered. "Then I heard someone calling, 'Medic!'" He would receive a Purple Heart and a Bronze Star for his actions that day. He would also earn the love of his comrades.

"Our hats are off to our 'Doc.' We think we have the best one in Korea," Jones wrote. Of 13 men wounded in that firefight, Thomas and another medic, Fred Love, did not lose a single one.

"Leon and I worked side by side treating all those soldiers laid out," recalled Love, who is now 88 and living in Artesia, Calif. According to Love, the two medics were tending to a wounded comrade when Love saw an enemy soldier approaching from behind Thomas. He screamed a warning.

"Leon turned and shot that son of a gun dead-center in the forehead," Love said.

It seems being able to help the wounded and handle a sidearm was enough to inspire a letter from a platoon of grateful GIs.

"When we ask him how he does it," Jones wrote all those many years ago, "he says 'God gives me the strength to help the wounded — that's why I came over here, so I intend to do my job.'"

"He is as good with a .45," Jones wrote, "as he is with a morphine syrette.

"So watch out for him."



Un Hui presented a Quilt of Valor to compatriot Thomas. He also received a SAR War Service Medal (Korean War) from Jim Fosdyck. Arnie Burr is helping hold the quilt.

# The Letter

*The following column, Pipefuls, by Jim Day, was published Dec. 17, 1951, in The Californian. The column almost entirely consists of a letter sent from U.S. Army Sgt. Wiley Jones. It has been lightly edited. Jones assertion that Thomas received two Silver Stars is mistaken. While Thomas was recommended for a Silver Star, he was awarded a Bronze Star.*

We are publishing this letter just as received, from a soldier in Korea. It has not been edited or changed. It tells an eloquent story of heroism, of men doing their duty. I doubt if any writer could improve upon its substance and impact:

“Me and the boys in the platoon have decided to write to you to give you some news we think the folks around Bakersfield will be interested in.

“On November 10, 1951, the third platoon of Charlie Company of the Eighth Cavalry regiment were on patrol. We were making our way up the river when someone spotted (derogatory term for Chinese people) all around us.

“We had walked into an ambush. ‘Doc’ Pfc. Earl Leon Thomas was behind me. We all hit the dirt or rocks. Some of the men were across the river and some went into the river at the crossing.

“There was a squad of (derogatory term) come up behind us. Doc was about 10 or 15 yards behind me. He was armed, with a .45 pistol. He raised up and opened up with his .45 and three of them dropped.

## Throw Grenades

“While this was going on, one or two of the (derogatory term) opened up on Doc with a Thompson sub-machine gun and another threw a grenade at him which landed at his feet.

“He turned the (derogatory term) back and when the call for medic came, he went to the wounded, paying no attention to a (derogatory term) machine gun up on the cliff chattering away at him and several snipers.

“When we finally got out of the pin down, Doc had a slightly wounded hand from grenade fragments.”

## Silver Star

“Our hats are off to our Doc. We think we have the best one in Korea. He got a silver star for his bravery this particular time and that makes two silver stars for him.

“But we know that’s not reward enough for him. When we ask him how he does it he says, “God gives me the strength to help the wounded — that’s why I came over here so I intend to do my job.

“He is as good with a .45 as he is with a morphine syrette so watch out for him.

“Assistant Platoon Sergeant, Wiley Jones, Company C, Eighth Cavalry Regiment, APO 201, PM, San Francisco, Calif.”

The subject of this letter is the son of Jessie Miles of Lamont. She can be very proud of her son who was graduated from Bakersfield High School in June of 1950. He was employed by a sheet metal shop in this city.



# NECROLOGY

Farewell Beloved

Compatriots

We, the Descendants of the Heroes  
of the American Revolution,

**SALUTE**

A Life Well Lived, in honor of the memory of  
our patriot forefathers, by preserving their vision  
of the American Dream, for future generations.

Or ever the silver cord be loosed, or the golden bowl be broken at the fountain, or the wheel broken at the cistern. Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was; and the spirit shall return unto the God who gave it.

Ecclesiastes 12: 6-7

NSSAR#	Name	Middle Name	Last Name	Date	Chapter
83202	Martin	Preston	Huff	3/29/17	Thomas Jefferson
115302	Rush	M	Blodget	1/26/17	Redding
201772	Dale	Martin	Lyon	4/13/17	Sacramento
176022	John	Thomas	Vawter Sr.	5/17/17	Sacramento



# *The California Compatriot*

*The Official Newsletter of the  
California Society, SAR*

*Please report changes of address to:*

*Craig Anderson, Secretary, California Society, SAR*

*235 River Run Circle*

*Sacramento, CA 95833*

*916-257-7892*

*The California Society of the Sons of the American Revolution*

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