



The California Compatriot

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

June 2022

Presidents Message

Compatriots and Friends of the SAR

I am sad to report that on June 1st, our friend and compatriot Bill Van Valkenburg stepped down from his position of Vice President North to focus on family issues. Bill has done an outstanding job the past 18 months and we will miss him in his state leadership role. I have appointed Donald B. Littlefield to serve as Vice President-North for the remainder of Bill's term. My appointment has been ratified by the executive committee, and it will be voted on by the board of managers and our November meeting in Rohnert Park.



Our 2022 Board of Managers meeting will be held at the Double Tree Hilton, Rohnert Park in the heart of the beautiful Sonoma Valley wine country November 3rd through the 5th. Bill Nay and the Redwood Empire team have been working hard to put together a great program for us; he hopes to have reservation information published by July 1st.

Our America 250 SAR mission is to become a major recognized voice of the American Revolution by educating America about our patriotic and historic past. So far, we have 8 chapters who have members participating in America 250 events: Delta, Harbor, Orange County Chapter, Redwood Empire, Riverside, Sacramento, San Diego, and Thomas Jefferson. Of those eight chapters, 22 compatriots and friends have been awarded SAR America 250 Medals, 7 of whom have earned Gold medals for their extraordinary efforts: Scott Elliot, John Ferris, Jim Fosdick, Un Hui Yi. Bill Nay, Jim Faulkinbury, and Derek Brown. I offer my personal thanks for their efforts and encourage all chapters to incorporate America 250 events in their chapter meetings and in the community events in which they participate. Working together, we can accomplish our goal and make our country's 250-year anniversary in 2026 a memorable event.

If there are other chapters who have conducted 250 events that I didn't mention, please pass this information along to our America 250 Chairmen John Ferris or Lou Carlson so that we can recognize your efforts.

Libertas et Patria,

Craig Anderson

California SAR Observes Memorial Day

The Harbor Chapter presented the colors in the Memorial Day observance at Green Hills Memorial Park in Rancho Palos Verdes. Pictured are: Kevin Bidekap, Denys Lanfranco, Jim Olds, Lucas Villardi, Logan Lanfranco, and Brandon Villardi, CASSAR Color Guard Commander.



CASSAR Vice President North, William Van Valkenburg, and President Napa Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution, Carol Cavagnaro, joined with the SAR Redwood Empire Chapter at the Sonoma Veterans Cemetery in Sonoma for Memorial Day services. This included placing a Wreath at the marker for Revolutionary Patriot Captain William Smith.

Paul Garcia, President of the Orange County Chapter, was honored to be the Keynote Speaker at the Field of Honor on Memorial Day at Castaways Park in Newport Beach that was sponsored by the Exchange Club of Newport Harbor. In addition to honoring all United States Military who have served, fought and died for our great country, Compatriot Garcia specifically honored two Marines, Sergeant Alfredo Gonzalez and Gunnery Sergeant John L. Canley, that he had the honor of serving with in the 1st Battalion 1st Marines in Vietnam, 1967-1968.



The Orange County Chapter Color Guard presented the colors in the Memorial Day observance at Santa Ana Cemetery and laid a wreath on the monument to the Grand Army of Republic (1870). Pictured are: Larry Hansen, Jim Klingler, John Blake, Kent Gregory, Co-Commander Dan McKelvie, Mike Miller, and Matt Noell.



The Silicon Valley Chapter presented the colors and maintained a booth at the Memorial Day observance at Oak Hill Funeral Home and Memorial Park in San Jose. Pictured are Richard Ferman, Chapter President, Joseph Ferman, Chaplain and Terry Briggs, Genealogist.

The South Coast Chapter Color Guard presented the colors in the Memorial Day observance at El Toro Memorial Park, in Lake Forest. Pictured are: Nolan Forrest (Flag bearer), and Kevin Forrest

(Musketeer).



Eagle Chapter President and Riverside Chapter Chaplain, Wayne Rogers, and Matthew Rogers, Eagle Chapter, attended the Memorial Day observance at Riverside National Cemetery in Riverside. Wayne Rogers is shown at his cousin Vincent Rogers' grave marker, MIA after 75 years and recipient of the Distinguished Flying Service Cross.

Thomas Jefferson Chapter VP, Greg Owens, who also is a Commissioner on the Alameda County Veterans Affairs Commission and Commander of American Legion Post 647, participated in the Memorial Day observance at Veterans Memorial Park in Alameda.



Redwood Empire Chapter President William Nay participated in "Rolling To Remember" on Memorial Day weekend in Washington DC. He wears a SAR Patch and America 250th SAR pins on his AMVETS Rider Vest. He presented America 250 SAR Veteran Committee Coins to "The Saluting Marine" along with several other Veterans.



America 250 SAR

On June 4 the combined color guard of the Society of Colonial Wars in California and the California Society of the Sons of the American Revolution presented the Colors at the first America 250 Partnership Luncheon at the Pacific Club in Newport Beach, CA.

The uniform of the Society of Colonial Wars represents the period from 1607 to 1775 which is the focus of the Society. The combined guard gave an excellent showing adding greatly to the ceremonial aspect of the meeting. The meeting was an America250 SAR event celebrating that time which gave rise to our independence as a free nation.



Shown from left to right: Brandon Villardi, Harbor Chapter, CA State Color Guard Commander; Eric Stassforth, General George Patton Chapter; Bob Taylor, General George Patton Chapter; Jim Klingler, Orange County Chapter, Kevin Forrest, South Coast Chapter, Larry Hansen, Orange County Chapter; Dan McKelvie, Orange County Chapter, Chapter Co-Commander; Matt Noell, Orange County Chapter, John Davis LA Drum and Fife Corp.

CASSAR Executive Vice President, Jim Klingler, presents a Certificate of Appreciation to Stephen Renouf, Governor of the Society of Colonial Wars in California, in recognition of the joint event.



[Click the image to play the America 250 SAR Video](#)

[READ THE 5 YEAR OPERATIONAL PLAN FOR AMERICA 250](#)

The SAR Education Center and Museum received a model of the gunboat USS Philadelphia in May thanks in large part to California craftsmen. When the SAR Museum Board, under Chairman Dr. Kent Gregory, searched for a ship model builder to build an authentic replica of the USS Philadelphia, their search ended in Orange County CA at Model Ship Masters. Below are pictures of the completed model of the USS Philadelphia now on display in the SAR Education Center and Museum. The SAR Museum Board is working with Model Ship Masters on two more ships for display in the museum: the USS Bonhomme Richard and the Turtle Submarine.



The USS Philadelphia was part of a fleet under the command of General Benedict Arnold that fought against the British Royal Navy in the Battle of Valcour Island on Lake Champlain, and was sunk during the battle on October 11, 1776.

Welcome New Members

Congratulations! Welcome to the California Society, Sons of the American Revolution. We are honored that you have elected to join our society of descendants of those patriots and heroes who gave us our freedoms. The California Society conducts many patriotic, historical, and educational programs in our communities, and we rely heavily on our member volunteers to keep them strong and vibrant.

If you haven't yet been, you will shortly be contacted by a representative of your chapter; I urge you to meet your fellow compatriots, join them in their chapter programs, and become an active member of your chapter and state society. I am looking forward to meeting and working with you in the future.

<u>NSSAR</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Chapter</u>	<u>Date</u>
222348	William Joseph <u>Schlaerth</u>	Kern	05/06/2022
222347	Anthony Cruz <u>Renouf</u>	Thomas Jefferson	05/06/2022
222405	Carl J Gilmore	Coachella Valley	05/13/2022
222404	Timothy P <u>Wendler</u>	Sons of Liberty	05/13/2022
222403	Richard William <u>Protzmann</u>	South Coast	05/13/2022
222402	William Lee <u>Protzmann</u>	South Coast	05/13/2022
222469	Ben Fritz <u>Breckon</u>	Thomas Jefferson	05/20/2022
222468	John Fritz <u>Breckon</u>	Thomas Jefferson	05/20/2022
222467	William Travis <u>Breckon</u>	Thomas Jefferson	05/20/2022

IN MEMORIUM

Upcoming Events

<u>2022 EVENT</u>	<u>DATE</u>
Flag Day	June 14th
Independence Day	July 4th
NSSAR Annual Congress	July 10 th – 15th
Constitution Day	September 11th
NSSAR Fall Leadership Meeting	September 29 th – October 1 st
147 th CASSAR BOM Meeting	November 4 th and 5th
Veterans Day	November 11 th
Wreaths Across America	December 17 th

Youth Protection Training

The National Society, requires that all members who participate in SAR youth and education programs that interface with students under the age of 18, successfully complete SAR Youth Protection Training. We had formerly utilized the training offered by the Boy Scouts of America, but subsequently, the SAR has developed its own training program that is geared specifically to the programs that we conduct. The process is very simple; the training can be taken on-line in about 20 minutes, and the certificate is valid for three years.

Please forward your certificate of completion to Dan McKelvie at mckelvie@sbcglobal.net.

[CLICK HERE TO BEGIN YOUTH PROTECTION TRAINING](#)

From the Editors Desk

RELEASE FORMS

As a reminder to all compatriots, if you submit photos or materials (e.g.youth program winners) for publication in the Compatriot, you must include a signed release form.

[Click To Download the Release Form](#)

News From Around the California Society

SAR Poster Contest Winner

Shown is the winner of the California SAR Poster Contest for 2022, Aubrey Davis, along with her fifth grade teacher Jennifer Wright. Aubrey is a student at Lincoln Crossing School in Lincoln, CA. She received a \$350 check from the California Society and a \$300 check from the Gold Country Chapter. Her poster will compete at the National Congress this July.



Valley Forge Teachers Recognition Program

Robert Taylor, Chairman of the CASSAR Valley Forge Teachers Recognition Program announced that the two teachers selected for this year's Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge (FFVF) workshop 2-7 July are:

CASSAR North: Miss Rachel Ferneau, 5th grade at Orangevale Open K-8
Fair Oaks CA Sponsor: Sacramento Chapter

CASSAR South: Ms. Megan McReynolds, 5th grade at Our Lady of the Assumption, Ventura CA Sponsor: Gen Patton Chapter

Both of these teachers have already started the registration process with FFVF, and will spend the week visiting northern Colonies historical sites significant to the American Revolutionary War under the tutelage of an excellent docent. In the past, these sites have included the South Meeting House, the Old North Church, Lexington & Concord, Bunker Hill, Saratoga National Park, Oriskany Battlefield, Bennington Battlefield and Fort Ticonderoga, and more. Both teachers are excited and anxious to get started on this adventure, which is an opportunity of a lifetime for them, and is designed to assist them in adding depth to their teaching. One of them will provide a presentation at the fall Board of Managers conference of their experience.

Important Links

[Click to Access SAR Dues and Transaction Fees](#)

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Cyber Scams

If you receive an email from a purported Compatriot in need of help that is unsigned, with no personal contact information seeking contributions to any type of fundraising site; or an email addressing you by name from another member of your Chapter requesting the expenditure of funds or the purchase of gift cards, **consider it a hoax**. These messages are getting more sophisticated and may even include the unauthorized use of the SAR logo and/or a pseudo SAR email address.

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

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