

The Courier

April 2011

Volume 42 Issue 4

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION BY THE SACRAMENTO CHAPTER OF THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION



Hear Ye! Hear Ye! Calling All Compatriots . . .



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Program for April 15th Meeting

James Bryant grew up in the San Diego area and graduated from Sweetwater High School in 1953. Following high school, he joined the navy and served aboard the USS *Yorktown* (CVA-10) as a B-Division Junior Officer and Repair Officer. After a two-year enlistment in the navy, he enrolled in the California Maritime Academy and graduated from the institution in 1956.

Mr. Bryant currently serves as the Board Chair of the California Maritime Academy. He is a Co-Founder of the California Maritime Academy



James M. Bryant

Foundation, which is a tax-exempt, charitable and educational organization that was created in 1972 to benefit the Academy. The Foundation accepts gifts of yachts, both power and sail, using the funds to augment support provided by the State of California. One of the first vessels to be donated was the magnificent 72-foot Sparkman & Stephens yawl *Baruna*.

Following a successful career involved with the sales of rotating machinery, Mr. Bryant retired from Dresser, Inc. In 2007. He makes his home in Tiburon, California. He is a widower and enjoys the company of three children and two grandchildren.

Mr. Bryant's topic will be the California Maritime Academy and the role it plays in our society today.

7:00 PM at the BUGGY WHIP Restaurant

If the telephone committee has not taken your menu selection(s) by

3

8

12

April 15th, please call Don Littlefield at (916) 985-6544 for reservations. Payments must be **guaranteed for each reservation made.** Wives, guests and visiting compatriots are always welcome.

Come socialize with us at 6:15PM. The meeting will start

Menu Selections

Sirloin Steak \$24.00* Salmon \$24.00* Vegetarian Plate \$24.00*

* includes beverage, dessert, tax & tip

President's Corner

Sacramento Chapter Officers for 2011

Don Littlefield

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dent

Web Master

Vince Gantt

Vice President - Meetings **Ernie Garcia**

Vice President - Ac-

tivities

Law Enforcement

Program

Jim Faulkinbury

Secretary Color Guard Coordi-

nator

Michael Wolf

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Doug Cross

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Flags

Committee Chairmen

Ted Robinson

ROTC Program

Sean Jones

Calling Committee

Seward Andrews Tom Chilton Ernie Garcia Jim Faulkinbury Don Littlefield Bob Schroeder Dennis Sperry

Mike Wolf

March was as busy a month as I have had in the last ten years—it was like the perfect storm. First Quarter objectives at Intel combined with employees' desire to look their best in the Annual Performance Reviews which occur in March. There I stood facing a heard of buffalos coming straight for me with deadlines only comic book heroes could hope to achieve. I was able to surface to gulp some quick breaths of oxygen and struggled to keep the SAR interests on track.

Let's put it in focus. My March doesn't begin to compare with the triple disaster of earthquake, tsunami, and nuclear meltdown



Donald B. Littlefield

in Japan. I can't even begin to fathom the sorrow these people have had to endure and what challenges lie ahead for them. Consider the chaos in the Middle East with Egypt and Libya in complete political upheaval with other countries poised to follow their example. Our domestic situation gives no comfort. The Federal Government now faces a \$14 trillion dollar debt. In California, our Assembly, Senate and Governor grapple with budgets that reflect spending far beyond our means for the past decade, if not longer.

Don't give up just yet. Amid the destruction, distress and dismay, Spring is here! The recent rains have "officially" ended the drought. Although our reserve water supply now exceeds our anticipated use for the year, the politics of water supply will be with us forever. Across the pond, Prince William's marriage promises to be the wedding of the 21st Century—barring some young Hollywood starlet hooking up with Glen Beck. Now wouldn't that be something to talk about!

The California Society of the SAR will hold their Spring Board of Managers meetings in Irvine on April 8-9. This Spring Meeting is always interesting because the recipients of the State Youth awards will be announced. The competition for the best chapter makes all the "Sons" jumpy with excitement. Irvine, I'm sure will be beautiful this time of year. We'll give you a report when we return.

(Message continued on Page 8)

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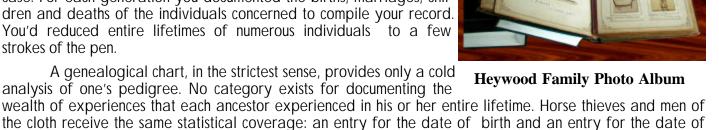
Editor's Desk

Genealogy is defined as the study of families and the tracing of their lineages and history. The word comes to us from the Greek language, which accounts for its tricky spelling. As a member of the SAR, you have

documented a genealogical link to an ancestor who supported the cause of American Independence during the years 1774-1783.

The application form you submitted for admission to the SAR incorporated a detailed record of your family tree. With a search spanning well over two hundred years, you touched briefly upon the lives of perhaps eight generations of your forebears to document your case. For each generation you documented the births, marriages, children and deaths of the individuals concerned to compile your record. You'd reduced entire lifetimes of numerous individuals to a few strokes of the pen.

death. A lot of interesting stories are never recorded.



My SAR application probably looked very much like yours. The genealogy document was a chronological list of names and dates together with supporting documentation that linked me to my Revolutionary War ancestor. The entry for my great grandmother, Emma Frances Dingley, listed her date of birth, her marriage to Samuel Heywood, their children, and her date of death. Though she passed away when I was quite young, I knew her well. To everyone in the family, she was known as "Ma." Nothing on the form revealed the extraordinary life she led nor mentioned the secret she carried to her grave.

The story of Ma's secret came to light when we were compiling the documents to support my SAR application. When I shared my findings with my mother, she broke down and cried. Her only words were "She [Ma] knew. She must have known." The story of Emma's Secret is printed on Pages 9 & 10.

Perhaps we should make a distinction between the realms of genealogy and family history. Genealogy, as noted above, is the practice of tracing and documenting lineage. Family history incorporates all other means to record the fabric of human life. The two fields are complementary. A genealogical chart by itself is a cold impersonal document, while stories of family exploits are usually of little historic value. Combine the two elements and you have a wonderful glimpse of our past.

We're all privy to tales of crazy uncles or the antics of spinster aunts. Many of us are custodians of family bibles or photograph albums that never see the light of day. There is a group here in Sacramento that is very interested in family history and would like to hear from you. The Root Cellar, Sacramento Genealogical Society was formed in 1978 when the members recognized a common interest in gathering and sharing of genealogical information. The Root Cellar is sponsoring a contest for a written essay on family history. Details of the contest are available on their website at: http://www.rootcellar.org/.

—Peter Darnall

The American Revolution Month by Month Month by Month Month by Month

(Editor's Note: American General Nathanael Greene lost the battle at Guilford Courthouse. British commander Banastre Tarleton had won a pyrrhic victory that forced the redcoats to abandon the Carolinas and compelled him to focus his attention on Virginia. For Greene, however, the southern campaign was not yet over since eight thousand British, Hessians and Tories remained in the three southern states. Greene's immediate goal would be to eliminate these scattered garrisons.)

The smoke had hardly cleared at Guilford Courthouse when a torrential rain storm began, making it impossible to tend all of the wounded. The next morning at least fifty men, who might otherwise have survived, were found dead from exposure. General Greene was forced to retire from the field saving only his walking casualties. The following morning, under a truce flag, he sent a team of surgeons to assist the British doctors in caring for the wounded of both sides.

Cornwallis remained at Guilford Courthouse for two days, then moved both American and British casualties to New Gardens, surrendering them to the care of the American surgeons. He then headed his decimated force toward Wilmington, North Carolina, approximately 200 miles away. He hoped to get supplies and help en route for his troops from loyalist sympathizers. They gave what help they could but it was not enough and he eventually reached the safety of Wilmington on April 7. Generals, O'Hara and Howard, four company grade officers, and several lesser officers had died and were buried along the route of the march.

Cornwallis, now secure at Wilmington, decided to give up his non-productive chase of Greene's army and reverted to his original plan, which was to isolate the northern and southern patriot forces from each other. With the two halves divided, he reasoned, the colonies would eventually succumb and revert to British control.



Nathanael Greene

When his army was rested and resupplied, Cornwallis marched north from Wilmington to take command of all British forces in Virginia.

General Greene had used guerilla tactics successfully to oppose the overwhelming strength of the British forces. Following the battle of Guilford Courthouse, he decided to make frontal attacks against the isolated British forts and outposts in the Carolinas and Georgia. He had lost his Virginia and North Carolina militiamen when their terms of enlistment had expired and they had left the field for their homes. In spite of his decreased numbers, Greene was confident that he could rely upon his Continentals, especially those men from Maryland and Delaware, to bring eventually prevail. Additionally, he asked the "irregulars," who had fought so well, to coordinate their actions with his.

George Augustus Francis Rawdon, known by the courtesy title "Lord Rawdon" was a seasoned veteran of the American war. When Cornwallis advanced north, Rawdon was left behind to defend South Carolina and Georgia with a small independent force. When he learned of harassment by American army forces commanded by Colonel Thomas Sumpter, against a strategic British post at Camden, South Carolina, he set out with five hundred men to reinforce that garrison and bolster its strength.

In April 1781, Rawdon engaged a numerically superior American force in a conflict that became known

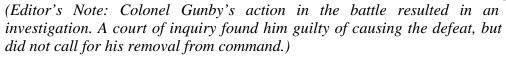
(Revolution Continued on pg. 5)

(Revolution Continued from Pg. 4)

as the Battle of Hobkirk's Hill or, alternatively, as the Second Battle of Camden. Initially the battle went well for the Americans as they charged the British. Then, unexpectedly, Colonel John Gunby pulled back, leaving a gaping hole in the center. This action caused the 1st Virginia and the 2nd Maryland Regiments to falter.

Rawdon took advantage of the situation and immediately poured his troops, including reserves, into the void. Greene could see the danger of losing not only the battle, but possibly his entire army as well. With American victory almost certain, he called for a retreat.

Rawdon had his victory, but, once again, the price was too high. General Tarleton reported 38 killed including an officer, 220 wounded, including 13 officers. American recorded 18 killed including an officer, 108 wounded, including seven officers with 138 men missing. General Greene was disappointed at the battle's outcome, but issued his famous statement: "We fight, get beat, rise, and fight again."





Lord Rowdon

Despite the loss at Hobkirk's Hill, the Americans were winning in the South. Camden was cut off from any supply or reinforcement and virtually all of South Carolina was in revolt, Rawdon abandoned Camden and fell back to Charleston. The American Southern Army moved swiftly to take advantage of the abandonment of Camden and begin a slow but sure reduction of the British and Tory forces in the area. Eventually only Charleston and Savannah would remain in British hands.

On April 18, 1781, Benedict Arnold, now a Brigadier General in the British Army, led a force which attacked Petersburg, Virginia. The British force did not encounter any effective resistance and overwhelmed the town, burning tons of tobacco and four ships at the docks.

.Benedict Arnold continued his raids in Virginia. He surprised a fleet of American naval vessels anchored in the James River and destroyed four ships with his shore battery. The remaining vessels were set after they had been abandoned by their crews.

(Editor's Note: George Washington, as Commander in Chief of the Continental Army, hoped to accomplish both the removal of British troops from Virginia and the capture of Benedict Arnold. To this end, he dispatched General Marquis de Lafayette with twelve hundred Continentals to New Jersey, where they would link up with a French force arriving by ship. The French fleet did not arrive as scheduled and while Lafayette lost the opportunity to capture Arnold, he did march his troops to Richmond and prevented the occupation of that city by British troops commanded by Major General William Phillips.)

—Andrew J. Strough III

Edited by Harold Rogers

References:Arthur M. Schlesinger: Almanac of American History, Christopher Ward: The War of the Revolution, Bruce Lancaster: The American Revolution, Don Higginbotham: The War of American Independence.

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Pictures of March Meeting

Photography by Don Spradling



President Don Littlefield presents a Certificate of Appreciation to Guest Speaker Sean Jones

The meeting was held on Friday, March 18th at the Buggy Whip Restaurant.

Former U-2 pilot and Sacramento Chapter member Sean Jones was the Guest Speaker.



Christina Littrel & Cadet Nicholas Ingraffia



Craig & Sandy Anderson



L to R: Jim Faulkinbury, Cadet Nicholas Ingraffia, T/Sgt. Edward Walker, Don Littlefield

Photos of March Meeting (cont.)



Dell & Maria McCardell



Jim Faulkinbury



Hal & Lee Lawson



Russell & Christie Kaiser



Back Row L to R: Donna Spradling, Marilyn Chilton, Tom Chilton Front Row: Medora & Clair Allen

New Member – Andrew Jackson Tufts

Andy was born in Sacramento, California and shares a birth date with Vincent Van

Gogh—although in a slightly different year. He spent his elementary school years in Grass Valley and caught his first trout in the creek that ran through his backyard. The local mines were his playground. His favorite activity was rafting in the abandoned quicksilver ponds, which probably explains his premature hair loss.

Andy's career was in the field of Education. He worked in special education programs serving elementary and high school aged students. He earned his Bachelor of Arts Degree from Sacramento State College and his teaching credential from the University of California at Davis. He received his Masers Degree and completed advanced higher education



work from from Lewis & Clark College in Portland, Oregon and the University of Hawaii-Manoa.

He now lives in Scappoose, Oregon with. two daughters and one granddaughter. (Andy wonders if those quicksilver ponds might have had some long-delayed after-effects.) Although retired, he is still active in the education field.

His interests include offshore sailing, motor cycle touring, hiking, rock hounding, and river rafting. Andy currently holds a U.S. Coast Guard Master, 100 Ton License.

Andy's application to join the Sons of the American Revolution was approved on December 2, 2010. His patriot ancestor was Thomas Turk, who performed public service by providing supplies in the Augusta County area of Virginia.

(continued from Page 2)

The California Maritime Academy is located in Vallejo. At our April meeting, our Guest Speaker will be Jim Bryant, who is Chairman of the Board of Advisors of the Academy. There are only seven maritime academies in the United States that grant degrees and the California Maritime Academy is the only one on the West Coast. Can you imagine what an thrill it must be for young men and women who sail aboard the T. S. *Golden Bear* every summer to experience firsthand life at sea.

Please plan on joining us at the Buggy Whip on Friday, April 15, to celebrate the end of the rainy season, paying taxes and life on the high seas. I'll see you there!

—Don Littlefield

Emma's Secret

I had occasion to review my genealogy records recently and, as I scanned the neat columns of statistics, it slowly dawned on me that a great deal of family history was missing. The chronological progression of births, marriages and deaths that linked me to my Primary Ancestor, Zimri Heywood, was all correct and in proper order. No problem there.

The conventional system of recording vital statistics is fine as far as it goes. One entry documents an individual's birth. Another entry documents that person's marriage with a record of any children born to the couple. A third entry records the individual's death. That's all; an entire life time summarized by a few strokes of the pen.

My attention had focused upon the entry documenting the marriage of my great-grandfather, Samuel Heywood, to Emma Dingley. I'd learned quite a bit about Emma from stories my grandfather, Charles Heywood, had passed on to me about his family. Emma was his mother. She came from a poor, but very proud family in San Francisco. Her father, William Henry Dingley, had been a member of a law enforcement group and, in the course of duty, had been gunned down by a fugitive he was pursuing somewhere in the Northwest Territory. Emma's mother, Laura, suddenly a widow with no means of support, was forced to take in laundry in order to eke out a meager existence for herself and her four daughters in the city.

So the story went

Some years ago, I was preparing my application for The Sons of The American Revolution with the assistance of my late uncle and SAR Historian, Sam Oakley. We had a mystery on our hands regarding Emma's background. Sam produced evidence that my family's story of William Henry Dingley's untimely death, as related to me by my grandfather, was a complete fabrication. A tattered scrap of crinkled yellow paper, originally a page of an old Alaskan newspaper, told a very different story. A tale of perfidy, treachery and deception ending in a fatal gunbattle on a remote Alaskan island.

It's quite a story. I think you'll enjoy it—there's a happy ending.

San Francisco in the mid-nineteenth century was a city in turmoil. Vigilante committees clashed with criminal elements and the corrupt political system was either unwilling or unable to control the violence on the streets. William Dingley had migrated to California from Connecticut with his new wife Laura in 1855. The couple settled in San Francisco and their marriage initially produced one son, who died as a youngster of diphtheria. Four daughters followed, the youngest of whom was named Emma Frances. William Dingley was often seen around town in a uniform, purporting to be a member of one of the self-proclaimed citizen law enforcement groups loosely known as "vigilantes". He had drifted from one low level job to another, seemingly unable to hold any meaningful employment.

His marriage to Laura had produced a succession of girls and his frustration at the birth of each new girl cast him into dark periods of depression. Unexplained absences from his home for days at a time became more frequent as the years went on. Eventually he disappeared completely. Laura and her daughters never heard from him again.

The discovery of gold on the Klondike River at the end of the 19th century had apparently lured William Dingley to Alaska. Little is known of his activities in the rugged frontier land. He certainly had no communication with his family during this period. An Alaskan newspaper recorded his death at the hands of a "hard character" named Louis Sharp, a.k.a. Big Louis. Big Louis reportedly shot William in a gun battle outside the town of Sand Point on remote Popov Island. The article didn't give many details of the incident Apparently the shooting wasn't considered newsworthy at the time. No mention of any official law enforcement credentials for William Dingley. No mention of his wife and family in San Francisco. In fact a Seattle, Washington address was given by the publication as his permanent residence.

(Secret continued on Pg. 10)

(Secret Continued from Pg. 9)

Why did my grandfather's version of William Henry Dingley's disappearance and untimely heroic death in pursuit of a criminal differ so markedly from the newspaper account?

Laura Dingley, following her husband's disappearance, had been forced to take in laundry and to alter garmets in order to eke out a bare subsistence for herself and her four daughters. She had concocted a cover story to explain William's mysterious disappearance and even created a plausible explanation for his untimely demise after she learned the details of his death in a gun fight. Had the lurid pattern of her husband's abusive behavior and of his eventual abandonment of his family had ever became known, Laura felt, she and her daughters would have been ostracized by their community. *The Scarlet Letter*, Nathaniel Hawthorne's classic tale of Hester Pyrnne's struggle with civic righteousness, vividly portrayed the puritan ethic of those times.

This subterfuge would become her family's secret. Emma would live with it for the rest of her life.

As a girl in her late teens, Emma became acquainted with Samuel Heywood. Samuel had returned from the California goldfields to run the family lumber business that his father, Zimri, had set up in an unincorporated area known as Ocean View. Ocean View was located to the east, directly across San Francisco Bay from The Golden Gate. When he proposed marriage, Emma accepted and they were married on May 4, 1874. Emma later confided that, as a young girl of only 18, she was so awed by the 41 year old Samuel Heywood, that she responded to his offer of marriage with a whispered, "Yes, Mr. Heywood."

Emma lived a very full and happy life with Samuel. She became the matriarch of the Heywood family and was widely regarded as the "First Lady" of Ocean View even before Samuel became the President of the Town Board of Trustees in 1890. To her family, however, she was always known as "Ma".

The community of Ocean View was eventually incorporated into the city of Berkeley. My grandfather, Charles Dingley Heywood, followed in his father Samuel's political footsteps and became the youngest person ever elected as Mayor of Berkeley at age 32 in 1913. He lived his entire life believing his grandfather, William Dingley, had been an honorable man who had died a hero's death at the hands of an outlaw in the Northwest.

That was the way Emma wanted it.

The tattered newspaper clippings were found hidden in Emma's belongings after her death. My uncle, Sam Oakley, attached copies of the clippings to a letter notifying me of my acceptance as a member of The Sons of The American Revolution. She was, he noted, a fine woman who put the happiness of her family ahead of any personal considerations. We both agreed that the history of Berkeley might have been very different if "Emma's Secret" had undermined the Heywood influence in those formative years.

—Peter Darnall

Minutes of the Meeting - March 18, 2011

The meeting was called to order at 7:02pm by President Don Littlefield. Hal Lawson gave the Invocation followed by Sean Jones, who led the membership in the Pledge of Allegiance and Bob Rectenwald who led the Pledge to the SAR.

President Littlefield recognized Tom Chilton and Jim Faulkinbury as past presidents of the Sacramento Chapter, and Jeff Sylvan as the president of the Delta Chapter. DAR members recognized included Medora Allen and Marilyn Chilton of the Sacramento Chapter and Lee Lawson and Ann Taylor of the Sierra-Amador Chapter DAR. Other guests introduced were our JROTC Contest winner, Nicholas



Ingraffia with his mother Christina Littrel, T/Sgt Edward Walker with his wife Darcy, and prospective member Craig Anderson with his wife Sandy.

Concerns for members included Woody Robertshaw, John Hesselbien, Amed Mohamed, Harry Harland, Hank Henderson, Russ Gibson, and Lynn Robinson. All face serious health issues. Helen Garcia is recovering from knee surgery. President Littlefield then announced that the speaker for our next meeting would be a member of the Board of Directors form the California Maritime Academy.

Next T/Sgt Edward Walker, accompanied with Russ Kaiser, was asked to come up to describe his service as a returning veteran from the middle east who had been involved with the drone flights in Afghanistan. Sgt Walker was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation and a SAR Challenge Coin for his service. Next, JROTC Cadet Nicholas Ingraffia was asked to also come forward with Jim Faulkinbury who presented him as the Chapter winner of the Outstanding JROTC Cadet Contest. Nicholas read his essay on why JROTC has help him become a better citizen and was then presented with the Chapter award including the Bronze medallion and a check for \$250. He was also selected as the CASSAR Outstanding Cadet and will be recognized for that accomplishment at the CASSAR Annual Meeting to be held in Irvine in April.

Color Guard Commander, Jim Faulkinbury, was next asked to describe the 1st Pennsylvania Rifles and the "Join or Die" flags.

Before dinner, Jack Pefley gave greetings from Compatriot Arnold Lewis, with whom he had recently spoken. Following the dinner, President Littlefield introduced our speaker, Compatriot Sean Jones, who has retired from the USAF and is now a Southwest Airlines pilot. Sean had been associated with the U2 program and gave a very interesting talk on what a typical U2 mission was like, demonstrating the pressurized suit and other artifacts used in a mission. He had a slide show with videos of takeoffs and landings to demonstrate just how difficult a plane the U2 is to fly. The presentation was very well received and followed by many questions. Following the presentation, Sean was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation and a replica Liberty Bell.

The meeting ended with the fund raiser conducted by Mary Ann Littlefield and Marilyn Chilton. Those donating gifts were Tom & Marilyn Chilton, Dell and Maria McCardell, Jim & Karen Faulkinbury, Don & Donna Spradling, George & Ann Taylor, Harlan & Sidney Tougaw, and Mike & Lynn Wolf.

Don thanked Mary Ann and Marilyn for their assistance and Don Spradling for taking pictures, and then asked for a motion to adjourn. David Beach led the Recessional followed by the Benediction by Hal Lawson. The members then sang "God Bless America" after which the meeting was adjourned at 9:37pm.

Respectfully submitted, Jim Faulkinbury, Secretary

Schedule of Future Meetings

Friday, April 15 - 7:00 PM Guest Speaker: James Bryant (California Maritime Academy) Buggy Whip Restaurant

Friday, May 20 - 7:00 PM Guest Speaker: Jackie Boor Author "Inside the President's Helicopter" Buggy Whip Restaurant

Friday, June 17 - 7:00 PM TBA Buggy Whip Restaurant Friday, September 16 - 7:00 PM
TBA
Buggy Whip Restaurant
Saturday, October 15 - 6:00 PM
Community Awards Banquet
TBA
Friday November 18 - 7:00 PM
TBA
Buggy Whip Restaurant

A MONTHLY PUBLICATION
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CHAPTER OF THE SONS OF
THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

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The Sacramento Chapter Sons Of The American Revolution

