



The Courier



July 2015

Sacramento Chapter— Sons of the American Revolution

Vol. 47, Issue 7

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Summer 2015

Dues Increase	1	This year we will be publishing a Courier edition for July. The next scheduled edition will be prior to our next meeting in September.
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Minutes, June meeting	3	During the 125 th Sons of the American Revolution National Congress in Louisville, Kentucky 26 June through 1 July 2015, a motion was made to increase regular member dues from \$30.00 per year to \$35.00 dollars per year beginning with the 2016 calendar year in order to balance the National Society's budget without going into their cash reserves. Applications approved after October 31, 2015 will also be assessed an additional \$5.00. The motion carried by a vote of 142 to 107.
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New Member	5	The dues increase is based on the need to permit improvements to continue in the information technology systems such as completing the online application system, automating many of the current processes for registration, dues reconciliation, the member database, and many other activities that are now manual or use disconnected database systems. The dues increase will also allow the National Society to digitize the society's records so they can create a system similar to the DAR's Genealogy Research System that is available to the public to assist in preparing new member applications.
Los Californianos	6	There will be no changes to the Jr. Member category that will remain at \$5.00 per year. The cost for Memorial applications will increase from \$380 to \$430 because under Bylaw 1, Section 6 (1) that amount is the application fee (\$80, no change) plus 10 times the dues. The National Life Membership fee is under review to see if any changes are needed.
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Editor's Note: The statements and opinions expressed herein are solely those of the author(s) and do not necessarily state or reflect those of the Editor, the Sacramento Chapter, the California or National Societies, Sons of the American Revolution.

Cattlemens Meal Selections

Sirloin Steak	\$25.
Grilled Salmon	\$25.
Lemon Chicken	\$25.
Pesto Spinach/Cheese Ravioli (vegetarian)	\$25.

Friday, September 21, 7:00 PM
Cattlemens Restaurant
12409 Folsom Blvd., Rancho Cordova

If the telephone committee has not taken your reservation and menu selection(s) by **Wednesday evening, Sept. 17** please call Alan Brooking at (916) 315-3799 directly and leave a message by noon on Thursday. We strongly encourage reservations be made in advance. All reservations are guaranteed. Don't be a "no show."

We are a 501(c)(3) non-profit charitable organization, EIN # 68-0004288

Current Officers

Craig Anderson
President

Don Littlefield
Executive Vice-President
Treasurer and Webmaster

Carl Ahlberg
Vice President & Secretary

Alan Brooking
Vice President & Registrar

Jim Faulkinbury
Genealogist

Jeff Goodwin
Chaplain

Don Spradling
Photographer
Guardian of the Flags

Neil Elvick
Newsletter editor

Committee Chairmen

Roy Adkins
ROTC/JROTC Program

Neil Zinn
Eagle Scout Program

Tom Chilton
Americanism Poster Contest

James Warrick
Program Committee

Ernie Garcia
Law Enforcement Program

Alan Brooking
Calling Committee
Cashier

President's Corner

I hope everyone is enjoying a beautiful summer. Many of our members are traveling the country and seeing the sights this summer; we wish them safe travels.

On August 8th, we will be holding a members only meeting to discuss a wide range of issues that affect the chapter moving forward into 2016. Items on our agenda include:

Officer and Committee Chairman Positions for 2016.

Overview of the various Chapter programs - successes and opportunities.

Update on the status of musket firing for the Color Guard.

National Society SAR Dues Increase.

Guest Speakers for 2016.

National Society SAR questions around educational outreach.

We will be meeting at The Cattlemen's Restaurant 12409 Folsom Blvd, Rancho Cordova, CA on August 8th from 10AM to 12PM. I'm looking to seeing you there.

Please join me in welcoming two new members to the Sacramento Chapter: Michael Lee Brady and Glenn Leslie Cline. The National Society SAR approved their applications on July 2, 2015. I look forward to inducting them into our chapter in an upcoming dinner meeting.

I would also like to recognize three members who are celebrating anniversaries as SAR members this summer. In July, James Edwin Berry celebrates 20 years as a member of the SAR and Rowland Neil Zinn celebrates 5 years. Neil has done a great job the last few years as chairman of our chapter's Eagle Scout program. In August Brice Cutrer Jones celebrates 20 years as a member of the SAR. Thank you very much for your support of the Sacramento Chapter SAR over these many years!



Craig Anderson



The Anderson Family: from left to right daughter Wanda Annis, granddaughter Michelle Anderson, Sandra and Craig Anderson

Sons of the American Revolution—Sacramento Chapter

Meeting Minutes June 19, 2015

President Craig Anderson called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM and gave the invocation. John Chiles led the Pledge of Allegiance and Vince Gantt led the membership in the pledge to the SAR

President Anderson introduced the following:

- CASSAR Officers and Past Presidents: Jim Faulkinbury, NSSAR National Trustee, CASSAR Past President and Sacramento Chapter Past President 2005 and 2006; Tom Chilton, Past President 2000, 2001, 2002, 2004, and 2012; Don Littlefield, Past President 2010 and 2011, current Executive Vice President, Treasurer, Webmaster, and CASSAR Chairman of the Wreaths Across America Program; Russ Kaiser, Past President 2013 and 2014 and current Color Guard Commander; John Humphrey, President of the Delta Chapter; Jeff Sylvan, Past President of the Delta Chapter and current Registrar; Carl Ahlberg, Chapter Secretary; Ernie Garcia, Chairman Activities; Don Spradling, SAR Photographer; Roy Adkins, Chairman JROTC/ ROTC Program; Willard Blankinship, Past President of the Louisville, KY chapter SAR.

- DAR members:

- o Sacramento Chapter: Marilyn Chilton; Medora Allen.

- o Chief Solano Chapter: Diane Keintz

Guests: New member Charles “Chuck” Barnett; Prospective members: Glen Kline; Steve Moore; David Paulson

CASSAR President Jim Faulkinbury presented a historical overview of the Betsy Ross Flag and Spanish Royal Ensign Flag

Past President Jim Faulkinbury presented CASSAR awards that he made at the Annual Meeting in Irvine last April. They were: A bronze star to the Martha Washington Medal awarded to Marilyn Chilton for her extensive work in setting up the hostess room for the CASSAR Conference held in Sacramento in April 2014; The State Distinguished Service Medal to Don Littlefield. The State President can award only one Distinguished Service Medal during his term as President and it is used to recognize the person who has been the greatest asset to the CASSAR President during his term in office. Don was recognized for his assistance with the CASSAR State Meetings in 2014 and the valuable work coordinating and preparing the proclamation for the 2014 “Wreaths Across America” throughout California.

President Anderson asked new member Charles Barnett to come forward. President Anderson introduced Charles Barnett and read his biography. President Anderson administered the SAR oath and presented Charles Barnett with his membership certificate and pinned the SAR Rosette on him. All members were invited to come forward to offer the customary welcoming handshake to our new member. Charles Barnett was then asked to say a few words to the audience.

Past President Jim Faulkinbury was asked to come forward and share his experiences on the SAR Cruise last month. He said that the NSSAR President tries to plan a trip to another country during his term for the purpose of recognizing a person or event that is historically connected to the American Revolution. This year the trip was a cruise to Nassau, Bahamas that followed Commodore Esek Hopkins on his maiden voyage of the new Navy and his attempt to recapture some of the war materials that were taken from the colonies to the Bahamas in what was the first landing of the new US Marines on foreign soil on March 1, 1776. The raid was partially successful and some war materials were brought back to the colonies. A stop at Cape Canaveral was also made during the cruise to commemorate the last naval battle of the American Revolution on March 10, 1783. SAR members on the cruise laid wreaths at both places to commemorate these events.

Past President and Color Guard Commander Russ Kaiser announced that the School Guard program is over for the year and that he received a packet of thank you letters from the first school they attended. Past President Kaiser read several of the letters. He thanked Tom Chilton, Jim Faulkinbury and Ernie Garcia, members present, who had served on the School Guard.



Carl Ahlberg

June 19, 2015 Minutes Continued

Dinner was served

After dinner President Anderson introduced Sacramento Chapter member Vince Gantt who has an extensive collection of antique guns and is known as an expert in the field of Revolutionary War rifles. Member Gantt shared how in the colonies everyone had weapons because it was necessary to protect yourself, often from Indian attacks. Compatriot Gantt brought about 10 rifles from his collection of over 30. He talked about the Pennsylvania rifle that was used by the average colonist and compared it to the Brown Bess that was used by soldiers. He explained how they differed in accuracy, weight, size of musket ball and amount of gun powder needed and how they were cleaned. He brought 4-5 different Brown Bess models to show how they differed, especially in weight. He pointed out that guns came from England, France, Germany, Spain and the colonies. Compatriot Gantt gave a demonstration on how a colonist/soldier would go about loading a rifle and could fire up to three times a minute when trained. He explained that these rifles cost between \$300 and \$3,000 and that a rifle can be purchased for reenactment purposes for about \$500-\$600. Compatriot Gantt's talk was enjoyed by all and there were many follow-up questions.

President Anderson thanked Vince Gantt for a great program and presented him with a Limited Edition Challenge Coin and a Certificate of Appreciation.

After the guest speaker was finished President Anderson conducted the raffle with the help of Mrs. Anderson and his granddaughter Michelle Anderson. Those donating raffle gifts were: Don and MaryAnn Littlefield, Don and Donna Spradling, Evan Jonas, Clair and Medora Allen, Jim and Karen Faulkinbury, Russ and Donna Kaiser, Tom and Marilyn Chilton, Sandy and Craig Anderson, Ron and Luann Hollis, and Carl and Inga Ahlberg.

President Anderson thanked Don Spradling for taking pictures and maintaining the flags, Don Littlefield for acting as cashier, Michelle and Sandy Anderson for helping with the raffle, and Neil Elvick for editing the newsletter.

A motion to adjourn was made and seconded. Ron Hollis led the Recessional and Craig Anderson gave the Benediction and led the Chapter in singing God Bless America. The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 PM.

Respectfully Submitted

Carl E Ahlberg,

Chapter Secretary

Photos from the June 19th Regular Meeting

Photos by Don Spradling



Vince Gantt receives Limited Edition Challenge Coin and a Certificate of Appreciation. From President Craig Anderson



New Member

Photos by Don Spradling



Charles Barnett, pictured at left with his membership certificate. Above, President Craig Anderson administers his Oath. He was accepted as a new member at the June meeting.

Charles Arthur Barnett

Charles Arthur Barnett was born in June 18, 1941 in Shelbyville, Indiana, and spent his childhood there. He graduated from Shelbyville High School in 1959. He entered Indiana University where he received his BA degree in 1963. He then enrolled in the Combined Degree Program in Medicine at Indiana University Medical School where he pursued graduate studies as well as his MD degree. He graduated with his MD degree in 1969. He completed his Internship at the University of Cincinnati in 1970. In 1972 he became a resident at UC Davis Medical Center in Radiology. In 1975 he took a further residency in Nuclear Medicine which he completed in 1977. He then served as an Instructor in Nuclear Medicine at UC Davis Medical Center. In 1978 he left the University to join the Powell and Blum Medical Group in San Francisco, California, working in the field of Nuclear Medicine. In 1985 he became a full time Nuclear Medicine Physician at the VA Hospital in Martinez, California. In 2000 he moved to Sacramento to work at the Sacramento VA Medical Center.

He is married to Sharon Ogin.

Military Service: He was a Captain and Flight Surgeon in the United States Air Force from 1970 to 1972. He was stationed at Wright Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, and McClellan Air Force Base, California.

He is currently a physician with the Veterans Administration at Mather, California. He is the Chief of Nuclear Medicine and is also the Service Chief of Diagnostic Imaging of the VA Northern California Health Care System.

His hobbies include travel, skiing, RV, reading of non-fiction books, wine tasting, and attendance at musical and cultural events. He is a member of the Natoma Masonic Lodge #64 and the Ben Ali Shrine. He is also a member of the Gold Country Shrine Club as well as the Shrine Legion of Honor. He is also a member of Professional Societies including the Society of Nuclear Medicine and the American College of Nuclear Medicine.

His application to join the Sons of the American Revolution was approved on May 28, 2015. His patriot ancestor was James Barnett who was born in 1735 in Spotsylvania Co., Virginia. James was a soldier in Capt. Francis

Los Californianos at the Presidio of San Francisco

Photos by Don Spradling

Summer is traditionally a time of quiescence for the Chapter, there being no meetings between June and September, but this is an opportunity to catch up on some of the activity behind the scenes that otherwise goes unnoticed. The following is a report on an annual event commemorating the establishment of the Presidio of San Francisco.



These re-enactors represent mounted soldiers of the de Anza Expedition. de Anza is the figure on the far left with the red cape.



Photographer Don Spradling, Helen and Ernie Garcia attended from Sacramento



The Mounted Color Guard, with the flags of the USA, Spain and Mexico

It is an often overlooked fact that Spain was an ally of the Thirteen Colonies in the Revolutionary War. Spain declared war on Great Britain in 1779, but even before then they had been surreptitiously aiding the war effort against Britain in the Caribbean and also they cleared the Mississippi and Ohio Valleys so that supplies could reach the war in the west being waged by George Rogers Clark and others. In 1776 Spain sent troops led by Captain Juan Batista de Anza to secure Alta California from the native tribes, but also to protect from incursion on their territory by the Russians and British, with particular attention to be paid to the presence of the British Captain James Cook, who was roaming the Pacific.

The de Anza expedition arrived at what is now the Presidio of San Francisco in the summer of 1776 and it is this date that is being celebrated here by Los Californianos.

Los Californianos is a lineage organization whose membership is open to descendants of these soldiers, one of whose missions was to protect Alta California from incursions from foreign powers between about 1769 and

the Treaty of Paris in 1783 which ended the War with Great Britain. They hold this annual celebration commemorating this as the founding of the Presidio of San Francisco and Mission Dolores. One of our Chapter members, Ernie Garcia, traces his lineage back to these soldiers and he joined the SAR through this connection. The soldiers not only contributed to the war effort by their presence here, but each one contributed to the entire war effort through individual monetary contributions.



Ernie Garcia. Each flower represents one of the original soldiers

Photos from the June 19th Regular Meeting

Photos by Don Spradling



Sam and Kaaren Smith



Marilyn Chilton receives Bronze Star to the Martha Washington Medal from Jim Faulkinbury



Susan and Tal Norwood



Don Littlefield receives State Distinguished Service Medal from Jim Faulkinbury



John Humphrey, current president of Delta Chapter, and Jeff Sylvan, past Delta Chapter president



Cyndi and David Paulson

SAR Bahamas Cruise

Photos contributed by Jim Faulkinbury

The photos here are from The SAR Cruise to the Bahamas taken by Jim and Karen Faulkinbury in May 2015. The cruise started in Baltimore where 45 SAR members embarked on Royal Caribbean's "Grandeur of the Seas." The cruise roughly followed the route taken by Commodore Esek Hopkins and his fleet of eight ships on the Continental Navy's maiden voyage in March of 1776. His orders were to take the fleet to South Carolina and confront the British there, but he thought the British were too formidable there and he went to the Bahamas instead where Lord Dunmore, the deposed British governor of the Virginia colony, had brought gunpowder and cannons. A portion of the gunpowder and the associated weaponry was seized and brought to New London, Connecticut. The raid in the Bahamas was the first landing of the Marines on



Karen and Jim Faulkinbury on lower right with some of the SAR Bahamas Cruise group from other states



Laying the wreath at the monument at Port Canaveral

foreign soil. On the return trip to Philadelphia he also engaged the British navy and lost one of his ships and was thus censured for disobeying his original orders. One of the ships in this fleet was the *Alfred* whose crew included 1st Lieutenant John Paul Jones.

The first stop on the cruise was at Port Canaveral, Florida where PG Lindsey Brock placed a wreath at a marker which has been placed at a memorial recognizing the last battle of the Revolutionary War which occurred on March 10, 1783. It was a naval battle between the Continental Navy's *Alliance* and the British *HMS Sybil*. The *Alliance* was protecting the *Duc De Lazun* which was carrying Spanish

milled gold dollars to Philadelphia. The *Alliance* broadsided the *Sybil* and disabled it and the gold was delivered to Philadelphia only then to learn that the war had been ended by the signing of the Treaty of Paris before the naval engagement had taken place.

The cruise continued on to the Bahamas where the group visited Fort Montague, just outside Nassau. This fort was the site of the first landing of the Marines on foreign soil in March of 1776 described above. The Bahamian government hosted a major event commemorating this battle. A wreath laying ceremony was followed by the firing of one of the cannons on the fort walls, its first firing since the Bahamas gained independence in 1973.

The cruise then concluded with a voyage back to Baltimore.



These US Marines, part of the guards at the US Embassy in Nassau, participated in the ceremony.

Valley Forge Teacher Recognition Program

Valley Forge Teacher Recognition Program

This is a program sponsored by the State Society for certain California teachers who teach about the American Revolution. This year's state winner was Jenny Stocks from Newcastle, who has posted a blog about her experience.

<http://stocksrocks5th.blogspot.com>

Patriot Biographies

Below is one of the patriot biographies submitted to the national organization as part of their program to collect these articles from members as a resource for prospective members researching their family histories. These biographies may also be submitted for publication here in the Courier as described below.

Simeon Choate - a Patriot of the American Revolution

Simeon Choate, a son of Benjamin and Ruth (Edwards) Choate, was born January 14, 1748, in Kingston, New Hampshire. He was the fourth of at least six children. Simeon's great-grand father, John Choate, immigrated to this county from England before 1649, and lived in Ipswich, Massachusetts.

Simeon was a cabinet maker by trade. He married Ruth Thompson on May 29, 1770, their marriage being recorded in the First Church of Salisbury, Massachusetts. They settled in Salisbury, N.H., his names being found on the tax list of 1775-1776.

Simeon Choate served as a Private in Capt. Jonathan Evan's Company and Colonel James Frye's Regiment. He also served as a Matross and Sergeant in Capt. John Popkin's Company, Colonel Richard Gridley's Artillery Regiment. He received pension #S34187 for his service. (See Massachusetts Soldiers and Sailors, Volume 3, page 430.)

When their home was destroyed by fire in 1788, Simeon and Ruth Choate moved to Salisbury, Massachusetts. Ruth Thompson Choate died, and Simeon married Hannah Norton of Seabrook, New Hampshire. They are found living in Weare, N.H. in 1802. They moved back to Salisbury, MA, as his pension was transferred there in 1818.

"Mr. Simeon Choate was a tall man of fine bearing and a handsome person. He dressed his hair in a queue, and wore short breeches with knee buckles, after the style of Washington and men of the day."

Simeon and Ruth (Thompson) Choate's children include: Benjamin, Ruth, Ruhamah, Rhoda, Simeon, Betsey, Judith, and Jacob Thompson Choate. There were no children from the second marriage. Simeon Choate's death was sudden. He was driving some cattle that had strayed, belonging to a neighbor, when he fell dead in the road. His body was found about eleven o'clock the same evening. He died September 23, 1829. Mrs. Hannah Choate died about 1839.

Simeon Choate is a patriot ancestor of **Thomas Holly Chilton, Steven Charles Chilton, Trevor Thomas McCarthy, Thomas Charles Whittham**, and others.

Instructions for Submitting Patriot Biographies

Patriot biographies, such as the one above, are being solicited by the national organization. The purpose is to publish them online and so make it easier for potential SAR applicants to find the information they need in order to find potential ancestors and to complete their applications. The biographies should be about 500 words and should be submitted in Microsoft Word format to patriotbios@sar.org as an email attachment. When you submit your entry, please include your name, Chapter and SAR Member number. If you have a patriot number assigned, include it with your submission. If not, one will be assigned. It would be appreciated if a copy could also be sent to neilel@aol.com or to craig@winfirst.com so that the bios could also be presented in future Courier editions.

Coming Events

September 21, 2015—Regular Meeting
7:00 PM at the Cattlemens Restaurant
Speaker Mindi Russell, Executive Director,
Senior Chaplain, Law Enforcement Chaplaincy-
Sacramento,

Saturday, August 8, 2015
10:00 AM—Noon—"All Hands"
Special Members-only Meeting
to prepare and plan for 2016

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

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**On the Internet at
[HTTP://WWW.SARSAC.COM](http://www.sarsac.com)**

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