



# The Courier



August 2017

Sacramento Chapter— Sons of the American Revolution

Volume 49, Issue 6

## IN THIS ISSUE

## August 2017

August 2017 1

President's Message 2

Minutes from March Meeting 3

Minutes continued and New Members 4

Program & Photos from May Meeting 5

Photos from May Meeting 6

Photos from May Meeting 7

Color Guard Activities 8

Lee's Resolutions & Declaration of Independence 9

Sacramento Chapter's coming events 10

Well, the long hot summer is here. There are no regular member meetings during the summer months but please reference the President's remarks on the following page. The next scheduled event will be the **members only** meeting on Saturday August 12 at the Cattlemens Restaurant on 12409 Folsom Blvd., in Rancho Cordova to decide issues regarding moving forward over the coming year. One of the issues to be decided will be whether to discontinue the regular membership meetings in June and December.

Since the last regular meeting in May there has been Memorial Day and Independence Day both of which are of utmost importance to our organization. On Memorial Day the Chapter's Color Guard was divided in two so as to participate in two different events, the services at the Sacramento Valley National Cemetery in Dixon, and the Memorial Day Parade and Memorial Service at Sylvan Cemetery in Citrus Heights. See the president's remarks on the following page for further details and check out the photos on page 8.

**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.

**Saturday, Aug. 12, 2017 10 AM to Noon**  
**Members Only Meeting**  
**Cattlemens Restaurant**  
**12409 Folsom Bld., Rancho Cordova**

**Refreshments will be served**

**Current Officers**

**Alan Brooking**  
President

**Don Littlefield**  
Executive Vice-President  
Treasurer and Webmaster

**Carl Ahlberg**  
Vice President of Meetings

**Jim Faulkinbury**  
Genealogist & Secretary

**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

**Alan Brooking**  
Americanism Poster Contest

**Carl Ahlberg**  
Program Committee

**Mike Hull & Del Hansen**  
Law Enforcement Program

**Michael Brady**  
Calling Committee  
Cashier

**President's Corner August 2017**

The calendar says Summer doesn't officially start until June 21st, but my internal calendar feels that summer begins with Memorial Day. Both the historical purpose of Decoration Day first celebrated on May 30, 1868, and the current events surrounding our recently observed modern Memorial Day, seem to divide these two seasons. Hope you had the opportunity to pause and honor those who made the ultimate sacrifice for us and for our country's future.

Sacramento Chapter had two special opportunities to honor and celebrate Memorial Day. The Color Guard was requested to present the colors for ceremonies at Sacramento Valley National Cemetery, Dixon, and at the same time at Sylvan Cemetery, Citrus Heights. It was an honor to be able to fulfill both requests. The Dixon Color Guard included Jim Faulkinbury, Don Littlefield, Craig Anderson, Ernie Garcia, and this Compatriot. Flag presentation at Sylvan saw Russ Kaiser, David Beach and Carl Ahlberg participating.

There was a presentation of a different sort made at May's Sacramento Chapter meeting courtesy of Don Littlefield. Through the Intel Volunteer Matching Grant Program, Don acquired enough volunteer hours in service to SAR to earn \$5,500. He presented a check to the chapter by offering a very large reasonable-facsimile of the official check to everyone's approving applause. Thank you, Don, for your dedicated work for our organization and for your generosity.

This Compatriot's summer will include both DAR & SAR Congresses. First it will be my privilege to be in the nation's capital for NSDAR's 126th Congress and also to do some genealogy research in their amazing library along with some historic sightseeing. It's then on to Knoxville and the 127th NSSAR Congress with a week to spend on the road between events. The plan includes Yorktown, Williamsburg, Jamestown, Charlottesville - Monticello on the 4th! - and then south to Knoxville. Will have a report for you on my first national SAR Congress Congress when we meet in the fall.



**President Alan Brooking**

Please mark your calendars for the **Members Only** meeting - **Saturday, August 12th - 10a.m.-Noon - Cattlemen's Restaurant, 12409 Folsom Blvd, Rancho Cordova.** The Sacramento Chapter's objectives moving forward thru 2017 and into 2018 will be determined at this important meeting. Refreshments will be served. No reservations are required and there is no cost involved, but your ideas and support for your organization would be greatly appreciated. **If you would like to offer suggestions for discussion items, please forward them to me. Please join us on the 12th.** Trust that each of you will have a wonderful summer, and we can all look forward to reconvening in September.

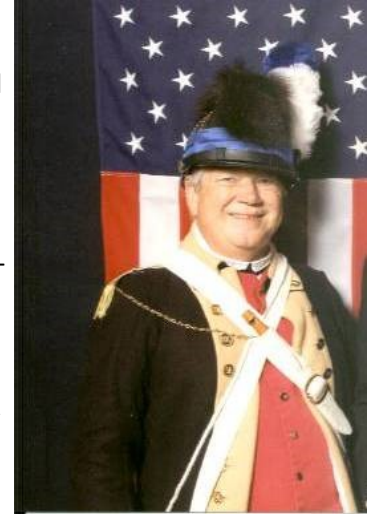
## Minutes of May 2017 Meeting

### Sons of the American Revolution – Sacramento Chapter

#### Minutes Sacramento Chapter Meeting, May 19, 2017

Sacramento President Alan Brooking called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM. Jeff Goodwin gave the Invocation, Russ Kaiser lead the Pledge of Allegiance, and Neil Zinn led the Pledge to the SAR.

President Brooking next introduced the National and State Officers and Sacramento Past Presidents who were present. They included NSSAR Vice President General Western District, CASSAR Past President 2014, Sacramento Chapter Past President 2005-2006, and current Sacramento Chapter Secretary, Jim Faulkinbury; Sacramento Chapter Past President 2000, 2001, 2002, 2004, and 2012, Tom Chilton; Sacramento Chapter Past President 2009 and current Chapter Chaplain, Jeff Goodwin; Sacramento Chapter Past President 2010-2011, Don Littlefield who is the current Sacramento Chapter Executive Vice President, Treasurer, and Webmaster as well as CASSAR Wreaths Across America Chairman; Sacramento Chapter Past President 2013-2014 and current Sacramento Chapter Color Guard Commander and CASSAR Color Guard Adjutant North, Russ Kaiser; Sacramento Chapter Past President 2015-2016 and current CASSAR State Secretary, Craig Anderson; Vice President of Programs and Chairman of the Middle School Brochure Program, Carl Ahlberg; Chairman of the chapter ROTC/JROTC Program, Roy Adkins; Chairman of the Eagle Scout Recognition Committee, Neil Zinn; and Chapter Photographer, Don Spradling.



**Jim Faulkinbury, Secretary**

The DAR members attending were, from the Sacramento Chapter DAR Marilyn Chilton and Medora Allen; from the Gold Trail Chapter, Past Regent, Susan Brooking, and Karen Faulkinbury; and from the Sierra Amador Chapter, Regent Ann Taylor, Recording Secretary, Deborah Tasker-Brady, Past Regent and current Registrar Ruth Edmonson-Johnson, and 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Regent, Carol Olney.

CASSAR LAUX members present were Susan Brooking, Marilyn Chilton, Karen Faulkinbury and Donna Spradling

Our other guests were prospective member, Marion Allen with his wife, Lissa, Robert Horton with his wife Pamela, and Chris Johnson.

Following introductions, Jim Faulkinbury was asked to come forward and discuss the two flags he brought tonight --- the 11<sup>th</sup> Virginia Regiment also known as the Daniel Morgan's Rifle Corps flag, and the George Rogers Clark flag.

Don Littlefield was then asked to come forward and he presented the Chapter a check for \$5,500 from the Intel Foundation that contributes \$10 for each volunteer hour he serves toward chapter activities. Over the years, the Intel Foundation has contributed about \$56,000 for his work with the Sacramento Chapter, the Mother Lode Chapter, and CASSAR.

Russ Kaiser then came forward to discuss "National Safe Boating Week" which is underway. There will be a "Bridge Event" tomorrow (Saturday May 20<sup>th</sup>) downtown on the river. He emphasized the use of life jackets and being safe in the water.

We then recessed for the dinner meal.

Following dinner, VP Programs, Carl Ahlberg introduced our guest speaker, Steve Beck, a docent at Sutter's Fort and a noted historian who has appeared on several programs regarding California history. His program was about Capt. John Sutter and how his successful interaction with early California natives and Sutter's Fort could be considered one of the important milestones in the history of western civilization with Sutter as a person most responsible for California becoming a State. He described Sutter as the 2<sup>nd</sup> son of a middle class Swiss/German family and thus was trained to be a military officer, but by the time he was ready to be commissioned, the defeat of Napoleon brought an end to the need for more officers. His prospects in Europe as a military officer were gone so he decided to travel to the New World to make his fortune. Arriving in New York City in 1834, he created a fake persona as a Capt. of the Swiss Guard and hero of the wars, which gave him many connections with people who gave him lines of credit for his

## May Minutes Continued

adventures. He travelled to Westport (now Kansas City), then to Fort Vancouver (now Portland, Oregon), then by ship to Hawaii where he was given ten Hawaiian servants by King Kamehameha III, then to Sitka, Alaska and then by a ship belonging to the Russian Fur Co. to Fort Ross, Monterey, and finally Yerba Buena (now San Francisco). Meeting the Mexican Governor of Alta California, he asked for a land grant in the central valley which the Mexican government granted in 1839 on the condition that he make the grant successful, expecting him to fail as had all other attempts to bring western civilization to the indigenous natives of the central valley. Sutter was successful for a couple of reasons; one, he paid the Indians for their labor rather than trying to enslave them as what was done by previous Spanish and Mexican attempts to settle California, and also possibly because his Hawaiian servants, which he treated well, were perceived to be similar to the Indians he was now in contact with. He brought other settlers to the area promising them land in his vast grant and was responsible for much of the non-Indian population coming to central California prior to the 1849 gold rush. He built Sutter's Fort to give the appearances that it was a well-fortified place to provide protection, but in reality, it wasn't built for that purpose since his relationship with the Indians was good and protection wasn't a problem. His Fort became the ultimate destination for the wagon trains coming to California.

Following the program, President Brooking presented Steve with a Certificate of Appreciation and a Liberty Bell for his program. He then made the announcement that the June meeting was suspended by vote of the majority of those members who regularly attend our meetings, and our next general meeting will be in September, and also that we will hold a members-only meeting in August. One of the topics for that members-only meeting will be a proposal to change our current Bylaws to reduce the number of monthly meetings from the current 10 down to 8 by elimination of the June and December meetings.

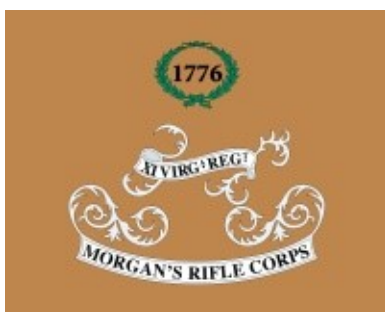
President Brooking then announced that Neil Elvick was recovering from a recent operation and asked the members to keep him in our thoughts.

Then, with the help of Susan Brooking, President Brooking held the raffle. Those donating gifts were, Susan & Alan Brooking, Don & Donna Spradling, Claire and Medora Allen, Ron & Luann Hollis, Ruth Edmondson-Johnson, Carl & Inga Ahlberg, Craig & Sandy Anderson, Jim & Karen Faulkinbury, Tom & Marilyn Chilton, George & Ann Taylor, Michael & DJ Brady, Jim Warrick, and Phil & Kathy Noble. Following the raffle, he thanked Don Littlefield for cashiering, Don Spradling for taking the pictures, Neil Elvick for editing the newsletter, and Donna Spradling for keeping the Pledge Cards. He then asked for a motion to adjourn which was followed by Carl Ahlberg leading us in the SAR Recessional. Chaplain Goodwin gave the Benediction after which we sang *God Bless America*. The meeting was adjourned at 9:26 PM.

Respectfully submitted

Jim Faulkinbury, Secretary

The two flags that were presented at the meeting were those pictured below:



The flag of the 11<sup>th</sup> Virginia Regiment also known as the Daniel Morgan's Rifle Corps flag



George Rogers Clark flag



## Photos from May 19, 2017 Meeting

Photos by Don Spradling



**Steve Beck**



**Steve Beck and Alan Brooking**

Steve Beck, a noted historian and a docent at Sutter's Fort appears above with our president, Alan Brooking, receiving a Certificate of Appreciation and a Liberty Bell after presenting a talk about Captain John Sutter and his role in establishing Sutter's Fort.



**Sean Jones and his son**



**Craig Anderson, Alan Brooking,  
Carl Ahlberg, Ernie Garcia**



**Jeff Goodwin, Chapter Chaplain**

## Photos from the May 2017 Meeting

Photos by Don Spradling



**Eagle Scout, Robert Bryce Turnipseed  
and Joe Moorhead**



**Russ Kaiser**



**10<sup>th</sup> Year Intel Foundation has made a grant to  
the SAR: Don Littlefield & Alan Brooking**



**Don Littlefield, Alan Brooking, Neil Zinn**



**Marlon & Lisa Allen  
Prospective Member**



## Photos from the May 2017 Meeting

Photos by Don Spradling



**Inga and Carl Ahlberg**



**Ernie Garcia and Craig Anderson with Ernie holding his Certificate of Appreciation**



**Clair & Medora Allen**



**Helen and Ernie Garcia**



**Susan and Tal Norwood**



**Carol Olney, Ruth Edmonson-Johnson, George Taylor, Ann Taylor**



## Photos from Carmichael Independence Day Parade & Memorial Day at Sylvan Cemetery



**Memorial Day Parade at Sylvan Cemetery**



**Memorial Day Parade at Sylvan Cemetery**



**Donna and Don Spradling in full costume;  
ready to start riding in the parade**



**Independence Day  
Coming down Fair Oaks Boulevard  
in Carmichael**



**This was one of the lead units**



**Looking sharp; waving to the crowd.**



## The Events of the Summer of 1776

As has become traditional, the Chapter's Color Guard participated in the Annual Carmichael Independence Day Parade. This is the 241<sup>st</sup> anniversary of the original event. The following is what transpired in the summer of 1776.

**June 7:** Lee's Resolutions are presented to the Second Continental Congress. The Resolutions were presented by Richard Henry Lee, a statesman from Virginia, and included proposed plans for setting up the government as a confederacy of states and ultimately included also the actual Declaration of Independence. The three parts of the Lee Resolutions were to :

1. Declare the colonies to be free and independent states
2. Enact measures to establish foreign alliances and
3. Prepare a plan for a government of confederacy of states.

**June 11:** Thomas Jefferson, Benjamin Franklin, John Adams, Robert Livingstone & Roger Sherman appointed to a committee to draft the Declaration of Independence.

**June 28:** Congress ordered the Declaration to "Lie on the table" while the rest of the Lee Resolutions were debated. The states of Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Delaware and New York were still debating the issue of independence.

**July 2:** The vote on the Resolution of Independence was taken and South Carolina, Pennsylvania and Delaware had been persuaded to vote yes. The New York delegates had still not received instructions and so abstained, so the Resolution of Independence passed 12-1. (New York ultimately voted yea on July 9).

**July 2 – 4:** The exact wording of the Declaration was debated and several changes were made.

**July 4:** Declaration of Independence approved by Congress and sent to the printer.

**July 21:** Congress resolved that the Declaration of Independence should be engrossed on parchment and signed by every member of Congress.

**September 24:** Congress approves the portion of the Lee Resolutions regarding establishment of foreign alliances.

**November 15, 1777:** Articles of Confederation and Perpetual Union were approved by Congress and sent to the states for ratification.

**March 1, 1981:** Final ratification of the Articles of Confederation providing the outline of official government of the United States until the Constitution was approved in 1789.

### Links

SAR Sacramento Chapter photos from our dinner meetings can be accessed and downloaded at

<https://sar.smugmug.com/>

& enter **Patriot**

The "Great Courses" organization has a 24 lecture course on the American Revolution available on DVD. The course is on 4 DVD's each containing 6 lectures. Our Chapter has one set of these which can be made available to members to borrow. Contact either Neil Elvick or Carl Ahlberg.

Information for assembling a uniform or militia outfit is now online at:

<http://www.sar-sacramento.org/uniforms.shtml>.

## Coming Events

August 12, 2017—  
Members Only Meeting  
10:00 AM at the Cattlemens Restaurant

Sept. 15, 2017 —Regular Meeting  
7:00 PM at the Cattlemens Restaurant  
Speaker: To be announced

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

**Neil Elvick, editor**  
**neilel@aol.com**

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

Sons of the American Revolution  
P. O. Box 6664  
Folsom, CA 95763-6664

**To the Postmaster**  
**Address Service Requested**



**The Sacramento Chapter**  
**Sons Of The American**  
**Revolution**