



The Courier



December 2015

Sacramento Chapter— Sons of the American Revolution

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Although our December meeting had to be canceled due to not being able to obtain a venue, we would like to still take this opportunity to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. The next scheduled meeting will be at 7:00 PM January 15, 2016 at Cattlemens Restaurant.

In the meantime there still has been activity going on with the Color Guard. On November 11, they, along with their DAR counterparts, participated in the Veteran's Day Parade which started in Old Sacramento and went down Capitol Mall to the State Capitol. As usual it started on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month, exactly 97 years after the signing of the armistice that effectively ended the First World War.



The SAR entry near the beginning of the parade route

Members are invited and encouraged to email Craig Anderson (craiga@winfirst.com) with any suggestions for good speakers and contact information if available.

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

Ribeye Steak	\$30.
Sirloin Steak	\$25.
Grilled Salmon	\$25.
Lemon Chicken	\$25.
Pesto Spinach/Cheese Ravioli	\$25.
(vegetarian)	

Friday, January 22, 2016 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, January 20**, 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

Don Littlefield
Program Committee

Ernie Garcia
Law Enforcement Program

Alan Brooking
Calling Committee
Cashier

President's Corner

The end of another year is fast approaching. Our Secretary and Treasurer are busy wrapping up our dues collection process for 2016; if you haven't yet paid your dues for the coming year and wish to continue your support of the Sacramento SAR, please contact myself or Don Littlefield as soon as possible.



Craig Anderson

We have two members celebrating 5 year anniversaries as SAR members in November: David Stuart Allmuth celebrating 15 years and Robert Michael Rectenwald celebrating 5 years. Thank you both for your continuing support of the Sacramento Chapter SAR – we value your membership.

I also want to thank all of those members who submitted ancestor biographies to the National SAR database during the past year and allowed us to publish them in the Courier. We still have a number of them waiting to be published. While these bios generally can't be used as documentation to prove eligibility for membership, they give us a window as to who these people were and an insight to the sacrifices they made to help free our nation from British tyranny. Keep them coming!

Our November meeting was our last dinner meeting of the year. We were unable to secure a suitable venue for our December meeting so we have had to cancel it. My family and I sincerely wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Looking forward to seeing you in January.

Craig Anderson
President

Minutes of November 20, 2015 Meeting

Sons of the American Revolution – Sacramento Chapter

Meeting Minutes November 20, 2015 (Minutes taken by President Craig Anderson)

President Anderson called the meeting to order at 7:05PM. President Anderson gave the invocation, Evan Jonas led the Pledge of Allegiance, and George Taylor led the pledge to the SAR.

President Anderson introduced SAR Officers and guests:

SAR Officers included

Jim Faulkinbury, Past President of the CA Society 2014, Past President 2005 and 2006 of the Sacramento Chapter, and CA Society National Trustee.

Tom Chilton, Past President 2000, 2001, 2002, 2004, and 2012 and current youth activities chairman.

Don Littlefield, Past President 2010 and 2011, current Executive Vice President, Treasurer, Webmaster, and CA Society Chairman of the Wreaths Across America Program.

Alan Brooking Registrar, Calling Committee Chairman, and CA Society DAR Liaison

Ernie Garcia, Chairman Activities

Don Spradling, Sacramento Chapter Photographer



Carl Ahlberg, Secretary

DAR members included

Sacramento Chapter: Marilyn Chilton; Medora Allen, and Sara Beach.

Gold Trail Chapter: Susan Brooking, Regent; Karen Faulkinbury, and Kathy Stovall.

Sierra Amador Chapter: Ann Taylor, Regent; Deborah Tasker-Brady, Ruth Edmondson-Johnson and Collette Ferguson and her husband Chris.

John A. Sutter Chapter: Susan Broderick, Treasurer.

California Society LAUX members included:

Marilyn Chilton, Susan Brooking, Karen Faulkinbury and Donna Spradling.

President Anderson introduced guest speaker, Jenny Stocks and her husband Jayson, son Benton and daughter Brooke; new member David Paulsen and his wife Cyndy; Dan Barnett, brother of compatriot Chuck Barnett; John Beach's son John and daughter Sara.

President Anderson announced that the Sacramento Chapter received a Partners in Patriotism Certificate from the National Society for their participation in local patriotic events.

President Anderson asked Tom Chilton to come forward. He presented Tom an Oak Leaf Cluster for his Patriot Medal.

Jim Faulkinbury came forward and presented a historical overview of the Gladstone and Serapis flags.

President Anderson asked Collette Ferguson and Alan Brooking to come forward and present Collette a Memorial Membership Certificate for her father George R. Clarke Jr.

(Continued on following page)

Minutes from November Meeting Continued

(Continued from previous page)

New member David Paulson was asked to come forward. Registrar Alan Brooking introduced him and read his biography. President Anderson administered the SAR oath and presented him with his membership certificate; Alan Brooking pinned the SAR Rosette on him. All members came forward to offer the customary welcoming handshake.

President Anderson conducted a short memorial for Compatriot Ted Robinson who passed away on October 12, 2015. He called for a moment of silence, struck 8 bells on the chapter bell, and offered a short prayer for Ted Robinson and George R. Clarke Jr.

President called for 2016 officer nominations from the floor 3 times with no response from the members. He announced that current sitting officers have agreed to serve during 2016. Voting and officer installation will be held during the January meeting.

President Anderson announced that Wreaths Across America ceremonies are being held December 12th at Sacramento Valley Veteran's Cemetery near Dixon, CA. He mentioned that it was a very moving experience and encouraged members to attend.

After dinner, President Anderson introduced guest speaker Jenny Stocks. She gave an excellent presentation on her tour of historical sites around Valley Forge. She conducted an interactive quiz with the meeting membership around historical revolutionary war facts.

President Anderson thanked Jenny Stocks for her presentation and presented her with a Certificate of Appreciation and Liberty Bell.

Alan Brooking and President Anderson conducted the raffle. Those donating raffle gifts were: Alan and Susan Brooking, Mary Ann and Don Littlefield, Don and Donna Spradling, Craig and Sandy Anderson, Evan Jonas, Clair and Medora Allen, George and Ann Taylor, Ruth Edmondson-Johnson, Jim and Karen Faulkinbury, Tom and Marilyn Chilton, Mike and Deb Brady, Doug and Wilma Cross.

President Anderson thanked Jenny Stocks for a great program; Susan Brooking for selling the raffle tickets; Don Spradling for taking pictures and maintaining the flags; Alan Brooking for chairing the Calling committee, acting as cashier, and conducting the raffle; and Neil Elvick for editing the newsletter.

Don Littlefield announced that there would be no December meeting.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn. President Anderson led the recessional and gave the benediction. He led the membership in singing God Bless America.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM

Craig Anderson,
President

Program from November 20th, 2015 Meeting



Jenny Stocks

Jenny Stocks, a fifth grade teacher at Newcastle, California, was the speaker for the evening's program. She was this year's chapter selection for the SAR Valley Forge Teacher Recognition program and went on to be California's selection to attend workshops and tour of the historical areas around Valley Forge and Philadelphia. She showed some slides of Independence Hall where the 2nd Continental Congress and the Constitutional Convention were held and of other historical sites in the area. It's notable that one of these sites was Valley Forge. It was 238 years ago on December 19, 1777 that the Continental Army entered into their winter quarters in Valley Forge. It had already been a very trying year in Pennsylvania as the British plotted to dislodge the Patriots from their capital of Philadelphia. Washington's army suffered defeats at Brandywine Creek on September 17 and then again at Germantown on October 4 and the British then entered and occupied Philadelphia.

As we celebrate our Holiday season this year it is fitting to look back on the terrible hardships and sacrifices of

these men. It is remarkable that out of so much suffering and privation an army would emerge that would be able to match up and ultimately defeat the British. On February 23 Baron Von Steuben arrived and was given a commission as a Major General. He was a veteran of Frederick the Great's army in Prussia, which was widely known and respected for the extraordinary discipline with which they operated. Washington was impressed (although the Baron's resume had been padded) and allowed him to lead in training the troops. His commands had to be translated to the soldiers (he didn't speak English). Some military historians trace the US military's Special Forces back to this beginning.



Jenny Stocks receives Certificate of Appreciation and replica Liberty Bell from President Craig Anderson

In the summer of 1778 the British decided to abandon Philadelphia and return to New York. Washington's army followed and when the two sides met up at Monmouth, New Jersey on that extremely hot and sweltering day in June, they were able to fight the British on near equal terms because of the rigorous training under those extremely trying conditions at Valley Forge.

(The Battle of Monmouth Courthouse was fought on June 28, 1778 in temperatures above 100 degrees. The result was pretty much a standoff, but was the first time Continental troops proved to be this effective against the highly trained British. It is thought by some that more soldiers died of heat exhaustion than from musket fire.)

Photos from November 20th, 2015 Meeting

Photos by Don Spradling



**Tom Chilton, Collette Ferguson,
Chris Ferguson and Ann Taylor**



**From left to right: Brooke, Jenny,
Benton and Jayson Stocks**

Collette Ferguson is a DAR member who is descended from William Stives, who was a private in Captain Richard Cox's 3rd New Jersey Regiment under Col. Elias Dayton and Col. Mathias Ogden. Collette's nephew, Jeremy Clarke, is an SAR member. Collette has successfully applied to have a memorial SAR membership bestowed upon her late father, George Robert Clarke. William Stives, the original patriot, was a free African American and was one of many African Americans who served with the Revolutionary army. Tom Chilton assisted in preparing the application documents.

In the photo on the upper right Jenny Stocks, the evening's speaker, stands with her family. Jenny spoke about her experiences while visiting historical sites around Philadelphia and Mount Vernon and true to her background as a teacher, she administered a "test" to those of us in the audience.



Wanda and Doug Cross



Chuck Barnett, Dan Barnett, Craig Anderson



David, Rebecca, Sara and Chris Beach

Photos and Awards

Photos by Don Spradling

David Everett Paulsen—new member



David is the son of Ray and Julia Paulsen and was born in Oakland, CA 26 December 1956. He spent his childhood in Fremont, California. He graduated from Mission San Jose High School in 1975 and attended Ohlone and West Valley Colleges. In 1976 he married his childhood sweetheart, Cynthia Jean Wallace and together they have 4 children, Lynda, Sarah, Daniel, and David. Also eight grandchildren, which they consider their most meaningful accomplishments in life.

David retired from the California Youth Authority at Preston in Lone, California after 16 years where he sustained injuries while on duty at Tamarach Lodge during a group disturbance and forced his early retirement.

His hobbies include spending time with family, photography, gardening, camping, fishing, traveling and boating. He also has a passion for genealogy and American History. He has found many more ancestors who participated in the American Revolution and plans on submitting them to SAR in the near future.

David's application to join the Sons of the American Revolution was approved on 11 Aug. 2015. His patriot ancestor, was Elijah Alverson, who was a private in Capt. John Sanford's 3rd Virginia Regular Soldiers, commanded by General Weeden. He is buried in the Bethlehem Cemetery in White Co. Tennessee.



Alan Brooking , David Paulsen, Craig Anderson



David taking the oath
Alan Brooking on the left and
Craig Anderson on the right



Alan Brooking, Collette Ferguson, Craig Anderson



Craig Anderson and Tom Chilton
Tom is receiving Oak Leaf Cluster for his
patriot medal recognizing his service to
the chapter.

Wreaths Across America & Photos from November 11, Veterans Day Parade



WREATHSACROSSAMERICA.ORG
REMEMBER - HONOR - TEACH

The photo above was taken at Arlington National Cemetery. Wreaths Across America started there in 1992 with a trailer full of wreaths and some volunteers who laid the wreaths on the graves of our fallen soldiers. Since then the program has spread and now there are more than 900 participating locations. Our Color Guard regularly participates in the ceremonies at the Sacramento Valley National Cemetery, 5810 Midway Rd. in Dixon, CA. The program will start at 9:00 AM. on Saturday December 12. It is recommended for those attending that you come early because of traffic congestion and limited parking.



At the November Veterans Day Parade. Photos by Peter Darnall.
At left : Russ Kaiser On the right: Don Spradling

Patriot Ancestor

Jacob Bickel

patriot ancestor of Neil Elvick #186271, no patriot number assigned

Jacob Bickel was born in the town of Massenbach in Baden-Württemberg, Germany on June 16, 1744. He was brought to America by his parents on the ship *Jacob* in 1749 at the age of five years. The family settled first in Lancaster, Pennsylvania but later moved on to East Hanover Township in what was to become Dauphin County. He married Maria Katarina Brown in 1766 and then bought farmland in Upper Paxtang Township, which was a remote, outlying area of the county. In September of 1776 his name appears on a list of fifty-eight soldiers who had returned from camp without leave. They were soldiers in Col. Miles' and Col. Atlee's Battalion at the Battle of Long Island. Their units had been decimated in the battle and their commanders "lost." Their plea to the Committee of Safety of the Province of Pennsylvania for reinstatement is quoted: "We lost our Chief Commanders on Long Island, and not knowing who to apply to for Redress when out of the Province we returned to seek Redress, and hope your Honours will take it into your Consideration. Your Petitioners did not leave New York for Cowardice but for bad usage, and we are willing to fight to Defend the Province where we were Inlisted."

Subsequently he appears on several muster rolls for Captain Martin Weaver's Company. This Company was dispatched for duty several times, but there is no information about where they were deployed. The enlistment dates for one of the deployments was from November 5 to December 31. The pay records, however, extended to January 7, possibly indicating their service was extended. Although the dates were explicit, the year was not recorded, possibly because it may have been the first year of the conflict. The dates would coincide with Washington's army when it returned to Pennsylvania after the debacle in New York and include the Crossing of the Delaware on December 24 and the Battle of Trenton on Christmas Day. After that battle, Washington made an emotional plea to soldiers of the Pennsylvania militia to extend their service and this could account for the pay records being extended to January 7. The Battle of Princeton was on January 3, after which they may then have been sent home. The missing year on these records, unfortunately, leaves this unresolved.

Jacob's father, Frederick Bickel, and his father-in-law, Michael Brown, also served in Pennsylvania militia units from Lancaster County, Frederick Bickel as a private and Michael Brown as a 2nd Lieutenant.

After the war, about the year 1789, Jacob and his family moved on to southwestern Virginia where land records over the next 21 years show them buying and selling farms in Botetourt, Augusta, and Wythe Counties. They raised four sons; Jacob aka James, Michael, Frederick, my great great grandfather Anthony, and one daughter, Christina Cassell. No death record has been found for him. The last record for him is on a land sale in Botetourt County, Virginia in the year 1810. He would have been sixty-six years old at that time.

Instructions for Submitting Patriot Biographies

Patriot biographies, such as the one above, are being solicited by the national organization. To submit your patriot ancestor biography to the national organization submit about 500 words as a Microsoft email attachment to patriotbios@sar.org. 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 craiga@winfirst.com so that the bio could also be presented in future Courier editions.

Coming Events

WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA

9:00 AM, Saturday, December 12, 2015
Sacramento Valley National Cemetery
Dixon, CA

December 18, 2015 -- Regular Meeting
This meeting cancelled due to the
unavailability of the meeting room.

January 22, 2016 — Regular Meeting
7:00 PM at the Cattlemens Restaurant
Speaker to be announced

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REVOLUTION**

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