



The Courier



November 2013

Sacramento Chapter— Sons of the American Revolution

Vol. 45, Issue 9

IN THIS ISSUE

This month's program	1
President's Corner	2
More about our speaker	3
Minutes October meeting	4
Photos from Awards Banquet	5
Photos from Awards Banquet	6
Photos from Awards Banquet	7
Photos from Awards Banquet	8
Photos from Awards Banquet	9
Sacramento Chapter's coming events	10

November's Speaker

Brian Shul was born in Quantico, VA in 1948. He graduated from East Carolina University with a degree in History and Anthropology in 1970.

After 20 years as an Air Force fighter pilot, Brian Shul today is an accomplished author, speaker, and photographer.

He flew 212 close air support missions in Viet Nam before his aircraft was shot down. Severely burned in the crash he was given little chance of survival. He spent one year in hospitals and endured 15 reconstructive surgeries. After countless hours of physical therapy, Brian surprised his doctors and returned to flying jet aircraft.

Amazingly he went on to become an air show demonstration pilot in the A-10, instructed at the Air Force's TOPGUN School, and culminated his Air Force career with selection to fly our nation's premier spy plane, the SR-71. Only 93 Air Force pilots ever flew the SR-71, still the fastest aircraft ever built. Brian flew the Blackbird for 4 years and was the pilot who provided key photos to President Reagan of Libyan terrorist camps during the Libyan Crisis in 1986.

Brian retired from the Air Force in 1990 having flown 15 different aircraft, and pursued his writing interests. He was the first SR-71 pilot ever to write a book about flying that Top Secret plane, illustrated with his own photography. He has written four other aviation books, for which he did all the flying, writing, and photography, and is the only man in America to have flown extensively with both the Air Force Thunderbirds and Navy Blue Angels as a photo journalist. Brian's SR-71 book won Aviation Book of the Year honors and has become the single most popular book on that aircraft worldwide. Brian's remarkable comeback story has motivated audiences nationwide as today he is in high demand as a keynote speaker. He is a National Spirit of Freedom Award winner, a Paul Harris Fellow, and just last year was inducted into the Air Force Hall of Fame.

Brian is the owner of Gallery One in Marysville, CA, where his highly acclaimed nature photography is on display.



Cattlemens Meal Selections:

10 oz. Rib Eye Steak	\$24.
Grilled Salmon	\$24.
Teriyaki Chicken	\$24.
Pesto Spinach/Cheese Ravioli	\$24.
(vegetarian)	

Friday, November 15, 2013, 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, November 13**, please call Don Littlefield at **(916) 985-6544 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

Officers for 2013

Russ Kaiser
President

Don Littlefield
Executive Vice-President
Treasurer and Web master

Craig Anderson
Vice President & Secretary

Ron Carello
Vice President & Registrar

Jim Faulkinbury
Color Guard Coordinator
Genealogist

Jeff Goodwin
Chaplain

Don Spradling
Registrar
Guardian of the Flags

Committee Chairmen

Tom Chilton
ROTC Program Chairman
Americanism Poster Contest

Neil Zinn
Eagle Scout Program
Chairman

Ernie Garcia
Chairman
Law Enforcement Program

Calling Committee

Carl Ahlberg, Chairman
Tom Chilton
Ernie Garcia
Ed Heidig
Russ Kaiser
Don Littlefield

President's Corner

Welcome to November. This means we've had our Community Awards Banquet and what an event it was! We had 78 attendees including 24 guests and award winners. This was a huge increase of member participation. Thank you all for the support. Bodie the K9 officer (retired) really stole the show. Many thanks to Don Littlefield for pe-rusing this for SARSAC. Job well done!

Many thanks to all that helped put it together including Tom Chilton, Ernie Garcia, Craig Anderson, and Don Littlefield. Jim Faulkinbury and the Color Guard did an exemplary job again this year. Special thanks to Don for arranging for the wounded warrior, EOD Tech. Jonathan T Allen, USA to be there. It is so important that we recognize these young people that go "into harm's way" for us.

Tom secured the guest speaker for the evening: Igor Birman. I had an opportunity to sit and talk with Igor during the dinner. What a pleasure it was to speak with someone who came from a country where the freedoms we enjoy every day are non-existent. He truly has a grasp as to what real freedom is and is not shy when it comes to standing up and talking about it.

Wreaths across America is coming up again this year. The date is December 14th at the Dixon Cemetery. SAR is making a big push to participate and in my opinion, it is a worthwhile venture. It will be a little cold and a bit crowded to get there early, dress warm, maybe bring a thermos of hot coco, and bring something dry to sit on as the morning frost is usually on the chairs. Then, help us lay wreaths on the graves of those who defended our freedoms. I guarantee the warm feeling you will have will last far longer than the bit of cold you will endure.

Elections of officers is coming up. We really need you all to consider running for a position. Being a volunteer organization, we get what we give and we certainly get a lot from this organization. Please call me (916-801-2818) and step up to help with next year.



More about our speaker—Brain Shul

KEYNOTE SPEAKER BRIAN SHUL

Brian Shul is one of the most popular and dynamic keynote speakers in America today. His compelling story of living fearlessly and embracing the opportunities each day brings, resonates with men and woman of all ages. As an Air Force fighter pilot, Brian was shot down in the Vietnam War and severely burned in the ensuing crash. Initially given up for dead, he was finally rescued and spent one year in hospitals, endured 15 surgeries and was told his flying days were over. Amazingly, Brian returned to active duty flying, became an Airshow Demonstration pilot, went on to become a TOPGUN instructor, and culminated his Air Force career by flying the Top Secret spy plane, the SR-71. Flying the world's fastest and highest flying aircraft required an astronaut physical and Brian made Air Force history when he passed with no waivers.

Brian retired from the Air Force in 1990 and pursued his writing and photography interests. Internationally known for his incredible aviation photography, he wrote the first book about flying the Blackbird, illustrated with his own photos. It was Aviation Book of the Year and is today the single most popular book worldwide on the SR-71.

Brian masterfully uses his aviation slides and stories as a vehicle to tell a broader inspired story of hope, overcoming obstacles and daring to dream. From lying near death in the jungles of Southeast Asia to flying the world's fastest jet, Brian shares his amazing story in this most unforgettable one-of-a-kind presentation.



SR - 71

Minutes—October 18, 2013 Meeting

By Craig Anderson

President Russ Kaiser called the meeting to order at 7: 00 PM.

Chaplain Jeff Goodwin gave the invocation. President Kaiser called on the Color Guard to post the Colors. President Kaiser then led the membership in the Pledge of Allegiance and the Pledge to the SAR.

President Kaiser recognized Past Presidents of the Sacramento Chapter and guests: Jim Faulkinbury, CASSAR Executive Vice President and Sacramento Chapter Past President 2005 and 2006 and his wife Karen; Tom Chilton, Sacramento Chapter Past President in 2000, 2001, 2002, 2004, and 2012, and his wife Marilyn; Don Littlefield, Sacramento Past President 2010 and 2011, current Executive Vice President, Treasurer, Webmaster, and CASSAR Chairman of the Wreaths Across America Program and his wife Mary Ann; Jeff Goodwin, CASSAR Chancellor, Sacramento Chapter Past President 2009, and current Sacramento Chapter Chaplain. President Kaiser also recognized Ron Barker, CASSAR Vice President-North and his wife Conni; Bob Conover, President of the Mother Lode Chapter and his wife Marcia; Ross Dale, President of the Gold Country Chapter and his wife Coreena; and John Krahn, Chairman of the Mother Lode Chapter Law Enforcement Committee and his wife, Joy. He also recognized Craig Anderson, Chapter Secretary, Carl Ahlberg, SAR Calling Committee Chairman, Ernie Garcia, SAR Chairman of Activities, and Don Spradling, SAR Photographer.



President Kaiser recognized and welcomed DAR members present: Medora Allen, Marilyn Chilton, and Helena Hurst from the Sacramento Chapter. He also recognized Lou Ann Chilton McCarthy from Reno, NV, daughter of Marilyn and Tom Chilton.

President Kaiser recognized the public safety officers present: Representing the Sacramento Police Dept, Officer Brian Surjan and his fiancée Tanya Therien, Deputy Chief Ken Bernard, and Officer Randy Van Dusen and K9 Officer "Bodie". Representing the Sacramento Sheriffs Department: Deputy Chris Huffman and his wife Kim, and Lt. Richard Kropp. Representing the California Highway Patrol: Officer Lee Murray and his wife Cindy, and Sgt. Gary Hagen. Representing the Citrus Heights Police Dept: Officer Michael Dutch and his wife Vivian, Officer Michael Coltharp and his wife Monica, and Lt. Alex Turcotte.

President Kaiser introduced our guest speaker, Igor Birman, Chief of Staff to Rep John McClintock. He also introduced Jonathan Allen, the Wounded Warrior nominee, and his family: Parents Cheryl and Monte Allen, Brother Jared, Grandmother Betty Bachman, Grandfather Robb Saner, and Aunt Karla Odum. President Kaiser also introduced his guest for the evening, Donna Baca along with Richard Hoffman and his wife, Celeste, friends of Igor Birman.

After dinner, Past President Chilton introduced the guest speaker for the evening, Igor Birman. Mr. Birman gave an inspirational talk on our country's constitution and the individual freedoms that it has given us compared to his earlier life having been born in the Soviet Union and finally being allowed to immigrate with his parents and grandmother when he was 13. President Kaiser thanked Igor for a very interesting presentation and presented him with a SAR Certificate of Appreciation and a Liberty Bell.

Executive Vice President Don Littlefield presented a SAR Certificate for Heroism Certificate to K9 Officer "Bodie" of the Metro K9 Unit and a SAR Certificate of Valor to Officer Randy Van Dusen of the Sacramento Police Department.

President Russ Kaiser presented Law Enforcement Commendation Medals and Certificates to Deputy Chris Huffman of the Sacramento Sheriffs Department, Officer Brian Surjan of the Sacramento Police Department, Officer Rick Murray of the California Highway Patrol, and Officers Michael Dutch and Michael Coltharp of the Citrus Heights Police Department.

Don Littlefield presented the SAR Wounded Warrior Certificate and Challenge Coin to EOD Technician Jonathan T Allen, US Army.

President Kaiser reminded the members about the upcoming Wreaths Across America Program that will take place at the Sacramento Valley National Cemetery, 5810 Midway Rd, Dixon, California at 9:00 AM, on Saturday, December 14th, 2013. He encouraged everyone to attend. If you plan to attend, come early and wear warm clothes. President Russ Kaiser led the Recessional; Jeff Goodwin gave the Benediction. The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 PM.

Respectfully Submitted

Craig Anderson, Chapter Secretary

Photos from the October 18th Awards Banquet

Photos by Don Spradling



**Wounded Warrior, EOD technician,
Jonathan T. Allen**



**Deputy Chris Huffman
Sacramento Sheriff Department**



**Officer Brian Surjon
Sacramento Police Department**

At this year's October Awards Banquet the men pictured on this page and on the following pages received SAR awards for outstanding public service. The recipients were from the California Highway Patrol, the Sacramento County Sheriffs Department, The Sacramento City Police Department, the United States Army and the Citrus Heights Police Department. The program began with the posting of the Colors by the local SAR Color Guard.



**Officer Lee Murray
California Highway Patrol**

Photos from the October 16th Awards Banquet

Photos by Don Spradling



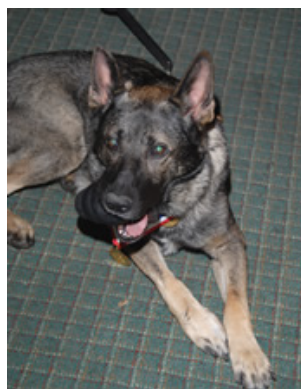
L to R: Tom Chilton, Ernie Garcia, Jim Faulkinbury, Ford Osborn, Ron Proffer
SAR Color Guard



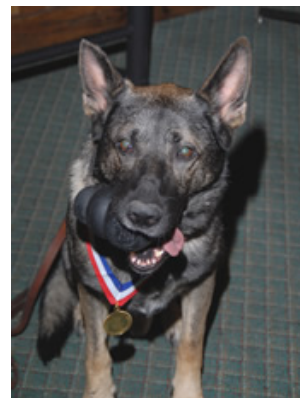
Award winners Officer Michael Dutch &
Officer Michael Coltharp,
Citrus Heights Police Department



Officer Randy Van Dusen & K9 Officer "Bodie"
Notice the two awards, one for each officer
Flanked by Russ Kaiser & Don Littlefield

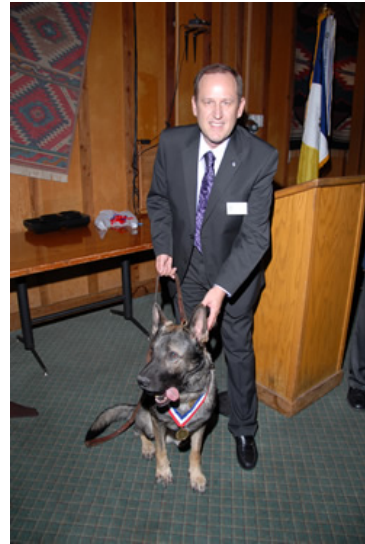


Bodie, calm and friendly here, took three bullets while performing his duties for the Sacramento City Police Department on May 18, 2012



Photos from the October 16th Awards Banquet

Photos by Don Spradling



Posing with Bodie

Don Littlefield on the left and photographer Don Spradling on the right



Igor Birman and Russ Kaiser



Conni & Ron Barker
Ron is CASSAR Vice President North



Our speaker, Igor Birman

Photos from the October 16th Awards Banquet

Photos by Don Spradling



Jeff and Mary Ann Goodwin
Jeff is CASSAR Chancellor



Craig and Clyde Rust



From L to R: Cheryl & Monte Allen, Karla Odum (aunt), Jared (seated), Jonathan Allen, Amber Michaels (girl friend), Betty Bachman & Robb Saner (grandparents)



Don Clark, Ernie & Helen Garcia

Photos from the October 16th Awards Banquet

Photos by Don Spradling



**Deputy Chief Ken Benard
Sacramento Police Department**



Don and Mary Ann Littlefield



**Tom Chilton, Lou Ann Chilton McCarthy and
Marilyn Chilton**



Roy and Martha Adkins

Coming Events

December 14, 2013—Wreaths Across America
Sacramento Valley National Cemetery
Dixon, CA 9:00 AM

December 20, 2013—Regular Meeting
7:00 PM at the Cattlemens Restaurant
Christmas music will be provided by
Vista Del Lago High School

January 17, 2014—Regular Meeting
7:00 PM at the Cattlemens Restaurant
Speaker to be announced

February 21, 2014—Regular Meeting
7:00 PM at the Cattlemens Restaurant
Speaker to be announced

March 21, 2014—Regular Meeting
7:00 PM at the Cattlemens Restaurant
Speaker to be announced

April 10-13, 2014 - Annual CASSAR Membership
Meeting at the Embassy Suites in Sacramento
Samuel Adams (aka Rex Ruth) will be the
featured speaker. Jim Faulkinbury will be
installed CASSAR President. All members and their
guests are welcome. Mark your calendars now!

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

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