



# The Courier



September 2017

Sacramento Chapter— Sons of the American Revolution

Volume 49, Issue 7

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Commander Tom Jones USN (Ret) serves as Senior Naval Science Instructor (SNSI) for the Luther Burbank High School Naval Junior Reserve Officer Training Corps.

The "Titan Battalion" is a Navy JROTC Honor Unit consisting of over 180 highly motivated Navy JROTC cadets ranging in age from 14 to 18 years old. Luther Burbank High School Navy Junior ROTC develops American citizens and leaders who personify the Navy core values of Honor, Courage and Commitment.

Titan cadets graduate and continue their education, achieving personal and national goals becoming our next generation of great leaders. Titan cadets compete regionally and nationally on twelve highly competitive and award winning teams including; Color Guard, Armed & Unarmed Drill, Cyber Patriot, Academics, Robotics, Air Rifle, Physical Training and Orienteering.

Titan cadets perform over 5,000 hours of community service annually to local food banks and other community resources. The Titan Color Guard and drill teams have rendered honors and our National Colors for dozens of community leaders and high-level government officials including the Chief of Naval Operations and the California State Legislature. Titan cadets have been privileged to meet privately with some of the highest level government officials in our nation including; former Chief of Naval Operations and Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Admiral Mike Mullin and former Secretary of State George P. Schultz. Additionally, Titan cadets have met with World War II Triple Ace Colonel Bud Anderson, aviation legends Bob Hoover and Sean D. Tucker as well as movie star Harrison Ford.

(Continued on page 4)

**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.



**Tom Jones**

## Cattlemens Meal Selections

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

**Friday, Sept. 15, 2017 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. 13, 2017**, please call Michael Brady at (916) 647-3716 directly and leave a message by noon on Thursday or [mlbrady@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mlbrady@sbcglobal.net). We strongly encourage reservations be made in advance. All reservations are guaranteed.

Don't be a "no show." Wives, guests and visiting compatriots are always encouraged and welcome.

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

**Current Officers****Alan Brooking**

President (medical leave)

**Don Littlefield**

Acting President &amp; Treasurer

**Carl Ahlberg**

Vice President of Meetings

**Jim Faulkinbury**

Registrar &amp; Secretary

**Jeff Goodwin**

Chaplain

**Don Spradling**Photographer  
Guardian of the Flags**Neil Elvick**

Newsletter editor

**Committee Chairmen****Roy Adkins**

ROTC/JROTC Program

**TBD**

Eagle Scout Program

**TBD**

Americanism Poster Contest

**Carl Ahlberg**School Guard Coordinator &  
Brochure Contest**Mike Hull & Del Hansen**

Law Enforcement Program

**Michael Brady**

Calling Committee

**Phil Noble**

Meetings Cashier

**President's Corner Sept. 2017**

I hope everyone had a great summer traveling or just time spent with family and friends.

The speaker for our Fall meeting scheduled for Friday, September 15th is Commander Tom Jones, USN Retired. Tom is an SAR Member and a member of our Sacramento Chapter. We are thrilled to have him share his Naval experiences and his commitment to building young leaders through the Junior ROTC Program at Luther Burbank High School here in Sacramento.

Our chapter held a members-only meeting in August to discuss our plans for this Fall and the 2018 calendar year. We cannot deliver on our SAR Mission of being a patriotic, historical, and educational society without men committed to serving our chapter. We need men to fill the following positions, beginning immediately:

**Secretary:** This position keeps the minutes of our Monthly Meetings and meetings of the Executive Board. He maintains the Chapter membership roster recording all new, dropped, deceased, and transfers. He works with CASSAR Secretary and Registrar and the NSSAR.

**Americanism Poster Contest Chairman:** Work with 5<sup>th</sup> Grade teachers at Sacramento area elementary schools to schedule presentations of the SAR Americanism Poster Contests. The Chairman begins coordination with the schools in September. Presentations begin after January 1st. The contest is conducted in February/March, judged in April, and awards made in May.

**Eagle Scout Program Chairman:** This position presents Eagle Scout Recognition Certificate at Eagle Scout Courts of Honor to those young men who have achieved that rank. The Chairman also manages the Eagle Scout Scholarship Program.

**Courier Editor:** The Chapter newsletter, the Courier, is published 10 days prior to every meeting. The Courier contains news and information about recent and upcoming meeting activities and events.

Stop being a spectator and get down onto the field and become a participant! Anyone who can help in these areas should see, call, or email Don Littlefield, at (916) 985-6544 or at [dblittlefield@comcast.net](mailto:dblittlefield@comcast.net)

As a reminder, 2018 dues notices will be sent out the first part of October. When you receive the Dues Notice, return the completed form along with your 2018 dues and/or donation. There are no changes in the dues schedule from 2017.

Don Littlefield



**Don Littlefield**

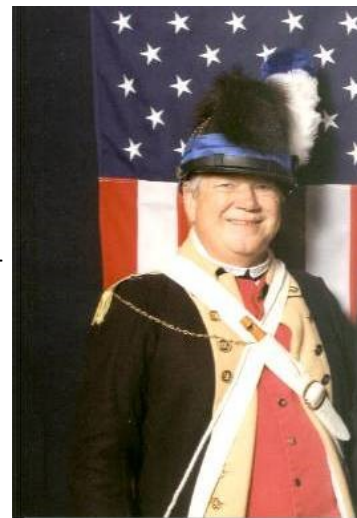
## Minutes from May 2017 Meeting

### 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

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 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).

(continued on the following page)

## Minutes Continued

(continued from preceding page)

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

## September Program Continued

(continued from page 1)

CDR Jones attended the University of Florida on a Navy ROTC scholarship and graduated in 1986 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Statistics. Following graduation and officer commissioning into the U.S. Navy, he reported to Pensacola, Florida for Naval Aviator flight training. CDR Jones subsequently served in eight squadrons across many diverse locations ranging from San Diego, California to Nova Scotia, Canada; Jacksonville, Florida and Washington, D.C. As a Naval Aviator, CDR Jones served as squadron Maintenance Officer, Operations Officer, Instructor Pilot and NATOPS Standardization Pilot. He has flown over 4,600 hours in tactical helicopters and fixed-wing aircraft including the mighty C-130 "Hercules."

In 2008, CDR Jones graduated from the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California with a Master's Degree in Systems Analysis. Concurrently, he earned a Certificate in Program Management while serving as Operations Research Analyst and Director of Future Programs for the Deputy Chief of Naval Operations, Chief of Naval Personnel.

During his final tour on active duty, CDR Jones served as Commanding Officer (CO) of Navy Operational Support Center (NOSC) Sacramento, California from Aug 2009 to July 2011. In his role as CO, he served as the U.S. Navy's Ambassador to Northern California and the California State Capitol community. CDR Jones retired in 2011 to Northern California and enjoys hiking, biking and traveling with his family.

CDR Jones has received numerous personal and unit awards for his service including three Meritorious Service Medals.



## Letter to Membership from Alan Brooking

By now most Sacramento Chapter members should know that Alan Brooking has stepped away from his duties as President of the Sacramento Chapter. His focus now is to tackle his throat cancer head-on with radiation and chemotherapy. As Alan's letter states *"My goal from the time I became a member of Sacramento Chapter was to be the chapter's President and give back to this tremendous organization."* Alan was serving as not only our Chapter President, he was also our Program Chairman for the Americanism Poster Contest. When Alan transferred into the Sacramento Chapter he immediately became our cashier at meetings and later became Registrar. If he tackles his treatments the way he and Susan jumped in and helped the Sacramento Chapter, he'll come out of this battle just fine. Our thoughts and prayers will be with Alan and Susan as his treatments progress. — Don Littlefield

Alan Brooking  
Telephone: 916.315.3799  
Email: abrooking33@me.com

August 30, 2017

Sacramento Chapter Membership  
Sons of the American Revolution  
Sacramento, CA



Dear Compatriots:

This is to let you know that I have been diagnosed with throat cancer. It is affecting my voice, my diet, and my energy. My medical team and I have decided on a course of treatment, beginning immediately, that will involve both radiation and chemotherapy to attack the cancer.

My goal from the time I became a member of Sacramento Chapter was to be the chapter's President and give back to this tremendous organization. I am so proud and so humbled by the confidence you have placed in me these past nine months.

Sacramento Chapter is so fortunate to have people ready to step in and fill the void created by its President having to move aside. There aren't words to express my admiration and gratitude to the Executive Board for their willingness to make this transition as seamless as possible for me and for you. What I will miss most during this hiatus is the camaraderie we enjoy as members of SAR. I certainly hope to be able to attend some activities and/or meetings. My hope is that my future once again includes full time participation in Sacramento Chapter activities.

Until then, I remain ever thankful for your support and kindness.

Sincerely,

## Events of the Summer

Photos by Don Spradling



Above is one view of the Memorial Day Parade at Sylvan Cemetery in Citrus Heights. Other pictures from the same parade appear below. The Chapter Color Guard has been participating in this event for the past several years. There is a solemn program presented at the end of the parade that includes a choir and several speakers. Then a salute is fired with the Civil War era guns. The Color Guard is in great demand for events like this.



More than 600,000 American soldiers died during the Civil War. Memorial Day observances were begun in the years following that war to commemorate the men and women who had died.

Veterans Day observed in each November, started after WWI, and commemorates all who served, not just those who died.





## Color Guard Parades

Photos by Don Spradling



More from the Memorial Day Parade at Sylvan Cemetery. Here maneuvering a corner. Not the easiest thing to do while marching

Standing at attention while commemoration is read at gravesite.



At the left SAR Chapter members ride the float in the Carmichael Independence Day Parade, which goes north up Fair Oaks Blvd. from Marconi Avenue. The SAR entry is given a place of honor at the head of the parade

## Stories from the Revolution

### The Continental Army — The First Eighteen Months

George Washington arrived in Cambridge, Massachusetts in July of 1775 to take command and organize the Continental Army. The Battle of Bunker Hill had been fought the previous month. He inherited an army that was poorly trained, poorly armed and inexperienced. Still, his army slightly outnumbered the British and the British had suffered heavy casualties at Bunker Hill and so a stalemate ensued. The British were unable to break out of Boston and the Continental Army was unable to dislodge them. The deadlock was broken during the ensuing winter when one of Washington's generals, a greatly under appreciated hero, Henry Knox, in the dead of winter brought the weapons abandoned during the French and Indian War at Fort Ticonderoga in upper New York State across country and through the Berkshire Mountains to the Dorchester Heights overlooking the city of Boston. The appearance of these heavy cannon looking down at them in Boston was enough to cause the British to leave without a shot being fired.

Washington then hurried on overland to New York. The British reorganized in Halifax, Nova Scotia and then proceeded to New York by sea. The British arrived in New York harbor in August 1776 with 400 ships carrying 32,000 men who landed on Staten Island. The subsequent engagements were mostly one-sided British triumphs. The Continentals were out maneuvered, outnumbered and outfought. Washington, though, distinguished himself by engineering two miraculous escapes from the British Army. First an overnight retreat across the East River from Brooklyn to Manhattan under cover of darkness, and then he repeated the feat



**Battle of Trenton Monument**



**Depiction of the Continental Army  
at the Battle of Trenton**

about a month later by escaping from Manhattan to New Jersey across the Hudson River.

After these military defeats and harrowing escapes, he was then pursued across New Jersey by the British army. With winter approaching Washington's army took refuge across the Delaware River in Pennsylvania and the British decided to take care of the situation in the Spring. By this time Washington's army had been reduced to a pitiful remnant and it was widely thought by most that the war was essentially over.

Washington had other ideas. He knew that a large part of his army would have their enlistments expire on December 31. Something dramatic had to be done. What then transpired shocked the world. The Christmas Day crossing of the Delaware River to New Jersey is legend. The Hessian mercenaries at Trenton were caught totally by surprise. It was a bitterly cold winter's night and two of Washington's soldiers actually

froze to death during the march, but they didn't lose a single man in the subsequent battle.

Then Washington had to do something about expiring enlistments. He wanted to attack General Cornwallis's rear guard at Princeton. On December 27, he assembled his troops and appeared before each Company to plead for men to extend their enlistments. The men were tired and cold and they had suffered many hardships. It was a hard sell, but largely successful. He then re-crossed the Delaware with his troops and attacked and won the Battle of Princeton on January 3, after which they retired to winter quarters at Morristown, New Jersey.

(Continued on following page)



## Stories from the Revolution continued

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There were wild celebrations around the country when the news of these accomplishments spread. General Washington was given new respect. His popularity had sagged with the succession of defeats in New York. After the misfortunes in New York and the subsequent retreats in New Jersey there had been increasing criticism of Washington and his leadership. But Trenton proved to be the turning point.

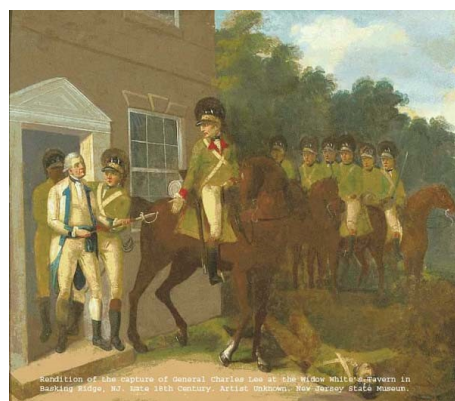
British historian Sir George Otto Trevelyan in his study of the American Revolution about one hundred years later commented on the soldiers at Trenton. "It may be doubted whether so small a number of men ever employed so short a space of time with greater and more lasting effects upon the history of the world."

### Friday the 13th: A Lucky Day for the Revolution

David McCullough, in his book, *1776*, published in 2005, describes Friday the 13<sup>th</sup> as an "an exceedingly lucky day for Washington and for his country." General Charles Lee had been a former British army general who had joined the American forces. General Lee considered Washington to be an inferior commander and wanted to see him replaced, preferably by himself. When the army was retreating across New Jersey in December of 1776, he was essentially loitering along the way. Washington was anxiously awaiting him and his troops to join him.

On the night of December 12 Lee separated from his troops and stopped at a tavern with about 15 of his men. The next morning on Friday the 13<sup>th</sup>, still in his dressing gown as he was writing a letter to General Gates blaming all his troubles on Washington, a scouting party of British cavalry that was directed to that tavern by a local Loyalist, appeared and took Lee and some of his men prisoner. The British were jubilant. As a British trained officer he was highly regarded by them and they considered his capture to be a crushing blow for the Americans and a true prize for themselves.

This was a low point for Washington and there were prominent men in the army and in Congress who wanted him replaced and Lee would have been a leading candidate. That he was taken out of action at this point was a lucky break for America. A disgruntled and incompetent Lee would have been a disaster. As it was, he was later involved in a prisoner exchange, and the following year, 1777, he was again commanding American troops at the Battle of Monmouth. His actions in that battle may have turned a potential victory into a standoff instead and he was later court-martialed and dismissed from the army for his conduct in the battle.



**Lee captured by the British at Widow White's Tavern**

### 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

October 20, 2017 — Regular Meeting  
7:00 PM at the Cattlemens Restaurant  
Speaker to be announced

September 15, 2017 — Regular Meeting  
7:00 PM at the Cattlemens Restaurant  
Speaker Commander Tom Jones, ROTC Instruc-

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

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Revolution**