



A MONTHLY PUBLICATION BY THE
MOTHER LODE CHAPTER OF THE SONS
OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

April 2023

Volume 18, Issue 2

Mother Lode Dispatch



American Flag Certificate



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Mayor Rodriguez was elected to the City Council in 2020 after serving on the Historic District Commission for three years. She previously served as a board member for the Folsom Chamber of Commerce, the Twin Lakes Food Bank, and the Folsom Economic Development Corporation. As a small business owner and former healthcare manager, Rosario understands that small businesses thrive with the support of the community and city government. In 2016, she launched a San Francisco-style taqueria in the Folsom Historic District, drawing on her background as a native of San Francisco.

On March 28th, 2023, Compatriot Don Littlefield informed the chapter that the CASSAR needed just 2 more flag certificates to be awarded before the April 15th deadline for the California Society to be eligible for the SAR Admiral William R. Furlong Award. The chapter flag committees and chapter members can present flag certificates to individuals, corporations, businesses, fire departments, police departments, schools, libraries, etc. that properly display the American Flag. Mother Lode Chapter President **Steve Belden** kicked into action to work with his home town contacts to find a worthy recipient of the certificate. The city of Folsom was more the willing to step up to received the certificate. In fact, Mayor was so delighted with the presentation, she asked if the color guard would be willing to return during a city council meeting and receive a commendation. President Belden is working on organizing the commendation.



Compatriots Tom Douglas, Steve Belden and Don Littlefield present the flag certificate to Mayor Rosario Rodriguez at the Folsom Council Chambers on April 11th, 2023.



Denny's Restaurant
3446 Coach Lane
Cameron Park, CA.
4th Tuesday - 6:30 PM

The 148th Annual Meeting of the Membership of California Society, Sons of the American Revolution was held at the Orange County Hilton Costa Mesa, California April 13-15, 2023. The first event was comprised of General Business Meetings, Awards Luncheons, a Memorial Service, CASSAR officer elections. and a formal black-



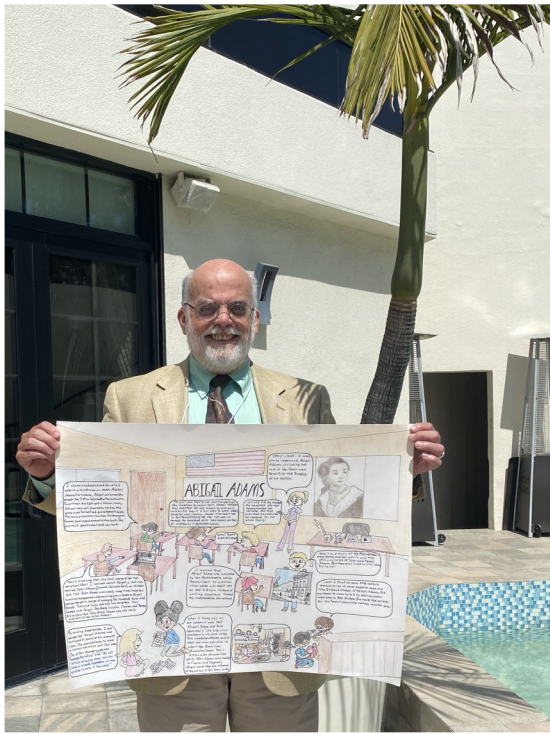
tie banquet to wrap up the conference Saturday night. The event also hosted the Western District Meeting and several Ladies' Auxiliary business sessions. There were several VIPs that attended to conference including past President General Joe Dooley (2013-2014), Secretary General John Dodd, Esq, Librarian Dr. Fred Olive, MD Surgeon General Dr. Keith Weissinger, VPG Western District Derek Brown, National Trustee Brian Stephens, Spain Trustee Stephen Renouf, George Wash-



ing Endowment Fund Chairman Edmon McKinley, Museum Board Chairman Dr. Kent Gregory, Foundation Board Chairman Dan McKelvie, Secretary Westerns District Rob Moor, and Professor Edward Larson of Pepperdine University who spoke on "Washington and the Newburgh Conspiracy" at the Saturday night banquet.

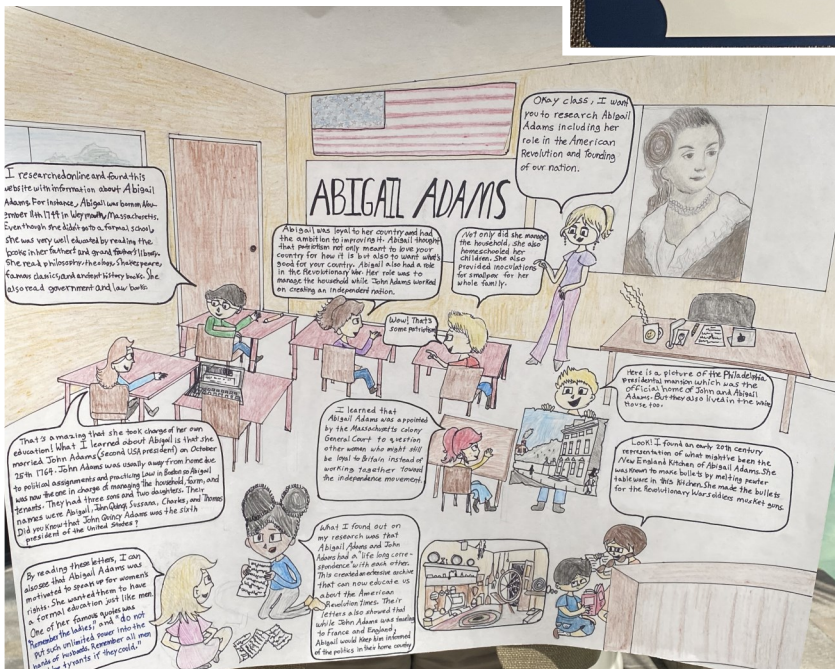


Top Left: Officer Daniel Gunter - CHP
Top Right: Chief Brian Fennessy - OC Fire
Middle Left: Phil Mitchel - OC Chapter President
Middle Right:
Don Littlefield -VP North,
Jim Klingler President CASSAR,
John Ferris - VP South
Lower Left: John Dodd, Esq. Secretary General



The Mother Lode chapter also took 1st place for the brochure contest.

Compatriot Kevin Tierney holds the Mother Lode’s poster submitted by the John Adam’s School of El Dorado Hills. The poster took 3rd place this year, up from 4th place last year.



JROTC: Cadet Harini Akurathi

Sea Cadet: Mason Nguyen

Eagle Scout: Robert McPhie

Brochure: Rebecca Platt

Essay: Erick Jacobson

Poster: John Adam’s Academy

Mother Lode Chapter Officers for 2022

President

Steve Belden

2nd Vice President

Kevin Tierney

Secretary

Tom Douglas

Treasurer

Bob Conover

Registrar

Open

Chaplain

Randy Keith

Historian

Open

Committee Chairmen

Eagle Scout Program

Open

ROTC Program

Open

Knight Essay Contest

Kevin Tierney

Valley Forge Program

Open

Law Enforcement Program

(Community Service Awards Banquet)

Open

Flag Certificate Program

Open

Americanism Poster Contest

Kevin Tierney

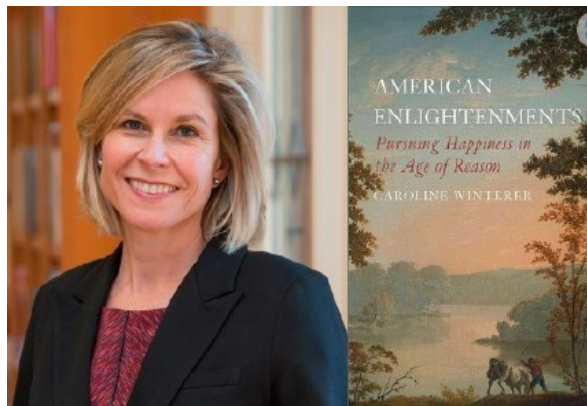
Web-Page

Steve Belden

Dispatch Editor

Steve Belden

On April 22nd, at the Grand Sheraton Sacramento the non-profit, American Heritage Partners, and co-sponsors CASSAR Sacramento, the Jamestown Society, and the Mayflower Society,



among others hosted Professor Caroline Winterer, Chair of the History Department of Stanford University. A dynamic speaker, she is well regarded as a leading expert on Benjamin Franklin and the American Enlightenment. In her book *American Enlightenments*, Professor Winterer provides a thought-provoking account of how Americans in the 18th Century came to be “enlightened” - not as the European Enlightenment envisioned it, but in our own American way, with a powerful emphasis on the “pursuit of happiness” - a concept literally written into our Declaration of Independence. What did that mean to Americans? Why did we fight a war against the greatest army in the world to gain it? How did our first settlers in the 17th and 18th centuries think about freedom? How is the “pursuit of happiness” relevant to today’s American experience? Professor Winterer offered her unique perspectives on these critical questions.



Don Littlefield presents Professor Winterer with a certificate of appreciation.

Editors Note: The statements and opinions expressed herein are solely those of the authors and do not necessarily state or reflect those of the Editor or of the California or National Societies, Sons of the American Revolution.



Mother Lode Chapter Meeting Minutes – March 28, 2023 Meeting at Denny's in Cameron Park



The meeting was called to order by President **Steve Belden** at 6:30PM. Compatriot **Don Littlefield** gave the invocation, and Secretary **Tom Douglas** led the Pledge of Allegiance and the SAR Pledge.

There were seven (7) **regular Chapter** members: **Bob Conover, Tom Douglas, and Steve Belden. Steve Almy** joined via Zoom. Dual chapter member **Don Littlefield** was also in attendance. Prospective member **Tim Voss** was in attendance.

President **Steve Belden** began the meeting by reviewing the meeting agenda with focus on key activities.

ELECTION & APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS:

Sergeant-at-Arms, Registrar, and Historian remain vacant.

NEW BUSINESS:

SAR Flag Certificates (email) - need 50% of chapters to do this. We need two more. Tom Douglas knows of a flag at the Rescue Community Center. April 15th is the final date. Sac just did Folsom Cordova School Dist. Just need a picture and notify Don. Tom has 7 certificates & Frame.

Copy Right Laws (see Don Littlefield's email 3/20/23). Per SAR Chancellor General: review websites and remove any images that might have copyright protection.

Bylaw Change Proposals for April 2023 Annual Meeting (email) - officers must be members; ethics committee, etc. Will review results after CASSAR Spring Meeting.

April 22 Luncheon - Caroline Winterer speaking on "American Enlightenment" (email).

\$45. President **Steve Belden** to send out information to all chapter members. Link to the website with CC payment.

Compatriot **David Schafer** of the Cape Code Chapter is asking for a copy of the SAR Member Recruitment brochure. (email). President **Steve Belden** will forward email from Cape Code Chapter to Secretary **Tom Douglas**.



Mother Lode Chapter
Meeting Minutes – March 28, 2023
Meeting at Denny's in Cameron Park



REPORTS:

President's Report: President **Steve Belden** updated his last conversations with Patriot **Tom Adams**.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer **Bob Conover** reported that the chapter currently has over \$4,430 in the account.

Secretary's Report:

Secretary **Tom Douglas** is still working with Insurance Co. to ensure we pay the annual premium (not due yet)

Secretary **Tom Douglas** distributed the year-end inventory.

Secretary **Tom Douglas** shared a thank you note from the Herbert Green Middle School.

Secretary **Tom Douglas** noted that John D'Agostini letter is asking for a contribution to child safety educational program. No action taken.

Youth Activities: 2nd Vice President **Kevin Tierney** was not present

Dispatch Editor: President **Steve Belden**, reported the next *Dispatch* will be sent out after he has new material (perhaps after the Spring Meeting).

OLD BUISINESS:

Secretary **Tom Douglas** sent in the Annual Report for the Mother Lode Chapter to CASAR Secretary **Fred Schuster** on March 9th.

President **Steve Belden** will attend the Spring Meeting in Costa Mesa - Hilton. April 14-15, 2023

Article VIII Section 7: President **Steve Belden** noted that the bylaws Article VIII Section 7 states that the new Chapter Officers must be reported to the State Society no later than January 1st. That date is incorrect. Tom Douglas will confirm the correct date, which is later in the month). The bylaws must be updated to reflect the correct date, and this requires a quorum to vote.

Genealogy Rules: **Doug Drake** had earlier reported that there are new rules for genealogy proof. Secretary **Tom Douglas** to review and share.

Bag Pipes: Chaplain **Randy Keith** will continue to investigate a bag pipe musician to play at the Community Awards Banquet.

Secretary **Tom Douglas** provided President **Steve Belden** with a copy of an Outstanding Chapter Report.



Mother Lode Chapter Meeting Minutes – March 28, 2023 Meeting at Denny's in Cameron Park



Meeting Management:

Wi-Fi: President **Steve Belden** will continue to work with Denny's to resolve the wi-fi issue to improve user experience.

Community Awards Banquet:

We need to create invitations. Need samples and volunteer to help create and send out.

Results of Compatriot **Don Littlefield's** area code search - did not identify new names for invitations to awards banquet.

Sheriffs: Treasurer **Bob Conover** spoke to Sheriff Jeff Leikauf - he wants to sponsor 3 people. Office (jail), Civilian, Sworn Officer

Secretary **Bob Conover** will speak to Placerville PD Chief Wren.

Secretary **Bob Conover** continues to work on contacting someone at CHP who can help identify award recipients.

CDCR - President **Steve Belden** reached out to Officer Craig Lee CDCR (ret.) on the possibility of accepting an award at the 2023 Community Awards banquet.

CASSAR President as a speaker at the Awards Banquet.

Secretary **Bob Conover** will reach out to Mountain Democrat - Karen Baumgardner about photographer and reporter for the awards banquet.

The caterer Ring of Fire confirmed they can do extra ribs!

Attendees discussed the general timeline of the Awards Banquet.

Call Assembly to Order - 3 min

Invocation - 2 min

Present the Colors / Present Arms - 5 min

Pledge of Allegiance - 3 min

Pledge to the SAR - 2 min

Introduction of Guests - DAR, SAR, Officers, VIPs, guests - 10 min.

Dinner/Desert – 45 min

Plate clearing - 10 min

Guest Speaker - 10 to 15

Awards Ceremony 5 minutes per awardee (30 min)

SAR Recessional - 3 min

Benediction - 2 min

Join in the singing of God Bless America! - 2 min

Total Time = 1 hour 45 minutes



Mother Lode Chapter Meeting Minutes – March 28, 2023 Meeting at Denny's in Cameron Park



Prospects and Membership:

Capital Air Show: President **Steve Belden** spoke to Capital Air Show - Phil Pacific. \$1,500 for bare bones. Steve to check with other chapter presidents if they are interested.

Service Organizations: President **Steve Belden** to reach out to Sacramento on possibility of partnering with Sacramento chapter to use speaker series for membership drives.

Officer Daryl Miller: Treasurer **Bob Conover** to see if Officer Miller is still interested in genealogy help.

Secretary **Tom Douglas** confirmed he is still working on Registrar work for **Tim Voss**.

Chapter Website:

President **Steve Belden** removed any images that might infringe on copyrights.

National and CASSAR activities:

President **Steve Belden** will attend the spring meeting which will be in Costa Mesa - Hilton. April 13-15, 2023.

250's History Minute:

Treasurer **Don Conover** shared the story of when he was visiting his patriot's grave site in New Hampshire, and at the historical society he found a photo of him from 1939 when he was 3-month-old baby. Need photo!

CLOSE OF MEETING

Compatriot **Don Littlefield** gave Benediction and Secretary **Tom Douglas** led the SAR Recessional and singing of "God Bless America". The meeting was adjourned at 7:57 PM.

*Minutes compiled from notes provided by President **Steve Belden**.*

Respectfully edited and submitted,

Steve Belden, President



Mother Lode Chapter Meeting Minutes – February 28, 2023 Meeting at Denny's in Cameron Park



The meeting was called to order by President **Steve Belden** at 6:30 PM. Compatriot **Don Littlefield** gave the invocation, and Secretary **Tom Douglas** led the Pledge of Allegiance and the SAR Pledge.

There were seven (7) regular Chapter members: **Bob Conover, Sam Bradley, Tom Douglas, and Steve Belden**. **Doug Drake, Randy Kaiser, and Brian Sonner** joined via Zoom for the first 40 minutes of the meeting. Dual chapter member **Don Littlefield** was also in attendance.

President **Steve Belden** began the meeting by reviewing the meeting agenda with focus on key activities.

ELECTION & APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS:

Steve Belden reported that **Doug Drake** regrettably informed chapter President Steve Belden that he would no longer be able to serve as the Mother Lode chapter Treasurer. **Tom Douglas** nominated **Bob Conover** to the position of Treasurer which was Seconded and brought to the floor for a vote. Bob Conover was unanimously voted into the position of Treasurer for 2023. **Tom Douglas** noted that he would file and amended Officer Induction report to CA Society Secretary compatriot **Fred Schuster**, who will then file with National.

Don Littlefield then presided over the induction of **Bob Conover** into the position. Sergeant-at-Arms, Registrar, and Historian remain vacant.



Mother Lode Chapter
Meeting Minutes – February 28, 2023
 Meeting at Denny's in Cameron Park
 - Continued -



NEW BUSINESS:

Community Awards Banquet -

Date: A tentative date of October. Tues. 24th which coincides with our regular chapter meeting date. We will have a chapter vote on the date in March or April.

Speaker: We need a speaker for the event. We are open to ideas.

Caterer: We agreed that the **Ring of Fire** should still do the catering. **Steve Belden** will reach out to confirm.

Volunteers: We agree that the Explorers and CA Air Patrol Cadets should still participate in the event. We need **Mike Metz** or **Doug Drake** to reach out to them.

Sheriff Dept. Bob Conover will reach out to the new Sheriff with the tentative date. We agreed to seek 2 people to award from the Sheriff's Dept.

CHP and Placerville PD: Bob Conover indicated that someone needs to show up in person to speak to a representative. Bob Conover will plan to do this. Bob needs to educate new commanders on the SAR.

Fire: It appears that since COVID the fire Depts is not participating.

CDCR: Steve to reach out to **Officer Craig Lee** again.

Banquet Bright Ideas: We agreed not to mail out tickets again. Attendees will need to RSVP with advance payment. We will still support ticket sales at the door.

Invitation and a card:

Who has a sample of **Tom Chilton's** invite from several years ago?

We need a volunteer to design the invitation and card.

Invitation List - goes out to the Sac Chapter.

Don Littlefield to research a potential customer list for the surrounding area.

Other Ideas:

Create a timeline of events.

Create a layout of how activity proceeds (approach from the right, exit left, then photo by flags, etc.)

Make sure we provide a background of who the SAR is and what we do.

Pick a member to speak about their Patriot (like **Steve Almy** did)

Have a table with interesting artifacts (Brown Bess, Sward, Powder Horn, etc.)



Mother Lode Chapter
Meeting Minutes – February 28, 2023

Meeting at Denny's in Cameron Park
 - Continued -



REPORTS:

President's Report: **Steve Belden** mentioned his conversation with **Tom Adams**. Tom shared his Patriot's story with **Steve Belden** and also expressed his hopes and suggestions for the 2023 Community Awards Banquet.

Treasurer's Report: Assistant Treasurer **Bob Conover** reported that the chapter currently has over \$4,680 in the account (less \$250 accrued for Brochure Contest).

Secretary's Report: Secretary **Tom Douglas** has been working on Registrar work for **Tim Voss**.

Youth Activities: 2nd Vice President **Kevin Tierney** was not present

Dispatch Editor: **Steve Belden**, reported the January *Dispatch* was sent out along with minutes the January Meeting Minutes.

Tom Douglas will provide **Steve Belden** with a copy of an Outstanding Chapter Report.

OLD BUISENESS:

SAR Filings and Reports:

Tom Douglas reviewed the 2023 Audits deadline for DOJ - May 13, 2023. **Mike Metz**, who previously volunteered to be the auditor was not present. The item was items was tabled until **Mike Metz** returns April.

Tom Douglas will complete the on-line IRS 990-n (Income Tax Return) - due May 13, 2023.

Tom Douglas will complete the Franchise Tax Return Tax Return - due May 15, 2023.

Tom Douglas will complete the Charitable Org. Annual Registration - due May 13, 2023

Tom Douglas will complete the CA Secretary of State Info Filing - due with every change in officers, and at least every other year.

Meeting Management:

Zoom: **Don Littlefield** will provide Zoom meeting series that the Mother Lode Chapter can use moving forward. The meeting will support 2 hours 30 minutes of meeting time and 100+ attendees.

Wi-Fi: **Steve Belden** will continue to work with Denny's to resolve the wi-fi issue to improve user experience.



Mother Lode Chapter
Meeting Minutes – February 28, 2023

Meeting at Denny's in Cameron Park
- Continued -



Prospects and Membership:

Capital Air Show: **Steve Belden** sent a follow-up enquiry to the Capital Air Show to get information on rates and requirements.

Service Organizations: **Steve Belden** contacted Rene Morales - President of the Folsom Chapter of Shiners/Masons on the possibility of speaking at an event. Steve Belden to look at the option of partnering with Sacramento chapter to ensure sufficient participation. Steve will reach out to Adam Morale - President of the Sac CASSAR chapter.

Officer Daryl Miller: **Bob Conover** to see if Officer Miller is still interested in genealogy help.

Tom Douglas confirmed he is working on 3 applications.

Chapter Website:

Steve Belden removed images of individuals under the age of 18 and received approval to use the images of Randy Keith's grandson. Updated chapter officer's images.

Article VIII Section 7: **Steve Belden** noted that the bylaws Article VIII Section 7 states that the new Chapter Officers must be reported to the State Society no later than January 1st. That date is incorrect. Tom Douglas will confirm the correct date, which is later in the month). The bylaws must be updated to reflect the correct date, and this requires a quorum to vote.

Genealogy Rules: **Doug Drake** had earlier reported that there are new rules for genealogy proof. **Tom Douglas** to review and share.

Bag Pipes: **Randy Keith** will continue to investigate a bag pipe musician to play at the Community Awards Banquet.

Brochure Contest: **Kevin Tierney** has not heard back from past Brochure participants. He will continue to monitor the situation.

Poster Contest: **Kevin Tierney** is currently looking at Poster Contest materials to provide to the John Adam Academy.

Kevin Tierney will need to report on the 2022 Brochure and Poster expenses. Kevin will provide the Treasurer with the expenses so they can be reported to the CA DOJ.

Homeschools: **Kevin Tierney** will learn more about the County Office of Education's Homeschool program to determine if there is an opportunity to expand contest participation.



Mother Lode Chapter
Meeting Minutes – February 28, 2023
Meeting at Denny's in Cameron Park
- Continued -



NATIONAL AND CASSAR ACTIVITIES:

The spring meeting will be in Costa Mesa - Hilton. April 13-15, 2023. It is the expectation that the chapter President attend the meeting. **Steve Belden** will check his calendar to see if he can attend.

250's HISTORY MINUTE:

Don Littlefield shared a short bio on John Adams.

MEMBER ANNOUCEMENTS:

Bob Conover celebrated the birth of his great granddaughter Elaina. 8 lbs. 4 oz.

COMMENTS by GUESTS:

Tom Douglas confirmed Tim Vass would like to be a Sargent of Arms as an Associate Member.

CLOSE OF MEETING

Compatriot **Don Littlefield** gave Benediction and **Tom Douglas** led the SAR Recessional and singing of "God Bless America". The meeting was adjourned at 7:53 PM.

Minutes compiled from notes provided by Steve Belden.

Respectfully edited and submitted,

Steve Belden, President