



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

February 2024

Volume 19, Issue 1

Mother Lode Dispatch



2024 Officers Swearing In
Ceremony Feb 27, 2024



Inside this issue:

Cover	1
President's Message	2-3
Youth Activities	4-5
America 250	6
February Minutes	7-10
January Minutes	11-15



**CASSAR President of N. CA Don Littlefield
swears in 2nd term President Steve Belden and
long standing Secretary Tom Douglas**



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

President's Message

2023 in Review

President's Annual Report: We held nine (9) regularly scheduled meetings and successfully executed our Annual Community Awards Banquet honoring local, county, and state first responders. Chapter members participated in several SAR events. Three members met with the Mayor of Folsom CA to present her with the SAR Flag Certificate. Several Chapter members marched in the Folsom Hometown Parade celebrating our nation's birthday, and in the Folsom's Veteran's Day Parade. We presented Colors at the El Dorado County Memorial Day and Veterans Day Ceremonies; The Chapter was represented at the Folsom VFW Color Guard presentation of the Veteran's Day wreath laying ceremony, including additional wreath laying at local cemeteries for Wreaths Across America. I attended the Nevada City's Constitution Day put on by The Gold Country Chapter. The Chapter also joined forces with the Sacramento chapter to hand out SAR information, and answer questions at the Freedom Coalition's Constitution Day. I, along with an aspiring Eagle Scout, presented colors at the DAR's District II Fall Meeting. The Mother Lode Chapter also restarted its speaker program and invited a local historian and expert on the John Studebaker Wheelbarrow Races. The races are held each year at the El Dorado Country Fair and honors the local contributions of the family. The Chapter's Newsletter, the Dispatch, and meeting minutes were published on a regular basis; and the Website and Facebook page were maintained with current events, photos, and information. Unfortunately, we did not induct any new members in 2023. However, we have several active applications and returning members in 2024.



President Steve Belden

The Chapter suffered a tremendous loss with the passing of our beloved Tom Adams. Tom was a past chapter president, and the brainchild of the Sgt. Moses Adams National Brochure contest (which we won on the year before his passing). He is also responsible for the erection of the Marlborough MA monument honoring its men who fought in the Revolutionary War

President's Message

2023 in Review

~ continued ~

Membership Summary:

Number of members as of December 31, 2023	22
Number of members as of January 1, 2022	23
Number of members as of January 1, 2023	23
New members in 2023	0
Reinstatements in 2023	0
Number of drops in 2023	0
Deceased in 2023	1

Financial Information:

Dues collected in 2023:

Dues to CASSAR	\$ 380.00
Dues to NSSAR	\$ 950.00
Dues Collected	\$ 1,615.00

Chapter Assets:

Total non-cash assets per the Chapters Year-end Inventory, \$1,906.00



Mother Lode's Youth Activities

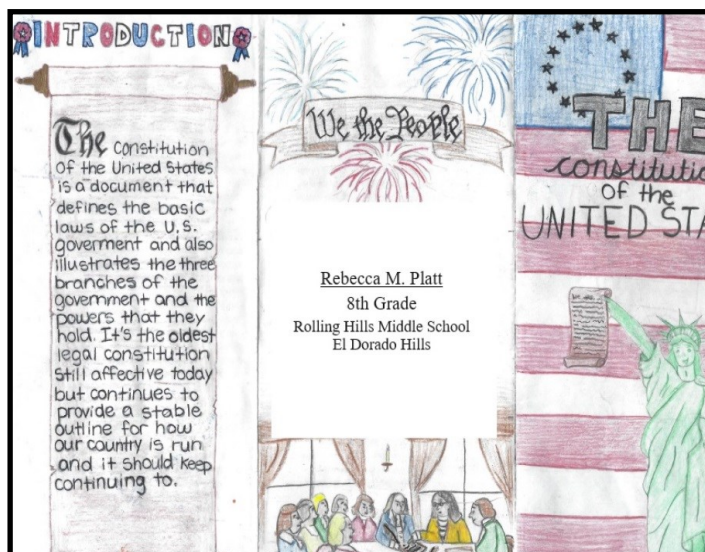
A Message from Kevin Tierney—Youth Activities: In 2023 the Mother Lode Chapter participated in the Poster Contest as well as the Brochure Contest. Posters were submitted by John Adams Academy in El Dorado Hills. The posters totaled 120 entries from 4 different teachers at John Adams Academy. Prizes were awarded as follows: 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place in chapter, 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place in school, 1st place in each class and 11 honorable mentions. The winning chapter poster went on to the state competition and placed 3rd in California. The brochure contest had three entries, all from Rolling Hills Middle School. Prizes were awarded as follows: 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place in chapter as well as school. The winning entry went on to the California state competition and took 1st place. In the national competition, California's entry took 1st place.



Kevin Tierney

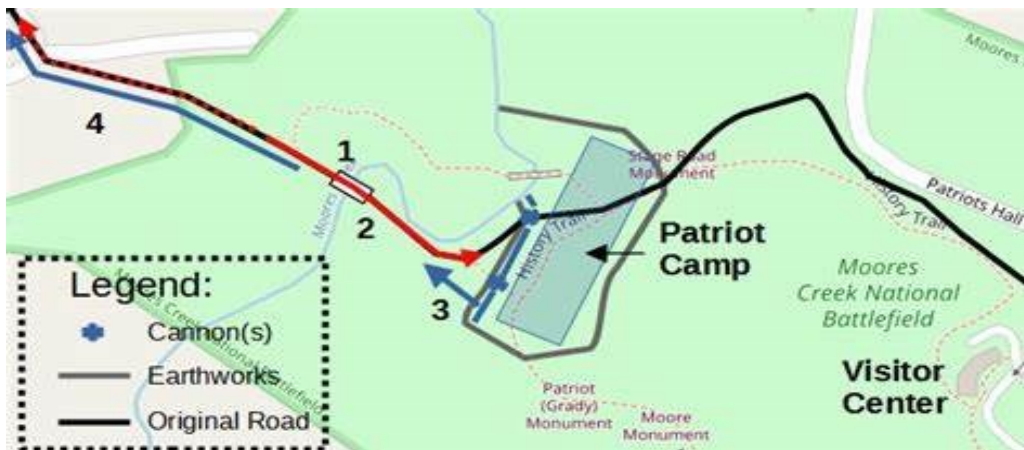
While the Americanism Poster Contest begins at the local level, students' masterpieces may eventually be judged and monetarily awarded at the national level in June at the annual SAR Congress.

The National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) invites all 3rd, 4th, and 5th grade students interested in the American Revolution to participate in the Americanism Elementary School Poster Contest. The contest is open to public school, parochial, home schooled, Scouting, or Children of the American Revolution member students in that same grade range. Young artists with an enthusiasm toward art, a love of American history, or a passion in creative expression can submit their posters to their local SAR chapter for competition.



AMERICA 250 Minute:

The **Battle of Moore's Creek Bridge** was a minor conflict of the American Revolutionary War fought near Wilmington (present-day Pender County), North Carolina, on **February 27, 1776**. The victory of the North Carolina Provincial Congress' militia force over British governor Josiah Martin's and Tristan Worsley's reinforcements at Moore's was a turning point in the war; American independence was declared less than five months later.



Loyalist recruitment efforts in the interior of North Carolina began in earnest with news of the Battles of Lexington and Concord, and patriots in the province also began organizing for the Continental Army and militia. When word arrived in January 1776 of a planned British Army expedition to the area, Martin ordered his militia to muster in anticipation of their arrival. Revolutionary militia and Continental units mobilized to prevent the junction, blockading several routes until the poorly armed loyalists were forced to confront them at Moore's Creek Bridge, about 18 miles (29 km) north of Wilmington.

In a brief early-morning engagement, a charge across the bridge by sword-wielding loyalists was met by a barrage of musket and artillery fire. Two loyalist leaders were killed, another captured, and the whole force was scattered. In the following days, many loyalists were arrested, damaging further recruiting efforts. North Carolina was not militarily threatened again until 1780, and memories of the battle and its aftermath negated efforts by Charles Cornwallis to recruit loyalists in the area in 1781.

Date	February 27, 1776
Location	Near Wilmington (present-day Pender County), North Carolina 34°27'28"N 78°06'35"W
Result	North Carolinian victory
Belligerents	
 North Carolina	 Great Britain
Casualties and losses	
1 killed	50 killed or wounded
1 wounded ^[1]	850 captured ^[1]



Meeting Minutes – February 27, 2024



The meeting was called to order at 6:33 pm
Steve Belden led the Invocation *, Pledge of Allegiance, and the SAR Pledge

Attendance: Steve Belden, Tom Douglas, Mike Metz, and Don Littlefield

Officer's Reports:

- President Report:

\$500 matching donation from Doug Drake is in progress; Steve noted that the Folsom PD is available for a flag certificate. Chapter website and Facebook have been updated.

- Treasurer's Report: Provided by Secretary Tom Douglas

Bank balance \$2,847.66

- Secretaries Report:

Secretaries Report - Filings are in good state, several applications in progress, State Secretary, State site - Officers

- Youth Programs:

Poster Contest

No brochures - Due March.

- Old Business:

Officer inductions: Steve Belden and Tom Douglas were sworn in as President and Secretary, respectively, by Don Littlefield.

2023 Audit— Mike Muetz agreed to conduct the 2023 audit.

2024 Community Awards Banquet Planning: Guest Speaker

A current SAR Officer can be a speaker.

Larry Brasher Sacramento chapter - Youth Education, Freedoms Forward.

Sue Frost - Country Supervisor — Speakers on the Constitution

Col. Thomas Eden Carpenter - US Airforce Ret

Col. Joseph Scheimer - US Airforce Ret

Milt Bandera, N. Korean POW (chapter meeting speaker)



Meeting Minutes – February 27, 2024 ~ continued ~



New Business:

- Member Participation

Don Littlefield noted the low participation by chapter members and reminded everyone present that there is a minimum expectation of chapters members to participate in meetings and related activities. Steve Belden and Tom Douglas agreed to address the situation with chapter members.

- Annual Meeting

Mother Lode members approved to donate \$500 to Sacramento to help with the cost of hosting the annual meeting.

- Youth Genealogy:

Mother Lode members reviewed a request from a individual wanting the Mother Lode chapter to post a web-link in its chapter website to a commercial play ground retailer site that hosted a hidden page with youth genealogical resources and additional links. The senders email registration could not be verified. The item was not put to a vote, and the link will not be shared.

Announcements:

- Annual Meeting

On April 26 and 27, 2024, Northern California will host the California Society SAR Annual Meeting at the Hyatt Regency Burlingame. Meeting Registration is now available.

- Daughter of the American Revolution (DAR)

Steve Belden shared an invitation from Sally Long Johns for the SAR to attend an event on Wednesday March 13th 11 am to 1 pm at the Family History Center (known to most of us as the LDS Center on Cedar Ravine) 3275 Cedar Ravine Placerville, CA. 5th or 6th Graders from Teacher Brenda's (sorry, I don't know her last name) class at Herbert Green School will demonstrate/practice what they have learned in their studies. SAR's role was not clearly defined.



Meeting Minutes – February 27, 2024 ~ continued ~



Announcements:

CA Society Of Pioneers - The society reached out to SAR President to share news about its launch of its brand-new California Pioneer Certificate Program. which honors California's history and early pioneers. This program offers both lineage certification and an extensive database dedicated to eligible pioneers. Eligible pioneers must meet one or more of the following requirements: Lived in California prior to Statehood in 1850; Lived in an historic Gold Rush county between 1848 and 1860; Resided in San Francisco County during the 1906 Earthquake; Were recorded in a California Mission document before 1850.

Steve Belen led the SAR Recessional, Benediction *, and singing of God Bless America
The meeting was **adjourned at 7:26 pm.**



Meeting Minutes – February 27, 2024 ~ continued ~



* Note:

Invocation—This prayer is read aloud each day at Mount Vernon's public wreath laying ceremony.

I now make it my earnest prayer, that God would have the United States in his holy protection, that he would incline the hearts of the Citizens to cultivate a spirit of subordination and obedience to Government, to entertain a brotherly affection and love for one another, for their fellow citizens of the United States at large, and particularly for their brethren who have served in the Field, and finally, that he would most graciously be pleased to dispose us all, to do Justice, to love mercy, and to demean ourselves with that Charity, humility and pacific temper of mind, which were the Characteristics of the Devine Author of our blessed Religion, and without an humble imitation of whose example in these things, we can never hope to be a happy Nation. Amen

Benediction - A PRAYER BY GEORGE WASHINGTON

At the close of the Revolutionary War in 1783, George Washington wrote to the thirteen governors to disband the army and send his troops home. He included a prayer that God would “dispose us all to do justice, to love mercy” and love one another. This foundational prayer by our nation’s first leader for his soldiers and his people is worth remembering as we honor their costly sacrifices for the independence of our country.

Here is the full version of his letter to the Governors requesting that his troops be sent home:

Circular Letter Addressed to the Governors of all the States on the Disbanding of the Army, June 14, 1783

"I have thus freely declared what I wished to make known, before I surrendered up my public trust to those who committed it to me. The task is now accomplished. I now bid adieu to your Excellency, as the chief magistrate of your State, at the same time I bid a last farewell to the cares of office and all the employments of public life.

It remains, then, to be my final and only request that your Excellency will communicate these sentiments to your legislature at their next meeting, and that they may be considered the legacy of one, who has ardently wished, on all occasions, to be useful to his country, and who, even in the shade of retirement, will not fail to implore the divine benediction on it. I now make it my earnest prayer that God would have you, and the State over which you preside, in his holy protection; that he would incline the hearts of the citizens to cultivate a spirit of subordination and obedience to government, to entertain a brotherly affection and love for one another, for their fellow-citizens of the United States at large, and particularly for brethren who have served in the field; and finally that he would most graciously be pleased to dispose us all to do justice, to love mercy, and to demean ourselves with that charity, humility, and pacific temper of mind, which were the characteristics of the Divine Author of our blessed religion, and without an humble imitation of whose example in these things, we can never hope to be a happy nation." Amen -- General George Washington



Meeting Minutes – January 23, 2024



Mother Lode Chapter
Meeting Minutes
January 23, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm

Steve Belden led the Invocation*, Pledge of Allegiance, and the SAR Pledge

Attendance: Steve Belden, Tom Douglas, Bob Conover, Stephen Almy, Doug Drake, Kevin Tierney, Randy Keith, Sam Bradley, Guest Tim Voss

Old Business

2023 Annual Awards Banquet

Election of Officers

Annual Meeting - Receive additional feedback from Stephen Almy. Would like to improve the rib quality in 2024

Matching Funds – Doug Drake will mail Steve Belden \$500 to be used for the FT matching donation program.

Elected Officers: The following individuals were elected to the following executive positions.

Chancellor: Doug Drake

President: Steve Belden

Recording Secretary: Open

Registrar: Tom Douglas as acting Registrar.

Secretary: Tom Douglas

Treasurer: Bob Conover

Vice President: Sam Bradley



Meeting Minutes – January 23, 2024 ~ continued ~



Appointed Officers: The following individuals accepted the appointment into the were elected to the following positions.

Chaplain: Randy Keith

Color Guard Commander: Russ Kaiser

Dispatch Editor: Steve Belden

Historian: John Krahn (Tom to reach out to John)

Genealogist: Open

Newsletter Editor: Steve Belden

Web Master: Steve Belden

Youth Activities Director: Kevin Tierney

New Business

Spring Meeting - reviewed data and times. Event registration will be forthcoming

2024 Community Awards Banquet Planning - Guest Speaker

Speaker Series - Tabled

Flag Certificates - Tabled

Officer's Reports

Presidents Report:

The Medal and Certificate for Heroism was presented to the Secretary's Office at the CDCR headquarters.

The Mother Lode Web Site and Facebook was updated with photos from Annual Award's Banquet and meeting minutes.

Treasurer's Report - \$2,700 "+ change "

Secretaries Report:

Continues to work on several applications.

Reports and Filings - In Progress (Tom Douglas and Bob Conover)

Annual Report to CASSAR (Auditor) - Steve Belden will complete it by March 1, 2024.

Insurance - Current policy is good until May 2024.



Meeting Minutes – January 23, 2024 ~ continued ~



Youth Programs: Kevin has 25 posters from John Adam's Academy. He will bring the best to the February meeting to put to a vote for which one will go to the CASSAR Annual Meeting. Kevin is looking for cost effective alternatives for medallions and ribbons. We are also running low on chapter pins.

Announcements:

On April 26 and 27, 2024, Northern California will host the California Society SAR Annual Meeting at the gorgeous Hyatt Regency SFO, Burlingame. The hotel sits immediately adjacent to San Francisco Bay on Old Bayshore Highway. Burlingame is a safe and beautiful city in San Mateo County, 17 miles south and a world away from Baghdad by the Bay, San Francisco. Hotel reservations at the group rate of \$158/night. Parking is \$10 per day with unlimited in/out rights. Meeting Registration will be available after January 1, 2024, once meal prices have been set. You can book the hotel room now.

America 250

January 9, 1776 - Thomas Paine's "Common Sense" is published in Philadelphia. The 50-page pamphlet is highly critical of King George III and attacks allegiance to Monarchy in principle while providing strong arguments for American independence. It became an instant best-seller in America. "We have it in our power to begin the world anew...American shall make a stand, not for herself alone, but for the world," Paine states.

Holiday Celebrations during the Revolutionary War

As a Dutch colony, New York homes had the potential of smelling fantastic during the winter holiday season. Since many of the spices used in Speculaas were quite expensive at the time, families might only be able to make small batches of this tasty treat, especially in areas far from commercial ports and easily accessible cities, such as New York City and Albany. During the American Revolution, a treat such as this may have been enjoyed by the officers as they entertained throughout the winter encampment season. A traditional wooden Speculaas mold (speculaasplank) is in the form of Sinterklaas, or St. Nicholas. The cookies are left by Dutch children as a special treat for Sinterklaas when he visits on St. Nicholas Day Eve.

What you'll need:

- 1 ½ c. brown sugar
- 1 cup unsalted butter, softened
- 1 egg
- 1 ½ teaspoons ground cinnamon
- 1 teaspoon baking powder





Meeting Minutes – January 23, 2024 ~ continued ~



½ teaspoon ground cloves

½ teaspoon nutmeg

3 cups flour

Preheat oven to 375 degrees F/175 degrees C. Dust 2 baking sheets with flour. Combine brown sugar and butter, beat with electric mixer until light and fluffy. Beat in egg, cinnamon, baking powder, cloves, and nutmeg. Add flour one cup at a time until a nice stiff dough is formed. (We added a bit extra, so it held the details of the mold while it was baking.) Shape cookies with a mold or cutter or roll into balls and flatten. Bake in preheated oven for 10-15 minutes, depending on the thickness of the cookies. They should be firm, but not hard.

Steve Belden led the SAR Recessional, Benediction*, and singing of God Bless America.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm

* **Note:**

The Invocation is the first prayer of the Continental Congress, 1774 - Reverend Jacob Duché

Rector of Christ Church of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

September 7, 1774, 9 o'clock a.m.

“O Lord our Heavenly Father, high and mighty King of kings, and Lord of lords, who dost from thy throne behold all the dwellers on earth and reignest with power supreme and uncontrolled over all the Kingdoms, Empires and Governments; look down in mercy, we beseech Thee, on these our American States, who have fled to Thee from the rod of the oppressor and thrown themselves on Thy gracious protection, desiring to be henceforth dependent only on Thee. To Thee have they appealed for the righteousness of their cause; to Thee do they now look up for that countenance and support, which Thou alone canst give. Take them, therefore, Heavenly Father, under Thy nurturing care; give them wisdom in Council and valor in the field; defeat the malicious designs of our cruel adversaries; convince them of the unrighteousness of their Cause and if they persist in their sanguinary purposes, of own unerring justice, sounding in their hearts, constrain them to drop the weapons of war from their unnerved hands in the day of battle!

Be Thou present, O God of wisdom, and direct the councils of this honorable assembly; enable them to settle things on the best and surest foundation. That the scene of blood may be speedily closed; that order, harmony and peace may be effectually restored, and truth and justice, religion and piety, prevail and flourish amongst the people. Preserve the health of their bodies and vigor of their minds; shower down on them and the millions they here represent, such temporal blessings as Thou seest expedient for them in this world and crown them with everlasting glory in the world to come. All this we ask in the name and through the merits of Jesus Christ, Thy Son and our Savior. Amen”.



Meeting Minutes – January 23, 2024 ~ continued ~



The Benediction is a prayer given by George Washington as is used regularly at “The President's Chapel” of the George Washington University and voices the aspirations of the University for the fulfillment of civic duties and the promotion of national welfare.

“Almighty God: We make our earnest prayer that Thou wilt keep the United States in Thy holy protection; that thou wilt incline the hearts of the citizens to cultivate a spirit of subordination and obedience to government and entertain a brotherly affection and love for one another and for their fellow-citizens of the United States at large. And finally, that Thou wilt most graciously be pleased to dispose us all to do justice, to love mercy and to demean ourselves with that charity, humility and pacific temper of mind which were the characteristics of the Divine Author of our blessed religion without a humble imitation of whose example in these things we can never hope to be a happy nation. Grant our supplication, we beseech Thee, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.”