



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

May 2023

Volume 18, Issue 3

Mother Lode Dispatch



American Flag Certificate



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On Monday, May 29th at the El Dorado County Government Offices, Mother Load compatriots Doug Drake, Sam Bradley, Mike Metz, Mike's wife Judy, and myself came together at the war memorial site to remember and honor those whom made the ultimate sacrifice for our country. We were joined by active service members and veterans, and their friends and family, several service organizations, state and county officials, VIP guests, and many local residence who wanted to show their respect.

I came with my son so he could get a better idea of the meaning behind Memorial Day, and to take photos and notes for this edition of the Dispatch. I quickly found myself holding the American Flag for the entire duration of the event, leaving it to my son to take photos, and taking no notes whatsoever!

The event started at 11:00am with a Call to Order by the OIC.Sgt. at Arms and then the Presentation of Color by the SAR, DAR, veterans, BSA, and the Civil Air Patrol Squadron 85. In a two column procession we marched up the main aisle



Our dedicated Mother Lode Chapter Chancellor Doug Drake resting before the procession began (right)



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

and to the elevated ramp along the backside of the memorial wall, to create a wall of patriotic flags blowing gently in the warm breeze. Compatriot Doug Drake came prepared with a flag harness.

After the Pledge of Allegiance, we all enjoyed the National Anthem by the Ponderosa High School Chamber Choir followed by a fly-over by the WWII era T-6 “Texan” Warbirds lead by flight leader Chuck Wahl.

Chaplain Lt. Colonel Tim Thompson, USAR (Ret.) lead the Invocation before Master of Ceremonies LCDR Peter Wolfe, USCGR (Ret.) proceeded with introducing the Choir and officials making their official Proclamations:



~ *** ~

State of California: Cal Vet Deputy Secretary of Communications - Lindsey Sin

~ *** ~

El Dorado County: District Two Supervisor George Turnboo

~ *** ~

City of Placerville: Mayor Michael Saragosa

~ *** ~

After scholarships were presented to several local high school students we were captivated by the story of our Guest Speaker Major Drew Dela Cruz, who piloted a fully loaded USAF C-17 during the August 22, 2021, helping evacuate more than 114,000 Afghanistan refugees. His harrowing story (next page) earned him the Distinguished Flying Cross.



The Distinguished Flying Cross is a military decoration of the United States Armed Forces. The medal was established on July 2, 1926, and is currently awarded to any persons who, after April 6, 1917, distinguish themselves by single acts of heroism or extraordinary achievement while participating in aerial flight.



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



Guest Speaker Major Drew Dela Cruz *USAF-DFC*

August 22, 2021, more than 100 massive cargo aircraft were tasked with evacuating 114,000 refugees from Afghanistan, including the USAF C-17 piloted by, then, Captain Dela Cruz. His C-17, call sign Reach 651, was circling above Al Udeid Air Base in Qatar with 450 Afghan refugees aboard. The plane had been aloft for hours, had only one small toilet and no air conditioning as it flew through stifling subtropic air and ... it was running low on fuel.

The crew had been briefed earlier in the day that saboteurs planned to attack Hamid Karzai International Airport in Kabul possibly by suicide bombers so the crew had taken extra precautions to search everyone coming on board.

While the aircraft was waiting for landing clearance, a 16-year old mother began convulsing then fell unconscious. To better care for the woman away from the cargo bay, Capt. Dela Cruz ordered she be brought to the flight deck.

As the crew took her to the flight deck, two Afghan men tried to force their way to the front to gain entry to the cockpit. A Security Staff Sergeant physically restrained one of them as a loadmaster pulled the other away, thus defusing the possible attack on the flight crew. A female Sr. Airman saved the life of the young woman while a Lieutenant barricaded the cockpit door. Capt. Dela Cruz declared a medical emergency and was given immediate clearance to land. With extreme skill and assistance from another pilot, Dela Cruz was able to navigate the jammed tarmac and get the stricken woman to a waiting ambulance.

Dela Cruz' poise, sound decisions and command authority aboard Reach 651 led to his being awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for a single act of heroism and extraordinary achievement in aerial flight. Seven other members of the crew of Reach 651 were similarly recognized.


Dela Cruz' parents, El Dorado Hills residents, Jill and Rick are justly proud of their son's actions. Rick Dela Cruz points out the last mission son Drew flew out of Kabul was his "proudest moment". His C-17 was full of United States Marines, and he was proud to get the marines out and back to safety.

A graduate of Oak Ridge High School in 2012 and the USAF Academy, Major Dela Cruz is stationed at Travis AFB where he resides with his wife, Janessa.

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.

El Dorado County Veterans Monument Memorial Day Ceremony

**May 29, 2023
11:00 a.m.**

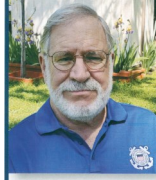


2023 MEMORIAL DAY CEREMONY
is hosted by
*El Dorado County Veterans Alliance
Friends of the El Dorado County Veterans Monument, Placerville.*

*"To honor and remember all who served
and made the ultimate sacrifice".*

11:00 CALL TO ORDER: OIC/Sgt. at Arms
PRESENT COLORS: CAP Squadron 85 Color Guard
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:
NATIONAL ANTHEM: Ponderosa High School Chamber Choir
FLYOVER: Flight of WWII era T-6 "Texan" Warbirds. Flight leader Chuck Wahl
INVOCATION: Chaplain Lt. Colonel Tim Thompson, USAR (Ret.)
MASTER OF CEREMONIES: LCDR Peter Wolfe, USCGR (Ret.)
CHORUS: Service Anthems, Ponderosa High School Chamber Choir
PROCLAMATIONS:
State of California: Cal Vet Deputy Secretary of Communications Lindsey Sin
El Dorado County: District Two Supervisor George Turnbo
City of Placerville: Mayor Michael Saragosa
PRESENTATION OF SCHOLARSHIPS: Janet Buchanan
GUEST SPEAKER: Major Drew Dela Cruz, USAF DFC
SPECIAL MUSIC: Ponderosa High School Choir under the direction of Craig Mason
WREATH CEREMONY: Captain Jack Babbitt, Guests
THREE VOLLEY RIFLE SALUTE: Combined Veterans Rifle Team
TAPS: Victor Mansfield, Commandant Marine Corps League (Sgt Sky Mote) det 697
REFLECTIVE MUSIC: Ponderosa High School Chamber Choir.
BENEDICTION: Chaplain Lt. Colonel Tim Thompson, USAR (Ret.)
RETIRE THE COLORS:
Thank you for attending and, Veterans, THANK YOU for your service.
eldoradocountyveterans.org

Guest Speaker
Major Drew Dela Cruz
USAF-DFC



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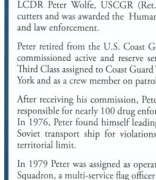
As the crew took her to the flight deck, two Afghan men tried to force their way to the front to gain entry to the cockpit. A Security Staff Sergeant physically restrained one of them as a loadmaster pulled the other away, thus defusing the possible attack on the flight crew. A female St. Airman saved the life of the young woman while a Lieutenant barricaded the cockpit door. Capt. Dela Cruz declared a medical emergency and was given immediate clearance to land. With extreme skill and assistance from another pilot, Dela Cruz was able to navigate the jammed tarmac and get the stricken woman to a waiting ambulance.

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A graduate of Oak Ridge High School in 2012 and the USAF Academy, Major Dela Cruz is stationed at Travis AFB where he resides with his wife, Janessa.

Master of Ceremonies
Peter Wolfe
Lieutenant Commander,
USCGR, Retired



LCDR Peter Wolfe, USCGR (Ret.) served as an officer on high endurance cutters and was awarded the Humanitarian Service Medal for search and rescue and law enforcement.

Peter retired from the U.S. Coast Guard in 1998 with 22 years of enlisted and commissioned active and reserve service, his enlisted service was as a Yeoman Third Class assigned to Coast Guard Training Command in California and New York and as a crew member on patrol boats assigned to the Pacific Area.

After receiving his commission, Peter was a team member or Boarding Officer responsible for nearly 100 drug enforcement boardings and vessel seizures at sea. In 1976, Peter found himself leading a boarding party which seized a 611-foot Soviet transport ship for violations of the newly established U.S. 200 mile territorial limit.

In 1979 Peter was assigned as operations officer for the Commander, Southeast Squadron, a multi-service flag officer responsible for the U.S. Navy, Coast Guard and Air Force response to the Cuban refugee crises and the Mariel Boat Lift.

LCDR Wolfe was Executive Officer of the Coast Guard Air Station in Sacramento, California, conducting search and rescue and law enforcement operations throughout the Pacific from Southern California to Alaska.

As a reserve officer, Peter was recalled to active duty and ordered to Alaska to assist in the clean up operations related to the grounding of the MV Exxon Valdez.

In civilian life, Peter is an architect and building inspector. Notably, LCDR Peter Wolfe is the Architect for the El Dorado County Veterans Monument. Peter and his wife, Karen have four adult children. Peter is a member of the board of The El Dorado County Veterans Alliance.

Issuing the proclamation for the State of California is Lindsey Sin



United States Navy Veteran Lindsey Sin serves as Deputy Secretary of Communications for CalVet. After graduating from high school in Sacramento, Lindsey enlisted in the US Navy and served from 1997 until 2005 as a Cryptologic Technician Interpreter in the Arabic language. She completed two flight tours in Rota, Spain during which time she deployed in support of Operations Northern Watch, Southern Watch, Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom. She worked with veterans at Sacramento State and served as Vice President of the Veterans Alumni Association. She resides in Sacramento with her husband and two children.



Photo courtesy of SCA-TV2 and Laurie Edwards.

A formation of renewed T-6 "Texan" Warbird aircraft presents three flyovers in tribute to veterans. The ceremony opens with an eastbound direction, the aircraft fly westbound over the monument during the National Anthem and return eastbound a few minutes later in a "missing man" formation. The "missing man" aircraft, by tradition, breaks off from the group and flies west while the rest fly east.

Leading the flight is flight leader, Chuck Wahl, joining the flight are: Jim Eberhardt, Terry Yarbitt and Jim Booth. Booth will be performing the "missing man" maneuver.

Issuing the proclamation for the City of Placerville is George Turnbo District Two Supervisor



With ancestors in El Dorado County since the 1840s, El Dorado County District Two Supervisor George Turnbo continues a family legacy of service. For several generations, the Turnbo name has been associated with service to the country and community. Several of Supervisor Turnbo's ancestors have served in various branches of the military with honor and distinction.

George has been a local business owner for over 40 years.



WELCOME HOME

Planned for placement at the El Dorado County Veterans Monument, to the left of the entrance walkway, is a statutory portraying a joyous return from duty for two El Dorado County members of the U.S. Armed Forces.

Standing will be a life-sized male figure dressed in fatigues like those worn by the U.S. Army, Air Force and Coast Guard. Kneeling will be a female figure dressed in fatigues similar to those worn by the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps. Rating and warfare badges will be obscured intentionally, so that the figures can represent anyone. A Labrador retriever, symbolizing the joy that family and friends have over the return of their service men and women, will be running joyously toward the veterans.

Artist Rip Caswell, famed for his portrayals of military themes and figures, will sculpt the statutory based on the concept conceived by Friends of the Veterans Monument. Welcome Home will represent the welcome that some never got, but which through the statutory will never end.

To learn how you can help place Welcome Home at the El Dorado County Veterans Monument, visit eldoradocountyveterans.org

History of the El Dorado County Veterans Monument
Dedicated Veterans Day 2006

El Dorado County Veterans Alliance/Friends of the Monument

Officers and Board of Directors

President Gay Campbell USAF-CANG	Director Greg East USAF
Vice President Jack Babbitt USMC	Melba Melton RN-USA
Treasurer Mary Richardson	Yara Perous USA
Honorary Members Christine Wirtzer-Folsom Lake College Veterans Program Laurie Hyman-Spoonline Hospice	Tim Thompson USA Mike Williams-UNN Peter Wolfe-USCG
Members Emeritus Richard Buchanan NC-USMC Martin Safford USA John Pomatoia-UN	Special Recognition El Dorado County Facilities Serra Monuments CAF Cadets EDC Sheriff's Explorers Area Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts and their leaders Ponderosa High School-Chorus-Floral Frank Yost-Sound

El Dorado County Veterans Organizations

• American Legion, Post 119	• Marine Corps League,
• Disabled American Veterans, Post 63	• Sgt Sky Mote Det 697
• El Dorado County Department of Veterans Affairs	• Paul Harber Services 39
• Fleet Reserve Association 275	• Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 2680
• El Dorado County Veterans Alliance/ Friends of the Monument	• Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 5241
	• Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 10165

A copy of the Memorial Day Ceremony brochure is available on the Mother Lode website.

<https://motherlodesar.org/>



Mother Lode Chapter Meeting Minutes – May 23, 2023 Meeting at Denny's in Cameron Park



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

There were five (5) regular chapter members: **Steve Belden, Bob Conover, Tom Douglas, Steve Almy, and Mike Metz** 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, and Historian remain vacant.

New business:

Per **Mike Metz** the Placerville Memorial Day Ceremony will be at the government center on May 29th. Steve to send the word out to have members come in uniform.

- **Doug Drake** has already confirmed his attendance in uniform and **Russ Kaiser** sends his regrets.
- There is a flag procession, and the SAR will display our flags. The Ceremony starts at 11am and ends at noon. Plan on parking between 10 and 10:15, It gets crowded.
- The local DAR chapter will be there as well.
- **Mike Metz** indicated his chapter bank ATM is expiring in June. **Steve Belden** should be added to the Umpqua Bank account. **Bob Conover** will need to work with **Steve Belden**.

Old business:

Craig Lee has agreed to receive an award on behalf of his colleagues at the Valley State Print CDCR, and those who were with him during his heroic actions at the 2017 Las Vegas shooting.

- **Steve Belden** proposed **Craig Lee** to be our VIP guest of honor speaker and award recipient. Chapter agreed with this idea.
- **Craig Lee** may not have a sponsor and **Steve Belden** will read his introduction.
- **Tom Douglas** - should he receive Hero or Law Enforcement Medal? **Tom Douglas** to investigate the best to award and frame.
- **Tom Douglas** needs to know how to present the certificate and medal. **Steve Belden** to reach out to **Craig Lee** to ask for his preference.



Meeting Minutes – May 23, 2023

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Article VIII Section 7: Bylaw Amendment. **Tom Douglas** sent out the notice on May 4th recommending the language change from Jan 1st to Jan 31st.

- **Tom Douglas** says all responded in support of the recommendation.
- **Tom Douglas** made a motion to change bylaws
- **Mike Metz** seconded the motion.
- Motion passed 5/0
- **Tom Douglas** provided **Steve Belden** a copy of the updated Amendments. **Steve Belden** to post to website.

Banquet:

- See bottom of minutes for the current Banquet Roles and Responsibility list.
- **Tom Douglas** has the insurance rider for liability coverage using Post 119 for **Mike Metz**.
- Per **Mike Metz**: Explorers will do the set up and take down of the tables and chairs and serving of the meal they just need to know what to do. They will make sure the kitchen is clean and the main floor is swept.
- **Mike Metz** will also line up the Civil Air Patrol for the flag presentation.
- **Mike Metz** brought in American flags to be used for the table decorations.
- Tablecloths - **Sam Bradley** still has the tablecloths. **Steve Belden** to reach out to **Sam Bradley**.
- Table Center Piece. **Steve Belden** to investigate options and budget.
- **Mike Metz** confirmed the American Legion Hall 119 schedule October 26, 2023, for the banquet date.
- **Mike Metz** to negotiate the rental agreement after the negotiation.
- SAR President **Steve Belden** will need to sign the agreement.
- **Bob Conover** we will write 2 checks: \$200 for hall rental and \$115 to cover the bar.
- **Bob Conover** - do they want a deposit? **Mike Metz** Probably not.
- **Mike Metz** to see if the hall will waive the fee for the kitchen and the hall cleanup.
- **Steve Belden** requested Pro-Forma for extra ribs and 50 PPL from **Ring of Fire**. Final budget based on headcount.
- The Chapter agreed that will mail out RSVP to purchase tickets ahead of the banquet or at the door. We will need a cash box.
- The Chapter agreed we will need an entry choke point using long tables to control the flow of people lining up to enter and present tickets.
- **Bob Conover, Tom Douglas, Diane, Judy Metz** will be responsible for entry control.



Meeting Minutes – May 23, 2023

~ continued ~



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- **Bob Conover**, **Tom Douglas**, Diane, **Judy Metz** will be responsible for entry control.
- **Steve Belden** will design tickets and **Tom Douglas** will be able to print.
- **Steve Belden** will design the brochure and **Tom Douglas** to investigate with **Steve Belden** on where he printed.
- **Bob Conover** - we want a chapter member sitting at every table if possible.
- Explorers need a diagram to help Hall setup - TBD
- Ensure we set up an area for photographs that includes the flags.
- Matre'd and Ticket Collector will essentially be in the same role. Welcome people as they come in. Enforce ticket presentation and payment. **Judy Metz** and **Diane** can help instruct them to their table.
- **Steve Belden** will be relieved of any operational duties to focus on acting as Master of Ceremonies.
- Mountain Democrat - **Michael Raffety** 530-651-3286
- Photographer - TBD

Other Old Business:

- Membership: **Tim Voss's** application is still in progress. Another gentleman had prepared an application and **Tom Douglas** is working with **Tim Voss**.
- Recruitment: CA Airshow - rec'd response back on the idea of participating. Sacramento Chapter respectfully declined to participate with no reason given. I plan to reach out to the other 2 chapters - Gold Country & Delta.
- Speaker Program: **John Zachary** has confirmed he will present on the history of the Studebaker Wheelbarrow Races at the El Dorado County Fair on June 27th. **Steve Belden** to send out a chapter memo.
- Color Guard: **Steve Belden** shared with the chapter his newly acquired Revolutionary War coat appropriate to his patriot.



Meeting Minutes – May 23, 2023

~ continued ~



- Flag Certificates: **Steve Belden** sent a thank you letter to the City of Folsom for accepting the Flag Certificate. **Steve Belden** will reach out to the Folsom Mayor's office again at some point in time to discuss receiving a commendation from the City of Folsom.
- Flag Certificate: El Dorado Hills Sheriffs. **Tom Douglas** needs proper verbiage. Folsom PD, American Legion Post.
- SAR Youth Training - **Steve Belden** could not log in to the training site.
- Meeting Effectiveness: Discussed other venues that might work. Applebee's is not an option. **Steve Belden** to continue to work with **Bernard at Denny's** as the recent fiber optic upgrade did not resolve the issue.

Officer Reports:

President's Report:

- **Tom Douglas** and **Steve Belden** to review Annual Registration, UA100, Statement of Officers, Statement of Information for clarity.

Treasurer's Report:

- \$3,940.00 less \$365 = \$3,575.00
- \$365 for insurance check issued
- We need a budget for Medals
- We need a budget for Challenge Coins
- **Bob Conover** - Should we consider a silent auction? Sheriff Jeff L. is willing to donate an item at the banquet.

Secretaries Report:

- **Tom Douglas** updated a communication from **Don Littlefield** about the Benevity Corporate Grant from an Intel employee. **Tom Douglas** to complete the online registration. This appears to be a corporate matching program.



Meeting Minutes – May 23, 2023 ~ continued ~

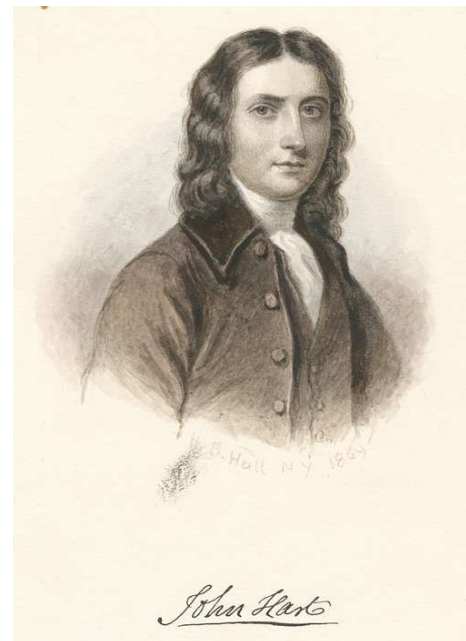


American 250:

John Hart (circa 1713 – May 11, 1779) was an American Founding Father, farmer, and politician in colonial New Jersey. As a delegate to the Continental Congress, Hart signed the Declaration of Independence.^[2] He died several years before the end of the Revolutionary War while still active in patriotic efforts.

In December 1776, the British advance into New Jersey reached Hunterdon County. A marked man because of his status as speaker of the Assembly, Hart was obliged to escape and hide for a short time in the nearby Sourland Mountains. His farm was raided by British and Hessian troops, who damaged but did not destroy the property. The Continentals' capture of Trenton on December 26 allowed Hart to return home. Prior to the Battle of Monmouth, Hart invited General George Washington and the Continental Army to make camp on his farm, and his offer was accepted. From June 22 to 24, 1778, 12,000 men occupied his fields, and on at least one occasion Washington dined with Hart.

Today there is a marker for John Hart's Cave where he was in hiding from the British. During this time his estate ransacked by Hessians, and was subsequently ruined financially. He died in 1779. <https://www.ushistory.org/declaration/signers/hart.html>





Meeting Minutes – May 23, 2023 ~ continued ~



Announcements:

The 2024 Spring Meeting (April 25-28) will be at the Burlingame Hyatt on the SF Bay. Sacramento Chapter will host. \$159 per night!

Fall Board of Manager's meeting will be held Nov 4-6. IT will be hosted by the Harbor Chapter at the Queen Mary in Long Beach CA.

Wreaths Across America & Boston Tea Party Anniversary - December 17 (1773).

SAR Recessional - led by **Steve Belden**

Benediction - led by **Steve Belden**

God Bless America - led by **Steve Belden**

Adjourn at 7:57pm

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

Respectfully edited and submitted,

Steve Belden, President



Meeting Minutes – May 23, 2023

~ continued ~



Priority	Task / Responsibility	Person	Notes
1	Venue	Mike	American Legion Post
2	Date		October 26th, 2023
3.1	Agency 1 Sheriff	Bob C	
3.2	Agency 2 Police	Bob C	
3.3	Agency 3 CHP	Tim V	
3.4	Agency 4 Corrections	Steve B	
4	Meal Chairperson	Steve B	
6	Venue Chairperson	Mike M	
8	Matre'd	Bob C & Tim V	Will monitor front door
9	Servers (Explorers?)	Mike M	
10	Color Guard Chair Civ Air Patrol	Mike M	
11	Ticket & Brochure designer	Steve B	Tom can print and research
12	Gatherer of photos and bios of awardees	Bob & Steve	
13	Table Decorations/pre-seating cards	Steve	Steve to create center piece
14	Hall Setup	Explorers	Explorers - need diagram
15	Ticket collector at door	Diane and Judy	
16	Master of Ceremonies	Steve B	
17	Obtain Awards	Tom D	
18	Mountain Democrat		Michael Raffety 530-651-3286
19	Photographer		



Mother Lode Chapter Meeting Minutes – April 25, 2023 Meeting at Denny’s in Cameron Park



The meeting was called to order by President **Steve Belden** at 6:35PM. Compatriot **Don Littlefield** gave the invocation, and President **Steve Belden** led the Pledge of Allegiance and the SAR Pledge.

There were seven (7) regular Chapter members: **Bob Conover, Tom Douglas, Mike Metz, and Steve Belden. Russ Kaiser** 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:

Tom Douglas was elected Registrar so he can access parts of the SAR Blue system. Sergeant-at-Arms, Registrar, and Historian remain vacant.

NEW BUSINESS:

CASSAR Spring Meeting Review:

Steve started off with a review and discussion of the CASSAR Spring Meeting.

CASSAR - Youth Awards:

- Rebecca Platt — Brochure Contest - 1st place winner! Rebecca is from Rolling Hills Middle School. Rebecca won the State contest. **Kevin Tierney** believes her brochure will be competitive at the national level. There was a total of 3 submissions for the Mother Lode Chapter. The Brochure was voted by internet prior to the CASSAR Spring Meeting.
- Camilla Johnson- Poster Contest - 3rd place winner! Camilla is from John Adams Academy. The decision on who gets to present at the state conference is by the participating teachers. Dave Gilliard noted the high quality. **Kevin Tierney** said the quality was better because the instructions were better this year. She placed 3rd out of 1,000 of state-wide poster submission. 122 posters were submitted to the Mother Lode chapter. The Poster was voted for by the Committee at the CASSAR Spring Meeting.
- Cadet Mason Nguyen, US Naval Sea Cadets — Outstanding Sea Cadet Award
- Robert McPhie, BSA Eagle Scout — Outstanding Eagle Scout absent. Robert is the fourth brother to be awarded at State, and one brother may have one national
- Grayson Cooper, Gold Ridge Elementary — Americanism Poster Contest
- Eric Jacobsen — Knight Essay Contest - absent



Meeting Minutes – April 25, 2023

~ continued ~



CASSAR - 1st Responder Awards

- Chief Brian Fennessy, Orange County Fire — SAR Fire Safety Medal
- Officer Daniel Gunter, CHP — SAR Law Enforcement Medal

Other Awards

Craig Van Doren, Honor Flight — SAR Bronze Good Citizenship Medal

Don Littlefield was recognized for his America 250 Awards (Silver for State and Gold for National)

CASSAR Spring Meeting General Discussion:

- **Tom Douglas** questioned who determines the State level Award recipients? Per **Don Littlefield** the host chapter generally gets to name the awardees. They need to be local to the event to ensure in-person participation.
- **Steve Belden** and **Don Littlefield** reviewed all Bylaw changes. All proposed Amendments passed. Most "as stated". Bylaw No. 3. approved as amended "Only members in good standing of the SAR shall hold elected and non-elected positions within the chapter".
- **Steve Belden** and **Don Littlefield** spoke about the SAR Education Center and Museum and some of the neat features they propose to have including an immersive 3-dimensional recreation of the North Bridge Battle. Use the link below to learn more.

<https://www.sar.org/nssar-education-center-and-museum/>

- **Don Littlefield** spoke about Wreaths Across America (held on the same day as the Boston Tea Party Anniversary - December 17, 1773). Area chapters usually support the sites at the Dixon National Cemetery. It's about wreath laying, and not so much about Color Guard, anymore.
- **Mike Metz** commented on the Youth Training Certification. No longer using BSA, its SAR requirements. 20 minutes to complete. <https://www.sar.org/courses/youth-protection-training/>



Meeting Minutes – April 25, 2023

~ continued ~



CA State Elected Officers:

- President James Klingler
- Executive Vice President Donald B. Littlefield
- Vice President North Randy Dhindsa
- Vice President South John Ferris
- Vice President Membership Scott Whitman
- Secretary Christopher Cerillo
- Treasurer Kevin Bidekap
- Registrar Terry L. Briggs
- Chancellor Michael R. Hirman, Esq.
- Genealogist David Morrow
- Historian M. Scott Brooks
- Chaplain Rev. Scott Elliott
- Surgeon Dr. Matthew Bowdish, MD

Other Items:

- **Don Littlefield** noted the 2024 Spring Meeting (April 25-28) will be at the Burlingame Hyatt on the SF Bay. Sacramento Chapter will host. \$159 per night! Great price. No reason not to attend.
- **Don Littlefield** and **Steve Belden** discussed the outcome of the April 22 luncheon with Caroline Winterer speaking on "American Enlightenment". While the speaker was excellent, the marketing and participation must improve. See April Dispatch for the story.
- 1-hour Long Interview hosted by the "Commonwealth Club" Caroline Winterer: Historian Of America's Ideas
- 8 Minute TEDx lecture (w/ intro) The pursuit of happiness | Caroline Winterer | TEDxStanford

See April Dispatch for more information on Caroline Winterer

- **Don Littlefield** updated everyone on the SAR Flag Certificate initiative (Admiral William R. Furlong Award). 14 out of 24 CA chapters were awarded a flag certificate. The CASSAR was awarded a streamer from national. Chapters should continue to reach out to people, agencies, etc.
- **Color Guard:** Mayor of Folsom - Rosario Rodriguez's offer for a city commendation, and Color Guard presentation. **Steve Belden** will follow up with the mayor's office in due time. Steve is working on procuring a coat that represents his Patriot. **Bob Conover** was questioning about Marine uniforms and does the San Diego chapter have a good contact. Steve to reach out to San Diego Chapter.



Meeting Minutes – April 25, 2023

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Officer Reports:

President's Report:

- **Steve Belden** said that he has texted Tom Adams and shared recent photos. **Tom Douglas** mentioned that he will be having breakfast with Tom Adams on May 35th. We eagerly wait to hear his report.

Treasurer's Report:

- Treasurer **Bob Conover** reported that the chapter currently has over \$4,430 in the account. Outstanding check for \$25 Attorney Journal - \$3,960.50.
- **Steve Belden** gave **Bob Conover** a CASSAR check for \$45 - life membership refund.

Secretary's Report:

- **Tom Douglas** and **Bob Conover** met at Tom's place and reviewed and completed the CT-TR-1 — Annual Treasurer's Report for the Accounting Year.
- **Tom Douglas** indicated we lost \$555 from the Community Banquet.
- **Tom Douglas** indicated that only chapters that earn more than \$2M per year must perform a formal audit.
- **Tom Douglas** received confirmation of receipt: IRS 990-n (Income Tax Return) online. Due May 13, 2023 (Tom D.) Generally, no issues if net income is under \$25K
- **Tom Douglas** received confirmation of receipt: Franchise Tax Return (form #199N e-postcard) Due May 15th - Generally no issues if net is under \$25K.
- **Tom Douglas**: Only Registrar can access certain parts of the National Roster (Blue Database). We do not have a legal registrar to access. Nomination from the floor to elect Tom Douglas was given and seconded by **Kevin Tierney**. All present voted in favor of Tom Douglas to serve as chapter Registrar.
- Secretary **Tom Douglas** is still working with Insurance Co. to ensure we pay the annual premium (Due May 2023). \$365. Sprint Brook Insurance. RVNA. General Liability.



Meeting Minutes – April 25, 2023

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• Youth Activities:

- The theme for next year's Poster Contest will be the Boston Tea Party.
- **Kevin Tierney** heralds "Go to your nearest middle school and sell the contest!!". Kevin notes that Eric Perkin's class supports the contests as extra credit work.
- **Kevin Tierney** also emphasized the difficulty in coordinating with the county home school system, and that Camarillo Springs (Rob Flowers - ret.) has not responded back to our inquiries.
- **Tom Douglas** recommends we should investigate Catholic Holly Trinity School.

OLD BUSINESS:

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.
- **Tom Douglas**: this requires a 30-day notice to all chapter members. Then vote, amend, update chapter records. Tom will send out notice.
- **Tom Douglas** received confirmation of receipt: Franchise Tax Return (form #199N e-postcard) Due May 15th - Generally no issues if net is under \$25K.
- **Tom Douglas** indicated that the Mother Lodes state registration is only due every 5 years.
- Question to **Don Littlefield**, does the UA-100 address the registration requirements. Per Don, if key officers change or mailing address changes then you should re-register. This needs to be confirmed.
- Per **Tom Douglas**, there was no audit because we did not receive more than \$2million.

Meeting Management:

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



Meeting Minutes – April 25, 2023

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Community Awards Banquet:

- Date: Is October 24th still the desired? **Mike Metz** to check the schedule of the American Legion availability - 10/26 or 10/23.
- **Mike Metz** - do we want a bar? Yes. Need copy of general insurance for ABC Lic.
- **Tom Douglas** to request from, Rebecca (American Legion) to send same thing as last year.
- **Mike Metz** - we need a contract from the American Legion.
- **Mike Metz**. Mike will confirm Hall Deposit requirements.
- **Per Bob Conover** - we paid our insurance annual premium in March of 2022. We should pay before 5/15/23.
- Sheriffs: Treasurer **Bob Conover** spoke to Sheriff Jeff Leikauf - he wants to sponsor 4 people. Correction Officer (Law Enforcement Award), Civilian (Citizen Award), Sworn Officer (Law Enforcement Award), Dispatcher (Law Enforcement). We need bio, picture - no later than the 1st of September.
- Police: Secretary **Bob Conover** will speak to Placerville PD Chief Wren. They will sponsor someone, probably a detective.
- CHP: Secretary **Bob Conover** continues to work on contacting someone at CHP who can help identify award recipients. No progress. Can we reach out to **Jim Young?** **Tom Douglas** to try to reach Jim.
- CDCR - President **Steve Belden** to see if Officer Craig Lee CDCR (ret.) on the possibility of accepting a group award (vs. an individual award) at the 2023 Community 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! **Steve Belden** to obtain a new pro-forma invoice.
- Roles and Responsibilities: Next meeting with need to go over the roles and responsibility assignment sheet to assign task to members. **Steve Belden** will bring copies for everyone.
- Logistics and Timing: Attendees confirmed the general timeline of the Awards Banquet. Start Time 7pm. Total Time = 1 hour 45 minutes.
- Speaker: Should we have the CASSAR President as a speaker at the Awards Banquet? If not, then who?



Meeting Minutes – April 25, 2023

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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. **John Zachary** as a potential speaker on the history of the Studebaker.
- Officer Daryl Miller: Treasurer **Bob Conover** to see if Officer Miller is still interested in genealogy help.
- In-Progress: Secretary **Tom Douglas** confirmed he is still working on Registrar work for **Tim Voss**.

Chapter Website:

Updated with Photos of 1st place Brochure

National and CASSAR activities:

Fall Board of Manager's meeting will be held Nov 4-6. IT will be hosted by the Harbor Chapter at the Queen Mary in Long Beach CA.

American 250:

Did you know that the current flag with 50 stars was designed by a high school student as part of a contest put forth by the Eisenhower administration. The young man who won the contest was **Bob Heft**. While he won the contest and his flag flew over the US Capital, he received only a B- from his sewing teacher.

SAR Recessional - led by **Steve Belden**

Benediction - led by **Don Littlefield**

God Bless America - led by **Steve Belden**

Meeting adjourned at 8:07pm

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

Respectfully edited and submitted,

Steve Belden, President