



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

October 2022
Volume 16, Issue 7
(revised)

Mother Lode Dispatch



Calling All Compatriots



Inside this issue:

Classic Portraits	1
Tom Douglas receives Life Time Appreciation Award	2
Community Awards Banquet	3-7
September Minutes	8
October Minutes	9-10
November Minutes	11-13

Classic Portraits



Worn out troops from the northern army under Gates and Sullivan's men faced a grueling winter's march to join Washington.



Our Chapter President
~ Douglas Drake ~

Major General Horatio Gates (1727-1806) March from Ft. Ticonderoga NY to Trenton NJ



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

Chapter President
DOUGLAS DRAKE
congratulates
TOM DOUGLAS
for his many years of
dedication to the
Mother Load Chapter
and the Sons of The
American Revolution.

Tom receiving his cus-
tom engraved powder
horn.

Virginia rifleman William Waller carried this powder horn during the Revolutionary War. The horn is decorated with several popular slogans of the American Revolution, including “LIBERTY or DEATH” and “APPEAL TO HEAVEN.” Waller was captured by British and Hessian forces after the fall of Fort Washington near New York City on Nov. 16, 1776.



William Waller's Powder Horn - Museum of the American Revolution



In addition to being a county prosecutor, Vern served for several years with the California Department of Justice as Deputy Attorney General in the Appeals, Writs and Trial Division. Vern is currently the President of the California District Attorneys Association and is the co-chair of the association's ethics and insurance fraud committees. In 2006, Vern Pierson was elected as District Attorney of El Dorado County and is currently serving his fourth term. Vern has been a prosecutor for 28 years, serving in various capacities as Deputy District Attorney, Deputy Attorney General, and Chief Assistant District Attorney. In addition, he currently serves as the President of the California District Attorneys Association and is the author of the California Evidence Pocketbook. Vern received a Master's Degree from the Naval Postgraduate School, Center for Homeland Defense and Security (CHDS). His thesis argued for re-examination of the role of psychology within extremism and serves as a subject matter expert for CHDS. Vern has three children who each graduated from Oak Ridge High School. His two sons have served in active duty in the 82nd Airborne and his daughter is completing her teaching credential with hopes of being a high school teacher.



Detective Miller is an integral part of the **Narcotics Unit** where he compiles quality investigations, is extremely knowledgeable and a great teammate. He is always willing to help those around him, to include other teams from agencies statewide. He is commonly called upon by various state and federal narcotics teams, as well as the **District Attorney's Office** due to his quality of work and expertise. **Detective Miller** was the case agent of a fentanyl death investigation, conducting a thorough intelligence investigation which led to the arrest of several local sources of fentanyl and recovered a vast quantity of the drug. He conducted an extended covert investigation where he was able to utilize numerous investigative techniques to track down one of the largest sources of fentanyl in the Sacramento area. During the Spring and Summer, He was tasked with leading the **Sheriff's Office** efforts to eradicate illicit marijuana grow sites throughout the county. This mission included locating illegal marijuana grow sites, supervising the authoring of search warrants, and coordinating investigations with community partners to ensure safe and lawful eradication of marijuana grows.

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.



Public Safety Dispatcher Kelsey Hartshorn is an essential part of the **Dispatch Unit** and provides the utmost dedication to the **Sheriff's Office Mission and Vision**. Kelsey is an excellent **Communications Training Officer** who strives for optimum officer safety and gives her trainees every opportunity to succeed. Kelsey cares for her coworkers and shows that same caring attitude to citizens requesting assistance. She is an excellent communicator, patient and empathetic with callers. She uses her knowledge of the **County and Sheriff's Office** to fully assist citizens as needed and always gives 100% effort in her daily tasks. Kelsey is enthusiastic and innovative in her training styles and techniques. She is always looking for new ways to help trainees learn and adapt to different situations. She shows leadership and dedication to her team and is often the first to volunteer to hold over when there is a shortage. Kelsey demonstrates camaraderie, cooperation, and commitment to the agency. She does that with humor, appreciation for hard work, and instilling a feeling of teamwork and pride in all accomplishments.

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 Officers for 2022

President

Douglas Drake

1st Vice President

Sam Bradley

2nd Vice President

Tom Adams

Secretary

Tom Douglas

Treasurer

Bob Conover

Registrar

Open

Chaplain

Randy Keith

Dispatch Editor

Steve Belden

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



The Mother Lode Chapter wanted to recognize someone on the frontline in confronting the **COVID-19 Pandemic**. The Chapter found its candidate in **Elke Houser**, a **Nurse Practitioner** at Barton Community Health Center in **South Lake Tahoe**. She was instrumental in setting up the first COVID testing site and medical clinic in South Lake Tahoe, California. This clinic was specifically set-up for testing and evaluation of patients possibly infected with the SARS Coronavirus.

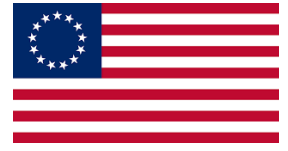
Nurse Houser was well suited for this challenging assignment given her years of experience as an Emergency Room and Trauma Nurse, at Mercy San Juan, Dominican, Mercy Redding and St Elizabeth Hospital in California, Director of Nursing, Santa Cruz County Jail, Supervising Nurse Avenal and Pleasant Valley State Prisons, Nursing supervisor Montana VA Medical Center, Helena, Montana and ER/Trauma Nurse in Helena, Montana.

An added appeal to the Mother Lode Chapter is that **Elke Houser** (nee **Adams**) is a local El Dorado County woman. She went to school here from kindergarten to graduating from **Ponderosa High School** in Shingle Springs in 1981.

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.



CIVIL AIR PATROL
U.S. AIR FORCE AUXILIARY



CALIFORNIA WING

E.I. Carnahan Cadet Squadron 85

(Tonight's Color Guard)

The Civil Air Patrol (CAP) is a Civilian Auxiliary of the U.S. Air Force. For more than 70 years, CAP has aggressively performed the missions congress mandated in 1946: Aerospace Education, Cadet Programs and Emergency Services. Cadet Squadron 85 is located in Placerville. The mission of Squadron 85 is to produce leaders who have positive standards, are self-disciplined, self-motivated, morally sound, with a life-long commitment to serving their community.

For more information See: www.cap85.org



El Dorado County Sheriff Explorers
POST 457

Sheriff's Explorer Post 457

(Tonight's Guest Service)

The El Dorado County Sheriff's Offices offers a Law Enforcement Explore Post to youths in the community. The Explorer program is part of Learning for Life's career education program for young men and women who are 15 through 21 years old. The purpose is to provide experiences that help people mature and to prepare them to become responsible and caring adults. The result of the Sheriff's Office Explorer program is to help youths pursue and further their special interest in Law Enforcement. Explorers also receive many hours of law enforcement training by department personnel.

See Facebook: el dorado county sheriff explorer post #457

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 – September 27, 2022
 Meeting at Denny's in Cameron Park



The meeting was called to order by President **Doug Drake** at 6:30PM, Compatriot **Kevin Tierney** gave the invocation, President **Doug Drake** led the Pledge of Allegiance and the SAR Pledge.

There were eight (7) regular Chapter members, **Tom Adams, Tom Douglas, Doug Drake, Bob Conover, Stephen Almy, Kevin Tierney, and Steve Belden**. We had one guest, **Jim Voss**, who wishes to join SAR and is working on his application. **Tom Douglas** and **Doug Drake** have offered to help him and are working with him.

The meeting opened as a regular meeting and the officers were called upon to give their report.

Treasurer, **Bob Conover**, provided a treasurer's report. **Tom Douglas** and **Doug Drake** discussed the reconciliation report.

Secretary, **Tom Douglas**, Secretary's report was given. **Doug Drake** provided an update on proposed updated to the new NSSAR application process.

Dispatch Editor, **Steve Belden**, reported the June *Dispatch* went out again as an email.

ELECTION & APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS

COMMENTS by GUESTS

OLD BUISINESS

The minutes from the last meeting were reviewed and it was determined that the following was not included:

The Chapter donated \$1,000 to Franklin Templeton Investments who in turn will match the donation 1:1. The combined value will be mailed to the chapters PO Box.

Kevin Tierney gave an update regarding the California Brochure and Poster contest. **Kevin Tierney** is working with to get more judges for the National Contest. **Tom Douglas** let **Kevin Tierney** know the State Secretary has been off-line and that he should be getting back to him shortly. Members discussed the benefits of passing pins out to all kids or just the participants. DECISION?

NEW BUISINESS

Tom Douglas shared the Challenge Coin and Medals to present at the Awards Banquet. Tom suggested Mother Lode pins be distributed too. DECISION?

Tom Adams shared a hard copy draft of the Awards Banquet program with every attendee. Everyone reviewed and provided redlines back to Tom.

Members discussed current ticket sales, uniform expectations, tables and clothes, banquet facilities, caterer, overall logistics and timing.

Tom Douglas let **Bob Conover** know that he received a check from GoFundMe for \$105.40. Tom wants to confirm this money is for the pins. **Steve Belden** will confirm.

Tom Douglas let **Bob Conover** know that he used the debit card for the 2 frames and provided the receipt.

Bob Conover reported the total charge was a total of \$49.55.

CLOSE OF MEETING

Compatriot **Kevin Tierney** gave the Benediction, **Doug Drake** led the SAR Recessional, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:05 PM.

Minutes compiled from notes provided by Steve Belden.

Respectfully edited and submitted,
Steve Belden, Recording Secretary



Mother Lode Chapter
Meeting Minutes – October 25, 2022
 Meeting at Denny's in Cameron Park



The meeting was called to order by President **Doug Drake** at 6:28PM, Compatriot **Randy Keith** gave the invocation, Compatriots **Steve Belden** led the Pledge of Allegiance and **Mike Metz** lead the SAR Pledge.

There were eight (7) regular Chapter members, **Tom Adams, Doug Drake, Stephen Almy, Kevin Tierney, Randy Keith, Mike Metz, and Steve Belden**. We had one guest, **Tim Voss**, who wishes to join SAR and is working on his application. **Tim** is nearly completed with his application.

The meeting opened as a regular meeting and the officers were called upon to give their report. Treasurer, no Treasury Report was provided.

Secretary, no Secretary Report was provided.

Youth Activities, **Kevin Tierney** reported his internet connection has been down for some time and has no update.

Dispatch Editor, **Steve Belden**, reported the June Sept and October *Dispatch* will go out soon.

ELECTION & APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS

Doug Drake opened nominations for 2023 Chapter President.

Doug Drake nominated Steve Belden for Chapter President.

Tom Adams can no longer do the minutes. Kevin Tierney volunteered to be the Recording Secretary.

Doug Drake was nominated to be Treasurer.

Bob Conover will remain as Law Enforcement Liaison.

Tom Douglas will be asked to research the election bylaws to confirm the requirements and process. Can we use Survey Monkey?

OLD BUISENESS

The members discussed the Community Banquet Awards and agreed the event was a big success. See the article in the Mountain Democrat <https://www.mtdemocrat.com/news/frontline-heroes-heavy-lifters/>

Members agreed the Sheriff's Explorer's and CA Air Patrol Cadets were fabulous. **Mike Metz** noted that the event was held on a school night.

Mike Metz questioned the need to purchase water pitchers. It was then decided that the chapter will purchase small plastic water bottles.

Tom Adams shared feedback that a piece of chicken may have been under cooked. Not aware of anyone becoming sick.

Steve Almy suggests we use the American Legion again next year.

The members enjoyed talking to **Steve Almy** about his family revolutionary war musket.

The members discussed the possibility of getting a bag pipe performer.

The members like the **Ring of Fire BBQ** and we agreed that we will purchase more ribs so that we can have 2 ribs per guest.

The decision was made to pass out pins to all students.

The decision was made that we will not pass out pins at the Community Banquet Award.

Collection of money due did not experience challenges.

Members agreed the name tags were sufficient.



Mother Lode Chapter
Meeting Minutes – October 25, 2022
 Meeting at Denny's in Cameron Park
 - Continued -



Brochures should be available at each dinner table to make sure everyone gets one.

The members discussed **Tom Douglas's** Award.

Steve Belden updated the Chapter on the status of **Tom Douglas's** donation. It is in progress (see update below).

Steve Belden updated the Chapter on the status of **Tom Douglas's** donation. It is in progress (see update below).

Steve Belden reviewed the Community Banquet Award sales and costs. There was an overall loss of \$239 for the purchase and sale of food. The chapter agreed a complete total cost accounting will be needed before year-end tax reporting is due. **Doug Drake** uses Quick Books.

We purchased 65 meals and sold ____ tickets (TBD).

What was the total value of donations made for the Community Banquet Awards?

NEW BUISINESS

Doug Drake provided an update on the Color Guard presentation at the **Blind Golfer's Tournament**. **Russ Kaiser** and **Doug Drake** were in uniform at the event.

Doug Drake reviewed the requirements for reporting annual financials. **We need to have accurate books by the end of December.** Doug to work with Bob Conover review open items.

Membership and Recruiting

Steve Belden discussed the possibility of seeking membership leads at the California Air Show at Mather Field.

Tom Adams noted that you should search for people who "join" service organizations. They would be more likely to invest the time and effort.

Doug Drake asked **Randy Keith** to investigate events where the SAR can recruit.

Tom Adam's suggested we also focus on having a speaker at events, like **Steve Almy**.

Randy Keith noted the Dixon Scottish Games and the Mother Lode Scotts as placed to consider. There will be an event in Plymouth in 2023.

COMMENTS by GUESTS

CLOSE OF MEETING

Compatriot Randy Keith gave Benediction and led the SAR Recessional. The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 PM.

Minutes compiled from notes provided by Steve Belden.

Respectfully edited and submitted,
Steve Belden, Recording Secretary

Post Meeting Update

11/18/22 - **Steve Belden** notified **Tom Douglas** that the chapter's \$1,000 donation to Franklin Templeton Investments has been processed and mailed to the chapter's PO Box.



Mother Lode Chapter
Meeting Minutes – November 22, 2022
 Meeting at Denny's in Cameron Park



The meeting was called to order by President **Doug Drake** at 6:29PM, Compatriot **Randy Keith** gave the invocation, Secretary **Tom Douglas** led the Pledge of Allegiance and President **Doug Drake** lead the SAR Pledge.

There were eight (7) regular Chapter members, **Tom Adams, Doug Drake, Stephen Almy, Kevin Tierney, Mike Metz, Tom Douglas, Randy Keith, and Steve Belden**. We had one guest, **Tim Voss**, who wishes to join SAR and is working on his application.

The meeting opened as a regular meeting and the officers were called upon to give their report.

Treasurer's Report: Community Banquet Awards Accounting Report. See chapter members section at website <https://motherlodesar.org/m/login?r=%2Fmembers>. Contact Steve Belden if you need assistance.

Accounting Report was provided Doug Drake, Bob Cover, and Steve Belden.

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

Youth Activities, **Kevin Tierney** reported that he has not been contacted by any teachers regarding the Brochure. Poster Contest: He is working with John Adams Academy on the December dates. Kevin will need to report on the 2022 Brochure and Poster expenses. Kevin will provide Doug with the expenses so they can be reported to the CA DOJ.

Dispatch Editor, **Steve Belden**, reported the October *Dispatch* was sent out along with minutes the September and October Meeting Minutes.

ELECTION & APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS

Doug Drake opened Annual Elections 2023 Officers.

Steve Belden was elected Chapter President.

Doug Drake was elected Treasurers

Tom Douglas was elected Secretary

Kevin Tierney was elected 2nd Vice President

Kevin Tierney was elected Recording Secretary

Bob Conover will be appointed Assistant Treasurer and will remain Law Enforcement Liaison.

Randy Keith was appointed Chaplain.

Executive Vice President - on-hold

Registrar - Vacant



Mother Lode Chapter
Meeting Minutes – November 22, 2022
 Meeting at Denny's in Cameron Park
 - Continued -



OLD BUISINESS

Doug Drake reiterated the requirements for reporting annual financials. We need to have accurate books by the end of December to comply with CA DOJ reporting requirements.

Tom Douglas reported that a matching donation of \$2,000 check was received for deposit.

Tom Adam's reiterated the need for members to get their donation letters into chapter officers. Reporting requirements can be found at the chapter website at the bottom of the homepage: <https://motherlodesar.org/>

NEW BUISINESS

Doug Drake reported that there are new rules for genealogy proof requirements. **Tom Douglas** to review.

The position of Assistant Treasurer will assist Treasurer for the state side banking activities and will not cast a vote.

State Reporting is due February 2023.

Bob Conover reported that 15 of the 20 annual member dues have been paid. **Tom Douglas** offered to call the 5 delinquent members.

Tom Adams provided an update on **CASSAR** activities. Tom attended the meetings.

Spring April 2023 Meeting will be in Costa Mesa

Hawaii State Meeting in Honolulu in April 2023

State Treasurer will have a Treasurers Zoom meeting at a given date.

250 Speaker Event (Tom & Steve to seek a speaker (Don Littlefield)

State wants to document Chapter Law Enforcement Awards.

250 minutes at meetings – suggestion from Chapter

250 Big Program Deal – Maybe invite Don Littlefield to explain?

Flag Certificates need to be purchased

Secretary File State Reports every 2 years

Youth Safety & Protection Training. Training is recommended if a member spends a certain amount of time with young people.

CASSAR Handbook Online

[CASSAR-BYLAWS-and-ARTICLES-OF-INCORPORATION Nov 2021.pdf](#)

National SAR YouTube 25 Podcast

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H_6m9R29on0



Mother Lode Chapter
Meeting Minutes – November 22, 2022
Meeting at Denny's in Cameron Park
- Continued -



Membership and Recruiting

Steve Belden has not heard back from the Capital Air Show yet.

Randy Keith will continue to investigate recruiting opportunities like the Dixon Scottish Games, Mother Lode Scotts, and their event in Plymouth in 2023.

Randy Keith will continue to investigate a bagpipe musician.

COMMENTS by GUESTS

CLOSE OF MEETING

Compatriot **Randy Keith** gave Benediction and **Tom Adams** led the SAR Recessional. The meeting was adjourned at 7:39 PM.

Minutes compiled from notes provided by Steve Belden.

Respectfully edited and submitted,
Steve Belden, Recording Secretary