



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

November 2023

Volume 18, Issue 5

# Mother Lode Dispatch



2023 Annual Community  
Awards Banquet Edition



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2023 Annual Community Awards Banquet  
Tom Adams, Mother Lode Wins The Sgt. Moses  
Adams National Brochure Contest



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

◆ The 2023 Community Awards Banquet was a great success! ◆

The attendance was just three short of expected and the financial loss was less than 2022. The ribs and fixins' were good enough and plentiful too. Not all went as planned and there are a few lesson learned for next year ( see November minutes below). But all-in-all, it went very well. I asked a Mother Lode member that night what he thought about it - on a scale from one to ten? He gave it a solid 9.7. I'll take that!

That said, the event was also a somber one as we said farewell to our beloved Tom Adams. We hoped that he would be able to attend because we also recognized Rebecca Platt from the Rolling Hills Middle School in El Dorado Hills - this year's winner of the Sgt. Moses Adam's National Brochure contest. As most of you know the contest is named after Tom's Patriot ancestor. Tom is the brain child of the highly successful contest. The patriotic contest started solely as a Mother Lode contest before it was adopted by CASSAR, and then at the National level.

This issue of the Dispatch is mostly a pictorial - focused on 3 topics: Celebration of Tom's life and legacy; the brochure contest, and the awards banquet. You will find awardee bios and a transcript of the banquet in this issue of the Dispatch. There will be no December meeting for the Mother Lode chapter. We will resume our meeting in the New Year where we will be electing our chapter officers for 2024, as we did not reach a quorum at the November meeting.

PLEASE PLAN ON ATTENDING THE JANUARY MEETING.

Also, both Tom Douglas and Kevin Tierney have received a scam email appearing to come directly from me, asking for them to make an emergency payment through PayPal. Please report these scam emails to me. I suspect someone got our names and emails from t our website and then deviously constructing the scam email.



**Tom's Memorial was held  
October 26th at the Holy Trinity  
Church in El Dorado Hills CA.**



**It was attended by:  
Don Littlefield, Tom Douglas, Jim  
Falkenbury and his wife, Marilyn  
Chilton, Brian Sonner,  
and Steve Belden.**



**Sons of the American Revolution**  
California Society - Mother Lode Chapter

**Tom Adams**  
NSSAR Brochure Contest Chairman

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El Dorado Hills, CA 95762-4510 Cell: 1-916-600-7211  
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*Helping Teachers present the Nation's Foundational Documents*

**Tom Adams  
193X - 2023**

**Tom's Patriot ancestor is  
Sgt. Moses Adams  
Born Nov 1748  
New Marlborough, MA**



**He served in the MA 17th and  
13th and was killed in action:  
June 28, 1778 at the Battle of  
Monmouth.**

**SGT. MOSES ADAMS MEMORIAL  
MIDDLE SCHOOL BROCHURE CONTEST**

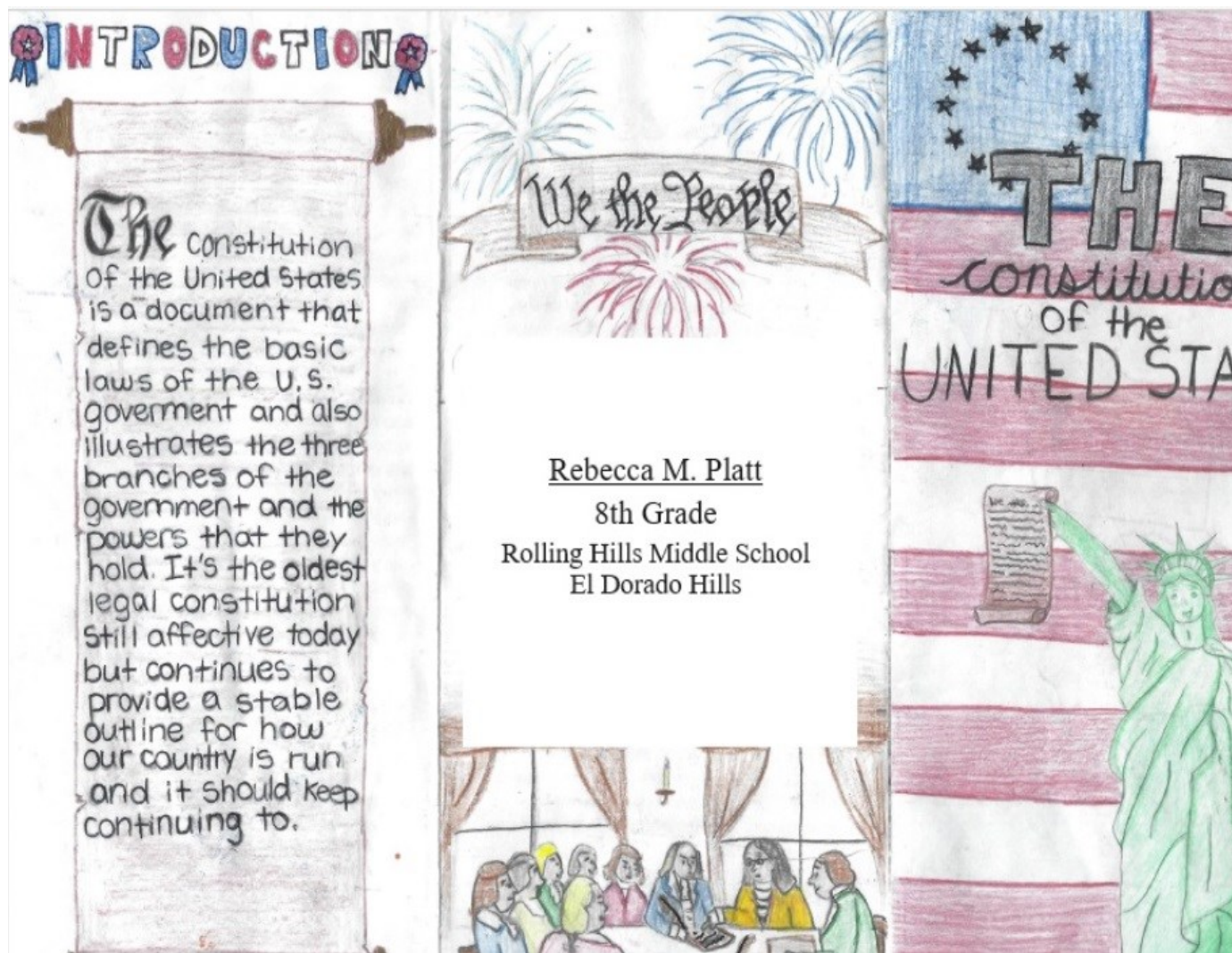
<https://www.sar.org/sgt-moses-adams-memorial-middle-school-brochure-contest/>

Sons of the American Revolution  
Invites you to the  
~ 2023 Community Awards Banquet ~  
State of California and El Dorado County  
First Responders Recognition Night  
Hosted by The Mother Lode Chapter





Rebecca M. Platt  
2023 Sgt. Moses Adams Memorial  
Middle School Brochure Contest  
National Winner!



Rebecca M. Platt  
 2023 Sgt. Moses Adams Memorial  
 Middle School Brochure Contest  
National Winner!



**We Need It.**

Can you imagine a government and country without the Constitution? The Constitution is a document written over 230 years ago that defines the fundamentals of our government as well as the rights of the people. It creates a strong platform for how our country should be run so without it, our country would not have the structure that makes it strong. The Constitution of the United States should continue to be the foundation of our government and should not be changed.

One reason is that the Constitution was written to create a government with the adequate amount of power for the government and the people. The government is separated into three branches to ensure that one person does not have too much power. James Monroe once said, "The accumulation of all powers, legislative, executive, and judiciary, in the same hands, whether of one, a few, or many... may justly be pronounced the very definition of tyranny." If all the powers of the branches were done by one person, this would create an unjust use of power and would not create a stable government like the one that we have now. To sum up, we should still follow the Constitution today because it was written so that the government and the people have a balanced amount of power.

Secondly, we need the Constitution because it protects the fundamental rights of the people. With the Constitution, every American is

guaranteed the rights of life, liberty and property no matter what. "It enshrines the rights of all people in our country and affirms the democratic values of human dignity, equality and freedom." (Bill Of Rights Chapter 2) The Bill of Rights, which section of the Constitution, explains that the rights of the people are protected and that no matter and they are unalienable. It also means that all these rights are given equally and every person has the same basic rights. In conclusion, we need the Constitution because without it, we would not be ensured basic fundamental rights.

Finally, some people think that the Constitution is far out of date and that people who have been long gone should not be telling us how to run our country. Though the people that wrote the Constitution are long gone, the effect the Constitution has on our country is not. Rebecca Harish says that without a Constitution, "We would be living in a world of unfairness, government control, and no individuality of the people." The Constitution still to this day still ensures life liberty and property and separation of powers. In conclusion, though the Constitution was written a long time ago, the words have not expired and still affect us today. Without it our government and country would be very different.

In summary, we should still use the Constitution as the basis of our government because it promises equal power between the government and also the people and it ensures the fundamental rights of the people. The Constitution is a sacred document that should never be forgotten.



## The SAR Heroism Medal

A Heroism Medal recognizes outstanding bravery and self-sacrifice in the face of imminent danger – i.e., acts which involve great personal courage and risk to the recipient. It is intended primarily for acts by civilians, not in uniform, but does not exclude police, firemen, EMS and SAR members. It is not intended to recognize acts that would have been covered in the performance of one's normal duty, nor by medals for valor by the armed forces. The medal may also be presented posthumously.



## The SAR Law Enforcement Medal

The Law Enforcement Medal is presented to those who have served with distinction and devotion in the field of law enforcement. The medal is intended to recognize exceptional service or accomplishment in the field of law enforcement. Eligibility is not limited to peace officers but extends to the entire range of persons who make and enforce the law to include but not limited to peace officers, attorneys, judges, prosecutors and legislators who have performed an exceptional act or service beyond that normally expected. The medal may be presented only once. It is a lifetime award.





Craig Lee's journey as a Correctional Officer with the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) spanned nearly three decades. His heroic actions gained widespread recognition during the tragic Route 91 Harvest music festival shooting in Las Vegas on October 1, 2017. Lee, who had been enjoying the festival with friends, displayed extraordinary courage by running towards the gunfire helping to save lives. For this, he was awarded the Medal of Valor in 2018. Beginning his career in the 1990s, Lee embarked on his journey in law enforcement by attending the Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) academy in Fresno. He progressed through Levels I and II, interrupting Level III to report for duty at the Richard A McGee Correctional Training Center on February 19, 1994. His training complete, he joined the California Correctional Institution (CCI) in Tehachapi, working across different yard levels. Craig, who retired in 2022, remains very humble to this day, and is pleased to share his story and that of other brave and caring individuals who stepped up to assist victims. Lee's courageous response to the tragedy highlights the capacity for everyday heroes to make a difference. For his heroism and remarkable contributions and dedication to safeguarding the community, Officer Craig Lee (Ret.) is receiving the 2023 Sons of the American Revolution Heroism Medal.



Detective Aaron Cuddeback of the El Dorado County Sheriff's Dept. has been assigned to the Investigations Unit with a specialization in High Tech Criminal Investigations since 2021. Aaron conducts forensic examinations on electronic evidence, including social media, which requires him to be constantly learning and adapting to new technology, best practices, and case law. He routinely operates sensitive law enforcement equipment to aid in major investigations, particularly in sourcing evidence from electronic sources. Notably, Aaron participates in the regional Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) task force that focuses on investigating individuals suspected of sexually victimizing children, including illicit internet chat rooms, decoy sting operations. This effort led to the arrest of adult men seeking to engage in illegal sexual acts with minors. His efforts garnered recognition from the FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Force and established a strong working relationship with them. His modern approach to traditional law enforcement values aligns perfectly with the Sheriff's Office Vision Statement of total care, total enforcement, and total professionalism. For these remarkable contributions and dedication to safeguarding the community, Detective Cuddeback is receiving the 2023 Sons of the American Revolution Law Enforcement Medal.



Correctional Sergeant Cameron Pomeroy of the El Dorado County Sheriff's Dept. currently serves as the Sergeant in the Placerville jail overseeing the Inmate Services and Classification Units, supervises detention aides and sheriff technicians, and helps with the secure portion of the facility. Cameron takes on many tasks, including managing facilities projects at the Placerville jail, including recent renovations to control rooms and security doors. His contributions range from preparing meals to updating the Custody Division's website data, and Medical procedures. His knowledge of laws and procedures related to the Custody Division and inmate care enables him to excel in his multifaceted role. Notably, Sergeant Pomeroy voluntarily steps in on his regular days off to cover jail floor duties when other sergeants are on vacation or out sick, showcasing his flexibility and adaptability to improve the Placerville jail and care to those in their custody. He maintains a consistently positive attitude and embodies the highest standards of professionalism as a representative of the El Dorado County Sheriff's Office. For these remarkable contributions and dedication to safeguarding the community, Sergeant Pomeroy is receiving the 2023 Sons of the American Revolution Law Enforcement Medal.



Sheriff's Technician Kelley Jackson was the initial member of the CCW unit and played a pivotal role in identifying the backlog's sources and creating a strategy to eliminate it within six months. Collaborating with other law enforcement agencies, she gathered insights and established a solid foundation for the new unit. With the addition of two more Sheriff's Technicians and streamlined processes, Kelley and her team successfully cleared the backlog and ensured that renewals were processed two weeks before expiration. Kelley's dedication extends beyond her regular duties. She oversees two student interns, training them and serving as their point of contact for questions. In 2022 alone, Kelley processed 1,356 new and renewal applications, conducted 328 livescans, and handled 172 modifications or denials. She personally connects with every applicant, providing education on CCW laws, gun ownership, and firearm safety. For her unwavering commitment to the CCW unit and the citizens of El Dorado County, Kelley Jackson is a deserving recipient for the Sons of the American Revolution Law Enforcement Medal.



Volunteer Enrique Borgzinner has dedicated his life to service, both in the military and in law enforcement. In 1982 he joined the United States Marine Corps, where he spent 15 years in an infantry unit and 11 years in artillery. After his military service, Enrique started his career in law enforcement, joining the Santa Clara County Sheriff's Office in 1988.

In 2018 he joined the El Dorado County Sheriff's Office Search and Rescue team. As a valued member of the Ground Team, he has volunteered his time and expertise to teach new search and rescue members vital skills such as land navigation in the basic SAR academy. Enrique served as a Training Officer and an Assistant Team Leader. Enrique makes himself available 24/7 for search and rescue operations amounting to approximately 100 hours of searching each year. He also participates in community events, where he interacts with citizens and provides first aid to the public, contributing approximately 50 hours annually. Enrique is also active in veteran organizations, being a life member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post 10165 in Placerville and the American Legion Post 119 in Placerville. For his dedication and commitment to public service, Enrique is a deserving recipient for the Sons of the American Revolution Law Enforcement Medal.



Detective Addison Randall of the Placerville Police Department is married to his high school sweet heart Melissa. They have been married for 10 years and have two beautiful children. Their daughter Nolan is 9 years old and their son Harrison is 7 years old. Addison graduated from the Fish and Game academy at Butte College in 2015 and started his career at the Placerville Police Department on November 2, 2015. He has held assignments on patrol, as a School Resource Officer, a field training officer,



a cadet advisor and a drug recognition expert. Addison is currently the Placerville Police Department's lead investigator, range master, less lethal weapons and diversionary device instructor, pepper ball instructor, pistol mounted optics instructor, force options simulator instructor and a critical response unit team member. In October of 2019 Addison was appointed Corporal and as been responsible for supervising numerous shifts. For these remarkable contributions and dedication to safeguarding the community, Detective Randall is receiving the 2023 Sons of the American Revolution Law Enforcement Medal.

### AMERICA 250 Minute:

Timothy Meeker was a Minute Man in the Revolutionary War and fought along with several members of his family in the Battle of Springfield - 1780. He was a legendary figure in the early days of the Orange Mountain Region, New Jersey.

One interesting story goes: A few days after the Battle of Springfield which was fought on June 23, 1780, Timothy Meeker, was repairing his fences along the road when a party of men on horseback approached him, and asked for Timothy Meeker, as they had heard he had besides himself, 9 sons and 2 sons-in-law in the battle. He told them he was Timothy. They asked him questions about his opinions, whether there were any Tories in the neighborhood, to which he replied that "no Tory would durst show his face here."

They then asked him if people were angry because Washington had not brought his troops into the action. Meeker replied that Washington was right to let the militia fight them, for "we can like em, we can lick 'em," he emphatically stated. On hearing the dinner horn he invited the party to eat with them which invitation was accepted. Finally, after dinner and much discussion about the battle and the war in general, the party left. Just as he mounted, one of the gentlemen turned to Meeker and said, "Friend Meeker, you have treated us with so much hospitality and told your mind so freely, that I thought it would be ungrateful in me to withhold from you who I am." He then disclosed that he was General Washington. According to the story, when Desire, his wife, on informing the visiting officers that had she known that there would be company she would have served fowl, Timothy responded by saying that the dinner was fit for George Washington, himself. In spite of the fiction involved, The Daughters of the American Revolution have accepted as true the story that Timothy was a soldier in the Battle of Springfield.





Doug Guler, Gold Mountain California News Media



Doug Guler, Gold Mountain California News Media





## Transcript from the Awards Banquet



“Good evening, I’m Steve Belden – 2023 President of the Mother Lode Chapter of the SAR, and I want to thank everyone here for attending the Mother Lodes 10<sup>th</sup> annual CAB! It’s great to see so many new and familiar faces coming together tonight to recognize individuals at the State, County and Local level who get up every day and put their lives on the line to serve and protect. And to say thank you to them, and their spouses and their family who also share the burden of their oath and commitment. During the dinner portion of tonight, I will be speaking to the history of Sons of the American Revolution and our Mission and goals, and also about a few of the items you find in the program tonight like the Sgt. Moses Adams Brochure Contest, and a few of the photos from this year’s activities.

### **Call Assembly to Order**

#### ***President Steve Belden***

I hereby declare the 10<sup>th</sup> annual Mother Lode Chapter Community Awards Banquet open! Please stand for tonight’s Invocation which will be followed by the Presentation of Colors, the Pledge of Allegiance, and the Posting of the Colors. Thank you to the Civil Air Patrol for being here tonight, and their outstanding service to our community. Would Randy Kaiser please come up and give the Invocation?

### **Introduction of Guests**

I would like to recognize a few individuals here tonight and to thank them for supporting the event and their on-going work to keep patriotism alive and relevant.

*Rob Moore - VP General Western District and his wife Marcy*

*Don Littlefield - CASSAR Executive VP and his wife Mary Ann*

*Craig Anderson – VP for the Sac Chapter and his wife*

*Judy Muetz - DAR*

*Thank you so much for joining us tonight!*

### **Dinner**

*So, as I promised we want to get the food on the tables ASAP to make sure it doesn't get cold. So could I please ask El Dorado Sheriff Explorers Post 457 to begin serving dinner. And while that happens, I will take this opportunity to speak a little bit about the SAR and a few of the items found in the program.*

The SAR was founded in 1889 and is headquartered in Louisville, Kentucky.

It’s a Congressionally Chartered non-profit, non-partisan organization dedicated to promoting patriotism, preserving American history, and promoting education to our future generations. SAR members volunteer untold hours of service each year in their local communities, and proudly assist with a number of initiatives and activities.



## Transcript from the Awards Banquet ~ continued ~



There are simply too many SAR programs to mention tonight, and I encourage everyone to visit SAR.ORG to learn more about our organization and the great work we do. Also, if anyone here thinks they might have a ancestor that fought or supported the Revolutionary War, please talk with one of the SAR member which should be seated at every table – Men for the SAR and Women for the DAR.

So let me speak to just a few of the thing's SAR does.

We are very involved in our Nation's Youth Education and helps our schools and teachers ensure American History is taught in the classroom and at home. We do this by providing teachers with living history interpreters, lesson planning materials and even reenactment events for youth. We will be looking more closely at one of those programs in a minute.

The SAR supports our Military by recognizing active-duty soldiers and sailors for their sacrifices and achievement, and our country's Veterans through activities such as laying markers and wreaths at veteran grave sites. In fact, the California Society of the SAR is currently a partner with the 50th Anniversary Vietnam War Commemoration Program. As a partner we recognize veterans and the families that supported them during the Vietnam period to know how much they are appreciated. We also support programs to recognize and support the Eagles Scouts, ROTC, and other cadet programs, such as those helping us here tonight.

The SAR is actively involved in promoting America 250. What is America 250? Well, on July 4, 2026, our nation will commemorate the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States. It's also known as a "Semiquincentennial". If you happen to hear that term, you now know what it is. And it's about more than reflecting on our past. It's about honoring the contributions of individuals who built this country, the innovations that put this country on the map and imagining what the next 250 years might look like for our children and the generations to come. The actual celebrations will occur in NY, Boston, Philadelphia, Charleston, and several other cities. If you can't make it to the East Coast Denver CO will also be hosting a celebration. I'm sure you will be hearing a lot more about it as the date draws nearer.

That brings me to a very specific program that is near and dear to the Mother Lode Chapter. You should have noticed the SARs Middle School Brochure Contest on page 4 and 5 in the program. The contest also goes by the honorary name "The Sgt. Moses Adams Memorial Middle School Brochure Contest." Sgt. Adams is the patriot ancestor of our very own – Tom Adams, who very sadly passed away earlier this month.



## Transcript from the Awards Banquet ~ continued ~



In fact, several of us attended his memorial service this morning at the Holy Trinity Parish. I would like to say a few things about Tom, and I think Monsignor Kidder who presided over the service said it best Tom's faith and his action were one in the same. I think you'll see come to recognize that as I speak a little bit more about him and the work he has done for the SAR. Tom was a past Chapter President, and vocal supporter and advisor to the Chapter. He was a beloved family man, and consummate professional who worked as an IT leader at Aerojet, and later for the State of CA and Yolo country for the Y2K project. He has a great sense of humor, and I loved that he wore suspenders and ate a grand slam breakfast at our monthly dinner meetings at Denny's. He will be deeply missed.

So, as I mentioned, his Patriot Ancestor from the Revolutionary War is Sgt. Moses Adams, who was born Nov 1748 in New Marlborough, Berkshire, Massachusetts Bay. Some of you may ask if Tom is a direct descendant of our Nation's 2<sup>nd</sup> president John Adam – not direct, but Moses Adams and John Adams were definitely cousins, and traced their family back to the same person Joseph Adams Sr. Moses Adams first served as a Corporal in Col. John Fellows's 17th Massachusetts Bay Provincial Regiment, which marched April 21, 1775, in response to the Lexington Alarm. Moses most certainly participated in the Siege of Boston, and it was there in Cambridge that George Washington reconstructed his army from the influx of over 15,000 raw, undisciplined, ill-equipped colonials from all over the region.

In fact, my Patriot - Augustus Belding Sr., who was from Northfield MA, some 57 miles from New Marlborough, was there as part of the Mass 1<sup>st</sup>. Both the 1<sup>st</sup> and the 17<sup>th</sup> were consolidated into the 21<sup>st</sup> Continental Regiment during the siege of Boston. I've often wondered if our great grandfathers ever crossed paths? Well, Tom and I discovered that my great uncle Jerome Belden, who was a US House of Representative from NY, was a good friend of John Quincy Adams, the nephew to our 6<sup>th</sup> president of the same name (as reported in the NYT May 14<sup>th</sup> 1897). So, it seems entirely possible they know each other and that companionship extended beyond just the two of them....

Moses eventually joined up with Col. Edward Wigglesworth's and the Mass 13th. This regiment would ultimately see action at the Battle of Bunker Hill, Battle of Valcour Island, and the Battle of Saratoga. He was with GW at Valley Forge in the winter of 1777 and then went on to fight at the Battle of Monmouth – which is an unbelievable story of cat and mouse and though the British escaped, the Americans claimed victory and Washington was lauded for his bravery. That battle occurred on June 28, 1778 – the day Moses was recorded as being killed in action.



## Transcript from the Awards Banquet ~ continued ~



Sgt. Adams, along with other soldiers from New Marlborough MA, are memorialized on a bronze plaque placed on a large granite memorial located in the town center. Tom is largely responsible for the establishment of this memorial to our nation's heroes. His in-depth research of the soldiers involved searching over 17 volumes of names of MA sailors and soldiers, having to go from A-Z looking for any soldier listed as being from New Marlborough MA. Altogether, for all years of the war, there is approximately 410,000 listed in the seventeen volumes of the study, 221 being from New Marlborough.

Tom even helped create the web site that list all the men from New Marlborough along with a bio of each soldier.

But that's not all. Tom is largely responsible for the creation of the very same brochure contest you've seen in tonight's program. The contest was first adopted by the Ca Society of the SAR before eventually becoming a contest at the national level. It has a prominent position within the SAR website.

The brochure contest is open to students in the 6th, 7th, 8th or 9th grades, depending on which year the American Revolution is taught in their respective system. It includes private schools, church based and home-schooled students.

The student must select one of the 5 themes 1. Articles of Confederation; 2. Declaration of Independence; 3. Constitution; 4. Federalist Papers; and 5. Bill of Rights.

The contest rules have detailed requirements for its overall layout and construction. Judging criteria focus on a) Content b) Creativity c) Correctness. It asks thought-provoking questions that the student must address such as:

- How does the document you chose reflect American society and American values?
- What thoughts do you have regarding the sacrifices made by the people who drafted this document?
- What motivated these people to be a part of creating this document?

What a great legacy Tom has given us: The Brochure Contest for the youth, and a granite monument honoring those men from New Marlborough who put everything on the line to ensure future generations would live in a free country.



## Transcript from the Awards Banquet ~ continued ~



### Awards Ceremony:

Let me start by saying a few things about the order of awards tonight. The order simply goes by State, County, and City. In no way is the order intended to place any special significance of one individual over another. I would also like to say that I received extensive bio's on each awardee and I could not fit all the accolades in the brochure without using a size 8 font. So, each presenter should feel free to fill in any details I had to cut out. I also noted that a few photos got cropped at the top and so the tops of a few heads are missing – I'm glad to see you are all here in one piece tonight. Our first awardee Craig Lee is also tonight's guest speaker so he will have a little more time than everyone else. So, before you come up here let me say just a few things about Craig. I reached out to Craig Lee – who is a retired officer with the CDCR nearly 2 years ago when I read an article about him. While the article was mostly about his career which started back in the 1990's (that's in the last century Craig), and the mentoring work he did in his later days with the dept. What caught my eye was the part about Craig having won the Medal of Valor for his bravery at the 2017 Las Vegas shooting. Which in many ways was brought back to life with yesterday's tragic mass shooting in Maine.

I had to work some back channels to get his contact information and then build up the confidence to "cold call" him to ask him if he we would like to be recognized by the Son's of the American Revolution. One of Craig's first questions to me, besides how did you get my contact information was - why me? I was not the only one there that night and there were other brave people, including everyday citizens, who put their life on the line and some who severely injured during their acts of heroism. That's a great question and one I was prepared to answer - because you are retired Craig, and you have nothing better to do! We'll that turned out to be wrong. Craig, you appear to be thoroughly enjoying your retirement. Craig runs an on-line marketplace selling antiques and other products, and he enjoys spending time with friends and family and occasionally gets to drive his corvette to Las Vegas for a little fun and entertainment. He even tried his hand at acting - which he decided was not for him because he would not be able to sleep in like he's able to do today, So, without further a 'due, please give Craig a big show of appreciation while he walks us through the event of October 1<sup>st</sup> 2017.

Tom will present Craig with his certificate and medal of heroism.

Craig has asked that we present this certificate to the CDCR Secretary Jeff Macomber, which I have already arranged. Next, I would like to ask Sheriff Jeff Leikauf to come up and introduce our awardees from the Sheriff's Dept. Next, I would like to ask Commander Dan Maciel to come up and introduce our awardees from the Placerville PD.



## Transcript from the Awards Banquet

~ continued ~



### *Presentation of Muskets*



Russ Kaiser demonstrates the firing of a musket

Tonight's story of the Revolutionary War will be given by Stephen Almy – a MLC member and a descendant the American Revolution hero – Captain Stephen Olney of Rhode Island. Steve will talk about his families' Brown Bess, which is on display here tonight, and about how Captain Olney retrieved it from the field during the defense of Bunker Hill, in addition to his friendship with General Lafayette and heroism on the battlefield. I am thrilled that retired CIA Case Officer Stephen Almy is here with us tonight and to share his story with all of you. Come up Steve.

We also have Russ Kaiser here tonight. Russ is a dual member of the MLC and SAC chapter and is very active in our Color Guard activities. He will give a more hands-on demonstration of an authentic 1773 Charleville musket used during the Revolutionary War. The musket belongs to Doug Drake – Mother Lode's Chancellor who is at this moment on a ship to Australia with his sister. This musket was a gift to the Continental Army from General Lafayette who supplied the GW and his Army with over 25,000+ muskets – paid for from his own personal fortune. Russ, can you come on up please."

"

The evening ended with Randy Kaiser providing the Benediction and then our very own Gene Bell gave a beautiful presentation of Taps on his bugle to honor Tom Adams. Gene has been officially recognized for his service and dedication to playing is bugle and honoring those who served our great country.



Gene Bell



Stephen Almy and his Brown Bess



## Meeting Minutes – November 28, 2023



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, Don Littlefield, Prospective Members Tim Voss and Matthew Andrews

### **Officer's Reports:**

#### **President Report:**

Reported on Tom Adam's Memorial Service Oct. 26, 2023,  
Mother Lode and Sacramento Chapter marched at Folsom's Veteran's Day Parade.  
Mother Lode Website and Facebook have been updated

#### **Treasurer's Report:** Provided by Secretary Tom Douglas

Bank balance \$4,244.00  
Chapter approved to pay Texas Back Forty BBQ a \$100 tip

#### **Secretaries Report:**

All active members have paid or indicated payment coming in soon  
Due Received \$1,615

### **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. Don wants give us, the Mother Lode Chapter Compatriots, the first opportunity to make your 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 Minute - Timothy Meeker (see page 15)

Steve Belen let the SAR Recessional, Benediction, and singing of God Bless America



## Meeting Minutes – November 28, 2023

~ continued ~



### 2023 CAB Postmortem

#### Want Went Well

- Entry control process
- Overall presentation
- Food quantity and quality
- Programs & RSVP Cards
- Table Layout

#### **What Can Be Improved**

##### **Presentation / Color Guard / Meal**

- Need improved PA system (portable?)
- Improved musket presentation
- Better location for flags (for photos & posting colors)
- Show the Chapter Gavel
- Chilled Salad Dish (coleslaw)
- Paint numbers white or gold
- Cold water on the table cold when people arrive and being filled by explorers
- Wet Ones (moist napkins)

##### **Kitchen**

- Unlock Dishes (may need to rent kitchen too \$125).
- Confirm fridge space
- Hot Water for Warmers
- Set up & take down instructions for explorers
- Warmed Plates
- Inventory of caterer's property vs. hall's
- Coffee, cream and sugar, & cups
- To go boxes—brown box
- Check and tip for cater ready to go (2 separate checks)