



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

April 2009

Volume 3, Issue 4

# Mother Lode Dispatch



Calling All Compatriots



## April 28, 2009 Meeting

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Can you imagine being the only American ship in a Japanese dry dock just after the end of WW II? **Ted Robinson** had just such an experience!! At the close of WWII, Robinson's ship, the LST 1062, had the unique experience of being the first US ship to be placed in dry-dock for repairs at a Japanese Naval Base. He and his shipmates were alone, completely surrounded by the former enemy, and their ship was being worked on by Japanese crews. His experiences there in the first days of the invasion might be titled "My Long Journey From Hate to Love of the Japanese People." He went through an emotional roller coaster from killing them to helping them.

Ted was born in Seattle, WA, and spent his childhood in Flushing, NY. After graduating from Duke University, he joined the U.S. Navy at the beginning of WW II. He volunteered to assist in the rescue of John F. Kennedy, and later served as Captain of a LST landing craft at the battles of Saipan and Okinawa. He joined the Sacramento Chapter Sons of the American Revolution in 1998. His presentation is titled "The Mathew Perry of WWII". Those of you who attended the February 2008 meeting know just how interesting and entertaining Robinson can be.

Ted has written a book, "Water in My Veins, The Pauper Who Helped Save a President." In it he tells the story of his life, his experiences in WW II, and his experiences with Kennedy. The book sells for \$32 for the soft cover version, and \$45 for the hard cover version, and will be available after the meeting.



**Denny's Restaurant**  
3446 Coach Lane  
Cameron Park, CA.

The next meeting of the Mother Lode Chapter will be held on Tuesday, April 28, 2009, at 6:30 PM, at Denny's Restaurant in Cameron Park.



## Presidents Corner by Tom Douglas

Fellow Compatriots and friends,

It has been a very exciting month for the Mother Lode Chapter. On March 21<sup>st</sup> we, Tom Douglas, Jim Young, Tom Adams and Associate Member and "lender of many objects" Wayne Griswold, attended the Family History and Lineage Societies Symposium at the Family History center in Placerville. We had many people stop at our table, ask questions about our society, and pick up information fliers. We feel it was a very successful foray into the genealogy community. There are a couple of pictures of our table on page 10.



At our March meeting we voted on the posters submitted by the fifth grade students from Holy Trinity and Jackson Elementary Schools. All of the winners are posted on page 3 of this edition of the Dispatch. Mia Bonini's poster won the chapter award and third place at the state level. She competed against over 400 posters submitted state wide.

Jim Young and I attended the 134<sup>th</sup> CASSAR meeting. As usual, at least for me, it was a great experience being with all the compatriots from around the state. Mother Lode had a lot of success in the chapter contest. We won the "Best Small Chapter" Award, and received certificates for: Best % of Members Attending Meetings, Most Guest Attending Meetings, Best Publications, Most Publicity, Most New Members and Most New Life Members. . Not too bad for such a young chapter. None of these awards would have been possible without your continued support of the Mother Lode Chapter. I will bring the plaque, certificates, and the winning posters to our meeting on the 28<sup>th</sup>.

I expect we will continue to have great success as a chapter because of your dedication to the Mother Lode Chapter, and to the Sons of the American Revolution as a whole.

In Patriotic Service,  
Tom Douglas, President

*Tom Douglas can be reached at 530-677-3905, or at  
tommyd@directcon.net*

### Mother Lode Chapter Officers for 2008

**Tom Douglas**

President

**Tom Adams**

Executive Vice President

**Jim Young**

2nd Vice President

**Brian Sonner**

Secretary

**Tom Douglas**

Treasurer

**Jim Young**

Registrar

**Gene Myers**

Chaplain

**Tom Chilton**

Newsletter Editor

**Mel Roush**

Historian

### Committee Chairmen

**Vacant**

Eagle Scout Program

**Vacant**

ROTC Program

**Vacant**

Essay Contest

**Vacant**

Valley Forge Program

**Vacant**

Law Enforcement

Program

**Vacant**

Flag Certificate Program

**Tom Douglas**

Americanism Poster Contest

**Editors Note:** The statements and opinions expressed herein are solely those of the author(s) 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's Americanism Poster Contest

Judging the entries for this year's Mother Lode Chapter Americanism Poster Contest turned out to be a tough job. Thirty-three entries were displayed during the March meeting at Denny's Restaurant in Cameron Park. Everyone attending the meeting was allowed one vote. The voting was close with the entry by Mia Bonini placing first, and the entry by Katina Vail placing second. Both entries were taken to the CASSAR State meeting in Costa Mesa. Mia's entry placed third in the overall competition.

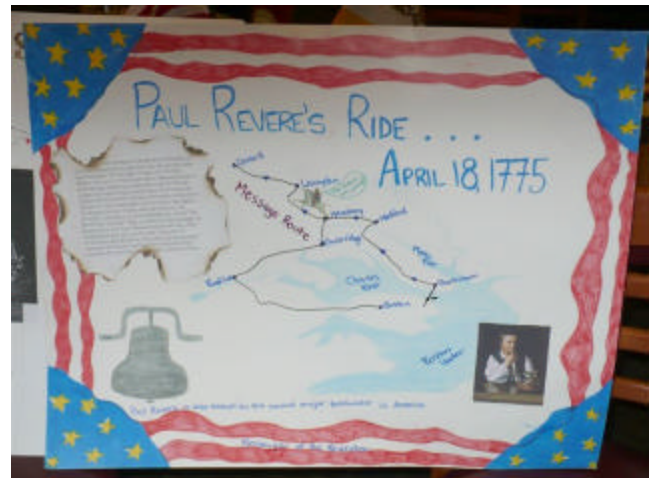
**Congratulations, Mia Bonini!!**



Joy Krahn tries to decide how to vote!



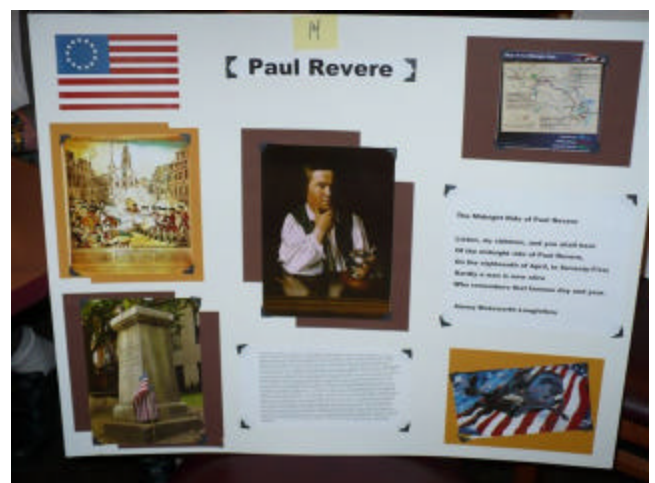
Brian Sonner ponders how to cast his vote!



Second place winner by Katina Vail.



Mia Bonini's poster was judged as best by the Mother Lode Chapter. She won third place in the statewide competition at Costa Mesa.



2009 poster entry

## The American Revolution – Month By Month - April 1779 by Andrew J. Stough III, Edited by Harold Rogers

Schlessinger's Almanac of American History has only one entry for April, 1779, which follows: "1-30 April, 1779 A combined force of North Carolina and Virginia troops led by Colonel Evan Selby successfully attacks a series of Chicamauga Indian villages in Tennessee, in retaliation for Indian raids on colonial settlements."

Additional information concerning this expedition is difficult to find, but appears to be connected to a Cherokee Indian called "Dragging Canoe." Coastal tribes such as the so called "Five Civilized Tribes" had developed agriculture as well as hunting for their sustenance. Inland tribes dominated greater areas and were nomadic and more warlike as they depended on hunting game and raiding other tribes for their living.

By 1779, the Tribal elders of the "Cherokee Nation" had learned that war with the settlers inevitably ended in defeat, loss of territory, and the lives of their most courageous and strongest "braves." They realized that if accommodation with the both the British and Americans could not be established, that in the long run the tribes would be pushed ever westward facing enemies on the east, west, and south. Elders resigned themselves to the belief that western expansion by the Americans was inevitable and could not be stopped. Their only desire was an accommodation with the Americans so that they could live secure in their traditional style. Adding to this decision was the constant threat by the Spanish to their south. The Spanish were not as much a threat as the Americans, but on occasion engaged in expeditions against the Indians to their north and west.

Younger men, revolting at this philosophy, looked for a "War Chief" who would lead them into battle to prove their strength as warriors, and to win back the lands which had been stolen from the tribes by white settlers. They found such a leader in Dragging Canoe, who led them into attacks on settlers along the frontier. This resulted in retaliatory expeditions not only by Virginians, who claimed the entire territory, but expeditions from both North and South Carolina. One such expedition may very well be the combined 30 day expedition referred to by Sclessinger.

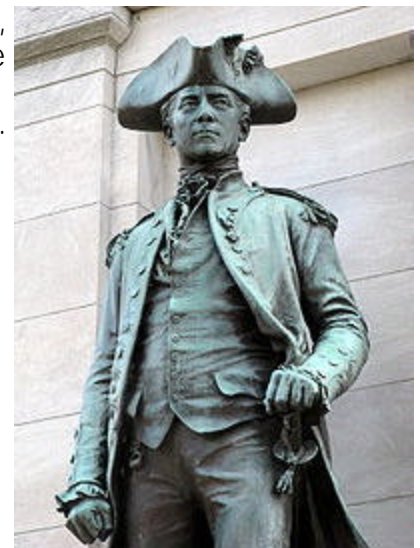
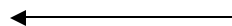
The result was an even greater retreat into more distant tribes, some even finding refuge in Spanish Pensacola. Families generally divided along generational lines with the younger members following Dragging Canoe. Those remaining with the elders found accommodation with the Europeans, while Dragging Canoe formed a new community along the Chicamauga River, becoming the Chicamauga tribe of the Cherokee Nation. The warlike Chicamaugas became the center of resistance within the Cherokee Nation.

I am unable to find a Chicamauga River on a map, nor do I find a Chicamauga Tribe in the Encyclopedia Britannica. I do find Chicamauga, the Civil War battle which occurred in northern Georgia, approximately 12 miles south of present day Chattanooga, Tennessee.

I find no other occurrence in April mentioned in any reference. However there was a beehive of activity in the French port of Lorient by John Paul Jones, who was making improvements to the aging ship as well as fitting out Le Duc de Duras. Jones renamed the ship the Bonhomme Richard, in honor of, and in gratitude for, Doctor Franklin's assistance in even obtaining this old tub.



Engraving based on the painting "Action Between the Serapis and Bonhomme Richard" by Richard Paton, 1780.



John Paul Jones Memorial

## The American Revolution – Month By Month - April 1779 by Andrew J. Stough III, Edited by Harold Rogers

(continued from page 4)

Formerly a merchant ship, Le Duc de Duras was built in 1766 and used by the Compagne des Indies, the French rival of England's East India Company. Le Duc was old, slow, and designed for cargo, which made it a ship of last resort for Jones, who preferred to be the attacker, not the attacked.

It was during this time that Jones' unknown past came to light. Jones shared his time between boat building in Lorient and consultation with Benjamin Franklin in Pasy, France. Both Jones and Dr. Franklin were favorites of, and shared a mutual enjoyment of, the Ladies of the French nobility. While in Lorient, Jones received a business note from Franklin, which in a postscript mentioned a mystery concerning Jones, which needed clearing up. Jones mistakenly assumed that it referred to a 1773 incident in Tobago in which a minor mutiny turned into a disaster. It seems that Jones denied shore leave and payment of wages to a group of seamen from Tobago. When a man three times Jones' size, and identified by Jones as the ring leader of the mutiny, attempted to bludgeon Jones, the Captain ran the mutineer through with his sword, killing him instantly.

The mystery, as Jones saw it, was related to the Tobago incident. Today there is much that is not known about the incident, and what is known is not understood. Why was Jones advised to flee the island if the circumstances as told by Jones were true? And what became of him in the 20 months before he appeared in North America with a new surname? Born in Arbigland in Scotland as John Paul, he appeared twenty months after the Tobago incident, not as John Paul, but as John Paul Jones, a name that he would carry until his death, and the name that would be engraved on his tomb. However, this was not the mystery to which Franklin alluded. Franklin's postscript concerned a prank performed in Pasy using Jones' identity.

Jones was much put out to find that he had so candidly confessed the goings on at Scarborough, Tobago when the allusion was merely a girl's prank. Jones never spoke of the matter again, and there is little evidence from Franklin's memoirs concerning "L'Affaire Tobago", leaving it almost as much of a mystery today as it was before Doctor Franklin's letter.

It is time to consider the intelligence situation in the spring of 1779. Both sides were interested in learning more about their enemy. What was his current situation and future plans, and was there anyone in a position of authority who would pass current plans? There was such a person in the Continental Army who maintained a coded stream of covert correspondence with Major John Andre, adjutant to Sir Henry Clinton. Due to an inability to meet with the unknown individual or to satisfy his demands for money and rank in the British Army, the negotiations ceased - at least temporarily. The unknown correspondent was the Military Commander of Philadelphia - Major General Benedict Arnold.

References: Schlessinger's, "The Almanac of American History;" Colin C. Calloway's, "The American Revolution in Indian Country," Morrison's "John Paul Jones, A Sailor's Biography" and, Encyclopaedia. Britannica; Lancaster's "The American Revolution."



**Benjamin Franklin**

Portrait by Joseph Siffred Duplessis

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# Report on the 134th Annual CASSAR Meeting in Costa Mesa, California

by Jim Faulkinbury - Edited for the Mother Lode Chapter by Tom Chilton

The 134<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the CASSAR was held in Costa Mesa at the Wyndham Hotel on April 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>. Representing the Mother Lode Chapter were President, Tom Douglas with his wife Joyce, Registrar Jim Young, Associate Member Wayne Griswold, and Associate Member Tom Chilton, with his wife, Marilyn.

The 1<sup>st</sup> session of the General Business Meeting began at 9:00am on Friday morning. The State Officer and Chapter reports were the 1<sup>st</sup> order of business, followed by the National Officer Reports for those present (most National Officers were in Lexington, MA, for the Patriots Day celebration). NSSAR Inspector General, Larry Magerkurth, gave an update of the revised plans to build out a new NSSAR Library in the building adjoining the Fulton Conway Bldg. in Louisville. The Fulton Conway Bldg. will be the new NSSAR Headquarters building. The



Joyce and Tom Douglas

revised plans are to build out the library first, but only if the funds are available. He also talked about the actions that the state societies must make under the new requirements for non-profits to comply with the Sarbanes-Oxley Legislation. The Sarbanes-Oxley Legislation (hereafter referred to as S-O) was passed as a result of the Enron failure. It includes certain reporting requirements for corporations to follow in order to avoid an Enron type failure from happening again. It went into effect for non-profits as well on January 20, 2009. These include By-law changes regarding ethics, conflicts of interest statements, whistleblowing policies, and more transparency. The booklet of Chapter and Officer Reports that was prepared for the meeting meets one of the requirements. All chapter and officer reports will be needed for full compliance. One chapter was missing from this year's reports [*The Mother Lode Chapter's report was submitted on time.*]. Larry announced that the 1<sup>st</sup> SAR Pacific/International Society Regional Conference will be held on the Norwegian Cruise Line's "Pride of America" during a 7-day Hawaii Cruise on September 5<sup>th</sup>. He also mentioned the NSSAR trip to Spain in May 2010. He encouraged all attendees to go to the 2009 National Congress in Atlanta. CASSAR is authorized to have 31 delegates, and would like to have all the delegate positions represented.

Among the significant report items mentioned was that as part of S-O requirements, the State website will have a "member" section to include items such as the CASSAR By-laws. Tour brochures will also be posted on the "upcoming events" page of the website.

The Nomination Committee then made its recommendations for the 2009/10 State Officers: President - Rev. Louis Carlson, Exec VP - Wayne Griswold, VP South - John Dodd, VP North - Keith Bigbee, VP Membership - open, Secretary - Jim Faulkinbury, Treasurer - Michael Howard, Registrar - Thomas Chilton, Genealogist - Earl Young, Historian - James Blauer, Chancellor - Richard Hawley, Surgeon - Ernest Latham, MD, and Chaplain - Rev. Phil Dodson. National Trustee - Steve Renouf, Alternate Trustee - Rev. Louis Carlson, Trustee of the Investment Fund - Marston Watson were also nominated.

Curtis Porter, the Valley Forge Chairman, discussed a change in the programs offered at the Valley Forge Foundation. This year they will not have any programs on the Revolution, but will instead have a program on the French and Indian War. As a result, we were asked to consider how to address this change since we desire the program to educate the selected teachers about the Revolution.

The Spanish Patriot Committee is preparing a recommendation for the Fall Board of Managers Meeting (BOM) to make a proposal to NSSAR regarding acceptable service for the Spanish soldiers who served during the period of the American Revolution. The DAR has adopted a more restrictive policy and NSSAR is looking into adopting it at the next National Congress.

# Report on the 134th Annual CASSAR Meeting

(continued from page 6)

The dates of the next meetings in April and November were discussed, as was a proposal to have next year's spring meeting in Yosemite. The Fall BOM meeting will be held in Riverside at the Mission Inn on November 13-14, 2009.

After the Law Enforcement Luncheon, the general meeting reconvened and the ladies took a tour of the Sherman Gardens.

A major discussion item was how to address very large increases in the publication and mailing costs of the State magazine, *The California Compatriot*. The cost is now \$3500 per issue and will go up again with increased duplication, postage, and postal requirements for special bar-coding software. A straw poll was held to see how to best handle this without increasing dues. The straw poll recommended that we go online only, with some provisions for those who don't have computer access to read or download their issues from the CASSAR website.

Following the general meeting, the Audit and Budget meetings were held and as Acting Secretary, I [Jim Faulkinbury] attended both of these meetings. One of the major items to come out of the Audit Committee, and to be in compliance with S-O legislation was the need to have a formal "Check Request" form online so all requests to the Treasurer would have adequate backup. The form would go by email to both the Treasurer and President (and a committee chairman, if appropriate), and the President would email authorization for the expenditure back to the Treasurer. If not properly submitted, the form or request would be returned to the submitter for proper resubmission.

The Budget Committee decided to limit this year's number of Valley Forge registrations to two in view of their change in the program, and then see what the teachers we send have to say about the program. [This year's program will be limited to the French and Indian War, and does not cover the Revolutionary War period.] We can look into other programs as an alternative in the meantime. The committee also decided to support a change in the publication of *The California Compatriot*. The next issue will be the last printed issue, and will contain information on how future issues can be obtained electronically.

On Saturday morning, the General Session was reconvened. The Ladies Auxiliary Meeting was also convened. At the General Session, Color Guard Commander Don Moran stated that based on the inputs for the Best Color Guard Contest, the various chapter Color Guards were averaging four events per week statewide. The report of the Budget and Audit Committee was given, and another item suggested was the creation of a new position of "Inspector" to serve as backup to the Secretary and Treasurer, and to be responsible for inventorying the CASSAR's property, which is now scattered in different places. This will be looked into for the BOM meeting in November. A motion was made to drop the CASSAR application fee (\$30) for Junior Members to be inline with our policy on Youth Registrants. It passed. Phil Hinshaw, the chairman of the Best Chapter Contest, indicated that he has had several recommendations for modification of the contest rules and asked that those interested get in touch with him to form a committee to make recommendations for changes. Next, the proposed policy changes to address S-O legislation were voted on. There was a discussion regarding the policy on retention and destruction of records, and that policy was modified to drop the sentences regarding application supporting documents. The five policies address: 1) a Conflict of Interest Code, 2) a Whistleblower policy, 3) a document retention and destruction policy, 4) website enhancement for inclusion of governing documents for members, 5) a requirement that State Secretary maintain a list the EINs for each Chapter and insure that each Chapter complies with the Form 990-N requirements annually, and 6) the naming of the Executive Committee as the Governing Body for review and approval of IRS forms all passed.

Two proposed By-law changes were next addressed. First was a revision of the duties of State Registrar to address the concerns raised by Registrar Tom Chilton regarding the usefulness and/or acceptability of some supporting documentation packages, and how to handle applications deemed inadequate by the Registrar. The proposed By-law was voted on and passed by the delegates. The 2<sup>nd</sup> By-Law change, requiring the Secretary to digitally image all documentation associated with applications, was tabled until the BOM meeting in November to allow time to determine why this requirement would benefit CASSAR.

# Report on the 134th Annual CASSAR Meeting

(continued from page 7)

The last item of business was the election of the 2009/10 Officers. The slate proposed by the Nominating Committee was elected, as was the election of Phil Hinshaw to fill the open position of VP Membership. Travis Spears announced his resignation as one of the Trustees of the Investment Fund, and recommended that Curtis Porter be elected to fill the remaining two years of his term. Curtis was also elected. The Mother Lode Chapter was recognized in the Small Chapter Division as having the highest percentage of members attending our meetings, most guests attending our meetings, the most new members, the most new CASSAR Life Members, the best publication, and the best publicity.

The General Session was adjourned and the Youth Awards Luncheon held. The Mother Lode Chapter's winning entry for the Americanism Poster Contest, by Mia Bonini, received third place in the CASSAR contest. She received a ribbon and a check for \$50.00 for her entry. Mia attends the Holy Trinity School in El Dorado.

After the Youth Awards Luncheon, the members and guests assembled outside the hotel at lakeside for a Memorial Service for those compatriots who passed away during the last year. Compatriot Lee Wolary was remembered at that time.

The Annual Inauguration Banquet was held at 7:00pm with entertainment provided by the "Catch the Spirit" performers. Awards were made, and the Mother Lode Chapter won the "Best Small Chapter Award." A small chapter is defined as having 25 members or less. Following the awards, the 2009/10 slate of CASSAR Officers was sworn in followed by the swearing in of the Ladies Auxiliary slate of officers. Following the raffle, the 2009 Annual Meeting was adjourned.



Don Gurley played "taps."



President Tom Douglas received the "Best Small Chapter" Certificate and Plaque from CASSAR President Steve Renouf as Phil Hinshaw, CASSAR Best Chapter Contest Coordinator looks on.



"Catch the Spirit" singers of all ages entertained us at the Inauguration Banquet.





# Photos from the CASSAR meeting held in Costa Mesa



Lou Carson and John Dodd (not in uniform) with the Law Enforcement honorees.



Jim Young, Un Yui Fosdyck, and Tom Douglas. Un Hui, wife of Jim Fosdyck, acted as the Official Photographer.



CASSAR ROTC Contest Chairman Jim Faulkinbury, Contest winner Christopher Windley, and Corena Ross, President of the Ladies Auxiliary.



Rev. Lou Carlson (speaking) as CASSAR Chaplain Rev. Philip Dodson stands silently.



Eagle Scout Robert Morgan, winner of the Eagle Scout Competition, is presented his Eagle Award by the Eagle Scout Contest Chairman Shawn Price.



President Tom Douglas and Registrar Jim Young proudly display the Best Chapter Plaque.

## Recent Mother Lode Photos



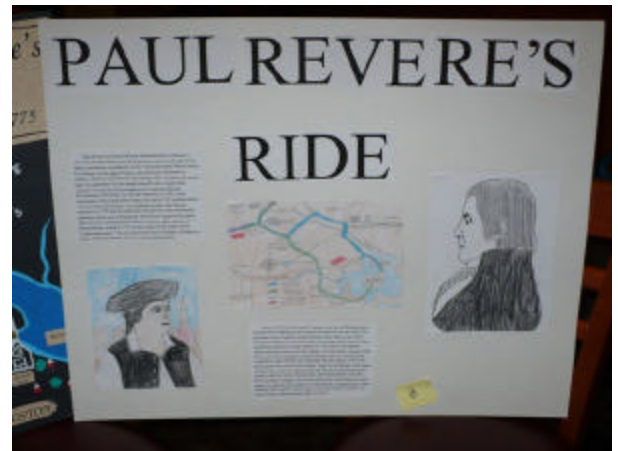
President Tom Douglas presented Jack Kloeckner with the War Service Medal at the March meeting.



2009 Poster Contest entry.



2009 Poster Contest entry.



2009 Poster Contest entry.



Jim Young mans the SAR table at the recent Family History and Lineage Societies Symposium, held at the Family History center in Placerville.



SAR table at the Family History and Lineage Societies Symposium held at the Family History center in Placerville

# Minutes of the meeting held on March 24, 2009.

By Brian Sonner

1. The Meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by President Tom Douglas. After the invocation, Pledge of Allegiance, and SAR pledge, the minutes for the previous meeting were approved. There were 10 members, 1 associate, and 2 guests present.

2. Member Concerns: Remember the loss of Compatriot Wolary who died February 17, 2009.

3.. Reports:

a. Treasurer's Report: There is \$938.14 in the checking account plus \$200 for a Lee Wolary Memorial to go into the Eagle Scout Fund, and \$500.77 in the savings account.

b. Registrar's Report: The chapter was represented at a Family History Seminar on family heritage at the Church of Latter-day Saints. Chapter representatives were well received.

c. Historian's Report: Nothing to report..

d. Membership: John "Jack" Kloeckner received a membership certificate, and War Service Medal and Certificate.



4. Old Business:

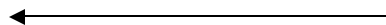
a. The Annual Poster Contest: There were 33 posters submitted by 5<sup>th</sup> Graders from two schools. The subject was Paul Revere. Members in attendance judged the posters. The winners were:  
Mia Bonini, Chris Khoury and Mikhayia Polivka from Holy Trinity Elementary  
Katina Vail, Roisin Kenny and Cameron Yee Cespedes from Jackson Elementary.  
Mia Bonini and Katina Vail will have their posters entered in the state-wide competition.

5. After the Benediction, the SAR Recessional, and singing God Bless America, the meeting was adjourned.

Brian C Sonner, Secretary



Jared Lopez, winner of the Knight Essay Contest, is presented his certificate, medal, and check, by program Chairman, Keith Bigbee at the CASSAR meeting on April 17th.



# “The Shot Heard ‘Round the World” 234 Years Ago, Lexington, MA

It was dawn on April 19, 1775, when the British advance troops under Maj. John Pitcairn arrived from Boston. Capt. John Parker, who was forewarned, had his militia lined up on Lexington Common. Because he had only 77 men, Parker had no thought of impeding the 700 British soldiers. He wanted to make a display of patriot resolve. But, as the militiamen slowly obeyed Pitcairn's order to disperse, a shot was fired - it is not clear from which side - and the green British soldiers, ignoring orders to stop, began firing at will at the fleeing Americans. When Pitcairn and Smith regained control, eight Americans lay dead.

Ralph Waldo Emerson coined the phrase "the shot heard 'round the world" to describe the significance of the skirmishes that took place at Lexington and at North Bridge in Concord.

Although the British fought two small skirmishes at Lexington and Concord, they fought a battle along the road from Concord to Lexington. Some may criticize the tactics used by the patriots in their engagements with the British along the road. However, the tactics they used can be clearly found in any military handbook. When an enemy that has attacked is turned to retreat, defense forces should pursue the retreating enemy. Not to pursue has been a mistake made, even today, by many military commanders. It is often not done because of troop exhaustion or for humanitarian, but the result is often that the retreating enemy is able to recover and fight another day. There is no doubt that the sting of Lexington and Concord was on the minds of the British during their occupation of Boston. They did not launch any further penetrations into the surrounding countryside.



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

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