



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

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Mother Lode Dispatch



Calling All Compatriots



April 28, 2015 Vince Gantt - Featured Speaker

Vince Gantt, a member of the Sacramento Chapter, was born in West Virginia amid a rich family history dating back 250 years on American soil. In his 74 years, he has traveled around the world, lived in many places, and done many things. At age 7, he witnessed an atomic bomb detonation in New Mexico. At age 10, he was paralyzed by polio. At age 18, Uncle Sam classified him 4F due to polio. In their infinite wisdom, he was reclassified 1A at age 22, and promptly drafted for the Vietnam War. He spent nearly 14 years in the military (full time and reserve), where his duties included time as an Air Force air-strike controller, as well as an Army counter intelligence agent.

Vince holds a BS in Business Administration from Ohio State University (Youngstown), an MS in Education from National University, and has completed over 200 additional college units. He also graduated from Harbridge Executive School (Chicago).

Vince has spent 20 years as a scoutmaster, and has sponsored/chaperoned 10 trips of 30 students each to historic East Coast sites. He has been teaching middle school students for 21 years.

Vince and his wife, Jenni, live in Citrus Heights. He will speak on the "Real American Revolution".



Denny's

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

The next meeting of the Mother Lode Chapter will be held on Tuesday, April 28, 2015, at 6:30 PM, at Denny's Restaurant in Cameron Park. Wives, guests and visiting compatriots are always welcome. Come socialize with us at 6:15PM. The meeting will start promptly at 6:30 PM.

Mother Lode Chapter Officers for 2015

President

Tom Adams

1st Vice President

Open

2nd Vice President

Open

Secretary

Tom Adams (Acting)

Recording Secretary

Chuck Smith

Treasurer

Wayne Griswold

Registrar

Jim Young

Chaplain

Gene Myers

Sergeant at Arms

Open

Dispatch Editor

Tom Chilton

Webmaster

Tom Adams

Historian

John Krahn

Committee Chairmen

Eagle Scout Program

Sam Bradley

ROTC Program

Open

Knight Essay Contest

Open

Valley Forge Program

Open

Community Awards Banquet

Tom Chilton

Law Enforcement Program

John Krahn

Flag Certificate Program

Doug Stone

Elementary School

Poster Contest

Tom Adams

Middle School

Brochure Contest

Tom Adams

From the Mother Lode President

APRIL 2015

Greetings Mother Lode: I hope you feel we are having a good Chapter year. For me there were three key happening at our last meeting:

1. The Chapter agreed to hold our 2015 Annual Community Awards Banquet as we have in the last few years. Tom Chilton agreed to serve as our Program Chairman and he intends to provide good fiscal control of the event. Anyone interested in serving on the committee should let Tom and Marilyn know. They are looking for help.

2. We had another fine Presentation – look for more at every meeting.

3.. Because we are having good presentations, we are having a difficult time “evaluating & judging” our youth contest entries, like the Brochure Contest and the Poster Contest. ... In January, when we usually have our Brochure judging, it was announced we were having a presentation – so we held the Brochure Contest judging outside of the meeting. This year, in March, when we usually have our Poster judging, we were also having a presentation – but I tried to jam them in together. ... Too tight – didn't get all the way though – I had to finish the process after the meeting (We ended our Chapter meeting at 9:00PM!) ... Lesson learned: With our new policy (which everyone seems to support) of having a presentation at every meeting, I am thinking we are going to have to do our Youth Contest judging outside the regular meeting. ... If you have some thoughts on this let me know.

Bye for now. We are getting things done. I hope many of you can join us at our next meeting. - Tom



**Tom Adams
President**

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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.

Minutes from the March 24, 2015 Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 6:36 PM by Chapter President Tom Adams. The invocation was given by Chaplin Gene Myers. Past President Sam Bradley led the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by Treasurer Wayne Griswold leading the SAR Pledge.

There were 9 Mother Lode Chapter members and 5 guests in attendance. This included our guest speaker, Jim Brown, Retired Lieutenant with the California State Prison System.

Reports:

Secretary – No Report

Treasurer – Treasurer Griswold gave a report and handout indicating expenses and income. The chapter's current checking balance is \$2,013.83.

Registrar – Registrar Jim Young reported that Jeff Doyle is a prospective new member. Jeff attended this meeting. His Patriot Ancestor Is Colonel Daniel Boone.

Historian – President Adams noted John and Joy Krahn's help in culling the poster contest entries.

Youth Activities – Poster judging was handled after the speaker's presentation. All members participated in the judging. Winners were selected and will be announced at our next meeting. It was also decided that the Youth Awards dinner will remain at the May meeting. President Adams also reported the chapter is moving ahead with our own ***Mother Lode Chapter - Outstanding Teacher Award***. The awards will be for 3 teachers from three different schools who have supported our youth programs for five consecutive years.

Additional Items from President Adams

1. Chapter purchased a PO Box in Shingle Springs for \$146.00 per year.
2. We can't survive without donations.
3. We need to find members who will assume the duties of Secretary, Registrar and Sergeant at Arms.
4. A motion to approve the 2015 Chapter Budget was postponed.
5. The following motion was passed: Hold the 2015 Community Awards Event as our Annual Awards Banquet as we have in the past years. Conditions: Project Manager, Fiscal Control, Chilton donation, and Tommy Douglass' offer to cover any short fall should it occur. It is particularly noted that Marilyn and Tom Chilton will donate \$500, to be used for the Community Awards Banquet. Funds not spent this current year are to be used only for the Community Awards Banquets in future years. The Chiltons will submit a letter detailing the intended use of their gift.
6. ***Sunshine*** – Chaplin Myers mentioned that he needs a current roster for contacting members.

Presentation:

As mentioned previously, our evening's speaker was Jim Brown, Retired Lieutenant from the California Prison System. Jim was introduced by Tom Chilton. Currently, Jim is Operations Manager for the Retired Correctional Peace Officer's Museum at Folsom Prison. Prisons were needed and introduced in California because of the Gold Rush. San Quentin was the first prison built. Folsom Prison was the next built. There are 3200 prisoners at Folsom, along with 1000 total staff that includes 485 uniformed staff. Jim mentioned that there are currently 734 prisoners on Death Row.

Folsom Prison Museum was started in 1973. Jim described some salient points about the museum including the history of a Gatling gun that is there. Retired staff personnel run the museum. It occupies the oldest structure on the grounds and is 900 square feet.

The last hanging at Folsom Prison was in May, 1941. The museum is open daily from 10 AM to 4 PM. It was noted by Jim that Folsom is a level 2 prison, while Pelican Bay and Sacramento are level 4 prisons.

Jim then mentioned that the museum needs to be expanded. However, legislation to approve the expansion was vetoed by Governor Jerry Brown. Jim also had a display of many interesting items and artifacts from the prison.

At the conclusion of his presentation, Jim was given the SAR Certificate of Appreciation by President Adams.

The Benediction, SAR Recessional and the singing of God Bless America was waived due to the later hour after the poster judging. The meeting was adjourned by President Adams at 8:57 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
C. Smith, Recording Secretary

Where It All Began

By Marg Green

Sacramento Chapter DAR

If circumstances had been different the men trudging up the hill may have been admiring the lovely apple blossoms in the orchards along the road on that spring Wednesday morning. But not this April 19th morning of 1775. Up since about 10:00 the night before, the British Army led by Major John Pitcairn were executing their well thought out plan. Get to the boats, row to land and march on to Lexington. Plenty of men, and equipment for this foray. A couple of days before, practically drooling over the prospect of arresting John Hancock and Sam Adams, some of the regulars entered the town tavern. Filled with overconfidence and braggadocio one or more of them revealed their plan to the locals.

Meanwhile the Americans knew that something was up. One noticed work being done to the longboats and barges of the British fleet, small patrols of officers were spotted. Americans posted guards to listen and observe in strategic locations, the call to arms was awaited, Revere had lanterns ready and he and Dawes were prepared to ride to warn Concord that the British were on their way. The approach of the British was quite expected in Lexington. As they marched through several towns, the 400 red coats were impossible to keep quiet. The noise of the boots clomping over bridges awakened the town folk who in turn ran out and fired warning shots into the air marking the progress of the British troops as they marched by.

On that fateful morning about 130 of the Lexington militia commanded by Captain John Parker mustered on the green in front of Buckman's Tavern. They waited for over an hour trying to decide what to do. While the days were unseasonably warm, the nights and early mornings were still cold. Impatient with nerves strung tight, some of the men went home. Others gathered in the tavern. All were told to be ready quickly at the beat of the drum.

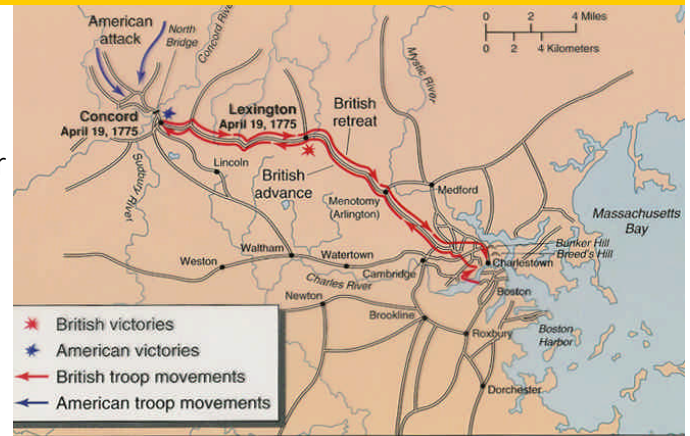
The drum sounded, mass confusion broke out. Some didn't hear the drum or ignored it, some ran to get ammunition, some were scared and wanted to leave. Eventually about seventy loyal militia men assembled. Pitcairn's light infantry, six companies in column, soon marched into view, scarlet coats, white breeches, and bayonets glittering in the early morning sun.²

It is not known what exactly happened next, but a shot was fired and a British officer gave a command, "Fire, by God! Fire" It was all over in a minute or two. Eight militia men lay dead, including Capt. Parker. One Brit and one horse were scratched. Off they went toward Concord.

Sources:

Lancaster, Bruce; *The American Revolution*, Houghton Mifflin Co., Boston; 1971

Middlekauff, Robert, *The Glorious Cause, the American Revolution, 1763-1789*, vol. II, Oxford University Press, New York Oxford, 1982



President-General Lindsey Brock's Goals for 2014-2015

President-General Lindsey Brock set five major goals for the organization for his term as President-General. Four of them are beyond the scope of the Mother Lode Chapter. The fifth goal is one that we can all help him to accomplish, that being the goal to create biographies for our patriot ancestors. That is something that each one of us can help him to accomplish. We all know something about our patriot ancestors, some more than others. I encourage you to do a little research on your ancestor, and then write and submit a bio for him or her. Our chapter will be recognized with a streamer for our flag if just 20% of us submit a bio. That is just eight bios. Send a copy to me, and I will include it in a future edition of the Courier. Get started now, as the bio must be submitted by May 30, 2015 to count toward the streamer. Visit www.sar.org for more information.

Tom Chilton

George Chilton - a patriot of the American Revolution

By Tom Chilton

George Chilton, the son of Thomas and Katherine Chilton, was born in about 1748 in White Chapel, Lancaster County, Virginia. Thomas and Katherine had at least eight children, including George. George's third great-grandfather, John Chilton, migrated to this county from England in about 1660. The Chilton family lived in Christ's Church, Lancaster County, Virginia, and it was thought that George lived in Lancaster County as well.

In 1781, George Chilton served two tours of duty in the Virginia Militia, one in Capt. Richard Yancy's Company at Cheraw Hills, and the other in Capt. White's Company at Yorktown. In his pension application he states that he was with a company of militia that guarded General Cornwallis as he was marched back to New York. I like to fantasize that George was one of those soldiers that whistled "Yankee Doodle Dandy" as they marched him back to New York.

George married Mary before 1775, and they had at least eight children. Mary died before 1809, and he married Sally Archer on May 2, 1809, in Chesterfield County, Virginia. There were no children from this marriage.

After the war, George Chilton and his family moved to Culpeper County, Virginia, and before 1810 he and his son, George Chilton, Jr., and their families, moved to Woodford County, Kentucky. They probably traveled through the Cumberland Gap carrying most of their possessions on their backs, and the backs of their pack animals.

George Chilton and his son settled near the communities of Mortonville and Nonesuch south of Versailles in Woodford, Kentucky. At one time Mortonville was considered as the site for the capitol of Kentucky. Today both of these villages are little more than cross roads. In May, 1833, George Chilton applied for, and was granted, a pension for his Revolutionary War service (Pension #S.1188).

George Chilton was a farmer who grew corn, raised pigs, cows, and horses, and kept honey bees, as recorded in his last will and testament. George died about July 5, 1839. Sally Chilton died about December 10, 1840. George Chilton, Jr., in a codicil to his will, refers to the "family burying grounds". We found his grave in a family plot just west of Nonesuch, and I think it fair to assume that George Chilton, Sr. was buried there as well.

The Chiltons spelled their name several different ways from the mid 1700s to the late 1800s, including Chilton, Chilten, Chelton, Shelton, and Shelten, and probably others. Family lore has it that George Chilton, Sr.'s grandson and great-grandson rode by horseback to Virginia to learn the correct spelling of their name. This was shortly after the Civil War, and it is said that they were met with some hostility, as Kentucky was a border state and Virginia was a slave state. After 1870 the name has been spelled Chilton. DNA tests show that many of the Sheltons living in Woodford, Anderson, and Mercer Counties in Kentucky are actually Chiltons.

George Chilton, Sr., is the patriot ancestor of Thomas Hobert Chilton, Jr., Thomas Holly Chilton, Steven Charles Chilton, Trevor Thomas McCarthy, Forrest Bond Chilton (Past-President KYSAR), and others.

Leslie Young honored at Debutante Ball

Leslie Young, daughter of Jim and Dacia Young, takes her bow at the recently held Debutante Ball, hosted by the California State Society, Daughters of the American Revolution. The ceremony was held at the Los Angeles Marriott Burbank Airport Hotel in Burbank, CA, on March 14, 2015. Leslie is a Junior at St. Francis Catholic High School in Sacramento. She plans to study law, and on the Mock Trial Team at school has won awards as the MVP Mock Trial Outstanding Defense Attorney, and Outstanding Witness.

Leslie is a member on the varsity golf team, and belongs to the Theologian and Latin Clubs. Her diverse interests include shopping, ancient coin collecting, and digital photography. She has been a member of the Capitol Society C.A.R. for six years. She is currently the President of the Capitol Society, and is a former State C.A.R. Chaplain. In the photo (right) is Jennifer McIntyre, Regent of the Malibu Chapter DAR, Leslie, and her parents, Dacia and Jim Young. Leslie's patriot ancestor is Major Richard Hewitt, from Connecticut. Dacia Young is a member of the Sacramento Chapter DAR.



President-General Lindsey Brock meets the Queen

On April 1, 2015, NSSAR President-General Lindsey Brock and DAR Regent-General Lynn Forney met Queen Elizabeth during the launch of a project to digitize all of the private papers from the reign of George III. The project, a collaboration with King's College London, will see more than 350,000 pages of documents digitized. It was the first time the Queen had seen the documents, which were previously kept under lock and key at the Royal Family Archives, housed in the Round Tower in Windsor Castle, according to the BBC. Among the documents is a letter from U.S. Founding Father John Jay to George Washington, dated 1782, and another letter sent to King George III by a spy named Aristarchus. President-General Brock is second from the right.



David Blaisdell - a patriot of the American Revolution

By Tom Chilton

Born February 21, 1736, in Amesbury, Massachusetts, David Blaisdell was a son of David and Abigail (Coby) Blaisdell. David's great-grandfather, Ralph Blaisdell, immigrated to this country from England in 1635, sailing on the ship Angel Gabriel, and landing at Pemaquid Point, Maine. The day after they landed, the great storm of August 15, 1635, destroyed the ship and most of their belongings.

David married Judith Jewell, daughter of Joseph and Ann (Quimby) Jewell, on December 24, 1755, in Amesbury, Essex County, Massachusetts. From this union there were eleven children. After Judith's death, he married Sarah Currier Bagley, the widow of Valentine Bagley. David was an accomplished tall clock maker. Several of his tall clocks can be seen today in the New Hampshire Antiquarian located in Hopkington, NH. Two of David's homes, located on Kenwick Court in Amesbury, are still occupied today

David enlisted on November 11, 1777, as a private in Capt. Oliver Titcomb's Company, Col. Jacob Gerrish's Regiment, serving for almost three months. He enlisted again October 10, 1780, serving in Capt. Richard Titcomb's Company, Col. Nathaniel Wadis' Regiment, serving for three and one half months. Besides being a clockmaker, David was a blacksmith and made most of the medal work for the frigate, Alliance, and other ships built in Amesbury. Later David went to Cambridge, where he used his skills to repair old muskets and other arms for the Continental Army.

David Blaisdell died in 1794, and Judith Jewell Blaisdell died January 5, 1786. Both are buried in the Bartlett Cemetery in Amesbury. Judith's headstone is still there, but David's has been removed. Townspeople tell us (in 2003) that it was recently taken, and are working to have it returned.

The Blaisdell name has been spelled several different ways over the last 380 years, including Blaisdell, Blasdel, Blasdell, Bleasdell, and probably other ways. David Blaisdell is the patriot ancestor of Thomas Holly Chilton, Steven Chilton, Trevor Thomas McCarthy, Thomas Charles Whitham, Marilyn Blaisdell Chilton, and others.

Your Ancestor - a patriot of the American Revolution

Your ancestor's biography could be here next month. All you have to do is write it, and send it to me as a Word document (.doc, .rtf, etc.). Most of the information can be found on your SAR application. You send it to me - I guarantee you will see it in an upcoming edition of the Dispatch, even if we have to add a page or two.

Tom Chilton



Mother Lode Chapter's 2015 Calendar

May 22, 2015 - Regular meeting at Denny's
Program to be announced

November 24, 2015 - Regular meeting at Denny's
Program to be announced

June 23, 2015 - Regular meeting at Denny's
Program to be announced

December 12, 2015 - Wreaths Across America
Sacramento Valley National Cemetery in Dixon,
CA. Ceremony start at 9:00 AM sharp. Wear
warm clothes!

September 29, 2015 - Regular meeting at Denny's
Program to be announced.

October 27, 2015 - Program and location to be
announced

December 22, 2015 Regular meeting at Denny's
Program to be announced

CASSAR Fall Manager's meeting to be held at the
Riverside Mission Inn. This is a great opportunity to
visit this historical treasure. Details will be in the
next California Compatriot.

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