



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

June 2011

Volume 5, Issue 6

Mother Lode Dispatch



Calling All Compatriots



June 2011 Program

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Anyone who is a member of the SAR or DAR has an interest in the weapons that were used during our Revolutionary War. Without weapons, there could not have been a revolution!!

Vince Gantt, Sacramento Chapter's VP of Programs, has an extensive collection of muzzle loading firearms used prior to, during, and after the Revolutionary War. He plans to bring part of his collection of these guns to our June meeting, and will discuss their operation, and where they were made. The British, French, and American soldiers who fought during the Revolution used these muzzle-loading firearms.

Vince was born in West Virginia amid a rich family history dating back 250 years on American soil. As a young man, he grew up among many of the firearms he is going to share with us.



The next meeting of the
Mother Lode Chapter is June 28, 2011



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

The Vice-President's Corner by Bob Conover

Mother Lode Chapter Officers for 2010

President

Jim Young

1st Vice President

Bob Conover

2nd Vice President

Tom Adams

Secretary

Tom Douglas

Treasurer

Roy Tougaw

Registrar

Jim Young (acting)

Chaplain

Gene Myers

Dispatch Editor

Tom Douglas

Historian

Mel Roush

Committee Chairmen

Eagle Scout Program

Tom Douglas

ROTC Program

Vacant

Knight Essay Contest

Vacant

Valley Forge Program

Vacant

Law Enforcement Program

John Krahn

Flag Certificate Program

Doug Stone

Americanism Poster Contest

Tom Adams

As we prepare for the summer break, let us look forward to enjoying the events you have planned for this time of the year. When we meet in the fall we need to look for donations to help fund the youth programs we are planning for the next year. Funds can be obtained by asking organizations you are involved with or know someone from the organization wishing to be a program sponsor or help provide underwriting for some of the Mother Lode Chapter's programs. We are a tax exempt organization and any donations could be used as write-off.



**Mother Lode Chapter's Executive Vice
President Bob Conover**

Now that I got your attention let us enjoy the last meeting and the talk about period firearms by our guest speaker Vince Gantt.

Bob Conover, Executive Vice President

Celebrate the Fourth



President Jim Young can be reached at 530-622-6389,
or at: jwyong1776@cal.net.net
Mother Lode Chapter Sons of the American Revolution Tax ID #26-1428350

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.

The American Revolution

Month by Month, June 1781

(Editor's Note: June began with Patriot Maj. Gen. Nathanael Greene setting up siege operations against the town of Ninety-Six with its massive earthen star-shaped fort. Greene's force of 1000 Continental Army troops and militia faced Loyalist Colonel John Cruger and his five hundred Tory troops. The town of Ninety-Six was located near present day city of Greenwood, South Carolina.)

The declaration by Congress in September of 1776 changing the name from the "United Colonies" to the "United States" was ridiculed by the British, who considered the whole affair very simply as a ragtag re-bellion of Colonies belonging to the British Crown. The term "ragtag" seems apt, since many American troops survived on meager supplies for long periods of time. The Americans' lack of food, shoes and basic clothing was all too common. However, even against an enemy so ill equipped, the seasoned Redcoats and Tories could defeat, but not destroy, the American forces will to fight on. The dream of independence seemed to unite the Americans. Had it not been so, the patriots would most likely have lost the war in the South by the battle of Hob Kirk's Hill.

Ninety-Six was, from the British perspective, the most remote of the British/Tory forts in South Carolina. As such, the settlement and its fort were vulnerable to a siege operation. The town and the fort itself were well prepared for defense with the exception of its water supply, which was a spring located outside the fort. The fort encompassed the entire community of Ninety-Six. In addition to the usual stockade, a Star shaped addition at its northeast end, with mounted cannon that could provide devastating fire, had improved the fort.

Lee arrived on 8 June followed by Pickens several days later. Lee was surprised to see that Kosciusko's parallels faced the Star fortification, which he considered a less vulnerable position than one that threatened the spring. Lee then began parallels in that location and eventually gained control of the spring and the small fortification, believing that denying water to the people and garrison would shorten an extended siege. Cruger responded by digging a well inside the fort, but did not find water and the outlook was dire, influencing him to make some entreaties toward terms of surrender.

Without a doubt the denial of water, even more than a scarcity of foodstuffs, was forcing the garrison to surrender. This appeared to be working until a messenger posing as a curious local was allowed into the American Camp. Nearing the fortress gate he spurred his horse and was allowed into the fort carrying news that Rawdon was on the way. Any thought of surrender was abandoned. Cruger determined to hold on through thick or thin to await Rawdon's arrival with an overwhelming force to rescue Ninety-Six.

It was 11 June when Greene was made aware of Rawdon's march toward the fort with reinforcements. This forced Greene to either breach the fort and capture it immediately or give up and move on before he could be trapped between the fort and Rawdon. On 18 June forces made an assault on opposite sides of the fort. One group made it into the fort and was doing well. The second force was unable to breach the stockade and the force within was pushed out and retired to its own encampment. The assault cost Greene 57 killed, 70 wounded and 20 missing. Cruger acknowledged 27 killed and 58 wounded. The withdrawal by Greene to Charlotte began on 20 June, his rear protected by the old standbys, Lee and Kirkwood. Rawdon arrived on 21 June. Rawdon left Cruger to destroy anything of military value in the fort and remove any inhabitants to Charleston while he left to follow Greene.

On 24 June, after two days of following Greene, Rawdon gave up the chase. Greene, assured that he was not being followed, sent the rear guard to keep watch on Rawdon, who having returned to Ninety-Six, moved toward Friday's Ferry, which appears to be synonymous with Nelson's Ferry, where he was to be joined by a force under Lieutenant Colonel Stuart (or Stewart) coming from Charleston.

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The American Revolution

Month by Month, June 1781 (cont.)

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Rawdon's trek to Friday's Ferry must have been a nightmare. The soldiers, clothed in regulation woolen garments, suffered in the humid summer heat, resulting in the death of 50 men from sunstroke. Rations were also a problem. For most of the march there was not even salt, and their only food was water and any wild cattle or animals that could be shot in the woods along the route of march. Arriving at the ferry, Rawdon learned that Stuart had marched toward the ferry but had been recalled to Charleston. Deciding to move south by forced marches to Orangeburg, he pushed Lee and Kirkwood back until they decided to step aside and let him go through unobstructed. With British forces almost non-existent except along the coast the situation in the South was about the same as in 1780. So ends the month in South Carolina.

VIRGINIA - June began with a bang. On June 1st Cornwallis sent Simcoe to attack von Steuben and 600 recruits who were guarding the main depot of American stores in Virginia. Steuben, forewarned by the capture of 30 recruits, had moved across the Fluvanna River, a tributary of the James. Simcoe was unable to follow for lack of boats used the stratagem of spreading out his force and building many campfires, which appeared to von Steuben as an encampment of the entire British army. He then abandoned the stores and retreated to Cole's ferry. Simcoe sent a detachment across the river and destroyed the stores

On June 4, Cornwallis sent Tarleton and some infantry against Charlottesville, where the Virginia legislature was temporarily in session. On his way he captured and burned twelve wagons loaded with uniforms for Greene's men. In Charlotte Governor Jefferson barely escaped, the legislature forewarned had fled to safety with the exception of a few who had lagged behind and were apprehended by Tarleton.

On June 10, Wayne joined Lafayette, with three Pennsylvania regiments and by Lieutenant Colonel Forrest and a section of the Continental artillery. On the 13th, Colonel William Campbell of Virginia joined him with 600 riflemen. Lafayette now felt strong enough to challenge Cornwallis and began a march south toward Cornwallis. On the 12th Cornwallis broke camp and moved towards Richmond. Lafayette mistook this for an effort to avoid his army. In actuality it was a move to get nearer to Clinton in New York. Cornwallis entered Richmond on the 16th.

Simcoe had been sent on the 23rd to destroy stores at a location west of Williamsburg. Lafayette sent a force to intercept Simcoe on his return to Williamsburg. On the 26th they found part of Simcoe's force at a tavern and made contact with them. Simcoe's Rangers appeared and the fight was hot and heavy but eventually Simcoe withdrew towards Williamsburg and the main force. Lafayette claimed a victory by virtue of Simcoe's departure. For the rest of June Lafayette and Cornwallis both lay encamped in and about Williamsburg.

Andrew J. Strough III - Edited by Harold Jones

References: Arthur M. Schlesinger Almanac of American History, Christopher Ward: The War of the Revolution, Bruce Lancaster: The American Revolution, Don Higginbotham: The War of American Independence.

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A Patriot Ancestor submitted by **Gene W. Myers**;

William King, my patriot, is the son of Ezra King and Silence Rice. William was born 24 Oct 1724. in Worcester, Worcester, Massachusetts and married Elizabeth Cushing about 1756 in Maine. William died 8 Nov 1793 in Brattleboro, Windham, Vermont

William and Elizabeth Cushing King Family

Adonijah King

- (B) 18 Feb 1787 near Scarborough, York, Maine
- (D) 25 Jul 1825 Hatch Hollow, Erie, Pennsylvania

Elizabeth King

- (B) 19 Mar 1759 near Scarborough, York, Maine

William King

- (B) 29 Jan 1762 Brattleboro, Windham, Vermont
- (D) 19 Dec 1844 South Newfane, Vermont

Ezra King

- (B) 29 Jan 1762 Brattleboro, Windham, Vermont
- (D) 12 Nov 1812

Cushing King

- (B) 18 Feb 1764 Brattleboro, Windham, Vermont
- (D) 19 Nov 1843 Edinburg, Saratoga, New York

Polly King

- (B) 5 May 1767 Brattleboro, Windham, Vermont

Thomas King

- (B) 20 Oct 1769 Brattleboro, Windham, Vermont
- (D) 1770 Brattleboro, Windham, Vermont

Thomas King

- (B) 16 Oct 1770 Brattleboro, Windham, Vermont
- (D) 31 Jul 1845 Montrose, Lee, Iowa

Ruth King

- (B) 2 Dec 1775 Brattleboro, Windham, Vermont

When the spirit of the revolution and freedom began to prevail throughout the colonies, William and four of his sons (Adonijah, William Jr., Ezra and Cushing) all enlisted as privates in the Continental Army. A fifth son, Thomas was too young to serve.

William's first enlistment came on June 9, 1777. Both he and his sixteen year old twins, William Jr. and Ezra, joined the third New Hampshire Continental Regiment at a time when the colonials were desperately trying to reinforce their garrison at Fort Ticonderoga in New York. British forces under command of General John Burgoyne were moving south out of Canada for the tactical advantage of cutting the colonies in half, and the Americans seriously needed to blunt his advance.

The New Hampshire regiments began moving into Ticonderoga the latter part of May 1777; however, on July 6, 1777, the colonists were forced to make a sudden retreat. Burgoyne surprised the garrison through a military maneuver, gaining control with his cannons of at the hillside overlooking the fort. As William and the Continental Army retreated south towards Saratoga, New York, Burgoyne pressed the attack. However, the Americans were able to turn the tide and in battles on September 19 and October 7, they forced Burgoyne to surrender. The Kings were unhurt through this engagement, and William was discharged on October 23.

The significance of this victory not only prevented the British from achieving their strategic advantage, but it brought France into the war allied with the desperate Americans.

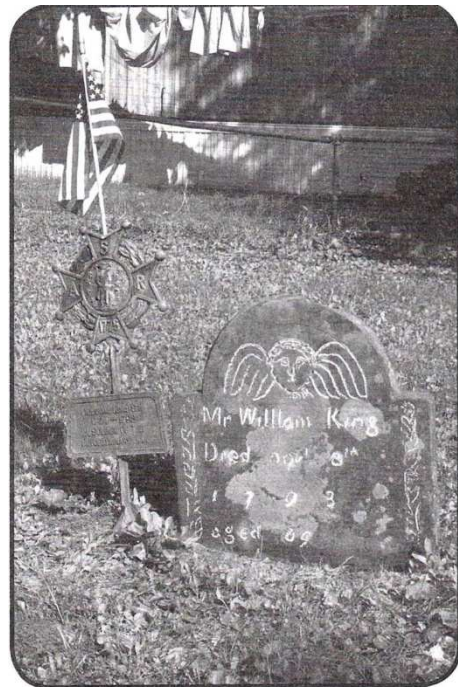
William again joins the army on February 4, 1778 for an undetermined period of time. The two boys, William Jr. and Ezra, spent the balance of a three-year enlistment, including an inhospitable winter at Valley Forge in makeshift shelters and huts. The horrors of the six-month engagement are evident by the bold statistic that an estimated 2,500 men perished out of a force of 10,000. Many other struggles and battles were encountered by the King boys. Fortunately at the war's end, all returned safely home.

During the course of the war, Adonijah was the first to join the ranks of the military in November 1776 for five months of service in Hull, Massachusetts and Cushing was the last to join in January 1781 for six months' service with the Massachusetts 6th Regiment.

(The above is taken from the book, *The Kings of the Kingdom, The Life of Thomas Rice King and His Family*, by Larry King, Orem, Utah 2008.)

Editor's note:

Compatriot Gene Myers has served as the Mother Lode Chapter's Chaplin since 2007. He is shown here receiving the Meritorious Service Medal from Chapter President Jim Young.



William King's cemetery marker located in the small Old Brattleboro Village Cemetery in West Brattleboro, Vermont, now over 210 years old. A Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) marker also distinguishes the grave.



Photos from Youth Appreciation and Awards Meeting May 24, 2011



Chapter President Jim Young (l) and Secretary Tom Douglas Present chapter poster winner Arraya Scarlett and chapter brochure winner Marcus Montejano their CASSAR Honorable Mention ribbons.



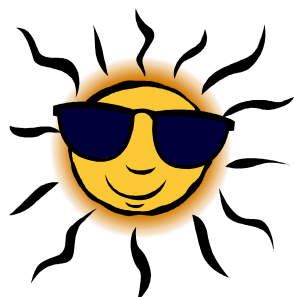
Marcus Montejano with parents Anna and Phil Montejano.



Arraya Scarlett with Aunt Kelly Welch

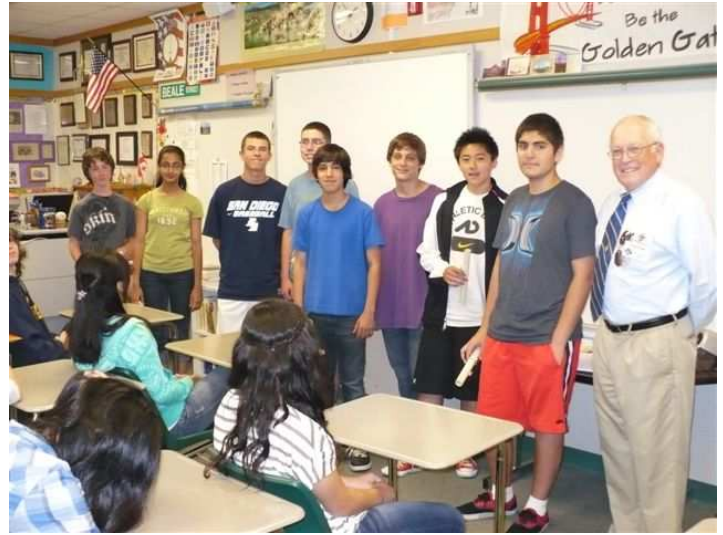


President Young presents guest speaker Kevin Tierney the certificate of Appreciation.



SUMMER HAS ARRIVED

Eighth grade student brochure contest participants and award winners



School Teacher Honored at District Board Meeting

Kevin A. Tierney, a 52 year-old teacher at Rolling Hills Middle School in El Dorado Hills has been selected by the California Society for the Sons of the American Revolution (CASSAR) to receive a scholarship to attend a course on the American Revolution presented by the Freedoms Foundation of Valley Forge, Pennsylvania. The scholarship pays the \$1,400 tuition for the course, plus money for travel. The course will take Mr. Tierney from Charlotte, North Carolina to Washington D. C. on a journey to explore battlefields and museums of the Revolutionary War. Mr. Tierney, a veteran teacher of 20 years, is excited for the opportunity and grateful that the CASSAR is committed to support history education. The course will begin on June 25th and continue through July 1st. Teachers who may wish to apply for this scholarship in the future should reference the CASSAR web site at



On June first, Kevin Tierney was awarded a Certificate of appreciation and a Certificate of accomplishment by Tom Douglas and Tom Adams (taking Pictures) at the Buckeye School Board Meeting at Buckeye School.



Colonial Days at Holy Trinity School



Mother Lode Chapter

Minutes for May 24, 2011

President Jim Young called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm at the Denny's restaurant in Cameron Park. After the Invocation (Gene Myers), Pledge of Allegiance (John Krahn) and SAR Pledge (Tom Adams) the Minutes of the April meeting were approved as written in the May Dispatch.

There were nine members and 11 guests at the meeting. The guests included Joy Krahn (IAUX), Marilyn Chilton (DAR), Tom Chilton, Jeannie Myers (DAR), Mary Lou Bell, Kevin Tierney (guest speaker), Arraya Scarlett (chapter poster winner), Kelly Welch (Arraya's Aunt) Marcus Montejano (chapter brochure winner) Phil and Anna Montejano.

Reports;

Secretary Tom Douglas reported on the ongoing process of giving out the awards for poster and brochure recipients.

Treasurer Roy Tougaw reported a balance of \$1601.00 in the general fund.

Registrar Jim Young has four applications in the works

Historian Mel Roush NR

Dispatch Editor Tom Douglas would still like to see articles from the members.

Youth Activities Coordinator Tom Adams reported on the success of the handing out of the medallions and ribbons to the poster and brochure winners.

CASSAR Past President Wayne Griswold reported on Mother Lode's participation in the May 25th "Colonial Days" at Holy Trinity School. Compatriots Griswold, Tom Douglas, Tom Chilton, Jim Young and Tom Adams plan on being there to give information and show artifacts of the time of the Revolution War.

CASSAR Honorable Mention Ribbons were given to Mother Lode Chapter's Poster and Brochure winners, **Arraya Scarlett** and **Marcus Montejano**.

Kevin Tierney, our guest speaker, gave a brief history of "John Rollin Ridge" and was presented a Certificate of Appreciation by President Jim Young.

After the Benediction (Gene Myers), SAR Recessional (Jim Young) and the singing of "God Bless America" the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 pm by President Young.

Respectfully submitted,
Tom Douglas, Secretary



Mother Lode Chapter's 2011 Calendar of Events

January 25- Regular Meeting/Brochure Voting

February 4- First Poster Contest Presentation

February 22-Regular Meeting/Washington's Birthday
Law Enforcement awards presentations

March 22- Regular Meeting/ Poster Voting

April 7-9 CASSAR Spring Membership Meeting, Irving, CA

April 26- Regular Meeting

May 24- Regular Meeting/ Youth Awards Program

June 28- Regular Meeting

July- No Meeting

August- No Meeting

September 27- Regular Meeting

October 25- Regular Meeting

November-Date TBD

December—Wreaths Across America

December 27- Regular Meeting

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