

MOTHER LODE CHAPTER OF THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

March 2009

Volume 3, Issue 3

# Mother Lode Dispatch





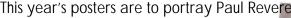
**Calling All Compatriots** 



## March 2009 Meeting

# Posters, We've Got Posters!!

Entries in the 2009 Americanism Poster Contest, sponsored by the Mother Lode Chapter, will be judged during our March meeting. If this year's entries are as good as those submitted to the Gold Country Chapter last year, we are going to have a difficult job selecting a winner. Below are three of the posters submitted to the Gold Country Chapter last year. The 2008 poster theme was Molly Pitcher.





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

The next meeting of the Mother Lode Chapter will be held on Tuesday, March 24, 2009, at 6:30 PM, at Denny's Restaurant in Cameron Park.



## Presidents Corner by Tom Douglas

# 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

Fellow Compatriots and Friends,

We have received about 40 Paul Revere posters for the SAR Americanism Poster Contest, to be judged during our March 24th meeting. The posters came from four classes at two schools. We will need to determine class, school, and chapter winners. It would be great to have a large turnout of members at the March meeting to make the judging a little easier.



The Mother Lode Chapter has reserved a table at the Family History Center in Placerville for the El Dorado Family History

Symposium, to be held on Saturday, March 21st. There will be workshops, displays, networking and free DNA testing. We hope participating in community projects such as this will encourage more men and women to become interested in their genealogy, and the SAR. [See pages 6 and 7 for more information about this Symposium.]

April 16-19 is the 134th Annual Meeting of the Membership of the California Society, SAR, to be held in Costa Mesa. There is a registration form in this newsletter if you are interested in attending. [See page 3 for the Registration Form.]

You will find a copy of the bylaw changes to be voted on at the Annual Meeting on pages 8 and 9. If you have an opinion on any of these issues, please let me know at the March meeting. The Mother Lode Chapter has one vote, and I would like it to represent the chapter, and not just me.

In Patriotic Service

Tom

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

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.

## Register Now for the 134th CASSAR Meeting



#### Hotel Information:

#### WYNDHAM HOTEL - ORANGE COUNTY AIRPORT

3350 Avenue of the Arts, Costa Mesa, California 92626 Hotel Telephone: (714) 751-5100 - - Reservations: (866) 747-2635

The room costs per night, plus tax, is \$ 99.00 for a single or double room, \$ 115.00 for an Executive Suite, or \$ 159.00 for a Deluxe Suite. Self-parking is complimentary.

Room reservations must be made directly with the hotel. When you reserve your room, please specify that you are part of the Sons of the American Revolution group. Reservations must be made no later than March 31st, 2009; thereafter, reservations will be taken on a space and rate availability basis.



The registration fee is \$ 120.00 per person. It covers Friday and Saturday luncheon, and the Saturday Banquet.

After March 31\*, 2009, the registration fee is \$ 130.00

Compatriot:	Gue	est:	
Chapter:	Title:	Telephone an	d/or E-mail:
Number of registrants @ \$120.00	@ \$130	.00	Total Costs: \$
Non-registered for Friday luncheon	@ \$ 37.00 Num	ber:	Total Costs: \$
Non-registered for Saturday luncheo	n @ \$ 37.00 Numl	per:	Total Costs: \$
Non-registered for Saturday Banque	t @ \$ 46.00 Num	ber:	Total Costs: \$
			Total enclosed: \$
For the Saturday banquet, the number	er of Beef Sirloin, _	Grilled Saln	nonVegetarian

Please mail your reservation to: Rex B. Shannon, Meeting Chairman, P.O. Box 19158, Irvine, CA. 92623-9158

E-mail: RexBShannon@gmail.com Telephone: (714) 669-3016.

Make checks provable to: Rex B. Shannon, Orange County, Chapter, SAR

Make checks payable to: Rex B. Shannon, Orange Country Chapter, SAR.

It will be a fun meeting, and we have many important items for discussion and vote. The hotel is within walking distance from the outstanding South Coast Plaza Mall and its 280 shops, stores, and restaurants. We will be selecting a women's event from several options. Sign up for this ladies events upon arrival at the meeting.



# The American Revolution – Month By Month - March1779 by Andrew J. Stough III, Edited by Harold Rogers

March 1779 found Washington and the Northern Division of the Continental Army encamped in an arc around New York City, caught in a stalemate with Clinton in New York. It was a trying time for Washington. The City of New York was a particular burden as it was the scene of his first and most disastrous failure, and a constant reminder of that failure. Washington wanted to push the British out of the city, but that would require close-in urban fighting, building by building, street by street. During this time, the entire operation would be subject to an almost guaranteed bombardment by British warships in the harbor.

The Continental Army was not trained or manned to engage in such a man eating urban assault that would require days, weeks, and possibly months to clear the town of British troops. Washington could not depend upon assistance from the French Navy. Therefore, even after clearing the Redcoats out of the city, there would still be the Royal Navy in New York harbor to contend with. Washington inclined toward action rather than reaction, but under the prevailing restraints he decided to sit tight and keep a watchful eye on Clinton.

Clinton's primary instruction from London was to hold New York and Newport as a base for ground troops and the Royal Navy. He was to support the southern expedition, and render aid when possible to the broader war with France. The northern colonies would have the last priority. Not only was he thus tied down, but was not sufficiently manned to challenge Washington in open battle on land, nor was he able to move up the Hudson River by ship due to forts, and more importantly, a massive log and chain boom across the river at West Point. Neither was able to move against the other, but as in Philadelphia, Clinton had the luxury of occupying New York, the second largest city in North America, while the Continental Army had to make do with the few comforts they could find as they stood guard in an arc around the city.

Meanwhile, the Southern Army, under Gen Lincoln, was reveling in the scores of new militia and recruits who came to Purysburg after the victories of Kettle Creek and Beaufort. This influx, which doubled Lincoln's troops, and the glory of the last two victories, caused Gen. Lincoln to believe that he could reclaim Georgia. In late February, he began positioning his forces in a triad about Augusta, a decision he would soon regret.

Planning a three pronged attack, Lincoln sent Gen. Williamson and 1200 troops to the east bank of the Savannah River opposite Augusta. General Rutherford was sent with 800 men to the Black Swamp, while Gen. John Ashe, with 1,400 North Carolina militia, and Colonel Elbert, with 100 Georgia Continentals, marched south to the Savannah River, and then proceeded north to join Williamson. British Lt. Col. Archibald Campbell, holding Augusta, noted the approach of the two forces and evacuated Augusta taking the road south toward Savannah.

The force commanded by General Ashe was later reinforced to a strength of 1700 men, which included 200 light horse. Noting the abandonment of Augusta and the British retreat southward, Ashe crossed the river and pursued the British, who crossed Briar creek destroying the bridge behind them. Ashe arrived at the creek on February 27th, and began rebuilding the bridge. It is not mentioned how General Prevost came to appear on the scene, but he is credited with the plan to thwart the rebels by leaving a force on the south side of the creek while sending another force across the creek northwest of the American position to fall on their rear so that the Americans would be caught front and rear.

The actual Battle of Briar or Brier Creek (as it is spelled on today's maps) occurred on March 3rd on a site roughly designated as at a bridge over Briar creek south of Augusta, which would appear to be where today's US Highway 25 and State Highway 121 cross Brier Creek, just northwest of the present day town of Waynesboro, Georgia.

In a circular movement covering 50 miles, a force of about 900 men crossed the creek west of Ashe's position, proceeding to move to his rear. By the afternoon of March 2nd several British reconnoitering parties were seen, and more were seen the following morning. Ashe took no action against them, other than positioning militia facing the apparent enemy in his rear. As the British advanced and opened fire, the militia broke and ran for the swamps. The Continentals were now trapped by fire from both sides of Briar Creek. They held and fought until it was obvious that there was no hope of surviving. Then and only then did they break and run. Ward records that the entire American van was captured along with 11 officers, including Colonel Elbert, Commander of the Continentals, and 162 non-commissioned officers and men. Several hundred other men died, either killed by enemy action, lost in the swamps, or drowned trying to cross the Savannah River to return to South Carolina. British losses were negligible with 5 killed and 11 wounded. Of the 1700 Americans present at the beginning of the battle, around 450 rejoined the army, the others who survived without capture, were presumed to have simply gone home.

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

(continued from page 4)

It should be noted at this time that several things contributed to defeat of the Patriot Army. First and foremost was the fact that with the exception of the 100 Georgia Continentals, none of the American force had been trained to stand and fight against a professional army that was trained to advance stolidly against all odds until they closed with the enemy. American militias were locals with little of no training, especially in open warfare facing a seasoned enemy. Militia officers in charge were generally no better trained than the rank and file. The rule of the day was that a militia was recruited by men who became their officers or officers were elected to their rank by the men in that militia unit.

While militia had been successful at Kettle Creek, their victory was partially good leadership, and the fact that the enemy of Loyalist militia were no better trained than the American militia. The militia at Briar Creek broke and ran from an enemy with whom they had no ability to cope. Additionally, Ashe appears to have failed to use his light horse for reconnaissance to detect the troops in the circular movement. Nor did he seek to avoid a battle with the enemy behind him, or choose a place more suitable to his own force and ability. He knew the opposing force across Briar Creek had stopped their retreat, yet when a second force appeared behind him, he did nothing. This allowed the enemy to choose the time and place to their advantage, placing him between two fires that squeezed him as in a vise.

This was the third time that British commanders had successfully used this encircling tactic. First at the Brandy Wine, then Savannah, and now at Briar Creek. The Americans were Patriots, not military experts. It might be said that they were on the job trainees, learning as the war progressed. The experience wasn't entirely a waste. In most wars, combat sorts out the competent from the incompetent, and new leaders emerge who can cope with the enemy. In view of militia's inability to stand up to a professional force in a set piece battle, it was later determined that militia could be used effectively in the front rank to fire one volley, then retreat through the Continentals who could stand up to and meet the enemy on his own terms.

March 3rd ended any thought of recovering the state of Georgia. The public euphoria that existed after Kettle Creek and Beaufort turned into a panic that General Prevost would be so encouraged by his victory at Briar Creek that he would invade South Carolina with like results.

References: Ward's "The War of the American Revolution" and the Encyclopedia Britannica.

Not for sale or republication. The American Revolution, Month by Month series was written by Compatriot Andrew J. Stough, III, and is published solely for the benefit of the members of the Gold Country Chapter, California Society, Sons of the American Revolution. Permission to republish this series has been granted to the Mother Lode Chapter, SAR. The original text has been slightly edited by Compatriot Thomas Chilton.



# El Dorado Family History Symposium



# Workshops — Displays —Networking Saturday, March 21, 2009 8:00am—3:00pm 3275 Cedar Ravine Road, Placerville

The Power of DNA— Discovering Lost & Hidden Relationships.

Keynote Presentation by
Ugo Perego, MSc, Director of
Operations and Study
Research Coordinator
For The Sorenson Molecular
Genealogy Foundation

### FREE DNA KITS \*

Available from the
Sorenson Foundation
A 4-6 generation pedigree
chart required to receive a kit
\*See website for details

SEE BACK FOR
REGISTRATION FORM
& SCHEDULE

## REGISTER EARLY

Attendance limited to 300

Go to www.eldoradofamilyhistorycenter.org

or call 530-621-1378 for details on workshops, presenters and symposium schedule. Registration forms, pedigree chart forms & driving directions are also available on the site.

Sponsored by the El Dorado Stake of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints

## **FAMILY HISTORY SYMPOSIUM REGISTRATION FORM**

Name		
Address	City	Zip
Phone	Email	
Registration Fee (per person), Seminar Materials (optional) Lunch (optional) Lunch Preference:Ham (includes subway sandwich, l	\$ 7.00 \$ 5.00 _Coldcut Combo _	farch 14, \$13.00 at doorTunaVegetarian
Amount Enclosed:		
Make Checks Payable to: El Dorado Si	take Family History	Center
		8

# SYMPOSIUM SCHEDULE Please circle the classes you plan to attend

8:15 - 9:00		Check-in and Registration East Fover						
9:00 – 9:50		Welcome, Announcements, Keynote Speaker from Sorenson Foundation in the Chapel						
-3012-30		V 70 V 20 V 10 V 20 V 20 V 20 V 20 V 20 V 2	Work			W10001000000		
Room Assign	Chapel	RS Room	Primary Room	Seminary Room	Nursery Room	FH Center	Cultural Hall	
10:00- 10:50	I had my DNA tested Now what?	Scanning Photos & Document	New Family Search. org	New Websites at FHC	Beginning FH & Gen Research	Open House	Displays  DNA  Sample	
11:00- 11:50	Q & A about DNA for Genealogy Purposes	Restoring Faded & Damaged Photos	Making the Most of Ancestry .com	From Granny's attic to Your PC & Beyond	Beginning FH & Gen Research	Open House	Displays  DNA  Sample	
12:00- 12:50		Lunch, Ne		splays, Collecti Cultural Hall	ion of DNA Sar	nples		
1:00- 1:50	Finding & Using Tax Records	Understand & Organize PC Files & Folders	Navigating the US Census Records	Beginning Hispanic Research	Finding German Town of Origin	Open House	Displays DNA Sample	
2:00- 2:50	Genealogical Proof Standard	Pioneer Ancestors	Writing Your Family History	Nueva Galicia Genealogical Society	Beginning German Research	Open House	Displays  DNA  Sample	

## From the CASSAR Chancellor

January 18, 2009

To: All CASSAR Chapter Presidents.

From: CASSAR Chancellor.

Subject: Proposed Amendments to CASSAR Bylaws.

In accordance with Article XI of Restated Articles of Incorporation of the California Society of the Sons of the American Revolution, as amended, ("CASSAR") and section 2(i) of CASSAR Bylaw No. 5, notice is given that the attached proposed amendments to the CASSAR Bylaws will be brought before the April Meeting of the Membership. Voting will be governed by and in accordance with sections 4(b)(i) and (iv), 4(c).

Accordingly, voting on the proposed amendments "is restricted to one vote for each chapter president..." (§ 4(b) CASSAR Bylaw No. 8) If a chapter president will be absent from the meeting, he "may designate [in writing] another member in good standing from his chapter to vote as an acting chapter president..." (§4(b)(i)(b) CASSAR Bylaw No. 8) If such a designation is made, it must be presented to the Secretary "prior to the chapter roll call and must remain in effect for the duration of that meeting;..." (Ibid.) Unless such designation and representation is made, the chapter's vote will not be counted. (Emphasis supplied)

"Passage of the proposed Bylaw [amendments] requires at least a two-thirds vote of the chapters *present* and voting at the meeting." (*Id.* at §4(b)(iv)) Each proposed amendment will be voted on and tallied individually. (Emphasis supplied)

Comments are not solicited at this time and should be reserved for discussion on the proposal when moved.

Sincerely,

Richard S. Hawley Chancellor CASSAR

Cc: All Chapter Presidents, CASSAR President, Vice Presidents and Secretary.

## **BYLAW COMMITTEE DRAFT**

#### Section 6—REGISTRAR —

(a)—The registrar shall examine all applications for membership in the Society for substantive completeness. The Registrar shall report those found by him to be substantively complete to the Board or agent it may designate. **[OMMISSION]** The Registrar will examine and process supplemental applications in the same manner as regular applications **[OMMISSION]**. In the event of disagreement on substantive completeness, the matter shall be referred to the state genealogist who will make a final CASSAR determination of the matter.

## **Proposed CASSAR Bylaw Changes**

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(b)—The registrar shall receive and forward to NSSAR, all applications for membership found to be
substantively complete together with required admission fees [OMMISSION]. Should an application have been
judged to be substantively deficient by the registrar and his judgment is overturned on appeal, the registrar
may note any continuing disagreement with the CASSAR finding and his reasoning therefore in the forwarding
documentation [REWRITTEN & NEW MATERIAL].

- (c)—Should an application be determined to be substantively incomplete, the registrar shall bring the deficiency to the attention of the submitting chapter registrar with a concise explanation as to wherein the application is inadequate or incomplete [GRAMATICAL CHANGE ONLY]. All communication with an applicant shall be by the appropriate chapter.
- (d)—From time to time, the registrar may issue required "Standardized Application Submission Requirements" (SASR) which shall be followed by chapter registrars in their submission of membership applications; provided, however, that before publication such SASR's have received the concurrence of the president, the executive vice president and the vice presidents North and South. The SASR shall be dated on the date of issue and be signed by the incumbent president and the registrar. The current SASR shall be Annex A to these Bylaws [ALL NEW MATERIAL].

### Section 4—SECRETARY —

(c)—The secretary shall be responsible for digitally imaging and maintaining copies (or photocopies) of each approved application *including supporting documents*.\*

Should the secretary be unable or unwilling to digitally-image these documents, the president shall delegate that task to another CASSAR member. The SAR application and all supporting documents shall be treated as confidential.

\*Member discussion has indicated a second possible version of this requirement which might read substantially as follows: "including supporting documents for each generation which does not include a person living at the time of the submission of the application."

(d)—All NSSAR and SAR registration documents and supporting material are considered and shall be treated as private and confidential material and may neither be accessed nor provided to any person other than those within the SAR and NSSAR whose duties under the bylaws of the respective organizations require them to have access to or copies thereof; provided however, that access or copies of such material may be released to a third party ONLY upon the prior express written consent—signed by him either before a notary public or in the presence of the secretary—of the original submitting party. Copies may be provided to the original submitting party on his witnessed or notarized written request.

## Obituary - Lee Melvin Wolary

Lee Melvin Wolary died suddenly on February 17, 2009. He was born in Havre, MT, on September 10, 1937, to Orrin and Mary (Hughes) Wolary. As a boy, Lee was involved in the Boy Scouts. As an adult, he remained involved in Scouting and loyal to the principles of Scouting. He took his troop to the National Scouting Jamboree, and was recently recognized as South San Francisco's "first" Eagle Scout. Upon graduation from South San Francisco High, Lee enlisted in the U. S. Air Force where he served for four years in the Air Police and Security. After his discharge, he attended College of San Mateo.

Lee married the former Cecilla Kolloch on August 8, 1964. His experience in the Air Force would lead to a career in security with Litton Industries among other Silicon Valley companies. In 1997, Lee retired from Litton Industries and he and Cecilia moved to their dream home in El Dorado, CA. Lee and Cecilia, accompanied by close friends, would cruise to various places throughout the world. He enjoyed traveling, and was very active in a search for his Irish heritage. He was an avid Oakland Raiders fan and held season tickets for many years. He had the gift of being a good conversationalist, and enjoyed lending a hand to anyone.



Lee Wolary September 2005

Lee's application to join the Sons of the American Revolution was approved on June 16, 2005, when he joined the Sacramento Chapter. In 2007, Lee was instrumental in forming the Mother Lode Chapter of the Sons of the American Revolution in El Dorado County, and he transferred his SAR membership to the Mother Lode Chapter in January 2008. Lee was a member of the General George Weight Camp 22, Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, and was a member of Company B, 8th Regiment, California Infantry, Sixth Military District, Sons of Union Veterans Reserve, where he recently was promoted to Corporal.

Lee Wolary is survived by his loving wife of 45 years, Cecilia Wolary. He will be deeply missed by his sister, Delia Sanchez, nephew, Jeff Sanchez, nieces, Loretta Sanchez, and Linda Boot, and numerous other nieces, nephews, and cousins. A Visitation was held on Wednesday, February 25, at Chapel of the Pines, Placerville, CA, and a Funeral Mass was held at 10:00 AM on Thursday, February 26, at St. Patrick Church, Placerville. Interment was on Friday, February 28, at Skylawn Memorial Park, San Mateo, CA. In lieu of flowers, donations in Lee Wolary's name may be sent to: the Mother Lode Chapter, CASSAR at P.O. Box 475, Shingle Springs, CA. 95682 (donations will be used to support the Chapter's Eagle Scout Program), to Mother Teresa Maternity Home, 3122 Sacramento St., Placerville, CA 95667, or to Company B, Sons of Union Veterans Reserve, Corporal Wolary Memorial, c/o Company Treasurer, Fred Bohmfalk, 8517 Engel Way, Fair Oaks, CA 95638.

Lee Wolary was a good friend to the Sacramento members, as well as the Mother Lode members. He will be sorely missed by all.





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

1. The Meeting was called to order at 6:40 PM by Vice President Jim Young. President Douglas was in attendance, but was feeling under the weather. After the Invocation, Pledge of Allegiance, and SAR Pledge, the minutes for the previous meeting were approved. There were 7 members, 2 associates and 3 quests present.

2. Member Concerns: Compatriot Lee Wolary passed away last week. A viewing and Rosary will be held Wednesday evening at the Chapel of Pines in Placerville, and a service will be held at St. Patrick's Church this Thursday. The Chapter Charter was displayed with a black shroud and picture of Lee at the meeting.

### 3. Reports:

- a. Treasurer's Report: There was \$938.14 in the checking account on 12/31/2008 and \$500.68 in the savings account.
- b. Registrar's Report: Nothing to report.
- c. Historian's Report: Nothing to report.
- d. Newsletter: Members are invited to write articles which will be of interest to other Chapter members.



a. The Annual Poster Contest: Sacramento Chapter gave presentations in uniform at Jackson School and Holy Trinity School. Posters will be picked up the 1st week of March. There should be submissions from four classes this year. Some teachers are requiring all students to participate, so we should have quite a large number of submissions.

### 5. Flag Presentation:

a. Tom Chilton brought two flags from the Sacramento Chapter collection. (1.) The Compton Flag, a modified British flag of protest raised on a liberty pole. (2.) The Gadston Flag, Don't Tread on Me, containing a rattle snake on yellow field.

#### 6. New Business:

- a. Tom Douglas presented a proposed budget for 2009. The proposed budget included funding for the poster contest, Eagle Scout contest, and the essay contest. There was an extensive discussion of additional items which members would like to have included in the budget for this year. Tom Adams suggested including artifacts and building a website. More discussion and development will be necessary before the budget is accepted. Members are encouraged to look for methods of increasing the funds available to the Chapter for program expansion (i.e. working at the election poles and contributing that money to the Chapter).
- 7. Presentations: Brian Sonner, Captain, USCG (Ret) gave a presentation of the history of the United States Coast Guard beginning with its founding in 1790 as the Revenue Cutter Service and concluding with the current Coast Guard missions around the world.
- 8. After the Benediction, the SAR Recessional, and singing God Bless America, the meeting was adjourned.



## **Bill Mahan Schedules Cemetery Tours**

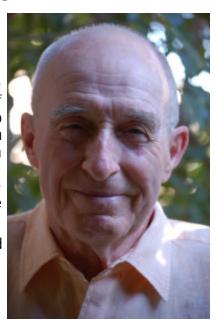
# David Warren, a member of the Sacramento Chapter, sent this message a few days ago.

"Bill Mahan, who gave a talk to the [Sacramento Chapter] SAR several months ago, called me today. His talk to the SAR was about famous people buried in our cemeteries. As he promised, he would appreciate it very much if you would mention to our SAR membership that he will be leading two cemetery tours at the Old City Cemetery, located at 1000 Broadway, in Sacramento. The first tour will be on Saturday, May 2, at 10:00 AM, and a second on Saturday, August 1, at 10:00 AM. You are to meet just inside the main entrance to the cemetery at 1000 Broadway. There is no charge for the tour, but at the end there will be a request for a donation for the upkeep of the City Cemetery.

His tours are fabulous. He is a retired history professor, and has researched the lives of dozens of famous people who are buried there. He is indeed a font of knowledge and also a fun person to hear."

David

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



Editor-Tom Chilton 916-933-6576 email: tchilton@telis.org



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Placerville, CA 95667-4222
TO THE POSTMASTER
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

The Mother Lode Chapter Sons Of The American Revolution

