



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

November 2008

Volume 2, Issue 10

# Mother Lode Dispatch



Calling All Compatriots



## Inside this issue:

Presidents Message	1
Give me Liberty or Give me Death by Patrick Henry	2
Give me Liberty or Give me Death	3
New member - Matt Adams	4
Happy Thanksgiving	4
Report from the Fall Manager's Meeting	5
Photos from the Fall Manager's Meeting	6
The Revolution - Month by Month - Nov. 1778	7
The Revolution - Month by Month - Nov. 1778	8
More photos from the Fall Manager's meeting	9
Photos from the October Meeting	10
Minutes from the October Meeting	11
Wreaths Across America	12

## Presidents Corner by Tom Douglas

Fellow Compatriots,

Our next meeting, November 25<sup>th</sup>, is very important in the young life of the Mother Lode Chapter. We will be holding elections for our chapter officers. There are a number of officers who are willing to extend their terms, but nominations for all offices will be taken from the floor.

We will try again to give Gene Bell his Certificate of Membership and welcome him as a member of the Mother Lode Chapter. Last month we were fortunate to welcome Matt Adams into membership. We still have three applications at National waiting to be approved.

We will hear some reports from the Fall Managers Meeting held in Burlingame on the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> of November, as well as other procedural issues that we should discuss. Please plan to attend this important meeting.

Because of a long business agenda, we will not have a guest speaker this month.

Plan now for our December meeting that will be held on Wednesday, December 17<sup>th</sup> instead of the regular fourth Tuesday.

In Patriotic Service,  
Tom Douglas, President



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

The next meeting of the Mother Lode Chapter will be held on Tuesday, November 25, 2008, at 6:30 PM, at Denny's Restaurant in Cameron Park.



# *Give Me Liberty or Give Me Death*

## *By Patrick Henry*

March 23, 1775

### **Mother Lode Chapter Officers for 2008**

**Tom Douglas**

President

**Vacant**

Vice President

**Brian Sonner**

Secretary

**Tom Douglas, Acting**

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

Patrick Henry is perhaps best known for the speech he made in the House of Burgesses on March 23, 1775, urging the legislature to take military action against the encroaching British military force. The House was undecided as to whether to send troops or not, but was leaning toward not committing troops. As Henry stood in Saint John's Church in Richmond, Virginia, he ended his speech with his most famous words: I know not what course others may take; but as for me, give me liberty or give me death! His entire speech follows:

"No man thinks more highly than I do of the patriotism, as well as abilities, of the very worthy gentlemen who have just addressed the house. But different men often see the same subject in different lights; and, therefore, I hope it will not be thought disrespectful to those gentlemen if, entertaining as I do opinions of a character very opposite to theirs, I shall speak forth my sentiments freely and without reserve. This is no time for ceremony. The question before the house is one of awful moment to this country. For my own part, I consider it as nothing less than a question of freedom or slavery; and in proportion to the magnitude of the subject ought to be the freedom of the debate. It is only in this way that we can hope to arrive at the truth, and fulfill the great responsibility which we hold to God and our country. Should I keep back my opinions at such a time, through fear of giving offense, I should consider myself as guilty of treason towards my country, and of an act of disloyalty toward the Majesty of Heaven, which I revere above all earthly kings.

Mr. President, it is natural to man to indulge in the illusions of hope. We are apt to shut our eyes against a painful truth, and listen to the song of that siren till she transforms us into beasts. Is this the part of wise men, engaged in a great and arduous struggle for liberty? Are we disposed to be of the numbers of those who, having eyes, see not, and, having ears, hear not, the things which so nearly concern their temporal salvation? For my part, whatever anguish of spirit it may cost, I am willing to know the whole truth, to know the worst, and to provide for it.

I have but one lamp by which my feet are guided, and that is the lamp of experience. I know of no way of judging of the future but by the past. And judging by the past, I wish to know what there has been in the conduct of the British ministry for the last ten years to justify those hopes with which gentlemen have been pleased to solace themselves and the House. Is it that insidious smile with which our petition has been lately received?

Trust it not, sir; it will prove a snare to your feet. Suffer not yourselves to be betrayed with a kiss. Ask yourselves how this gracious reception of our petition comports with those warlike preparations which cover our waters and darken our land. Are fleets and armies necessary to a work of love and reconciliation? Have we shown ourselves so unwilling to be reconciled that

(continued on page 3)

**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.**

# *Give Me Liberty or Give Me Death*

## *By Patrick Henry*

*(continued from page 2)*

force must be called in to win back our love? Let us not deceive ourselves, sir. These are the implements of war and subjugation; the last arguments to which kings resort. I ask gentlemen, sir, what means this martial array, if its purpose be not to force us to submission? Can gentlemen assign any other possible motive for it? Has Great Britain any enemy, in this quarter of the world, to call for all this accumulation of navies and armies? No, sir, she has none. They are meant for us: they can be meant for no other. They are sent over to bind and rivet upon us those chains which the British ministry have been so long forging. And what have we to oppose to them? Shall we try argument? Sir, we have been trying that for the last ten years. Have we anything new to offer upon the subject? Nothing. We have held the subject up in every light of which it is capable; but it has been all in vain. Shall we resort to entreaty and humble supplication? What terms shall we find which have not been already exhausted? Let us not, I beseech you, sir, deceive ourselves. Sir, we have done everything that could be done to avert the storm which is now coming on. We have petitioned; we have remonstrated; we have supplicated; we have prostrated ourselves before the throne, and have implored its interposition to arrest the tyrannical hands of the ministry and Parliament. Our petitions have been slighted; our remonstrances have produced additional violence and insult; our supplications have been disregarded; and we have been spurned, with contempt, from the foot of the throne! In vain, after these things, may we indulge the fond hope of peace and reconciliation.



Patrick Henry  
1736-1799

There is no longer any room for hope. If we wish to be free--if we mean to preserve inviolate those inestimable privileges for which we have been so long contending--if we mean not basely to abandon the noble struggle in which we have been so long engaged, and which we have pledged ourselves never to abandon until the glorious object of our contest shall be obtained--we must fight! I repeat it, sir, we must fight! An appeal to arms and to the God of hosts is all that is left us! They tell us, sir, that we are weak; unable to cope with so formidable an adversary. But when shall we be stronger? Will it be the next week, or the next year? Will it be when we are totally disarmed, and when a British guard shall be stationed in every house? Shall we gather strength but irresolution and inaction? Shall we acquire the means of effectual resistance by lying supinely on our backs and hugging the delusive phantom of hope, until our enemies shall have bound us hand and foot? Sir, we are not weak if we make a proper use of those means which the God of nature hath placed in our power. The millions of people, armed in the holy cause of liberty, and in such a country as that which we possess, are invincible by any force which our enemy can send against us. Besides, sir, we shall not fight our battles alone. There is a just God who presides over the destinies of nations, and who will raise up friends to fight our battles for us. The battle, sir, is not to the strong alone; it is to the vigilant, the active, the brave. Besides, sir, we have no election. If we were base enough to desire it, it is now too late to retire from the contest. There is no retreat but in submission and slavery! Our chains are forged! Their clanking may be heard on the plains of Boston! The war is inevitable--and let it come! I repeat it, sir, let it come.

It is in vain, sir, to extenuate the matter. Gentlemen may cry, Peace, Peace--but there is no peace. The war is actually begun! The next gale that sweeps from the north will bring to our ears the clash of resounding arms! Our brethren are already in the field! Why stand we here idle? What is it that gentlemen wish? What would they have? **Is life so dear, or peace so sweet, as to be purchased at the price of chains and slavery? Forbid it, Almighty God! I know not what course others may take; but as for me, give me liberty or give me death!**



## New Member - Matthew Cayle Adams

Matthew Cayle Adams was born on July 17, 1969, in Carmichael, CA, and spent his childhood in El Dorado Hills, CA, where he still lives today. He graduated from California State University, Sacramento, with a Bachelor's Degree in English. Matt is married to Laura Marie Simonelli, and they have three children, Julia Clare Adams, Ashley Elizabeth Adams, and Nicholas Cayle Adams. Julia Adams sang the National Anthem at the opening ceremonies of this year's SAR Congress, held in Sacramento.

Matt has spent the last ten years employed by Round Table Pizza, Inc., where he works as a Senior Area Manager for the Sacramento area. Prior to that, he spent five years with the State of California working for CalPERS and the State Library.

His hobbies include anything athletic from playing tennis and golf, to coaching soccer for his kids. He also loves to read and write science-fiction and fantasy.

Matt's application to join the Sons of the American Revolution was approved on June 17, 2008. His patriot ancestor, Moses Adams, enlisted April 19, 1775, for 17 days in Captain Moses Soul's Company, and later enlisted May 8, 1775, and served 3 months, 1 day. His Company returned on October 7, 1775. He was a Sergeant in Captain Allen's company, and was on the muster rolls for March and May 1778, and was paid for services from June 21, 1777 to June 28, 1778. He was reported as having died on June 28, 1778.



## Report on the 133<sup>rd</sup> Fall Board of Managers Meeting in Burlingame, CA

by Jim Faulkinbury [Edited for the Mother Lode Chapter by Tom Chilton.]

The 133<sup>rd</sup> Board of Managers Meeting (BOM) was held in Burlingame at the Sheraton Gateway Hotel on November 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>. Representing the Mother Lode Chapter were Tom and Joyce Douglas, and Jim Young.

The 1<sup>st</sup> session of the Business Meeting began at 9:00am on Friday morning. There not being enough representatives of the chapters and State officers, the 51% quorum of the required membership was not present and the meeting was limited to the Officer and Chapter reports. At noon, a tour to San Francisco boarded their buses with the first stop at Mount Olivet Memorial Park in Colma to lay a wreath at the gravesite of Dr. James Lafayette Cogswell. Dr. Cogswell held the first meeting of the "Sons of Revolutionary Sires" in October 1875, and is considered to be the founder of the CASSAR. A commemorative plaque will be mounted near the Cogswell monument at a later date. Following that ceremony, the tour bus had drop-offs at either the Civic Center/City Hall (to optionally see the Asian Art Museum exhibit of "The Hidden Treasures of Afghanistan"), the Westfield Shopping Mall, or Pier 39/Fisherman's Wharf. The bus returned to the Sheraton at 4:30pm in time to enjoy the Hospitality Room.



**Jim Faulkinbury making a presentation during the wreath laying ceremony.**

On Saturday, there were enough chapters represented to make the required quorum, and the General Business Meeting was held. Among the items discussed and approved was a motion to align the CASSAR dues for Junior Members to be the same as for Youth Registrants since the National Society is pushing the Junior Membership Program over the Youth Registrant program. It was voted to not require the CASSAR annual dues for Junior Members, and to limit their benefits to match those of the Youth Registrants. Other items approved included the issuance of Life Membership Certificates as part of the CASSAR Life Membership program with funds to come out of the Medals and Certificates budget, and the endorsements of candidates for National Officers to be sent to the NSSAR Nominating Committee. The endorsements included Judge Ed Butler for President General, J. David Simpson for Secretary General, and Larry Magerkurth for Treasurer General. The Awards Luncheon was next held, and Tom Chilton, Wayne Griswold, and Jim Faulkinbury were awarded the CASSAR "James Lafayette Cogswell President's Award" for service to the California Society. Several other CASSAR members received awards at that time.

Following the luncheon, the General Business Meeting continued with the approval of a budget item of \$850-\$950 from the 2008 budget to install a bronze plaque on the Cogswell monument at Mt. Olivet Memorial Park, and approval of the 2009 projected budget. After the Business Meeting, an Executive Board of State Officers and Chapter Presidents (or their designees) met to go over 3 proposed CASSAR By-Law changes. The approved By-Law changes were: **1)** A provision to allow the establishment of a 7 member Executive Committee to conduct business actions needed to maintain the organization's immediate operations in situations arising prior to a scheduled BOM or Annual Membership Meeting. Any actions would only be interim until approved at the next schedule BOM or Annual Meeting. **2)** Modification of the language of By-Law 8, Sec. 2(a) to correspond to Sec. 1(d) regarding the required timing of making notice of State meetings. **3)** Definition of the role of the State Registrar in the approval process, and provided for an appeal process to the State Genealogist for applications deemed insufficient by the Registrar.

The BOM concluded with the Awards Banquet. Sacramento Chapter's Ted Robinson was the featured speaker. Ted gave a talk about his experiences rescuing with John F. Kennedy and the crew of PT-109, and subsequently sharing a tent with Lt. Kennedy in 1943.

*Editor's Note: Jim Faulkinbury did the genealogical research necessary to find a living descendant of James Cogswell. Without his work, the CASSAR probably would not have found a living descendant necessary to give permission to place a commemorative plaque on Dr. Cogswell's monument.*

# Photos from the Fall Manager's Meeting held in Burlingame November 7 and 8, 2008



Tom Douglas and Wayne Griswold check their tickets for the winning numbers.



CASSAR Chaplain Phil Dobson and his wife, Mary Ann, provided entertainment before the banquet.



Joyce and Tom Douglas

Featured speaker at the Banquet was Ted Robinson, Sacramento Chapter SAR



Color Guard members included (L-R) Tom Chilton, Curtis Porter, and Jim Faulkinbury



CASSAR President Steve Renouf presents Ted Robinson with the SAR Certificate of Appreciation.



## The American Revolution – Month By Month - November 1778

### by Andrew J. Stough III, Edited by Harold Rogers

With winter weather already upon them, both the French and British fleets felt the need to follow the common practice of abandoning the stormy North Atlantic for warmer and calmer waters. On the third day of November, General Sir Henry Clinton dispatched transports carrying Gen. Grant and 5,000 men from New York City, destination unknown.

On November 4, French Admiral d'Estaing eased his fleet from the harbor at Boston heading along a southerly course. We now know that their common objective was St. Lucia in what is today the "British Windward Islands."

The movement of the French fleet had no direct effect on the war. But, the removal of 5,000 Redcoats from New York should have given Washington an advantage. However, the annual end of enlistments and the loss of entire units who had either been recalled by their state government or, in some cases, "just gone home" to secure their farms for winter, evened the odds, and the two forces were again about equal. The good side of the coin was that Washington was left with fewer men to feed and clothe through the winter. The Continental Army was rearranged into five divisions, each under a General officer who was given the responsibility for a specified area of operations. One Division was located at West Point, a second at Fredricksburg (now Patterson NJ), and a third division filled the gap between Fredricksburg and West Point creating an armed arc around New York City. The fourth and fifth divisions were assigned to Danbury, Conn. Unlike Valley Forge, each Division went into winter quarters in the area assigned to it.

The alliance with France was essential to the Patriots as it furnished money, arms, and munitions, but the debacle at Newport convinced Washington from a military standpoint that French military intervention would be only "as convenient to the purpose of France."

Perhaps it is time to digress to an earlier time and milieu of the war. If the war along the seaboard had grown cold, in the west the wilderness frontier blazed with action caused by British agents and their Indian allies. In the early days, some Indians had assisted British colonists and lived in harmony with them, but that day was long past. The Indians had soon come to learn that the arrival of British colonists spelled disaster for them and their way of life. The French co-existed with the Indian because they had been not as much interested in colonizing as in exploiting the land for raw materials; in particular, they were interested in the fur trade. The lack of any great desire to settle the land, the establishment of only a few large cites and a general willingness of the traders to live among the Indians made the Indian their accomplice.

Britain had originally planned to colonize the American

seaboard using such raw materials as were available, but intended to reserve the land in the mountains and beyond as a trading area with the Indian. After the French and Indian War and Britain's acquisition of Canada, that policy was even more pronounced with the Crown forbidding **ANY** colonial settlement beyond the mountains. Having previously gained their support and trust, most Indians were more than happy to follow British leaders in the burning of any American property and massacre of the inhabitants. Some older members of Indian tribes were not interested in involvement in the war, as they had seen the futility of trying to stem the flood of westward expansion and wanted only to let the white men destroy each other. The majority of the young braves of the Indian tribes saw this as a way to show their manhood and to retake some of the lands taken from them.

Notorious among Indian leaders was a Mohawk, Joseph Brandt, who, in August of 1777, with his tribe fought alongside St. Leger at Fort Stanwix and at Oriskany. He now joined Briton Walter Butler in the Cherry Valley Massacre in 1778.

This was no isolated case. Another depredations against American settlements had been an attack on Eaton's Station in June of 1776. In July 1776, in response to an Indian raid, North Carolina militia was recruited for a three-month expedition against the Cherokee. Burning a Cherokee village, destroying the crops and winter storage of corn was intended as a lesson to the Cherokee that retaliation for raids on settlers would be swift and deadly.

In December of 1776, George Rogers Clark had petitioned the Virginia Legislature to annex Kentucky settlements, which were in danger of Indian attacks, but no action was taken by the Legislature at that time. Clark, failing to get legislative action, set about to personally claim the western lands for colonization by Virginia.

The Continental Army could only concern itself with containing British troops in the British occupied areas. If troop strength was decreased in the New York area, Clinton might try once again to divide New England from the states south of the Hudson River. Congress, for the most part, left defense of the frontier up to the states and local militia. Settlers on the western frontier were increasingly coming under attack from Indians, who might or might not be led or assisted by Loyalists or British agents. Minute Men and local Militia were the only resource left to cope with Indian problems; they were not very successful at coping with the problem as they had few resources and no particular intelligence available about what was a well organized and well supplied British program to dispossess settlers on the entire frontier.

# The American Revolution – Month By Month - November 1778

by Andrew J. Stough III, Edited by Harold Rogers

(continued from page 4)



**George Rogers Clark**

George Rogers Clark was making a concerted and planned effort to extend Virginia's holdings, and to defend western settlements and the isolated farms from Indian raiders. On May 15, 1778, Clark and 150 Virginia Volunteers (mostly recruited along the frontier) captured Cahokia on the Mississippi River.

On May 30, the settlement of Cobleskill, New York was burned by 300 Iroquois Indians beginning a campaign of

terror against American frontier settlements by Loyalists and Indians.

On July 3, a force of Loyalists and Indians massacred settlers in the Wyoming Valley of northern Pennsylvania.

On July 4, Clark celebrated Independence Day by capturing the British Garrison at Kaskaskia at the junction of the Kaskaskia and Mississippi Rivers.

On July 20, Clark captured the British Garrison of Vincennes on the Wabash River.

From the 7th to the 17th of September, Shawnee Indians conducted an unsuccessful siege of Boonesborough, Kentucky.

November 11, a combined force of Loyalists and Indians, led by Walter Butler and Joseph Brandt, massacred over 40 militia and settlers at Cherry Valley, New York bringing war to the Mohawk Valley, Western Massachusetts, and Connecticut.

The amount of violence in these attacks by Indians, led by and/or accompanied by Loyalists, as well as the bayoneting of militia and soldiers along the seaboard, continually raised the intensity of dislike between Patriot and Loyalist to a fever pitch which reached its height at King's Mountain on October 7, 1780. On that day, Patriots returned the favor of past massacres by destroying in open battle the Loyalist forces led by Major Ferguson. In the past, Ferguson had frequently slaughtered Americans who had surrendered or were asleep when attacked.

November 27, 1778 set the stage for a significant victory for the British. Lt. Col. Archibald Campbell sailed from Sandy Hook with 3,000 men. His orders were to link up with General Prevost who was to march up from British controlled East Florida to lead in the return of the Georgia Colony to the Crown.

On the same date, November 27, the British Peace Commission, which had arrived on June 6, 1778, to meet with the Continental Congress, departed for England, convinced that there was no possibility of bringing about a peaceful settlement between the King and his rebellious subjects.

References: Schlessinger's "Almanac of American History"; Encyclopaedia Britannica; Higginbotham's "War of American Independence"; Ward's "War of the Revolution." "Concise Columbia Encyclopaedia."; Colin G. Calloway

**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.**



# More photos from the Fall Manager's Meeting.



L-R: Ted and Lynn Robinson, Jim and Karen Faulkinbury, and Marilyn and Tom Chilton



Marilyn and Tom Chilton



Jim Faulkinbury, Tom Chilton, and Wayne Griswold were presented with the "James Lafayette Cogswell President's Award" by CASSAR President Steve Renouf.



L-R: Sue Shadwick, CASSAR Secretary Jim Shadwick, and CASSAR VP-North Wayne Griswold.



CASSAR President Steve Renouf, and his wife, Joy.

## Photos from the October 28, 2008, Meeting.



October speaker Rod Barton.



President Tom Douglas presents Rod Barton with the SAR Certificate of Appreciation.



President Tom Douglas presents Matt Adams with his SAR Certificate of Membership.



L-R: CASSAR V-P North Wayne Griswold, new member Matt Adams, and President Tom Douglas.



# Minutes of the meeting held on September 23, 2008.

by Marilyn Chilton in Secretary Brian Sonner's absence

The October 28, 2008, meeting of the Mother Lode Chapter SAR was called to order at 6:40 PM by President Tom Douglas. Fifteen people were present. Gene Myers gave the Invocation, the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Wayne Griswold, and the SAR Pledge was led by Jim Young. Secretary Brian Sonner was not present, so President Douglas reviewed the minutes of the previous meetings, which were then approved. He also gave the Treasurer's Report, which showed \$1233.14 in the account, \$602 of which is State and National Dues, leaving a balance of \$631.14.

Guests introduced were speaker Rod Barton, Director of the El Dorado County Veteran Affairs Department, Roy Tougaw, (whose application is in Kentucky waiting approval), Matt Adams, who will receive his Certificate of Membership tonight, and Matt's son, Nickie.

Registrar Jim Young passed out membership rosters to the members. Historian Mel Roush had no report. Newsletter Editor Tom Chilton said that he would welcome any articles of information that the members would like to see in the newsletter. He also said that he had Entertainment Books with him, and were available for \$40 each with \$8 going to the Chapter Treasury. Books that were not purchased by December 15 would be returned.

After dinner, President Douglas continued with Old Business.

1. Name tags were discussed.
2. The CASSAR Fall Manager's meeting will be November 7 and 8 in Burlingame.
3. The officers of the Mother Lode Chapter for 2009 were discussed. At this time, Tom Douglas has agreed to continue as President, Tom Adams as agreed to be the Executive Vice President, Jim Young has agreed to be Vice-President, and will continue as Registrar, Gene Myers will continue as Chaplain, Mel Roush will continue as Historian, and Brian Sonner will continue as Secretary. Elections will be held next month at the meeting. Nominations from the floor can be made at that time.
4. Charter membership was discussed. A motion was made and passed to recognize members whose applications were submitted on or before November 2, 2008, as Charter Members.
5. Dues are currently due for 2009

Tom Chilton presented two flags: the Commander in Chief's flag, and the First Navy Jack.

New business:

1. Boy Scout Troop 550 has three Eagle Scouts who may be interested in the SAR Eagle Scout Program. Tom will pass out information at the Boy Scout meeting this Thursday.
2. Jackson Elementary School asked the Chapter to repeat the Poster Contest program again this year.
3. A letter was received from the Missouri State Society SAR. They are selling name badges and bars as a fundraiser for the 2013 National Congress, which will be held in Missouri. The badge would have the member's name, and the bars below his name would have the member's patriot ancestor's name(s).
4. Tom Chilton reported that there would be a Genealogy Fair this Saturday at the Eastern Ave. LDS Church for those who are interested. Brochures were passed out.

President Douglas introduced Rod Barton as the guest speaker. Rod's office is located on Placerville Drive by the Fairgrounds. He said he was the "oldest" (longevity) department head in El Dorado County, and the oldest veteran he had served was from the Spanish American War. The Veterans Affairs Department's goal was to fulfill obligations and pay a debt to veterans. The Veterans Administration (VA) cannot reach all of the veterans, so this department serves the local veterans. On January 16, 2003, Congress felt that the VA was serving too many vets with health and drug needs, which caused many veterans to be turned away. At this time, Rod said that they had two programs: one was compensation, and the other was a veteran pension program. He stated that nursing homes are now included in the programs, plus home care for those with health problems. Rod announced that on Saturday, November 8, there will be an Open House at the Placerville Drive office from 9 AM to 2 PM to foster patriotism and veteran assistance. After the presentation, there were several questions about hearing aids, dental care, and spousal benefits. The members found the program to be very interesting and enlightening. Rod passed out replicas of World War II dog tags. President Douglas presented him a SAR Certificate of Appreciation.

Following the speaker, a SAR Certificate of membership was presented to Matt Adams. His sponsor, Wayne Griswold, presented the rosette to Matt, and then all the members shook hands with him to welcome him into the Chapter. Tom Chilton discussed Wreaths Across America that will be held December 13 at the Dixon Cemetery. All Veterans' Cemeteries will hold this program at the same time across the United States from 9 AM in California to 12 Noon at Arlington National Cemetery in Washington DC.

Tom Chilton led the Recessional followed by the singing of God Bless America. The meeting was closed at 8:30 PM. Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn Chilton for Brian Sonner, Secretary







The **Wreaths Across America** story began over 15 years ago when Worcester Wreath Company (a for-profit commercial business from Harrington, Maine) began a tradition of placing wreaths on the headstones of our Nation's fallen heroes at Arlington National Cemetery during the holidays. Over that period of time, Worcester Wreath has donated 90,000 wreaths, which were placed by volunteers in a wreath-laying ceremony each December. But as word spread, the mission to *Remember; Honor; and Teach* about the sacrifices made by our veterans has captured the hearts and minds of many communities across the Country. In December 2007, 286 participating locations hosted Wreaths Across America ceremonies overseeing the placement of 32,553 wreaths on the headstones of those who served and sacrificed for our freedoms.

This year, the Sacramento Chapter's Color Guard will again participate in the wreath laying ceremony to be held at the Sacramento Valley VA National Cemetery in Dixon, CA, on Saturday, December 13, 2008. The ceremony starts promptly at 12:00 noon, Eastern Standard Time, (9:00 Pacific Standard Time). We invite you to join in this 2008 wreath laying ceremony. It only takes about an hour, and is well worth your time. Do wear warm clothing if you plan to attend. For more information, visit <http://www.wreaths-across-america.org/index.html>.

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](mailto:tchilton@telis.org)



Brian C. Sonner  
2700 Sleepy Hollow Court  
Placerville, CA 95667-4222  
**TO THE POSTMASTER  
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**

The Mother Lode Chapter  
Sons Of The American  
Revolution

