



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

November 2015

Volume 8, Issue 9

Mother Lode Dispatch



Calling All Compatriots



November 24, 2015

CASSAR Past-President Wayne Griswold

Wayne Griswold was born in Illinois. At the age of 4, his parents moved his family to California where Wayne spent his childhood growing up in Citrus Heights. A graduate of San Juan High School, he attended America River College where he majored in Psychology. In 1971, Wayne began his working career as a freight car inspector for the Southern Pacific Transportation Company in Roseville, CA. In 1977, he became a locomotive engineer, and in 1995, he went on the road as a freight engineer pulling trains throughout northern California. Among other things, his hobbies include genealogy and graphic arts.

Wayne joined the Gold Country Chapter SAR in August 2000. His patriot ancestor, Daniel Griswold, served multiple enlistments in the Connecticut and Massachusetts State Militias. Wayne also has at least eight approved supplemental applications. He served as the President of the Gold Country Chapter, and later Vice-President of membership for the California Society SAR before being elected its President. Wayne was one of the founding members of the Mother Lode Chapter, and currently serves as its Treasurer.

Wayne married Yoncie Clark in 1971, and the couple currently live in Folsom.. They have two children, a son, Wayne, Jr., and a daughter, Shannon. Wayne will bring his collection of Revolutionary War artifacts, and discuss how similar artifacts might be taken to our local schools.



Wayne Griswold
Past-President CASSAR

There will not be a meeting in December



The next meeting of the Mother Lode Chapter will be held at 6:30 PM on Tuesday, November 24, 2015, at Denny's Restaurant in Cameron Park. The meeting starts promptly at 6:30. Come early to socialize with your friends.

Mother Lode Chapter Officers for 2015

President

Tom Adams

1st Vice President

Open

2nd Vice President

Open

Secretary

Tom Douglas

Recording Secretary

Tom Adams (Acting)

Treasurer

Wayne Griswold

Registrar

Jim Young

Chaplain

Gene Myers

Sergeant at Arms

Mike Muetz

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

Open

Flag Certificate Program

Open

Elementary School

Poster Contest

Tom Adams

Middle School

Brochure Contest

Tom Adams

From the Mother Lode President

NOVEMBER 2015

Greetings Mother Lode:

I hope you were at our Chapter's Community Awards Banquet! ... From all reports, from members and guests, it was our best ever; and we can attribute it to the hard work of Tom and Marilyn Chilton for making this the Chapter's most important event.

This month, at our November 24th meeting, Wayne Griswold will open up a discussion for us on the idea of taking American Revolution era artifacts (real and replicas) into the classroom. From my interaction with other chapters here in California and in other states this is where we need to go. ... schools want us. I am told it is called "In Class Field Trips" in education parlance. We take a piece of the real world into the school. So bring any of your artifacts and your ideas to share. We need to find a way to do this.

This is our last meeting of 2015. We will not have a meeting in December. Our planned joint Christmas Meeting with the Sacramento Chapter SAR on Friday, December 18th at the Cattlemen's Restaurant in Rancho Cordova has been CANCELED by Sacramento.

Bye for now. – Tom



Tom Adams
President - Mother Lode Chapter



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Editors Note: The statements and opinions expressed herein are solely those of the authors 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 October 27, 2015 Meeting

By Tom Adams

The meeting was held at the Cold Springs Golf and Country Club. This was the Mother Lode Chapter's Annual **Community Recognition Awards Banquet**.

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by Chapter President Tom Adams. The invocation was given by Chaplin Gene Myers. The Colors were presented by a Color Guard Team from the Civil Air Patrol E.L. Carnahan Cadet Squadron 85, having been arranged by Chapter Sergeant of Arms Mike Muetz. Past President Tommy Douglas led the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by Past President, Jim Young leading the SAR Pledge.

There were 14 Mother Lode Chapter members and 52 guests in attendance. Which included the following:

Major General Douglas Stone, Guest Speaker
Ron Barker, Executive VP CASSAR, and his wife, Conni
Jim Faulkinbury, Past President CASSAR, and his wife, Karen
Wayne Griswold, Past-President CASSAR
Sgt. John Muller, California Highway Patrol
Lt. Craig Root, California Highway Patrol
Randy Peshon, Under Sheriff, El Dorado County
Jacque Noren, El Dorado County Sheriff's Office
Scott Heller, Chief of Police, Placerville
Tom Keating, Deputy Fire Chief, EDH Fire Department
Susan Brooking, Regent Gold Trail Chapter, DAR
Karen Faulkinbury, Gold Trail Chapter, DAR
Marilyn Chilton, Sacramento Chapter, DAR
Dacia Young, Sacramento Chapter, DAR

Mother Lode President, Tom Adams, presented the awards on behalf of the Chapter. The awardees were:

Sergeant Chris Davis, CHP, receiving the SAR Law Enforcement Commendation Medal, having been nominated by Sgt. John Muller, California Highway Patrol and Lt. Craig Root, California Highway Patrol
Deputy Aaron Lopez, Sheriff's Office, receiving the SAR Law Enforcement Commendation Medal, having been nominated by Randy Peshon, Under Sheriff, of the El Dorado County Sheriff's Office
Officer Luke Gadow, Placerville PD, receiving the SAR Law Enforcement Commendation Medal, having been nominated by Scott Heller, Chief of Police, Placerville Police Department
Battalion Chief Antonio Moreno, EDHFD, receiving the SAR Fire Safety Commendation Medal, having been nominated by Tom Keating, Deputy Fire Chief, of the El Dorado Hills Fire Department

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Minutes from the October 27, 2015 Meeting

By Tom Adams
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A special award went to honor one of our own:

Gene Myers, Mother Lode Chapter Chaplain. President Adams said, *"Gene, we wanted to find a way recognize you for your long and dedicated service to the Chapter as our Chaplain. In talking it over we came to realization that serving others is part of who you are. You served in the Navy for 4 years during the Korean War; after getting your college degrees you then taught high school for over 30 years. You were one of the Chapter founding members in 2007, where you assumed the role of Chaplain. We felt the SAR Military Service Medal would best express our gratitude and admiration."*

Presentation:

Our guest speaker was Major General Douglas Stone United States Marine Corp Reserve, Retired. President Adams introduced General Stone as a member of the Sons of the American Revolution, and the recipient of the SAR War Service Medal. He is also the recipient of the Daughters of American Revolution highest award, their Medal of Honor. General Stone is a highly decorated Marine with more than 37 years of commissioned service. Starting his career after graduation from the United States Naval Academy with early service in the Vietnam War, and continuing on with tours in Pakistan, Afghanistan, and Iraq. In Iraq, General Stone served as Deputy Commander over all Multi-National Forces under General David Petraeus, overseeing all theatre interrogation and detention. General Stone's many achievements have been documented in books and articles, but pertinent to our interest tonight in the book "The Gamble," by Tom Ricks. In discussing General Stone's accomplishments in Iraq during the 'Surge', Ricks says General Stone "rewrote the book on effective multi-national law enforcement and detention operations" and "forever changed the strategic view of how to handle detainees and theatre interrogation."

General Stone delivered an inspirational talk directed at our guests and honorees from law enforcement and fire safety community.

(The reception from our guests and honorees to our awards banquet, following General Stone's speech, was wholehearted appreciation.)

Past State President Wayne Griswold led the SAR Recessional. The Benediction was given by Gene Myers; and Past President Tommy Douglas led us in singing "**God Bless America**". The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM.

Tom Adams, Acting Secretary



Photos from the October 27, 2015 Meeting



Battalion Chief Antonio Moreno, EDHFD, displays his SAR Fire Safety Commendation Award as Mother Lode President Tom Adams and Tom Keating, EDH Deputy Fire Chief look on.



EDC Deputy Sheriff Aaron Lopez displays his SAR Law Enforcement Commendation Award as Mother Lode President Tom Adams and EDC Under Sheriff Randy Peshon look on



CHP Sergeant Chris Davis displays his SAR Law Enforcement Commendation Award as Mother Lode President Tom Adams and CHP Lieutenant Craig Root look on.



Placerville Officer Luke Gadow displays his SAR Law Enforcement Commendation Award as Mother Lode President Tom Adams and Placerville Chief of Police Scott Heller look on.

More photos from the October 27, 2015 Meeting



Major General Douglas Stone displays his SAR Certificate of Appreciation as Mother Lode President Tom Adams looks on.



Mother Chaplain Gene Myers displays his Military Service Award as Mother Lode President Tom Adams and Mother Lode Past-President Tom Douglas look on.



L-R: Antonio Moreno, Aaron Lopez, Luke Gadow, and Chris Davis



Freedom is not free!!

We have all heard the story of the fate of the signers of the Declaration of Independence. Here is the story of the fate of the men who raised "Old Glory" on Iwo Jima, on February 23, 1945. There are six men in the photo, four in the front line and two in the back line. Who are these men, and what happened to them?

Mike Strank was their Sergeant and leader. He was born in Czechoslovakia in 1919, and died on Iwo Jima in 1945.

Harlon Block was born in Texas in 1924, and died on Iwo Jima in 1945.

Franklin Sousley was born in Kentucky in 1925, and died on Iwo Jima on March 21, 1945.

Ira Hayes, a Pima Indian, was born January 12, 1923, in Sacaton, Arizona. The survivors of Iwo Jima were treated as heroes when they returned home. However, Ira never considered himself to be a hero. He lamented, "How could I feel like a hero when only five men in my platoon of 45 survived, when only 27 men in my company of 250 managed to escape death or injury?" Ira died on January 24, 1955, in Bapchule, Arizona. He was just 32 years old.

Rene Gagnon was born in Manchester, NH, March 7, 1925. He was the youngest survivor, and the man who carried the flag up Mt. Suribachi. Rene was the first survivor to arrive back in the US. He died in Manchester, NH, on Oct. 12, 1979.

John Bradley was born on July 10, 1923, in Antigo, WI. "Doc" Bradley was a Navy Corpsman who "just jumped in to lend a hand." He was wounded in both legs, and won the **Navy Cross** for his heroism. Bradley, a quiet, private man, gave just one interview in his life. In it he said, "People refer to us as heroes--I personally don't look at it that way. I just think that I happened to be at a certain place at a certain time and anybody on that island could have been in there--and we certainly weren't heroes--and I speak for the rest of them as well. That's the way they thought of themselves also." John Bradley died on January 11, 1994, in Antigo, WI.



Freedom is not free!!



Mother Lode Chapter's 2015 - 2016 Calendar

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

December 2015 - **NO MEETING**

January 26, 2016 - Regular meeting at Denny's.

Happy Thanksgiving

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