



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

October 2015

Volume 8, Issue 8

Mother Lode Dispatch



Calling All Compatriots



October 27, 2015 Community Awards Banquet Cold Springs Golf and Country Club Featured Speaker Major General Douglas Stone

Doug Stone is the chairman and CEO of rail Networks International. He is a 37 year veteran of the US Marine Corps Reserve, and retired in 2010 at the rank of Major General. He held several command and staff positions, including Deputy Commanding General, Multi-National Force - Iraq, Commanding General, Task Force 134, Baghdad, Iraq, and Commanding General of Marine Air Ground Task Force Training Command and Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, Twenty-nine Palms.

He has served as President/CEO of GammaLink, President/CEO of Decisive Technology, led business and strategic development at Qwest Communications, and was a Senior Vice President at Scientific Applications International Corporation (SAIC).

He is a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy and holds Masters Degrees in Human Resource Management, Public Administration, and Business Management from Pepperdine, USC, and Stanford Universities, a Master's Degree in International Security from the Naval War College, and Ph.D. in Political Science from USC.



Major Gen. Doug Stone



The next meeting of the Mother Lode Chapter will be held on Tuesday, October 27, 2015, at 6:30 PM, at Cold Springs Golf and Country Club in Placerville. All of our local members should have received an invitation in the mail. If you did not receive an invitation, please call Tom Chilton at 916-933-6576 ASAP. In order for the caterer to prepare the meals we must have your reservation.

From the Mother Lode President

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

John Krahn

Flag Certificate Program

Open

Elementary School

Poster Contest

Tom Adams

Middle School

Brochure Contest

Tom Adams

OCTOBER 2015

Greetings Mother Lode:

I hope to see you all at our Chapter's Community Awards Banquet! ... Tom and Marilyn Chilton have worked so hard making this the Chapter's most important event. It is not too late to make your reservation. Call Tom now. His number is 916-933-6576.

Coming up next 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.

Remember we will close out the year with a joint Christmas Meeting with the Sacramento Chapter SAR on Friday evening, 7PM, December 18th at Cattlemen's Restaurant, 12409 Folsom Blvd., Rancho Cordova. Make plans to attend that event too.

Bye for now. – *Tom*



Tom Adams
President - Mother Lode Chapter



Mother Lode Chapter Sons of the American Revolution is a 501.3c Tax exempt organization (Tax ID #26-1428350).

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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 June 23, 2015 Meeting

By Tom Adams

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM by Chapter President Tom Adams. The invocation was given by Chaplin Gene Myers. Past President Sam Bradley led the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by Past State President, Wayne Griswold, leading the SAR Pledge. There were 9 Mother Lode Chapter members and 6 guests in attendance, which included our featured speaker and chapter member, Kevin Tierney, speaking on Common Core.

Reports:

Presidents Report

Tom reported we did not have an Executive Committee Meeting this past month, but we did conduct business via phone, text messages, emails and conversations.

Tom attended NSSAR Congress in Louisville – biggest item: increase in dues: \$5 / year

Tom passed around the Americanism Youth Contest Medal. It is being sold by the Americanism Committee to raise funds to support NSSAR National Youth Programs: Poster Contest & Brochure Contest. The medal can be obtained for donation of \$250.

Tom spoke of VP North Derek Brown wanting us to get back into the Flag Certificate Program. He asked for someone to volunteer to be our Chapter Chairman.

Tom handed out a brochure to join the Friends of Library (FOL) of the SAR Library in Louisville. He encouraged members to consider joining for just \$25. The fund goes to the traditional library expenses, copying, preservation, and supplies. It is not for the library 'brick & mortar' project.

It is possible to access the Online Catalog of the SAR Library Collection. Tom offered to prepare an article for the Dispatch on this capability.

Tom recommended we unanimously endorse ML Compatriot Mike Tomme for PG 2016-17.

Tom reported three outstanding donations were received! One was from outside the chapter, David Verry for \$1,000; \$500 from the Chiltons to support our Community Awards Banquet; and another generous gift from Tommy Douglas (\$750) to support the un-budgeted purchase of the ML Membership Pins, and also the Community Awards event.

Tom confirmed that the un-budgeted purchase in April of the Mother Lode Chapter pins to be used as our participation awards for our contests has been fully recovered by our donations. Congratulations.

Secretary – No Report

Treasurer – Treasurer Griswold gave a full report on the financial health of the Chapter. He delineated each of the recent substantial gifts that the Chapter received. Prior to receiving these generous donations our financial health was dangerously poor. He warned against future un-budgeted spending.

Registrar – Registrar Jim Young was not present. However, both new members, Mike Muetz and Jeff Doyle, were present. Tom performed the Induction Ceremony for the new men and the Chapter whole heartedly welcomed the men into the Chapter.

Mike Muetz has accepted the duties of Sergeant at Arms and "will be responsible for maintaining the Chapter's flags and other meeting paraphernalia, and have them available for use at Chapter meetings." (Thank you Mike!)

Jeff Doyle has accepted the role as a re-enactor for our youth program presentations, particularly the Poster Contest. (And thank you Jeff – we're looking forward to your performance!)

Historian – John Krahn had no report.

Youth Activities – Tom reported that our 2015-16 Youth Awards Program has been launched. Some, but not all, teachers have responded that they are ready for another year of SAR Contests. Kevin Tierney is working with Tom to plan our upcoming youth programs.

Unfinished Business:

Community Recognition Awards Banquet – Tom Chilton gave his Committee report. The event will take place on October 27th at the Cold Springs Golf Country Club. All in going well.

NRA Grant & Color Guard – No additional progress to report

(continued on page 4)

Minutes from the June 23, 2015 Meeting

By Tom Adams
(continued from page 3)

Partners in Patriotism – No report

CASSAR Best Chapter Awards – Tom Adams said he is complying with the reporting requirements and Mother Lode will compete this year.

New Business:

The Chapter unanimously endorsed Mother Lode Chapter Compatriot **John Michael “Mike” Tomme, Sr.** for the highest office in the Society, President General (PG), for 2016-2017. Mike is a Dual Member of our Chapter, having been recruited early in the formation of the Chapter by then CASSAR State President, Wayne Griswold. President Adams said he would inform the NSSAR Nominating Committee Chairman, Lindsey Brock, of our action.

Presentation:

The features speaker, Kevin Tierney, is a Mother Lode Chapter member. He is currently the Coordinator of Professional Development for the El Dorado County Office of Education. Kevin gave us an overview of Common Core, saying: “Common Core are skills that are placed on top of content standards. California still has content standards for History / Social Studies.”

The Benediction was given by Gene Myers; Tom Chilton led the SAR Recessional and Tom Chilton also led us in singing, “*God Bless America*”. The meeting was adjourned.

The Battles of Saratoga

The **Battles of Saratoga** (September 19 and October 7, 1777) marked the climax of the Saratoga campaign giving a decisive victory to the Americans over the British in the American Revolutionary War. British General John Burgoyne led a large invasion army up the Champlain Valley from Canada, hoping to meet a similar force marching northward from New York City; the southern force never arrived, and Burgoyne was surrounded by American forces in upstate New York. Burgoyne fought two small battles to break out. They took place eighteen days apart on the same ground, 9 miles south of Saratoga, New York. They both failed. Trapped by superior American forces, with no relief in sight, Burgoyne surrendered his entire army on October 17. His surrender, says historian Edmund Morgan, “was a great turning point of the war”, because it won for Americans the foreign assistance which was the last element needed for victory.



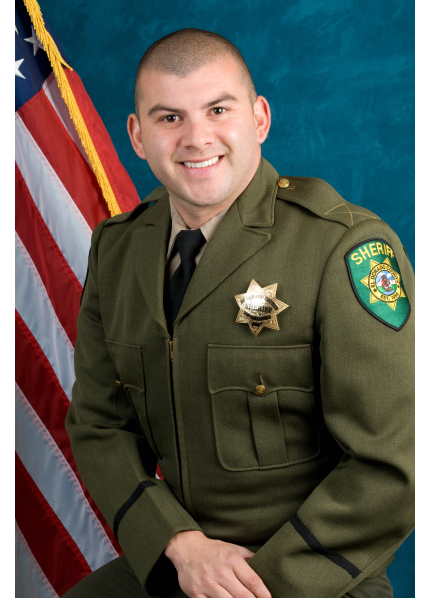
Burgoyne’s surrender at Saratoga

Burgoyne's strategy to divide New England from the southern colonies had started well, but slowed due to logistical problems. He won a small tactical victory over General Horatio Gates and the Continental Army in the September 19 Battle of Freeman's Farm at the cost of significant casualties. His gains were erased when he again attacked the Americans in the October 7 Battle of Bemis Heights and the Americans captured a portion of the British defenses. Burgoyne was therefore compelled to retreat, and his army was surrounded by the much larger American force at Saratoga, forcing him to surrender on **October 17, 1777**. News of Burgoyne's surrender was instrumental in formally bringing France into the war as an American ally, although it had previously given supplies, ammunition and guns, notably the de Valliere cannon, which played an important role in Saratoga. This battle also resulted in Spain joining France in the war against Britain.

Deputy Aaron Lopez Law Enforcement Commemorative Medal Recipient

Deputy Aaron Lopez

On July 15, 2015, Deputies of the El Dorado County Sheriff's Office were dispatched to a report of a suicidal male who was in possession of a loaded handgun. While other Deputies checked the area, Deputy Lopez took the initiative and contacted the subject via text message. Deputy Lopez established a dialog with the subject and began building rapport with him. Deputy Lopez was able to keep him engaged on the cell phone until Dispatch was able to determine his location via a cellular ping. Deputies located the subject thanks to the cellular ping and initiated a traffic stop. A tense standoff ensued. Immediately upon being told that Deputy Lopez had arrived on scene and was willing to speak with him, the subject surrendered without incident. Deputy Lopez's initiative in contacting the subject via text message and skillful negotiation was instrumental in the positive outcome of this incident. Deputy Lopez is a highly skilled and dedicated member of this department and deserves recognition for his outstanding service to his community.



Officer Luke Gadow Law Enforcement Commemorative Medal Recipient

Officer Luke Gadow

Officer Gadow graduated from El Dorado High School in 2006. He went to college at Campbellsville University in Kentucky from 2007-2011, and received a Bachelor's in Science degree in Criminal Justice. He returned to California and obtained a job at the Placerville Police Department in August of 2013. Since being with the Placerville Police, he has been selected for Bike Patrol, Field Training Officer, and Assistant Squad Leader.



Sergeant Chris Davis Law Enforcement Commemorative Medal Recipient

Sergeant Chris Davis

On February 10, 2015, Sergeant Chris Davis responded to a solo vehicle traffic collision involving a 17 year old Placerville resident. In this collision the driver sustained major blunt force trauma to his head and chest. Sgt. Davis was the first emergency responder on scene and immediately started providing life saving measures to the driver who was pinned inside the vehicle. Due to his quick and decisive actions, Sgt. Davis was able to minimize any further injury to the driver and increase his chances of survival. Shortly thereafter, the area CHP received a letter in which the driver's great-grandmother that stated "you can say you were just doing your job, but to each of Tallon's family you are a very special man for doing a very special job." Sergeant Chris Davis is commended for his professionalism, dedication, and truly living by the CHP's mission of providing the highest level of Safety, Service and Security.



Battalion Chief Antonio Moreno Fire Safety Commemorative Medal Recipient

Battalion Chief Antonio Moreno

Antonio Moreno began volunteering as a firefighter for the city of Plymouth Volunteer Fire Department after graduating from high school. He earned a California State Volunteer Firefighter Certification, and continued volunteering with the Plymouth Fire Department. He earned his EMT-1 certificate from Delta College, and joined the El Dorado Hills Fire Department in 1986. He continued to volunteer as a firefighter in the Amador County, and in 1989, he was appointed by the Plymouth City Council to be the Volunteer Fire Chief. Antonio completed his Associates of Arts Degree in Fire Technology, and after five years as a firefighter, he tested and was promoted to Captain at the age 26.

In 1999, the city of Plymouth contracted for fire services with a much larger volunteer fire department, the Amador Fire Protection District. Antonio transferred into a volunteer Battalion Chief position for the District, and took on the responsibilities of three volunteer fire stations, and 30 volunteers. Antonio currently still holds that volunteer Battalion Chief position.

Today, with 5 stations staffed with 4 engines, a truck, a medic unit, and still supported by volunteer firefighters, Antonio holds the position of Shift Battalion Chief for the El Dorado Hills Fire Department. His responsibilities include overseeing 17 career fire personnel and 32 volunteer firefighters. In conjunction with these duties, Antonio oversees the Junior Firefighter Program, which raises funds for the local elementary schools. Antonio will have 30 years of service with the El Dorado Hills Fire Department in February of 2016. Retirement may be in his future, but he plans to continue volunteering where he started it all 32 years ago in his hometown in Amador. Battalion Chief Moreno's commitment to a *sense of duty* to the fire service is commendable and worthy of recognition.



Photos from the September 22, 2015. meeting



President Tom Adams presents Mike Muetz with his membership certificate.



Tom Adams presents Jeff Doyle with his new member certificate.



Treasurer Wayne Griswold reads the Treasurer's report.



President Tom Adams presents Kevin Tierney with the SAR Certificate of Appreciation.



Judy and Mike Muetz



Jeff Doyle and his son, Parker Doyle

Mother Lode Chapter's 2015 - 2016 Calendar

November 6-7, 2015 - CASSAR Fall Manager's meeting to be held at the Riverside Mission Inn. This is a great opportunity to visit this historical treasure. Details will be in the next California Compatriot.

January 26, 2016 - Regular meeting at Denny's. Program to be announced.

November 24, 2015 - Regular meeting at Denny's. Wayne Griswold will discuss how our chapter might establish "In Class Field Trips" for our local schools.

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

December 18, 2015 - Joint Christmas meeting with the Sacramento Chapter. Details to follow.

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**TO THE POSTMASTER
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