



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

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Mother Lode Dispatch

February 25, 2014 Program



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Congratulations to MARY CORY

*Museum Director for 10 years
of Dedicated Service*

by Don Uelmen

The success of the El Dorado County Museum is the direct result of two dynamics working in harmony: Director Mary Cory and the many unselfish, patient, and enthusiastic volunteers.

The continuous tasteful, informative exhibits, and availability and quality of research information can sometimes be taken for granted because it always seems to be there. However, celebrating an anniversary provides us with an opportunity to reflect on the accomplishments and future plans of our Director and her volunteer staff.

Mary Cory was born and raised in Westfield, New Jersey, with three older sisters and a younger brother. Her father was a Chemical Engineer who was promoted to management at Mobil Oil. The family was imbued with an interest in history and made numerous trips to area museums.

Mary majored in Art History at the University of Iowa and graduated in 1981. While working at the Mark Twain Memorial Home in Hartford, Connecticut, Mary gained an interest in the aspects of managing a museum ... this was her major at George Washington University in the District of Columbia, which afforded her an opportunity to take courses associated with the Smithsonian.

After receiving her Masters Degree in Museum Studies in 1989, Mary was employed by the Historic Annapolis Foundation in Maryland to manage the William Paca House and Garden Historical Site.

By 1998, her family had relocated to California, and Mary was ready for a change. She submitted a resume to El Dorado County in response to an employment advertisement for a Museum Director position, and after a number of interviews was appointed to the position on May 1, 1999.

Mary began her new job with the goal of professionalizing the museum by establishing standard museum practices. These included an inventory and cataloging of artifacts, establishing policies ranging from the collecting, acquisition and disposition of museum items, to school visits; organizing and instituting procedures for the established group of volunteers, and coordinating historical information that the volunteers possessed into a research resource.

In 2000, she provided oversight to an expansion of the back room area from a temporary shelter with dirt floors into a permanent structure conducive to historical research.

Mary hopes to build on the success of the past decade as she looks toward the future challenges for the museum. Foremost is maintaining a pleasant work environment for the



volunteers, and providing encouragement to continue their high level of enthusiasm.

Next on her list of priorities is what she considers the primary function of a museum: relevant, informative and interesting exhibits, displays of historical artifacts, and the resources and availability of accurate information for research projects.

This can be accomplished by refining the outside exhibit area by inventorying and identifying artifacts for display or disposal, and creating meaningful displays of items pertaining to El Dorado's industrial, mining, and agricultural history.

Additionally, efforts will continue toward improving the function and availability of the research room.

Future planning for the museum includes the feasibility of creating — with the continuing enthusiastic support of the El Dorado Western Railway Foundation, County Museum volunteers, Historical Society, and Museum Commission — a Railroad Park and Railroad History Exhibit area in El Dorado County.

Mary is looking forward to improving the museum's prominence as a major El Dorado County attraction for citizens and visitors. ☼



The next Mother Lode Chapter meeting
will be at Denny's, on February 25, 2014

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

Mother Lode Chapter Officers for 2014

President

W. Samuel Bradley

1st Vice President

Open

2nd Vice President

Tom Adams

Secretary

Tom Douglas

Treasurer

Tom Douglas

Registrar

Jim Young

Chaplain

Gene Myers

Dispatch Editor

Tom Douglas

Historian

John Krahn

Recording Secretary

Chuck Smith

Committee Chairmen

Eagle Scout Program

Vacant

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

Compatriot of the Month Tom Adams

With a name like ‘Adams’ you will inevitably be asked this question: “*Are you related to John Adams?*” ... I was taught the response at a young age; I taught my children, and they taught their children. The answer we are told to give is: “*Yes, but we are not descendants.*” ... Fortunately, I was not asked to explain that response. ... It wasn’t until I joined the Sons of the American Revolution (SAR) at age 70 that I learned why that was a true statement. ... But that’s genealogy, and that’s another story.



I was born in 1938 outside of Cleveland, Ohio. During World War II I fought alongside my older brother Dick first against the Germans and then the Japanese in an overgrown vacant lot at the end of our block. By the time I was 10, 1948, most had adjusted and were getting on with their lives after the war. My family had packed up and moved from Northern



Ohio to Southern California. Not the Southern California most people think of; for us it was the Mojave Desert: Yermo, Daggett, Barstow. My dad was a railroader, so he initially came west to work for the Santa Fe; but he was an entrepreneur at heart, and he soon established a grocery store in the middle of the desert on old Route 66. We were doing very well. Then my dad learned his father’s health in Ohio was failing, so at Christmas time in 1952 we planned an extended three week vacation over the Christmas Holidays and drove our brand-new De Soto back to Ohio for Christmas. When

we got to Ohio we learned that my grandfather was worse than we had expected; so we bought some winter clothes and my brother and I were enrolled in a local high school for the beginning of the 1953 school year. For us, the saying “things went from bad to worse” was indeed true of our 1952 Christmas vacation. My grandfather passed away in early February, then my great-aunt, the woman we were staying with died soon after, and then my own father died – he was 44. My brother and I never got back to California.



(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.

Compatriot Tom Adams, continued

I went to high school in a little town called Chardon, graduated in 1956, immediately went into the Army Reserves, served 6 months active duty (*no war going on then!*) and was enrolled at The Ohio State University by January 1957. Five years later I graduated with a Bachelor's degree in Industrial Engineering in the spring of 1962 and headed straight for California. The aerospace industry was booming in those days and a campus recruiter from Aerojet-General in Rancho Cordova offered me a job in their computer group. I took their offer letter and went into a foreign car dealership and bought a 1962 Triumph TR4 – on the offer letter alone!



Sacramento and Aerojet turned out to be a fantastic move. My skill set fit perfectly with my job and my professional career took off – perhaps a little too much, too early, and I was quickly recruited away by Computer Sciences Corp who wanted to make me a star in consulting. I was sent to the East Coast to work on Government contracts: New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Maryland, DC, Virginia. The best part was I met Anne my wife and we started our family. But the conflict reality of being on the consulting trail and starting a young family soon overtook me. I told Anne I knew a great place to raise a family. I was 30 years old – I needed to settle down. Fortunately I had not burned my bridges and Aerojet welcomed me and my young family back to Sacramento - just in time for the collapse of the aerospace industry.

As soon as we arrived, December 1968, we bought a home in a “Planned Community” that was already becoming unplanned; foreclosures everywhere. We paid \$23,500 for our El Dorado Hills home. I should have suspected I wouldn't be immune to the fall. From that time, to the time when I retired, I worked for twelve different organizations from Seattle to LA. It was always related to information technology, as a consultant, contractor, employee, in manufacturing, services, and government. My last job where I retired began when I was hired by the Yolo County Board of Supervisors to be the County's Y2K Project Manager. Remember those days? Because I had once worked for the State of California I could work part time after I retired as a “retired annuitant” which I did for several years ending in 2010. It was a great way to slowly unwind from a life time of work.



I mentioned I was 30 years old when we came back to the area and bought our little home in El Dorado Hills. Until that time, I had never lived at the same address longer than three years. I went to six different grade schools growing up. ... Anne and I still live in that same EDH house where we raised our five children. Even while I was running up and down the coast finding work for 40 years, the family never moved.

In the opening I revealed that as an ‘Adams’ we were told we were related to John Adams but not descendants – but no one told us why. As I aged and accepted the realization that I was now the source and authority for our family story, I felt I needed to find the answer. So, like so many others after I retired from going into work every day, I started my new job, understanding one's family history. I began my search in 2006. But that's genealogy, and that's another story.

Editor's Note;

Tom Adams became a member of the Sons of the American Revolution and the Mother Lode Chapter, June 18, 2008. He has been active in chapter and state society activities especially being the chapter and state youth activities coordinator. He has been awarded many certificates and medals from chapter, state and national societies for his activities. Significantly a Certificate of Distinguished Service for organizing and funding the Sgt. Moses Adams Brochure Contest. Along with the certificate Compatriot Adams received the Distinguished Service Medal. Another prestigious award is the Patriot Medal. He has also received from the chapter the Meritorious Service Medal. From the state society the Bronze SAR/CAR Appreciation Medal. Compatriot Adams has been a force in keeping the chapter active in state and local activities especially in the youth programs..

Mother Lode Chapter, CSSAR
January 28, 2014 Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 6:25pm by outgoing President, Bob Conover. The invocation was given by Chaplin, Gene Myers. It was followed by the SAR Pledge, led by Chuck Smith and the Pledge of Allegiance, led by Tom Adams.

The following Chapter Officers for 2014 were sworn in by Wayne Griswold:

- Sam Bradley, President
- Tom Adams, Second Vice President
- Secretary / Treasurer, Tom Douglass (not present)
- Gene Myers, Chaplin
- Jim Young, Registrar
- John Krahn, Historian
- Chuck Smith, Recording Secretary

There were 10 SAR members and 6 guests present for the meeting.

President Sam Bradley presented Douglass Keefauver with the award for his distinguished service in Viet Nam with the 101st Airborne.

Tom Adams then discussed Youth Activities and the entrants for the brochure contest. There were 12 submissions. The theme was Francis Marion. He was also known as the Swamp Fox.

The brochures were reviewed by the meeting's 16 attendees and rated according to content, creativity and correctness. The winner will be announced.

Two schools will participate in the upcoming poster contest. Tom Adams mentioned that we usually receive 100 entries. Of those 100, the total will be culled to about 20 finalists. Jackson and Holy Trinity are those schools participating in the poster contest.

Sam Bradley then gave a slide presentation of his tour of duty in Viet Nam with the Navy. He was aboard the Aircraft Carriers USS Coral Sea and the USS Midway. Sam's presentation included ports-of-call in Japan and the Philippine Islands, as well as Camron Bay, Viet Nam.

After President Bradley's presentation Chaplin Myers gave the Benediction. It was followed by the SAR Recessional and the singing of God Bless America.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted,
C. Smith, Recording Secretary

Pictures from the Museum



Mary Cory works with large book at the museum

Display at the museum



Items at the museum

Mother Lode Chapter's 2014 Calendar of Events

January

February 25-Chapter Meeting

March 25- Chapter Meeting

April 22- Chapter Meeting

April 11-12 CASSAR Spring Membership Meeting, ,
Sacramento CA

May 22- Chapter Meeting

Youth Awards

June 26- Chapter Meeting

July- No Meeting

August- No Meeting

September 23- Regular Meeting

October 28- Community Services Awards Dinner

November 25-Regular Meeting

December—Wreaths Across America

December – Date TBD -Regular Meeting

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