

The Liberty Tree

The Sons of Liberty Chapter Sons of the American Revolution

Vol. XIX, No. 9

Serving Northern Los Angeles County

September 2000

WELCOME NEW COMPATRIOTS

The Officers and Compatriots of the Sons of Liberty Chapter are pleased to welcome two new Compatriots into the ranks of our Chapter and the Sons of the American Revolution. Please welcome:

COMPATRIOT GREGORY MICHAEL GUJDA
NSSAR # 154233 -- CASSAR # 7153

COMPATRIOT MARK LUCIEN GUJDA
NSSAR # 154234 -- CASSAR # 7154

Ancestor

Captain William Moore

1726 - 1812

Served under General Griffith Rutherford of the North Carolina Militia, and fought at the Battle of Kings Mountain.

Greg and Mark's brother Glenn is serving as our Chapter's First Vice President. A fourth brother, Bruce is a member of the Thomas Jefferson Chapter in the bay area and a frequent attendee of our Chapter meetings.

Their mother, Martha, has addressed our Chapter and serves the Daughters of the American Revolution as Regent of the Santa Margarita Chapter, in Orange County. Unfortunately, their father, Bruno, a fiercely patriotic first generation American, is not eligible for membership. The swearing in ceremony will take place at our October meeting.

COMPATRIOTS IN THE NEWS

Our Second Vice President, **Patrick M. Flanagan**, has been named "A Gentlemen of the Court" (Board of Directors) of the



Society of Colonial Wars in the State of California. He serves with member Lee Bishop and dual members, The Rev. Dr. Gary Dickey and The Honorable Alexander Early, III.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Alexander R. Early, III 09/22
David S. Burnett 09/24
Mark L. Gujda 09/27
Trenton P. McLinn 09/29

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

Reginald & Phildora Humphrey
09/02/1938 -- Married 62 years

Charles & Eleanor Stalh
09/09/1955 -- Married 45 years

Thomas & Susan Warden
09/22/1990 -- Married 10 years

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A NOTE OF APPRECIATION

"When I opened the certificate sent to me by the Sons of Liberty Chapter, naming me the honorary Sergeant Major of your Chapter's Commander-in-Chief's Color Guard, I was thrilled. I am honored to be a member of it. You will never know how much I appreciate this honor. Thank you so much.

Garrett F. Jackson"

Best Chapter in the SAR: 1983, 1989, 1995 and 1996 - Best Newsletter in the SAR: 1983, 1985, 1989, 1992, 1994 and 1999

THE LIBERTY TREE AND VALLEY COMPATRIOT

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2000

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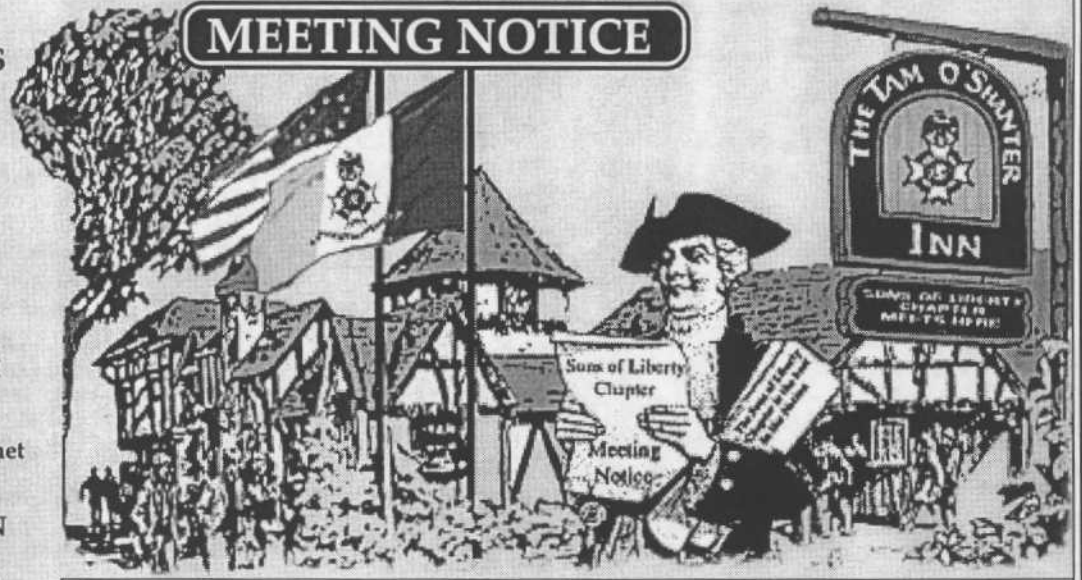
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Trustees of the Permanent Fund

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DONALD N. MORAN
JAMES A. MCKENZIE

MEETING NOTICE



September 16th, 2000

Speaker

Compatriot Karl Wm. Jacobs
of the Harbor Chapter, SAR

Topic:

"The Battle of the Old Men and Young Boys"

The Battle of Petersburg, Va. June 21-22, 1863

This extraordinary battle during the Civil War prevented the Union Army from capturing Richmond, the Capitol of the Confederacy in that year.

In addition to the battle, Compatriot Jacobs will be discussing the Blandford Church, which is now a memorial to the 30,000 Confederate Soldiers buried in its shadow.

Karl is a cartoonist by profession and has worked for the last twenty years for Hanna Barbera and Warner Brothers Television Animation. His wife, Sandra, is currently in her second term as a member of the El Segundo City Council and has served as Mayor - 1996-1998 and as Mayor Pro-Tem from 1998 to the present.

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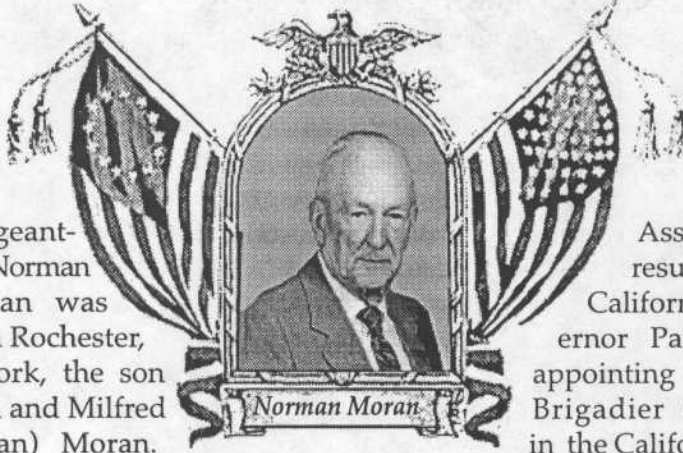
Tam O'Shanter Restaurant - - - 2980 Los Feliz Blvd. Los Angeles
12:00 noon - - wives and guests always welcome - - \$11.50 per person

THE LIBERTY TREE and VALLEY COMPATRIOT

The "Liberty Tree and Valley Compatriot" is the official Newsletter of the Sons of Liberty Chapter, S.A.R. The opinions express herein are those of the authors and not necessarily those of the National Society, California Society or of the Sons of Liberty Chapter. Donald N. Moran Editor, Mrs. Virginia Emrey, Assistant Editor



IN MEMORIAM
SERGEANT MAJOR NORMAN P. MORAN
10 OCTOBER 1914 - 18 AUGUST 2000



Sergeant-Major Norman P. Moran was born in Rochester, New York, the son of John and Milfred (Norman) Moran.

He was a seventh generation professional soldier. His paternal ancestry served "King and Country" since 1640, fighting in every war fought by England.

Norman was a founding member of the Sons of Liberty Chapter. His membership in the SAR was based on his maternal lineage. He attended several National Congresses.

He married Kathryn Mary Shanley on New Year's Day, 1939, and they had four sons. She passed away on March 6th, 2000. They had been married sixty-one years.

He enlisted in the Army in 1933, served in World War II, in the European Theater, and was in the second wave at Omaha Beach, Normandy. His Regiment suffered 900 casualties. He went on to earn three arrowheads (for invasions) eight battle stars, and was decorated several times.

He saw action in Korea and was one of the first "advisors" in Vietnam.

After retiring from the Army in 1963, he became the only enlisted man to serve as Secretary of the United States Army Association. His work for the

Association resulted in California Governor Pat Brown appointing him a Brigadier General in the California Na-

tional Guard. His appointment lasted two weeks! It seemed that the Pentagon, in Washington D.C., had some silly rule about sergeants not becoming generals and skipping lieutenant through colonel ranks.

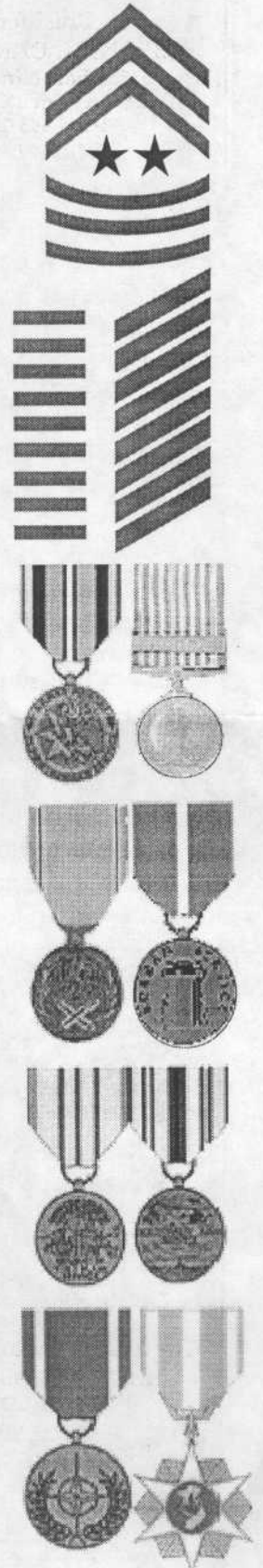
Norman leaves three sons, two daughters-in-law, eight grand children and eleven great grand children. A son, a grandson and a great granddaughter preceeded him.

The services were held on August 23rd, at Oak Hill Cemetery, Galena, Kansas. He received a well deserved full military funeral.

Participating in the service were honor guards from the U.S. Army; American Legion; AmVets; Disabled Veterans of America; Military Order of the Purple Heart; POW Survivors Association; Sons of the American Revolution and the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Norman Moran, was my best friend, my mentor, my role model, my father, and a hero of the what Tom Brokaw called "The Greatest Generation".

Donald Norman Moran





JOINT OPERATIONS MORGAN'S RANGER BATTALION & THE COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF'S GUARDS

by: Donald Norman Moran



Today, the famed Morgan's Rangers are commemorated by the Southern California independent reenactment group of the same name, headed up by Jim Frasset. The Sons of Liberty Chapter's color guard commemorating the elite Commander-in-Chief's Guards. They are jointly sponsoring the *Second Annual George Washington Birthday Ball* (February 19th, 2001).

Joint operations between the two detachments we honor, dates back to 1778 - - 222 years!

No two units of George Washington's Continental Army could have been more opposite. Morgan's Rangers, said by British General William Howe, to have been the most dangerous regiment in the American Army, and the Commander-in-Chief's Guards, without a doubt, the most elite unit of said army, even went so far as to require every member of the Guard (except the musicians) to be 5 foot 10 inches tall! The Guards, also were the best uniformed and equipped of all the Continentals. The Rangers, on the other hand, were fiercely independent, addressed their officers by their given names and refused to abide by any military protocol. As an example, When the Army was called to attention, the Rangers simply lined up, standing at ease.

Discipline simply wasn't their thing, fighting was! The Rangers were so unruly and had such a negative impact on our attempts to establish a well trained army, that Washington made sure that the Rangers were always camped away from the main army, but close enough to support it in either offensive or

defensive operations.

Why then would these two units be on a joint operation?

In May, 1778, General Washington learned that Lieutenant General, Sir Henry Clinton, who had assumed command of the British Forces in America, was preparing to evacuate Philadelphia and return to New York City. This was wholly unexpected. Washington feared that Clinton, with his numerical superiority, and well equipped force would attack Valley Forge.

Surprisingly, the only thing found in the official records of Washington's Headquarters was a report on a Council of War that was held, but no agreed strategy was noted. Perhaps fear of the ever present spies precluded publishing his intentions.

Washington selected the Marquis de Lafayette for overall command of the first operation against Clinton. It is highly possible that Washington chose Lafayette in honor of the French Alliance, ratified by Congress on May 4th.

In a personal letter, written in an almost fatherly style, Washington directs the inexperienced Marquis de Lafayette to command a division of 2,200 men and five cannons. He ordered him to proceed to Barren Hill, between Valley Forge and Philadelphia. The 2,200 men

made the expedition far too large to be effective as a reconnaissance party, and too small to be a fighting force against such overwhelming numbers. Although there are no surviving official orders, General Washington assigned 102 members of his C-in-C Guards to protect the Marquis Lafayette.



MAJOR GENERAL,
THE MARQUIS DE LAFAYETTE



COLONEL DANIEL MORGAN
(1736-1802 NJ? - PA. VA.)

Col. Daniel Morgan's Rangers were also detailed to this expedition.

General Clinton marched a sizeable portion of his army out of Philadelphia to capture Lafayette and his division. It was very close with Lafayette and his troops barely gaining the Ford and making their escape across the Schuylkill River. How much interaction there was between the Guards and Rangers is not recorded.

A few weeks later General Washington issued the following orders to Colonel Morgan. These orders, even by 18th Century standards are extraordinary, and demonstrate Washington understanding of the value of the Rangers.

*"Headquarters, Middlebrook
June 13, 1777*

Sir;

The Corps of Rangers, newly formed, and under your Command, are to be considered as a body of light infantry and are to Act as such; for which reason they will be exempt from the common duties of then Line. At present, you are to take a Post at Van Veghten Bridge and watch, with very small scouting parties (to avoid fatiguing your men to much, under the present appearance of things) the Enemy's left flank, and particularly in case of any movement of the enemy you are instantly to fall upon their flanks and gall them as much as possible, taking especial care not to be surrounded, or have your retreat to the Army cut off.

I have sent for spears, which I expect shortly to receive and deliver to you, as a defense against horse [cavalry]; till you are furnished with these, take care not to be caught in such a situation as to give them any advantage over you. It occurs to me that if you were to dress a Company or two of true Woods Men in the right Indian style, and let them make the attack accompanied with screaming and yelling as Indians do, it would have very good consequences especially if as little as possible is said, or known of the matter beforehand"

Eleven days later, on June 23rd, Washington ordered

his Guard, Captain Caleb Gibbs (1748-1818 - - RI), Lieutenant Benjamin Grymes (1756-1803 - - VA), four sergeants, four corporals and seventy-two Guardsman to join with Colonel Daniel Morgan's Rangers. Lieutenant William Colfax (1756-1838 - - CT) and the remainder of the Guard were to stay at Headquarters. Unfortunately for historians, among those detailed to stay behind was Private Elijah Fisher, who was keeping a daily diary of events. His observations would have been helpful in determining the events that took place.

Why Washington ordered these two so very different detachments to operate together may be explained in his written orders to Colonel Morgan.

From Washington's statement regarding "spears" as a defense against cavalry, it is obvious he was well aware of the Ranger's inability to defend themselves

in close quarter actions against 'regulars or cavalry'. Is it possible that the requested spears failed to manifest themselves, and in lieu of spears, Washington sent half his personal guard, whose weapon of choice was the bayonet?

Regardless of the reasoning behind uniting these two units, they immediately started carrying out the General's orders. The Guards and a number of Morgan's Rangers surprised a body of British grenadiers

who were resting besides a stream. One report indicates that there were 38 captured. This was accomplished right under the noses of a sizeable detachment of Light Infantry. The British Light Infantry attacked. With prisoners in tow, the Guards and Rangers made their escape through the nearby swamp.

When they arrived at Morgan's field headquarters, without having lost a single man or prisoner, Morgan personally welcomed them. Noticing that the elegant uniforms of the Guard were covered in mud from their dash through the swamp, it is said that Morgan "indulged himself in a stenorion [very loud] laugh that made the woodland ring".

Two days later, the Battle of Monmouth Court House was fought.



GENERAL GEORGE WASHINGTON RELIEVING GENERAL CHARLES LEE AT THE BATTLE OF MONMOUTH COURT HOUSE



General Clinton was marching his army straight across New Jersey to New York. Upon learning that Washington's Army was following, and reports that there were large American detachments on his flanks, including the feared Morgan's Rangers and the Guards, he justifiably became concerned with the possibilities of attacks on his flanks or rear. He changed his order of march. He placed the 1,500 wagon baggage train in front, protected by Hessian General Wilhelm Knyphausen (1716-1800 - - Germany), moved his best troops, the grenadiers, light infantry and cavalry to the rear.

Clinton's line of march was obstructed by the New Jersey Militia, which had felled trees across the roads, burned bridges and placed all manner of obstacles in his path. This action gave Washington the advantage of being able to manoeuver his forces almost at will.

Although American General Charles Lee (1731-1782 - England, VA) opposed a general engagement, his senior position in the army gave him command of the advanced forces. As the battle started to develop, Lee, apparently had all the tactical advantages, but, he was in awe of the fighting capabilities of the British Army, and did not have a high opinion of his own American forces. He ordered a retreat!

Washington arrived on the scene, rallied his troops, and stopped Clinton's counterattack. The American army gave better than they got, stood their ground and fought the British to a standstill. That night, Clinton retreated, leaving Washington in control of the battlefield.

Benson J. Lossing wrote: "The battle of Monmouth was one of the most severely contested during the entire war. Complete victory for the Americans was twice denied. The first was the cowardly retreat of Lee, and the second was the unaccountable inactivity of General Morgan's Rangers and the Guard. Morgan had 600 of his famed riflemen and eight members of the Guard, and probably a number of local militia that responded to the fighting. His position was on the left flank of

Clinton. No record exists explaining why Morgan did not attack. He had explicit orders from Washington. His reputation for gallantry was second to none. Yet, the only report we have is that for hours the latter was at

Richmond Mills, three miles below Monmouth Court House, awaiting orders, in an agony of desire to engage in the battle, for he was within sound of its fearful tumult. To and fro he strode, uncertain what course to pursue, and, like a hound on the leash, panting to be away to action. Why he was not allowed to participate in the conflict, we have no means of determining. It appears probable that had he fallen upon the British rear, with his fresh troops, at the close of the day, Sir Henry Clinton and his army might have shared the fate of the British at Saratoga." Unfortunately, Lossing did not cite his sources.

The casualties were high for battles of this era. We lost 72 killed, 161 wounded and 132 missing; many of the latter had dropped from heat exhaustion and soon rejoined their regiments. But, at least 37 are believed to have died of heat stroke. The British losses in killed and wounded was 358, and it is recorded that no less than 60 died from the heat. Significantly, the British had 600 deserters, 440 of them Hessians. All the deserters were brought to Philadelphia so that count is accurate.

We can only assume that Morgan had received orders from General Lee, either directly or indirectly, (although Lee denied having any contact with Morgan), countering the orders issued by Washington. Based on Morgan's conduct at the Battle of Saratoga and other actions, his presence on the field of battle would have been decisive. No record exists in which Morgan or Gibbs explained their inactivity, and no official inquiry was made into it, hence we can assume that Gibbs explained the situation directly to Washington, who accepted said explanation, and the matter ended there.

It is also certain that this lost opportunity haunted both officers for the rest of their lives.

We have found no record of subsequent operations of the Rangers and the Guards, but it was not until July 7th, at Scotch Plains, New Jersey, that Captain Caleb Gibbs and his men rejoined General Washington and headquarters. From this we can assume that they spent the week after the battle following the British army back to New York City and the protection of the British fleet.



CALEB GIBBS AND DANIEL MORGAN



THE LIBERTY TREE AND VALLEY COMPATRIOT

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The National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution California Society The Sons of Liberty Chapter



THE MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 19th, 2000 MEETING

The Monthly meeting of the Sons of Liberty Chapter was held at the Tam O'Shanter Restaurant, in Los Angeles, on Saturday, August 19th 2000. President Berni K. Campbell presiding:

In attendance were members: Bradley Adams - Lee Bishop - Richard Breithaupt - Kenneth Burdick - Berni Campbell - Redfield Finlay Jr - Patrick Flanagan - Elliot Graham - Glenn Gujda - Greg Gujda - Mark Gujda - Karl Jacobs - James McKenzie - Kevin McParland - Victor Springer. Our Guests were: Jaime Bowman - Betty Breithaupt - Mary Campbell - Guadalupe Finlay - Jan Mossman - Thomas Mossman.

The invocation was given by the Reverend Victor Springer; the Pledge of Allegiance by Lee Bishop and the SAR Pledge by Patrick Flanagan.

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT

President Campbell advised that Secretary Moran would be absent having gone back to Kansas because of the death of his father, a founding member of our Chapter.

President Campbell also announced a different structure of the meeting. The speaker, Marlene Hitt, had to attend a DAR function at 3 o'clock and would give her presentation before lunch.

Because of the lack of an agenda, Treasurer's Report and minutes of the previous meeting, normally provided by the Secretary, the August meeting would be a social meeting in place of a business meeting.

PROGRAM

Ms. Marlene Hitt

Archivist of the Bolton Hall Museum

Ms. Hitt's knowledge and ease of presentation

provided an interesting look back to the early days of the San Fernando Valley. Contrast with today was provided by a great number of photographs.

A question and answer period followed and brought out the facts that the Mossmans have a home in Tujunja and the Glenn, Greg and Mark Gujda grew up in the same area. Jan Mossman has collected clippings of Ms. Hitt's column in the local newspaper.

TRIP TO ARMENIA

Following lunch, Reverend Victor Springer told of his trip, with Ann, to Armenia which was followed by time spent in New Mexico among the Navajo people.

THE PANAMA CANAL

Compatriot Redfield "Tad" Finlay gave an update on the situation in Panama and the condition of the Canal since being taken over by the local government.

MARATHON IN IRELAND

Compatriot Brad Adams informed the meeting of his involvement with fund raising for diabetic research and that he will soon participate in a marathon in Ireland.



PRESIDENT BERNI CAMPBELL PRESENTING MS. HITT
THE SAR'S CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was closed with a Benediction by Reverend Springer and the SAR Recessional.

There being no further business before the August 19th, 2000, meeting of the Chapter, the meeting was adjourned.

Berni K. Campbell,
President



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Coming Events

September 16th, 2000 Meeting

Program

"The Battle of the Old Men and Young Boys"

The Battle of Petersburg, Va.
June 21-22, 1863

Speaker:

Compatriot Karl W. Jacobs
of the
Harbor Chapter,
SAR

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Tam O'Shanter Restaurant
2980 Los Feliz Boulevard,
Los Angeles, California
12:00 noon

A Thought To Ponder

"The Second Amendment"

"This year will go down in history - - for the first time a civilized nation has full gun registration. Our streets will be safer, our police more efficient, and the world will follow our lead into the future - -"

Adolf Hitler
1935

The Year at a Glance

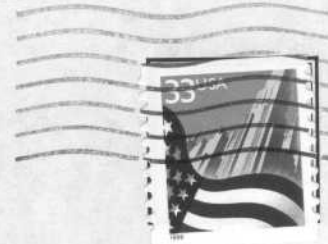
Sept. 16th Monthly Meeting
Sept. 29th - 30th National
Trustee's Meeting
Oct. 21st Monthly Meeting
Nov. 2nd - 4th State Board of
Manager's Meeting
Fremont, California
Nov. 18th Monthly Meeting
Dec. TBA Annual President's
Christmas Open
House

2001

Jan. 20th Annual Installation
of Officers
Feb. 18th George Washington
Massing of the Colors
Feb. 18th George Washington
Birthday Ball
Mar. 17th Monthly Meeting



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