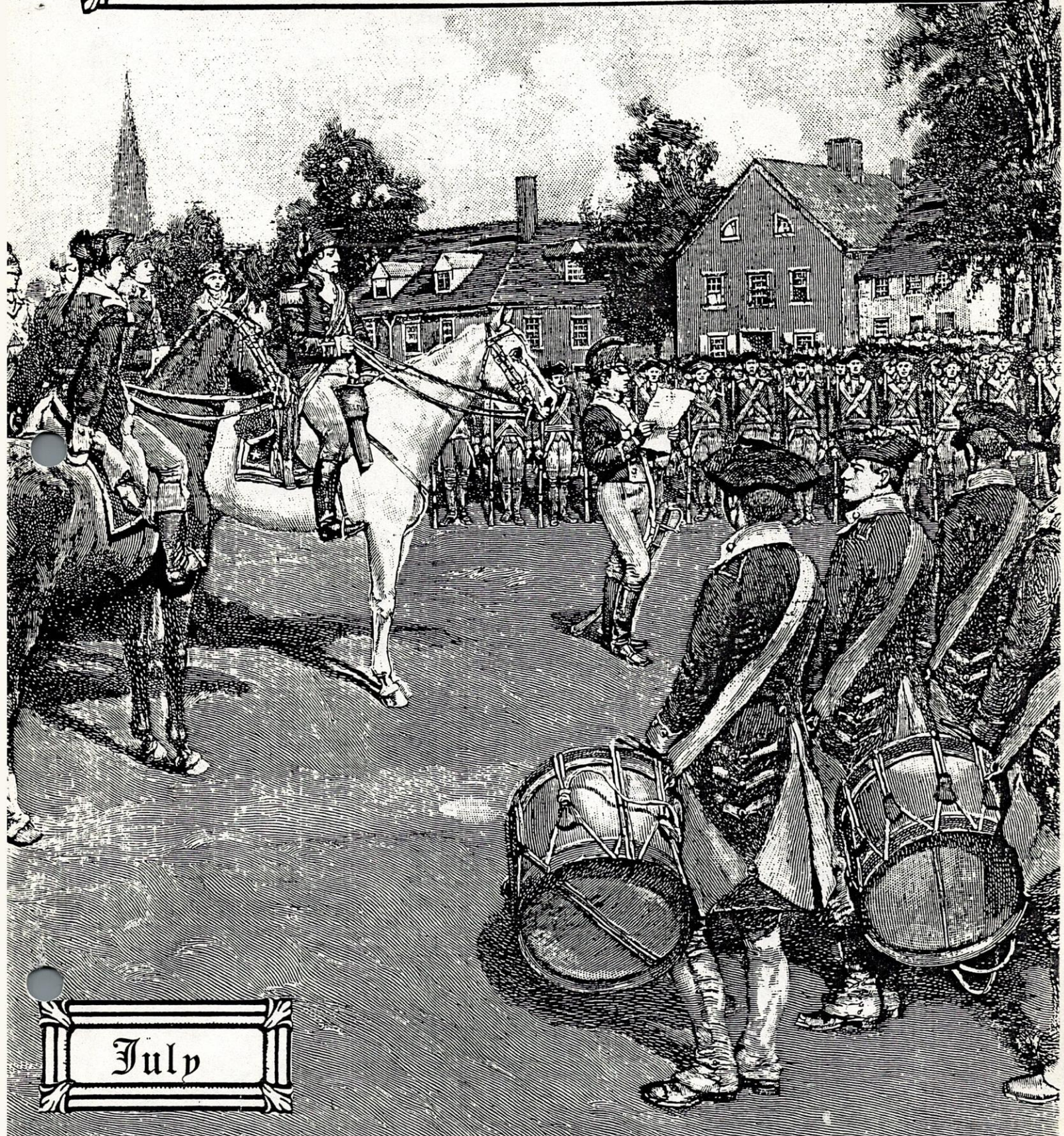


# THE VALLEY COMPATRIOT



July



MEETING NOTICE

MONDAY, JULY 25th, 1988

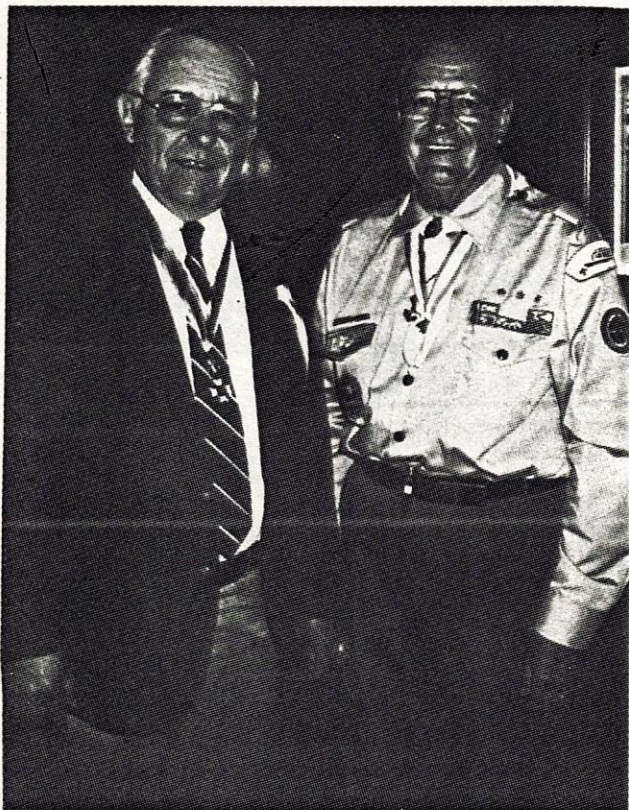


At 6:30 P.M. on Monday, July 25th, 1988 the Monthly Dinner meeting of the San Fernando Valley Chapter will be held at LEON'S STEAK HOUSE, 10945 Victory Blvd. North Hollywood, Ca. (Corner of Victory and Vineland.)

Applicants, the ladies and guests are most welcome. Please notify our Secretary if you plan on attending.

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THE MAY PROGRAM



BILL SEMERAU and ART BARRETT

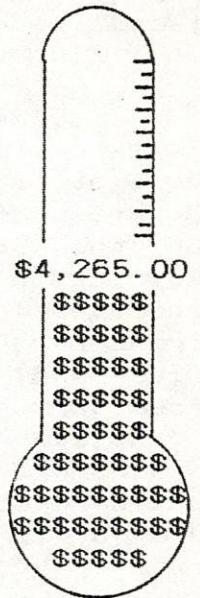
Arthur Wm. Barrett, California Society, Vice President-South addressed the Chapter on the subject of the importance of interfacing with other organizations. Underscoring the subject is Bill and Art's involvement in Scouting

OUR CHAPTER'S PERMANENT FUND

THE DONORS

THE FUND

- Anonymous
- Fr. John Bartke
- Berni K. Campbell
- Robert C. Emrey
- Col. Thomas D. Gillis
- Audel H. Hicks
- Donald R. McDowell
- James A. McKellep
- Donald Norman Moran
- Norman Philip Moran
- Charles M. Pitchford
- Roger E. Robertson
- D.F. "Bill" Semerau
- Jeffery L. Towery
- Walter G. Turnell
- Walter H. Walley
- Augustus de Zerega



Contributions to the Chapter's Permanent fund are Tax Deductible and an excellent way to assist the Chapter in continuing it's many valuable and patriotic programs. The interest earned on the permanent fund in 1987 was equivalent to twenty (20) members, without the usual membership related expenses. Please consider making a contribution to this fund and help assure that our Chapter continues the goals of the S.A.R.

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1889 - 1989  
A CENTURY OF COMMITMENT



TO OUR NATION'S HERITAGE

COMPATRIOTS  
IN THE NEWS



ompatriot KEITH and his wife ELEANOR will be celebrating their "50TH" wedding anniversary on July 21st. Congratulations!

Vice President Robert C. Emrey will be leading a large delegation to the 98th Annual Congress of the National Society of the Sons of the American Revolution. That delegation will include his wife, Virginia, Treasurer Charles and Toni Pitchford, Former Chapter President George and Mary Van Dorn and Secretary Donald and Linda Moran. The Congress will be held outside of Washington, D.C. at Tyson's Corners, Virginia over the July Fourth holiday.

BIRTHDAYS

- JAMES L. NORMAN - - - - - 07/03
- PHILLIP R. GILTMERS - - - 07/13
- DONALD R. McDOWELL - - - - 07/13
- DONALD N. MORAN - - - - - 07/16
- AUDEL H. HICKS - - - - - 07/22

ANNIVERSARY

- DONALD & LINDA MORAN - - 07/08/62
- JEFF & KATHY TOWERY - - 07/18/70
- KEITH & ELEANOR GOUGER - 07/21/38

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VETERAN'S BOOK  
DRIVE



hairman Berni K. Campbell has advised that the Chapters efforts to collect books continues to exceed all expectations. We have delivered 1,000 paperbacks to the Sawtelle and Sepulveda Veterans Hospitals since May 1st. At the suggestion of Compatriot Del Hicks it is likely that the program will be expanded to include the "U.S.O." which has a growing need for our assistance.

WELCOME NEW  
COMPATRIOTS



wo more men have joined our ranks. Both attained membership on May 17th, 1988. Their membership Certificates were presented at the June regular meeting of the Chapter to Compatriot Audel H. Hicks who is the father and grandfather of the Chapter's newest Compatriots who are:

AUDEL HARRISON HICKS, Jr.  
NSSAR 131210 CASSAR 5524

CRAIG ALLEN HICKS  
NSSAR 131211 CASSAR 5525

Both Compatriots are descendants of Abraham Swango who served as a Private soldier from Virginia.



COMPATRIOT AUDEL H. HICKS ACCEPTING MEMBERSHIP CERTIFICATES FOR HIS SON AND GRANDSON FROM PRESIDENT D.F. "BILL" SEMERAU AND REGISTRAR BERNI K. CAMPBELL.

THE CHAPTER HONORS THE  
VAN NUYS HIGH SCHOOL ARMY R.O.T.C.

**P**resident D. F. Bill Semerau presented the Van Nuys High School Army R.O.T.C. unit with a "special" award. It consisted of a S.A.R. Certificate of Distinguished Service framed with an 8"x 10" photograph of members of the R.O.T.C. unit wearing our Chapter's Inter-Service Continental Color Guard uniforms.

The award was made because of the outstanding service the Van Nuys High School R.O.T.C. unit has rendered the San Fernando Valley Chapter, S.A.R. by providing young men to man our Color Guard at numerous S.A.R. and Civic functions.

Among the more recent activities was the Memorial Day Services, and the Memorial Day Parade. Other activities included the September 17th, 1988 Bicentennial Commemorative event, The 1987 Christmas Parade and the Installation Dinner of the Chapter held last January.

These fine young people donate their free time to represent our Society and are most deserving of this recognition.

No organization, including R.O.T.C. units, can function without strong leadership. The Van Nuys High School Army R.O.T.C. unit has on it's staff



is Sergeant Major Terry Lee who accepted the framed Certificate and Photograph depicted above on behalf of his R.O.T.C. Unit.

Sergeant Major Lee was also recognized for his participation on behalf of the S.A.R. D. F. "Bill" Semerau presented him with the S.A.R.'s Bronze Good Citizenship Medal and Certificate for these numerous services on our behalf.

THE LA CANADA MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE



OUR COLOR GUARD AT THE MEMORIAL DAY SERVICES AT LA CANADA

**T**he Chapter's Inter-Service Continental Color Guard participated in the memorial services held at La Canada's Memorial Park on May 30th - Memorial Day. Manned by the cadets of the Van Nuys High School Army R.O.T.C., our Color Guard added both a touch of historic importance and military presence to the mornings events. Joined by the John Muir High School Army R.O.T.C. (in contemporary Army uniforms), Boy Scout and Girl Scout units, the La Canada High School Band and drill team and numerous Government officials, the solemn event was most appropriate to commemorate the memory of those who have fallen to keep our Country free. Among the many dignitaries present was Congressman Carlos Morehead, who

honored with S.A.R.'s the Good Citizenship medal by the Pasadena Chapter; Sheriff of Los Angeles, Sherman Block to whom this Chapter presented the S.A.R.'s Law Enforcement Medal; The Mayor of La Canada, and Mr. Frank Roberts, the Coordinator of the days activities.

Our Compatriot Walter H. Walley, wearing his V.F.W. hat was interviewed by the local newspaper about his experiences and the S.A.R. Additionally, the entire event was televised by the Local Television Station. The addition of our "Parade Banner" insured that our presence was acknowledged. Participation of our Color Guard in such events helps us to meet our goals which are: Historical, Educational and Patriotic.

THE LA CANADA MEMORIAL DAY PARADE



THE SAN FERNANDO VALLEY CHAPTER'S INTER-SERVICE CONTINENTAL COLOR GUARD LEADING THE LA CANADA MEMORIAL DAY PARADE



Our Color Guard manned by the young men of the Van Nuys Army R.O.T.C. unit led the La Canada Memorial Day Parade down Foothill Blvd. on Memorial Day. The Parade, which had over 100 participating units was one of the largest commemorative activities in the Southland on this years Memorial Day.

The parade also introduced our newly aquired parade banner to the public. Carried by two Cadets in the uniforms of Washington's Life Guard's Drum and Fife Corps it was quite impressive and added to the already colorful Color Guard. It accomplished our primary objective of gaining recognition for the S.A.R. The Television coverage of the Parade showed

the Color Guard in all it's splendor. Along the entire route of the parade the spectators cheered.

Our thanks go to the seven young Cadets that manned the Color Guard. (left to right) - Joe Reiff (Washington's Life Guards), Jacob Schulyer (Massachusetts Line), Brian Halloran (Continental Navy), Alberto Munoz (Continental Marines), Color Guard Captain, Scott Limpus (Washington's Life Guards). The banner bearers: Arthur Lawler and Joe Alexander (in the newly aquired musicians uniforms.)

Our appreciation was given to the Van Nuys High School Army R.O.T.C. by our June 27th presentation depicted on page 98.

# John Hancock

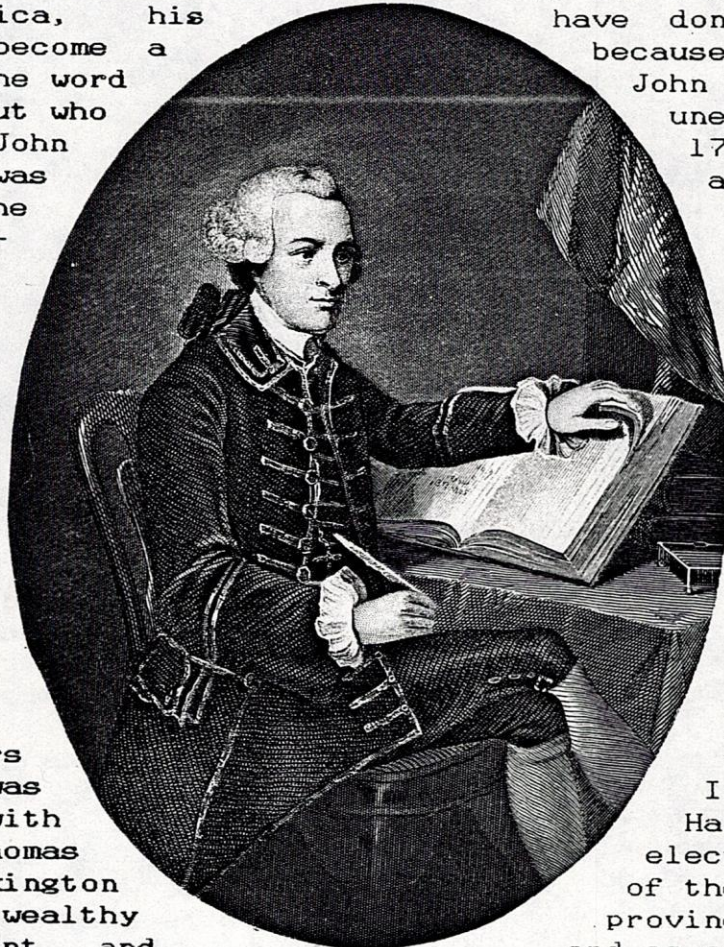
## THE MAN BEHIND THE SIGNATURE

**J**ohn Hancock was the President of the Second Continental Congress and was the first man to sign the Declaration of Independence, and did so in such a way that in America, his name has become a synonym for the word signiture. But who exactly was John Hancock? He was born on the 23rd of January 1737 in the small Massachusetts town of Braintree. He was the son and grandson of clergyman of Puritan backgrounds, both having the name of John Hancock. His father died when John was only seven years old and John was sent to live with his uncle Thomas Hancock in Lexington. Thomas was a wealthy Boston Merchant and took an interest in his nephew, providing him with an education. John Hancock graduated from Harvard College in 1754 and immediately went to work for his uncle in Boston.

His Uncle sent him to England and shortly after his return in 1764, Thomas died leaving his fortune to his nephew John. At age 27 John was

was one of the wealthiest merchants in all of New England and was soon elected a Selectman of Boston. Sam Adams was quoted by his cousin John Adams that the citizens of Boston have done a wise thing because they have made John Hancock's fortune their own. In 1772 John accepted an appointment from Governor Ths. Hutchinson as Colonel in charge of a Company of Cadets that acted as the Governor's honor Guard. This opportunity gave Hancock an understanding of British army thinking, which lesson he was to benefit from. In October 1774 Hancock was elected president of the Massachusetts provincial Congress and as such he was head of the unoffical government. He was at Lexington when the British marched on that town. Only thru the efforts of Samuel Adams, Paul Revere and others was he convinced to leave rather than risk capture by the British.

Hancock did not presided over the Continental Congress having relinquished the chair



to Benjamin Harrison during the debates over independence. Harrison was chairman of the "committee of the whole of the Continental Congress". Hancock did preside in July of 1776 when the historic document was signed. He and Charles Thomson, the secretary to the Congress were the only two men to sign the original version of the Declaration of Independence on that day. Hancock is said to have remarked when he wrote his signature so bold, nearly five inches long, "So that John Bull could read it without his glasses."

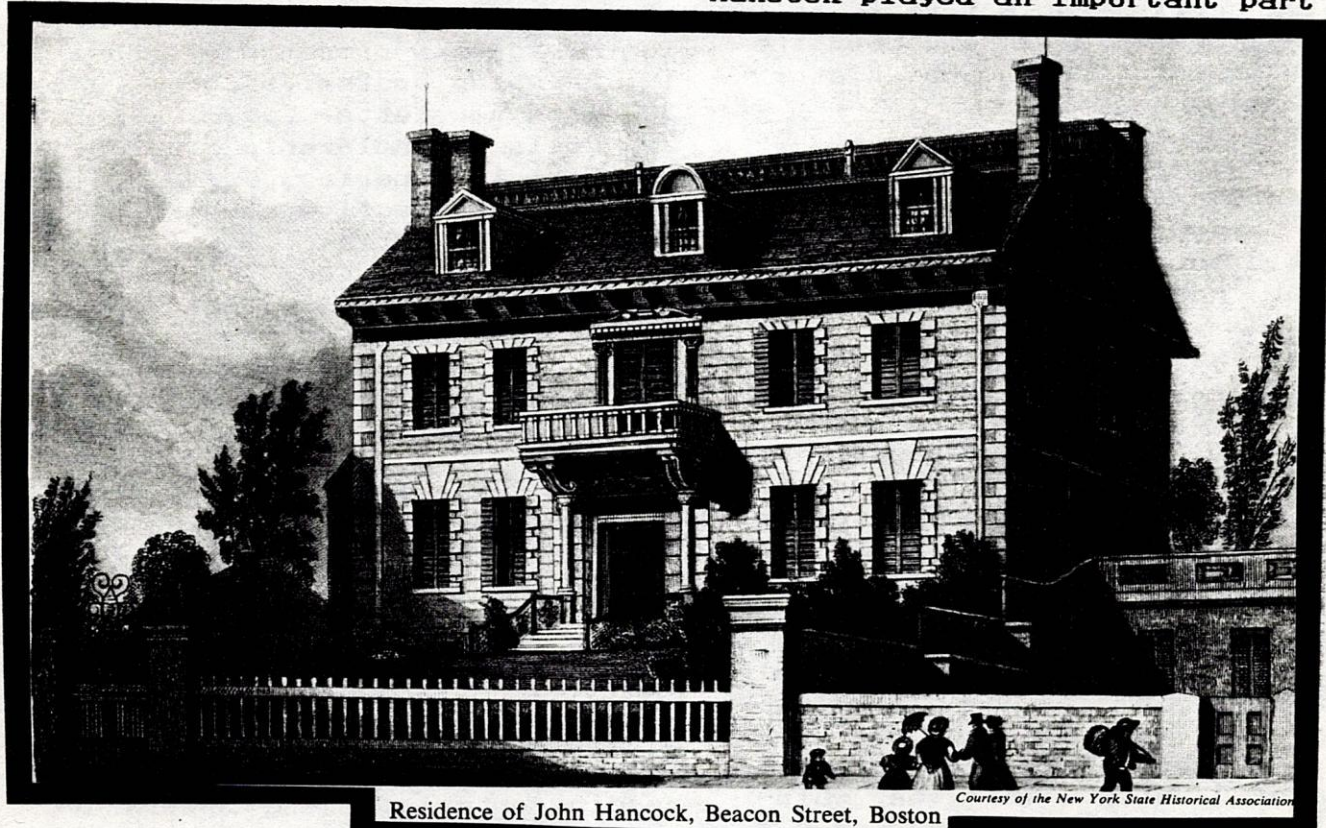
The printed version (printed by John Dunlap of Philadelphia (an ancestor of Compatriots Tullis and Giltmier) and distributed on July 5th. As a result of his stylish signature the name of John Hancock became second only to George Washington and served as a symbol of freedom. He continued to serve as the President of the Congress

Continental Congress for two and a half years, resigning in October 1777 because of ill health (gout).

In 1778, Hancock was commissioned a Major General of Massachusetts Militia and was placed at the head of a six thousand man New England that was involved in the Rhode Island campaign. Unfortunately, when the French failed to support the effort, the Americans were forced to retreat.

He was re-elected as President of the Congress in 1785 but owing to poor health he could not serve. He was elected Governor of Massachusetts (a second term) in 1787 and held that office for the remaining years of his life.

Although his failing health prevented him from participating in the Constitutional Convention of 1787 Hancock played an important part



Residence of John Hancock, Beacon Street, Boston

*Courtesy of the New York State Historical Association*

in the ratification of the United States Constitution. The two most important states were Massachusetts and Virginia because of their size and population. John Hancock was the President of the Massachusetts ratification convention which met on January 9th, 1788. He introduced several conciliatory resolutions, including a "Bill of Rights" He won a great deal of popularity and the Federalist proposed him for the Presidency.

When Virginia ratified the Constitution, which Hancock was sure they would reject, all his hopes for the Presidency vanished as Virginia's George Washington was the most popular man in the Country. Hancock was then considered for the Vice Presidency, but it went to John Adams.

John Hancock died at age fifty-six on October 8th, 1793, in Quincy, Massachusetts, while still serving as Governor. His funeral is said to have been the most impressive in the history of Massachusetts.

His life long friend, John Adams wrote of him: "Mr. Hancock had a delicate delicate constitution. He was very infirm; a great part of his life was passed in acute pain. He inherited from his father, though one of the most amiable and beloved of men, a certain sensibility, a keenness of feeling, or in more familiar language, a peevishness of temper - Nor were his talents or attainments inconsiderable. They were far superior to many who have been much more celebrated. He had a great deal of political sagacity and penetration into men. He was by no means a contemptible scholar or orator. Compared with Washington, Lincoln or Knox, he was learned."

THE CASSAR  
PRESIDENT'S AWARD  
CONTEST  
CHAPTER STATUS  
JUNE

Presented for your information are the results of our Chapter's activities for the month of June, as reported to the Compatriot Jess T. Wolfe, State President.

1. Publicity.....	0
2. TV or Radio.....	0
3. New Members.....	0
4. 50% attendance.....	0
5. Supplementals.....	0
6. NSSAR Delegates.....	0
7. CSSAR Delegates.....	0
8. Reinstated members.....	0
9. Ladies attending.....	5
10. Auxiliary members.....	0
11. 2 Chapter functions.....	0
12. Hosting State Meeting.....	0
13. Organizing new Chapter.....	0
14. Program/Talk Given.....	0
15. Gifts to V.A. Hospital.....	0
16. Books Donated.....	1000
17. Historical Site marked.....	0
18. Awarding medals.....	0
18a. Personally presented.....	50
19. Printing roster.....	0
20. each newsletter.....	25
21. College scholarship.....	0
22a. Social gathering.....	15
22b. with prospective member.....	0
23. DAR/CAR Meeting.....	0
24. Speech Contest.....	0
25. Eagle Scout Nominee.....	0
26. SAR Table.....	0
27. Donations to the SAR.....	0
28. Each New citizen.....	0
29. Report filed on time.....	50

Monthly total (June) 1,145  
Year-to-date total: 9,377  
=====

Compatriot Berni K. Campbell delivered 200 books to the Los Angeles International Airport U.S.O. at their request. It seems many of our travelling servicemen are in need of reading materials, and we have a new outlet for our book drive.

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY CHAPTER,  
 SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION  
 1988 ROSTER OF MEMBERS

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 (home) 1-213-641-0259

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 Tujunga, Ca. 91042  
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 Tujunga, Ca. 91042-3463

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NED WRIGHT ROBERTSON  
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 Arleta, Ca. 91331

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AUGUSTUS di ZEREGA V  
 (dual Member)  
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**CORRECTIONS**

**I**f any of the information presented in this roster is in error, please notify the Chapter's Secretary as soon as possible. Thank You.

THE SAN FERNANDO VALLEY CHAPTER,  
CALIFORNIA SOCIETY  
SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

MEETING MINUTES

MAY 30TH, MEMORIAL DAY



The San Fernando Valley Chapter, S.A.R. held it's May Meeting at Leon's Steak House in North Hollywood, California at 6:30 P.M. on May 30th, 1988. the presiding officer: President D.F. "Bill" Semerau. CASSAR Vice President Arthur Wm. Barrett was the guest speaker.

1. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

IT WAS MOVED by Compatriot Audel H. Hicks, and SECONDED by Compatriot James A. McKellep that the Minutes of the April 25th 1988 meeting be approved as submitted.

THE MOTION CARRIED.

2. The REPORT OF THE TREASURER

Treasurer Charles M. Pitchford advised that the Chapter is in excellant shape. The Permanent fund continues to grow, The Chapter has no outstanding debts. THE REPORT WAS ACCEPTED.

3. REPORT ON THE COLOR GUARD

President D.F. "Bill" Semerau reported that the the Color Guard participated in the La Canada / Flintridge Memorial Day Services and later lead the Memorial Day Parade. The Color Guard was manned my the Van Nuys High School Jr. R.O.T.C. The newly obtained parade banner was carried at both activities. and was carried by two newly uniformed "Washingtyon Guard musicians". These young men did great service and presented themselves smartly being cheered along the entire parade route. THE REPORT WAS ACCEPTED.

4. REPORT ON THE CHAPTER'S VETERAN'S BOOK DRIVE

President D.F. "Bill" Semerau reported on behalf of Compatriot Berni K. Campbell, Chairman of the Veteran's Committee, who is touring England and unable to attend tonights meeting, that several hundred pocketbooks have been collected and that Berni will be making another delivery to the Sepulveda and Sawtelle Veteran's Hospitals this forthcoming month.

THE REPORT WAS ACCEPTED.

5. REPORT OF THE CHAPTER'S MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

President D.F. "Bill" Semerau reported on behalf of Chapter Registrar and Chairman of the Membership Committee advised that the special incentives for young members has worked well and that the Chapter has received numerous applications. Eleven applications have been or are being processed at the this time.

6. REPORT ON THE CASSAR MEETING

President D.F. "Bill" Semerau reported that at the State Annual Meeting held in Monterey, he and Compatriots Robert C. Emrey and his wife Virginia, George Sutherland Van Dorn and his wife Mary, Donald Norman Moran and his wife Linda; and dual member Col. Thomas D. Gillis and his wife Billie were in attendance. The Chapter won the "BEST MID-SIZED CHAPTER" Plaque and Battle Streamer and "BEST NEWSLETTER" plaque. Compatriot Moran completed his year as State President. Compatriot Moran was

MAY MEETING MINUTES CONTINUED

6. CONTINUED - REPORT ON THE CASSAR MEETING

asked to run for the Vice President General position for the Western District. He accepted the nomination. That election will be held at the National Congress at Tyson's Corners, Virginia (Washington, D.C.) in July.

7. REPORT ON THE NATIONAL CONGRESS IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

President D. F. "Bill" Semerau advised the Chapter will be well represented at the July National Congress being held at Tyson's Corners, Virginia by the Washington, D.C. Society. Vice President Robert C. Emrey and his wife Virginia will be leading a delegation consisting of George Sutherland Van Dorn and wife Mary; Charles M. Pitchford and his wife Toni; Donald Moran and his wife Linda.

8. THE CHAPTER'S BY-LAWS

The By-laws Committee Chairman, Compatriot Roger E. Robertson MOVED that the proposed By-laws be accepted as submitted. THE MOTION WAS SECONDED by Compatriot Walter H. Walley, THE MOTION CARRIED, UNANIMOUSLY

9. A NAME FOR THE BY-LAWS

President D. F. "Bill" Semerau proposed that the newly approved by-laws henceforth be referred to as the "ROBERTSON BY-LAWS" IT WAS SO MOVED BY by Compatriot Charles Pitchford and SECONDED by Compatriot Walter H. Walley. THE MOTION CARRIED.

10. REPORT ON THE R. O. T. C. PROGRAM

Compatriot Donald Norman Moran ran reported that the Chapter had

10. OUR ROTC PROGRAM CONTINUED

presented R. O. T. C. Medals to twenty (20) high School Junior R. O. T. C. units and five (5) Universities.

11. REQUEST FOR THE COLOR GUARD

The NSSAR President-General, Nolan Carson has requested that the San Fernando Valley Chapter's Inter-Service Color Guard represent the California Society, S. A. R. at the National Congress.

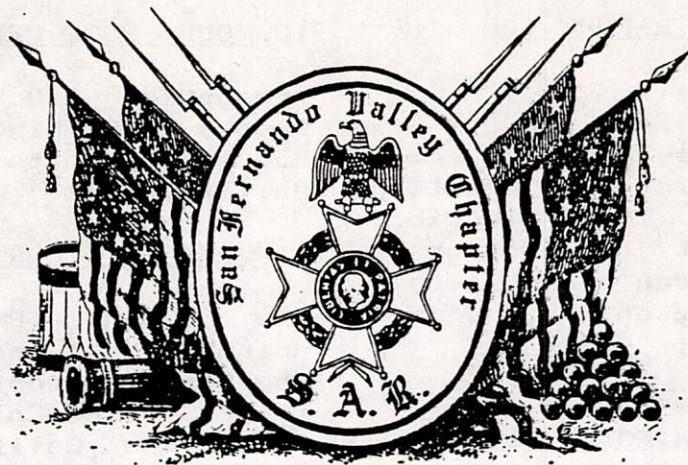
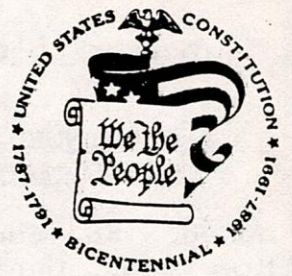
Compatriot's Arthur Wm. Barrett (Long Beach Chapter); Arthur Ogilvie (Palo Alto Chapter); Paul H. Davis, (San Diego Chapter) Col. Richard Locke (Redding Chapter) and our own Donald N. Moran have agreed to man it. IT WAS MOVED by Compatriot Walter H. Walley and SECONDED by Compatriot Jeffrey L. Towery that we participate. THE MOTION CARRIED.

12. SPECIAL AWARD FOR VAN NUYS HIGH SCHOOL ARMY R. O. T. C.

President D. F. "Bill" Semerau recommended that the Chapter Honor the Van Nuys High School Army R. O. T. C. Unit for it's continued participation of manning our Color Guard. It was suggested that a Photograph of the Color Guard in the colonial uniforms and a certificate of Distinguished service be framed, and presented to the school. Also, a Bronze Good Citizenship Medal be presented to Sgt-Maj. Terry Lee for his services. IT WAS SO MOVED by Roger E. Robertson and SECONDED by Walter H. Walley. THE MOTION CARRIED.

THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS BEFORE THE CHAPTER THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED

Donald Norman Moran, Secretary



The San Fernando Valley Chapter  
SONS of the AMERICAN REVOLUTION  
1248 Herzel Avenue, Lancaster, Calif. 93535

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