

THE VALLEY COMPATRIOT



Lt. GEN. JOHN M. WRIGHT RECEIVING
A CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION
FROM ROBERT C. EMREY

JULY and AUGUST 1991

☆☆☆☆ THE VALLEY COMPATRIOT ☆☆☆☆
 The San Fernando Valley Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution

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 1986
 GEORGE SUTHERLAND VAN DORN
 1985
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 1984
 DONALD NORMAN MORAN
 1981-1983

THE VALLEY COMPATRIOT
 The Official Newsletter of the
 SAN FERNANDO VALLEY CHAPTER, S.A.R.
 Donald Norman Moran, Editor
 1248 Herzel Avenue, Lancaster, California 93535

TABLE OF CONTENTS

No Meeting Notice	69
Taps - George Edward Blackmun	69
Compatriots in the News	70
The U.S. Army Wants Your Old Photographs	70
Named for George Washington	70
Report on the June Meeting	71
Report of the Membership Committee	71
Report on the National Congress	72
Mother and Son	74
The Permanent Fund	77

SECRETARY'S CORNER



Life Membership:.....	\$1,000.00
New Applicant fee:.....	75.00
If under 25 years of age:.....	24.00
Sons, Grandsons, Brothers or Nephews.....	20.00
Annual Dues:.....	40.00
Reinstatement fee:.....	40.00
Supplemental Applications:.....	30.00
Dual Membership dues:.....	10.00
Ladies Auxiliary annual dues.....	5.00
Youth Registration fee:.....	10.00

SPECIAL FUNDS

In addition to our annual dues, many of our important programs are completely funded by tax deductible donations. These funds are:

- National Society's George Washington Fund
- California Society's Permanent Fund
- California Society's Education Fund
- San Fernando Valley Chapter's Permanent Fund
- San Fernando Valley Chapter's Color Guard Fund
- San Fernando Valley Chapter's
 Walter G. Turnell R.O.T.C. Fund

NO MEETING NOTICE

**THERE WILL BE NO MEETINGS
IN THE MONTHS OF
JULY AND AUGUST**

The Chapter has approved "going dark" during the summer months of July and August. This departure from our past traditions is brought about because of the numerous summer vacations taken by our Compatriots and that GENIO'S RESTAURANT has a minimum which we can not meet during the summer months.

Our next meeting will be on **SEPTEMBER 30TH, 1991**

-----[end]-----

TAPS
GEORGE EDWARD BLACKMUN, III
26 September 1920 - 31 July 1991

Compatriot George Edward Blackmun, III, joined the Pennsylvania Society, SAR in 1957. He transferred to our Chapter in May 1990 after seeing our table at the Jamboree. He served as a Bombardier in World War II in the 19th Bombardment Group, 314th Wing, 20th Air Force. He had 11 missions over Tokyo.

George attended most of our meetings since joining the Chapter, inspite ill health and having to be driven over forty crosstown miles by his daughter Rhonda.

He was always the first to compliment a successful program and was supportive of all our programs contributing many excellant ideas and opinions for the betterment of the Chapter and the S.A.R.

George was a descendant from three Revolutionary War soldiers. Colonel John Smith, Captain Able Richards and Sgt/Major Andrew Everett. All three served from Massachusetts and marched to the Lexington Alarm on April 19th, 1775.

George Edward Blackmun will be missed by all of us that were priviledged to know him.

-----[end]-----



**AUDEL HICKS, THEN PRESIDENT
WELCOMING GEORGE E. BLACKMUN
INTO THE CHAPTER IN 1990.**

**COMPATRIOTS
IN THE NEWS**



resident Robert and 1st Lady Virginia Emrey are the proud grandparents of a new S.A.R. Barry Hyatt Emrey was born on July 7th, the son of Tom and Jennifer Emrey.

Secretary Donald and Linda Moran are the proud grandparents of a new D.A.R. Stephanie-Rae Stevens the daughter of Paul and Laureen (Moran) Stephens. She was born on July 19th.

BIRTHDAYS

Philip R. Giltmier - - - - 07/13
 Donald R. McDowell - - - - 07/13
 Donald Norman Moran - - - - 07/16
 Audel H. Hicks, - - - - - 07/22
 George S. Van Dorn - - - - 07/29
 Charles D. Barnard - - - - 08/08
 Berni K. Campbell - - - - 08/09

ANNIVERSARIES

Donald and Linda Moran
 07/08/1963
 Robert and Suzanne Emrey
 07/22/1966
 James and Patricia Browning
 07/25/1970
 James and Lana Laughlin
 07/30/1965
 -----[end]-----

**NAMED FOR GEORGE
WASHINGTON**

According to Rand McNally there are 257 townships, 121 cities, towns and villages, 33 counties and 1 state named after our first President.

The state of Washington was going to be called Columbia until one legislator claimed it would always be confused with the District of Columbia, so they named it Washington.

-----[end]-----

**THE U.S. ARMY
WANTS YOUR
OLD PHOTOGRAPHS**



he United States Army Military Institute has started a worthwhile historical project. Collecting photographs of Civil War Veterans.

They are also interested, to a lesser degree, in other old veteran's photos, pre-1900.

Micheal J. Winey, Curator of the Institute located at Carlisle Barracks, Pennsylvania 17013-5008, advised that they will search their ever growing index for individual Civil War soldiers for the public. A fee will be charged. Your editor submitted copies of three photographs of his Civil War ancestors. The Army copied each one, and promptly returned the original photograph as well as a complimentary 8" x 10". Naturally they require that you identify the individual in your submission. but although not requested, I provided a very short (less than 1/2 page) biography of all three of my ancestors.

I requested a survey be made for two ancestors of mine that served in the Civil War.

Unfortunately, they were unable to help me, but that's pretty much a matter of luck. Given more time, the collection will grow and eventually they will nodoubt have a better average of 'finds' versus negatives.

How many thousands of old photographs of our veterans lay in old trunks or boxes, rotting with each passing year? We now have a repository for this more personal part of our Country's military history.

-----[end]-----

REPORT ON THE JUNE MEETING



One of the highlights of the June meeting was that it was attended by five applicants for SAR membership. **Mr. James Aguirre, Mr. Stephen C. Brecht, Dr. Clifford J. Craft, Dr. Thomas K. Devitt, and William Griffing.**

Jim has portrayed George Washington for the Chapter on numerous occasions. Cliff was contacted thru the SCGS's Jamboree, Stephen, thru the SCGS Library and Thomas through his step-son Mark Dixon, who as a member of the Crescenta Valley High School Air Force ROTC has helped man our Color Guard on several occasions. Bill was also contacted through the SCGS Library.

The program, which was video taped, consisted of two separate SAR events. The first tape was prepared by the National Society and is entitled "THE HISTORY OF THE S.A.R." and is a 26 minute, professionally prepared VHS video which explains much of the history of the Society with both stills and

moving pictures and an interesting narrative. It was most informative and enjoyed by all. It was decided that we will use it as a recruiting tool and loan our copy to applicants to membership. We are confident that once seeing the video, those interested in the S.A.R. will join. As information, you can obtain your own copy from the Merchandise Department of the National Society. The second video shown was of the "George Washington Commemorative Massing of the Colors" taken by our First Lady, **Virginia Emrey** Since most of us participated in the "Massing" we could not see event. It was very impressive. A special effort will be made at the next "Massing" to insure a complete video record of this colorful celebration.

During the Business portion of the meeting President **Robert C. Emrey** gave the details of the 101st Annual National Congress which was held in Kansas City. That report is presented on page 72 in this issue.

-----[end]-----

REPORT OF THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Chairman Berni K. Campbell reports that the following gentlemen are eligible for membership and have been contacted. Some have already responded and are working on their applications.

- Ronald Abramovitz
- James Aguirre
- Thomas Ake
- Albert Alegrete
- Robert C. Atkinson
- John Boegehold
- William R. Bonelli
- Micheal Button
- Stephen C. Brecht
- Mrs. Linda Burnett*
- George Burgess

- Dr. Clifford J. Craft
- Justin B. Cawabori
- John F. Colclazer
- Dr. Thomas K. Devitt
- Donald Chase Downes
- Leslie A. Doud
- Richard E. Fix
- Stan Faulk
- John Fusch
- Mrs. Beverly J. Granger**
- William Griffing

REPORT OF THE MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE
CONTINUED

V. M. Hamilton
James D. Hier
James R. Inman
Leroy L. Lamborn
Gene C. Lemmon
Wallace Leedy
Fred Lichti

Micheal T. Mallory
James M. Rogers
Mark V. Rudd
Kashi M. Way
Carey A. Wilson, III
* & ** Ladies making inquiry on
behalf of their husband or sons

-----[end]-----

REPORT ON THE NATIONAL CONGRESS



THE CALIFORNIA SOCIETY, S. A. R. DELEGATION

Back row l-r: Stanley Anderson; James Reynolds, Charles Vencill,
George Van Dorn; Leland Hawkins; John Wright; Robert Jackson;
Duane Wheeler; Charles Conyers; Donald Moran; Arthur Ogilvie;
Howard Lohnes; Robert Emrey; Richard Locke; William Taylor.

Front row l-r: Ruth Reynolds; Thelma Howard; Linda Moran;
Esthela Wheeler; Jane Hawkins; Gretchen Lohnes; Virginia Emrey;
Louise Locke; Bernice Taylor. (not shown was Carl H. Lamb)



At the June 24th meeting President **Robert Emrey** reported on the National Congress which was held at the Westin Crown Center Hotel in Kansas City, Missouri from Saturday, June 15th thru June 19th, 1991. The delegation from our Chapter included **Robert** and **Virginia Emrey**, **Donald** and **Linda Moran**, **George** **Sutherland** **Van** **Dorn**

The Kansas and Missouri Societies, who co-sponsored the Congress did a marvelous job. The facilities, food and entertainment surpassed all the previous congresses.

The single most important event at any Congress is the election of officers. This year the slate of officers proposed by the nominations committee were unanimously elected.

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 The San Fernando Valley Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution

The most important piece of legislation that was passed that affects each member was a dues increase. National increased the dues from \$12.00 to \$17.00. This increase added to the recently increased California Society dues from \$12.00 to \$18.00 makes the annual dues to \$35.00, plus our Chapter dues of \$10.00 for a total of \$45.00.

The California Society was the recipient of the "Walter G. Sterling Award" for having enrolled the largest number of new members from the C.A.R. Three Californians were honored with

National Society's Liberty Medal. Col. Richard F. Locke received a cluster for having recruited ten additional members since receiving the medal last year. Sherman B. Boivan, of the Redwood Empire Chapter and Ronald D. Risley of the Patton Chapter received the medals from President-General James R. Calhoun.

The members attending from our Chapter, all enjoyed this Congress and found time to enjoy the fellowship of our Compatriots that we see but once a year at the Congress.



**STATE PRESIDENT CHARLES CONYERS
 RECEIVING THE S.A.R.'S WAR
 SERVICE MEDAL FROM ROBERT EMREY**

We discovered that our State Society president, Charles D. Conyers, II has never been presented the War Service medal which he is entitled to. Our Chapter corrected this oversight by making the presentation at the National Congress.



**Lt. Gen. JOHN M. WRIGHT,
 RECEIVING THE S.A.R.'S
 CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION
 FROM PRESIDENT ROBERT C. EMREY.**

Lieutenant-General John M. Wright, of the Riverside Chapter, was our keynote speaker at the 1991 Massing of the Colors but had departed after the ceremony before we made the presentation to him.



GEORGE WASHINGTON

MOTHER
AND
SON

An inquiry into the strange relationship that existed between George Washington and his Mother, Mary Ball Washington



MARY WASHINGTON

Before there were any National symbols, i.e. the Flag, the Liberty Bell, the National Seal, the Constitution, there was Washington. His greatness was elevated by those who knew him or of him to a level of almost sainthood. His wife Martha was elevated to that of the ideal wife and mother. Nineteenth century writers wrote reams about their virtues and held them up as the premier examples of what Americans should strive to emulate.

But, Washington's mother was another case altogether. More often than not she was all but ignored. Writers who have received great public acclaim because of their biographies of George Washington, seemingly avoided any indepth explanation of the very strained relationship that obviously existed between Mary Washington and her son George.

Douglas Southall Freeman in his monumental seven volume biography on Washington simply summed up his years of research with the private statement "the strangest mystery of Washington's life, his lack of affection for his mother."

Several George Washington scholars have pointed out that both were very strong willed, and not given to compromise. While George was very independent, Mary was possessive, self-indulgent and never satisfied with her personal situation.

These differing personality traits are quite common between parent and child. While these can be used to understand some of the disagreements known to have existed between them, they do not explain away the coolness in their relationship.

George frequently wrote letters to his subordinates addressing them "My Dear Gibbs", or "My Dear Alex" and signed them "Affectionately, G. Washington". To his Mother he addressed his infrequent letters "Honoured Madam" and signed them "I am, Honour'd Madam, Yr. most dutiful and Obedt. Son, G. Washington". Hardly warm by any standard.

Yet, George Washington took great pains to insure that his Mother was well provided for. He inherited Ferry Farm upon reaching adulthood, and permitted his Mother to remain Mistress, enjoying all of the



**WAKEFIELD PLANTATION
BIRTHPLACE OF GEORGE WASHINGTON. THIS IS A RECONSTRUCTED HOME
BUILT ON THE ORIGINAL SITE AT POPE'S CREEK.**

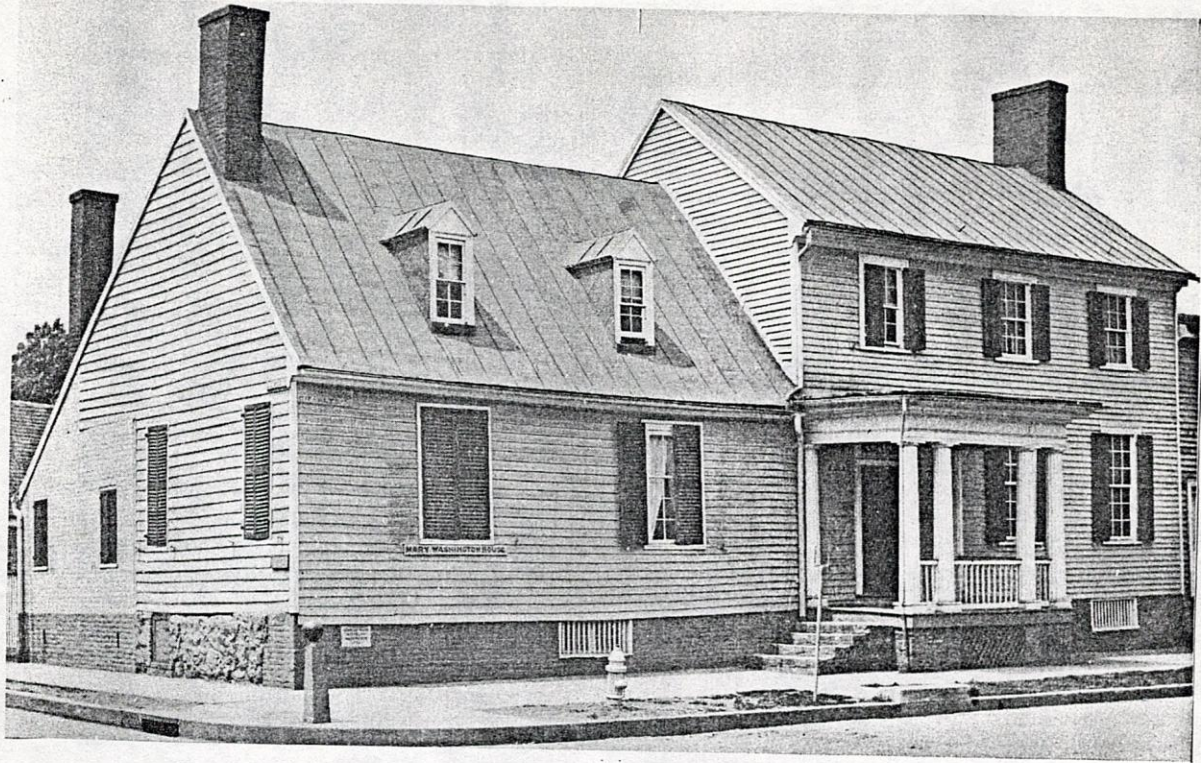
profits from the farm, as well as additional support from her children. The Washington's moved to Ferry Farm from Wakefield in 1738, when George was six years old. George inherited his brother Lawrence's Plantation, Mount Vernon and moved there in 1752, Mary continued to live on Ferry Farm until 1771, when it became evident that she was no longer capable of managing the estate. George then bought her a home in Fredericksburg at 1200 Charles Street. The very comfortable house is open to the public today. It is two blocks from Kenmore House, which was the residence of Mary's daughter Betty who had married Colonel Fielding Lewis.

Ferry Farm burned to the ground in 1776 and no known paintings or drawings of it exist today.

During the Revolutionary War, Mary Washington appealed to the Virginia Assembly for a pension. George was serving as Commander-in-Chief, without a salary, and was furious. Fortunately for George, this embarrassing situation was prevented by Benjamin Harrison, then Speaker of the House of Burgesses. He wrote Washington in February of 1781 "I took the liberty to put a stop to this supposing you would be displeased at such an applications...."

Surviving letters written by George indicate that his mother was a constant source of embarrassment to him and an affront to his personal honour - as she was constantly complaining to all that would listen that she was terribly neglected.

D. S. Freeman, who apparently devoted a considerable



**THE MARY BALL WASHINGTON HOME
1200 CHARLES STREET, FREDERICKSBURG, VIRGINIA AS IT LOOKED
BEFORE IT WAS COMPLETELY RESTORED.**

time researching this relationship and find no records of any warm remembrances of her. He wrote: "...if she was beloved in the community where she lived, no echo of affection for her has survived in the writings of travelers or in the four extant letters of her townfolks."

Mary Ball Washington died of Breast Cancer at 3:00 P.M. on August 25th, 1789. She was buried in an unmarked grave. Then on May 7th, 1833, 44 years after her death, President Andrew Jackson laid the corner stone of the monument that was being erected. Forty-four years is almost two full generations removed from her death.

In 1856, Dr. Benson Lossing published in his book "The Pictorial Field Book of the Revolution" the following description of his visit to her memorial

site wrote: "Almost twenty years have passed away since the imposing pageant at the laying of the corner-stone was displayed, and yet the monument is unfinished [for] the hugh marble obelisk, as it came from the quarry, lies there yet, defaced and mutilated by rude hands, and silently appealing to local pride and general patriotism to sculpture its ornaments, and place it where it was designed to be. Year after year the dust of the plain has lodged upon the top of the half finished pile, and the seeds of wild flowers have borne thither upon the wings of zephyrs; and where the base of the noble obelisk should rest, Nature, as if rebuking insenate man, hath woven green garlands, and hung flowerly festoons. Upon the board tablet whereon was to be inscribed the

beautiful memorial. "MARY, THE MOTHER OF WASHINGTON," dark green fungi have made their humiliating record instead."

This is hardly the treatment Virginian's give to their first families. It is surprising that this neglectful attitude of the citizens of Fredericksburg was evident in 1859/60 - seventy years had lapsed since her death and three decades since the monument was first started!

Col. Frederick Bernays Wiener in his article, "Washington and his Mother" (American History Illustrated, August 1991), from which much of the information in this article came, has found a document which may explain away this mystery.

A French First Lieutenant in the Auxonne Regiment of Royal Artillery, named Jean-Francois Comte de Clermont-Crevecœur was with Rochambeau when the victorious American and French Armies marched from Yorktown to New York. An entry in his personal journal dated July 14th, 1782, at Fredricksburg reads: "We went to call on her [Mary Washington] but were amazed to be told that this lady, who must be over seventy, is one of the most rabid Tories. Relations must be very stained between her and her son, who will always be the right hand of American Freedom."

We can think of no reason why the Lieutenant would make such an entry in his personal journal if it were not true.

It would certainly explain the relationship problem the George Washington was having and excuse the demonstrated lack of enthusiasm the citizens of Fredericksburg had for erecting a monument in her memory. To their credit, their collective silence was a memorial to their patriotism and to George Washington.

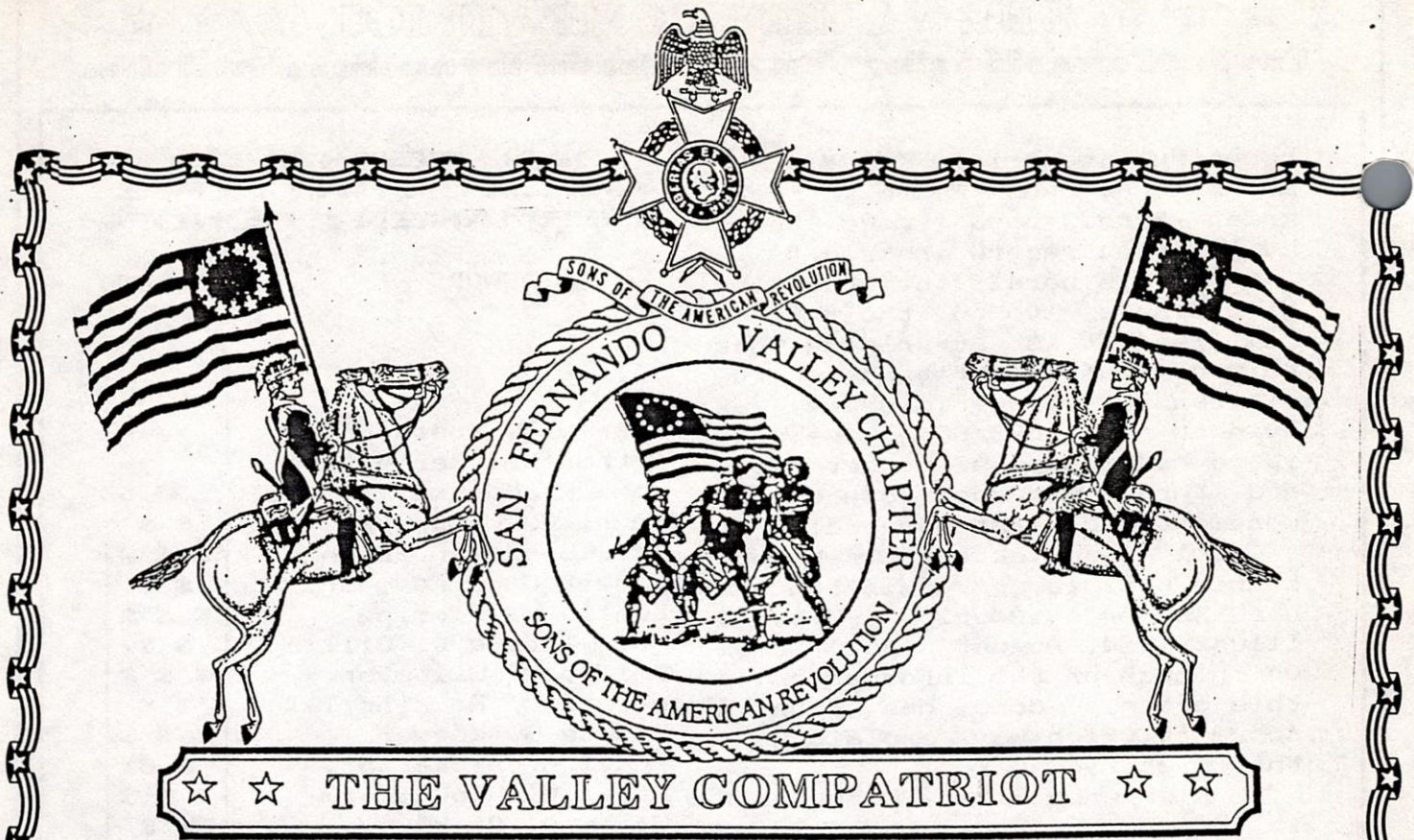
SAN FERNANDO VALLEY CHAPTER'S PERMANENT FUND

THE DONORS

THE FUND

Charles D. Barnard	-
Arthur Wm. Barrett	-
John K. Bartke	\$10,338.56
Berni K. Campbell	\$ \$
Col. George A. Eckert	\$ \$ \$
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George S. Van Dorn	\$ \$
Walter H. Walley	\$ \$ \$ \$
Thomas H. Warden	\$ \$ \$ \$ \$
Robert J. Wiley, Sr.	\$ \$ \$ \$
Augustus di Zerega	\$ \$

The Chapter is a tax exempt organization operating under the I.R.S provision of 501C3. All donations are tax deductible. The Chapter's IRS Tax Exemption number is: 95-3685784. During 1990 the fund generated interest equal to the dues of FIFTY-FIVE members in good standing.



DONALD NORMAN MORAN
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Lancaster, California
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FIRST CLASS

