

The Valley Compatriot

San Fernando

Valley Chapter



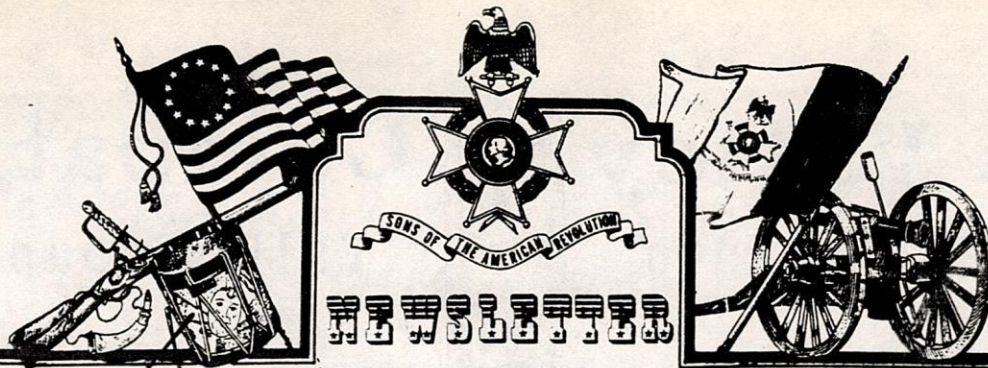
SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION



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SAN FERNANDO VALLEY CHAPTER

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THE FRONT COVER

Burbank, California - February 22nd, 1987 - Chapter President Roger E. Robertson and former President Col. George A. Eckert leading the parade to the Washington Monument at Forest Lawn.

THE VALLEY COMPATRIOT

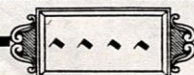
The VALLEY COMPATRIOT is the official publication of the

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

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The editorial content of the VALLEY COMPATRIOT reflects the opinions of the Editor or the authors of the various articles and is not necessarily the official position of the San Fernando Valley Chapter, California Society, Sons of the American Revolution, unless so stated. Back-issues of this publication are available for the cost of postage.



CASSAR Meeting



n Friday, March 13th, 1987 the Annual Meeting of the membership of the California Society, S.A.R. will start. The San Fernando Valley Chapter is hosting the event. At 6:00 P.M. a special reception honoring the President-General, Compatriot Clovis H. Brakebill will start the actual meeting. The entire annual meeting will be held at the BURBANK AIRPORT HILTON HOTEL, 2500 Hollywood Way, Burbank, across from the Burbank Airport.

At noon Saturday, March 14th, the Chapter will be hosting a luncheon for the entire State Society. The featured speaker will be Capt. Edward V. Grace, U.S.C.G. who will speak on the Coast Guard's efforts to stop the flow of narcotics into this Country. Your editor has heard Capt. Grace and found him a very good speaker and the topic is of vital interest to all of us.

Saturday evening will be the annual installation of the State Officers and award banquet. The Chapter has arranged for a great "show" and it should be the best event the Chapter has sponsored.

The Luncheon is \$12.50 and the Banquet is \$21.00 per head. The Banquet is black tie optional.

If you can't attend both, at least make one of the two events. The President General will be the speaker at the Banquet and we must show him the respect his position is entitled to with a great turnout.

Make your reservations with our Chapter Secretary, Donald Norman Moran, address and telephone number is on the facing page.

March Meeting



arch 30th, 1987 will be the regular monthly meeting of the Chapter. The meeting will be held at LEON'S STEAK HOUSE, 10945 Victory Blvd., North Hollywood, California. Social hour: 6:30 P.M. and Dinner at 7:00 P.M. (from the menu). Applicants, Wives and guests are most welcome and are encouraged to attend. This will be a business meeting with many important items on the agenda.

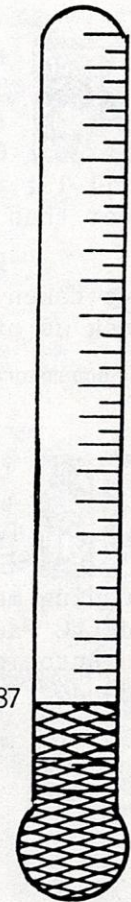
April Meeting



resident Roger E. Robertson has accepted the invitation of President F. Gage Biren of the Pasadena Chapter, S.A.R. to hold a very special joint Chapter meeting to welcome guest speaker COUNT RENAUD de LaFORADE, of the French Society, S.A.R. The French Society is very active and extremely proud of their link to our common heritage.

Compatriot Biren and his "Pasadena Compatriots" have a Statewide reputation for putting on marvelous events - this will be no exception. Mark your calendar: April 18th, at 12 noon. We will advise the location and further details in the April issue of the Valley Compatriot.

the Chapter's Permanent Fund



3/1/87

\$1,405.00

Donors

Berni K. Campbell
Donald Norman Moran
Norman Philip Moran
Roger E. Robertson
Jeffrey L. Towery
Walter G. Turnell
Walter H. Walley
Anonymous

ooooooo **Due are Past Due!** ooooooo

A TREASURER'S DREAM

*I fell asleep the other night
and while I had my snooze
I dreamed each member stepped right up
and promptly paid their dues.
But when I found 'twas but a dream
I nearly threw a fit.
It's up to you to make it true.
Please remit.*

*From: Wilma Biren
Treasurer
CASSAR Ladies Auxiliary*



he Chapter's dues, as established by it's Board of Directors, \$32.00. The breakdown is as follows: \$10.00 to the National Society - \$12.00 to the State Society and the Chapter receives the balance of \$10.00. The Chapter MUST submit it's annual membership report and dues on or before April 1st, 1987. If your dues remain unpaid after that date, we have no alternative other than to drop you from the active membership rolls of the S.A.R.

Please send your dues to the Chapter Secretary as soon as possible. We have taken the liberty of "highlighting" this article if we have not received your check as of March 1st.

Compatriot's in the News



t is often said that one persons loss is anothers gain. That must surely be true in the case of the S.A.R. Our loss is the Texas Society's gain. Two of our former officers have moved to Texas, and have transferred their S.A.R. memberships to local Chapters. The Rev. Robert Judson Wiley, Jr. a founding member and officer of the Chapter will be joining the El Paso Texas Chapter and LtC Paul F. Jorgensen, former Treasurer of the Chapter has transferred to the San Antonio, Texas Chapter. Good man are hard to come by, so Texas is lucky indeed.

BIRTHDAYS

- 0 -

ANNIVERSARIES

RICHARD and WANDA MORAN - - - - - 13 March 1971
HAROLD and LORRAINE HUGHES - - - - - 22 March 1952

Volunteers Needed



ne of the many functions required of the Chapter at the Annual State meeting is the manning of the Registration table. We need voluteers to register the many Compatriots coming from about the state. This will mean manning the table from 12 noon Friday, March 13th, thru 6:00 P.M. and again on Saturday morning from 9:00 A.M. until the Luncheon at noon. Any of the Chapter's members who can spare any time to volunteer for this duty will be greatly appreciated. Contact the Chapter Secretary if you can.



Our R.O.T.C. Program



The San Fernando Valley Chapter, S.A.R. is justly proud of it's wide range of service programs. The Reserve Officer's Training Corps (R.O.T.C.) is a shining example. Under the capable leadership of the R.O.T.C. Committee Chairman, Compatriot Walter Turnell the Chapter's participation in this National Society program has exceeded all expectations. The program is divided into two categories - - High School level and College level. To the High School or Jr. R.O.T.C. cadets we award the Bronze Jr.R.O.T.C. medal and certificate. To the College level R.O.T.C. cadets the Society offers the Silver R.O.T.C. Medal. Both are given for demonstrated leadership ability, soldierly bearing and overall excellence. The Chapter felt that this program is of the utmost importance, hence we expanded upon it, presenting regular officer's swords to the college level cadet or midshipmen who would qualify for the Silver Medal. Additionally, the program is fully funded, therefore will be around as long as the Chapter is.

This year we expanded the Jr.R.O.T.C. program by adding another six high school R.O.T.C. units to the program. We have listed all the units presently participating in the Chapter's program:

COLLEGES

- University of Southern California - Navy/Marine R.O.T.C.
- University of Southern California - Air Force R.O.T.C.
- University of California - Los Angeles - Army R.O.T.C.

HIGH SCHOOLS

- Crenshaw High School - - - - - Army Jr. R.O.T.C.
- Thomas Jefferson High School - - - - - Army Jr. R.O.T.C.
- Belmot High School - - - - - Army Jr. R.O.T.C.
- David Starr Jordan High School - - - - - Army Jr. R.O.T.C.
- Canyon Country High School - - - - - Air Force Jr. R.O.T.C.
- Van Nuys/Reseda High School* - - - - - Army Jr. R.O.T.C.**
- El Camino High School* - - - - - Navy Jr. R.O.T.C.
- Kennedy High School* - - - - - Navy Jr. R.O.T.C.
- Monroe High School*- - - - - Army Jr. R.O.T.C.
- San Fernando High School*- - - - - Navy Jr. R.O.T.C.
- Canoga Park High School* - - - - - Air Force Jr. R.O.T.C.

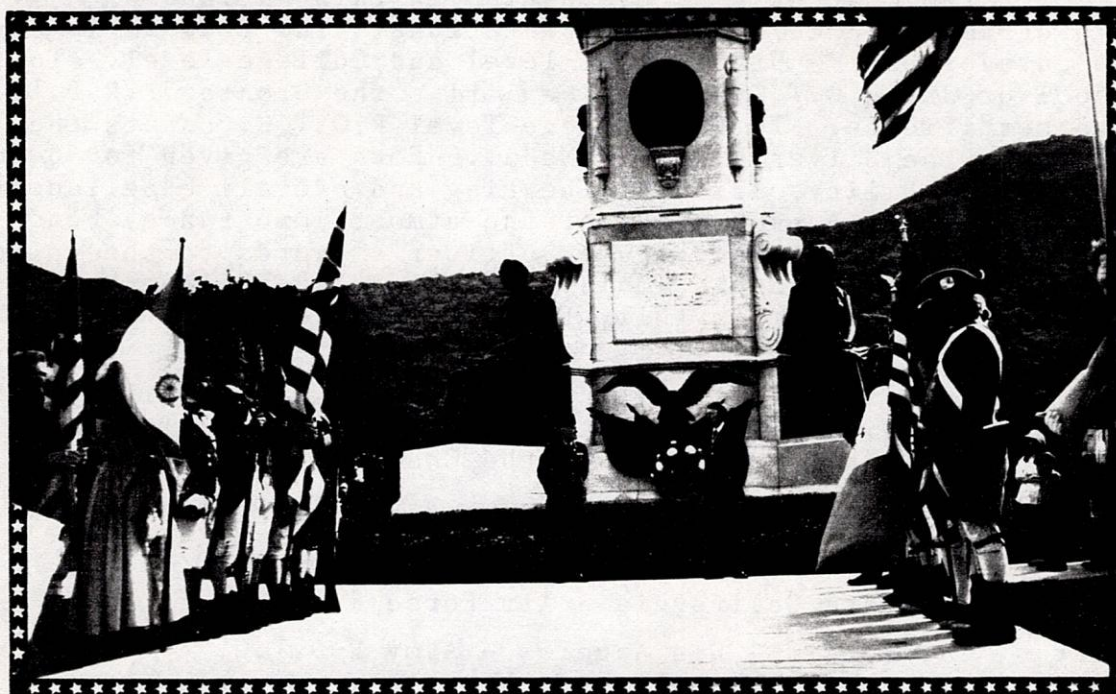
* added in 1987 - Medals to be presented this spring.
 ** Van Nuys and Reseda High Schools are a combined unit.

..... The MASSING of the COLORS



he San Fernando Valley Chapter, S.A.R. under the leadership of President Roger E. Robertson, sponsored the massive "THIRD ANNUAL MASSING OF THE COLORS" in honor of George Washington's Birthday. The event, the largest held in Los Angeles County, was held at Forest Lawn's Hall of Liberty on February 22nd. President Robertson was Master of Ceremony and was assisted by former Chapter President, Col. George A. Eckert who was representing the Society of Cincinnati (which George Washington was the first president).

Although we have presented herein a number of photographs, only a full color motion picture, with sound could do the ceremony justice. Marching from the Hall of Liberty with its 200 foot long mosaic of American History to the sixty foot tall statue of General Washington with the numerous flags blowing in the wind must be seen to be fully appreciated. Add the stirring music of a Scottish pipe band and you have a very memorable event.



President Robertson and Colonel Eckert placing the wreath at the base of the 60 ft. Statue of General Washington at Forest Lawn.

The Delaware Regiment of Foot and the San Fernando Valley Chapter, S.A.R. Color Guard served as the Guard of Honor and added color to the spectacular event.

President Robertson addressed the large audience on the contributions of George Washington and the importance of our commemorating the birthday of our nations greatest hero. He requested that more patriotic Americans turn out for events such as this in order to show our respect and appreciation of our national heritage. The need for public support of such events has never been more needed.

The Fourth Annual "Massing of the Colors" is already in the planning stages and will be even more spectacular than its' three predecessors. Invitations will be sent all groups and having demonstrated the size and popularity of the commemorative service, additional press coverage is anticipated.

"FIRST IN WAR; FIRST IN PEACE, FIRST IN THE HEARTS OF HIS COUNTRYMEN"

Lighthorse Harry Lee - 1799

Hereditary Societies at the Massing of the Colors



THE ANCIENT AND HONORABLE
ARTILLERY COMPANY OF MASSACHUSETTS

THE SOCIETY OF CINCINNATI

THE GENERAL SOCIETY OF THE WAR OF 1812

THE MILITARY ORDER OF THE
LOYAL LEGION OF THE UNITED STATES

THE SONS OF THE REVOLUTION

THE SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

THE DAUGHTERS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR

THE SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

THE COLONIAL DAMES OF THE XVII CENTURY

THE DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

THE NATIONAL SOCIETY - UNITED DAUGHTERS OF 1812

THE SOCIETY OF COLONIAL WARS

THE UNITED DAUGHTERS OF THE CONFEDERACY

THE GENERAL SOCIETY OF MAYFLOWER DESCENDANTS

THE ORDER OF THE FOUNDERS AND PATRIOTS OF AMERICA

THE CHILDREN OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

THE SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS

THE SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF THE PILGRIMS

THE MILITARY ORDER OF THE WORLD WARS

THE JAMESTOWNE SOCIETY

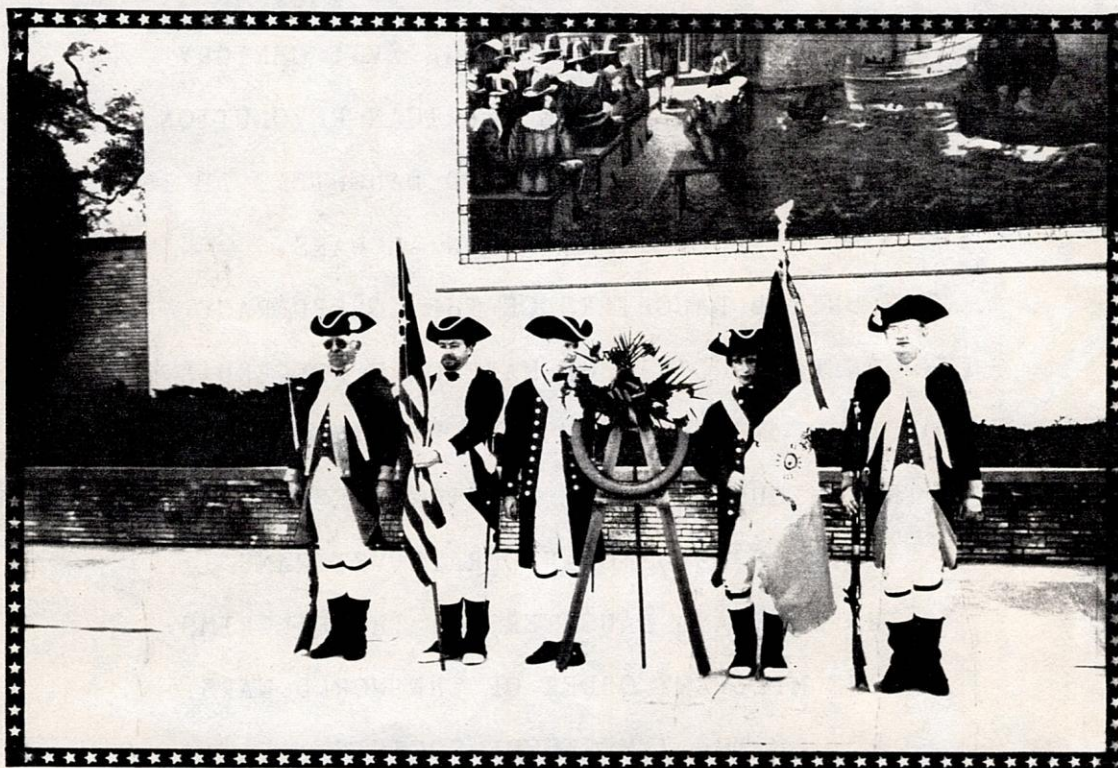
THE ORDER OF THE STARS AND BARS

THE BRIGADE OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

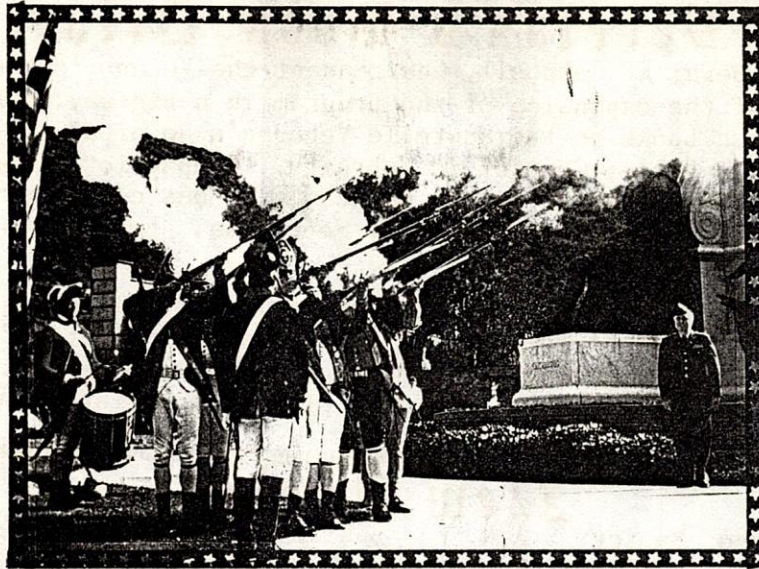
THE CLAN DONNACHAIDH



THE CLAN DONNACHAIDH DRUM AND PIPE BAND SUPPLIED THE STIRRING MUSIC



THE SAN FERNANDO VALLEY CHAPTER, S.A.R. INTER-SERVICE CONTINENTAL COLOR GUARD
L-R: Compatriots: D.F. "Bill" Semerau; Philip R. Giltmier; Midshipman Jeff Schoby of USC; Greg Cucina of U.C.L.A. and Compatriot Donald Norman Moran.



*THE DELAWARE REGIMENT OF FOOT,
BRIGADE OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION
FIRING A TWENTY-ONE MUSKET SALUTE.*



*The NROTC COLOR GUARD
(University of Southern California)*



*THE Jr. ROTC COLOR GUARD
(Monroe High School, Sepulveda)*

Veteran's Book Drive



ompatriot Berni K. Campbell, Chairman of the Veteran's Book Drive Committee started off the expansion of the program in a big way. The FIRST delivery of paperback books to the Sawtelle Veteran's Hospital in Los Angeles by the San Fernando Valley Chapter in February. Compatriot Campbell and his wife Mary turned over "850" books. In the meantime, he has continued to deliver books to the San Fernando Valley's V.A. Hospital, Sepulveda. February's total there was 300 books.

Compatriot Bill Semerau who is responsible for collecting the lions share of these books requested that the Chapter bestow a Certificate of Appreciation on the lady who donated the majority of these books. The Chapter approved the suggestion and the certificate will be presented at an appropriate time.

New Index



he San Diego Chapter, S.A.R. has published the "CALIFORNIA SOCIETY, SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION MEMBERSHIP INDEX AND ROSTER - 1879-1986" This massive volume was prepared by Compatriot Fred Rupert and we can only gage at the amount of time he had to have donated in order to publish the 744 page book. It contains the names and membership numbers of every man that has been or is a member of the California Society, and his ancestor. To enhance the books value from a genealogical stand point, a separate index listing all of the patriot ancestors is provided and cross referenced to the members name. Space limitations prevented the publication of complete lineages, but considering that over 5,000 S.A.R. members and their Revolutionary War ancestors are listed, the value of this effort is enormous.

To obtain a copy of this book, send your check for \$50.00 to Compatriot Carl H. Lamb, Executive Secretary, California Society, S.A.R., 6855 Frairs Road, San Diego, California 92108. OR make a tax deductible contribution to the CASSAR Education fund of \$100.00 and receive a copy free.

President's Award Contest



ach year the State President holds an activity contest between all 23 of the State's Chapters. Points are given for 30 different categories, including items like: Each new Member obtained, each reinstated member, each meeting held, each member attending a National or State Meeting, etc. The San Fernando Valley Chapter has been fortunate indeed, as we have been awarded the plaque for Best Small Chapter (1982-1983) by Col. Thomas Gillis, than went on to win the Best Mid-Sized Chapter in 1984-1985 (from President Charles Vencill), and again in 1985-1986 (from President David Young)

As we close out the 1986-1987 S.A.R. calendar year we have again submitted out final points for the year - a whopping 4,823! However, there are a number of excellent Chapters in the California Society and the winning of the "Best Chapter Plaque" is not an easy thing to accomplish. We'll know at the March 14th Banquet.

Our Color Guard

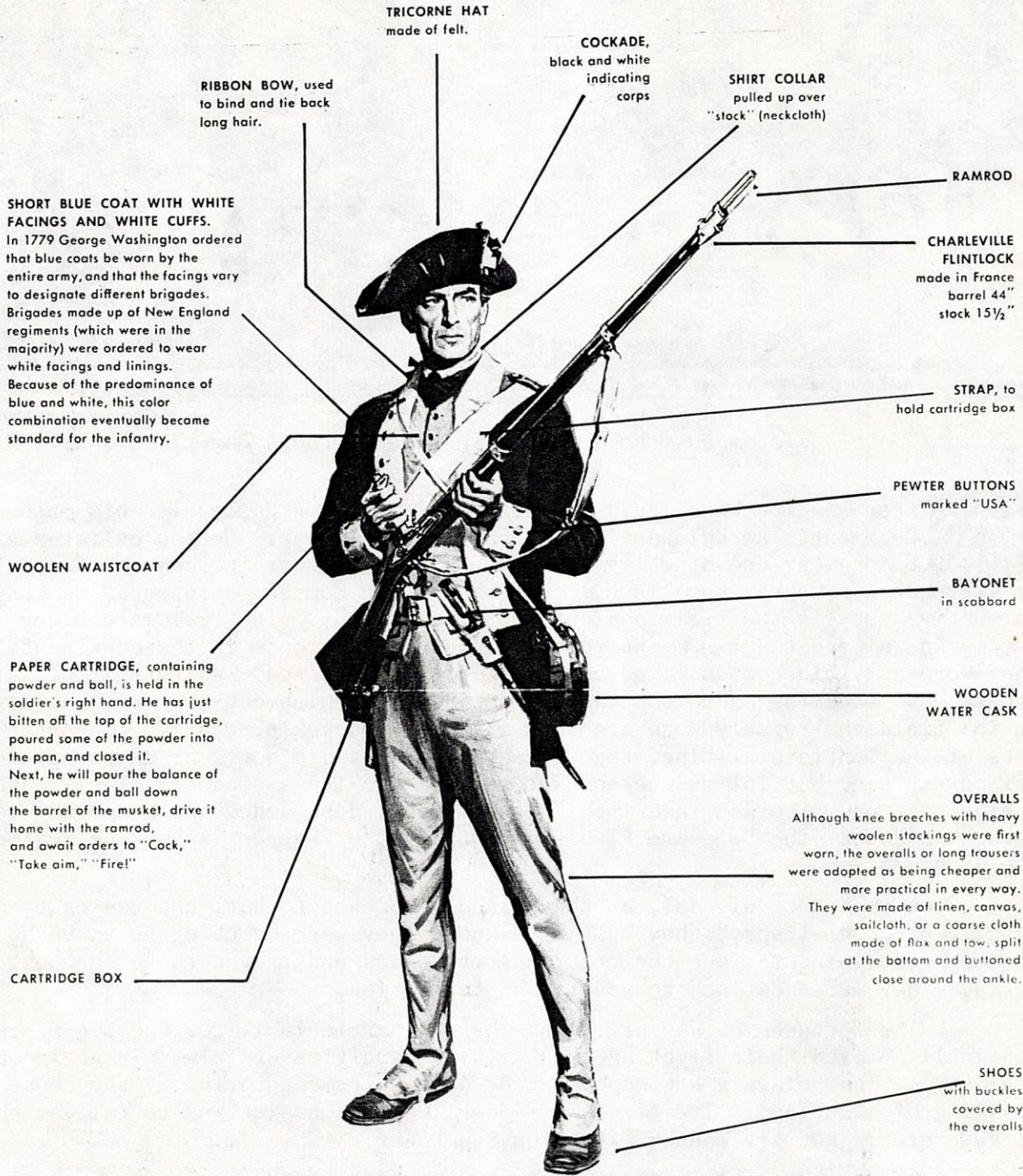


ur Color Guard, which did the Chapter proud at the Massing of the Colors last month, is nearing completion. The two (2) Brown Bess muskets are enroute to us from England, Thanks to Compatriot James McKellep, and we are obtaining the "correct" Helmets for the two Washington Life Guards and a "proper" Round Hat (cocked on the right side with a white trim) thanks to Compatriot Bob Emrey. Our thanks to all those who have contributed to this very worth while program.

The Continental Soldier



At the "Massing of the Colors" and again at the many activities in which the Inter-Service Continental Color Guard appears, the colorful uniforms do appear a bit strange by today's standards. The terms by which the various components of the uniform were known are equally as strange, so we have reproduced below a drawing with details of the equipment, courtesy of the Continental Insurance Company.



TRICORNE HAT
made of felt.

COCKADE,
black and white
indicating
corps

SHIRT COLLAR
pulled up over
"stock" (neckcloth)

RIBBON BOW, used
to bind and tie back
long hair.

RAMROD

CHARLEVILLE
FLINTLOCK
made in France
barrel 44"
stock 15½"

SHORT BLUE COAT WITH WHITE FACINGS AND WHITE CUFFS.
In 1779 George Washington ordered that blue coats be worn by the entire army, and that the facings vary to designate different brigades. Brigades made up of New England regiments (which were in the majority) were ordered to wear white facings and linings. Because of the predominance of blue and white, this color combination eventually became standard for the infantry.

STRAP, to
hold cartridge box

PEWTER BUTTONS
marked "USA"

WOOLEN WAISTCOAT

BAYONET
in scabbard

PAPER CARTRIDGE, containing powder and ball, is held in the soldier's right hand. He has just bitten off the top of the cartridge, poured some of the powder into the pan, and closed it. Next, he will pour the balance of the powder and ball down the barrel of the musket, drive it home with the ramrod, and await orders to "Cock," "Take aim," "Fire!"

WOODEN
WATER CASK

OVERALLS
Although knee breeches with heavy woolen stockings were first worn, the overalls or long trousers were adopted as being cheaper and more practical in every way. They were made of linen, canvas, sailcloth, or a coarse cloth made of flax and tow, split at the bottom and buttoned close around the ankle.

CARTRIDGE BOX

SHOES
with buckles
covered by
the overalls

Uniform and Accoutrements of

THE CONTINENTAL SOLDIER

..... The Revolutionary War Revisited
 "The Delaware Regiment of Foot"



— Courtesy of Delaware State Archives

Colonel John Haslet leads the Delaware Regiment through Dover, in July 1776



fter six months of hard training, Colonel John Haslet led his enthusiastic Regiment, The Delaware Regiment of Foot, to war. He had enlisted eight full Companies, one of which was to remain in Delaware to control the active Sussex County Loyalists. The other seven Companies reported to Congress for active duty in the field against the British Army. The "Delaware Blues" as they became known were the best uniformed and equipped troops in the Continental Army. They wore navy blue coats lined and faced with bright red. White shirts, waistcoats (vests) and stockings added contrast. Knowing the punishment uniforms would receive in the field they wisely wore breeches made from buckskin. Unlike the other regiments of the Continental Line, the Delaware Regiment did not wear the traditional tri-corner hat, but in lieu thereof wore a helmet. It was made of black leather with a high peak on which was inscribed "Liberty and Independence. Delaware Regiment". Without a doubt, the Delaware Blues were one of the sharpest appearing Regiments in the 18th Century.

On that hot July day, as they proudly marched to war, cheered on by an equally proud citizenry, they must have known they were marching to an unknown fate, as they were going to face the British Army, tried and proven to be the best in the world. They were destined to upset that reputation.

The fortunes of war are always harsh, particularly for the Regiments that continually proved their fighting capability. Casualties are always high in such regiments. The Delaware Regiment of Foot earned its reputation by the constant spilling of its blood. Its first commander, Colonel Haslet was to fall at the Battle of Princeton, just six months after leaving Dover.

Colonel Haslet's second in command was John MacPherson, Jr. He volunteered to go to Quebec, Canada with General Benedict Arnold. He died there. His replacement was Gunning Bedford, who was to fall while leading his men at the Battle of White Plains, New York, seriously wounded. His replacement, a former Captain in the British Army, Thomas Holland died at Germantown from wounds received in that

battle. Captain David Hall also fell wounded in that Battle. He recovered and was later a Colonel in the Continental Army, and like Gunning Bedford became Governors of the State of Delaware. Another officer, Major Thomas McDonough became the Speaker of the Delaware Senate. John Patten, served as a First Lieutenant in the Regiment, later served as a delegate to the Continental Congress and later yet was elected to the house of Representatives. Ensign Peter Jaquett was to lead the battle worn Regiment home in 1783. First Lieutenant Robert Kirkwood who fought throughtout the War, later served in the Northwest Territory against the Indians and was killed there - it was his thirty-third battle.

Unfortunately, few records exist regarding the individual fate of the rank



THE DELAWARE REGIMENT OF FOOT

and file of the Regiment, but, to be sure they too suffered and gave their lives for the Independence of the United States. It was they, the enlisted men of the Delaware Blues that prompted a Hessian Officer to write after the Battle of Long Island, New York: "the Regiment Stirling in their Blue and Red coats. . . with fine arms. . ." [Editor's note: "Fine arms" refers to the fighting quality of the men not the quality of their weapons.]

After seven years of fierce fighting, the Delaware Regiment of Foot had proven itself to be one of the most reliable in the entire Continental Line. Their fighting ability was recognised by the British when General Cornwallis faced them at Camden, South Carolina. General Gates, Commanding the American Forces in the South arrayed his Continentals and Militia across the Waxhaw Road. Facing him was Cornwallis and the flower of the British Army in North America.

As the battle started, the North Carolina militia gave way, than were routed. The Virginia Regiment faired no better. They too, had never seen an enemy before, let alone face a full charge of scarlet clad British regulars. They fired a

relatively harmess volley and fled the field. That left General Mordecai Gist's Brigade of two Maryland Regiments and the Delaware Regiment of Foot. They alone were left on the field. Their left flank was completely exposed, the center of the American line was hopelessly lost, and there they stood, a line of a meer 600 men! The whole of the attacking British forces turned on the remaining Americans and charged. The Marylanders and Delaware Regiment gave ground, rallied, drove back their attackers. Again the murderous British line advanced, again the remaining Americans gave ground, railed, counter-attacked and drove the British back with fearful losses on both sides.

It appears that neither General DeKalb or General Gist knew that the whole of the American Army had retreated, in fact, judging from conditions in their sector of the battle, they were winning. When it became painfully clear that both their flanks were exposed and no other American units could be seen upon the field, Gist had to make a decision - await information or orders or take unilateral action and call for a withdrawl - they fought.



Captain Peter Jaquett and the survivors of the Delaware Regiment of Foot charging the vastly larger British force in the battle of Camden.

One officer later wrote: "As firm as a rock the phalanx of Gist remained." Lord Cornwallis wanted a complete victory and ordered the entire British force to attack the remaining Americans on the battle field, the two Maryland Regiments and the Delaware Regiment which comprised the First Brigade were all that stood in his way. That mass attack was met with a murderous volley, followed by a bayonet charge. Fifty British soldiers were captured. Another attack by the British also was stopped in its tracks. The ever thinning ranks of the blue coated Americans were making the British pay a horrible toll for every inch of ground. For over an hour the attacks and counter-attacks see-sawed back and forth. At times the battle was reduced to hand-to-hand combat. The field was covered with dead and dying soldiers of both armies. Captain Jaquett was aiding the wounded General DeKalb who had had his horse shot from under him. Jaquett bandaged a deep sabre cut on the General's head, than after getting the General back on his feet. Together they encouraged their men to stand their ground.

Completely surrounded, badly outnumbered, they, numbering now a meer sixty men, launched yet another bayonet charge. General DeKalb, wounded eleven times continued to fight until a British soldier drove his bayonet into the General's chest. It was a fatal blow, but, before dying the Patriot cut down the soldier with his sword.

The Battle of Camden was over - a complete victory for the British. But, Cornwallis had suffered the same fate as the Generals who had won the Battle of Bunker Hill. The price of the victory was too dear. The courageous fight made by the 1st Brigade was the first step on the road to Yorktown and the ultimate defeat of the British Army in North America.

Congress issued a statement: "Resolved, that the thanks of Congress be given to General Gist and to the officers and soldiers in the Maryland and Delaware lines for the bravery and good conduct displayed in the action of 16th of August last, Camden, in the State of South Carolina." Later, Lighthorse Harry Lee wrote: The State of Delaware furnished one Regiment only, and certainly no regiment of the Army surpassed it in soldiership." Few, if any, regiments in the Revolutionary War could boast that they marched further, fought in more battles, or endured more hardships than the Delaware Regiment of Foot.

~~~Delaware Regiment of Foot ~ Today ~~~

The famed Delaware Regiment is perpetuated today by the 198th Signal Battalion of the Delaware National Guard. But, the historic "Delaware Blues" are not forgotten, and in fact, we are pleased to write, are very much alive and well. In 1962 an organization was established dedicated to the recreating of the life and times of the American Revolution. It is *The BRIGADE OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION*. Here in the San Fernando Valley, 3,000 miles from the original 13 colonies and the battle fields of the Revolution we are most fortunate to have a unit of this fine organization. They pattern themselves after the famed Delaware Regiment of Foot.

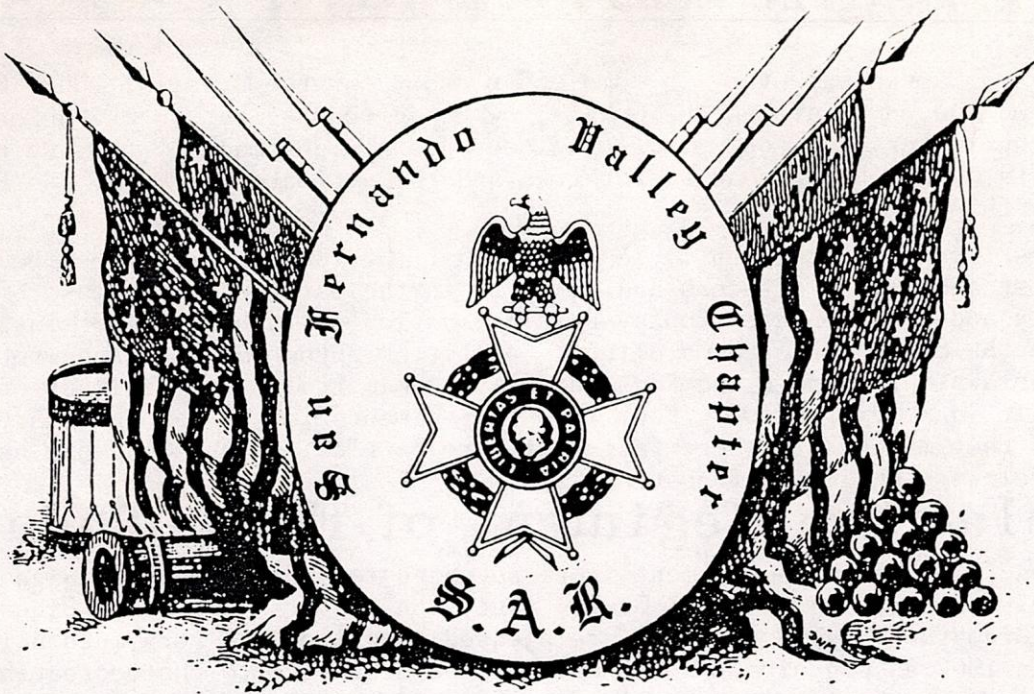
Each unit is as nearly as exact re-creation of the original Revolutionary War unit as present study and research will permit. All cloth, leather, fastenings are authentic copies. Patterns for the uniforms are made from surviving examples of uniforms in museums, and from contemporary sources such as prints and books. No modern, man-made fabrics, no plastics, no zippers are used.

The Delaware Regiment of Foot has for many years put on day long encampments demonstrating the life lived by the Soldiers of the American Revolution. For many years it was the only patriotic function held on the 4th of July in the San Fernando Valley. They make themselves constantly available to speak at meetings of interested groups and have served the S.A.R. with distinction by participating in several of it's major functions. The San Fernando Valley Chapter, S.A.R. was pleased to present the large Grand Union Flag to the unit in 1984.

At the fourthcoming meeting of the California Society, S.A.R. being hosted by the San Fernando Valley Chapter, The "Delaware Blues" will be honored for their marvelous work in preserving the history of our Country and bring patriotic activity to the Valley.

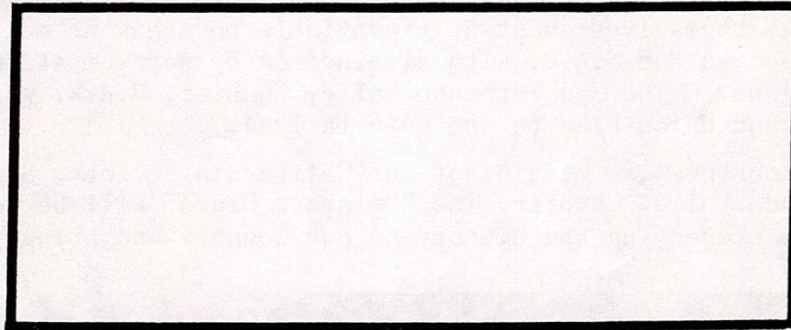


THE DELAWARE REGIMENT OF FOOT AT THE MASSING OF THE COLORS.



San Fernando Valley Chapter, S.A.R.
1248 Herzl Avenue, Lancaster, Ca. 93535

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