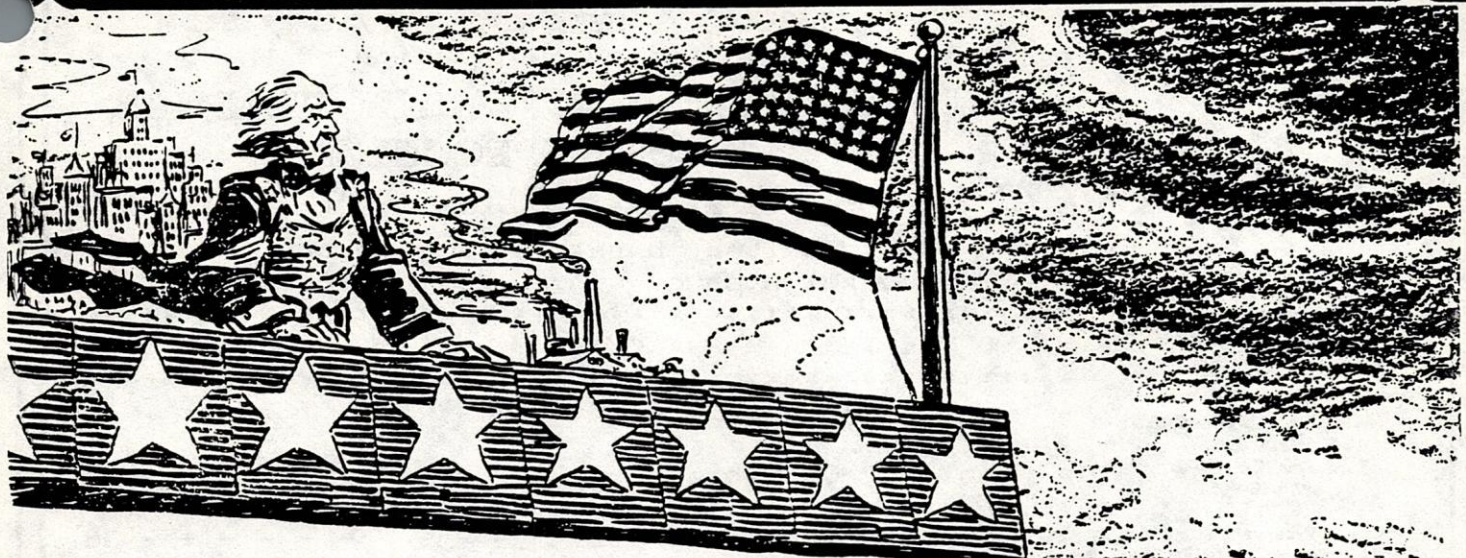


# THE VALLEY COMPATRIOT



## THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED STATES



The Valley Compatriot is sent to you uncensored thanks to  
the United States Constitution

MAY 1989

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**THE FRONT COVER**

Gale's 'THE BULWARK OF LIBERTY  
 from the 1936 Los Angeles Examiner.

**NOTICE**

The editorial content of this publication reflects the opinions of the editor or the authors and is not necessarily the official position of the San Fernando Valley Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution.



"HEAR YE, HEAR YE"  
THE MONTHLY  
MEETING NOTICE

MONDAY  
MAY 22ND, 1989

**A**t 6:30 P.M. on Monday the 22th of May 1989 the monthly meeting of the San Fernando Valley Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution will be held at LEON'S STEAK HOUSE, 10945 Victory Blvd. North Hollywood, California (Corner of Victory Blvd. and Vineland Ave.)

All members, applicants, guests and their ladies are cordially invited to attend. The program will be a Business meeting.

Please advise our Secretary if you plan on attending. We need to let the restaurant know how many people we are expecting.

----- end -----

**OUR VETERAN'S  
BOOK DRIVE**

**THE CHAPTER'S  
COMING EVENTS**

**C**ompatriot Berni K. Campbell chairman of our Veteran's Book Drive Committee advises that the Chapter collected 750 paperback books in April and that he and his wife Mary made two deliveries. The 1st of 250 books to the Sepulveda V.A. Hospital and the 2nd of 500 books to the Wadsworth V.A. Hospital in Los Angeles.

**S**everal events that will be both important and of interest to the members of the Chapter are forth coming. Assistance will be needed, therefore any member that can volunteer their time will be greatly appreciated.

**MONROVIA DAY ANNUAL PARADE**  
May 20th, 1989  
10:00 A.M. to 12:00 Noon

----- end -----

**MEMORIAL DAY**

**T**his year let us not forget our Revolutionary War Ancestors, General Knox reported in 1790 that the number of men that fought in the War was 395,858, with an estimated 4,435 killed in action and another 6,188 wounded. No record exists of those who died of disease. **LESS WE FORGET.**

Our Annual presentation of R.O.T.C. medals and certificates has started. We are presenting medals to five Colleges and Universities, as well as to twenty-five High School Junior R.O.T.C. units. Presenters are needed. If you can spare an evening or an afternoon for this pleasant duty, please contact the Chapter's Secretary if you are available. He will provide the times and Places.

----- end -----

----- end -----

# "TAPS"

**CHARLES MABEN PITCHFORD**  
10 October 1910 - 26 March 1989



Charles Maben Pitchford the Chapter's Treasurer passed away on March 26th 1989 after a lengthy battle with cancer. Charlie was the descendant of Private Daniel Pitchford of the Virginia Militia. Charlie was born in Dora, Alabama on October 2nd, 1910 and had a colorful life. As a teenager during prohibition he made his pocket money as a "moonshiner". Before World War II he moved to California where he met Toni, five days later she accepted his marriage proposal. They were happily married for forty-eight years, and had two sons and a daughter.

Charlie joined the S.A.R. in 1987 and before receiving his membership arranged to attend the Valley Forge Congress. President General Clovis H. Brakebill presented Charlie his certificate of membership at the Opening session of the National Congress at Valley Pennsylvania. It was typical of Charlie to be so optimistic

that he would participate even though his S.A.R. membership had not been finalized. His funeral was well attended by his fellow S.A.R. Officers. At Charlie's request the Chapter presented a Bronze S.A.R. member's grave marker.



1987: CHARLES M. PITCHFORD BEING CONGRATULATED BY THEN PRESIDENT ROGER E. ROBERTSON AT VALLEY FORGE, PA. ON ATTAINING S.A.R. MEMBERSHIP.

**COMPATRIOTS  
 IN THE NEWS**

**F**ormer Chapter President Col. George A. Eckert, Jr. has been elected governor of the Los Angeles Colony of the Mayflower Society. He has also just returned from attending the Society of Cincinnati's meeting in Savannah, Georgia as a delegate from California.

Vice President Audel H. Hicks is in Pennsylvania attending the Society of the Descendants of Washington's Army at Valley Forge's encampment (Annual Meeting) at that historic Park. The organization is celebrating the French Alliance.

**BIRTHDAYS**

- MATTHEW P. BROWN - - - - 05-06
- RICHARD W. MARSTON - - - - 05-08
- CLIFTON R. BROOKS, SR. - - - - 05-08
- CRAIG A. HICKS - - - - 05-08
- DAVID F. McINTIRE - - - - 05-10
- GLEN S. ROBERTSON - - - - 05-10
- WILLIAM J. DUNWOODY - - - - 05-17
- ROBERT J. WILEY, SR. - - - - 05-18
- MARVIN C. HUTCHINS - - - - 05-20
- JAMES BELLAH, II - - - - 05-22
- JAMES R. LAUGHLIN - - - - 05-24
- JOHN K. BARTKE - - - - 05-28
- LESLIE L. FLEMING - - - - 05-31

**ANNIVERSARIES**

- BERNI and MARY CAMPBELL  
09 May 1943
- MARVIN and GLORIA HUTCHINS  
20 May 1972
- ROBERT and KITTY WARWICK  
25 May 1941
- WALTER and DOROTHY WALLEY  
25 May 1949

===== end =====

**OUR CHAPTER'S  
 PERMANENT FUND**

**D**onations to the Chapter's Permanent Fund are Tax deductible and the interest earned from the fund will greatly assist the Chapter in continuing it's many worthwhile and patriotic programs

THE DONORS

- Anonymous
- Charles D. Barnard
- Arthur Wm. Barrett
- John Bartke
- Berni K. Campbell
- Robert C. Emrey
- Leslie L. Fleming
- Col. Thomas D. Gillis
- Philip R. Giltmier
- Audel H. Hicks, Sr.
- Audel H. Hicks, Jr.
- Richard W. Marston
- Donald R. McDowell
- James A. McKellep
- Robert Sterling Moore
- Donald Norman Moran
- Norman Philip Moran
- Charles M. Pitchford
- Roger E. Robertson
- D.F. "Bill" Semerau
- Walter G. Turnell
- Walter H. Walley
- Augustus de Zerega

THE FUND



The Sons of the American Revolution is a tax exempt organization operating under the I.R.S. provisions 501C3. All donations to the Society are tax deductible. The San Fernando Valley Chapter's Permanent Fund was established to provide the necessary operating funds to insure the continuation of all of our many patriotic and worthwhile programs. In 1988 the earnings from the fund were equal the dues of FORTY members, without the usual membership expenses. Help preserve our heritage donate now.

===== end =====

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY CHAPTER, S.A.R.  
 PARTICIPATES IN THE TWENTIETH  
 ANNUAL GENEALOGICAL JAMBOREE



THE CHAPTER'S RECRUITING TABLE AT THE GENEALOGICAL JAMBOREE  
 Manned by: Audel Hicks, Donald Moran and Bill Semerau



On April 23rd, 1989 members of the Chapter manned a recruiting table at the S.C.G.S.'s 20th Annual Genealogical Jamboree held at the Pasadena Civic Auditorium. Led by President Robert C. Emrey and Vice President Audel H. Hicks, the volunteers were: Vice President Bruce A. Jagger, Registrar Berni K. Campbell, Walter H. Walley, Donald N. Moran and attending were Eugene Dick, Robert Steele, George Sutherland Van Dorn and Philo Van Wagoner of the San Fernando Valley Chapter. Arden H. Brame of the Pasadena Chapter, James Emerson of the South Coast Chapter and Tom

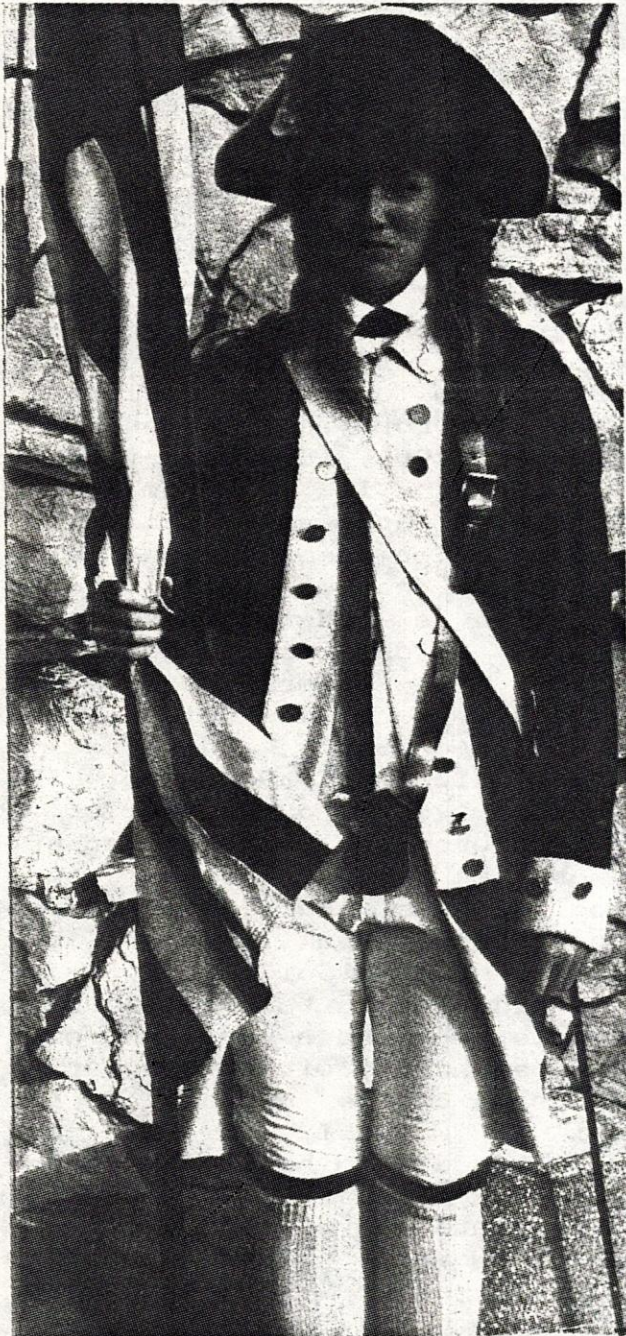
Hattan of the Orange County Chapter also participated. The Chapter distributed hundreds of forms describing membership in the Society, including one which listed all of the Chapters and their senior officers in California. The Chapter's new 18 page "THE S.A.R. WANTS YOU" was selectively passed out.

The answer to most of the problems faced by the S.A.R. today can be resolved by MEMBERSHIP GROWTH. The San Fernando Valley Chapter is doing it's part in meeting this challenge. At the Jamboree and in the mail since, we have identified fourteen (14) potential, interested, eligible men.

DID YOU NOTICE?



At the April General Meeting of the Society hosted by the Long Beach Chapter the colors were presented by the University of California - Long Beach R.O.T.C. wearing Revolutionary War uniforms of our Color Guard Did you notice! One of the Color Guardsman was a WOMEN!



In real life this attractive young lady is Air Force R.O.T.C. Cadet Marie E. Duckworth of Huntington Beach, California.

When the San Fernando Valley Chapter formed the "Inter-Service Continental Color Guard" we intended that R.O.T.C. cadets be used to man it. we considered all of the possibilities that could develop with such an arrangement. One such possibility was a women cadet. To maintain the historic accuracy of the Color Guard in such an eventuality we selected the blue with white facings Continental Army Uniform of the Fourth Massachusetts Regiment of Foot.

We chose The uniform of the Fourth Massachusetts because of one MISS DEBORAH SAMPSON.

This was the first occasion wherein this foresight paid off.

Miss Deborah Sampson was caught up in the war effort and tired of the drudgery of being a domestic servant on a farm. She ran off. She disguised her heavy boned, 5'8" frame as a man, taking the name Robert Shurtleff (Shirtliff) and on May 20th, 1782 she enlisted in Captain George Webb's Company in the 4th Massachusetts Regiment of Foot. Her fellow soldiers became suspicious when they found her altering her ill-fitting uniform with a skill uncommon to most young men. She explained that female trait away by stating that as a youth she had no brothers, hence had to learn how to sew.

Years later she was write a description of her uniform, as only a seamstress which greatly aided us in creating the replica of said uniform.

Early in her service, she marched off with her Company to West Point, New York, where she was assigned light infantry

duties. These duties included patrolling the "no-man's land" between the Continental Army's positions in the New York highlands and the British forces in New York City. In that Capacity she saw plenty of action. She participated in a lively skirmish with a group of Tories at Tappan Zee and in the ensuing hand-to-hand combat she received a saber wound to the left side of her head. A few months later, near East Chester, she was with a party of infantry that was ambushed by Tories. She received a serious musket wound to her thigh. She knew if she sought help her real sex would be discovered. She attempted to dig the musket ball out with her pocket knife but understandably failed. Nevertheless She managed to nurse herself back to health without benefit of professional assistance, but suffered the rest of her life from the effects of the wound. In November Captain Webb's Company was ordered to Fort Ticonderoga, where she saw action against the Indians. Next we find her serving as orderly to General Samuel Patterson of the Delaware Militia in Philadelphia. While on this assignment she contracted "a magligant fever" and was treated by Doctor Barnabas Binney, who discovered her true gender, but kept her secret until she was fully recovered. Dr. Binney advised General Patterson of Deborah's deception, who in turn kept the information to himself until he could arrange for an honorable resolution to this embarrassing situation. The General finally went to the Commander-in-Chief, George Washington himself. General Washington had Major General Henry Knox prepare an honorable discharge, which was

presented to Deborah on October 23rd, 1783, ending her distinguished military career. She also realted years later that she was given enough money to see her safely home.

General Patterson insisted that Miss Sampson leave the Regiment in proper (woman's) clothes. Dressed in a lacy gown and fancy sunbonnet, the General took her by the arm and together they watched the 4th Massachusetts pass in review. None of her former companions recognized the real Deborah Sampson in dainty female attire.

In 1792 she petitioned the Massachusetts legislature for back pay and received £34.

When she was 44 she was befriended by the famed Paul Revere. He found that she was disparately in need of financial assistance and petitioned Congress for a pension. On February 20th, 1804 Revere wrote William Eustis, a Member of Congress and asked him to persuade Congress to grant her a pension. They did and Deborah received a pension of \$4 per month, which was doubled in 1818. The letter, which still exists is warm and friendly and more importantly contained a description of Deborah. "We commonly form our ideas of a person whom we hear spoken of, whom we have never seen, according as their actions are described. When I heard her spoken of as a Soldier, I formed the idea of a tall, masculine female, who had a small share of understanding, without education and one of the meanest of her sex - When I saw her and discoursed with her I was agreeably surprised to find a small effeminate conversable [conversant] Woman, whose education entitled her to a better situation in life."

On April 7th, 1785 she married Benjamin Gannett and had three children, Earl, Mary and Patience.

After the war, in an effort to help support her family, she took to the lecture circuit and told of her wartime exploits to admiring female audiences. She often stated that she "never allowed anyone to twine his arms around her shoulders", which implies that some of her comrades in arms must have known her secret. She finished her lecture by putting on her uniform and performing the manual of arms for her astonished admirers.

In 1827 Deborah died, at age 66, in the town of Sharon, Massachusetts but her intriguing story does not there. In August 1944, the 320th "Liberty Ship" was launched at Baltimore, Maryland and was Christened the "DEBORAH SAMPSON GANNETT" honoring the sole female soldier of the American Revolutionary War.

FURTHER READING

THE WOMEN OF 1776, By: Sally S. Booth (Hastings House, 1973)

PORTRAITS OF AMERICAN WOMEN, By: G. Bradford (Houghton, 1919)

AN ADDRESS GIVEN BY DEBORAH SAMPSON GANNETT IN 1802 (Sharon Historical Society)

WOMEN AND THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION (N.S.D.A.R. 1974)

THE WOMEN OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION, By: Elizabeth Ellet (3 vols. Scribner, 1851)

MASSACHUSETTS SOLDIERS AND SAILORS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTIONARY WAR (17 Volumes - State Printers, Boston 1896.)

===== end =====

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APRIL MEETING MINUTES

27 APRIL 1988



The San Fernando Valley Chapter, S.A.R. held it's April, 1989 meeting at Leon's Steak House in North Hollywood, California at 6:30 P.M. on April 24th, 1989. The presiding officer: President Robert C. Emrey.

1. FEBRUARY MEETING MINUTES

IT WAS MOVED by Compatriot Walter H. Walley, and SECONDED by Compatriot Berni K. Campbell. that the minutes of the February 27th, 1988 Meeting be accepted as submitted.  
THE MOTION CARRIED.

2. REPORT OF THE TREASURER

President Robert C. Emrey advised the membership that our Treasurer Compatriot Charles M. Pitchford passed away on March 26th, 1989 after a lengthy illness with cancer. President Emrey presented a Treasurer's report.

3. THE VETERAN'S BOOK DRIVE

Compatriot Berni K. Campbell, Chairman of the Veteran's Book Drive Committee reported that 250 paperback books were collected and delivered to the Sepulveda V.A. Hospital and another 500 to the Wadsworth V.A. Hospital.

4. MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

Compatriot Berni K. Campbell reported that we received the membership applications from three applicants. Jim McKenzie, Justin Kawabori and Thomas Werwer. Additionally Compatriot Robert S. Moore is submitting

a full Dozen (12) supplemental applications. Compatriot Moran is submitting six (6), and all other members are encouraged to file on their supplemental ancestors.

5. B.S.A. SCHOLARSHIP DISPLAY

Secretary Donald Norman Moran advised that the Display will be completed shortly. We are awaiting the arrival of one additional item for the display.

6. REPORT ON THE CASSAR CONGRESS

Secretary Donald Norman Moran reported that the State's Annual Meeting held at Long Beach went well and a lot was accomplished. President Jess T. Wolfe was in the hospital and Senior Vice President Arthur Wm. Barrett substituted for him. Our Color Guard, manned by the University of California - Long Beach R.O.T.C. presented and retired the Colors at the Banquet.

7. WORKING WITH OUR APPLICANTS

Secretary Donald Norman Moran advised that we had SEVENTY-TWO men that have been identified as being interested in the S.A.R. and at the Jamboree we added another NINE! For a total of EIGHTY-ONE. Some of the applicants need assistance in working on their applications. A telephone listing, divided among our members, is being compiled by Compatriot Stephen Gregory to aid in maintaining close personal contact. We should be able to surpass the 1988/1989 20% growth rate without difficulty with this lengthy list of potential members.

MINUTES  
CONTINUED

8. THE GENEALOGICAL JAMBOREE

Compatriot Vice President Audel H. Hicks reported that our recruiting table was very successful. We displayed three (3) mannequins wearing out Color Guard uniforms, as well as a complete display of flags. The table was manned by several members of the Chapter and a total of Nine (9) potential members were interviewed. Several more are expected to respond by mail. Our new Applicant's issue of the Valley Compatriot was very helpful. The confusion between the S.A.R. and the S/R Library in Glendale is still a problem. Numerous questions regarding the Library were asked of our members and few could be answered. The Secretary is requested to prepare a letter to the S/R requesting they furnish a "flyer" on the library which can be handed out by the S.A.R. at the next Genealogical Jamboree.

9. ADDITIONAL COLONIAL FLAGS FOR OUR COLOR GUARD.

Compatriot Robert C. Emrey advised that the sixteen flags, with poles, spear points and carrying belts have been ordered and should be available before both the May parades.

10. REPORT ON THE ROTC PROGRAM

Compatriot Donald Norman Moran reported that the "Medals" still have not arrived, and we have already missed three (3) presentations. National assures us they will be enroute to us in a few days. As soon as they arrive they will be sent out to all the Schools participating.

11. NEW TREASURER APPOINTED

President Robert C. Emrey appointed Compatriot Audel H. Hicks to the position of Chapter Treasurer for the balance of Charles Pitchford's term of office.

12. CHANGE IN SUBMITTING THE MEETING MINUTES.

Because the minutes to our monthly meetings need to be distributed in a timely manner the present system of waiting until the following business meeting to approve them before publishing is being abandoned. The minutes will now be published in the following month's edition of the Valley Compatriot.

13. MANNING THE COLOR GUARD

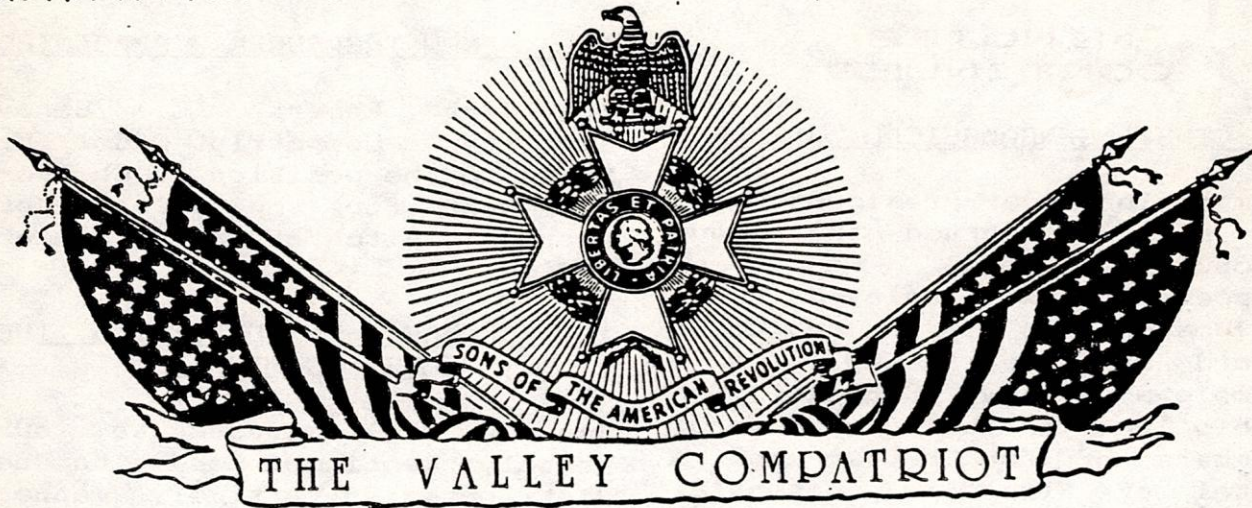
Compatriot D.F. "Bill" Semerau was asked to secure the cooperation of one of the Glendale area High School R.O.T.C. units to man the Color Guard. Our present school, Van Nuys is hard pressed to meet both their R.O.T.C. commitments and our (S.A.R.) Color Guard. Dividing the duty between two schools would enhance our ability to participate in future events.

14. A SPECIAL VOTE OF THANKS

Compatriot Audel H. Hicks MOVED and Compatriot Berni K. Campbell SECONDED a "special vote of thanks" to Bob and Virginia Emrey for hosting the marvelous April Dinner in their home. THE MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY.

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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FIRST CLASS

*Dated Material*