

THE VALLEY COMPATRIOT



THE BATTLE FOR BUNKER HILL
17 JUNE 1775

May & June 1990

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 1988

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 1987

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 1986

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 1984

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THE VALLEY COMPATRIOT

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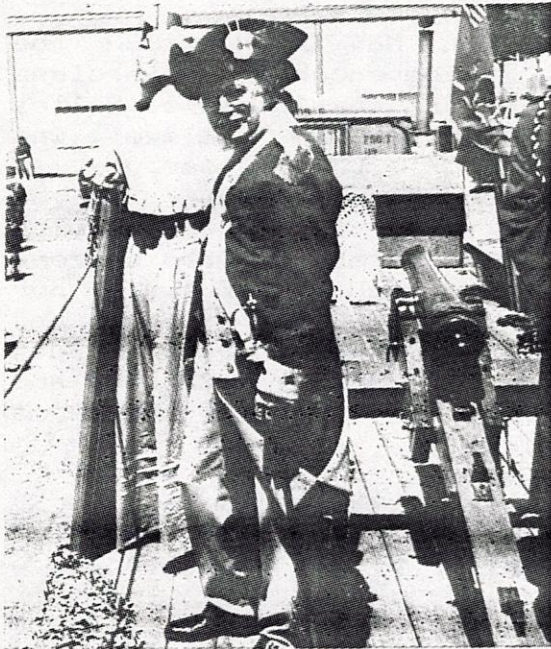
**THE SECRETARY'S CORNER
 FEES AND DUES**

Life Membership:.....	\$500.00
New Application fees:.....	75.00
If under 25 years of age:.....	24.00
Sons, Grandsons, brother or Nephew.....	20.00
Reinstatement:.....	34.00
Supplemental Applications.....	30.00
Dual Membership fees.....	10.00
Ladies Auxiliary annual dues.....	5.00
Youth Registration fee.....	10.00

FUNDS

In addition to our annual dues, many of our important programs are completely funded by tax deductible donation.

THE ARMED FORCES DAY PARADE

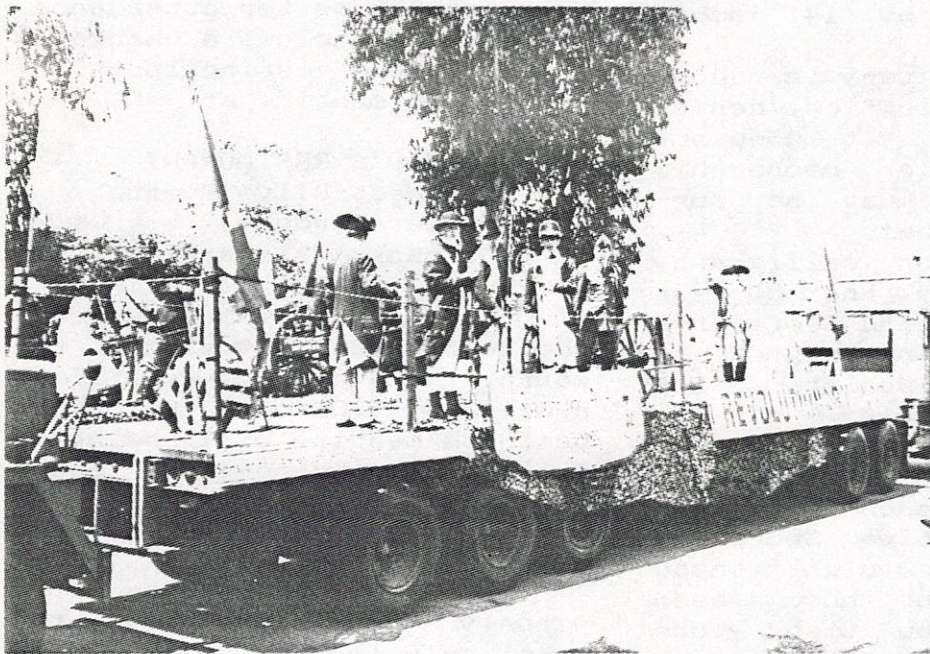


PRESIDENT AUDEL H. HICKS
 IN THE UNIFORM OF A CAPTAIN
 IN THE WASHINGTON LIFE GUARDS



At the invitation of the United States Army, we participated in the May 19th, 1990 "Armed Forces Day Parade" in Torrance. The Army supplied a 40 foot trailer for our use as a float, and a Revolutionary War cannon. With the aid of costumed D.A.R. members MURIEL FISHER as Martha Washington, PEGGY BONSWOR as Betsy Ross and BETTY-JEANNE FARMER as Molly Pitcher and the Crescenta Valley High School Air Force R.O.T.C. members, Cadet 1st Lt. PETER A. ROSS representing the R.O.T.C, Cadet T/Sgt LARRY C. KIMBALL as a Continental Marine, Cadet T/Sgt SAM HOUSEPIAN as a Private in the Massachusetts 4th Regiment and Cadet T/Sgt. JIM RIEHL as a Private in the Washington Life Guards. Audel H. Hicks wore

the Uniform of a Captain in the Life Guards Donald N. Moran uniformed as a Officer in the Continental. Jim Aguirre portrayed Gen. George Washington. The float was subject to cheers the length of the Parade. The big hits of the float was BETSY ROSS and GEORGE & MARTHA WASHINGTON. Hearing the crowds yell its respectful greetings to them was great. One spectator yelled "Betsy Darlin' thanks



THE U.S. ARMY FURNISHED 'FLOAT' EQUIPPED WITH A
 CANNON WAS MANNED BY THE S.A.R., D.A.R. AND
 THE CRESCENTA VALLEY AIR FORCE R.O.T.C.

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The San Fernando Valley Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution

for our flag!" All along the parade route, people waived their flags at "Betsy" in an outpouring of respect for the flag and for Betsy Ross's contribution to our heritage. In future parades, Betsy Ross as well as George and Martha Washington is a must! Combining our efforts with the D.A.R. is also a marvelous plus adding much to our patriotic and historic presentation.

Warrant Officer Stony Fox, our host, provided lunch for the entire group from an Army field kitchen. The Army has come a long way since the period of history we represent, but Army chow is still Army chow. Valley Forge to Torrance, somethings never change.

The parade took four hours but fortunately we did not have to do any marching, hence we were able to enjoyed the entire parade.

At the parade disbanding site the United States Army presented us with a trophy for our efforts. The Chapter decided to donate it to the Cadets of the Crescenta Valley High School Air Force Jr. R. O. T. C. for their permanent display. The four cadets from this R. O. T. C. unit rank among the finest young men we have had pleasure of working with and deserve special recognition from our Chapter for a job "well done".



MURIEL FISHER AND JIM AGUIRRE AS GENERAL GEORGE AND MARTHA WASHINGTON



l-r: 1ST LT. PETER ROSS, SAM HOUSEPIAN, JIM RIEHL, AND D.A.R. BETTY-JEANNE FARMER AS MOLLY PITCHER.

OUR CONTINENTAL COLOR GUARD



OUR COLOR GUARD LEADING THE MONTROSE CHRISTMAS PARADE



In December 3rd, 1989, our Continental Color Guard led the annual Montrose - Glendale Christmas Parade which we reported in the January issue of this newsletter. We are in receipt of the following letter dated March 22nd, 1990.

"We are still in the Christmas Spirit and want to let you know that your having led the parade was a large factor in making it so successful. On behalf of the community of Montrose, we thank you. All of us were very proud of your performance and hope the evening was as exciting and enjoyable for you as it was for us.

They say that close to 50,000 people enjoyed viewing the parade. It took many hours of planning and lots of volunteers to make this event such a success. When that magic hour arrives and the Parade is about to start, you look at the

assembly area with several thousand children and adults ready to march as thousands of people line the street waiting, a person is overwhelmed with pride that makes all of us very happy to be a part of such a great community.

Again thank. We have enclosed check for \$50.00 for use by your Color Guard.

It is our sincere hope that you will join us again for our 1990 Christmas Parade."

(signed) Frank M. Roberts
Parade Chairman
Montrose/Verdugo City
Chamber of Commerce

It's letters like this that make us now that our efforts are truly appreciated. Our Color Guard will next march at the California Society, S.A.R. State meeting at San Jose on April 28th, 1990.

THE BATTLE OF BUNKER HILL
 "THE TURNING POINT
 OF THE
 AMERICAN REVOLUTION"

By: Donald Norman Moran



Maj. Gen.
 John
 Burgoyne

The generally accepted definition of a historical "turning point" is the event that reversed the course of that period's history. For the American Revolutionary War, the "turning Point" is usually said to be the Battle of Saratoga. Your editor disagrees. It was the Battle of Bunker Hill

On June 17th we will be celebrating the 215th anniversary of the Battle of Bunker Hill. It is therefore timely to review the historical significance of that monumental battle.

On April 19th, 1775, Lord Howe's regulars marched on the town of Concord, Massachusetts. That fateful morning they encountered the Lexington militia, a very one sided skirmish ensued. The British regulars drove the colonials from Lexington Common in what can truly be described as a massacre, but the day was young and the British would "pay the piper" by days end. At Concord they encountered yet another group of Massachusetts militia, but this time it would be different, it was the British that were driven from the field, suffering many casualties.

On the retreat back to Boston it was "payback time".

The Massachusetts militia waged indian style warfare against the retreating regulars. Without question. this was the first battle of the Revolutionary War but, since it caught the British by surprise and the attack of the Massachusetts militia was not coordinated, in fact, it was actually leaderless, the British did not construed it as a battle even though they suffered 269 casualties...it...did not change the British lowly opinion of the fighting qualities of the colonist, who they thought of as being cowardly.

As the seige of Boston continued the Massachusett Committee of Safety learned on June 13th that Lord Howe intended to occupy the Dorchester Peninsula. The Committee decided to take the offensive and occupy the Charlestown Peninsula, thereby forcing the British to change their plans. On the night of June 15th, Colonel William Prescott led a force of militia to Bunker Hill. After much debate, they advanced to the much more exposed Breed's Hill.



Lt. Gen.
 Charles
 Cornwallis



Gen. Sir
William
Howe

That night they erected fortifications and in affect forced the British to take countermeasures.

Lt. General Thomas Gage, the Commander of all British forces in North America elected to attack the American position on Breed's Hill. Gage's battle plan was a traditional frontal attack. Historians have judged him harshly for his plan of battle, saying that a flanking action, planning his troops behind the American position on the

Charlestown peninsula would have been tactically sound. That action would trap the entire American force. However, when reviewing history, you must view it through the eyes of the participants. Gage knew he was fighting irregulars. He did not anticipate them standing up to the combined assault of His Majesty's Soldiers and a sustained bombardment by the Royal Navy. He also did not know how well fortified the town of Charlestown was, nor whether or not the irregulars intended to oppose the landing of his troops. Even today, military tacticians agree that amphibious assaults are the most dangerous type of operations, particularly in the face of unknown factors. Based on the information that was available to General Gage, he can not be condemned by hindsight. His plan

was militarily sound. As you have read, the British attack against the American fortifications on Breed's Hill was a military disaster. The British Commanders could not have guessed that a few experienced American officers had the ability to make their men hold their fire until the last possible minute, inflicting tremendous casualties. The first two attacks were met with such deadly resistance that a third try would be suicide. Fortunately for the attacking men



Adm. Sir
Richard
Howe

of the British Army, the American defenders had run out of ammunition. The British bayonet carried the day, but not before sustaining FORTY percent casualties. 1,150 men killed or wounded out of 2,500 that made the attack. 92 of them officers.

There was much debate over the conduct of the Army at Bunker Hill. Officers and men alike were criticized. William Eden (ancestor of ex-Prime Minister Anthony Eden) told Lord North "Eight more such victories and we will have no one left to report them."

General Gage was relieved of his Command in October. He was made the scapegoat for the entire North American situation. Generals Howe, Clinton and Burgoyne all participated in the Battle of Bunker Hill and the effects of the Battle would forever haunt their military

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The San Fernando Valley Chapter, Sons of the American Revolution

planning. Never again would any of them move with the speed necessary to seize the numerous golden opportunities presented during the seven years of the Revolutionary War.

A year later, General Howe faced George Washington on Long Island. The British Army, reinforced by Hessians, had completely overwhelmed the Americans. Over one thousand Americans had been captured, including three Generals, three Colonels and sixty-eight other officers. The 9,000 surviving colonials, their backs to the East River, which was controlled by the Royal Navy cut off the only possible retreat route, began to dig fortifications. British General John Vaughan was about ready to order the final attack, an

attack that would certainly destroyed the whole of Washington's Army. General Howe ordered him to stop his attack. General Vaughan protesting that the Americans had not completed their earthenworks, were low on ammunition and were ready to surrender. Howe repeated his order stating he intended to use tactics that would achieve the objective at a cheaper price. "Price" is the operative word in this order. Howe obviously feared assaulting the Americans in fixed positions. Visions of the disastrous casualties he witnessed at Bunker Hill came to his mind. That hesitation permitted George Washington to organize a nighttime evacuation of Long Island and save the hard pressed American Army.



THE BRITISH ADVANCING UP BREED'S HILL - JUNE 17th, 1775

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY CHAPTER
SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

APRIL MEETING MINUTES

27 April 1990



The San Fernando Valley Chapter, S.A.R. held its monthly meeting on April 27th, 1990 at Leon's Steak House, North Hollywood, California. The presiding officer was Compatriot President Audel H. Hicks, Sr.

1. THE MARCH MEETING MINUTES

IT WAS MOVED by Compatriot WALTER H. WALLEY and SECONDED by Compatriot Col. GEORGE A. ECKERT that the minutes of the March 27th meeting be accepted as submitted. THE MOTION CARRIED.

2. THE REPORT OF THE TREASURER

Treasurer ROBERT C. EMREY reported that the Chapter has a balance in the general fund of \$1,439.18. However, there are some unpaid expenses. The Chapter's permanent fund is now at \$7,426.00.

3. REPORT ON VETERANS BOOK DRIVE

Compatriot BERNI K. CAMPBELL reported that he delivered one-hundred and five (105) paperback books to the Sepulveda Veteran's Hospital in April. A substantial number of books have been collected and another delivery will be made in May.

4. MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

Chairman BERNI K. CAMPBELL reported that WILLIAM AUSTIN of the Maryland Society has become a dual member, and GEORGE E. BLACKMUN, III has transferred to us from the Pennsylvania Society

additionally, we have fourteen (14) men working on their applications and numerous supplementals in progress. Our 1990 membership drive is off to a great start.

6. ANTI-DRUG PROGRAM REPORT

Compatriot ROBERT C. EMREY presented his Anti-Drug Program for the S.A.R. to the State Society's annual meeting and it was unanimously approved.

State President James F. Morgan appointed Robert to Chair a newly established Committee to get this all important program going State wide.

7. REPORT ON THE STATE MEETING

President AUDEL H. HICKS reported that we had five delegates from the Chapter, Himself, ROBERT C. EMREY, ROGER E. ROBERTSON, GEORGE SUTHERLAND VAN DORN and DONALD NORMAN MORAN.

Eagle Scout William Lugg was presented the State award for having won the State Eagle Scout Contest.

A Bylaw amendment was approved formally acknowledging the Ladies Auxiliary status within the California Society, Sons of the American Revolution.

The National Society has approved a new Supplemental application form that will not require notarization. If we are using the old style forms, they must still be notarized.

State President James F. Morgan's home Chapter, (Butte Chapter) will host the November meeting in Chico, California on November 9th and 10th, 1990.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

ARMED FORCES DAY PARADE
in
Torrance, California
19 May 1990
1:00 P.M.

MEMORIAL DAY PARADE
in
Glendale/Montrose
28 May 1990

MONTHLY MEETING OF THE
CHAPTER
28 May 1990
6:00 P.M.

MEMORIAL DAY
Leon's Steak House
North Hollywood, Ca.

FLAG DAY
June 14th, 1990

100th ANNUAL
SONS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION
CONGRESS
Louisville, Kentucky
June 16th thru 20th, 1990

MONTHLY CHAPTER MEETING
Leon's Steak House
North Hollywood
June 25th, 1990

INDEPENDENCE DAY
July 4th, 1990
Activity to be announced

The San Fernando Valley Chapter
SONS of the AMERICAN REVOLUTION
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To:

FIRST CLASS

Dated Material